

July 3, 2020

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

Rev. Kenneth E. Kovacs, Ph.D.

### Associate Pastor

Rev. Dorothy L. Boulton, M.Div.

### Director of Music

Greg Knauf, D.M.A.

### Organist

Douglas Heist, D.M.A.

### Communications Consultant and Messenger Editor

Lisa Roca

### Membership Secretary

Peggy Carr

### Administrative Assistant

Shirley Winters

### Bookkeeper

Virginia Daiger

### Sexton

Bernard Lawson

### Sunday Sextons

Cecilie Nilsen

Paige Peercy

### Sunday Child Care Providers

Roberta Harris

### Child Care Center Director

Michelle Hepner

### Child Care Center Assistant Director

Heather Hollandsworth

### Child Care Center Office Manager

Ashley Graham



## Talking About Race

By Ken Kovacs

In light of recent events in the community and nation, it's important for us as followers of Christ to talk honestly and truthfully about race, racist ideologies, and systemic racism in our institutions (including the church). White supremacist rallies, Black Lives Matter protests, race baiting, racist epithets, police brutality, white fragility, white privilege—are just some of the topics and words we're hearing, reading, talking about these days. To talk about race itself—to examine the ways it shapes our society, visibly and invisibly, consciously and unconsciously—can feel frightening and overwhelming, and maybe even dangerous. Until we talk and examine our biases (which we all have) there's little room for hope of change.

As followers of Christ we should be eager to engage in conversations where truth is spoken in love, that bear witness to our experience, conversations that facilitate mutual understanding, healing, and change within us and within our communities. These are holy conversations; all of this is holy work.

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# Talking About Race

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To help us in this work, our Dismantling Racism Group has selected a book for us to explore as a congregation this summer: Ijeoma Oluo's, *So You Want to Talk About Race*. If you're not familiar with this important text, an overview and list of reviews may be found here: [www.indiebound.org/book/9781580058827](http://www.indiebound.org/book/9781580058827). We made a bulk order through Wisdom Book Center, a black-owned bookstore located in Woodlawn. Cost: \$17. We encourage you to support this local bookseller. But however you obtain your own copy, please join the discussion.

We will host four daytime and four evenings

conversations (via Zoom) throughout July and August. On Wednesdays (July 15, 29 and August 12, 26) from 10:30 a.m. to noon, facilitated by me, and Thursdays (July 16, 30 and August 13, 26) from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., facilitated by Jeff Bolognese.

We have also learned that parents and teachers at Hillcrest Elementary School in Catonsville will also be reading this text, and they've opened up their study to the wider community.

The Zoom invitation/links will be sent out in early July. Consider being part of the conversation.

## Face Mask Challenge

By Glenda Johnson

The Mission Committee invites you to assist LWR (Lutheran World Relief) in its efforts to provide face masks for health care workers and families in vulnerable situations. The mask program is being supported by churches, service groups, and other volunteers to reach the goal of 50,000 face masks which are still needed. The masks will be shipped with LWR Personal Care Kits (like the ones we assembled in 2019) to health clinics where supplies are urgently needed. Will you help us? All the sewing can be done at home and you can recruit other family members or friends who are making masks to donate them to our CPC Mission Committee project as we continue to work with LWR-IMA World Health.

### Collection Dates

On September 6 and 13, the Mission Committee members will collect your donations in Fellowship Hall and will deliver them to the New Windsor warehouse before the October deadline.

### Challenge Directions

- Register your name at the CPC website [Face Mask Challenge Event](#) so we know you are making masks and can contact you directly if you have questions.
- Please put 25 masks into a ziploc bag, if you are making multiple masks. If you have less than 25, label the number in your bag.
- Only adult size masks are accepted.
- You may use either elastic or tie for the mask.
- You do not need to pledge a certain number of masks. We welcome any number that you can contribute.
- For additional information, check the LWR website at <https://lwr.org/masks> or any of the many sites for making face masks (coverings).

Thanks for your help in providing these international gifts of caring as we assist our mission partners in this major project. You may email or call Glenda Johnson at (410) 465-2545 or [gtassoc@verizon.net](mailto:gtassoc@verizon.net) with any questions.

# Envision Task Force Guideline Revisions

By David Hutton

Following a generous bequest from longtime church member Robert Riley, the Envision Fund was established in 2013. As stated in the original guidelines, the intention of the fund was to extend the church's mission and ministry. In the years since it was established, the Envision Fund has awarded more than \$500,000 to projects locally, nationally, and globally, with a balance between internal and external.

As part of the guidelines, it was agreed that the Envision Fund would reevaluate after seven years. Accordingly, a Task Force was established in late 2019, and Session heard the report in 2020. From which came the following actions to enhance the function and effectiveness of the Envision Fund.

- The Session will set priorities for CPC's mission and ministry annually, and communicate them to the boards and committees so that objectives of all CPC entities can be coordinated and consistent. Envision applications from church boards or committees will now be screened by Session before being submitted to the Envision Board to ensure they are consistent with church mission and ministry priorities.

- A restriction in the original guidelines prohibited investment funds from supplementing the program and budget of the church. The guidelines will be amended to remove this prohibition in order to permit funding of occasional large projects that do not fall under the Operating Budget system. The recent roof replacement project is an example.

- Capital Improvement will be removed as an Envision funding category, as it is now included as a line item in the Investment Budget. The Envision funding categories will now be renamed Ministry Development, Service in Community, and Social Justice Advocacy.

- The Envision Board is being reduced from nine members to seven, with the elimination of representatives from the Deacons and Trustees.

- Several changes have affected the application process for Envision funding:

- (1) Internal projects must now be sponsored by a church committee or board, not an individual. An individual with an internal project idea will work with a sponsoring church committee or board to prepare the application.

- (2) A committee or board sponsor of an

internal project must submit its proposal to Session before the application deadline;

- (3) There will be two types of applications, one for internal projects and one for external projects;

- (4) Applicant interviews will no longer be held, i.e., funding decisions will be based solely on the information on the application form.

- (5) Applicants for multi-year projects will be advised that there is no guarantee of funding after the first year of a multi-year project.

- In order to avoid conflicts of interest, an Envision Board member or a working group member who is advocating for a proposal must recuse themselves from the Envision Board for that funding cycle. The Board may recall a former Board member to serve in the vacancy.

- The Envision Board must advise the Nominating Committee in writing of the responsibilities of serving on the Envision Board, so that nominees have a realistic expectation of the obligations involved in serving on the Board.

- Visibility of the Envision Fund and Envision projects will be increased with year-round publicity about current projects, increasing the understanding about the function and purpose of the Envision Fund. A special presentation will be made to the senior high Sunday school class describing the Fund and encouraging the youth to apply.

- There will be a meeting held to inform the congregation of the changes to the Envision process in the future so that people can ask questions and better understand the process of submitting a proposal.

The Envision Task Force was extremely impressed with the work of the Envision Board over the years. The Task Force felt that the Board had been diligent in deliberations and funding of projects and that the process has evolved and improved. These changes will further enhance that evolution. Much good is being done in the world thanks to the work of the Envision Board and the work of the Fund.

# Remembering Phil Colston

By Bob Cooper

*Phil Colston died on Monday, June 15, from complications of COVID-19. He would have been 73 on June 18. Phil came to CPC because of his aunt, Mary Lawrence Forkel, and joined in 2002.*

I was saddened to hear of Phil Colston passing and wanted to offer a few words of remembrance. I first met Phil around 2005 when I started back to attending CPC. At the time, Phil was using a walker to get around and it was quite difficult for him. This was before the ramp had been built and he had to use the old decrepit lift just to get in the building. I know he got stuck in the lift at least once. Phil wasn't deterred by this. He wanted to attend worship at CPC. Eventually Phil's caretakers were able to get him a motorized chair and with the ramp construction he was able to get in the building on his own.

One thing that never changed about Phil in the 15 years I knew him was his strong desire to be at worship every week and to be part of the church leadership. If he would have been mentally and physically able he would have probably served on more committees and boards than anyone else in the congregation. Above all, he wanted to be a Deacon. While this couldn't happen, he was able to serve as an usher with the Deacons and took great joy in doing so.

I don't really know many of the details of Phil's mental and physical disabilities but saw how difficult they were for him. I do believe he was a very intelligent man whose intelligence was masked by his condition. I know he was a very caring and considerate person, praying for his housemates and caretakers and showing compassion to me when I went through a difficult period in my life. Phil also had a good sense of humor and got a good chuckle when I would rib him about supporting the Redskins.

From what I heard, due to Phil's condition he wasn't expected to live much past his 20's and he would have been 73. He's in God's hands now after a relatively long life. I'll still think of Phil when I see a MTA Mobility bus drive by. When we eventually return to in person worship I'll miss seeing Phil motor up the ramp, I'll miss him cutting out during the final hymn to get first shot at the Fellowship Hour snacks and I'll just miss him being there.

Rest in Peace Phil Colston.

## Our Financial Resources

We rely on everyone to support what God is doing through this congregation. The vitality of this ministry is secured by God's grace and funded by the faithfulness and commitment of God's people. We are counting on the ongoing generosity of our members and friends.

### Doing God's Work

- Income as of June 30, 2020: \$ 330,580
- Expense as of June 30, 2020: \$-350,460
- Total: \$ -19,880

## Life in Community

It is with deep sadness that we share that Mary Lee Baysinger passed away on June 13, 2020.

## THE Messenger

### Our Mission

We seek to find and share God's calling for this community of faith through worship, fellowship and service.

### Catonsville Presbyterian Church

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[www.catonsvillepres.org](http://www.catonsvillepres.org)

[Facebook.com/catonsvillepres](https://www.facebook.com/catonsvillepres)

[Twitter.com/catonsvillepres](https://twitter.com/catonsvillepres)

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

[office@catonsvillepres.org](mailto:office@catonsvillepres.org)



We Choose  
Welcome

