

October 1, 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.

Interim Organist

Jason Kissel, 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 Provider

Roberta Harris

Child Care Center Director

Michelle Hepner

Child Care Center Assistant Director

Heather Hollandsworth

Child Care Center Office Manager

Ashley Graham



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

SEPTEMBER 6-OCTOBER 4



MICHAEL WHITMAN

World Communion Sunday

By Kenneth Kovacs

*In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.*

—John Oxenham

World Communion Sunday (October 4) is one of my favorite Sundays of the year. Like so much in our lives today, though, it will seem odd giving thanks for our unity in Christ when many Christians throughout the world cannot safely gather in one place around the Lord's Table. Whether together or scattered, the good news is that we are still part of Christ's beloved community. While it might not be safe to "Join hands, disciples of the faith," as the old hymn sings, we can still celebrate all the ways the Holy Spirit binds us to one another as we embody God's vision for the world.

This will be a special service. Thanks to the gift of technology we will have three guest preachers from our mission partners, bringing the world into our worship through their reflections:

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World Communion Sunday

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Jennifer Bentzel from IMA World Health/ Lutheran World Relief, an ecumenical partner providing humanitarian relief and development internationally; Dr. Serge Makolo Kasadi, Presbyterian elder and director of the IMCK Good Shepherd Hospital, Tshikaji, DRC; and Wilmari Vargas, director of the El Guacio Camp in Puerto Rico, a PCUSA camp that hosts disaster recovery volunteers (including our own CPC volunteers in 2019).

We'll have uplifting music—another virtual anthem from the choir. And we'll gather around the Table for Communion. We invite you share in the sacrament from home. Be sure to have bread and juice/beverage available.

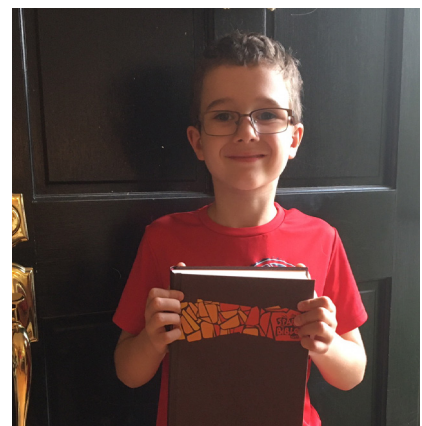
And we'll receive the PCUSA's annual Peace and

Global Witness Offering. This offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world. Twenty-five percent of what we receive will support Baltimore Presbytery's peace and justice work. And twenty-five percent will be retained by CPC and used to continue or own efforts to help dismantle racism in our communities. If you would like to give to the offering, we've set up a dedicated giving portal: <https://onrealm.org/CatonsvillePres/give/PeaceGlobalWitness>.

Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come now and worship the Lord!



Bibles were delivered and presented to our third graders, (clockwise from left) Rylene, Bridgar, Henry, Evan, and Landon on Sunday, September 20, 2020.



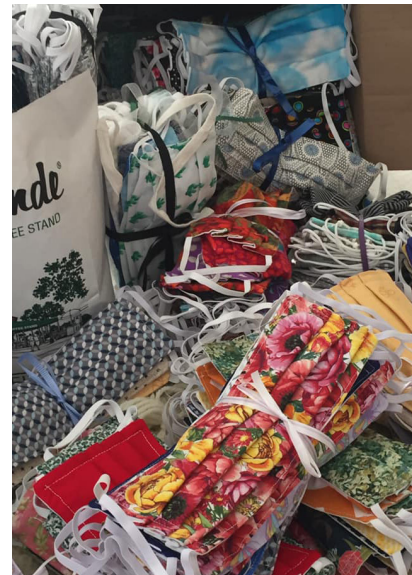
Face Mask Project

By Glenda Johnson

The Mission Committee is pleased to announce that the Face Mask project is now completed. Our final total of 700 face masks were packed in ribbon-tied bundles of 25 before being packed into three large boxes. Mission committee members worked together to coordinate this new project. Your active involvement and support was greatly appreciated.

Vicky Whetstone, our Lutheran World Relief (LWR) contact person, met Rev. Kovacs and me in the small parking lot of CPC. An international shipment of quilts/blankets, personal care kits and face masks was packed at the New Windsor LWR-IMA World Health warehouse late September. This major shipment is now intended for Haiti, which is in great need of supplies immediately. Another large shipment will go to Beirut, as we were previously told...but OUR masks are part of the first shipment.

Thank you to CPC members Mary Blanchard, Peggy Carr, Tara Ebersole, Kristine Holmes, Susan Hutton, and Vicky Lord for their dedication and commitment in preparing so many masks for this project. Thanks to Dorothy Wright, a friend of CPC for her donations of face masks, a large bag of toiletries for CEA, and three large containers of hand sanitizer which was delivered to the SW Shelter. Thanks also to various donors from the community for the masks collected on Saturday mornings at the Knights of Columbus.



Wrestling with the Word

Adult Education

This fall, the adult education committee is offering a variety of classes and discussions, at different times, to try to meet the needs of the congregation. Our next offering is Sunday, October 11, around 11:30 a.m. (about ten minutes after worship). Join Ken Kovacs for a conversation centered on the scripture and sermon that morning. We'll return to our text for this season, Romans 12:9-13, with a special focus on vs. 9, "...abhor what is evil, hold fast to the good;" and 12:21: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Watch for the zoom link to be sent out around October 9, 2020.

And looking ahead...a midweek evening class later in October, inspired by Alan Jacobs' new book, *Breaking Bread With the Dead: A Reader's Guide to a More Tranquil Mind* (Penguin Press, 2020).

Sanctuary Flowers

Would you like to provide flowers for Sunday worship in the sanctuary? If you have been worshipping with us virtually, you have seen our familiar chancel area. Now that the summer heat has passed, we welcome chancel flower arrangements. If you would like to honor or memorialize a person or occasion, please contact Virginia Fairman at v.fairman@comcast.net or 443-636-5559, and she will convey your wishes of flowers and attribution.

Christian Education

Connect, Support, and Nurture

It was a joy seeing our middle school and high school youth at their respective Ice Cream Socials on September 27, 2020. We're continuing to seek out ways to connect while safely distanced. Thank you to Jenny Hutton and other volunteers who continue to care for our CPC family during this challenging time. For October, we'll be figuring out Halloween, plus, believe it or not, getting started on filming our Christmas Eve family service. (Youth musicians—we know it will feel weird, but it's time to start practicing your Christmas prelude music now.)

Thank you, too, to the families who participated in our zoom chats. We received excellent input into our ministry and will follow up with a google survey. Many families are looking for opportunities to serve our neighbors so please be sure to see the info about this year's Church World Service CROP Walk. This year's walk is designed for your own family unit but can be done in a small group. If you'd like to organize a (distanced) walk with another local family, please let us know. We'll help you connect.

As always, we are here for you. Please feel free to contact us for support, for resources, for prayers, for ways to share the hope and peace of Jesus Christ in our lives, our communities, our world.

Your Christian Education Ministry Team: Debby Shumaker (chair), Jenny Hutton, Sharon Oaks, Laurie Parkhurst, Sarah Chame Martinez, Barbara Rice, and Jodie and Melissa Virago.

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 September 26	\$ 483,250
■ Expense as of September 26	\$ -493,214
■ Total:	\$ -9,964

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

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

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

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

office@catonsvillepres.org

