



Celebrating 115+ Years of Ministry

1906-2021

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 55

Issue 1

January 2021

Happy New Year BRPres!!

New Year's 2021 is here. A new year, a new start, a new time in the church year as we move past Advent in to ordinary time just before Lent in mid-February.

I used to make these long lists of New Year's Resolutions. I would make ten or twenty of them. Some were very audacious. I'm going to do this, or I'm going to do that. I would make it in to the New Year for about two weeks and most of the resolutions would be obliterated. Many times, I was just setting myself up to fail with my list.

Yet this year I am making only one. I am going to share mine and wonder what yours might be for 2021? My resolution for this year is "Read More, and Social Media and Screen Time less". This is my only resolution for 2021, other than to more fully be available to God in the ways in which God is asking us to serve. Social Media is now necessary for my job and for our church. We use it to livestream worship. We use it sometimes for communication, through Facebook events, emails, and our website. It has its benefits for sure. I will always love the birthday reminders and being able to be in touch with folks many miles away! Yet most minutes that I spend on social media are minutes that I am not learning something new or investing intentionally in my faith and service to God. I think that social media is what we make of it, almost like money. I can see money as the necessity that it is, but it doesn't mean I have to full blown worship it. Money doesn't have to be my sole focus or the driving force of all of my function and decision-making. I hesitate to make this leap but I am going to – money and social media and many things can lead to idolatry – placing a mountain in God's way to our lives. Just exiting Advent, where we are asked to "Prepare the Way of the Lord" in the wilderness, I wonder, in 2021, where we might spend our attention and intention in putting God first in our lives? I know it's not always easy, but I believe in a God that knows the limits of our full humanity but also certainly appreciates the effort to scrutinize that humanity. To God be all glory, honor, and praise!

New Year's blessings to all of you!

Pastor Mark



MOMENTOUS DAY!

The first Covid-19 vaccine given at University of Louisville Hospital on Monday December 14, 2020.

WE ARE THANKFUL ...

For the 90th birthday celebrations in December for Sarah Collins and George Dumbaugh!



For the vaccine!

For Marty Hageman's recovery from surgery.

For Mary Mpanje Muyenza who is able to visit her mother in Mali.

For the BRP Session and Committees who continue to meet via email or zoom.

For the continued generosity and general health of the BRP congregation.

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

Unfortunately we will not have a flower chart yet because of Covid.



We look forward to the time when the congregation can safely come back into the sanctuary. At that time, we can post the next flower chart so that you can sign up to bring flowers to the sanctuary in memory of someone, or for a celebration.

We will get through this together!

GIVING PLEDGE FOR 2021

The Finance committee is close to putting together a preliminary budget for the calendar year 2021. If you plan to make a pledge, please contact Doug Rapp or Marty Hageman or mail it, or drop it off through the mail slot in the office door. We are hoping to finalize the budget in early January. We thank you for your commitment of your time, talents, and dollars for the ministry of BRP church.

PER CAPITA

Per capita is one of the ways that we express our connectionalism as members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). **The per capita amount for 2021 is \$25.03 per member.** Per capita helps fund the work of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery, the Synod of Living Waters, and the General Assembly. The 2021 amount for the Synod and the presbytery is the same as last year. The membership figure used for determining your congregation's portion is the membership your Clerk reported on 12/31/20. Thank you for your commitment to our shared life in Christ.

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

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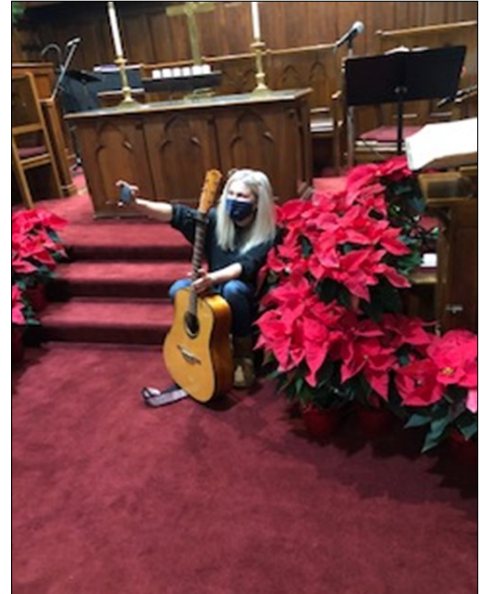
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|----|
| Linda White | 3 |
| Erika Smith | 5 |
| Jeanie Grosz | 9 |
| Peresi Niyonkuru | 11 |
| Paul Ray | 13 |
| Sydney Smith | 14 |
| Claire Kotheimer | 17 |
| Aaron Smith | 19 |
| Chris Lieberman | 21 |
| Madeline Vanamburgh | 21 |
| Oriverye Ndizeye | 27 |
| Mary Mpanje Muyenza | 29 |
| Francisco Ortiz | 31 |

DECEMBER 15, 2020 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Each Session member shared a brief memory of a Christmas family tradition, music, food, decoration or church event for the opening devotion.
- The December 13, 2020 Congregational Meeting approved the Terms of Call for Rev. Eldred and election of Marty Hageman as Treasurer and Doug Rapp as Assistant Treasurer for 2021.
- The Treasurer's Report for November 2020 showed an income of \$10, 723.32 and expenses of \$19,414.65. The year-to-date balance is \$27,843.42.
- Christmas baskets are being prepared to give to the Youth on December 27. Volunteers are needed to deliver the baskets.
- The Congregational Life members have concerns for some in our congregation and are maintaining contacts with certain members including setting up a food train.
- The Mission and Service Committee has been in contact with Jeremy and Luta Garbat-Welch who are missionaries awaiting reassignment. Our church is planning financial support for them.
- The Stewardship response is 21 pledges received, 5 pledges expected and another 11 pledges needing reminders. Pledge commitments need to be made by December 31.
- The 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service will feature Clinton Grosz playing violin. Jennie Guelda and Rev. Eldred are working on the Christmas Day Nativity Pageant. A schedule of all the holiday services and events will be emailed as reminders to the congregation.
- Virtual Sunday services will continue through January 10, 2021. The decision to have in-person Sunday services will be determined at the January 2021 Session Meeting.
- People to pray for include Mary Mpanje Muyenza who is visiting her mother in Mali, Africa; Ivona Nijimbere who is making choices on attending college; and George Dumbaugh and Sarah Collins who both have turned 90 years old in December.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the services during Christmas week.



Anne Payne

Doug Rapp



Anne Payne and Jeanie Grosz



Pastor Mark
Anne Campbell
Jeanie Grosz

Not pictured:
Clinton Grosz
Gillian Hollis
Brian Shaw



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February 1, 2021- February 28, 2021

Black History Month is recognized across the USA & Canada in February every year.

Initially proposed in 1969 by black educators and the Black United Students at Kent State University, formal celebration first began a year later in 1970. A mere 6 years later, backed by President Ford, Black History Month was celebrated across all state of the USA. President Ford stated citizens should “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history”.

February was chosen specifically to celebrate Black History Month due to a number of historic events that took place in the month. Originally coined “Negro History Week” by Carter G Woodson in 1926, he hoped to change the content and commentary of textbooks and historical reviews which often ignored or minimized the impact and influence of black individuals. The second week in February was chosen to focus attention on this cause. Woodson chose that week specifically because it covered the birthdays of Frederick Douglass (February 14) and Abraham Lincoln (February 12). The ensuing publicity led many mayors and college campuses to recognize the week; through the years, the increase in support allowed the occasion to stretch throughout the entire month.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING FEBRUARY 7, 2021

As you know, food insecurity is widespread in this country. With COVID-19 continuing to spread, and millions of Americans still **out of work, one of the nation's most urgent problems has only grown worse: hunger.**

In past years, the congregation at BRP contributed either money or canned goods that were collected by our youth, with all donations being contributed to HCM.



Introducing Jeremy and Luta Garbat-Welch

This fall the Mission Committee had been in discussion about supporting one of our PCUSA Mission Co-workers. While we have PLENTY of opportunities for service right here in Louisville, we are a connectional church, and our God is at work all around the world. In October we had a Zoom call with Jeremy and Luta and felt that they were people that we would like to connect with.

Luta and Jeremy, their two sons Jathaniel and Azai and their new daughter Dayenu are usually based in Llongwe, Malawi but are currently here in the Louisville area. They had originally scheduled their home leave to coincide with Dayenu's birth and as it turned out they left Malawi just before COVID-19 shut everything down.

Jeremy and Luta work with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) in Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Jeremy's work is largely in training pastors in chaplaincy roles for hospitals and prisons. His role has evolved in conversation with local church leaders to help support those in some very challenging roles with his expertise as a chaplain and pastoral counselor.

Luta use her skills in public health to support the Community Health Evangelism (CHE) program of the CCAP, which deals is areas of community development, health, discipleship and evangelism.

Both Luta and Jeremy grew up in Africa and display a sensitivity and love toward the people with whom they work. They are facilitators to help their colleagues devise and run their own programs.

Personally, I have known Luta's family since Jim and I were co-workers with the PCUSA. I re-connected with Luta in 2009 when she was working for Catholic Charities in their refugee health program and we were trying to figure out how to help the Somali community and our resident physicians feel more at ease with each other in our Labor and Delivery area. I was truly impressed with Luta's ability to listen and build consensus.

For more information on Luta and Jeremy and their ministry your can go to <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/jeremy-and-luta-garbat-welch>

In the days ahead, I know that Jeremy and Luta would appreciate prayer for:

- Their decision making about how they can best support their colleagues in Africa in this time of COVID
- The decision making of the PCUSA about travel and more foundationally about mission support as the COVID situation evolves.
- For the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian as they deal with COVID in their area.

Hopefully, I the days ahead you will all get a chance to meet this wonderful family. I know they appreciate your support!
Carol Brees

MISSION COMMITTEE

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Thank you!! to all who helped our community by donating to the **Curbside Food Drive** on Nov. 22, **Giving Tuesday** on Dec. 1, and the Christmas **Elf-Day Drop-off Days** Dec. 2-4. Troy Burden, HCM Executive Director, reported, "We had a tremendous success for the curbside food drive. We were able to significantly restock what had become a very empty pantry. Our congregations have been very supportive, and we [received] enough gift cards and blankets for all the individuals and families signed up for Christmas." Remember, you can help with the work of HCM at any time by visiting the website, hcmlouisville.org, and donating directly, or sending a check to BRPres with "HCM donation" in the memo line.

BRPC Winter Garb and TARC BUS PASSES

We often want to help those who come to the church door in need. Please consider:

Donating hats, scarves and gloves will be very helpful for those who come to the door at BRP.

Making a financial contribution to help with our purchase of **TARC Partner Passes**, as we have only a small amount budgeted for this expense, and the need continues to grow. You may mail a check to church with "TARC passes" on the memo line. Thank you!

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP

Thank you!! to everyone who donated to the virtual **Autumn Under the Cedars** fundraiser and to those who have made a 3-year pledge or a donation to the **Chapel construction project** in 2020. The digging and rock removal for the lower level of the **camp chapel** has been completed and foundation work has begun. If you would like to contribute to the around \$42,000 still needed to complete the \$750,000 project at our presbytery's camp, retreat, and conference center, please visit the camp website, www.cedarridgecamp.com, or mail a check to Cedar Ridge Camp, 4010 Old Routt Road, Louisville, KY 40299.

Need a birthday gift for a child in your life?

Cedar Ridge summer camp registration is open, and gift cards are now available! If loved ones are having trouble coming up with ideas for gifts, they can gift the camp experience. Also for the first time, there will be a Spring Break Camp, which is also open for registration and gifting right now! If you would like to register early and reserve your camper's spots, give the gift of camp, or send a gift card, please check out the website www.cedarridgecamp.com.

HABITAT NEWS

The new house sponsored by the Presbyterian churches is now complete. By the time you read this, the house will be dedicated and the new family moved in before the beginning of 2021! While Bill Bowman and Keith Clements worked on a Saturday in mid-December, doing jobs like touch-up painting, installing door knobs and stops, putting up new blinds, and cleaning up the floors, others worked earlier in the year to get the house ready. Many thanks to Mark Eldred, Gillian Hollis, Clare Lewis, Mary Mpanje, and Emmanuel Muyenza!

The new homeowners will be Mowfak and Yasmeen, and their three boys Yamen, Taym, and Aws. They grew up in Syria and emigrated to the US from Jordan. Yasmeen said about the new home, "Home to us means happiness, stability and safety. We know that this home will have such a positive impact on our boys' futures, because home is one of the most basic needs that children need to grow."





**POINSETTIAS
IN MEMORY OF**

BY

Peggy Hyland	Keith Clements
Mr. & Mrs. Henry C. Campbell William R. Campbell V Jean T. Campbell	Jeanie Grosz Anne Campbell
Ann Tims Florence Grosz Jerry Vititoe Barbara Carver Sarah Shafer	Jeanie Grosz
In memory of those this year who lost their lives without voice, privilege, or family and friends at their side	Pastor Mark and Gillian
My Parents and Grandparents	Johanna Fears
Edith & Carl Kaster	Joe Anne Overstreet
Robert & Mary Kay Moore John D. & Mildred Rapp	Doug & Molly Rapp
Frank F. Rice	Marge Rice
Dennis Shaw	Shirley Shaw
Richard W. Teaford	Anne Teaford

**HEIFER SHARES
IN MEMORY OF**

BY

Dr. Richard Teaford Dr. David S. Bowman	Linda & Bill Bowman
Irma and Sam Overstreet	Joe Anne Overstreet
Dennis Shaw and the rest of my farming family	Shirley Shaw
Dick Teaford	Anne Teaford

**POINSETTIAS
IN HONOR OF**

BY

In celebration and in honor of George Dumbaugh's 90 th birthday	Della Dumbaugh
George & Fran Dumbaugh's 60th Anniversary	
With gratitude for an inspirational and lasting Sunday School and Youth Program anchored by sterling church members like Margaret Bowman, Jim Winnenberg, Sue Griffith and Joe Anne Overstreet	
Anne Campbell Rev. Mark Eldred Gillian Hollis Johanna Fears Doug Rapp Brad Harris	Jeanie Grosz
In honor and memory of our unhoused guests who present seeking God's love	Pastor Mark & Gillian
In honor and thanksgiving to the Congregation of Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church	Pastor Mark & Gillian
In honor of the Youth of Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church	Pastor Mark & Gillian
Mary Jane Campbell Houston William R. & Debbie Campbell	Anne Campbell Jeanie Grosz
Molly A. Rapp	Doug Rapp

**HEIFER SHARES
IN HONOR OF**

BY

Jeanie Grosz Marty & Sarah Hageman Shirley Shaw Linda Bowman	Anne Campbell
Marty Hageman Sarah Hageman Anne Campbell Sue & Martin Blakeley Shirley Shaw	Jeanie Grosz
Bruce Teaford & Meghan Mantz	Anne Teaford

January 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 New Year's Day	2 Farmer's Market 10-Noon
3 Communion Epiphany 11am Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	4	5 7 P.M. Admin Meeting	6	7	8	9 Farmer's Market 10-Noon
10 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	11 10am Congregational Life Mtg	12 7 p.m. Mission Committee Mtg	13 10 a.m. Personnel Mtg	14	15	16 Farmer's Market 10-Noon
17 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	18 7pm Worship Committee Mtg	19 7 p.m. Session Meeting	20	21	22	23 Farmer's Market 10-Noon
24 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred Preaching	25	26	27	28	29	30 Farmer's Market 10-Noon
31						



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PLACE
STAMP
HERE



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

