



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 54**

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Greetings BRPres,

Being somewhat new to y'all, I would be lying to you if I told you that this scenario isn't a bit of a challenge in my heart. I am not called to ministry to swim in half-truths, but to dive fully in to seeking God's truth in all things. The truth right now is that this scenario is challenging for all of us. Another thing challenging my heart are many things going on in our nation that, to me, are the antithesis of sharing God's love in the world. My sense is that you are seeing and feeling some of these things as well.

Yet, through prayer and keeping my heart open to God's will, I am seeing that church and God are needed now more than ever. My honest sense is that we are going to be at this for some time to come. I don't see it as the 'new normal' but more of a reality that we must all face together. The more I read scripture, God's Word for us, I actually wonder what normal is or ever was? Struggle has been a constant since the days of Moses and Abraham. As a city, state, nation, and world, we are in this together.

I am going to double-down on something that I mentioned in a sermon a few weeks ago. This summer is a good time, in solidarity with our Confirmation 2020 class, for all of us to nourish our faith - to discuss what we believe individually and collectively - and to begin to think about how those beliefs are asking us to respond right now through mission and service to both each other and to the communities in which we live. Please join me this summer as we (re)connect with our faith through confirmation class, adult education, worship, adult vacation bible school, vacation bible school, bible study, mission in our community, and prayer circles.

God's blessings to you all,

Pastor Mark

**WEDDING—SHANNON and PAUL**

On Saturday June 6, 2020, Paul Johnson and Shannon Vanamburgh will be joined in matrimony by Pastor Mark at BRP.  
 Please feel free to join in on BRP Facebook Live at 2 PM.

There will be a small gathering of family and friends in keeping with the guidelines created by our present situation.



**Congratulations Shannon and Paul!**

**John and Peggie Elgin**

John and Peggie just moved to Aiken, SC. They have been active members of BRP since 2011.

They both served on the BRP Session; John served on the Building and Grounds committee for several years, and Peggie led the Disaster Team.



The popular couple often hosted segments of our annual Progressive Dinners at their home in the Highlands, volunteered at CoffeeStop, and other church activities. They gladly volunteered to make lunch for the youth group...you can always count on them if they say they will do something; it gets done.

Peggie will be continuing her riding and competing in dressage at the training level, soon to be first level. John, and their many friends, will continue to marvel at her skill, perseverance, and love of equine sports, in which she began to learn and compete as a teenager. Peggie was also chair-person of their neighborhood organization and fought the tearing down of a building on Willow Avenue for a high-rise condo.

Best of luck dear friends. John and Peggie will definitely be missed!

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Linda Heisel	1
Joyce Lieberman	4
Joe Anne Overstreet	6
Doug Rapp	6
Ding Moss	13
Molly Rusk	16
Sue Blakeley	17
Shirley Shaw	18
Jacob Johnson	20
Laura Stone	21
Phil Stone	21
Sue Crosier	27
Vincent Gradisek	27
Marissa Ortiz	27
Ian Purnell-Gatewood	27
Joe Ellis	30
Gifted Waritay	30

**Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church Staff**

Rev. Mark Eldred	Pastor
Rev. Jim Brees	Pastoral Associate
Jeanie Grosz	Director of Music Ministries/ Organist
Sarah Hageman	Children's & Youth Coordinator
Johanna Fears	Office Manager
Marty Hageman	Treasurer
Frank Fry	Temporary Sexton

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM PASTOR MARK

### **5-week Sunday Prayer Circle Series - 9:30 A.M.**

The Session of BRPres has voted unanimously to continue worship in our homes virtually (Facebook Live) through Sunday, July 5. As an alternative to indoor sanctuary worship, Pastor Mark will be offering a small, twenty-five minute, Prayer Circle Service in the parking lot, 9:30 A.M. sharp, Sundays, June 7, 14, 21, 28, and July 5. Please bring your own chair(s) if at all possible, and wear a mask. We will be seated six feet apart and there will be some minimal amplification of the service. The Prayer Circle Service will center on the weekly Psalm and Epistle Lesson of the Revised Common Lectionary. There is potential to continue this service throughout the rest of the summer. We would like to keep this to a small gathering as best as possible. Below are the scripture for the five-week Prayer Circle Services:

Week 1: Psalm 8 and 2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
Week 2: Psalm 100 and Romans 5:1-8  
Week 3: Psalm 69:7-18 and Romans 6:1b-11  
Week 4: Psalm 89:1-4,15-18 and Romans 6:12-23  
Week 5: Psalm 145:8-14 and Romans 7:15-25a

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### **Weekly Prayer Chain E-blast on Tuesdays**

Have you found yourself praying more often? Have you found yourself not having the words needed to express what is in your heart during this time? Are there prayers you would like the church to lift up?

Starting Tuesday, June 2, Pastor Mark, Johanna, and the Congregational Care Committee, will be sending a weekly Prayer Chain via e-blast. Pastor Mark will be incorporating the following week's Psalm and/or Epistle Lesson from the Prayer Circle Series in to the Tuesday e-blast, and asking that anyone wishing for prayer to reach out to the office or to Pastor Mark.

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### **Summer 2020 Learning and Engagement in Faith**

Please keep your eye out for many ways to get involved in connecting this summer as we seek ways to nurture and nourish our faith. Pastor Mark will be looking to offer some gatherings via zoom for Adult Education, Confirmation 2020, Adult Vacation Bible School (writing an individual statement of faith), and a New Members' Class. A common core of all of these offerings will be the question "What do you believe?" and "How do we connect through our beliefs?" Through writing a statement of faith, Confirmation and Adult Vacation Bible School will consider what they believe about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Sacraments (Communion and Baptism), the Bible, universal Church (gathering in worship, mission, and fellowship), humanity and being made in God's image, and sin and forgiveness. New Members' Class will wrestle with the questions of "What does it mean to be a member of a church?" and "What is the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Reformed Tradition?". Adult Education will be offered this summer to take a close look at Paul's Letter to the Romans, and the lectionary Epistle passages for each Sunday. We hope that you will consider participating in one of these offerings this summer.

## April & May 2020 SESSION Highlights

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be rescheduled when safe conditions can be assured.

The Permanent Nominating Committee is at work on slate of Elders for the 2023 Session Class.

The Confirmation Class is continuing with frequent contacts virtually although the date of confirmation will need to be delayed.

Maintaining contact with friends and members is being carried forward by the Congregational Care Committee.

While the building is not in use, the Farmer's Market continues to be open using adapted procedures and online ordering.

The General Assembly will be conducted virtually. The Fossil fuel divestment overture was approved by presbytery and will be presented at GA.

Presbytery meetings will resume in July. The next one is rescheduled for July 20, 2020 at Ebenezer and Greensberg Presbyterian Churches.

The Session and congregation are requested to do checks on families and friends of the congregation as the challenge of isolation persists.

Our 2020 EarthCare Congregation Application was approved- Thanks to Bill, Mark and Alicia for their work on that.

Cedar Ridge summer brochures were out, but we will see if there are any changes due to the current pandemic. We have sent \$5000 for the chapel, with another \$5000 to come.

Gratitude is expressed to all the church staff and Gillian Hollis for assuring virtual worship and other efforts during this unprecedented time.

The **May Session** of BrPres has voted unanimously to remain holding worship virtually (Facebook Livestream) through Sunday, July 5. Worship will continue in the same format as it has been through July 5.

Mark will ask Lin, Clerk of Session, to assess the need for a subcommittee to begin as soon as possible to discuss a reopening plan for both Sunday worship and our building as a whole beyond July 5. We have mission groups that will need to be communicated with as to where we are at with building use: NA (MWF), the first Sunday of the month NA Citywide gathering, AA (Wed group, Friday group), Covenant Community Congregation (CCC), and eventually home school.

## KIPL

Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light will be phasing out of their space in our building this summer to seek a new and larger space that can accommodate wheel-chair accessibility and a larger staff. We are sad to see KIPL leave their office space on our third floor where they have been since 2014. We look forward to remaining their partner in mission!

## THINGS THAT MAKE US HAPPY!

**Clinton and Jeanie Grosz** celebrate their 41st wedding anniversary on June 2.

**Present Elders** will stay on until August because of circumstances caused by Covid-19.

**Pastor Mark and Gillian** celebrated their 7th Wedding anniversary on May 25th!

## The Bloos grandchildren Van, Andy and Liam!





## MISSION COMMITTEE HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

HCM needs our assistance now more than ever. Because of the Covid-19 quarantine situation, there is more need in our community for assistance with food, rent, etc. HCM also has less income at this time due to the months of shut-down of the child care facilities which provide a large share of HCM's budget. HYR (HCM's Highlands Youth Recreation) has also had to cancel spring and summer sports. Upcoming fundraisers like Empty Bowls may not happen as usual, so revenue is low. How can you help? Current needs:

### Highlands Community Ministries' Spring Clean!

Seeking Donations of New and Unopened Personal Care Items:

- Bar Soap
- Shampoo
- Toilet Paper
- Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
- Deodorant
- Laundry Detergent

Please drop off to HCM's Food Pantry at 1228 E. Breckinridge St., Wed., Thu., or Fri., 10am to 1pm.

### HCM Food Pantry and IFAP

Need continues for food donations and monetary donations to assist clients.

Thank you for assisting in a way you are able! You can help HCM in several ways:

Purchase food and personal care items and drop off at HCM.

Make an online donation at <https://hcmlouisville.org/donate>

Mail a check to HCM.

Mail a check to BRP, made out to BRPC with "HCM donation" on the memo line.

Check out the new signage and banners around the Highlands Community Campus home of HCM at the corner of Barret Ave and Breckinridge St, unveiling the new logo.



## BRPC FOOD PANTRY and TARC BUS PASSES

Even during this time of quarantining, **we are very much in need of food** to help those who come to the church door.

Please consider: Donating **non-perishable ready-to-eat snack items** such as cheese/peanut butter crackers, tuna or chicken lunchables, cereal and granola bars, beanie wienies, pudding cups, and other no-cooking-needed, non-refrigerated items.

Making a financial contribution to help with our purchase of **TARC Partner Passes**.

### CEDAR RIDGE CAMP

Cedar Ridge is still discerning how to function this summer. Camps in June will be only day camps, beginning June 15; July camps are in the planning at this point, awaiting guidelines from Governor Andy Beshear. For camp info for your child, contact camp or Alicia Bloos, 502-496-0345 or [alicia-bloos@hotmail.com](mailto:alicia-bloos@hotmail.com).

Because of no usage by school, church, civic, or private groups this spring, and reduced summer camp programming, Cedar Ridge's income has been reduced.

Work has begun on the lower level of the new chapel! Some funding is still needed to complete the project.

You may help CRC with donations at [www.cedaridgecamp.com](http://www.cedaridgecamp.com) or by sending a check to camp, or to BRP with "Cedar Ridge donation" on the memo line.

Thank you for any assistance you can provide to Mid-Kentucky Presbytery's Camp and Retreat Center!

### BATTERIES

The Mission Committee has been collecting household batteries for the past few years, to take them to Hazardous Waste disposal, and to keep them out of the landfill. We won't be able to do that in June, as planned, but we will take them later in the year.

So, please plan to bring your batteries to church once we reopen, and we'll plan on a month or so of collection before we head off to get them recycled.

### BUCKHORN

The intergenerational mission trip to the Buckhorn Children's Center, planned for June, has been postponed. In lieu of working on projects for the Center, the Mission Committee had agreed to send a contribution instead. We hope we'll be traveling down to Buckhorn next summer.

## GRADUATIONS

With colleges and schools closed early because of the Coronavirus, the graduation ceremonies and other school events were cancelled. We want to acknowledge all the graduates who have a connection to Bardstown Road Presbyterian. Best wishes to all of you, and please know that we are very proud of each of you.

### COLLEGE:

**Chelsea Lloyd** graduated from Sullivan University School of Culinary Arts with a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management. She plans to stay in Louisville until it is safe to travel again, then she plans to move back home, near the University of Michigan, where there is a very thriving dining culture. In the distant future, Chelsea would like to travel around the world and learn more about how people in different areas prepare and eat food and then eventually open a restaurant in her hometown. We wish Chelsea the best and believe these things will happen for her.

**Emma Overstreet**, granddaughter of Joe Anne Overstreet, graduated summa cum laude from Western Kentucky University with a Bachelors of Science in Exercise Science. She was named the Exercise Science Student of Academic Excellence. Up next, she will be pursuing her Doctorate of Physical Therapy at Belmont University in Nashville, TN, where she earned one of five academic merit-based scholarships. Way to go Emma!

**Spencer Bilyeu** will graduate from Robert Morris University/Roosevelt University in July with a Bachelor of Science in Business degree.

### HIGH SCHOOL:

**Jeanette Irambona** is graduating from Central High School. Jeanette will be focusing on her business while obtaining a part time job. The business is called Foreignxtensions. It is a hair and lash business and merchandise (t-shirts). She sells them at an affordable price for those who can't afford the high priced things.

**Stevenline Waritay** is graduating from Central High School. He plans to attend Western Kentucky University majoring in Nursing.

**Meghan Mantz**, granddaughter of Anne Teaford, will graduate from StrathHaven High School in Wallingford, PA – virtual graduation on June 5. She will attend the University of Binghamton in Binghamton, New York.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Secret Waritay** is graduating from Jefferson County Traditional Middle School. She will attend Moore Traditional High School.

**Devin Clements**, grandson of Keith Clements, graduated from middle school at John Paul Academy on May 14. They celebrated with a car line in front of the school. Devin will attend Trinity High School.



## From the Pollinator Partnership Give Bees a Chance

It's allergy season in Louisville, and if you've lived here for long, you're no stranger to the pollen that drifts around in this river valley we call home. While pollen is a sore spot for us humans, its movement from one place to another is crucial for many plants to flower, bear fruit, and reproduce!

Pollinators include bees, butterflies, bats, beetles, ants, wasps, some birds and other animals that spread pollen from one plant to another, helping plants fertilize. Though some of these species might seem pesky or unimportant, they play a crucial role in the human food system. On average, according to The Pollinator Partnership, one third of all food and beverages come from the work of pollinators! The UN Food and Agriculture Organization says that higher numbers and greater diversity of pollinators increases crop yields.

### *How can I support pollinators?*

Here are some tips from The Pollinator Partnership to help you protect these animals that do so much for us:

- Reduce the amount of pesticides you use, or stop using them completely.
- Build and create green spaces wherever possible - pollinators especially love native plants!

Change the way you look at "weeds" - some of those flowers (like dandelions and clovers) that pop up in your lawn are very appreciated by insect pollinators!



## CCC News

We are very excited to share that John Gulden has accepted the position of part-time, temporary pulpit supply and the subcommittee that serves as a resource for pastors and faith communities in Mid-Kentucky Presbytery affirmed the decision during a subcommittee meeting.

John was solo pastor at Briargate Presbyterian Church here in Louisville, 2004-2010. In 2010, he shifted from church work to being a stay-at-home parent before his kids both entered elementary school. He's now teaching mathematics at a local Catholic high school and loves it. Around the time he began feeling a pull to dip his toe back into preaching was when Mid-Kentucky Presbytery shared our revised job description. We believe this will be a good fit for both John and CCC.

John will be with us for the next six months with a check-in and potential contract renewal at that time. His role will be to anchor us in worship and session meetings while we as a community explore the future of CCC. Hiring a worship leader is the first of two steps in our transition process.

On May 31st (Pentecost Sunday), Covenant Community Church celebrated its 20th year!



## LOCAL STUDENTS STEP UP!

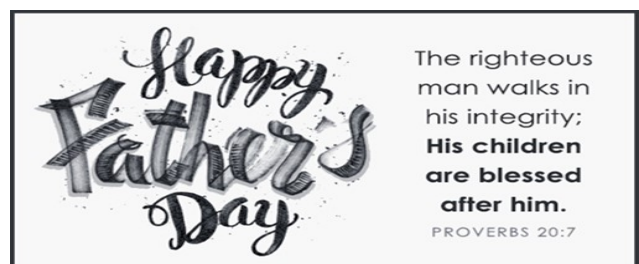
### St. X Students Collect 7,000 lbs of Food for Dare to Care

Whether it was a walk up or a drive by, the parking lot of Holy Trinity Parish was packed Saturday for a food drive. The event, the "Tigers Care Food Drive," was organized by three friends, all teenagers.

"What we're doing here is trying to collect as much food as possible for Dare to Care, especially during these times (when) they have a 30 percent increase in need. So, we thought what better way than helping out and getting food?" organizer Teddy Meiers, 15, told WLKY Saturday.

Earlier this month, Meiers and two other St. X students, Sam Hayward and Jack Phelps, began a food drive in his neighborhood. Hayward's dad, Chip Hayward, said the act of service has provided some valuable lessons for the young men. "A little bit of effort can go a long way. It lets them see if they just take the initiative to do a little bit of work, they can get a great result out of it," Hayward said.

So far, that result has been incredible. The teens have collected about 7,000 pounds of food for Dare to Care.



### FATHER'S DAY June 21, 2020

Father's Day is a celebration honoring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, paternal bonds, and the influence of fathers in society



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

For all who have contracted coronavirus,  
We pray for care and healing.  
For those who are particularly vulnerable,  
We pray for safety and protection.  
For all who experience fear or anxiety,  
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.  
For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety,  
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.  
For those who do not have adequate health insurance,  
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.  
For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,  
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.  
For our brothers and sisters around the world,  
We pray for shared solidarity.  
For public officials and decisionmakers,  
We pray for wisdom and guidance.  
Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all.  
Grant peace.  
Grant comfort.  
Grant healing.  
Be with us, Lord.  
Amen.