



Celebrating 113+ Years of Ministry

1906-2019

We are a church of ordinary people caring for one another
as we respond to God's call for a just and sustainable world.

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church

1722 Bardstown Road

Louisville, KY 40205

Volume 52

Issue 12

December

2019



It has been a full first month with you, the Saints of Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church. I am truly blessed to be called your Pastor. I share this photo with you as I took it late one afternoon while praying in our sanctuary. Every day that I am at the church, I take just a few minutes to sit in our sanctuary and lift up prayer to God. It has become a part of my day that I look forward to very much.

I want to thank everyone for your continued support of my wife Gillian and me. Through kind words, a wonderful welcome party, housewarming gifts, cards, and your all around kindness, you have made this transition a wonderful one for both of us.

I am excited to announce a save the date for January 5, 2020, 2PM, for a worship service where I will be officially installed as your pastor. I have a wonderful Installation Commission representing the church, our neighbors, the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky, and the National P.C. (U.S.A.) Church. I hope that you will come back to church January 5 to be present for what I know will be a Spirit-filled installations service!

We have a very busy December arriving right around the corner. I very much look forward to sharing in my first Advent season with all of you!

Something new this year to BRPC will be a Saturday, December 21, 6PM, Longest Night Service. A Longest Night Service is a service of song, prayer, and meditation for people for whom the holiday season provides challenges. Whether it be grief, mental health, employment, family dynamics, addiction, or whatever makes your heart heavy at the holidays, we hope that you will consider joining us for this simple service of solidarity. Invite a friend, relative, or anyone you know that might be struggling this holiday season.

A special thanks, once again, to Allen Purnell, Bryan, and family, for throwing Gillian and me such a wonderful welcome and housewarming party! We are truly loving Louisville and are blessed to be in the BRPC family!

God's blessings,

Pastor Mark

SAVE THE DATE!

You are invited to the **Installation of Rev. Mark Eldred** at Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church on Sunday, January 5 at 2:00 P.M. Reception to follow.



STEWARDSHIP

Thank you for your stewardship support – estimates of giving are now being collected for 2020. Pledge cards are in the Sanctuary.

END OF YEAR GIVING: A reminder that all charitable contributions must be postmarked (or delivered to the church office) by December 31st to be credited as a donation in 2019. Anything received after that date will be credited as a 2020 donation. Your prayers, financial support, and amazing generosity are truly inspiring and greatly appreciated as we share in ministry through BRPC.

THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Do you know of someone for whom Christmas is a sad time? Maybe that person is a friend, relative or neighbor. Join us for a Longest Night Service on Saturday **December 21 at 6 P.M.** In this service we invite you to listen, pray, sing and receive a special personal prayer. Please join us to find hope and comfort in knowing that you are not alone.



Per Capita Apportionment

- General Assembly \$8.95
- Synod \$3.98
- Presbytery \$12.07
- Total Per Capita \$25.00**

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----|
| DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS | Evelyn Overstreet | 3 |
| | George Dumbaugh | 8 |
| | Bill Bowman | 8 |
| | Laura Green | 15 |
| | Sarah Collins | 16 |
| | Ada Lear | 17 |
| | Leo Lear | 19 |
| | Kris Bloos | 21 |
| | Cathy, Miya & Meiling Moss | 23 |
| | Sarah Shafer | 23 |
| | Ian Johnson | 26 |

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church Staff

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Rev. Mark Eldred | Pastor |
| Rev. Jim Brees | Pastoral Associate |
| Jeanie Grosz | Director of Music Ministries/ Organist |
| Sarah Hageman | Director of Children's and Youth Ministry |
| Corey Bullitt | Sexton |
| Johanna Fears | Office Manager |
| Marty Hageman | Treasurer |

Editor, Johanna Fears

1722 Bardstown Road Louisville, KY 40205
 Pastor phone: 502-751-9660
 Office Phone: 502-451-8305
 Email: mark@brpres.org

NOVEMBER 19, 2019 SESSION SUMMARY

The session met for the first time with the Rev. Mark Eldred, serving as Moderator. As part of his initial report, some details of the his Installation Service on January 5, 2010, 2:00 pm. were provided. Marty Hageman, Treasurer, reported that in October expenses of \$14,500 were addressed with income of \$10,500. Compilation of the Church budget for 2020 is in progress. Pledges for the upcoming year are still being accepted.

The Mission Committee represented by Bill Bowman, Chairperson, brought a proposed overture regarding divestment from fossil fuel industry investment and encouragement of investment in securities of companies which focus on renewable and/or energy efficiency. By a majority vote, the Session forwarded the overture to Mid-KY Presbytery. (A copy of the overture may be obtained from Bill Bowman.) The Mission Committee also brought a request to utilize \$5,000 from the Mission Bequest Fund to support the construction of a proposed new chapel at Cedar Ridge Camp. The request was approved. Building and Grounds Committee will address concerns identified in a recent visit by a Code Enforcement representative who was inspecting exterior matters only.

Christian Education services are consumed with preparation for the children's cantata and the service project of the adolescents. The Committee hopes to dedicate funds to permit six teens to accompany teens from Highland Presbyterian Church on a spring break tour of key sites of the Civil Rights movement.

Contributions and volunteers are still welcome and needed to shine during Bardstown Road Aglow on Saturday, Dec. 7th. Regarding the Christmas season, Advent dinners will occur on Wednesdays, 12/11 and 12/18. The Worship and Music Committee is working on executing the traditional Cantata, a Coterie event, and special worship events during the Christmas week.

The Session encourages our members and friends to participate and draw spiritual renewal from the many opportunities to express and live our faith that are offered through BRPC.

U OF L WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

You are invited to the U of L Women's Basketball Game on **Sunday, Jan. 12**, at 2 p.m. at the Yum Center. Free tickets will be available in the church office after Dec. 18. The Lady Cards will play Wake Forest on this date. Providing tickets for a women's game has become an annual event and a group of 25 tickets will be purchased.

On Super Bowl Sunday, **February 2** there will be another U of L Women's game – this time it will be an exhibition game with the US National Team who will be preparing for their run in the Tokyo Olympics. This game will be at 2 p.m. at the YUM Center. Tickets are \$10 each and you can get them at GoCards.com/USA or at the Yum Center. Shirley Shaw is going and if you'd like her to get your tickets, please give her a call before Dec. 5 and she will get tickets in a group setting.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Half of the Christmas Joy Offering provides assistance for those who have dedicated their lives to the service of the church. It helps provide assistance to church workers and their families in need as well as retired church workers and their survivors.

For the PCUSA church workers who experience such challenges, the help of the Assistance Program, made possible by the Offering, is providential. Some grant recipients have likened it to God's "grace in action" and "the peace of Christ."

The other half of your Christmas Joy Offering provides much needed support for racial-ethnic students in higher education. Follow in the tradition of the wise men, and please give this Advent season. **The offering will be collected on Sunday December 22.**

REVIVAL OF 2 GREAT EVENTS!

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

The Congregational Life/Care Committee of BRP is reviving a long-held **Progressive Dinner** event for adults only. The date is Saturday, Dec. 14, beginning at 6 p.m. with appetizers at the home of Lorena Stierle on Woodbourne Ave. with Keith Clements hosting. At about 7 p.m. the group will traverse to Cowling Ave. to the home of LLester and Sally Gamble for the main course. Then, close to 8:30 p.m., the group will journey on to Brighton Drive to the home of Doug and Molly Rapp for dessert. Participants are asked to make a reservation and if you would like to provide an appetizer or dessert please let us know. Make a reservation with the church office or Shirley Shaw -- there will also be a sign-up flyer in Sunday bulletins.

COFFEE STOP with COTERIE 2.0

Also, on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m., **CoffeeStop** will be revived with **Coterie 2.0** performing holiday music in Fellowship Hall. Admission is \$5 per person with proceeds going to the HCM Heating Assistance Fund. Desserts and coffee will be available – and, if you would like to provide a dessert it would be greatly appreciated. This is a family event and open to the public, so please spread the word. If you remember Coterie, it will be a similar sound but not all the former members are available (therefore the 2.0).



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN CIRCLES

The Presbyterian Women's Circles' 2019-2020 Horizons Bible Study is "Love Carved in Stone: A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments," by Eugenia Anne Gamble. Circles meet September-May during the second week of each month.

The morning circle will meet Tuesday, December 10 at 11:00 A.M. in the Club Room for a brown bag lunch and discussion led by Margot Tomsen. If interested, contact Joe Anne Overstreet.

The evening circle will meet Thursday, December 12 at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Alicia Bloos. For more info contact Alicia Bloos, 502-496-0345 or aliciabloos@gmail.com.

MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS

Highlands Community Ministries

If you live in the 40204 or 40205 zip code areas, you have recently received the **annual newsletter** detailing the work of HCM. Learn more about HCM's programs and share this with others. You may be surprised at all HCM does! BRP can be proud of helping found this vital ministry. Visit the website to learn more: www.hcmlouisville.org. HCM also has a FaceBook page. Be sure to LIKE it to share with your friends.

Christmas Gift and Food Baskets are being organized now for neighbors in need. BRP has committed to provide a merry Christmas for several families. Visit the Angel Tree and sign-up table in Fellowship Hall now to see how you can help.

Twenty-two gifts are requested and many food items are needed, as well as help with sorting, packing, and delivery. Contact Alicia Bloos, 502-496-0345 or alicia-bloos@gmail.com for more info.

Cedar Ridge Camp

Cedar Ridge Camp is currently offering **Holidays Around the World** classes. Elementary school groups visit camp to learn about Hannukah, Kwanza, Chinese New Year, Christmas in Germany, and Christmas in Mexico.

In January, Cedar Ridge will be the site of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery's retreat for the clergy of our Presbytery. This event is designed to offer clergy an opportunity for rest, relaxation, renewal, and connecting with fellow ministers.

Efforts are moving forward to make the Calvin Chapel a reality. Groundbreaking is planned in the spring on the lower level, which will provide a much-needed weather shelter area. Volunteers are busy in fundraising efforts. Calvin Church pledged around \$550,000 for the project which is projected to cost over \$750,000.

Cedar Ridge Camp (continued)

The balance is being sought through grants as well as donations from churches and individuals. These may be one-time donations or pledges to be paid over three years. The BRP Mission Committee has voted to send \$5000 now from the Mission Tithe Bequest Tithe Fund, with Possible additional donations over three years.

PROJECT WARM NEWS- Dec. 7 at 9 A.M.

Six chilly volunteers from BRP helped out with the Project Warm Blitz on Saturday, November 9. On a cold but sunny morning, the volunteers headed out to Valley Station and Portland to weatherize three houses of neighbors who asked for help to stay warm this winter. This month's volunteers were Bill Bowman, Chris Clements, Keith Clements, Liam Clements, Ryan Clements, and Paul Johnson.

The team plans to work on more houses on Saturday, December 7 at 9 A.M., and it welcomes anyone else who would like to join them.

Bill Bowman

BRP FOOD PANTRY

As always the BRPC office needs food items such as: tuna and chicken lunchables, beanie weenies, and any packaged items that will stand the test of time. We are also looking for an **inexpensive backpack** or two. People living on the street very often do not have anything to hold their few possessions.

MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Mission Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 11, at 7:00pm in the Club Room. We are a very involved congregation, and would welcome new members to our group to help us discern and respond faithfully to the many needs around us.

The kids at BRP!



WELCOME PARTY FOR MARK AND GILLIAN

Allen and Bryan hosted a welcome party on Nov. 9 for Mark and Gillian complete with a wonderful spread, a trampoline and even animal feeding time.



And a cake too!



Good friends — Good food



Good Company!



Happy Children





MUSIC IN DECEMBER AT BRP

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL—Dec. 15

On December 8th the children will be presenting a musical program "The Unfriendly Beasts". If you would like to participate, please contact Jeanie at [643-7660](tel:643-7660).

ADULT CANTATA—Dec. 22

On December 22nd the Chancel Choir will sing an adult cantata during Worship.

CHRISTMAS EVE—Dec. 24

Traditional Candlelight services with lessons, carols, and the celebration of communion. Services are at 4 P.M. and 11 P.M.

Christmas Day Celebration

Tuesday, December 25

10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Our Worship Service includes the traditional "Impromptu Christmas Pageant" with a part for everyone! It's a grass-roots, spontaneous, participatory sharing of the nativity story. No auditions. No rehearsals. No hassles. No one's left out. Whoever comes takes a part in reading, singing, acting out the story. It's a lot of fun and for many people, over many years, this is a wonderful part of the holy day celebration. Come help us tell the story of Jesus' birth on Christmas morning in the Sanctuary.

ADVENT DINNERS

You are invited to participate in the dinner programs on 2 Wednesdays during Advent (**December 11 and 18 beginning at 6:00 p.m.**) as we gather for a time of spiritual nurture and Community Fellowship. This is a chance to be with others who desire God's presence in the midst of the holiday frenzy.

There will be a catered dinner on each Wednesday followed by a program exploring the history of Christmas carols and singing!

IN THANKSGIVING—

We are thankful for the health that we enjoy and the strength, generosity and devotion of the BRP congregation.

HANGING OF THE GREENS – DECEMBER 4 AT 5:30 P.M.

Wednesday, December 4 you are invited to come and help decorate the Sanctuary for the Advent season. Please come if you can. There will be pizza!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12/7 Bardstown Road Aglow (6 – 9 p.m.)
- 12/11 Wednesday Evening Advent Dinners at &18 6 p.m.
- 12/15 Children's Musical at 11 A.M. in the Sanctuary CoffeeStop with Coterie 2.0 at 7 P.M.
- 12/21 Longest Night Service at 6 P.M.
- 12/22 Chancel Choir Cantata during the morning Worship at 11 A.M.; Christmas Joy Offering
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m. with communion.
- 12/25 Morning worship in the Fellowship Hall with the Impromptu Christmas Pageant at 10 A.M.
- 1/5/20 Installation of Rev. Mark Eldred at 2 P.M. Reception to follow.



FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY - ANIMALS FOR THE WORLD

At BRP, people enjoy contributing and decorating the Sanctuary with poinsettias as part of our Christmas celebration. And, in addition to flowers, people contribute "animals for the manger." Not a sheep for the Sanctuary, but maybe a goat that brings hope to villagers in Haiti. A gift to Heifer International in honor or memory of a love one is becoming part of our BRP tradition. Heifer sends livestock around the world as a gift of hope to people in need. Order forms will either be in the bulletin or in the rear of the Sanctuary. The deadline for Poinsettia/Heifer orders is **December 6**.

December 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching | 2 7 pm Admin Meeting | 3 | 4 5:30 p.m. Hanging of the Greens | 5 5:30 p.m. Christian Ed Mtg | 6 10 a.m. Souper Sisters | 7 10-12 Farmer's Market 9 a.m. Project Warm 6-9 Bardstown Road Aglow |
| 8 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 a.m. Worship In Fellowship Hall Rev. Eldred | 9 10 a.m. Congregational Life Meeting | 10 11am Day Circle 7pm Mission Committee Mtg. | 11 6-7:30 p.m. Advent Dinner and Program 7:30 pm Choir rehearsal | 12 7 pm Evening Circle at home of Alicia Bloos | 13 | 14 10-12 Farmer's Market 6:00 p.m. Progressive Dinner |
| 15 9:30 Sunday School; 10:30 Fellowship; 11:00 a.m. Worship Kid's Musical Rev. Eldred preaching 7pm CoffeeStop Food Baskets due | 16 7pm Worship Committee Mtg | 17 Newsletter deadline 7 p.m. Session Meeting | 18 6-7:30 p.m. Advent Dinner and Program 7:30 pm Choir rehearsal | 19 | 20 Poinsettias are delivered to BRP | 21 10-12 Farmer's Market <i>Christmas basket Delivery</i> 6:00 pm Longest Night Service, Sanctuary |
| 22 Christmas Joy Offering 9:30 Sunday School; 10:30 Fellowship; 11:00 a.m. Worship; Chancel Choir Cantata Rev. Eldred Preaching | 23 | 24 <i>Christmas Eve Communion 4pm and 11 pm BRP Candlelight Service</i> | 25 Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Worship w/ Impromptu Christmas Pageant Fellowship Hall | 26 | 27 | 28 10-12 Farmer's Market |
| 29 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship 11:00 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching | 30 | 31 | | | | |



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Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church
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 Louisville, KY 40205

PLACE
 STAMP
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For those with phones or devices with scan readers, you can scan the image above and it will open the BRP website. For others, the web page is at www.brpres.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

| | | |
|----------------|------------|--|
| December 1 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship, Rev. Mark Eldred preaching |
| December 2 | 7:00 a.m. | Admin Meeting |
| December 4 | 5:30 p.m. | Hanging of the Greens |
| December 5 | 5:30 p.m. | Christian Ed Meeting |
| December 6 | 10:00 a.m. | Souper Sisters in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen |
| December 7 | 9:00 a.m. | Project Warm; 6:00 p.m. Bardstown Road Aglow |
| December 8 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship with Rev. Mark Eldred preaching |
| December 9 | 10:00 a.m. | Congregational Life Meeting |
| December 10 | 11:00 a.m. | Day Circle in the Club Room |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Mission Committee Meeting |
| December 11&18 | 6:00 p.m. | Advent Dinner and Program |
| December 12 | 7:00 p.m. | Evening Circle at home of Alicia Bloos |
| December 14 | 6:00 p.m. | Progressive Dinner |
| December 15 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School (Items for Christmas baskets due) |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship with Children's Musical, Rev. Mark Eldred officiating |
| | 7:00 p.m. | CoffeeStop with Coterie 2.0 |
| December 16 | 7:00 p.m. | Worship Committee Meeting |
| December 17 | 7:00 p.m. | Session Meeting |
| December 20 | | Delivery of Poinsettias to BRP |
| December 22 | 9:30 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship with Chancel Choir Cantata (Christmas Joy Offering collected) |
| December 24 | 11:00 a.m. | (4:00 p.m. and 11 p.m. communion) Christmas Eve Services (Rev. Eldred preaching) |
| December 25 | 10:00 a.m. | Impromptu Christmas Pageant |
| December 29 | 9:30 a.m. | Music and Sunday School |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Worship, Rev. Eldred preaching |
| December 31 | | Deadline for 2019 charitable contributions |