

From the Pastor's Office



## A Lenten Look At "Ordinary People"

Dear friends at Christ Our Anchor and community,

This time of year will always make me reflect on to celebrate, and other times, we will need to pray and support each other through changes and struggles. But that is life together as a church.

coming to COA as your Pastor in February 2016—now two whole years ago! It feels like so much has happened in our faith family since that time. I certainly have come to feel like you are a second family to me. The love and support you showed me and Jason as we embarked on the journey of parenthood means the world to me. I am so excited for our baby Penny to get to know the fellowship and care that is in this place.

If the crazy weather is any indication, this will be another year of ups and downs in our world. Sometimes we will have cause

As you read this, we as a church will be entering into the season of Lent. Lent is a truly sacred time because it offers us invitations to look inward; to slow down and consider whether our day to day ways of living in the world follow Jesus' way. We are always learning and always in need of God's help because none of us is perfect.

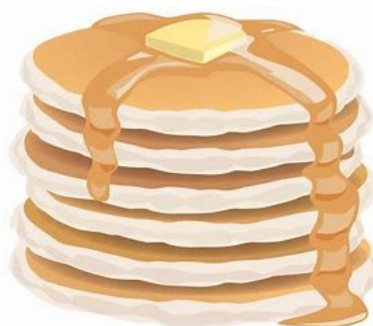
This is actually part of the theme for a new sermon series in this season, and I hope you'll join us for any or all of these services.

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*Please Join Us At ...*

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 13  
5:30 to 7:00 p.m.



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Lent, from page 1

### **Ordinary People: Examining Those Around Jesus**

Sunday, February 18: Matthew (the guy everyone hated)  
Sunday February 25: Peter (the one with the foot-shaped mouth)  
Sunday March 4: Mary Magdalene (the scandalous woman)  
Sunday March 11: Nicodemus (the teacher who needed a new lesson)  
Sunday March 18: The Pharisees (the most religious people ever)  
Sunday March 25: "Sons of Zebedee" (the ones who miss the point)  
Maundy Thursday March 29 (7:00 P.M.): Judas (the scapegoat / the black sheep)  
Easter Sunday April 1: The rest of us (the future of faith)

Blessings and Peace,

*Pastor Jessie*

## *COA Mission Team on the Road Again*

by Mike Henderson

**T**he COA adult mission team will be heading back to Hammond, La for the week of [March 11](#) to 16 to help rebuild housing damaged by two devastating floods in 2016. Those going by car will be leaving on Saturday, March 10 and those flying will fly to New Orleans on Sunday March 11. We'll be staying again at Camp Living Waters, which is quite luxurious compared to many places we stay on mission trips.

If you are available and would like to join us or learn more, please contact Mike or Joan Henderson at 410-757-6525 or [hjoanandmike@aol.com](mailto:hjoanandmike@aol.com). If you can't participate but would like to support our efforts, you can contribute gift cards from Home Depot or Lowe's.

We will be working Monday through Friday and head home that evening or Saturday morning. Our room and board is \$35 per day, which includes breakfast and dinner. We will be buying lunch supplies and going out to eat several times during the week, so allow \$80 to \$100 for that.

We will be working with the Fuller Center for Housing, which charges \$65 per person for the week, but we hope to get some help from the Mission Committee to cover this expense. This will be the team's 13<sup>th</sup> trip to the Gulf region since Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and we've made five trips to coastal New Jersey since Super Storm Sandy hit that area. We always have a great time and leave feeling good about being able to help others in need.



# *COA's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper*

**February 13**

**5:30 to 7:00 p.m.**

Mark the beginning of the 40-day Lenten Season by joining us in the sanctuary.

We will be serving pancakes with all the toppings, sausage, fruit, juice, coffee and traditional King Cake!

Food, fun, and fellowship for the whole family!

The signup sheet for the supper is posted on the Deacon's Bulletin Board

## *Lent and Easter at Christ Our Anchor*



**Ash Wednesday**

**February 14**

**7:00 p.m.**

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper  
and the Imposition of Ashes

## *Holy Week Services*

**Palm Sunday**

**March 25, 2018**

**9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

Palms will be distributed and there will be a festive parade.

**There will be an Easter Egg Hunt between the two services.**

**Good Friday**

**March 30, 2018**

**12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

The Sanctuary will be open for private, quiet meditation. Prayers and scripture readings will be available for your use.

**Maundy Thursday**

**March 29, 2018**

**7:00 p.m.**

A Tenebrae Service of Worship  
Reading of the Passion Narrative,  
the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper,  
and dimming of the lights.

**Easter Sunrise Service**

**April 1, 2018**

**6:30 a.m.**

Cape St. Claire Main Beach  
1223 River Bay Road, Cape St. Claire

**Easter Sunday Services**

**April 1**

**9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

# RAISE FUNDS FOR ANCHORS-A-WEE

# A B

Tues 2/20  
4-8pm

## At the Bay Hills Shopping Center



Spizzico Italian Kitchen  
1282 Bay Dale Dr.  
Arnold, MD 21012



Froyo House  
1276 Bay Dale Dr.  
Arnold, MD 21012



Dine in or  
take out to  
support our  
classrooms

Be sure to mention



Anchors-A-Wee  
Preschool

Christ Our Anchor Presbyterian Church  
Annapolis, Maryland • 410-757-6556

# Dreams For COA

During COA's stewardship campaign, the congregation was given the opportunity to provide input on their dreams and vision for the future of the church. More than 80 responses were received. The top of the list included:

- ☆ increased mission and outreach presence in the community
- ☆ renovation and expansion of the physical church building
- ☆ growing our congregation membership
- ☆ hiring a Christian Education Director

The survey results are included in the Annual Church Meeting Report Packet. An electronic version has been emailed out to the congregation and hard copies of the annual report are available in the narthex.



## Coming Soon, Our Women's Retreat

Please add May 4 through May 6 to your calendars so you can join us spending time in the presence of God on our next Women's Retreat. The location is Shrine Mont Camp and Conference Center in Orkney Springs, VA. Boarding and all meals are included in the cost, which will be \$174 for double occupancy and \$232 for single occupancy. For more details on this exciting fellowship event please contact Anna Werntz at (443) 995-1580. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Narthex.

## Tea and Theology

*Tea and Theology meets from 2:30 to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays in the library of the church. The Group is open to those who seek to explore their faith through study and discussion. Join us for a cup of tea, a sweet and a discussion.*

*Our newest endeavor is "How's Your Soul," a six-part DVD study discussing*



*why everything that matters starts inside you. The author, Pastor Judah Smith, leads us toward learning how to live each day with eternal significance as we discover the soul-healing essentials: rest, responsibility, restraint, and relationships.*



# Christmas Pageant Memories



## *Connect the Dots ... . Successful*

*“The only investment I ever made which has paid consistently increasing dividends is the money I have given to the Lord.”*

—J. L. Kraft (head of Kraft Cheese Corporation)

Our recent stewardship campaign, Connect the Dots ... ., has been successful.

It’s exciting that our current pledge amount represents a modest increase from 2017. We have 59 pledging units. 26 of those are pledges that were increased from the previous year and eight of them are new pledges.

Although we would have liked a greater number

of pledges (last year we had 61) and, of course, a higher dollar amount so that we could move closer to our vision, we on the Stewardship Campaign committee feel so blessed that so many of you readily came forward with completed and prayerfully considered pledge cards. This and the truly “from the heart” speakers we had in our Sunday services that prompted much positive feedback bring joy to our hearts.

Thank you from the Stewardship Campaign committee members.

*Helen Kelley*

*Lisa Lawlor*

*Dave Williams*

*Jane Bartlett*

*Rick Link*

*Pastor Jessie with the*

*Lawrie Gardner*

*Rob Urlock*

*help of Office Manager,  
Stacie McNeal*

# COA TO HIRE PART-TIME CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR

Christ Our Anchor has budgeted for and is in the process of hiring a part-time Christian Educator. The job description below has been sent to the church and preschool distribution lists and also to the Presbytery's e-mail newsletter for posting.

If you are interested in being considered for this position, please submit your application to Pastor Jessie at [pastorcoapc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcoapc@gmail.com). She and the Christian Education Elders will be accepting resumes until the end of February.

## JOB DESCRIPTION FOR PART-TIME CHRISTIAN EDUCATOR

Christ Our Anchor Presbyterian Church is a small and welcoming congregation in the Cape St. Claire neighborhood of Annapolis seeking a Christian Educator. This position would be between 6 – 8 hours per week, year-round with flexible hours in the summer months. The ideal candidate would be an enthusiastic self-starter with a love for children and families. This position is supervised by the Pastor and reports to Christian Education Elders.

### Minimum Qualifications

- degree in field of education or more than two years of related experience
- priority given to those who are familiar with church children's programs and/or the Presbyterian Church USA

### Position Responsibilities

- PRIMARY task of this position is managing our weekly Sunday School program at the 11:00 Sunday service
  - Recruiting and training potential volunteer teachers
  - Ensuring that volunteers have planning materials needed
  - Being present each Sunday for troubleshooting
  - Creating an improved system for tracking attendance
  - Filling in as teacher on weeks when no one is available
- Overseeing the nursery workers at the 9:30 Sunday service
- Reviewing Sunday School curriculum and ordering each year
- Leading the Vacation Bible School program in the summer
  - Setting dates and choosing the theme each year
  - Recruiting volunteers among adults and youth
  - Organizing dates for decorations
- Ensuring adherence to Safe Sanctuaries background checks for all volunteers with children
- Supporting special events for children and families (i.e., annual Advent Fair or Easter Egg Hunt)

### Schedule

- September through May
  - primary work would be on Sunday mornings and volunteer management
- June through August
  - Flexible hours with primary job responsibilities focused on:
    - Organizing the "Brunch & Brainstorm" feedback session with all Christian Education volunteers in early June
    - leading the Vacation Bible School at the end of June (requires approximately 20 – 25 hours on the week of the event with more concentrated hours in the weeks prior for decoration and preparation)
    - Assessing the Sunday School curriculum

### Salary

\$500 per month

*To inquire, please send cover letter, resume and at least two references to Rev. Jessica Lowry at [pastorcoapc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcoapc@gmail.com)*

# Your Star Word

Many of you took part in our observance of Epiphany Sunday back on January 7 where the congregation received “star words.” We all drew paper stars from a basket that I prayed over. There were over 30 different words in the pile with four duplicates of each word. The prayer was that we each would receive the word we were supposed to receive and that God would guide us towards a word, concept or idea that could shape our understanding of the year as it unfolded.

I received the word “confidence.” What is your word? 2018 has only just begun. Consider how your word may be taking shape in your life.

- ☆ Where do you need more of this word in your life?
- ☆ Where could you offer more of this word to others?
- ☆ How is God trying to open you up to more of this word in your Spirit?

If you did not receive a Star Word, but would like one, please email me at [pastorcoapc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcoapc@gmail.com) and I will draw one for you from those remaining. I am praying for you all as you use this simple tool to discern the year ahead.

—Pastor Jessie

## More Pop Tops, Please

Please keep those pop tops coming in. The collection container is on the credenza in the office hallway. This is such an uncomplicated way for us to help and it has become a



Pull for the House.

mission of our church. Ronald McDonald House in Baltimore converts these pop tops to cash that is used toward funding their shuttles that take sick children and their families between RMH and local hospitals.



# youth group

SCHEDULE

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Other than the month of May, this Spring we are trying out a schedule of two youth group meetings per month on the **SECOND AND FOURTH SUNDAYS but lasting two hours**. Please post this schedule at home and watch it carefully to avoid confusion.

## February

**Sunday 18** NO YG  
 Sunday 25 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting

## March

**Sunday 4** NO YG  
 Sunday 11 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting  
**Sunday 18** NO YG  
 Sunday 25 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting

## April

**Sunday 1** NO YG (EASTER)  
 Sunday 8 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting  
**Sunday 15** NO YG  
 Sunday 22 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting  
 Sunday 29 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting

## May

**Sunday 6** NO YG  
 Sunday 13 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting  
 Sunday 20 6:00-8:00: Youth Group Meeting (Lock In this month--more info to come)  
**Sunday 27** NO YG

**July 8–13 - Youth Mission Trip to the Eastern Shore of Virginia**

## Join Us on Our Youth Summer Mission Trip



This summer, we will be travelling to the Eastern Shore of Virginia to do service work with Youth Works. Any youth entering grade 7 or above next fall are welcome to join us, and any adult in the church older than 25 is welcome to be a chaperone—you do not have to be a parent to participate.

This is a week that will truly transform your faith and how you see the world.

**When:** Sunday, July 8 to Friday, July 13

**Where:** The Eastern Shore of Virginia

**Why:** It will bond you to others in the church who are on the same journey of following Jesus and learning to be His hands and feet.

**Who:** Hopefully you! *(Pray about it and please respond to Pastor Jessie if you are interested no later than March 1 at [pastor-coapc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor-coapc@gmail.com))*