



Celebrating 114+ Years of Ministry

1906-2020

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 53**

**Issue 2**

**February**

**2020**

God's Blessings to you all,

We are just heading out of what is referred to as 'the busy season' of Advent and Christmastide. I want to thank everyone for making my wife Gillian and my first Christmas with you a wonderful and Spirit-filled experience. It was Spirit-filled to see many folks back in town visiting family, home from college, and also those visiting our sanctuary for the first time.

This month we began our 2020 Confirmation Class, using the curriculum *Big God, Big Questions* published by our denomination. We have a class of seven who have been paired with mentors of the church. Our target date for Confirmation Sunday will be June 14. I look forward to sharing more with you along the path of their confirmation journey.

Stay tuned for dates for Adult Exploration gatherings for those interested in knowing more about being Presbyterian in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and what membership is all about. We will meet once per month from March - September at a dates, times, and locations TBA.

After Church the Sundays of March, anyone interested in joining in the conversation are invited to gather with me for a new Adult Education class. The class will be reading Howard Thurman's *Jesus and the Disinherited* side-by-side with Martin Luther King Jr.'s *Letter from Birmingham Jail* in a Lenten conversation centering on "The Discipleship of Justice and the Justice of Discipleship". This conversation parallels that of our 2020 Confirmation Class and the Lenten Dinners, as they both will focus on Discipleship, Mission, and Service.

As many of you know, my wife Gillian is an opera singer. She is now heading in to her own busy season of singing. Gillian will be travelling a lot between now and May. I appreciate your kind words and support, and wanted to let you know that she will worship with us when she can; we won't see her every week. This is the life of a performing artists. Thank you for the support that you have all shown to both of us these first three months with you!

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Mark

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING– February 2**

What is Souper Bowl of Caring?  
 Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement of young people working to fight hunger and poverty in their own communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game.



On Sunday, Feb. 2 (Super Bowl Sunday) young people will take up a collection (using soup pots), asking for one dollar or one item of food for people in need. They give 100% of the donation directly to a local hunger-relief charity (HCM).

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- February 2: Souper Bowl of Caring
- February 16: Congregational Meeting with Potluck lunch.
- February 25: Taste of the Highlands, HCM Campus
- February 26: Ash Wednesday dinner and service at Deer Park Baptist Church
- Lenten Dinners: March 4,11,18,25, April 1.
- HCM Lenten Lunches March 5 (at BRP),12,19, 26, and April 2
- April 5: Palm Sunday
- April 9: Maundy Thursday
- April 10: Good Friday
- April 11: BRP Easter Breakfast
- April 12: Easter Sunday



The Installation of Rev. Mark Eldred on Sunday January 5, 2020.

**SING WITH US IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER!**

The Chancel Choir and is looking for new members. Please contact Jeanie Grosz at 643-7660 if you would like to express yourself in music! *Jeanie*

**SESSION MEETING—Feb. 11**

The Session will meet on the second Tuesday in February instead of the third Tuesday.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING—Feb. 16**

There will be a Congregational Meeting at BRP on Sunday February 16 after Worship.

**PASTOR MARK’S VACATION**

Pastor Mark will be on vacation from February 17 to 23.

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Jackson Irakoeze      | 1  |
| Secret Waritay        | 1  |
| Esperance Niyibitanga | 2  |
| Susan Rapp            | 7  |
| Diedre Teaford        | 7  |
| Chris Hofmann         | 12 |
| Claire Detlefs        | 13 |
| Thomas Ortiz          | 13 |
| Anne Teaford          | 15 |
| Stevie Bilyeu         | 15 |
| Brian Shaw            | 17 |
| Claire Kotheimer      | 17 |
| Elizabeth McCormack   | 18 |
| Mara Green            | 27 |
| Nancy Brock           | 30 |

**Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church Staff**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Rev. Mark Eldred | Pastor  |
| Rev. Jim Brees   | Pastoral Associate                              |
| Jeanie Grosz     | Director of Music Ministries/<br>Organist       |
| Sarah Hageman    | Coordinator of Children’s and<br>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



### **ASH WEDNESDAY (February 26)**

On Ash Wednesday, there will be a dinner and joint service with Deer Park Baptist Church, Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church and Covenant Community Church. The location is Deer Park Baptist Church. The time for the dinner is 5:30 p.m.; the time for the service is 6:15 p.m. Pastor Mark will be providing the meditation. There will be a sign-up sheet for the dinner in the rear of the Sanctuary for the next 3 Sundays. A free will offering will be accepted at dinner.

### **CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE**

Hello from the Congregational life Committee. Our committee includes both congregational Care and Church Fellowship. It has been a busy few months with Mary's leaving, Mark and Gillian coming, installations and the usual happenings.

Our Committee meets regularly the second Monday of the month at 10am. Please think about joining us if you are interested in helping with dinners, events, or visitation with folks who enjoy a little special attention from their church family. It is church annual planning time/budget time. Here is our report.

#### **CoffeeStop 2.0**

It was great to have a special evening with former Coterie singers plus our own Pastor Mark. Thanks to the generosity of our guests we raised \$225.00 for HCM winter heating assistance program.

#### **New Church Directory**

February 29 is our deadline for publishing a new church directory. If you have changed your address or phone number within the last year and have not notified the church office, please do so now. I know people don't call much anymore but we need a number to text you if need be.

#### **Lenten Dinners**

Our committee set the dates for Lenten dinners held the five Wednesday following Ash Wednesday. Dates include: March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1. Dinners will be catered by Sandy. The bowls on the tables will give diners an opportunity to donate what they can to defray the cost of these meals.

#### **Lenten Dinners (continued)**

Pastor Mark will be presenting a program each Wednesday that coincides with the confirmation study for the youth. There will be speakers as well as discussions etc. This is a good time to invite friends to join you for dinner and enjoy BRP fellowship.

#### **Visitation Plan**

The committee will be gathering once a month for brown-bag lunch and then visitation to home bound and those in health care facilities. If you would like to join us for this see the list of dates below. We go out in twos to visit. Pastor Mark will be joining us on these dates. You don't have to show up every time...just come when you can. Let Linda Bowman know (502-472-7256) if you'd like to try visitation.

Dates planned are the next to last Thursday of the month at 11:30 a.m.: February 20, March 19, April 23, May 21, June 18, July 23, August 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 22, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17.

A note that for the Lenten suppers, a bowl will be on the tables for suggested donation (per person or per family), to help cover the cost of the catered meal.

A decision about Advent Dinner/discussions will be addressed later in the year. We welcome ideas and/or comments.

#### **Ladies Who Lunch**

Several women of the church have decided that they would like to gather at least once a month to celebrate the women who have birthdays that month. We will meet at a local restaurant, usually decided by one who is having a birthday, for a Dutch-treat lunch — usually on a Friday. If anyone would like to be included, they should let the office (or Jeanie or Anne) know so that the appropriate details can get out. (Feb. birthdays are Susan Rapp, Claire Detlefs, Anne Teaford, and Carlene Pope).

#### **The Budget for 2020 total expenses \$6,575**

The committee worked on our budget for Congregational life. We have the responsibility to budget for events like Family Camp/ All Church Retreat, Breakfast in the Park, NeighborFest, Bardstown Road Aglow, Doughnuts, Dinners (Advent, Lenten, and quarterly Sunday after church dinners).

Just a note: The cost of providing doughnuts and coffee on Sunday morning for a year is in excess of \$1600. One way to keep costs down is to pitch some money into the bowl next to the doughnut boxes when you reach for that yummy doughnut or coffee.

## JANUARY 15 2019 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

The Pastor's report summarized holiday worship and fellowship events, preparation for a confirmation class, and planning for the 2020 calendar year.

The December 2019 financials reflected income at \$18,705 with expenses at \$17,741. Marty Hageman, Treasurer, and Doug Rapp, Assistant Treasurer, reported that for the year 2019 the balanced budget was for \$236,820 while actual expenditures turned out to be \$218,500.

The 2020 Budget was finalized and approved after considerable discussion. Plans are underway for a Congregation Meeting on January 16, 2020 to present the Budget to the Congregation.

Building and Grounds have signed a contract to replace 35 broken windows, primarily at the rear of the education building.

Schedule for 2020 will include Advent Dinners, Easter breakfast, ongoing mission activities and continued use of the facilities by community groups.



## BRPC CONFIRMATION 2020

Few of us remember the day of our infant baptism, but do any of you remember your Confirmation day? These first few weeks of confirmation are important for our seven young Confirmands. In the first two weeks we have worked individually and with mentors on defining what a Covenant with God is and answering the question "what is Confirmation?". Over the next eight weeks, we will be discussing the concepts of trust, sin, Lord, Savior, discipleship, mission, and service to the Glory of God. I have been asked how you might best support our seven confirmands: Ivona, Esperance, Secret, Gifted, Gabe, Ari, and Maddie? As you continually consider your own faith and how you might be called to follow God in life through that faith, keep our seven in your prayers that they may each experience this in their own individual way and as a class. Lord, we lift up the gift of individual and collective faith in you, and may your Spirit's presence guide us all. Amen.

## UPDATE ON KHAT KHAI FAMILY



Mary Clark from First Christian Shelbyville and I took Khat Khai and his family bowling today. We co-sponsored this family when they arrived from Myanmar in June 2018. Now 3 have jobs, 4 are in JCPS schools and mom takes ESL at Americana. They have purchased 2 cars and are looking to buy a house. *Jennie G.*

## FOSSIL FUEL DIVESTMENT

Mid-Kentucky Presbytery will meet in mid-February to take up the issue of divestment from fossil fuel companies. Thanks to a petition from BRP, as well as one from Central Presbyterian, MKP seeks to become one of a handful of presbyteries to concur with an overture to the next General Assembly in the summer of 2020. That overture would require the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian Foundation to sell their investments in fossil fuel companies and move funds to alternative investments, including renewable energy firms.

In a related matter, the MRTI (Mission Responsibility Through Investment) committee of the PC(USA) has recommended that three fossil fuel companies be added to the list of firms from which the church should divest. The three scored in the lowest tier of companies on an environmental, social, and governance scorecard and did not cooperate with MRTI efforts to discuss their business practices.

## PER CAPITA

Every year BRP makes a payment of over \$2,000 to the Presbyterian Church. The fee of \$25.00 per member goes to fund the Office of the General Assembly, as well as programs at the synod and presbytery level. The "connectional ties" at all levels help with pastoral education, support for missionaries, conducting General Assemblies, and running many programs at the Louisville headquarters.

BRP members are urged to send the church a check for \$25.00 (marked "per capita") to defray the cost of our annual payment. Every payment sent in by members allows BRP to use its limited funds to engage in ministry around the neighborhood, the city, and the world.

*The following poems were sent by Lindsay Bilyeu in honor of her Great Aunt, Ethel Seng Doll, her grandfather's older sister. She belonged to Trinity Lutheran Church on Highland Avenue her entire life. Both poems were in her bible.*

**A PRAYER FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

LORD, THOU KNOWEST better than I that I am growing older, and will some day be old.

KEEP ME from getting talkative; particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from trying to straighten out everybody's affairs.

KEEP MY MIND from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point.

I ASK FOR GRACE enough to listen to the tales of OTHERS' pains. Help me to endure them with patience.

BUT SEAL MY LIPS on my own aches and pains; they are increasing, and my love of rehearsing them is growing sweeter as the years go by.

TEACH ME the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

KEEP ME reasonably sweet.

I DON'T WANT TO BE A SAINT – some of them are hard to live with – but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

MAKE ME THOUGHTFUL, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all; but Thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

**“LET GO AND LET GOD”**

Whenever you are troubled with worry and care,  
Let go – and let God take over from there,  
Unburden your troubles as you would to a friend,  
For He Is with you from beginning to end,  
So when your cross is too heavy to bear,  
Let go - and let God take over from there,  
When o'er the darkness and clouds have gone,  
Remember Who has brought the dawn,  
Thank Him for all His blessings fair,  
Let go – and let God take over from there.  
*M. M. Payton*



Birthday celebration for Jeanie Grosz!



Louisville Home School Kid's Pajama Day



## **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.

The Morning Circle will meet Tuesday, February 11, 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 next Evening Circle meeting date is as yet undetermined. For more info contact Alicia Bloos, 502-496-0345 or [aliciabloos@gmail.com](mailto:aliciabloos@gmail.com).

## **MISSION COMMITTEE NEWS**

### **HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES**

**4th Annual "A Taste of The Highlands, Mardi Gras!"**  
**Presented by Four Roses Bourbon**  
**Fat Tuesday, February 25th, 2020**  
**5:30 - 8:00 pm**  
**Highlands Community Campus**

A Taste of the Highlands is a Mardi Gras celebration of Louisville's Restaurant Row to benefit Highlands Community Ministries' Dare to Care Food Pantry and Senior Meals Programs. Fat Tuesday, February 25th from 5:30 to 8:00 pm at the Highlands Community campus, home of HCM's main operations. Gold sponsor, Stoneware & Co. Visit [www.HCMLouisville.org](http://www.HCMLouisville.org) for all the tasty details!

**Lenten Lunch Series** – Lunch and study, Thursdays in Lent, at various Highlands churches. Watch the church bulletin boards and worship bulletins for details.  
Dates are: March 5 (at BRP), 12, 19, 26, April 2

**Save the Date!** The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of HCM will be November 17, 2020.

### **BRPC FOOD PANTRY, TARC BUS PASSES, AND COLD-WEATHER GARB.**

We continue to try to help those who come to the church door in need. Please consider:

- Donating **non-perishable ready-to-eat snack items** such as individual tuna or chicken salad with crackers, cereal and granola bars, beanie weinies, pudding cups, individual juice bottles, and other no-cooking-needed, non-refrigerated items.
- Making a financial contribution to help with our purchase of **TARC Partner Passes**.
- Bringing warm **hats, gloves, and scarfs** during cold winter weather.

Contact Johanna Fears or Alicia Bloos for more info.

## **PROJECT WARM NEWS**

In mid-January, the BRP Team of four (Bill Bowman, Devin Clements, Keith Clements, and Paul Johnson) helped to winterize two additional homes, in the Algonquin Parkway neighborhood. That brings to six the number of homes helped by the BRP Team over the last 3 months.

Since winter will certainly last another month (or more, depending on what the groundhog has to say!), the team will meet once more to work on additional houses. Please let the church office know if you'll be willing to join the team on **Saturday, February 15, at 9:00 a.m.** to install window coverings to help some of our neighbors deal with high winter heating bills.

## **LADDER MINISTRIES**

Ladder Ministries of Uganda in East Africa is a non-profit helping children and young adults deal with the aftermath of civil war in their country. Through education and work projects, the organization helps individuals navigate successfully into adulthood.

The BRP Mission Committee helped Ladder Ministries in 2019 by sending funds to help with a tree and seedling project, and the Committee is doing that again in 2020. Mango and other citrus trees, along with pine and teak trees, are grown from seedlings and planted in rural areas to stabilize the soil and provide income.

Thanks to a grant from friends in Australia, new land was purchased for expanding the seedling operation, as well as having a new well drilled for water. With additional help from BRP, the tree and seedling program should have much growth in the new year!

## **MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next Mission Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, at 7:00pm in the Club Room.

## **MID-KENTUCKY PRESBYTERY**

The presbytery's **Latino Ministries Committee** needs **baby diapers and wipes** for La Casita for distribution to families in need. La Casita, a nonprofit supported by several MKP congregations, needs donations of **4,000 disposable diapers every month** to meet the demand from struggling households! All baby sizes are welcome. Please consider making donations to La Casita a regular habit. La Casita staff can also use plastic grocery bags. Muchas gracias! Alicia Bloos will arrange to take any BRP donations to La Casita.

On January 24, **Cedar Ridge** was the scene of a **Clergy Retreat** for ministers in the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery. Over 40 ministers were treated to a free, much-deserved day of rest, renewal, and rejuvenation, a catered lunch from Bristol Catering, and time to worship and interact with colleagues.

# February 2020

| SUN  | MON   | TUE   | WED   | THU                                     | FRI                          | SAT   |
|--|---|---|---|---|------------------------------|---|
|  |   |   |   |   |                              | <b>1</b><br>8 a.m.-1 p.m.<br>Farmer's Market  |
| <b>2 COMMUNION</b><br>9:30 a.m. Sunday School<br>10:30 Fellowship<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>Rev. Eldred preaching<br>Super Bowl of Caring    | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br>7 P.M. Admin Meeting  | <b>5</b><br>7:00 p.m. Choir   | <b>6</b>                                | <b>7</b>                     | <b>8</b><br>8 a.m.-1 p.m.<br>Farmer's Market  |
| <b>9</b><br>9:30 a.m. Sunday School<br>10:30 Fellowship<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>Preaching<br>Rev. Eldred                                   | <b>10</b><br>10:00 a.m. Congregational Life Mtg | <b>11</b><br>11:00 a.m. Day Circle in the Club Room<br>7 p.m. Session Meeting | <b>12</b><br>7:00 p.m. Choir  | <b>13</b>                               | <b>14</b><br>Valentine's Day | <b>15</b><br>8 a.m.-1 p.m.<br>Farmer's Market |
| <b>16</b><br>9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 Fellowship; 11 a.m. Worship<br>Rev. Eldred Preaching<br>Congregational Meeting after Worship | <b>17</b><br>7pm Worship Committee Meeting      | <b>18</b>   | <b>19</b><br>10 A.M. Personnel Meeting<br>7:00 p.m. Choir   | <b>20</b><br><i>Newsletter deadline</i> | <b>21</b>                    | <b>22</b> 8 a.m.-1 p.m.<br>Farmer's Market    |
| <b>23</b><br>9:30am Sun. School<br>10:30 Fellowship<br>11 a.m. Worship<br>Rev. Christian Iosso preaching                                 | <b>24</b>                                       | <b>25</b><br>5:30 pm Taste of the Highlands HCM                               | <b>26</b><br>5:30pm and 6:15 pm Ash Wednesday Dinner and Service at Deer Park Baptist Church<br>7:00 p.m. Choir | <b>27</b>                               | <b>28</b>                    | <b>29</b> 8 a.m.-1 p.m.<br>Farmer's Market    |
|  |   |   |   |   |                              |   |

Rev. Mark Eldred will be on vacation from February 17 to February 23.



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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](http://www.brpres.org)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

- |                    |            |   |
|--------------------|------------|---|
| Feb. 2             | 9:30 a.m.  | Sunday School—SOUPER BOWL OF CARING   |
|                    | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time   |
|                    | 11:00 a.m. | Worship Service with Communion, Rev. Eldred preaching                       |
| Feb. 4             | 7:00 p.m.  | Admin meeting   |
| Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 | 7:00 p.m.  | Choir rehearsal   |
| Feb. 9             | 9:30 a.m.  | Sunday School   |
|                    | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time   |
|                    | 11:00 a.m. | Worship Service, Rev. Eldred, preaching                                     |
| Feb. 10            | 10:00 a.m. | Congregational Life Meeting   |
| Feb. 11            | 11:00 a.m. | Day Circle, Club Room   |
|                    | 7:00 p.m.  | Session Meeting, Club Room  |
| Feb. 16            | 9:30 a.m.  | Sunday School   |
|                    | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time   |
|                    | 11:00 a.m. | Worship Service, Rev. Mark Eldred preaching                                 |
| Feb. 17            | 7:00 p.m.  | Worship Committee meeting   |
|                    |            | (Rev. Mark Eldred will be on vacation from February 17 through February 23) |
| Feb. 19            | 10:00 a.m. | Personnel Meeting   |
| Feb. 23            | 9:30 a.m.  | Sunday School   |
|                    | 10:30 a.m. | Fellowship Time   |
|                    | 11:00 a.m. | Worship Service, Rev. Christian Iosso preaching                             |
| Feb. 26            |            | Ash Wednesday Dinner and Service  |