

CBC Courier

Central Baptist Church ●

A Community Church

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◆ FROM THE PASTOR

In a recent sermon I shared a story from the life of one of my new favorite writers. The story told about Cathleen Falsani's meeting and later adopting Vasco, a ten-year-old Malawian boy who had a life-threatening heart condition.

Once Vasco went to live with his new mom and dad in California, he decided to be baptized. Before his baptism in the Pacific Ocean, the boy's godfather offered these words:

Vasco, God has given you a wonderful story to tell. Your story of what God did for you is your dad's story, it's your mom's story. And now it's my story too. Vasco, this is all of our story. As people we are living lives with hearts that need to be fixed, in places that are unsafe. Jesus comes and gives us new hearts and puts us in a new family and gives us a new name, his name. God has given you a wonderful story, and I want you to always tell your story.

In the weeks ahead, those of us at CBC will have many opportunities to tell and hear stories. We'll have opportunities to do that during the two sessions of our upcoming

● Upcoming



congregational identity and purpose process. We'll have opportunities to do that as we enter our annual stewardship campaign, and as we discuss launching a capital campaign. We'll have an opportunity to do that as we hear Maggie Kozel read from her newly published memoir. We'll have opportunities to do that during our Sunday-morning coffee hours; our guys' breakfast and study group; our ladies' breakfast; our Wednesday-morning Bible study; and our spiritual memoir small group.

My prayer is that as we tell and hear our stories, we will feel deeply connected and strongly hopeful about the future we will share as a congregation.

Kathryn

Two Important Evenings for Our CBC Family

Join us for two important evenings in the life of our CBC family.

January 21

Pie potluck dinner. Bring your choice of pie—from chicken pot pie to shepherd's pie to quiche to fruit or cream pie.

Congregational identity & purpose process (part 1). We will capture our impressions of CBC's history and then use that as a foundation for our discussion of who we are and what we are about as a congregation.

Stewardship campaign kick-off. We will celebrate the beginning of our annual stewardship campaign, which will run from January 23-February 27.

February 11

Soup & salad supper. We'll share a great meal provided by our Congregational Life Committee.

Congregational identity & purpose process (part 2). We will continue our earlier work as we imagine steps we might take to strengthen and act upon our sense of who we are and what we're about in the future.

Capital campaign discussion. The trustees report that our church roof has leaked and been repaired several times in recent years and the 25+-year-old shingles on the original portion of our church building need to be replaced soon. Before getting

congregational permission to embark on a capital campaign to raise this money, the trustees would like to explore the feasibility of starting this campaign in March and solicit ideas for other capital needs and desires from the congregation. Please attend this meeting to give your input and discuss this topic.

Both of these evening events will begin at 6:00 p.m. Children are welcome to join us for dinner on both nights and then enjoy a movie downstairs.

Please sign up for these important evenings by using the sheets in the church parlor, by calling the church office at 423-1651, or by sending an e-mail to cbc.jamestown@cox.net.

Within Our Church Family



Please keep the students in our *Journey of Discipleship* class in your thoughts and prayers as they explore their faith and consider baptism or confirmation, as well as church membership. The students are Isaiah Ferrara, Liam Gamon, Trevette Kuester, David Lawless, James Lawless, Jessy Primiano, and Sophie Primiano.

Sermon Series to Explore Mountain-top Messages

In Matthew's gospel, some of Jesus' most important teaching moments take place on mountains. During our next sermon series, we will explore some of the surprising things Jesus had to say and what his teaching might mean for us today.

Messages from Mountains will include:

· January 30	<i>You Might Be Surprised</i>	Matthew 5:1-12
· February 6	<i>Yes, It Does Matter</i>	Matthew 5:13-20
· February 13	<i>Don't Believe Everything You Hear</i>	Matthew 5:21-37
· February 20	<i>It's a Tall Order</i>	Matthew 5:38-48
· February 27	<i>Some Things Just Don't Work</i>	Matthew 6:24-34
· March 6	<i>Don't Worry About Being Wrong</i>	Matthew 4:12-23



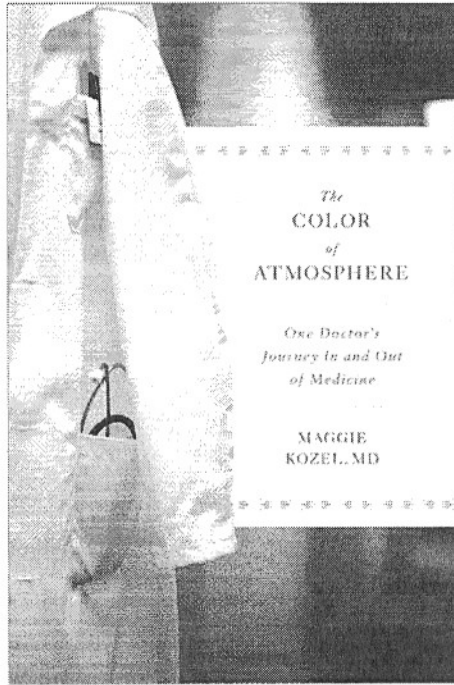
Event to Feature Book Reading, Signing

CBC will host a community-wide event during which Maggie Kozel will read from and sign copies of her newly released book *The Color of Atmosphere: One Doctor's Journey In and Out of Medicine*. The event is to begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 17.

The book's publisher, Chelsea Green Publishing, offers this description of Maggie's book:

"If the medical profession you'd devoted your life to was completely taken over by liability concerns and insurance regulations, would you stay a physician?"

The Color of Atmosphere tells one doctor's story and the route of her medical career with warmth, humor, and, above all, honesty. As we follow Maggie Kozel from her



idealistic days as a devoted young pediatrician, through her Navy experience with universal health coverage, and on into the world of private practice, we see not only her reverence for medical science and her compassion for her patients, but also the widening gap between what she

was trained to do and what is eventually expected of her.

"Her personal story plays out against the backdrop of our changing health-care system, and demonstrates the way our method of paying for health care has reached its way into the exam room, putting a stranglehold on how doctors practice and profoundly influencing the doctor-patient relationship. The stories she shares illustrate the medical, economic, and moral complexities of U.S. health care. To understand Dr. Kozel's ultimate decision to leave medicine is to better comprehend the disconnect between our considerable medical resources and how our health-care system falls short of delivering them."

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at CBC for \$17.95 each.

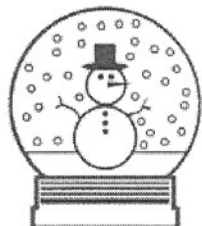
► FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Opportunity to Give program was a great success. The Trustees are pleased to report receipt of 29 donations totaling \$5300. This is a great boost to our budget.

New Address

Jean Page

3220 Cove Creek Road
Bristol, VA 24202
(276) 669-9606



Group to Discuss Book About Questions

Called to
Question



Joan
Chittister

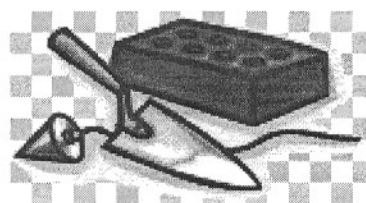
Called to Question
by Joan Chittister is
the selection for our
next spiritual
memoir discussion
at 7:00 p.m. on
Thursday, Feb. 10.

In this book, Chittister shares a series of "conversations" from her private journal. Through these conversations she explores the common questions we encounter in our daily lives rather than the answers we may have been given.

By sharing the questions, doubts, and convictions of her own heart,

Chittister explores the heart of faith itself and nurtures a spirituality that pushes readers beyond superficial questioning and unexamined faith.

Chittister is recognized for her work as a sociologist, theologian, Benedictine sister, rights activist, and spiritual guide to countless people throughout the world.



Building on Our Foundation
2011-2012 Stewardship Campaign
January 23-February 27

WE'RE 28 DENOMINATIONS STRONG!



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A COMMUNITY CHURCH

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