

October 30, 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 Percy

### 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



## Saints in Light

By Kenneth Kovacs

John of Patmos had a vision. A great multitude that no one could count. People of all languages, from all tribes, from every nation. They stand before the throne of the Lamb, robed in white with palm branches waving in their hands. They're worshiping the Lamb. "Who are these?" John asked one of the elders. "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

*For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship God day and night within God's temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.*

*They will hunger no more,  
and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;*

*for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes" (Revelation 7:15-17).*

continued on page 2 ↪

# Saints in Light

Continued from Page 1

On All Saints' Sunday (November 1) we will gather around the Lord's Table and take comfort in knowing that we are indeed surrounded by multitudes, by "so great a cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). We share in the life of the risen Lord and the risen Lord holds us together with a love that will never let us go. By the power and presence of the Holy Spirit we're bound to Christ and to one another, which means that we're close to those who have gone on before us. The old hymn says it best: "*O blest communion/fellowship divine! We feebly struggle; they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia!*"

The first followers of Christ knew that they participated in the resurrection-life of Christ. We hear this theme in the opening chapter of Colossians: "May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from God's glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. God has rescued us from

the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of God's beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Col. 1:11-14).

Worship on All Saints' Sunday is always a moving experience. This year—a year of so much pain, suffering, death, loss of all kinds, and accumulated grief—it will be especially tough hearing the names of loved ones invoked in the service. Add to our heavy hearts the stress, anxiety, and deep concern we have for our divided nation on the eve of the general election, it feels as if we are living through our own kind of "great ordeal" these days, enduring much. All the more reason for us to unite our heavy, tired hearts and minds in worship, in prayer, in the breaking of the bread of life, in sharing the cup of salvation, knowing that we are not alone, remembering who we are and whose we are and who goes before us. So let us gather at the Lord's Table: *Lift up your hearts. Lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. For it is right to give our thanks and praise. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## Adult Education Caring for Neighbors

November 12 at 7 pm

The Mission Committee invites you to take part in a conversation, Thursday, November 12, at 7 pm via Zoom with Vivian Watson and Robin Price from Grace AME and Bonnie Harry, director of Catonsville Emergency Assistance (CEA). They'll provide an update on the current needs and concerns of the Catonsville community impacted by the pandemic. And they will talk about ways for us to be prepared and involved to help as we enter into the winter months in what could be a challenging time for many. Look for the Zoom invite.

## Nominating Church Officers

By Jennifer Hutton

The Nominating Committee wants to hear from you! We invite you to serve the church in a new way. Contact the Nominating Committee, if you or someone you have met would be a terrific elder, deacon, trustee, child care council member, or envision fund board member.

Ruling Elders are responsible for leadership, care of resources, education, oversight, external relationships, caring for others, and accountability. Deacons' activities include visits and assistance to home-bound and special-needs members and non-members, intercessory prayers, special donation drives, and other ministries as needed. The Trustees manage the running and upkeep of the building and grounds of the church. The Child Care Council provides oversight for the Family Child Care Center, and serves as a liaison between the center and the congregation. The Envision Fund Board awards and administers grants from the Envision Fund. Contact Jenny Hutton at [jenhutton2010@gmail.com](mailto:jenhutton2010@gmail.com) with nominations.



## Welcome New Members

Beth Klingaman and Rick Santos, both joined by Reaffirmation of Faith on October 18, 2020. Beth and Joshua Semiatin's son, Nathan Manning Makoto Klingaman, was baptized on the 18th. Please join us in welcoming them to the life of this congregation!



## Thanksgiving Turkey Drive

For the past several years, Catonsville Presbyterian Church has worked with Grace AME Church to provide food for the Thanksgiving holiday to those in need. Through the Adopt a Turkey fundraiser, each year, CPC has contributed enough funds for the Grace AME food pantry to purchase turkeys for over 200 families. We also collected food items, including all the Thanksgiving trimmings, to help these families have a complete holiday meal.

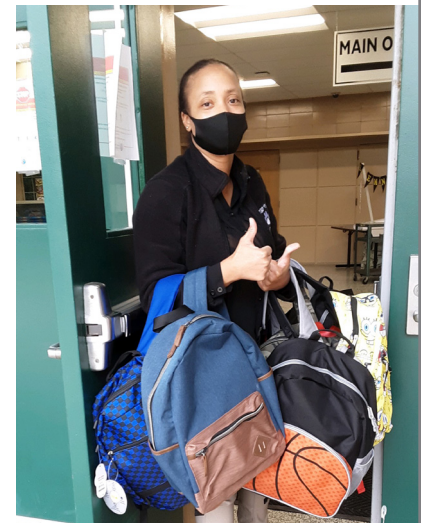
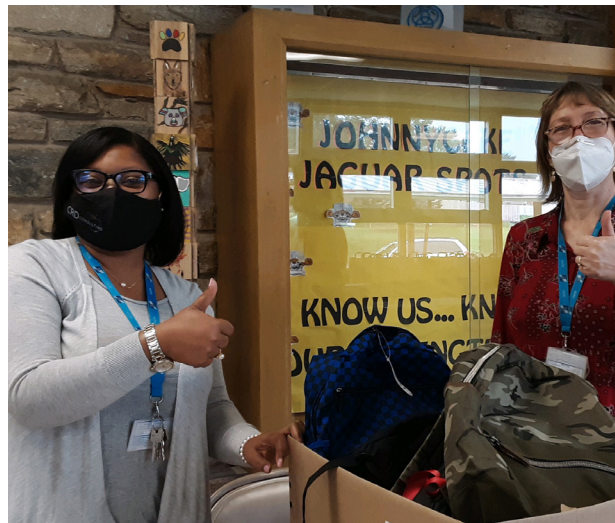
This year, the Catonsville Can ministry will be holding a big "Fill this Truck" event on Saturday, November 7, from 8 am to 2 pm, at the Knights of Columbus on Frederick Road. The goal is to collect

over 3,000 pounds of food for the CEA and Grace AME food pantries. The items that we would normally collect in fellowship hall for the holiday season could be donated at this event.

We are also asking for your contributions to "adopt a turkey" for families in need. We are hoping to continue with this same giving tradition to help Grace AME with a hands-free curbside pickup. You may donate through this link <https://onrealm.org/CatonsvillePres/give/Thanksgiving>, or by mailing a check to Catonsville Presbyterian Church at 1400 Frederick Rd, Catonsville, Md. 21228 and mark it "Grace AME."

## Book Bags Donation

More than 45 book bags and 60 gift cards were given to Edmondson Heights, Jhohnycake, and Westowne Elementary schools to help children in need. A huge thanks to all who contributed to this drive. The schools were very grateful to Catonsville Presbyterian Church!



## Election Eve Prayer Service

Monday, November 2, 2020 at 7 pm

On the eve of the general election, at a time of deep division in our nation, let us unite our hearts and minds in prayer. Join us for a service of music and contemplation from the sanctuary via Facebook Livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/catonsvillepresb/>.

## Christmas At Sea

We will again be collecting gifts for seafarers, but because of the pandemic, several things have changed. The Seafarers Center currently has limited volunteers or staff to deliver gifts boxes, the gifts should be placed in one gallon ziplock bags, instead of shoe boxes. This will also make it easier to store gifts for next Christmas if changes in contact restrictions make it impossible to deliver them in a timely manner.

This effort will be even more important this year than usual. Christmas is always a lonely time of year for seafarers who are far from home, but because of pandemic-related restrictions on international travel, many of them have been away from home for longer than usual. And because of concerns about a covid-19 outbreak on board ship when they may be far away from medical treatment, most of them have not been permitted to have shore leave for many months. It is therefore even more important than usual to let them know that their efforts to keep the world economy functioning are appreciated.

You can either purchase the items yourself and place them in a one gallon ziplock bags, or make a cash contribution and the Mission Committee will purchase items. In order to be able to practice social distancing to the extent possible, members of the Mission Committee will be filling and assembling the bags, rather than making this a congregational effort as in the past. There will be a bin on the porch of the church house to leave filled bags or items to be placed in bags. If you would prefer to make a cash contribution, either send a check to the church office or make an online donation through the CPC website at <https://catonsvillepres.org/support-us/>.

Items that are welcome include a warm hat, gloves or mittens, socks, toiletries, postcards of Baltimore or Washington scenes, small calendars, or puzzle books such as Sudoku that are suitable for those whose native language isn't English. The Mission Committee will provide paperback New Testaments. Please-no food items. We will be collecting items and donations through November.

## Stewardship

### 2021 Pledge

While we cannot be physically together right now, we can continue to stay present and supportive even while our church quietly awaits our return. Join us in making a 2021 financial pledge to invest in our shared congregational life and ministries.

Please register your commitment by filling out the online pledge form, <https://catonsvillepres.org/stewardship-2021-pledge/>, or by mailing your pledge card to the church, attention of the Pledge Secretary by November 22, 2020.

Commitment Sunday  
November 22, 2020

*Thanks be to God for God's indescribable gift.*  
—2 Corinthians 9:15

## 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/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](mailto:office@catonsvillepres.org)

