



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 3

March

2021

Dear Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church,

Lent is my favorite season of the church year on many levels. I like what the scripture for this time of year and what Jesus journey to the cross asks of us theologically. I like that Lent is often complimented by the changing of seasons to warmer times and longer days. As a musician, I have always been very fond of the music of Lent. For many years of my life, I would be preparing again yet another year to sing the role of the Evangelist in the great composer J.S. Bach's St. John Passion and St. Matthew Passion; works that tell the story of Jesus path from his arrest and trial, to the cross, to the tomb on Good Friday.

To be honest, last year at this time I didn't think we would still be having this covid conversation a year later. At the front end of Covid, I never dreamed that we would sadly lose more than 500,000 people to this pandemic, and have millions upon millions of families affected all over the world; that we would all need to learn about viruses, protocols, guidelines, and vaccinations. I had hope that it wouldn't get quite as bad as it did. Yet here we are heading in to our second year. My hope is that a new season is ahead of us, that this Lent will be our time to grieve for those we have lost, for all who have been through a challenging time that will ask much of us in years to come, and that we will head in to this summer with a potential renewed hope of things to come.

I ask each of us and all of us to continue to be healthy, safe, and patient, to continue to share the loving kindness of God (Chesed) in our daily paths, to continue to live in hope that when the 'normal' returns we will be children of God seeking to live more fully in to it. Blessings to each of you as we make our way together through March to Palm Sunday, March 28th.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Mark

WORSHIP TIMES

March 28, Palm Sunday, in person and virtual - 11 AM E.T.

April 1, Maundy Thursday, virtual-only - 6 PM E.T.

April 2, Good Friday, virtual-only - 7 PM E.T.

April 4, Easter Sunday, in person and virtual - 11 AM E.T.

One Great Hour of Sharing will be collected.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education will be gathering Mondays March 8, March 22, and April 12 from 7:00- 8:00 PM to share in a group study of James Cone's "The Cross and the Lynching Tree". Please obtain a copy of the book on your own. Pastor Mark is using the most recent publishing by Orbis Books. Join us this Lenten Season for this challenging theological work and conversation! If you are not a regular Adult Education participant, please reach out to Pastor Mark to be included in the virtual invitation emails.



BRPC CONFIRMATION 2021

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.

Our Confirmation 2021 is off to a wonderful start with a Zoom gathering that was held February 7, and monthly gatherings scheduled in to May, March 7, April 11, and May 9. Our goal is to hold Confirmation Sunday on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd. Continue to pray for our Confirmation young folks, Gabe, Ari, Maddie, Ivona, Esperance, Secret, and Gifted, as they take part in our Virtual Faith Scavenger Hunt over these next three-months exploring where we see God our in the world.

Lord, we lift up the gift of individual and collective faith in you, and may your Spirit's presence guide us all. Amen.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Alicia Bloos	3
Jonathan Teaford	9
Brad Harris	16
Daniel Hougland	17
Dan Rapp	18
Wesley Overstreet	19
Evie Macway	23
Becky Shafer	24
Clinton Grosz	27
Matt Smith	31
Kim Clements	31

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
Corey Bullitt	Sexton

Editor, Johanna Fears

1722 Bardstown Road Louisville, KY 40205
 Pastor phone: 502-751-9660
 Office Phone: 502-451-8305
 Email: mark@brpres.org

HIGHLIGHTS FEBRUARY 26, 2021 SESSION MEETING

- Rev. Eldred read the poem "Open on to Me (US)" by Howard Thurman for the opening prayer.
- The devotional was a discussion of several questions from the book "Neighborhood Church".
- This book was recommended to Presbytery by members of General Assembly to study our church's place in the neighborhood. The session will be studying the book for several months. The suggestion was made to better advertise what we do.
- Rev. Eldred is taking a personal journey during Lent by reading three books: "40 Days of Prayer", "Lent of Liberation" and "The Cross and the Lynching Tree". The latter book will be used for the Adult Education class to study.
- Keith Clements shared his experience with a Clerks' Roundtable Meeting with other clerks in Mid-Kentucky Presbytery. He stated, "the Session minutes tell the story of the congregation for they give a narrative of the continuing history of the church. It is important to include enough detail to tell what is happening for future reference".
- The Session minutes will be submitted to Presbytery for examination by word document. The review will only go back through 2020.
- Marty Hageman said that our liability insurer, Selective Insurance, is dropping the church. Due to cost increases we will be looking for a less expensive policy by May.
- Repairs to the boiler pipes will be deferred until warmer weather when the distribution system can be shut down.
- The youth appreciated receiving Valentine bags. The Confirmation class is continuing to meet each month with their Profession of Faith planned for May 23, Pentecost Sunday.
- Anne Campbell said that the choir had a Zoom meeting not to rehearse but just to check in with each other.
- Due to the snow, the HCM Food Drive has been postponed, from today, Mardi Gras, to next Tuesday, February 23.
- Carol Brees reported that Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light will have an Environment Film Festival on February 21 and 28 at 6:00 p.m.
- Ashes will be distributed by Rev. Eldred with a drive-through in the church parking lot from 5:00-5:45 p.m. on Ash Wednesday. A contemplative service will follow at 6:30 p.m. by live-stream from the Sanctuary.
- The Nominating Committee of Beverly Gradisek, Paul Johnson, Anne Payne and Marty Hageman will continue with the same members for another year. They will select the Session Class of 2024 and Trustees.
- Transitioning from remote live-streaming to in-person attendance at Sunday worship was discussed with the tentative goal of having members return for the Palm Sunday service on March 28. Safety restrictions will continue to be in place. Sarah Hageman suggested that the kids be separated in the balcony.

SARAH COLLINS



(Sarah with Joe Anne and Claire at Claire's 85th birthday party)

Sarah Dyer Collins, Dec. 16, 1930-February 19, 2021.

Sarah Dyer Collins joined Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church, with her sister Delia, on September 11, 1960. Their mother, Hazel, joined on Nov. 14, 1976. Most recently Sarah lived at Presbyterian Homes of Kentucky, Westminster Terrace.

Sarah had a very successful career with South Central Bell Telephone Company, retiring as Executive Secretary to the President of the Company. After her retirement, Sarah became very involved in activities at BRP, including the 1722 Club, Women's Day Circle and participated as an usher on Sunday mornings. Sarah loved to hear the choir, and on visits to her at Westminster Terrace, she always wanted to have hymns sung.

As members of the Highlands Chapter of AARP, Sarah and Delia loved to travel, usually on bus tours with AARP, traveling to 48 states including Alaska and Hawaii, England and Scandinavia. She loved to tell stories of her travels and show her many albums of the trips.

Although Louisville was home for about 50 years, Leavenworth, Indiana was really home for Sarah. She grew up there on the family farm, participating in 4-H and church activities. She often talked of Leavenworth and traveled there as often as possible visiting her many cousins and their families.

Sarah was preceded in death by her parents Franklin and Hazel, and sisters Delia and Mary. Because of Covid-19 restrictions, no funeral was held. A graveside service will be held at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Leavenworth at a later date.

EASTER LILIES

We will be ordering 25 Easter lilies through the Kentuckiana Chapter of the National Hemophilia Foundation again this year. The cost is approximately \$10.00. Please pay with cash/check when you order.



Order forms will be in the bulletin.

Please make checks payable to Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church. You can also email or call the church office to order.

On Easter Sunday, **April 4th** we will print recognitions of those you wish to remember or honor in the church bulletin.



HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES LENTEN LUNCH SERIES 2021:

A Pandemic Lenten Journey

Thursdays during Lent

February 25 through March 25

noon to 1pm

Virtually, by Zoom

Join HCM as local Highlands Ministers share devotions on Zoom, bringing us together virtually to interact and examine our spiritual journeys during these trying times.

Feb. 25: Mary Alice Birdwhistel, Highland Baptist

Mar. 4: Megan McCarty, Highland Presbyterian

Mar. 11: David Platt, Deer Park Baptist

Mar. 18: Bellarmine Campus Ministry

Mar. 25: Rachel Small-Stokes, Immanuel UCC

Zoom Meeting Info: Same Link and Password Each Week

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83867831253?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83867831253?pwd=N2ZtTDB0dStTUTM3U2J1WDdqUGkwUT09)

[pwd=N2ZtTDB0dStTUTM3U2J1WDdqUGkwUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83867831253?pwd=N2ZtTDB0dStTUTM3U2J1WDdqUGkwUT09)

Meeting ID: 838 6783 1253 Passcode: 790753

One tap mobile:

+13126266799,,83867831253#,,, *790753# US

(Chicago)

Or dial by your location: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

HOLY WEEK OBSERVANCES

Palm Sunday

**IN-PERSON and
VIRTUAL service**

**POTENTIAL Palm
Parade on March 28**



Worship in the Sanctuary for at 11:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday
Worship with
Communion on
April 1 at 6 p.m.**

VIRTUAL ONLY



Remembering the "Last Supper" Jesus shared with his disciples during Holy Week.

**Good Friday
Service on April 2
at 7 p.m.**

**VIRTUAL service
only**



Experience a simple presentation of Lessons and Hymns telling the story of Christ's passion. We will experience the story of Jesus' last hours as the drama of his betrayal, trial and death unfold. It puts us into the story – as we await Easter morning and new life.

**Celebration of the
Resurrection:
Service of Worship
on April 4**

**In-person and
virtual service at
11:00 a.m.**



A Celebration of the Resurrection.

We will hear the story of the resurrection of Jesus and how his friends moved from fear to joy, then to a deeper understanding of who Jesus was and how he was calling them –and us– to live.

This is also the Sunday for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering to be received.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING EASTER OFFERING—April 4

Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with those in need. Your generous gifts assist those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and assist in helping to empower the poor and oppressed.

The offering will be received on Easter Sunday. This offering will help support Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Self-Development of People (SDOP) program which provides grants for projects that are owned and controlled by the people who will benefit directly from them. Each project must address and correct long-term conditions that keep people bound by poverty and oppression. It will also help support the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program and the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Giving to OGHS enables us to "overcome evil with good" so that we can all share in the joy of restoring lives, and helping people help themselves. The Hunger Program will receive 36 percent of the gifts, while the SDOP and Disaster Assistance will each receive 32 percent. We encourage people to simplify their lives during Lent to then benefit others. Please give generously.

FROM THE SHAW FAMILY

We, Beverly, Brian and I, would like to thank our BRP Family for the condolences shown in the passing of my sister Dolores on January 20, and Dennis' sister Mary on January 21. With both being in New York State, this has been very hard on us, to not be able to be there with the rest of our family. Your prayers, cards, notes, phone calls and emails have helped a great deal. Thank you.
Shirley Shaw

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME starts on March 14. Please set your clocks forward one hour.



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 the church know so we can share the good news.



CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

The Congregational Life committee asks that BRPres folks remember others in our church during this difficult time of isolation. Not being able to see and interact with our friends can make it difficult to keep our spirits high and can cause us to feel lonely. Perhaps you can call someone you particularly have missed to tell them that! If you are more comfortable writing your thoughts, you can text, email, or mail a card or note. All communication is good! Perhaps invite a return call. Your friend will appreciate your effort!

Also, just a reminder: If you know of someone in need of prayer, please share that with Mark or Johanna in the church office. It is not necessary to give a reason or share details if not desired. Don't we all need prayer?

HERE IS OUR GROWING FAMILY FROM

MYANMAR. They attend a Zomi Christian church that shares space with Cloverleaf Baptist. From left: Suan (21 on 3/5), Mung (18)11th Iroquois, dad Khat Khai, mom Cing, little Siam (5)K Lincoln, Don (22) to be married in June, Hau (14) 9th Central, Vung (17)11th Iroquois.



GIRL SCOUTS OF LOUISVILLE

Girl Scouts of Louisville, troops #850, #485, and #840, primarily from the Highlands and Germantown neighborhoods, will be selling cookies in a drive-through process, with covid guidelines, in our church parking lot Saturdays, February 27, March 6, March 13, and March 20, from 1:00 - 6:00 P.M. Our location will offer the special opportunity to donate purchased boxes of cookies to our mission partner Highland Community Ministries. We hope you will tell your family and friends to stop by these four Saturdays to support our local Girl Scouts! You can use cash or card, but card is always appreciated during Covid.



MISSION COMMITTEE

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

THANK YOU to all who contributed food pantry items to the recent Curbside Mardi Gras Food Drive! Because of the pandemic and resulting business closures and unemployment, **need continues** to be great in our community. The food pantry and emergency assistance programs at HCM are more critical than ever for many of our neighbors. 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.

BOOKS FOR READERS

Just a reminder that books of any kind—children and adult, fiction and nonfiction—are always needed and gratefully accepted in our **Little Free Library** box in our Bardstown Road courtyard. Please drop off in the box any great reads you are ready to send to a new home.

BRPC HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED AT THE BRP DOOR

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

Donating **KROGER CARDS**. They have been especially helpful lately.

AND

We can use **MEN'S SOCKS**.

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. These are discounted passes we purchase for elderly, disabled, and those on assistance. You may mail a check to church with "TARC passes" on the memo line.

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP

Work on the new **CRC chapel** is progressing nicely. To read about the groundbreaking last July, see <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/ground-is-broken-for-new-chapel-at-cedar-ridge-camp/>. To see updates about the chapel and more visit the CRC Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Cedar-Ridge-Camp-115963338425269/> or Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/cedarridgecamp.louisvilleky/>

New this year: SPRING BREAK CAMP! Now SUMMER CAMPS won't be far behind! Registration is now open. It is easy to make camp a possibility for your favorite kiddos--gift cards are now available! If loved ones are having trouble coming up with ideas for birthday or Easter gifts, they can gift the camp experience. To register now and reserve your camper's spots, to give the gift of camp, or to send a gift card, please check out the website www.cedaridgecamp.com.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Reverend Linda Reichenbecher, a member of the Presbytery Mission Committee, is organizing the Disaster Relief Hygiene Kit Project that our presbytery has worked on for many years. BRPres is helping to gather **1-inch bandaids** for these kits. Because of Covid, each church will pack its donated supplies in boxes of like items (so bandaids ONLY for BRPres) and deliver to a "Load the Truck" day on May 14th. The actual assembly of individual kits will be done at the Ferncliff Disaster Relief Center in Arkansas. BRPres youth will be help box our items. Please purchase and drop off at church your **donations of 1-inch bandaids, any brand, by May 1**. If you need assistance delivering those to church, contact Alicia Bloos, 502-496-0345 or aliciabloos@gmail.com. If enough people request it, we will arrange a drive-by drop-off day.

MISSIONARY SUPPORT

In November, the BRP Mission Committee decided to budget support for PC(USA) missionaries. We are committing to provide \$500 in 2021 to the work of Jeremy and Luta Garbat-Welch, serving in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, their six-month visit to the US has already extended to 10 months, and the date of their eagerly awaited return to Malawi is yet unknown. While Malawi had very low case rates in the beginning, the president of Malawi recently stated that nearly HALF of all positive Covid-19 cases and ONE THIRD of the Covid-19 deaths in Malawi have occurred just in the month of January 2021. A state of emergency was declared and the country is in lockdown. Ministries continue despite pandemic obstacles. The Nkhoma Synod Community Health Evangelism (CHE) program is working with adjustments, teaching soap making and offering trainings, initiatives, and prayer meetings. The Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) continues its various ministries.

To follow Jeremy and Luta's journey of ministry, read their letters on the PC(USA) Presbyterian Mission page: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/jeremy-and-luta-garbat-welch/>

March 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 7 P.M. Personnel Committee Mtg	5 World Day of Prayer	6 10 a.m.-Noon Farmers' Market 1-6pm Parking lot Girl Scout Cookies
7 Communion 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching Confirmation class 1:30—2:30	8 10 a.m. Congregational Care Mtg Adult ED 7-8 pm via Zoom	9 7pm Mission Committee	10	11	12	13 10 a.m.-Noon Farmers' Market 1-6pm Parking lot Girl Scout Cookies
14 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching Daylight Saving Time	15 7pm Worship Team Meeting, Club Room	16 7 p.m. Session Meeting	17	18	19	20 10 a.m.— Noon Farmers' Market 1-6pm Parking Lot Girl Scout Cookies
21 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	22 Adult ED 7-8 pm via Zoom	23	24	25	26	27 10 a.m.— Noon Farmers' Market
28 Palm Sunday 11 am in-person Worship Rev. Eldred Preaching	29	30	31	April 1 Maundy Thursday 6:00 p.m. Virtual only dinner service	April 2 Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Virtual only Service	



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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mid-Kentucky Presbytery of PC (USA) had its third virtual Presbytery meeting on February 20, 2021. Here is a meeting summary by **The Reverend Jerry Van Marter, Stated Clerk:**

Inspired preaching, a continuing effort to address systemic racism in church and society, a new candidate for ministry and well-timed levity contributed to a lively (a rare word to describe a presbytery meeting!) ZOOM gathering of the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky Saturday, February 20.

The Rev. Angela Johnson (Grace-Hope), who recently completed her term as moderator of the presbytery, in her sermon issued a ringing call to action to combat racism and segued worship into a video presentation from the Louisville Chapter of the National Black Presbyterian Caucus, which for three presbytery gatherings now has led the presbytery deeper into its commitments to overcome racism and strengthen the witness of the presbytery's 50 congregations as part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Matthew 25 Initiative.

After hearing the moving faith statement and answers to questions of inquirer Ellen Sherby (Beechmont/Preston Highway Ministry), the presbytery voted unanimously to move Ellen to candidacy for ministry in the PC(USA), which bodes well for the present and future ministry leadership in the presbytery.

Arguably, only the Rev. Doodle Harris (Highland) could make a report from the presbytery's synod commissioners – if not interesting – at least entertaining. A brief video presentation on the January 25 gathering of the Synod of Living Waters elicited many chuckles if not guffaws that could be heard from those who were not muted.

The February presbytery meeting is also designated as the "annual meeting of the corporation," but as there was no corporation business to conduct, the annual meeting was convened and adjourned with a single vote on the consent agenda, which contributed to the gathering finishing well ahead of the docket.

The Rev. Joel Weible (Pewee Valley), chair of the presbytery's Commission on Ministry, led the presbytery in prayer for two minister members who have died recently: the Rev. Alvin Wren (South Fork) and the Rev. Bruce Tjaden (Honorably Retired). Joel also led the presbytery in celebrating the "ordiversaries" of six minister members who are celebrating ordination anniversaries this winter: Elmer Zavala Gonzalez (Preston Highway Ministry) and Christine Coy Fohr (Harvey Browne) – 10 years; Robin Hogle (hospital chaplaincy) and Mary Nebelsick (national staff) – 20 years; and Jana Hall (at-large) and J. Herbert Nelson III (national staff) – 35 years.

The presbytery offering garnered \$1,730 for the presbytery's Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Hygiene Kits Mission Project. The annual hygiene kit project will take place later this spring.

In its concluding action, the presbytery authorized creation of an Administrative Commission to address legal, financial and property issues at South Fork Presbyterian Church related to a court-ordered dissolution of a century-old trust/bequest.

The gathering concluded a half-hour early, thanks to skillful leadership by Moderator Anne Hughes (Harvey Browne), Vice-Moderator Jim Murphy (Campbellsville), and technical director Andrew Hartmans (Hopewell/Cedar Ridge Camp).

Fingers are being crossed and arms are being inoculated as the presbytery tentatively plans to hold the next meeting, May 17, in-person outdoors at Cedar Ridge Camp.