

February 9, 2010



Tidings

a weekly communique from the Presbytery of Baltimore



Thanks, Vaughn!

Many of you will soon receive a letter from our Stated Clerk, Vaughn Brown, Jr. announcing his resignation effective Feb. 15th.

However, at this time I'd like to express how much I have appreciated the gifts Vaughn has brought to the Presbytery of Baltimore. One of his largest projects was to oversee the revision of our Manual of Operations – a task that took almost a year and was long overdue. Another important effort was to embrace current technology and to work with Associate Stated Clerk Helen Woodward to present our docket and meeting papers on screen. Still another effort has been to start the revision of the Manual for Session Clerks.

While these tangible products are appreciated and will be for years to come, the more important gift that he has brought to the Office of the Stated Clerk is the building of relationships between the Presbytery and the churches of the Presbytery and between the Stated Clerk and the Session Clerks. His passion for supporting Clerks has been much appreciated. I have valued the way he has embraced the work of the Vision Committee and the Re-visioning Process and kept us faithful and on track.

Another of Vaughn's stated responsibilities has been to "work with the leadership of the Presbytery to design meetings so that there will be genuine dialogue and so that presbyters will leave feeling like they have been a part of the Body of Christ." Vaughn has taken this seriously and helped us move significantly in this direction.

Here at the Presbytery office we will miss Vaughn: his congenial smile, his enthusiasm for where his faith leads him in the world, and his ability to listen deeply and carry on caring conversations. In many ways Vaughn has been just what this Presbytery needed at this time in its life. We are grateful for his dedication to and love of this Church – a love of faith shared by all of us. We wish Vaughn well in the years ahead. Join us in a celebration of his ministry at the March meeting of Presbytery.

Blessings,
Peter Nord

Inside this Issue

Take Note/Act Now

- Haiti Relief Update
- Middle East Talks: Mark Braverman
- Educator's Retreat
- Youth Triennium Deadline
- Big Event
- Middle School Retreat
- Nonesuch Trio at Springfield
- Red Hot Jazz at Faith
- Taize' Lenten
- Heidelberg Catechism
- Eco-Justice during Lent
- AA Lenten Series 2010
- Sacred Spaces
- Board of Pensions
- Pastoral Care Visit Training

Presbytery Meetings

Stated Meetings

Mar. 25th at 4pm
1st of Westminster Pres. Church

Council Meeting

Tues., Mar. 9th at 7pm

Vision Meeting

Tues., Feb. 9th at 3pm

Committee Meeting

Tues., Mar. 2nd

Take Note/Act Now

Praise & Prayer

Please Pray for the **Rev. Tom Blair**, pastor at [Second Presbyterian Church](#) and **Rev. Linda Post**, designated pastor of [Bethel Presbyterian Church](#) as they lead their congregations in sharing the Word of God with the communities that surround them.

Please pray for the **Rev. Bill Bearden** as he continues to recover after a successful knee surgery; the **Rev. Heather Shortlidge**, associate pastor of 1st of Annapolis Presbyterian Church, as she cares for her ailing father; and, the **Rev. George Toole**, parish associate at **Havenwood Presbyterian Church**, as he contemplates surgery.

Renewing the Vision: Please pray that we will experience a renewal of spirituality practiced in our individual lives and in our congregational and Presbytery ministries. To be placed on the prayer list, email: revans@baltimorepresbytery.org

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Presbytery of Baltimore

Since the Haitian earthquake, PDA has received more than **1.2 million dollars** in contributions and released more than \$500,000. Churches of the Presbytery of Baltimore have currently raised **\$24,373.50** toward the relief effort. **Thank you for caring & giving.**

Don't Miss Mark Braverman, author of **Fatal Embrace: Christians, Jews and the Search for Peace in the Holy Land**, at 7pm pm Wednesday, Feb. 10 at the Cathedral of the Incarnation. For details, click [Middle East](#).

The Presbytery will sponsor an **Educator's Spiritual Renewal Retreat** at Bon Secours Spiritual Center from 9am to 2pm on Thursday, Feb. 11th. Cost: \$20. Registration deadline is Feb. 1st. For details, click [Educator's Retreat](#). **CANCELLED**

Only 11 slots are available for the **Youth Triennium**. Deadline extended through Feb. 15th for details click, [Triennium](#).

Don't miss the **Big Event** on Saturday, Feb. 20th. For details, click [Big Event](#).

Middle School Youth Retreat Application, click [Youth](#)

Church Notices

Springfield Presbyterian Church presents **Nonesuch Trio**, featuring mandolin players and a classical guitarist in concert at 3pm on Sunday, Feb. 14th. For details, click [Trio](#).

Faith Presbyterian Church will host a **Red Hot Jazz** concert at 4pm on Sunday Feb. 14th to benefit relief efforts in Haiti. For details, click [Red Hot Jazz](#).

Taize' Baltimore presents "**Gather at the Well of the Living Water**," a Lenten prayer On Friday, Feb. 26th at Govans Presbyterian Church. For details click [Taize'](#).

Govans Presbyterian Church will host **Rev. Janet Edwards** in a discussion about the history and proposed changes to the **Heidelberg Catechism** at 4pm on Saturday, Feb. 27th. For details, click [Heidelberg](#).

Learn about **Eco-justice** during the **Lenten** Season. Click [Tread Lightly for Lent](#).

The Presbytery's **African American Clergy Group** presents [Lenten Series 2010](#).

Check Out Sacred Spaces: Abundant Life Worship Spaces as Stewardship
http://www.creationcarebaltimore.com/EarthDay_10_PCUSA.pdf

Synod and General Assembly Items

Board of Pension (updated 2/09) report, click [here](#).

Other Items

The **Spiritual Care Department of St. Joseph Medical Center** offers training to teach lay people how to make **pastoral care visits** from 6:30pm to 9pm on Mar. 4th, 11th & 18th. Fee is \$25. For details, email janemayrer@comcast.net or call 410.664.6081. To register, visit www.St.JosephTowson.com, select classes, events then Mar. 4th on calendar.

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