

June 4, 2021

Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Kenneth E. Kovacs, Ph.D.

Associate Pastor

Rev. Dorothy L. Boulton, M.Div.

Director of Music

Greg Knauf, D.M.A.

Organist

Christopher Keenan, D.M.A.

Communications Consultant and Messenger Editor

Lisa Roca

Membership Secretary

Peggy Carr

Administrative Assistant

Shirley Winters

Bookkeeper

Virginia Daiger

Sexton

Bernard Lawson

Child Care Center Director

Michelle Hepner

Child Care Center Assistant Director

Heather Hollandsworth

Child Care Center Office Manager

Ashley Graham



Welcome to this Ministry!

By Kenneth Kovacs

This weekend—June 6—we welcome our new organist and assistant director of music, Dr. Christopher Keenan. As we shared in the March Messenger, Dr. Keenan comes to us with considerable gifts and experience both as an organist and church musician. A native of Tennessee, he knows a lot about Baltimore. Chris received a Bachelor of Music degree, specializing in organ, from The Peabody Conservatory of Music in 2012. After Peabody, Chris continued his studies at the University of Texas, Austin, where he completed a Master of Music in organ in 2014, followed by a Doctor of Musical Arts in organ in 2016. He has served in Disciples of Christ, Presbyterian, United Methodist, and Episcopalian congregations. Easter Sunday was his last day at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Charleston, SC, where he was Director of Music and Broadcasting (yes, broadcasting). Chris has worked with children's choirs, conducted bell choirs, and led contemporary worship services.

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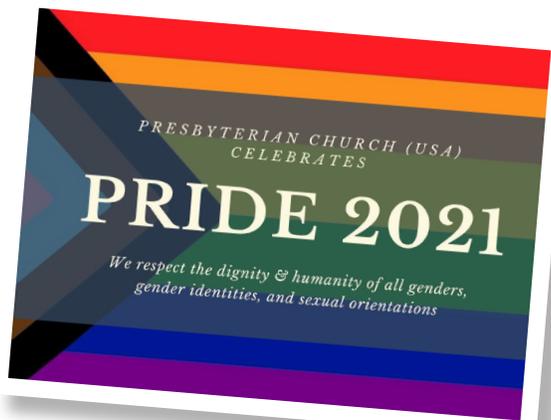
Welcome to this Ministry!

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If you missed worship on February 21, I encourage you to listen to the service music. I was especially moved by his playing of the opening hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!" [Have a listen](#). Chris also has his own [YouTube Channel](#) that includes recordings from recitals held in historic venues in both the United States and Europe. He has also participated and placed in many international organ competitions.

In addition to being a church musician, Chris is also a firefighter and EMT worker. From his EMT experience, Chris has now discerned a call to go into medicine, which is what has led him back to Baltimore. This month Chris joins the post-baccalaureate/pre-med program at Goucher

College in Towson. While this will take up a lot of his time, focus, and attention in the year ahead, he didn't want to set aside his love of music and his love of working in the church. Chris plans to apply for medical school within the year. His first choice is the University of Maryland, but we will have to wait and see. In the meantime, God has blessed us with an outstanding candidate who is eager to join the staff and be part of the ministry of Catonsville Presbyterian Church. Welcome, Chris!



June is Pride Month

Creator God, you love all that you have created, and you celebrate the diversity of your creation. We ask that you give us the grace to celebrate our LGBTQ+ siblings as they live authentically in the world. Be with those who feel unsafe to live their true identity. May they know they are not alone and that you, the God of love, celebrates and affirms their lives. Teach us to honor and celebrate their gifts and help us to create a world in which your LGBTQ+ children are loved, accepted and celebrated, in every space and every place that speaks your name. Amen.

Summer Worship

[June through August](#)

Worship moves to 9:30 am and adult education hour takes a break June through August. In early June, we will continue to record worship on Saturdays and post the service on Sundays, on both Facebook and YouTube. Worship on both June 20 and 27 will be via Zoom. Then, beginning on Sunday, July 4, we will open the sanctuary for up to 60 participants (reservations will be required) and begin livestreaming worship on Facebook, YouTube, as well as the CPC website. We plan to gradually increase worship capacity over the summer. More details to follow.

Stephen Minister

By Charre Symms

What is it like to be a Stephen Minister?

Someone suggested that the term “Minister” can be daunting. Most of us think of a minister as someone with university and seminary training who has studied Greek, Hebrew, theology and other disciplines. Stephen Ministers are also called “care-givers”, which is better description of the role. A Stephen Minister provides on-going support to someone who is going through a tough time such as divorce, serious illness, death of a loved one, losing employment, etc. The primary qualification is having a heart for others and wanting to make a difference in their lives. When Stephen Ministry was founded by Dr. Kenneth C. Haugk in 1975, his first group of Stephen Ministers included a secretary, a teacher, an insurance agent, a businesswoman, a student, an executive, a homemaker, a beautician, and a retiree. From my experience, that’s a pretty typical group.

I was trained as a Stephen Minister at my Presbyterian Church in California. After training, each Stephen Minister (care-giver) is matched up by a leader with a care-receiver who has requested a Stephen Minister. The program is highly confidential. Only the leader and care-giver know the identity of the care-receiver unless the care-receiver chooses to reveal the relationship.

One of my care-receivers was a woman who had recently been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s disease (ALS) and openly shared that I was her Stephen Minister. Pat was a retired health-care worker, who was operating a small senior-care facility in her home with the assistance of one employee. She had adopted two teen-aged brothers and raised them to adulthood. They were her only family in the area and were busy with their own lives. When we first met, Pat had only slight symptoms in one arm and was hopeful that her disease would progress slowly. We met for about an hour each week. Pat told me about her doctor’s reports, but she also talked about various decisions she had to make, her experiences raising two black sons in a predominately white, upper-class community, and her concerns for her sons and the elderly folks in her home. After about a year of meeting, when her symptoms had progressed more quickly than expected, she enrolled in a clinical trial. Then, after very serious consideration of the pros and cons, she made the difficult decision to sell her home and move to Arizona to live with her sister. She passed away a few months after moving and her sisters came to our church to hold a memorial service for her, and requested that I give the eulogy. What did I do? I was just there. I couldn’t cure her disease or make decisions for her. But I was a safe space where she could talk about all her fears and hopes and concerns. It was a blessing for me to walk with Pat during her struggles and she constantly expressed her appreciation and thanks for our times together.

As we explore the possibility of starting a Stephen Ministry program at Catonsville Presbyterian Church, we need to have a group of people who are committed to going through the training and serving. If you feel called to help those going through difficult times, this could be your opportunity. Please contact me (Charre Symms at 530-219-5810 or email csymms@veridianenv.com) or Pastor Dorothy Boulton, if you would like more information. And mark your calendar to attend our next Zoom meeting to discuss the program on June 17 at 7 pm. You can also find information about the ministry at www.stephenministries.org, including testimonials from care-receivers, care-givers, and Stephen Ministry churches.

Envision Fund

Request for Applications Fall 2021

The Envision Board is pleased to announce a second round of funding for calendar year 2021, with an application deadline of Wednesday, September 1, 2021. External applicants must have a church-based sponsor, and internal applicants must follow a submission process with Committees of the church. Applications, Proposal Criteria, Sponsorship Forms and contact information may be found at <https://catonsvillepres.org/envision-fund/>. For any questions and or to be connected to a Committee who may provide appropriate sponsorship please email envision_fund@catonsville.org.

Meat Madness

The Need Continues

By Jenny Hutton

The need continues to be great but we can help! Here's how it works: Mail a check for \$20 payable to Chef Paolino to:

Chef Paolino Café
726 Frederick Road,
Catonsville, MD 21228

Indicate "Meat Madness" in the memo line. Checks are the only form of payment accepted. Chef Paolino's will purchase ham, turkey, roast beef, and cheese that will be sliced and delivered to the Westside Men's Shelter and My Brother's Keeper. Donations will be accepted through August 31, 2021.

Thank you for helping to feed the poor and unsheltered! Sponsored by Catonsville Presbyterian, Salem Lutheran, Catonsville United Methodist, Christian Temple, Grace AME, St. Mark Parish, New Hope Community, and Knights of Columbus Patapsco Council No. 1960.

Dismantling Racism

Implicit Bias Training

June 14 online

On June 14, from 5 to 7 p.m., the Dismantling Racism Committee will sponsor a two hour training session on Implicit Bias. Implicit Biases (also called Unconscious Biases) are the attitudes and stereotypes that we all have that manifest themselves without our being aware of them. Implicit bias training seeks to help us bring those unconscious attitudes to our conscious minds where they can be examined and understood. In this training session, we'll learn how and why our minds develop biases, and how awareness of these biases can help us counteract their impact.

This online program will be taught by Dr. Sandra Quezada from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Dr. Quezada has taught classes on recognizing unconscious bias to medical professionals as well as the general public.

Space will be limited to 40 participants and registration will close on Friday, June 11. Register at <https://catonsvillepres.org/news/implicit-bias-training-june-14-2021/>

Our Financial Resources

We rely on everyone to support what God is doing through this congregation. The vitality of this ministry is secured by God's grace and funded by the faithfulness and commitment of God's people. We are counting on the ongoing generosity of our members and friends.

Doing God's Work

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| ■ Income as of May 29, 2021 | \$ 289,195 |
| ■ Expense as of May 29, 2021 | \$-295,817 |
| ■ Total: | \$ - 6,622 |

The Messenger

Next Messenger Deadline

To include articles in the next Messenger email Lisa Roca, Communications Consultant and Editor, at lroca@catonsvillepres.org, by Monday, June 14.

Our Mission

We seek to find and share God's calling for this community of faith through worship, fellowship and service.

Catonsville Presbyterian Church

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www.catonsvillepres.org

[Facebook.com/catonsvillepresb](https://www.facebook.com/catonsvillepresb)

[Twitter.com/catonsvillepres](https://twitter.com/catonsvillepres)

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

office@catonsvillepres.org



We Choose
Welcome

