

June 2022

## 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.

### Communications Consultant and Messenger Editor

Lisa Roca

### Membership Secretary

Peggy Carr

### Bookkeeper

Virginia Daiger

### Administrative Assistant

Regine Bonhomme

### Sexton

Bernard Lawson

### Child Care Center Director

Michelle Hepner

### Child Care Center Office Manager

Ashley Graham



From left to right, Dorothy Boulton, Drew Zink, Kyle Jones, David LoPresti (on iPad), Caroline Walther, Dylan Walther and Ken Kovacs.

## Study, Service and Fellowship

By Dorothy Boulton

We are delighted to celebrate our confirmands who joined in membership on Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022. Kyle Jones, Kate Jones, David LoPresti, Caroline Walther and Dylan Walther were part of a group that gathered together since March for study, service and fellowship. This is actually two groups of confirmands, by the way, since the 2020 program was put on hold due to the pandemic.

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# Study, Service and Fellowship

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This year's theme comes from the words of the prophet Isaiah: *I have called you by name... you are mine.*" (43:1) They are ancient words that promise that despite chaos and upheaval, God claims us and vows to be with us, no matter what. The text continues, "You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you; Do not fear, for I am with you." It was inspirational and hopeful to gather together these past several months to share stories of "what brought us joy" during the stress of the past few years of covid. We identified some of the gifts that each of these youth possess that can be used to make the church and the world a more caring, a more hope-filled place. They heard testimony from some of our church elders about their gifts and passions and how they are showing the love of Christ in various ministries; we are grateful to Jeff Bolognese for sharing his work with the Dismantling Racism team and to Susan Krehbiel and her vocation serving justice and immigration programs.

Despite the difficulties in negotiating very full school and sports schedules, the confirmation youth were delighted to have time to serve our congregation by putting in some hard work in the CPC woodlands. Plus, during an evening at Ken Kovac's home, the rain let up long enough for them to complete a sponsored walk which raised money for Church World Service: Ukrainian Refugee Relief.

It has been a privilege to learn from and with this group of talented and caring youth. Each of them, baptized as infants, have grown into young disciples who are—and who always will be—called and claimed by God. We continue to pray for these servants of Christ with the words from Sunday's confirmation prayer: *Renew in them, Gracious God, the covenant you made in their baptism. Continue the good work you have begun in them. Send them forth by the power of your Spirit to love and serve you with joy, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!*



# EARTH CARE CONGREGATION

## Woodland Workday on August 3

By Jennifer Hutton

The Creation Care Team of Catonsville Presbyterian Church is happy to announce that it has coordinated with the Center for the Presbytery to plan a Woodland Workday. The event will be on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We will host the youth group from Dickeyville Memorial and our youth are all invited to participate!

Mark your calendars! Any adults interested are also welcome for this day of fellowship and caring for our earth. Please bring a bag lunch.



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# BIRDIES FOR BRIDGES GOLF

## The Timbers at Troy on September 23

By Reid Spearman

Join for an upcoming golf tournament to support Bridges to Housing Stability, a Howard County based nonprofit organization focused on solving homelessness and housing instability. Donation will support Birdies for Bridges a golf tournament to benefit the organization. The golf tournament is on Friday, September 23, 2022 at the Timbers of Troy in Elkrigde, Maryland. More information on how to become involved with the event is available at [www.birdease.com/bridges2hs](http://www.birdease.com/bridges2hs).

Bridges' mission is to provide a path to self-sufficiency to prevent and end homelessness through affordable housing and advocacy. Bridges provides affordable housing and supportive services that include employment assistance, financial assistance, and community referrals.

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONVENES

By Kenneth Kovacs

The 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will convene on June 18, 2022, and extend through to July 9, 2022 for what will be a new first for us as a denomination: a hybrid General Assembly. Assembly committees, consisting of voting commissioners, will gather in person in Louisville, KY, and plenary sessions will take place online.

Leslie Scanlon, reporter for *The Presbyterian Outlook*, writes, “With so much unrest in the world – the agony of the war and humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, the ever-morphing COVID-19 pandemic, political divisions playing out at school boards and state houses across the U.S. – it feels impossible to say what might take center stage at this assembly. To expect the unexpected might be the safest bet.”

[Scanlon provides here \(click\)](#) a really good overview of what’s coming before the Assembly. Baltimore Presbytery will be concurring with an Overture from Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery asking the Assembly to “offer an apology to African Americans for the sin of slavery and its legacy, and to adopt a litany of repentance.” Baltimore Presbytery added its own theological rationale for the concurrence (which I helped to write).

The General Assembly consists of commissioners elected by presbyteries. Half of the commissioners will be ruling elders, half will be teaching elders. Few will ever have been commissioners to the General Assembly before, but most will have served in one of the other governing bodies of our church: the Session, which provides care and oversight of a local congregation; the Presbytery, which provides care and oversight of a group of congregations; or the synod which provides care and oversight of several presbyteries. The Assembly reviews the work of synods, resolves controversies in the church, is responsible for matters of common concern for the whole church, and serves as a symbol of unity for the church.

The General Assembly has several specific responsibilities outlined in Chapter 3 of the Book of Order. The Assembly seeks to protect our church from errors in faith and practice, is responsible for assuring that the expression of our theology remains true to the biblical standards in our historic confessions. The General Assembly presents a witness for truth and justice in our community and in the world community. It sets priorities for the church and establishes relationships with other churches or ecumenical bodies.

It is an honor to be a GA commissioner, one that carries enormous responsibility. Baltimore Presbytery’s minister commissioners are Barbara Renton, who will serve on the Mid-Councils Committee and Billy Kluttz (Govans) who will serve on the Environmental Justice Committee. Our ruling elder commissioners are Keith Reagan (Christ Our King), who will serve on the Polity Committee, and Audrey Trapp (Faith), who will serve on the Way Forward/Vision 2020 Committee. Our Young Adult Advisory Delegate is Gayelle Sama (St John United).

Please keep them in your prayers. May the Holy Spirit move, shape, challenge, and comfort the church to be the body of Christ in this wounded-yet-wonderful world.





## SUMMER WORSHIP JUNE THROUGH JULY

Worship moves to 9:30 am and adult education hour takes a break June through August. Join us for worship either in person or using one of our many online options.

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Let's get to know one another during these warm summer months. It's a great time to gather outdoors, especially in our playground and pavilion. The Christian Education team is in the midst of setting some dates for families to meet for fellowship and fun. It's also a good time to share with one another your hopes and dreams for commitment to the Christian formation community of CPC. Dates and details to come—stay tuned, and may your summer be a re-creative and enjoyable one.

## JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH

On Saturday, June 4, a fun day had by all at the 2nd Annual Catonsville Family Pride event hosted by Catonsville Presbyterian Church. The event featured an array of activities include vendors, pony rides, face painting, yoga class, an artisans car parade, games, and rainbow resources. In addition this year we provided a tent for affirming churches and denominations in Catonsville including CPC, Salem Lutheran, Christian Temple, and Immanuel UCC.



# SCOUT NEWS

By Wil Heslop

Does searching for shark's teeth and other prehistoric fossils on a natural beach in near perfect weather sound fun? Well, that's just one of the fun activities that Pack 306 did on its recent campout to Calvert Cliffs State Park in Southern Maryland. Nearly 60 scouts and family members made the trek to Calvert County last month and by all accounts it will go down as one of the best campouts in Pack 306 history.

Campers arrived on Saturday morning of April 30th. After setup and the official flag ceremony, the Pack took a hike to the famous beach. While hunting for shark's teeth was the main activity, scouts also enjoyed playing on the natural beach and observing wildlife they might not have a chance to see back in Catonsville. For example, what is becoming a spring campout tradition for the pack, a bald eagle was spotted on the southern cliff top, along with a native osprey. The two large birds of prey decided to put on an aerial show for the Pack.

After a fun day at the beach, scouts cooked their own "tin-foil" dinners and prepared for the Saturday night campfire, which featured songs, skits, jokes and the traditional Cubmaster story. Immediately following the campfire, everyone enjoyed eating three types of dutch oven cobbler (cherry, apple and peach) before lights out.

Campers awoke to a symphony of birds and other wildlife, and also to the smell of pancakes and sausage being prepared by the field kitchen crew. After breakfast, camp was struck and the closing ceremony was held ... though some campers made a final visit to the beach and others played ultimate frisbee before deciding to head back north to Catonsville.

Have a 5 to 10-year child (girl or boy) who wants to go on adventures like the scouts of Pack 306 do? [Check out this video](#) and for more information on joining Pack 306 visit <https://cub306.org/join.md>



# SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

By David Hutton

The Session is a body of fifteen members, elected by the Congregation and ordained as ruling elders, who provide leadership for our congregation. Following are highlights from the Session meetings on May 4, 2022 and June 1, 2022.

## MAY 4, 2022 MEETING

- The Session reviewed and approved the first two requests for use of church facilities using the new Facilities Use Request application policy. The discussion generated several suggestions for minor revisions to improve and clarify the policy.
- The Session made plans to host the youth members of the Confirmation Class at its June Session meeting. This will be an opportunity for the youth to observe how the Session works as one of the governing bodies of the Presbyterian denomination.
- The Finance Committee reported that our church's investment portfolio has suffered somewhat due to generally down markets but is expected to recover with the robust economy. The operating budget is breaking even, with income approximately equaling expenses for the year to date.
- Due to the increasing COVID testing positivity rate in Maryland, Session will request the Opening Up Task Force to revisit our policies on restricting building use, social distancing, and attendance limitations in worship services and meetings. Watch for announcements.
- A retreat for Session members is being planned in the summer to discuss long-range planning and other larger issues not usually covered in the monthly Session meetings.

## JUNE 1, 2022 MEETING

- The Session hosted the youth members of the Confirmation Class at this Session meeting to give an opportunity for the youth to observe how the Session works as one of the governing bodies of the Presbyterian denomination. Following a question-and-answer period, the Session voted to receive the confirmands into membership at CPC by Affirmation of Faith. They will be welcomed by the congregation at an upcoming worship service.
- The Child Care Council reported that renovations are being planned for the Child Care Center over the coming months, with painting to be done in June. After a review of several contractor proposals, Session voted to approve the painting project.
- The Finance Committee reported that our church's investment portfolio has continued to suffer due to stock market conditions, and the Committee has reviewed our investments to confirm that they are appropriate for our situation. The operating budget is at a slight deficit for the year to date and is expected to recover by the end of the year.
- Session voted to approve the communion service dates for the balance of the calendar year.

Session recognizes the need to continually communicate with our membership, and we welcome your suggestions for communication exchange. Session member contact information is listed in the Church Directory, so it is easy to communicate directly with your church leaders. Take a few minutes to send a message to a Session member, the pastors or the church office, and let us know what you think. We want to hear from you!

# Catonsville Presbyterian Church

## Our Financial Resources

### Doing God's Work

Income as of  
May 28, 2022    \$ 270,357

Expense as of  
May 28, 2022    \$-282,471

Total                    \$-12,114

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

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

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday-Friday 9 a.m.– 2 p.m.  
[office@catonsvillepres.org](mailto:office@catonsvillepres.org)

## STRENGTH TO LOVE II FARMER'S MARKET

Join Strength to Love II, a 2022 Envision Awards recipient, for their Farmer's Market starting on Friday, June 17 from 4–7 p.m. The hope is this market will serve as a cultural hub for Baltimore residents to find locally grown, affordable produce and discover local artisans while enjoying entertainment and food.

Strength to Love II is excited to announce the new biweekly Strength to Love II Farmer's Market in Sandtown-Winchester at Monroe St. & Kavanaugh St.! We will be hosting a jazz series as well as poetry slams this season, come out to support local businesses and enjoy live entertainment!

The market will take place every first and third Friday of the month from 4 –7 PM and will feature fresh produce, hot food, and local artisans. You can view more information at [www.S2L2.com/market](http://www.S2L2.com/market)

**More info here!**

Strength to Love II  
1855 Kavanaugh St  
Baltimore, MD 21217  
731-613-4949  
[bryanwright@S2L2.com](mailto:bryanwright@S2L2.com)  
[www.S2L2.com/market](http://www.S2L2.com/market)  
First market: June 3rd  
4 –7 PM

**STRENGTH TO LOVE II FARMERS MARKET**

Sandtown-Winchester

**STRENGTH TO LOVE FARM**

