

April 6, 2021

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

Child Care Center Director

Michelle Hepner

Child Care Center Assistant Director

Heather Hollandsworth

Child Care Center Office Manager

Ashley Graham



Welcome Dr. Christopher Keenan!

By Kenneth Kovacs

It gives me great pleasure to introduce and welcome our new organist and assistant director of music, Dr. Christopher Keenan. His name might sound familiar as he was our “guest” organist on February 21, the weekend of his second interview with the search committee.

Dr. Keenan comes to us with considerable gifts and experience both as an organist and church musician. A native of Tennessee, he knows a lot about Baltimore. Chris received a Bachelor of Music degree, specializing in organ, from The Peabody Conservatory of Music in 2012. After Peabody, Chris continued his studies at the University of Texas, Austin, where he completed a Master of Music in organ in 2014,

Continued on page 2 ↪

—INSIDE—

Thursday Morning Bible Study: Returns on April 15. See page 2.

Growing in Grace: April 18 and April 25 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. See page 3.

Easter in the Woodlands: View photos from the March event. See page 4.

Second Sunday Zoom: Continues this month on April 11. See page 4.

Welcome Dr. Christopher Keenan!

Continued from Page 1

followed by a Doctor of Musical Arts in organ in 2016. And Chris comes with a lot of experience working in Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian, United Methodist, and Episcopalian congregations. Easter Sunday was his last day at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Charleston, SC, where he was Director of Music and Broadcasting (yes, broadcasting). Chris has worked with children's choirs, conducted bell choirs, and led contemporary worship services.

If you missed worship on February 21, I encourage you to listen the service music. I was especially moved by his playing of the opening hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" [Have a listen](#). Chris also has his own [YouTube Channel](#) that includes recordings from recitals held in historic venues in both the United States and Europe. He has also participated and placed in many international organ competitions.

In addition to being a church musician, Chris is also a firefighter and EMT worker. From his EMT experience, Chris has now discerned a call to go into medicine, which is what's bringing him back to Baltimore. In June, Chris will begin the post-baccalaureate/pre-med program at Goucher College in Towson. While this will take up a lot of his time, focus, and attention in the year ahead, he didn't want to set aside his love of music and his

love of working in the church. Chris plans to apply for medical school within the year. His first choice is the University of Maryland, but we will have to wait and see. In the meantime, the Organist Search Committee feels that God has blessed us with an outstanding candidate who is eager to join the staff and be part of the ministry of CPC. Chris will begin working with us either June 1 or 15.

When we began the process of looking for a new organist, the search committee considered our ministry needs going forward. With Session's approval, we expanded the organist position to include the title assistant director of music (still part-time). In addition to serving as organist, Chris will also work with our youth choirs on Sunday mornings. Because of his experience with bells, as well as conducting and leading choirs, Chris will be able to support and assist Greg Knauf's work as director of music and help when Greg is away.

I would like to thank the members of the search committee – Tom Enokian, Greg Knauf, Lum Offutt, Cynthia Schwanz, Reid Spearman, and Laurie White – for their tireless, prayerful work to find the right person for CPC. It was a great committee to work with. We owe them a debt of gratitude. Welcome, Christopher! Welcome—back—to Bawlmer!

Thursday Morning Bible Study

A STUDY OF PHILEMON

Returns April 15 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom

Philemon – consisting of 335 words, it's the third shortest book in the Bible. But when was the last time you heard a sermon on Philemon, studied it in a group, or even read it? It's a challenging text because it looks like Paul is sending a thieving runaway slave back to his "good" master. This interpretation is problematic, according to contemporary New Testament Lewis Brogdon, "it is also theologically limiting and offers the church very little to reflect on as we face mammoth issues of inclusion and fellowship such as racism, sexism, and classism." Our guide will be Brogdon's recent book *A Companion to Philemon* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2018). Copies will be available for purchase in the church house (\$21). It's also available on Kindle (\$9.99). ~Ken Kovacs

Growing in Grace

REFUGEES, IMMIGRATION, AND THE CHURCH

April 18 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Join us for a conversation with Rick Santos, executive director of Church World Service and long-time friend, now member of CPC. What is happening at the U.S.-Mexico border these days? The Biden Administration has not handled the border as well as they could, but it is not nearly as bad as it is being portrayed.

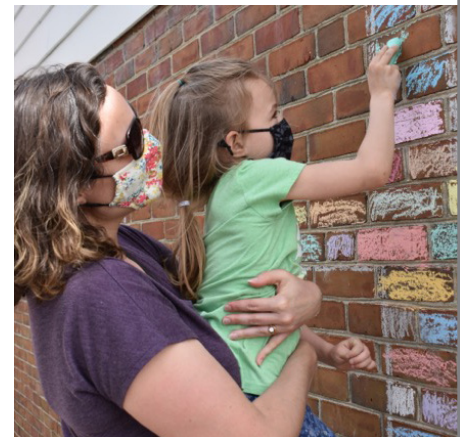
ROOTED AND GROUNDED

April 25 at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom.

In honor of Earth Day (April 22), we'll discuss the biblical foundations for stewardship of the earth. We will give special attention to the symbol of the tree as found throughout the Bible, and we'll discuss our own personal connection with trees and what they can teach us about the life of faith. Led by Ken Kovacs.



Easter in the Woodlands



Second Sunday Zoom

Second Sunday Zoom will be on April 11 at 10:30 a.m. The Zoom link will go out on Saturday, April 10.

Sacred Space Garden Pavers

Please check the CPC website at <https://catonsvillepres.org/columbarium-and-sacred-space-garden/> for the order forms for the pavers for the new Sacred Space Garden. These pavers can be ordered to honor or remember a loved one. If you need additional help or have questions regarding ordering the pavers or paver layout contactcolumbarium@catonsvillepres.org and a committee member will answer your questions.

Easter in the Woodlands



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 April 3, 2021	\$ 192,715
■ Expense as of April 3, 2021	\$ -192,706
■ Total:	\$ 9

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

1400 Frederick Road

Catonsville, MD 21228

(P) 410-747-6180, (F) 410-747-7263

www.catonsvillepres.org

Facebook.com/catonsvillepresb

Twitter.com/catonsvillepres

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

office@catonsvillepres.org

Next Messenger Deadline

Monday, April 12

Send your content for inclusion in the Messenger to Communications Consultant and Messenger Editor Lisa Roca at lroca@catonsvillepres.org.



**We Choose
Welcome**

