

## Celebrating 111+ Years of Ministry 1906-2017

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 51 Issue 3

March 2017



#### **Lent: Madness and Recovery**

In the news, March is a month of basketball "madness." The college basketball tournament triumphs, and defeats, are often experienced as welcome diversions from the "craziness" of other things in our life that seem out of control.

In the church, (this year) March is also a month in Lent: a season of facing the "true madness" of our world and taking steps in our lives to triumph over terror, chaos and fear

People often count the days of Lent on a calendar and think of it as the 40-day time of waiting for Easter. Would basketball fans count the days of the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament as just a time of waiting before the April 3<sup>rd</sup> championship game? I don't think so! It's a time to get involved.

Likewise, Lent is more than a 40-day period of waiting. It is a time for experiences that draw us closer to the heart of life, and faith beyond fear and chaos in life.

At least three times a week, at church, I see people gather in recovery groups that encourage and support the practical and spiritual changes that are possible in people's lives. I see people working every day "in recovery." It seems to me that taking steps in Lent and taking steps in recovery have a lot in common. It's never easy. It's always heartfelt. It happens in an

extraordinary moment beyond ourselves that is lived out in the ordinary moments of each new day.

Thinking we can live into Easter without our soul-searching days of repentance and recovery puts a lot of hope in God's steadfast love and abundant grace.

For God all things are possible. But even in recovery – perhaps especially in recovery – people know we are partners in the process, and our choices have consequences.

Repentance, at its core, means turning back towards God. Relying on God's steadfast love and abundant grace we repent and return to new life in Christ that Easter brings: an extraordinary moment beyond ourselves, that is lived out in the ordinary moments of each new day.

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word *lencten*, which means "a lengthening" . . . as days begin to get longer, or lengthen with light, e.g. springtime. (Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.)

This year, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, and ends on April 15th, which is the day before Easter. As a church, we invite people to simplify our lives in the midst of all the madness and actively take steps, each day, that help us



#### GATHERINGS DURING LENTEN.

The 40-days of Lent (a time for spiritual preparation between Ash Wednesday and Easter) offer opportunities for reflection and spiritual exploration. Please consider and encourage others to actively participate in Lent as a season of spiritual renewal.

On Sunday mornings, during the 9:30 – 10:30 education time, you're invited to join with others. People are meeting each week on Sunday morning during Lent.

#### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE -March 1st

Wednesday, March 1st, marks the beginning of Lent –and is known in the church season as "Ash Wednesday." Traditionally, Lent is the 40 days leading up to Easter that people prepare themselves spiritually for the new life which Easter makes possible. There will be a worship service at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary to mark the spiritual and sacred observance in our lives and our community of faith.

## LENTEN MID-WEEK WORSHIP ON WEDNESDAYS /WITH DINNER

Lenten dinner/programs are held on Wednesdays, from 6:00-7:20~p.m. with members and friends of the congregation joining together around themes of "Growing in Faith / Growing as a Congregation." As an intergenerational community of faith we will explore some of the traditional ways people have grown spiritually and some specific steps we can take in our own lives. The Wednesdays we have scheduled at this time are

AYS	Alicia Bloos	3
	Jan Adams	4
	Jolie Bright	9
	Jonathan Teaford	9
	Jeremy Teaford	12
	Bruce Teaford	12
	Ben Adams	15
	Evan Hofmann	15
	Brad Harris	16
Ď	Eleanor Short	16
MARCH BIRTHDAYS	Daniel Hougland	17
	Dan Rapp	18
	Katie Allen	18
	Wesley Overstreet	19
	Tom Pope	20
	Mary Bennett	21
	Evie Macway	23
	Julie Hofmann	24
	Becky Shafer	24
	Clinton Grosz	27
	Nancy Troy	30
	Megan Smith	31
	Kim Clements	31

### LENTEN LUNCHEONS FOR 2017 HIGHLAND COMMUNITY MINISTRIES:

**THURSDAY, Noon-time LENTEN LUNCHEONS** on March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6. These will be noon-time simple meals, with a devotion.

Thursdays, 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm Theme: "Would I be Welcome?"

March 9: Strathmoor Presbyterian Church Speaker: Troy Burden, New Testament, Luke 14

March 16: Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church

Speaker: Guest TBD, Old Testament

March 23: Highland Community Ministries Speaker: Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, New Testament, Matthew 25

March 30: St Paul UMC

Speaker: David Platt, Old Testament, Isaiah 58

April 6: Deer Park Baptist Church Speaker: Chris Lieberman, Luke 19

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

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

Jeanie will be on vacation for the following Sundays, March 5, 12 and 19. There will be no choir rehearsal during those weeks until after March 19.

#### Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church Staff

*Rev. Chris Lieb	perman Pastor		
Rev. Jim Brees	Pastoral Associate		
Brittany Hesson	Seminary Field Ed. Student		
*Jeanie Grosz	Director of Music Ministries/Organist		
*Lanie Sipes	CE Dir. for Spiritual Growth & Mission		
*Johanna Fears	Office Manager		
*Doug Manier	Sexton/Custodian		
Claire Detlefs	Treasurer		
Brad Harris	Web Master		
	Emeritus		
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111. 302 131 0303			

#### **SESSION HIGHLIGHT FOR FEB. 21, 2017**

We are very excited to announce that **Rev. Dr. Peggy Hinds** will be helping lead the discernment process **to help our congregation take faithful steps into the future**.

An ordained Teaching Elder and Certified Christian Educator in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Rev. Hinds serves as the Interim Executive Director of the Kentucky Council of Churches. Previously, Peggy served for fifteen years as Associate General Presbyter of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery.

Rev. Hinds will begin her work with us by meeting with the session in March and then helping us organize a series of congregational meetings in the spring.

Our hope is to have the highest level of participation possible. We need your input for the process to be successful. This will include several congregational sessions and perhaps some form of a "mini-retreat."

We will also be forming prayer partnerships –two to three people who commit to pray together weekly:

For the congregation,

For the leadership,

For the Spirit's leading through this process,

For all outcomes to be in line with God's will for the church.

# This is not only a highlight of a session meeting –but a highlight for our congregation during much of the coming year. This discernment process will also include:

- Small group studies (sharing resources about visioning, gifts assessment, systems theory, vocation/call, community outreach, evangelism, etc.)
- Conversation groups (prayer gatherings, dinners, game nights, etc.)
- Personal visits (meeting with individual members/ families about the importance of their participation in the process.)

With your help, we will focus on values, assets and strengths. We will list barriers, and determine the primary stumbling blocks to moving forward. We will begin to create possibilities for overcoming barriers to create desired outcomes. By the end, the congregation will have a clearer vision for the future, and steps for mission and ministry that people are excited about taking.

Desired outcomes for the discernment process include:

- Bring people closer to God through the church.
- The process will clarify our congregational eagerness and energy to accept change as a means of engaging with new people.



#### **CALLING ALL GRADUATES**

Please let the church office know if anyone in your family is graduating this year—

college, high school, middle or elementary school. Please let

## A FOLLOW UP FROM THE BRAINSTORMING BREAKFAST

One of follow-up steps from the "Invitational Ministry" Brainstorming Breakfast is to form an "Invitation Task Force." The idea is to meet and think about people we know (church members or not) whom we'd like to invite —and what we'd like to invite them to help with. If you'd like to be part of this "voice of the church" you're invited! The first Invitation Task Force meeting will be from noon — 12:30 on Sunday,





March 5<sup>th</sup> (after worship).



#### **EASTER LILIES**

We will be ordering 25 Easter lilies through the Kentuckiana Chapter of the National Hemophilia

Foundation again this year. The cost is \$10.00. Please pay with cash/check when you order by completing a form and placing it in the offering plate during Worship or by leaving it in the church office. Make checks payable to Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church. Forms will be in the bulletin and in the rear of the Sanctuary. On Easter Sunday, April 16th we will print recognitions of those you wish to remember or honor in the church bulletin.

#### **NEWS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, & YOUNG ADULTS**

I can't believe that it is already March! March brings a lot of things I love: the weather is getting warmer, flowers are beginning to bloom, and trees are starting to bud. March also brings the Lenten season in the church, which I have come to deeply appreciate.

Lent is a time to reflect on our relationships with our self, with God, and with one another and think about how they are connected and shape and influence one another. It can include fasting, asking for forgiveness, and denying oneself...but, even more so, I think it can be a time to think about reconciliation (saying "sorry" and restoring relationships) and acts of lovingkindness – we are, after all, preparing for Easter.

So, I'd like to invite and challenge you to join me in daily reflection on the Scripture passage below, as well as the "lovingkindness meditation," which can be found at <a href="http://www.contemplativemind.org/practices/tree/loving-kindness">http://www.contemplativemind.org/practices/tree/loving-kindness</a>, and a more kid-friendly version at <a href="http://www.buddhanet.net/metta">http://www.buddhanet.net/metta</a> k3.htm. How can you more fully love God, your neighbor, and yourself?

#### Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV)

37 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

#### KIDS!

Kids' Club: We will have a St. Patrick's Day Party from 6-7PM in the Club Room on Thursday, March 16th (grades K-5th)! Conversation about St. Patrick, games, songs, punch, and snacks.

Kids' Club meets the 3rd Thursday of each month!

**Kids' Day Out:** JCPS is out of school, so join us on **Friday, March 31st from 8:30-4PM** for a day focused on listening to God in the silence! We will learn about meditation/reflection, play some games, share some Scripture, do some fun crafts, and take a trip to the Louisville Nature Center.

Registration is required and forms will be available soon.

**Kids' Choir:** Every Sunday from 12-12:30PM directly following worship!

For more information, contact Jeanie Grosz.

We will also have fun crafts and coloring pages during the Wednesday Lenten dinners on March 8th and 15th AND Kids' Worship Enrichment during the worship service on Sunday, March 19th!

#### YOUTH!

**Youth Group:** All grades (6th-12th) meet every Sunday night from 6-7PM in the Youth Room (March 5, 12, 19)! Here are some important dates to keep in mind...

Sunday, March 19th

#### Sunday, March 26th

HOUSE OF BOOM!!!

We will meet in Fellowship Hall for lunch at noon, and then head to House of Boom around 1PM. We'll arrive back at the church around 4PM, and parents/guardians can pick you up then.

`Permission slips & waivers will be available soon!

#### Saturday July 8th - Sunday July 16th

AMEN St. Louis Youth Mission Trip (8th-12th graders)! We have reserved our spot for the second week of July – there is still time to let me know, if you'd like to attend!

**Youth Choir:** All grades (6th-12th) meet Sunday nights from 7-8PM in the Choir Room (March 5, 12, 19)! If you are interested in doing a vocal, instrumental, or dance solo, duet, or trio - Contact Jeanie Grosz for more information.

#### YOUNG ADULTS!

#### CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE: Bardstown Road

Style

When: Friday, March 24th from 6PM-? Where: Meet in the BRPC parking lot

What: Appetizers, Dinner, Dessert, Board Games,

Dancing, Movies? – You decide! **Who:** Young adults who like adventure

Wear comfortable shoes to walk in, and join us for what is sure to be an epic night! We'll start at BRPC, then make our first choice to see where we will be heading next. Stay for the whole adventure or come for part of the fun! J (Rain plan – we will carpool instead of walk)

Please contact Lanie at <u>lanie.sipes@gmail.com</u> for more information.

Peace and Love, Lanie Sipes

CE Director for Spiritual Growth and Mission



**ROCK CLIMBING WITH THE YOUTH GROUP** 

#### TALENT SHOW/MARDI GRAS LUNCHEON







#### "Beargrass: The Creek in Your Backyard" A documentary by Morgan Atkinson

"Beargrass: The Creek in Your Backyard", examines Louisville's primary urban stream in all its majesty and misery. It will be a vital conversation starter designed to engage all residents and visitors in the future of the creek and the neighborhoods that comprise its watershed. There will be a showing of a documentary film at BRP on March 6th at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall, sponsored by IFPL.

#### **Our Goals Are Simple:**

- Promote a historical, natural understanding of Beargrass Creek, its tributaries and the 67 square mile watershed.
- Provide an **overview** of how the creek has been used and abused over time.
- Explore the forward-looking solutions to restore the creek and ecological corridor,
- **Promote public health benefits** that are inherent in a clean urban stream with recreational and transportation trails along its banks,
- Highlight Beargrass Creek **biodiversity**, Encourage home owners and businesses to have a positive impact on stormwater runoff by planting a tree, installing a rain barrel, or installing a <u>rain garden</u>,
- Encourage organizations to work together to protect public health, organize and host clean ups, and highlight other current work to clean up the creek,
- Learn from other urban stream restoration efforts that have transformed their local neighborhoods around our region,
- Engage in community-wide work to move towards a clean and accessible Beargrass Creek and illustrate how you can get involved.



#### Presbyterian Women's Circles

The 2016-2017 Horizons Bible Study is "Who is Jesus? What a Difference a Lens Makes," by Judy Yates Siker, a teaching elder in the PC(USA) and a New Testament instructor at Loyola Marymount University. You are invited to join either of BRP's two circles to explore this thought-provoking material. The Morning Circle will meet Tuesday, March 14, at 11:00 A.M. in the Club Room, under the leadership of Joe Anne Overstreet. The Evening Circle will meet Thursday, March 9, at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Joyce Lieberman. This self-guided circle is coordinated by Alicia Bloos. New members and visitors are always welcome to join both circles. Contact Joe Anne or Alicia for more information or to request a study book.

#### FROM MISSION COMMITTEE

#### **Easter Baskets**

Watch for upcoming information about our food drive to provide an Easter meal for the HCM families we served at Christmas. We hope you can show your generosity once again to help neighbors in need. Please call Alicia Bloos if you would like to help organize this project!

#### Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

This spring **Mid Kentucky Presbytery** churches are participating in a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance project. Churches are asked to collect hygiene supplies and pack hygiene kits to assist people whose communities are devastated by flood, fire, and tornado, with a goal of 1,000 hygiene kits. The project will be part of Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer's Give a Day week of caring in April 2017.

There are three ways you can help:

- Send a check for supplies to Strathmoor Presbyterian Church, 2201 Hawthorne Ave., Louisville, KY 40205 by <u>April 1</u>. Write Disaster Kits on the memo line. Volunteers will purchase the supplies needed.
- Bring supplies and/or completed kits to Strathmoor on Monday, April 24, from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. Please deliver items in the cardboard boxes in which reams of paper are sold. 80-100 boxes will be needed.
- 3. Help assemble hygiene kits on <u>Saturday, April 29</u>, from 1 3 P.M. at Strathmoor.

\*If desired, checks and items may be brought to BRP, and delivery to Strathmoor will be arranged.

Please consider how you can help, and invite outside groups—Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, service clubs, school groups, etc., to join us in this endeavor.

#### HCM FIRST SUNDAY DONATIONS

BRPC will continue the program of collecting specific food items for the **HCM** food pantry on the first Sunday of each month. There is a plastic tote in Fellowship Hall where you may place the requested items. We will collect **cans of soup and canned meats (tuna, beef, chicken).** Thank you in advance for your continued compassion for the less-fortunate.

BRP FOOD PANTRY & BUS TICKETS: Thank you for all the food items and bus tickets recently donated. Please continue to contribute bus tickets if you are able. They can be purchased on line or at Fifth Third Bank on Bardstown Road, only a few streets away from BRP.

Food Pantry: we now have enough cheese and peanut butter crackers but we do need **tuna and chicken lunchables, and beanie weenies.** All items should be in a single package and not need refrigeration or cooking. Thank you for your continued generosity.

#### **MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING**

The next <u>Mission Committee meeting</u> will be Tuesday, March 14 at 7:00 P.M. in the Club Room. We are involved in many on-going ministries. <u>New members are needed</u> to lend their energy and vision as we go forward with many local and global mission projects. Please consider whether God is calling you to serve in this ministry.

#### Cedar Ridge Camp

Our presbytery's camp and conference center, Cedar Ridge Camp, is hosting a NCAA Men's Basketball party to raise funds for the summer camping program. Watch a game on a big screen at the second annual Basketball, BBQ, and Beer in Hopkins Hall in the evening on March 18. More specifics on the time and the game to be watched will be announced after games are scheduled. The event is open to everyone over 21. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Book tickets at <a href="www.cedarridgecamp.com">www.cedarridgecamp.com</a>. Join us for the fun for a good cause!

#### **BATTERIES**

BRP will again be collecting household batteries this year, and we'll take them to Hazardous Waste Recycling during the summer. So, please collect any used batteries around your house and bring them to the church over the next 3 months. There will be a box for collecting batteries on a table in Fellowship Hall. Bill Bowman

#### **COMPOST BIN**

Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light has set up a compost bin under the metal fire escape stairs on the back side of the Fellowship Hall. BRP will begin adding coffee grounds from the kitchen.



# March 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Youth Group Sunday from 6-7 pm Youth Choir Sunday from 7-8 pm			<b>1</b> Ash Wednesday 6:30 service	2	3	4 8 a.mNoon Farmers' Market
5 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Lanie Sipes preaching Doug Jones, music Noon Invitation Task Force Meeting 6 pm Youth Group	6 7pm Film: Beargrass Creek, Fellowship Hall	7 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 Elders' Meeting at home of Rev. Lieberman	8 6:00 pm Lenten Dinner Program	9 Noon-1 p.m. HCM Lenten Devotion Luncheon 7 pm Evening Circle home of Joyce Lieberman	10	11 8 a.mNoon Farmers' Market 8:30—11 Called Meeting of Session Fellowship Hall Set clocks forward one hour/Daylight Saving Time
9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Brittany Hesson preaching John Stevens, music 6 pm Youth Group	13 6-7pm CE Meeting	14 11 am Day Circle, Club Room 7 p.m. Session Meeting	15 6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner Program	16 Noon-1 p.m. HCM Lenten Devotion Luncheon at BRP  6pm Kids' Club-St. Patrick's Day party 7pm Worship Team Meeting	17	18 8 a.mNoon Farmers' Market
19 Communion 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Lieberman preaching Carol Brees, music 6pm Youth Group	20 6:30 Movement for Sanctuary for Undocumented Immigrants- Fellowship Hall	<b>21</b> Rev. Lieberman will i	7:30 p.m. Choir  pe on vacation from N	23 Noon-1 p.m. HCM Lenten Devotion Luncheon  April newsletter deadline  Jarch 20 through Mark	24 6pm Young Adults meet in parking lot to "choose your own adventure"	25 8 a.m.– Noon Farmers' Market
26 9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Brittany Hesson preaching Noon: Youth Lunch and House of Boom	27	28	29	30  Noon-1 p.m. HCM Lenten Devotion Luncheon	31 Kid's Day Out 8:30—4 p.m Trip to Mosque for Teens (Chris)	



Celebrating 111+ Years of Ministry 1906-2017
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 PLACE STAMP HERE



March 1

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

6:30 p.m.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Ash Wednesday service

11101011	0.50 p	7 Sir Wednesday Service			
March 5	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service, Lanie Sipes preaching, Doug Jones, music			
	Noon	Invitation Task Force meeting			
March 5, 12, 19, 26	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group			
March 6	7:00 p.m.	Film: "Beargrass Creek" Fellowship Hall			
March 7 9:30 a.m.		Staff Meeting			
	6:30 p.m.	Elders' Meeting at home of Rev. Lieberman			
March 8, 15	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Dinner Program			
March 9	7:00 p.m.	Evening Circle at home of Joyce Lieberman			
March 9, 16, 23, 30	Noon	Lenten Luncheons (March 16 is at BRP)			
March 12	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship			
	11:00 a.m.	Worship, Brittany Hesson preaching, John Stevens, music			
March 13	6-7:00 p.m	CE Meeting			
March 14	11:00 a.m.	Day Circle, Club Room			
	7:00 p.m.	Mission Committee Meeting			
	7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting			
March 16	6:00 p.m.	Kids' Club			
	7:00 p.m.	Worship Team Meeting			
March 19	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service with Communion, Rev. Lieberman preaching, Carol Brees, music			
March 20-26		Rev. Lieberman will be on vacation			
March 22	7:30 p.m.	Choir			
March 26	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship			
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service, Brittany Hesson preaching,			
	Noon	Kids' Choir			