



Celebrating 116+ Years of Ministry
1906-2022

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church
1722 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40205

Volume 56
Issue 1

January 2022

Siblings in Christ,

We move from 'chestnuts roasting on an open fire', to 'should auld acquaintance be forgot' to the season of winter just like that - bing, bing, bing. It has been a blessing to be able to gather in person for what is only my second in person Christmas with you as pastor of Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church.

To be frank, it is somewhat challenging to plow forward with business as usual as we all share in some continued anxiousness about our pandemic and the elevation of numbers once again. I have said this before and I will say it again, we are a church who has done what we have needed to do to have made a fairly safe path through these many months. I only ask that we all continue to think of one another as we make our choices in life. We depend on one another if we are to continue to gather in person. I don't know about you, but I would truly love to look back on this time in our city, state, nation, and world and feel that we did the best we could. Thank you to all of you for your patience, your kindness to one another, your persistence, and your healthy approach to this scenario we all have and will face.

My heart is heavy, and at the same time my heart is filled to the brim with blessings. I am in a group of wonderful colleagues from the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky who are working on a short bit of policy for the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. which will be held here in Louisville from June 19 - July 9, 2022. We are tasked with considering the question 'can a person fully lament and still hold hope at the same time?' Is it possible to hold space for serious grief, sorrow, pain, and struggle, simultaneously with the need for hope? It has been an awesome and powerful experience for me to take part in these conversations. I feel that in some ways we do this every single Sunday. I am blessed that in our community we find hope in one another.

I found hope in the passing of the candle light on Christmas Eve. I found hope in seeing our young people return from college with that vibrant energy that college-aged younger people have. I find hope in our ability to hold powerful and challenging conversations about our faith and lives. I find hope in the way that people not only say that they care but show it in this community. I find hope in your persistence. I find hope in a church willing to stand on our street, outside in public, and hold a sign that says 'hate has no home here!!'. I find hope in literally seeing in peoples' eyes the lament and seeing their energy in showing up the hope that they know they will find in the laughter, love, and smiles of their church community. As your pastor, it is a blessing to literally be able to feel the energy of our sanctuary change as each of you enter it. I mention this from time to time to our Music Director Jeanie Grosz just before a service, I say "Jeanie, can you feel the energy in here?" It is a very real thing. That is the Holy Spirit. It cannot be fabricated. It is a blessed and powerful thing that we get to share in the presence of one another and with God. We press in to 2022 together, blessed in community and in God.

Peace,

Pastor Mark

THANK YOU

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the services at BRPC from 12/19/21 to 12/26/21. The church is blessed to have so many fine singers, musicians and readers; to the members and guests; and to all who gave of their time to make this a very special Advent season.

FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY

The flower sign-up sheet to beautify the sanctuary for 2022 will be in the rear of the Sanctuary. Flowers can be donated in memory of someone, or for a celebration. You can provide the flowers.

Please sign up! The church office will call or email you when it is your time, to see what flowers you would like and what notice should be in the bulletin.



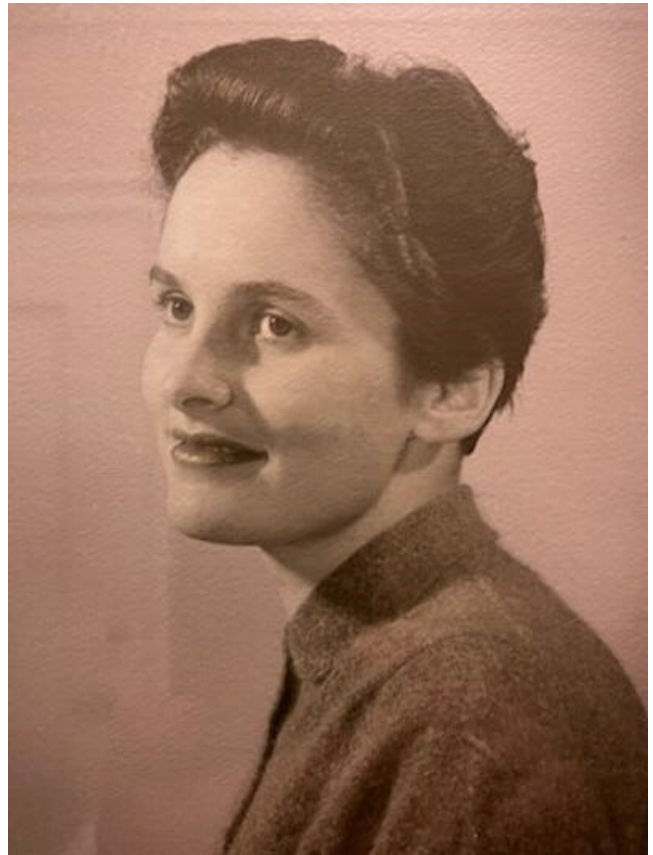
POINSETTIAS AND HEIFER SHARES 2021

This year the number of poinsettias purchased was 31, and the number of Heifer shares was 39. Thank you all for your generosity!

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

We need **turnkeys and ushers for 2022.**

Please let L Lester Gamble know if you are willing to serve.



Anne Christine Teaford
February 15, 1936- December 19, 2021

Memorial Service on January 8, 2022 at 1:00 PM
Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church

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

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Linda White	3
Erika Smith	5
Jeanie Grosz	9
Peresi Nyolkuru	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

NOVEMBER 23, 2021 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- -Rev. Mark Eldred shared his study leave experience in Bloomington Indiana at the 'Year B' of the New Pastor Credo Program that was sponsored by the PCUSA Board of Pensions. Its purpose was to support sustainable health in all areas of the clergy vocation.
- -Keith Clements Reported on the November 20 hybrid Mid-Kentucky Presbytery Meeting at Harvey Browne. The consent agenda included approval of the officers for 2022, an overture to the 225th General Assembly for restoration of the position of Parrish Associate to the Book of Order and the First Reading the undocketed new business be submitted at least 48 hours before a stated meeting.
- -Marty Hageman stated that "we are in the black" with a year-to-date balance of \$6,626. The Stewardship campaign did well, raising a total commitment of pledges of \$118,400 for 2022.
- -A request by Patrick Fitzgerald to hold a Video Camp on December 28 and 29 in Fellowship Hall and two 2nd floor rooms was approved.
- -There will be a Congregational Meeting on December 5 following the Sunday service to review and approve the Terms of Call for Rev. Mark Eldred and elect a Treasurer for 2022.
- -The Christian Education Committee has been preparing Advent packages which include art supplies for the youth.
- -Bill Bowman reported in place of Carol Brees, who is recovering from a hip operation, that we will have our Justice and Faith table at the Farmer's Market on December 4. Clare Lewis will represent our church along with Vince Patton of the Advisory Board of the PCUSA Hunger Program.
- -Anne Campbell reported for the Congregational Life Committee that there will be a Women's Circle meeting at Masonic Homes on December 14.
- -Clare Lewis and Alicia Bloos, with the Administration Committee, are working on updating our church website. The Advent/Christmas dates are on the calendar, and they need information on the staff and from the committees.
- -Keith Clements reported that the church will participate in Bardstown Road Aglow on Saturday December 4 from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. The church will be closed to the public and volunteers will be serving hot drinks and bagged cookies from the patio.
- -Reporting Worship and Music, Anne Campbell said that the Advent banners made by Beverly Gradisek are ready to be installed in the Sanctuary. New bibles with larger font are on order. The themes for the Wednesday Advent dinners are as follows: December 1- Recipes and food; December 8 – Music and singing; and December 15 – Family traditions.
- -Lester Gamble commented about how the congregation should follow the procedure of getting things done by bringing their ideas to the committee's leadership so that matters can be considered by the Session as a group.
- -The Session approved having Keith Clements serve as Clerk of Session for 2022.
- A preliminary review of the proposed 2022 budget with a commentary report of income and expenses was made by the Session. Questions were raised if our budget reflects our core values and as we return to pre-pandemic spending will the congregation notice?
- -Lester Gamble requested more people to help on the Building and Grounds Committee. The Time and Talents responses will be reviewed for assistance with maintenance and a work-day is planned for early 2022.
- -A request by Carol Brees to host a baby shower for her daughter-in-law on January 8 in Fellowship Hall was approved.
- -Kentucky Refugee Ministries will be sponsoring a refugee group for Immanuel Church of Christ and our church to assist with setting up the households and staples.
- -There will be a final workday on January 8 and dedication on January 15 for the Habitat house our church has been working on.
- -Jennie Guelda volunteered to be at our Faith and Justice Table at the Farmer's Market on January 8.
- -Clare Lewis and Alicia Bloos are updating the church website removing outdated information and utilizing new technology
- -Our 10-year-old refurbished copier/printer is malfunctioning with continuing repair problems. The Administration Committee was approved to replace the equipment either by leasing or purchasing. They will obtain quotes for a new copier for the Session to review.
- -The Administration Committee will be preparing the Annual Report for 2021. They will be requesting activity reports from each committee.
- -The Session approved having the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on February 20, 2022, to review and approve the Annual Report.
- -Marty Hageman will tabulate and make copies of the Time and Talent survey responses which are due at the end of the year.
- -Reporting for the Outreach Committee, Rev. Eldred said that Bardstown Road Aglow was a success with a good interaction with people. All of our cookies were given away and the hot drinks were consumed.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DECEMBER 14, SESSION MEETING

- -During the Moderator's report, Rev. Eldred reviewed plans for the Advent season and his role in the Social Witness Policy Program which will be reported to the PCUSA General Assembly next summer.

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS (CONT.)

- The Session Retreat for 2022 will be either in June or July at Cedar Ridge Camp. Topics for discussion will be the church budget, building maintenance and committee responsibilities.
- -A motion was made approving the salaries for the church staff be increased by 3% for 2022 as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

ADULT EDUCATION

We hope and pray that Covid-19 Omicron allows us to gather for these Adult Education offerings but please know that we may need to switch any and all of these gatherings to zoom only.

The Lost Art of Dying - L.S. Dugdale, M.D.

I don't know a single person in our congregation that hasn't experienced, or isn't currently experiencing, grief in some way, shape, or form. Rev. Bill Williamson approached me about a book titled *The Lost Art of Dying; Reviving Forgotten Wisdom* written by a medical doctor L.S. Dugdale, M.D. It is based on an age old written literary artifact called the *Ars Moriendi* - "The Art of Dying" - from the 15th Century. Bill and I would like to invite any and all to a five-week conversation about Dugdale's book, Sundays after church, January 9, 16, 23, 30, and February 6. If in person gatherings are not comfortable for you, please reach out to me and we can see about a second group that meets virtually.

The New Jim Crow - Michelle Alexander

Our second offering of three Adult Ed gatherings will be to read and study Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow* - a book often referred to in justice conversations in our nation. Alexander's work emerged in 2010 on the front end of many conversations that we have to this day regarding race, daily life, and a life in faith driven by a God who asks us continually to seek justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. What does seeking justice mean in the life of individual and corporate faith? This book is a challenging read during a most continued challenging time in our nation and world. If Covid doesn't restrict in person meetings, we will gather after church services Sundays Feb 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3 (Justice Advocacy Sunday). There will be a weeknight zoom gathering for this book reading with dates and times tbd.

Katie's Canon - Rev. Dr. Katie Geneva Cannon

Adult Ed will break for two weeks to gather for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter - we will return to our third book study reading *Katie's Canon* by the late Rev. Dr. Katie Geneva Cannon - a womanist theologian and the first black woman to be ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Katie's voice will resonate in juxtaposition to the long tradition of male theologians who held primarily control of the theological narrative for hundreds of years. Join after church Sundays April 24, May 1, 8, 14, and 22. There will be a weeknight zoom gathering for this book reading with dates and times tbd.

WHAT IS PER CAPITA?

Per capita is an amount of money per member (this year, \$25) that our congregation pays to our larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). This money is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together. It is the money that enables us to work with other Presbyterian churches in our presbytery and across the country. It is also money that allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world.

For example, your per capita pays for the General Assembly meeting every two years (including 2022) where Presbyterians gather together to worship and discern the mind of Christ for the church. It also pays for sharing the gospel worldwide through cooperation with other denominations. Plus, these funds pay for annual training events for presbytery executives, stated clerks, and others who help lead our work and mission.

When you contribute your portion of the per capita amount (\$25 per active member), you can free up dollars in our regular budget for the work of our congregation in this community. Just make your check payable to BRP with "per capita" written on the memo line.

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

HYR (Highlands Youth Recreation): Basketball and futbol programs will resume this winter.

Video Production Winter Break Camp: Recently, BRP hosted this camp for students in grades 3-8, a collaboration between HCM and Beargrass Media.

Senior lunches and activities for those 60+ recently resumed on Wednesdays and Fridays.

LIHWAP: Applications are being accepted for LIHWAP, a new Low Income Household Water Assistance Program. Eligible residents can apply for water and wastewater assistance.

HCM's 2021 Annual Newsletter: <https://hcmlouisville.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/hcm-newsletter-2021-low-res.pdf>

Read about how our generous community donates time, money, and resources, and how HCM is able to help neighbors in need.

HCM Childcare Centers Are Now Hiring

Childcare Teachers: Do you like working with children? Do you want work-free evenings and weekends? Join a great team at this 50-year Louisville Institution! Full-time and part-time positions available. Competitive pay starting at \$13/hour. Benefits available for 30+ hours per week. No evenings or weekends required. All training paid. If you are at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma, and wish to learn more about a rewarding part-time job or full-time career, then please contact Director, Debbie Spillane at 502/458-3045 or dspillane@hcmlouisville.org.

Empty Bowls Update: The 25th annual Empty Bowls fundraiser, postponed from September 2021 due to the rise in Covid-a9 cases, has been tentatively **rescheduled for May 15, 2022**.

Thank you to everyone who helped support the mission of HCM in 2021, through donations to the *Annual Summer Food and Back-to-School Supplies Drive*, the *September Give For Good* event, and Christmas Giving. Yet **the needs of our neighbors continue**, and HCM will be hindered in aiding these folks without our financial assistance.

At any time, you may visit hcmlouisville.org to learn about programs or to make a **donation**. You may also send a check to BRPres at any time with "HCM donation" in the memo line.

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP

If you could not attend the *October Autumn Under the Cedars* annual fundraiser but wish to help support the ministry of Cedar Ridge Camp, please go online to cedaridgecamp.com where you may donate year-round.

Chapel Construction Progress: Steel work has progressed since the long-awaited steel finally arrived, and soon concrete will be poured for the deck forming the base of the chapel area and the roof of the lower level. Not only will this allow work on the chapel to progress, but it will finish enclosing the lower-level storage and storm shelter area, making that area immediately usable. While it is impossible at this stage to say **WHEN the chapel project will be completed**, faster progress will be made as the chapel becomes more enclosed and interior work can continue throughout any weather condition...as long as more supply chain issues don't arise. To see pictures, check out the CRC Facebook page facebook.com/Cedar-Ridge-Camp-115963338425269/ or Instagram instagram.com/cedaridgecamp.louisvilleky/. To read more about the chapel project, see presbyterianmission.org/story/ground-is-broken-for-new-chapel-at-cedar-ridge-camp/.

Memorial Brick campaign: As part of the chapel project, you may memorialize or honor your loved ones in an entrance patio paved with commemorative bricks. You may purchase either a 4"x 8" standard brick or an 8"x 8" deluxe brick with an option to include graphics. Order bricks online at cedaridgecamp.com or pick up an order form in the church sanctuary and mail it back to camp. Questions? Contact Alicia Bloos.

BRP FRONT DOOR MINISTRY

Many come to the church door in need. Please consider:

Donating **money** to purchase **TARC Partner Passes**, discounted passes for the elderly, disabled, and those on assistance. The need has multiplied, but the budget is small!

You may write a check to BRPres with "TARC passes" on the memo line.

Donating **hats, scarves, gloves** needed during these cold months.

We have enough socks and water.

Thank you, as always, for your generosity!

BRPC MISSION COMMITTEE/IUCC

BRPC Mission Committee is working with the Refugee Welcoming Committee of Immanuel United Church of Christ to collect necessary items for an apartment under the leadership of Kentucky Refugee Mission (KRM). We do not expect a family to arrive needing our assistance until after the first of the year, but it is advisable to have items collected, as refugees often arrive on short notice. Please use the website signupgenius.com for a precise list of needed items and specific instructions to donate. A secure location at BRPC will be designated to store donations until needed to furnish the new home for a refugee family.

Nancy Williamson

BRP CIRCLE AT MASONIC HOME



Standing in
Solidarity
on
Mondays
during the
year 2021



DID YOU KNOW?

BRP has presented the Impromptu Christmas Pageant almost every year since the mid 70's. JoeAnne Overstreet says it was started by Rev. George Carpenter.

Heifer International has received donations of about \$7,500 since 2011 from BRP, which was enough to "buy" an Ark!

Back in the 70s and early 1980s, BRP hosted the children from Bellewood Children's Home for a Christmas party, with Mr. Mac and Malvery Gross dressed as Santa and Mrs. Claus.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH



The tradition of greening BRP Church continued this year to decorate the church for Advent. Thank you to everyone who participated to make the church beautiful.

Estate Planning- Final Arrangements

I work with clients in doing estate planning with attorneys. Recently, I was informed that a client and member of Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church had made some changes in their estate plan which made available two plots that had been pre-paid at Resthaven Cemetery on Bardstown Road. If you have thought about making final arrangements but have completed this planning, if you feel you may have an interest in this location, this would be an excellent opportunity to complete your planning at a discounted cost.

It would be a benefit to you and the member of our church that no longer needs the plots in this location. Should you or someone you may know have an interest, please contact me and I will set up the necessary communication.

Thank you.

Doug Rapp 502-548-9439

January 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 Farmer's Market New Year's Day
2 Communion Sunday 11am Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	3 Epiphany	4 Admin Meeting	5	6 Personnel Mtg	7	8 Farmer's Market 1:00 pm Memorial for Anne Teaford
9 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	10 10am Congregational Life Mtg	11	12 7 p.m. Mission Committee Mtg	13	14	15 Farmer's Market
16 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	17 MLK Jr Day 7pm Worship Committee Mtg	18 7 p.m. Session Meeting	19	20	21	22 Farmer's Market
23 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred Preaching	24	25	26	27	28	29 Farmer's Market
30 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred Preaching	31					



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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

