

# Revelations

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon ~ Pittsburgh, PA 15202

## It's the Third Annual CPCBA Pumpkin Patch Days October 12-31

### Daily from 10:00 a.m. until Dusk

We will again this year be turning the front lawn of CPCBA into a pumpkin patch to raise money for the Youth Summer Trips.

**THIS IS AN AMAZING PROJECT BUT IT NEEDS YOUR HELP TO BE COMPLETE:**

- On October 11th at 3:30 p.m. we will need lots of hands at the church to unload almost half of a truck of pumpkins
- We will need volunteers to sit at the pumpkin patch and sell pumpkins each day. You can sign up for a time slot on the bulletin board in the narthex. Times are from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and from 3:00 p.m. until dusk.

### Pumpkin Fest to Be Held October 25th

A Pumpkin Fest will be held on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. We will need volunteers to set up and run games, officiate pumpkin painting/carving contests, do face painting, make balloon animals, grill hot dogs, etc. This is a great time to invite friends and neighbors to participate in the life of our church!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Youth Director Mike Mullin at 412-761-1233 or Pumpkin Patch Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Stauffer at 412-761-0704.



OCTOBER  
2008

### Special Music on Sunday, October 12 Duet with Adair Creach and Beth Anderson

Join us on Sunday, October 12<sup>th</sup> for the celebration of baptism of Isabella Treese, the newborn daughter of Del and Sadie Treese. At the conclusion of the sacrament of baptism Adair Creach and Beth Anderson will join their voices in singing *The Prayer*, a song made popular by Josh Groban and Celine Dion.

Here is an excerpt of the text:

*I pray you'll be our eyes, and watch us where we go.  
And help us to be wise in times when we don't know.  
Let this be our prayer, when we lose our way.  
Lead us to the place, guide us with your grace  
To a place where we'll be safe*

Adair Creach, 15, is a sophomore at North Allegheny Intermediate School. An avid student of theatre arts, Adair is a student in the Professional Theatre Program, an arm of the Act One Theatre School. Adair studies voice with Judy Jenkins.

Beth Anderson, also 15, is a sophomore at Moon Area High School. Beth studies voice with Nancy Klimcheck, and is a scholarship student at the Richard Rauh Conservatory of Pittsburgh Musical Theatre.

*Don't miss these young women as they share their gifts of music ministry.*

**October 26, 2008 is  
Commitment Sunday  
Pledge Cards to Be Received  
In Morning Worship**



- by Pastor Page Creach  
*The Pastor's Pen*

Dear Church,

I would be sad to think that our church would ever offer too little to nourish and inspire each and every member and visitor who comes to Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon to grow in knowledge, faith, and love for God through Jesus Christ as we are charged to do in this world. I would be distraught if this happened because we claimed we had too little money and human resources to be the light of Christ in this community.

So for two Sundays in October, 19 and 26, I will use the worship hour to think about the stewardship of our life together as individuals and as the church. Our thoughts will turn toward Jesus' teachings on the meaning of our life in the world. Pray for this time for contemplation as we gather for worship these two Sundays.

**October 19:** The Stewardship of Life, Part I  
Matthew 22:15-22 *Caesar's Coin*

**October 26:** The Stewardship of Life, Part II  
Mark 14:1-9 *Extravagance*

Pray also for *Commitment Sunday on October 26*. As we turn in our pledge cards in the offering plate during worship that day, we hope the needs for the church where we are will be met for another year. Church leaders will use your pledges to prepare a budget for you to approve at the annual congregational meeting. I am confident that if we are careful stewards with every dollar and every human resource cheerfully given, we will have all that we need to spend and do for the glory of God given out of our own lives.

Look for your letter from me and your Pledge Card to consider giving in early October.

Your pastor,

*Page*  
Page

**Personal Invitation from Pastor Page Creach  
To All Interested in Classes to Explore Membership at CPCBA  
Sundays October 12 and 19, 9:15 a.m.**

I, Rev. Dr. Page L. D. Creach, cordially invite all visitors interested in membership in this church to join me for a discussion about the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and life in the Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon on two Sunday mornings, October 12 and 19, during the Christian education hour from 9:15–10:15 a.m. in the Chapel upstairs. Refreshments will be served.

During these classes, elders, deacons, staff, and other church leaders may stop in at any time during that hour to introduce themselves, talk about their particular service in this church, and tell new members how they can join in.

On October 19, attendees who wish to become members will meet the Session and be received into membership during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The congregation will welcome new members following the service with a reception in the Fellowship Hall. New members will have their pictures taken for the newsletter so that the congregation has the opportunity to greet each one by face and name.

I look forward to this time with anyone who desires to know more about this church and membership in it. If you do not receive a letter from the Fellowship and Evangelism Committee, and would like to attend these classes, please call the church office: 412.761.1233.



**Bring-Your-Neighbor-to-Church  
Sunday and Brunch Reception  
November 9—10:30 a.m.**

Please put November 9 on your calendar when we will look forward to meeting friends and neighbors of our members and hearing our new pastor and special music.

Following the 10:30 service, the Fellowship and Evangelism committee will be hosting a brunch to provide an opportunity for Pastor Page Creach to greet your guests.

Look for more information in the church bulletins prior to that date.



**New Adult Education Class Entitled  
“Our Faith & American Politics:  
Liberty and Justice for All”**

**October 5, 12, 19, 26 and November 5<sup>th</sup>  
In Fellowship Hall at 9:15 a.m.**



This unique program offers a dynamic, small group exploration of how we form our religious and political beliefs, and how to share diverse opinions with respect. This series of discussions includes readings, videos, group exercises, reflection and one-on-one conversations to create a safe

environment for participants to consider their own faith and political journeys, and learn how to discuss potentially contentious issues with civility.

The video segments include talks by renowned speakers such as:

- *Yearning for Change* with Psychiatrist and Author M. Scott Peck in his final interview.
- *Conceived in Liberty* with Capital University Law Professor David N Mayer.
- *God’s Passion for Justice* with noted professor of religion Marcus Borg.
- *Separation of Church and State, Then and Now* with Ohio Chief Justice Thomas Moyer and Appellate Judge Judith French.
- *Scriptures’ Call for Justice: Jesus and the Prophets* with Reverends Latania Bynum and Jim Long.
- *My Personal Compass* with Writer Jim Wallis, Watergate Conspirator Jeb Stuart Magruder, and Pediatric Cardiac Surgeon J. Terrance Davis.

**Oktoberfest Dinner—Fellowship Hall  
Wednesday, October 29, 6:00 p.m.**

Put on your lederhosen and bring your stein and join your CPCBA family for a traditional Oktoberfest meal on Wednesday, October 29 in Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m.



The main course will be provided. The remaining items will be brought by:

- A-H, vegetable/fruit
- I-M - salad
- N-Z, dessert

Please let us know that you are coming by completing the reservation card in the bulletin or by calling the church office at 412-761-1233. Bring your friends and neighbors to this special event.



*Thank You Note*

Dear Church family,

As we write, our apartment is looking more like a home and less like a storage unit! We’ve unloaded boxes, enjoyed orientation, and now begin the true work of seminary - Todd’s off to his first class.

Before reading assignments and papers swamp the desk, we want to take the opportunity to thank you for your love and support for the past years! You have encouraged Todd in his ministry with the youth and we have all felt truly embraced as we answer God’s call to seminary. Thank you for the farewell parties, meals, cards, prayers, words of encouragement and for your generous monetary gifts. We can’t thank you enough and have been truly blessed in our time at CPCBA.

Keep us in prayer as we navigate these next days and years. We’ll update you from time to time. We miss seeing your smiling faces on Sunday morning!

God bless,  
Todd, Heather, and Addy Tracy

**SEW you want to make a DIFFERENCE?  
Why Not Help the Dignity Robe Project?**

The **dignity robe** project started in March of this year. As a church, we have invested over 200 hours to make robes for women who are receiving radiation treatment for breast cancer.



We have completed and delivered more than 25 robes to AGH and friends, relatives and neighbors. Allegheny General Hospital’s Oncology Department has received \$250 from CPCBA in support of the project.

We want to keep this project going. Please consider a donation to buy fabric or Velcro, cut out a pattern or sew a robe. If you are interested in improving basic sewing skills, you can receive tutoring as you sew a gown. **You will make a difference. CPCBA is making a difference.**

To help, pick up a **HOT PINK** slip of paper on the desk in the Narthex or call a Dignity Robe Team member.

- |                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Gail Buchanan      | 412-734-2050 |
| Jan Frisch         | 412-761-2955 |
| Sue Herchenroether | 412-761-0479 |
| Sandy Stauffer     | 412-761-0704 |
| Mary Witul         | 412-734-2772 |

**CPR/AED/First Aid Training to be held  
Wednesday, October 22**

We hope to never have to use our CPR/AED training. If you need to be re-certified or would like to be certified for the first time, you have the opportunity to do so on October 22 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.



The class will be taught by Rick Ward from Northwest EMS. The cost is so cheap, how could you pass it up at just \$5 for the class? Other classes were priced at as much as \$50 for an 8 hour class.

So if you are interested or an usher (you should be certified), please RSVP by October 20 to either

Brenda Mellon: 412-766-7658  
smellon888@comcast.net  
Tim Miller: 412-318-4781  
tmiller1502@comcast.net

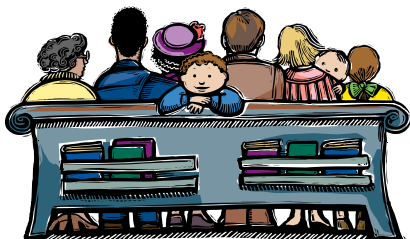
**Parent and Child Worship Education  
For 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Sunday, October 26 at 12:00 p.m.**

On Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> Pastor Page Creach and Christian Education Director Melanie Holcomb will host a lunch and Worship Education class for parents and children in 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This time is meant to help the children transition from passive observers of adult worship into active participants.

We will talk about the spiritual development of children in these age groups and discuss tools parents can use to engage their children and develop a tradition of positive family worship experience. Children will learn more about what goes into a worship service and how they can be a part.

In order to provide an accurate count for materials and our meal, reservations are requested. Please contact the church by October 21<sup>st</sup> at 412-761-1233 if you can join us. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00 noon that day, following the worship service. *(For those in Jr. Choir, Parents can begin with us at 12 and your children will join us at 12:30.)*

We look forward to this opportunity to share our experiences as we grow together in the family of God.



by Deacon Nancy Crawford

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrew 13:8.*

What a wonderful day was had by all at our annual church picnic, this year being held at the Avalon Park Pavilion. The picnic and food was organized by the Deacons which turned out to be a fun and blessed event. We couldn't have asked for a better day, to celebrate our church and its members.

The deacons have also been busy visiting our members at the various personal care homes, and delivering flowers to those who could use some sunshine.

The Deacons will host the Fellowship hour on October 5 which also marks World Communion Sunday.

**Stewardship in Sunday School  
Help Your Children Understand the  
Joy of Giving Back to God**



In mid-October, our children will be given offering envelopes to use for Sunday School.

Please talk with your children about the idea of giving back to God a portion of what God has blessed you with. The Bible calls this "tithing" or giving a tithe (tie-th) to God.

Your whole family can talk together about how you give back to God with your service, time, talents and money. The envelopes can be used each Sunday for the offering time during the Sunday School opening. They are obviously not required, but something to help children grasp the idea of giving back to God.

**Sacrament of Baptism to Be Celebrated  
On Specific Sundays**

Do you have a child that you would like to be baptized? There are a number of specific Sundays that have been set apart to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism.

These Sundays are:

- October 12, 2008
- December 14, 2008
- February 8, 2009
- May 10, 2009

Please contact Pastor Page Creach at 412-761-1233 if your family would like to participate in the sacrament on one of these dates.

**Reminder - Join Us in the 2008 North Boros CROP Hunger Walk Sunday - October 5!**

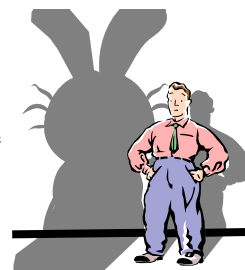
To participate, sign up in the Narthex & take a Donation Envelope. The walk is 10K (about 6 miles) through Avalon, Bellevue & Ben Avon starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Greenstone United Methodist Church (939 California Avenue). Ask family, friends and group members to support you with a generous donation.



For more information about CROP Hunger Walks or the work of Church World Service visit [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org) or call 888-297-2767. The CPCBA contact is - Walter Robertson (phone: 412-761-1030, email: [therobs1@verizon.net](mailto:therobs1@verizon.net))

**The Rabbit is Invisible... But you CAN See the Play!**

Community Theatre Players' production of *Harvey* by Mary Chase will run Friday October 17, Saturday October 18, Thursday October 23, Friday October 24 and Saturday 25, right here in Fellowship Hall. There will be delicious dinners served on both Fridays.



Call now 412-734-2050 to order tickets for the play and dinner. Tickets for the show are still \$7, the dinner tickets are \$18. The dinners are at 6:00 p.m. and "curtain time" is 8:00 p.m. for all shows.

Want to know what goes on backstage? There are still some slots to fill for set work, stage hands and ushers; call Mary Witul at 412-734-2772 and she'll hook you up with the correct person.

**Organist Barbara McKelway to Play in Organ Dedication Recital at Forest Avenue Presbyterian Church Sunday, October 26**

CPCBA Organist Barbara McKelway will be playing the dedicatory organ recital at Forest Avenue Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 26 at 3:00 p.m. at Presbyterian neighbor, Forest Avenue Church, 898 Forest Avenue on the hill above Bellevue. All are invited to this joyous occasion.

**Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon Directory**

- Pastor ..... Rev. Dr. Page Creach
- Christian Education Director ..... Melanie Hughes-Holcomb
- Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries ..... Mike Mullin
- Director of Music/Choir Director ..... David Anderson
- Associate Music Director/Organist ..... Barbara McKelway
- Administrative Assistant ..... Mary Susan Anderson
- Clerk of Session ..... Peter Herchenroether
- Treasurer ..... Ross Dillon
- Trustees, President ..... Steve Mellon
- Deacons, Chair ..... Andy Deen
- Junior Church, Coordinator ..... Jan Davis
- Wooden Ladder Preschool ..... Larry Skerlong
- Financial Secretaries: ..... Barbara Barcoucky
- ..... Dwight Chrvala
- ..... Chuck Hamilton
- ..... Jim Russell
- ..... Deb Sadowski
- Web Masters ..... Susan and Marty Houser

**Committee Chairs:**

- Christian Education ..... Clair Cranville
- Fellowship & Evangelism ..... Nancy Hamilton
- Nominating Committee ..... Jennifer Knuth
- Outreach ..... Judy Hay
- Property ..... Andy Kolenda
- Stewardship & Finance ..... Wendy Herchenroether
- Worship ..... June Weletz, Steve Mellon

**Deacon Comfort and Joy Contacts**

(for meal assistance, transportation, grief support, etc.)  
Patti Timpani (412-766-1645) or Daryl Johnson (412-766-0895)

**Deacons Visitation Ministry**

Ed Stauffer (412-761-0704)

(Please help the Deacons share the concern of our community by letting us know whether you, or a friend or family member, would welcome a visit. Requests can be made to any Deacon.)

**Church Office Hours are Monday-Friday—9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

† Phone: 412-761-1233; 412-766-1800 † Fax: (412) 766-1801 † E-mail: [cpcba@verizon.net](mailto:cpcba@verizon.net) † Web site: [www.cpcba.com](http://www.cpcba.com)  
Chapel is open daily from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for prayer and meditation.

**Community Presbyterian  
Church of Ben Avon  
Mission Statement:**

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon aspires to a greater service of God through a ministry mindful of the needs of our congregants, neighbors and, through the Presbyterian Church (USA), the world community.

We actively bind together this community of Jesus Christ through warm fellowship, inspiring worship, nurture, learning and a long, rich tradition.

We are led by the Holy Spirit to use our abundant blessings and diverse talents progressively for evangelism, discipleship, stewardship and mission.

**Revelations**

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon  
7501 Church Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

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"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen." Revelation 22:21



**The Pomeroy/Nelson Theologian in Residence Series Concludes with  
The Rev. Dr. Jerome F. D. Creach Preaching  
Sunday, September 28 at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.**

- by Pastor Page Creach

As is customary at this church, the Pomeroy/Nelson lectures are often concluded by inviting the guest lecturer to fill the pulpit in worship on the last day of the lectures. Dr. Ron Tappy has given us much good information in the four-week Christian education hours, but he is quick to say that he is an Archeologist and Bible teacher, not a preacher.

So we have invited another seminary professor to fill the pulpit this day and conclude the lectures in fine style. He is one of my favorites too: The Rev. Dr. Jerome F. D. Creach.



Dr. Creach is professor of Old Testament and holds the Robert Holland chair in Old Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He is the author of four books including his most recent work, *The Destiny of the Righteous in the Psalms* (Chalice Press 2008) and his commentary on the book of Joshua (Westminster John Knox Press 2003). He is also my husband and your new church affiliate. Jerome is glad to serve our church as guest preacher this day. Please welcome him as you have welcomed me.

Sermon Text: Philippians 2: 5-11  
Sermon Title: *He Humbled Himself*