

Summer 2017

# The Voice of Faith

Dear Faith Family,

I went out early this morning to check on my garden. As you know, my garden is fairly small - just big enough for me to feel like I can handle it. I've been working on it this spring. I added a climbing rose which everyone advised against (they are so disease prone and hard to take care of) because I used to have one that was so spectacular. I planted the rose bush with hopefulness. I planted some pale green plants that stand out because of their color. They remind me that difference is a good thing. I planted a lavender plant because I heard that it keeps insects away. It seems to me we need to be able to equip ourselves against the onslaught of negative forces - maybe those forces are mosquitoes, maybe they are disease, maybe they are simply negative thoughts. I planted a butterfly bush because butterflies remind me of resurrection, and I am hoping that summer will be a time of re-creation.



However, I am dealing with a dead stump and it is driving me crazy! The stump is what is left of a crepe myrtle tree that I had cut down because it had over-taken the garden

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Please send articles and photos for the Voice of Faith by the 15 of the month. [seekfaith@faithpcbalt.org](mailto:seekfaith@faithpcbalt.org)

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## WORSHIP

### Sundays at 10:00

#### Prayers from the Ark

June 25

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Balaam's Donkey

July 2

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Leviathan

July 9

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Gazelle

July 16

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco, *preaching*

July 23

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Camel

July 30

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Ant

Aug. 6

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Rev. Dr. Karen Brown, *preaching*

Aug. 13

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Rev. Dr. Karen Brown, *preaching*

Aug. 20

11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Lion

Aug. 27

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Eagle

Sept. 3

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Horse

with its shade and roots.



Pictured: offending stump and little rose bush

That was expensive enough so I did not have the stump removed. Mistake! Every year, I get shoots of crepe myrtle popping up which I methodically pull out. Two years later, that tree is still showing signs of life despite my attempts to kill that stump! Even the crepe myrtle remains contain a lesson: The forces of life in our lives are strong and resilient and persistent. They are surprisingly victorious. Trust them!

I am looking forward to my time away this summer. I will be gone for one week in July (The Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco will be filling the pulpit) and two weeks in August (The Rev. Karen Brown will return to preach). This time away is eagerly anticipated. However, I hope that all of us, no matter where we are, might take advantage of a garden and its lessons: Plant something with hope. Remind yourself that difference is good. Protect yourself from insects, the physical and non-physical. Watch for butterflies and remember that God gives new life. Finally, when weeds and negative thoughts persist, look for the signs of God's life-giving love which never fails!

Summer blessings,

Christa

## WORSHIP & ARTS

Judy Sperling, *chair*

### Pentecost



Pentecost was not an ordinary service. The Bell Choir provided a beautiful prelude, the new Steel Drum Band made an amazing debut that was given an enthusiastic applause and the Choir sang an Anthem from *Ragtime*, "Make Them Hear You" that left the congregation hushed with emotion.



On the chancel, the communion table was set and a large white canvas commanded a large space near the lectern. Silently, Susan Johnston sat on the steps with her back to the congregation. One by one John Comers, Chandra Jackson, Doug Lent and Paula Burger came to the Lectern, read a scripture and presented a short meditation. Each time as they spoke Susan came to the canvas and began to silently paint. . . .with each reading it became more evident that the image on the canvas was a visual interpretation of the scriptures. The combined spoken word and the visual painted image created an opportunity for individuals to "hear" the familiar story in a new dimension.



A special thanks to our artist, Susan Johnston and to our "Technical Engineer", Marilyn Valentine who mounted the blank canvas and later hung the completed painting in the chancel. During the service we also shared communion and ordained and installed new officers. The service ended with a fantastic organ postlude by Samuel Springer deserving of multiple "Bravos".



## Men of the Church Sunday



Men of the Church Sunday on Father's Day has become a Faith Church Tradition.



Ushers Maceo Williams and Ellsworth Jackson



Thank you to the volunteers:

Readers: Andy Fuller, Neil Nemser, Jack Nesbitt, Mike Shirey

Ushers: Ellsworth Jackson, Jack Nesbitt, Charles Richards, Maceo Williams

Moment with Kids: Ron Sperling

REMINDERS:

\* Summer Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m.

\* Steel Drums will rehearse every Sunday following worship. New members are welcome.

\* If you are able to volunteer your musical talent during the summer when the choir is taking a break, talk to Samuel Springer or Judy Sperling.

## Block Party

Once again, the Block Party came off without rain. It was a beautiful night with beautiful people, children racing and bouncing and hula hooping, and dancing to the music, families sitting around tables eating picnic food, snowballs whirring in the background. We had sign-ups for camp, a voter sign up table, information for Clean Water Baltimore, and Art with a Heart camp. THANK YOU to all who helped make this ministry to our neighborhood such a success! And a special thank you to Bill Millen who pulls this whole show together!



Parachute Fun



Dance Party



Bubbles!



Hmm, guess height matters in basketball



Prayer Works



An important question about balloon animals



She's polished in all ways



Who's that with the mad hula hoop skills?



Smiling welcome to all



Men at work



Hungry?

## Pride Weekend

Doris Cowan



The Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Baltimore (GLCCB) organizer of the annual Gay Pride parade, has just announced an award of 1st Place in the “Best Walking Group” to Faith Communities of Baltimore – With Pride (FCBWP).

Faith Church was a charter member of FCBWP. It was in 2013 that our friends across the street at St. Matthew called to invite us to walk with them in that year’s Gay Pride parade and to participate with them in Sunday’s festival in Druid Hill Park.

We started as two churches, grew to eight that year, 20 the following year, etc. Those faith groups now number in the 40’s. We don’t speak of churches anymore because there are four synagogues and two Buddhist groups that participate. Not everyone marches on Saturday (obviously the Jewish groups can’t) some are very small – but all apparently desire to be known as a member of a faith organization that supports LGBTQ rights and is a welcoming community.



The Baltimore Pride parade was held on Saturday, June 17. (Washington Blade photo by Michael Key)

Ryan Sattler, FCBWP’S chairperson, reports that 27 groups actually walked on Saturday. Those 27 groups provided 300 walkers! 300! Ryan’s been aiming for that number for several years! Last year’s 100 degree temperature kept that number down.



Dozens participated in a vigil for the Pulse nightclub victims in Charles Village. (Carrie Wells / Baltimore Sun)

Of the Pride week activities described in the June Voice of Faith, you’ll be happy to learn that Faith Church was represented at each of those events (with the exception of the service at St. Ignatius): the Orlando memorial, the Interfaith service at the Episcopal Cathedral, Saturday’s parade, and the festival in Druid Hill Park!

A special THANK YOU to all Faith members and friends who took part!

## FAITH FAMILY LIFE

### New Deacons & Elders

On Pentecost and the following Sunday we gathered to install and ordain Ruling Elders and Deacons.



Carl Herber and Scott Bissett

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### Congratulations to Graduates

We honored our high school graduates on Men of Church Sunday



Deb Colmer, Nominating Committee Chair; Chandra Jackson and Susan Minor



Chloe Brown, Colin Murdoch and Meleak Bess. Julious Miller also graduated.

Chloe graduated from Baltimore City College and would like to attend in the fall. She is asking for help, if you would like to help, [college-fund-for-chloe](#)

Colin graduated from Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and plans to attend Morgan State.

Meleak graduated from Chesapeake and will attend Virginia A&M on a football scholarship.

Julious graduated from Independence and plans to attend college in the fall.



Ellsworth Jackson and Mike Billings

## Happy July Birthday!

3<sup>rd</sup> Elaine Crawford  
10<sup>th</sup> Bill Curtis  
12<sup>th</sup> Avis Allen  
Paula Burger  
Stephen Harouff  
Susan Minor  
13<sup>th</sup> Bob McGill  
14<sup>th</sup> Carol Duray  
17<sup>th</sup> Sonya Brown  
19<sup>th</sup> Esmie Stirling  
22<sup>nd</sup> Charleen Witherspoon  
29<sup>th</sup> Cathy Billings  
31<sup>st</sup> Cydney Parker

## Happy August Birthday!

1<sup>st</sup> Leon Stirling  
2<sup>nd</sup> Debra Colmers  
3<sup>rd</sup> Luckye Austin  
5<sup>th</sup> Bobby Hall  
6<sup>th</sup> William Brown, Sr.  
10<sup>th</sup> Pat Nesbitt  
Samuel Springer  
12<sup>th</sup> John Marinacci  
14<sup>th</sup> Anna Burns  
Reginald Wallace  
Randy Woodfield  
19<sup>th</sup> Luther Slacum  
21<sup>st</sup> Mildred Miller  
24<sup>th</sup> Dawn Shirey  
30<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Valentine

If you would like your birthday added or if it is incorrect, please contact the church office.

## Please Keep in Your Prayers

Luckye Austin  
Audrey Cousart  
Ruth Dunlop  
Nancy Stutzer  
Betty Lou Tampieri  
Dot Weller

Please send your prayer requests to Christa Burns, *Pastor* 410-435-4330, and/or Sharon Will 410-254-6788. Prayers are answered!

## Habitat for Humanity

Natalie Wallace



Three new homeowners are welcomed to their new homes, which were rehabilitated by Habitat for Humanity in Northeast Baltimore. (Jessica Anderson/The Baltimore Sun)

The McCabe project has continued to be a success project with the renovation of homes in Northeast Baltimore.

There was an [article](#) in the Baltimore Sun on June 3rd, covering the celebration of 3 new homeowners receiving their house keys. With this dedication, it brings the total number of 10 families that have moved into new homes in the McCabe neighborhood.

There about 12 more homes still to be renovated. During our last workday, in April we did landscaping for three homes that are nearing completion. We worked on clearing of the yards of weeds for preparation for grass. We leveled off the soil for grass to be spread, fed and watered. We worked in teams others with Havenwood Presbyterian members, also members of Maryland Chapter of Buffalo Soldiers as well as future McCabe residents.

We were grateful to have lunch provided by Faith members Charlene Witherspoon and Beverly Baker. Our next scheduled work day will be Saturday, June 24th.

For more information about how you can help, contact Natalie.

## Hyde Family and Faith: Celebrating 140 Years



On Sunday, June 11, our congregation celebrated the 140 year relationship of the Hyde Family and Faith Church. The idea for this event originated with William J. Hyde whose ancestors helped to establish Faith Church, and the idea was embraced by Rev. Burns and the Session as a way of acknowledging the importance of dedicated families in our history and in our future.



Bill served as lector at the morning worship service, following which about 90 members of the congregation and special guests adjourned to Fellowship Hall for a luncheon and program. With special planning and arrangements help from Judy Sperling and Robin Nemser, attendees enjoyed an excellent meal of ham and an array of salads contributed by more than a dozen Faith folks.



After a celebratory cake cutting, the history of the Hyde Family's ties to Faith was reviewed in a slide presentation narrated by Paula Burger. Deb Colmers assisted in the ancestry research which helped establish that Bill's great grandfather Moses Hyde's served as an elder in First Presbyterian Church, the institution that, in 1876, initiated Faith Chapel and then Faith Church as a mission endeavor.



Faith's roots as well as the Hyde family's contributions were outlined with some humor as well as historical fact. The audience participated in a game of "Hyde and Seek," the objective of which was to identify photographs from key milestones of the Hyde Family's history with Faith that were said to be missing the proper labels. Bill Hyde, well known for his own slide shows, then stepped to the podium and offered his recollections and "Thanks for the Memories."

After the singing of a variation on a traditional hymn, "Bless Be the Hyde That Binds," choristers of the Chancel Choir performed a rendition of "The Lord Bless You and Keep You," and Rev. Burns sent out the contented, well fed, and now better educated guests with a benediction.



The Fellowship Hall looked spiffy with our best tablecloths and flowers, including an arrangement kindly sent by Edith Elliot's daughter Linda Ketchum. It always takes a village, and set up and clean up help was provided by Judy, Robin, and Paula, as well as Ileana Martinez-Castillo, Neil Nemser, Christa Burns, Jay Chalfant, Natalie Wallace, Krista Wallace, and Peter Burger. Our young people operated a beverage cart and served the cake. Before he took up his position at the dishwashing machine, Ron Sperling acted as the official photographer at the event, following a short course from his camera mentor, the one and the same Bill Hyde, whose family has been so instrumental in the life of Faith for 140 years.

## Joint Meeting of Deacons and Session


At the meeting on June 19, Session allocated funds to purchase new blinds for the newly renovated chapel and to repair the walkways.

Concert *June 25 at 4:00 p.m.*

A recital program for Kendrick Lee and Samuel Springer. The text reads: "In Recital KENDRICK LEE tenor Samuel Springer, piano". Below the text is a black and white portrait of Kendrick Lee. To the right of the portrait, the text reads: "Music by HANDEL MAHLER DUPARC BURLEIGH". The program is set against a light orange background with a thin black border.

Tenor Kendrick Lee and Samuel Springer will present a concert from the Italian, German, French and African-American art song repertory. Kendrick is a student at Morgan State University. He has sung with the Faith choir on numerous occasions and has performed solos. This recital is a "Thank You" for the supporting atmosphere that Faith Church has provided him throughout the years.

Baltimore native Kendrick Lee is a student of the lyric theater, with the desire to share creative and expressive experiences through oratorio, opera, concert and theater. He has had the opportunity to perform with such institutions as the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Howard University Chorale, and the Morgan State University Choir under the direction of such conductors as Julien Benichou, Dr. Eric Conway, Stéphane Denève, Marvin Mills, and Dr. James Norris. Kendrick's roles include Rodolfo in Puccini's *La Boheme*, and soloist in Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*.

<h1>July</h1>						
			<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						<b>1</b>
 <b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>10:00AM</b> – ST Worship <b>11:00AM</b> – ST Lemonade Fellowship	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Office Closed	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	<b>9:00AM</b> – All Thursday Crew <b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>10:00AM</b> – ST Worship <b>11:00AM</b> – ST Lemonade Fellowship	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	<b>9:00AM</b> – All Thursday Crew <b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart	
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>10:00AM</b> – ST Worship <b>11:00AM</b> – ST Lemonade Fellowship	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart <b>11:00AM</b> – OC Woodbourne McCabe Camp	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart <b>11:00AM</b> – OC Woodbourne McCabe Camp	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart <b>11:00AM</b> – OC Woodbourne McCabe Camp	<b>9:00AM</b> – All Thursday Crew <b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart <b>11:00AM</b> – OC Woodbourne McCabe Camp	<b>10:00AM</b> – FH Art with a Heart <b>11:00AM</b> – OC Woodbourne McCabe Camp  Harford House Picnic & Game Night	
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>10:00AM</b> – ST Worship <b>11:00AM</b> – ST Lemonade Fellowship	<b>9:00AM</b> – FH Camp Krisland	<b>9:00AM</b> – FH Camp Krisland	<b>9:00AM</b> – FH Camp Krisland	<b>9:00AM</b> – All Thursday Crew <b>9:00AM</b> – FH Camp Krisland	<b>9:00AM</b> – FH Camp Krisland	
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>					
<b>10:00AM</b> – ST Worship <b>11:00AM</b> – ST Lemonade Fellowship						

# August

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1	2	3 9:00AM – All Thursday Crew	4	5
6 10:00AM – ST Worship 11:00AM – ST Lemonade Fellowship	7	8	9	10 9:00AM – All Thursday Crew	11	12
13 10:00AM – ST Worship 11:00AM – ST Lemonade Fellowship	14	15	16	17 9:00AM – All Thursday Crew	18	19
20 10:00AM – ST Worship 11:00AM – ST Lemonade Fellowship	21	22	23	24 9:00AM – All Thursday Crew	25	26
27 10:00AM – ST Worship 11:00AM – ST Lemonade Fellowship	28	28	30	31 9:00AM – All Thursday Crew		
				<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>Locations</b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">ST – Sanctuary WB – Woodbourne Room WM – Woodmont Room FH – Fellowship Hall OC – Off Campus</p>		