

May 11, 2010

# THE ARKIVE

The Newsletter of  
Ark and Dove  
Presbyterian Church of  
Odenton  
[www.arkanddove.org](http://www.arkanddove.org)

## From the Pastor...

Dear Friends,

It is always a moving moment to receive the Confirmation / Commissioning class into membership. Chris Bussey, Rebecca Debus, Lindsay Ederheimer, John Monroe and Kyle Walcutt each worked hard on their confirmation journey. They were surrounded by friends and family on Sunday and there was a general positive glow at our church. I am grateful to our Confirmation/Commissioning Sponsors who met with, prayed for and supported our students all during this year. They too worked hard and I am grateful for their ministry. Our Sponsors were paired with our students as follows: Wes Gordon – Chris Bussey, Wendy Wellington – Rebecca Debus, Beth Foster - Lindsay Ederheimer, Marilyn Speir – John Monroe, Mark Edwards – Kyle Walcutt. The five adults are a part of a community that truly cares about children and youth and supports them on their faith journeys on a consistent and loving basis. One thing this Confirmation/Commissioning Class was clear about – they had felt nurtured and loved in this church. It was one of their chief reasons for choosing to follow Christ.

The Youth Mission Trip date has been set. Youth entering grade 9 and up are invited and encouraged to travel to Greene County Habitat For Humanity on Aug 8 – 14 to work to build housing in the poorest county in Pennsylvania. College age students are encouraged to come as mentors and crew leaders. The math has not been computed, but the cost is usually around \$225.00. If you have participate in fund raisers, your cost will be less. We don't just work. We have fun and we take time to share faith. Please contact Scott Foster [SFOSTER@arinc.com](mailto:SFOSTER@arinc.com), Bill Gaurin [bnagaurin@verizon.net](mailto:bnagaurin@verizon.net) or me [Tims10@aol.com](mailto:Tims10@aol.com) to register. Organizational meeting dates, car wash fundraiser and Bikeathon fundraiser are in the planning stages. Pastor Michelle will be joining us for a few days too.

Children need to check out the new worship bags in the lobby. They are worth looking into. Thank you to Pastor Michelle and Beth Foster for their creation.

The times are always changing. Some changes are good, some not as. The staff will be doing some summer reading about emerging worship. The book we are using is Called Emerging Worship, Creating Worship Gatherings for New Generations by Dan Kimball, David Crowder and Sally Morgenthaler. These folks come from various traditions. We are neither endorsing or denying – we are exploring. You may want to order the book yourself.

One of the great things about our church is the way our church leaders evaluate our ministry and dream about our future. To that end our Long Range Planning Team is hosting a pot luck dinner on Sunday Night at 5:00. Childcare provided. After dinner we will brainstorm about our church's future. I hope you can be there to help shape our path.

Lastly, Jean Powers and I are offering leadership equipping courses on Tuesday Nights May 18, 25, June 1 and June 8. 7 to 8:30 pm The Class next Tuesday is called **The Nuts and Bolts of Leadership at Ark and Dove**. The Next Three Classes are entitled **How to Build a Team or Ministry, Pastoral Care for Leaders and Pumping up your Ministry or Team**.

In Christ,



## Administration Ministry

### “Notice of Inactivity”

I was in my office the other day and received an email with a predominate subject line that said “Notice of Inactivity.” The email was from a business reminding me that it was time to stop back by their secure web site and “refresh” my password credentials. I hadn’t been to that particular website for a while and found myself wondering if I still needed the credentials at all. I determined that, while I don’t visit the site often, when I do need that information, I really need it, so I went to the site.

When I did, I realized that I not only still needed the information, but I found something there that I could have used a long time ago. Something that made an immediate positive impact on my work life, and will now for a long time to come.

I was thinking about other sites I needed to get back to and then was overcome by the thought that, “what if God might be getting ready to send me a similar ‘Notice of Inactivity’ in some form or fashion.....”

From time-to-time many of us are in line for a reminder like this, maybe even more than one. If you think such a heavenly reminder might be in your near future, you may want to prayerfully reflect on how you can “refresh” your spiritual credentials by becoming more active with our church. The immediate impact on your Spiritual Life is one of life’s few sure things as well as the benefits for a long time to come.

*Prayerfully, Bob Stevens - Admin Elder*

## Science and Theology Small Group

The Science & Theology group will be starting a new book and class in June. The group will be reading the book *Science & Christianity: Four Views*, looking at whether faith and science are partners or opponents. In the book, six Christian scholars help us sort through the issues as they present four views on the relationship of science and Christianity. The four views are Creationism; Independence; Qualified Agreement; and Partnership. Book cost will be around \$15. Additional info and a sign up is in the atrium. Please join us!



## Christian Assistance Program (CAP) Update

CAP is the Christian Assistance Program, Inc., a group of about ten churches, including Ark & Dove, which provide emergency assistance to families in West Anne Arundel County. CAP operates a food pantry, which is currently at Severn United Methodist Church, and a clothes closet at Nichols-Bethel United Methodist Church. Ark & Dove continuously collects non-perishable food items in the Mission Collection Zone across from the coat rack. The featured item for May is canned fruit.

CAP is holding its annual Volunteers Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, May 22, at 12:00 noon at The Church at Severn Run (8187 Telegraph Road, Severn, MD 21114). If you've done any work for CAP, including dropping off food pantry items you're invited. Please RSVP to Greg Makar by May 17 ([GLMakar@juno.com](mailto:GLMakar@juno.com), 301-483-8255).

*May is Canned Fruit Month!*



## Discipleship Ministry

### Spiritual Gifts Class

In Responding to Our Call, G.S. Dawson says: *Gifts are given so that we might lose ourselves in service to God by serving one another.* Come join Michelle Hwang and Linnie Girdner to explore your Spiritual Gifts and learn more about how to discern what God is calling you to do in the world. We will meet on **Wednesday, May 19 from 7-9pm in the Ark and Dove Room.** We strongly recommend that you complete the Spiritual Gifts Inventory prior to the meeting and bring the results with you. Copies of the inventory and the sign up sheet are on the sign up table. Or you can sign up by contacting Linnie Girdner at 410-672-5050 or [Lkgirdner@comcast.net](mailto:Lkgirdner@comcast.net).

### Prayer Concerns

#### **Please keep the following people in your prayers this week:**

Dot Bruno; Les Dabbs; Chrissie White; Alta Paronto; Katie Taylor; Beverly Leach, David Mosella’s mother who was hospitalized with heart problems; a friend who is waiting for test results; a friend of the Keyes who was hospitalized with major health issues; Judi Forrester (Baltimore Presbytery) on the death of her husband, Phil Forrester and Ritchie, looking for a job

The love and sympathy of the congregation goes out to the Fletcher family on the death of Archie Fletcher, to Dot Bruno and her family on the death of her brother and to Kim Champagne and her family on the death of her grandmother, Allett Smith.

## Leadership and Equipping Classes

Four class series designed to help church leaders respond to their call to serve. Classes are led by Pastor Tim and will be held on Tuesdays beginning on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. See the sign up sheet in the church lobby or contact the church office.

All Elders and Team Leaders as well as anyone who feels called to lead in any area of the church are encouraged to attend.

### **ARK AND DOVE’S MISSION STATEMENT**

Ark & Dove is a community of disciples that embodies the life & spirit of Jesus Christ so that lives are transformed and God's dream is carried into the world.

## The APB

Spiritual formation and spirituality seem to be areas of interest for today's busy young adults. Taking a cue from this growing desire, the church at large is seeking to find ways to guide and nurture people on their spiritual journey. But the question that comes up quite frequently is, "what does this mean?" What are spirituality, spiritual practices, and spiritual formation? These terms are somewhat amorphous much like the variety of manifestations of God's Spirit. These terms are also uncomfortable and perhaps because of their somewhat ambiguous nature. What is undeniable is that spirituality is not just for those who are labeled as charismatic.

Episcopal priest Urban T. Holmes defines spirituality as the fundamental need we have for one another and ultimately for God. It requires us to be open to being addressed from beyond the material world by that which is greater than anything we on our own can conceive.

Here at Ark and Dove, we are responding to the call and need. We are offering another Spiritual Gifts class next Wednesday, May 19 at 7pm. If you feel called to discover your gifts or simply want a greater understanding of the terms mentioned above, please join us.

I am currently using Joyce Rupp's *The Cup of Our Life: A Guide for Spiritual Growth*, as my devotional. In today's excerpt I am reminded that growth is not based on my own efforts, but it is God's grace that works through us to give us the power to be transformed.

*Peace,*  
*Michelle*

## Music Director's Notes

The Land of the Giants is quickly approaching! We have everything cast, and the kids are going to be fantastic! We can still use volunteers to help with various needs like props, building a 'set', costumes, and the other things that will inevitably come up. Thank you to those of you who have volunteered to help already- I'm so grateful! The Dove Choir sang this past week at the 9:30 service and were adorable as always. The Children's Choir will be singing the anthem this Sunday at the 9:30 service. The musical will be performed at both services on June 20th, which will conclude both choirs for the Summer.

This is my last week of classes. I officially have one course left for my degree (I'll take it this Summer). I'm looking forward to beginning my dissertation in the Fall, but looking even more forward to Summer Vacation :-).

*With Love,*

*Rebecca*

## Band Banter

Congratulations to all of the confirmands! It was great to see so much support for young members of the church, and I was very glad to get to know Kyle a little bit better than I would have gotten to otherwise!

I am also very proud of my Youth Band, tackling one of the potentially most difficult aspects of a band – writing and presenting a song. Everyone did great, from Sam Wilson writing the song, to the rest of the band giving input about what they liked and what needed to be changed, and just the support from everyone to make something new and bring it to a very high level of preparation. We also added a new instrument to the Youth Band mix, with Zach Rosenthal on guitar for the first time in worship! So, congratulations to Zach as well.

As the summer approaches, the choir as well as the band will be starting to do pick-up rehearsals on Sunday morning, so if you are interested in trying out the band, but aren't able to come on a Tuesday or Thursday, feel free to come give it a try on Sunday morning.

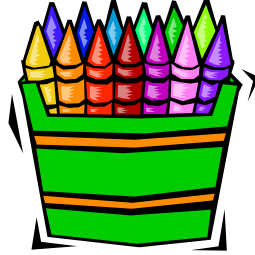
*God Bless,*  
*Mark*

## Christian Education

May is CE month! We will be collecting a special offering during the month of May to support the Christian Education programs here at Ark and Dove. The Sunday School has produced a list of items that you can donate along with available forms to fill out in order to donate a bible for the Sunday School classrooms.

### Sunday School Supply List

- Pencils - 12 or 24 packs
- Pens (black or blue ink)
- Colored markers (Washable / fat or skinny)
- Crayons (any size box)
- Glue Sticks (18 sticks per carton)
- Lined Paper (wide or college ruled)
- Construction Paper (assorted color packs)
- Dry Erase Markers and eraser (assorted sizes and colors)



Any of these items you might like to donate for our children's use in Sunday School will be greatly appreciated.

## Children's Bibles

Ark and Dove would like to have enough children and youth bibles for all in each of our classrooms. The Sunday School Team has chosen the Sparks Story Bibles for the younger children and Spark Bibles for older children. Each bible will cost \$20. *Cut out this form and put the form with your donation in the envelope provided in the church lobby.* The bibles will have a book plate in them so that the children may enjoy using the book their family or friends donated.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I / We would like to donate this bible to the \_\_\_\_\_ class.

Enclosed is my check made to Ark and Dove for \$20.

\_\_\_\_\_

Joyfully Serving God  
with  
OpenHearts  
and  
OpenMinds

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