



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 5

May

2021

Dear Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church,

Blessings to all of you as we approach the May flowers of the April showers. I am in love with the early warm temperatures that we experience here in Louisville! I look forward to the move toward summer and experiencing some Louisville firsts for me; an actual Derby weekend, sitting in my seats at the Louisville Bats games, the St James Court Art Show. Yet I share with some of you a bit of 'not quite yet' resistance to so many things, even though I have had both of my vaccination shots and am fourteen days past them. Little by little we make progress, and I ask for your continued patience in the process.

You may remember when I first began here as your pastor, I preached a sermon where I expressed that my personal focus on these first three years with you would be through the age-old gospel advice to "ask and it will be given to you, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened to you". In my family, when someone throws you a curve ball you still knock it out of the park. Covid has been a curve ball and I think as a team we are making the best with the curve balls that we have been thrown. Even through the restraints of the pandemic, we have done much asking together, we have begun to do some seeking, and the door is already being knocked on in many new and exciting ways.

On May 3rd, three members of our church's session and three members of the session of Westwood Presbyterian Church, along with pastors, will enter in to conversation about how we might be Sister churches with one another - two neighborhoods, one city. This is a relationship that was born out of the last Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky meeting, where Rev. Dr. Angela Johnson, past moderator of the presbytery and Pastor of Grace Hope Presbyterian Church, lifted up in her sermon that three of our four predominately African American churches in the Presbytery had partnerships with other churches, (Grace Hope Presbyterian with Highland Presbyterian, Peace Presbyterian with Second Presbyterian, and Shawnee Presbyterian with Harvey Browne Presbyterian). Rev. Dr. Angela mentioned in her sermon that Westwood Presbyterian was looking for some similar relationships and partnerships with other churches, and we three representatives of BRPres attending felt the movement of the Spirit. Our conversation is exploratory for both Sessions to see exactly what being in relationship with one another would look like. I had a long and wonderful conversation with Rev. Dr. Angela about the history of her church's relationship with Highland Presbyterian, and for them it looks like sharing in some important mission projects. We do not know what being in relationship with Westwood would look like, but I am thankful to the two sessions for the willingness to be in conversation to find out.

Some other examples of shared use of our property are what was a very successful Girl Scout Cookie drive for four consecutive Saturdays in our parking lot. More than 100 boxes of cookies were donated to the pantry of Highland Community Ministries after the four weeks! Another wonderful partnership will be with the Red Cross, Deer Park Neighborhood Association, and the Farmer's Market for three blood drives in fellowship hall, the first being the morning of Saturday, June 5!

We have had several other organizations knocking at our door regarding use of our space this summer, and I look forward to sharing more with you about these building use decisions as members of our Buildings and Grounds Committee and Session are in further conversation. There might be potential volunteer opportunities this summer as we seek to serve our neighborhood through the use of our space. We would love to have members of the church present to greet folks on June 5 (pencil it in if you're interested). We are blessed with the gift of our location, property, and building; God's house!

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Mark

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

Communion Sundays (First Sunday of the Month)
 On the Sundays that we gather for communion May 2nd into fall of 2021, I would like to ask you to consider bringing your own elements to church. For the Bread (the body of Christ) crackers would be convenient or small pieces torn from a piece of bread. For the Cup (the blood of Christ) any juice, preferably made from a grape, would work as well - enough for those attending service with you. Through prayer, we will ask God to bless the elements in our church sanctuary and at home virtually before we take communion. We do have small disposable communion wafers and cups of grape juice for those who don't bring the elements, but in full disclosure I am told that they are not very kind to the taste buds. Thank you for all that you do and have done to be conscious of our pandemic guidelines.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education will take a May break as we decide together what might be our next conversation. I invite the entire congregation to Highland Community Ministries' offering of a three-week series on Guthrie Graves-Fitzsimmons' new book "Just Faith" published this past year. Join HCM virtually Tuesdays, May 4, May 11, and May 18, at Noon to share in this book study. More information about this series can be found on their website at www.hcmlouisville.org

We will honor our graduating High School Seniors on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021. We hope that you can join us in-person and virtually to honor our three graduating seniors Evie Overstreet, Ivona Nijimbere, and Gabriel Vanamburgh. Following service on Sunday, May 23rd, we will share in a cake and punch reception in Fellowship Hall.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

May 9

In honor of the many women who give and nurture life in so many ways, with so many people.
Red & white carnations will be in the rear of the Sanctuary.



PENTECOST SUNDAY May 23rd

Why do we wear red on Pentecost? Red symbolizes joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the crucified, risen, and ascended Jesus Christ on Pentecost, the last day of our fifty-day Eastertide season. Red is also the color of the blood when it mixes with oxygen, and in Jesus ascension, we remember, once again, his death on the cross. Pentecost is a day symbolic of the beginning of the Christian Church. There was a time in Christian history where Pentecost was a more celebrated Sunday than our modern day Easter. We hope that you will all show up decked out in red on May 23rd, Pentecost Sunday! The offering will be collected in worship on May 23.

MAY BIRTHDAYS	Peggy Winnenberg	5
	Stephen Overstreet	6
	Nathaniel Brees	6
	Max Moss	7
	Paul Johnson	8
	Vivienne Rusk	8
	Ryan Clements	9
	Jim Brees	11
	Ella Green	12
	Emmanuel Muyenza	13
	Chris Clements	19
	Liam Clements	22
	Ernie Romans	24
	Shannon Greer	25
Anne Payne	25	
Ella Hunt	27	

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	

April 20, 2021 SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- During the Session Retreat, Chapter 4 of the book, Neighborhood Church, was discussed as well as a potential relationship with Westwood Presbyterian Church. Rev. Eldred suggested the Session do a walk through of our building together to discern how effectively our spaces are being used. The question of are we invested in an 'antiquated sense of ownership' or a 'resurrected sense of stewardship' was posed to the Session to consider.
- Westwood P.C. is a predominately black church in the west end of Louisville who's congregation is about half the size of BRP church. A connection between churches could be an enriching experience and important for our youth. A conversation will start with Keith Clements, Jennie Guelda and Sarah Hageman meeting with representatives of their Session. Rev. Eldred will meet with Westwood's leaders separately.
- Rev. Eldred expressed feeling energized with the congregation receiving vaccinations and with in-person Sunday services seeing faces and hearing singing in the pews.
- Marty Hageman reported a year-to-date positive balance of \$22,272 with an income of \$30,887 and \$14,496 expenses for March. Monies for the ARK fundraising campaign and the Shoemaker bequest to Camp Cedar Ridge Chapel have been paid.
- The distribution of the Easter baskets to the youths was successful. Family Camp is scheduled for October 30 at Cedar Ridge Camp.
- Vacation Bible School will be July 12 to 16 at Immanuel United Church of Christ. The attendance will be limited to 24 kids and will be held mostly out of doors from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- The Confirmation Class which includes Evie Overstreet, Ivona Nijimbere and Gabe Vanamburgh will have their ceremony on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. A reception will follow the service with cake and appetizers outside in the parking lot.
- The gravesite service for Sarah Collins will be May 15 at 3:00 p.m. at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Leavenworth, Indiana. The planting of the pollinator garden will be that same day.
- Keith Clements reported on the vacation and study leave dates requested by Rev. Eldred. He will secure pulpit supply ministers for the Sundays that he will be away.

(continued from previous column)

- Anne Campbell mentioned who is in charge of the Sunday worship responsibilities. Doug Rapp has been training the video volunteers to work the camera and Anne is doing the sign up for once -a-month duty. Jeanie Grosz is getting the liturgists and LLester Gamble is taking care of the ushers and turnkey.
- A Session Retreat is tentatively scheduled on Saturday, July 24 to study how committees function and pre-budget plans.
- Motions were approved to change the dates of the Called Meeting of the Congregation from May 16 to June 13 and the Stated Session meeting from August 17 to August 10 so Rev. Eldred and his wife, Gillian, can celebrate their birthdays on August 17.
- Following the Standing for Solidarity on Monday April 26 there will be a meeting with Jennifer Frommeyer of Dreams with Wings to see if our facility is suitable for their seven week summer camp for children with special needs.



EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 4 2021

The congregation was in the pews for the second time since the Covid lockdown. After the service everyone retreated to the parking lot to for the Benediction and to raise their voices to sing the Hallelujah Chorus!

What a joyful day!

From the MISSION COMMITTEE HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Food Pantry

Thank you to all who have contributed food pantry items to HCM recently! You helped replenish dwindling food reserves, but need continues to be great in our community. Always-needed items include meaty soups and stews, meaty pasta sauce with pasta, canned meat and tuna, mac and cheese, shelf-stable milk, canned green beans, toilet paper, bar soap, shampoo. Also desperately needed: laundry pods and dish detergent. HCM can give out 4 or 5 laundry pods at a time (instead of a whole package); and small dish detergent bottles are preferred, as HCM can spread the love farther than with fewer giant bottles. The food pantry and emergency assistance programs at HCM are more critical than ever for many of our neighbors. In addition to or instead of donating pantry items, you can help with the work of HCM at any time by visiting the website, hcmloouisville.org, and making a financial donation directly, or sending a check to BRPres with "HCM donation" in the memo line.

Tai Chi Classes

HCM is offering an eight-week Tai Chi class for beginners on Wednesdays at 6 P.M. beginning May 12. Cost is \$40. Completion of this class allows attendance in the free, weekly, ongoing classes. To register, call instructor Lisa Nutt, 502-533-8208.

On-line Video Camps for Youth

HCM and Beargrass Media offer several options to you for learning video production. Details and sign-up can be found at www.beargrassmedia.com.

Just Faith Conference Series

HCM is hosting a 3-part, weekly, virtual conference series about the book *Just Faith*, featuring local author, activist, and progressive Christian Guthrie Graves-Fitzsimmons, beginning Tuesday, May 4 at noon. [Click here for a printable, downloadable flyer](#), which includes a bio about the author. To join the conference Zoom, click: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83948795402?pwd=LzVIU1YrN2J0aktCKzI1Q3RkZnBHQT09>

TARC BUS PASSES and BRPC FOOD PANTRY

We help many who come to the church door in need. Please consider: Making a financial contribution to help purchase TARC Partner Passes, discounted passes for elderly, disabled, and those on assistance. Only a small amount is budgeted for this expense, and need has multiplied! Please consider mailing a check to church with "TARC passes" on the memo line.

Donating men's socks.

Donating tuna and chicken lunchables are the best choices for the BRP pantry. Anything hard or crunchy is hard on teeth; bottled water is also good, especially as the weather gets warmer.

Kroger card donations are very helpful. \$10.00 is great!

Thank you, as always, for your generosity!

BOOKS FOR READERS

When you finish that great book you're reading, think about BRP's **Little Free Library** box in our Bardstown Road courtyard. Books of any kind—children's or adult, fiction or nonfiction—are always gratefully accepted.

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP

Construction on the new **CRC chapel** is making headway. The concrete walls are in for the lower-level weather shelter/storage area! 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/>. To read more about the project, see <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/ground-is-broken-for-new-chapel-at-cedar-ridge-camp/>.

It's time to register for Summer Camp! Gift cards are now available to easily make camp a possibility for your favorite kiddos! Loved ones having trouble coming up with birthday gift ideas 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 visit the website www.cedarridgecamp.com.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

The Reverend Linda Reichenbecher, a member of the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery Mission Committee, is leading the 2021 Disaster Relief Hygiene Kit Project. Because of Covid, each church will pack its donated supplies in boxes of like items and deliver to a "Load the Truck" day on May 14. Assembly of individual kits will be done at the Ferncliff Disaster Relief Center in Arkansas. We are collecting 1-inch bandaids, and our youth will help box our items May 2. **Please purchase and bring donations of 1-inch bandaids, any brand, to church by May 2.** If you need us to pick up donations, contact Alicia Bloos, 502-496-0345 or aliciabloos@gmail.com. **Challenge: Can we collect 5000+ bandaids?**

BATTERIES: Household batteries should not be tossed in the trash, since they contain heavy metals that can leach into the environment. For the past several years, BRP has collected household batteries from members so that each person doesn't have to make a trip to Hazardous Waste Recycling.

We had started collecting batteries in 2020 before the pandemic shut down many activities, but we hope you have continued to collect your batteries for recycling. Now, we are starting to collect batteries again. Please bring them to the church office when you visit, and they'll be taken for recycling around the end of the summer. Note that any size of battery can be recycled, from flashlight batteries, to those in remote controls, toys, or hearing aids.

POLLINATOR GARDEN: The area next to the fence and the parking lot will once again become a pollinator garden! We worked on a garden in 2019, but the lack of rain and a hard winter made it tough for the plants to survive. We planted a few flowers in 2020, and most of them have returned in 2021. We're going to gather at 3:00 on Saturday, May 15, to add new plants and flowers to the garden, assisted by volunteers from Beargrass Creek Alliance. Contact Alicia Bloos or Bill Bowman if you have plants to contribute or if you'd like to work that Saturday afternoon.

MISSION (CONTINUED)

JUST CREATIONS

Just Creations, 2722 Frankfort Avenue, is a not-for-profit **Fair Trade** store that has been providing unique, handmade products to the Louisville Community since 1990. In addition to selling products to provide support to artisans and farmers worldwide, educational outreach and community engagement programs are offered. **What is Fair Trade?** Their website explains it as: "... an alternative trading system that provides sustainable employment opportunities to marginalized artisans and farmers in developing countries.... it means a living wage, work with dignity, and hope for the future.... a measure of social justice for those who have been exploited by a global economic system where profit comes before people." Check out <https://justcreations.org/>

MISSION MOSAIC

If you don't currently receive *Mission Mosaic*, the magazine of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, you can visit PCUSA.ORG/MISSIONMOSAIC20 to view the 2020 Year in Review issue.

Other ways to connect with PDA are FACEBOOK.COM/PDACARES, TWITTER.COM/PDACARES, PCUSA.ORG/PDABLOG, PCUSA.ORG/PDA, AND PDA@PCUSA.ORG.

DATES TO REMEMBER

POLLINATOR GARDEN at BRP

Please meet Bill and Alicia at 3PM on **May 15, 2021** to begin work on the garden.

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY—May 10 and 24 5:00pm to 6:00 pm

PENTECOST- May 23, 2021

Honoring seniors and a reception after worship.

Called Meeting of the Congregation June 13, 2021 after Worship

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Will be at IUCC from **July 12—16, 2021**

FAMILY CAMP

Will be at Cedar Ridge Camp on Saturday **October 30**

GROUPS MEETING AGAIN AT BRP

Two AA groups and one NA group are meeting again at BRP. One AA group meets on Wednesday evening, the other on Friday evening. The NA group meets on Monday and Friday at Noon.

They are quite happy to return to a somewhat normal schedule!

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY AT BRP!!!

The next dates for Standing in Solidarity are May 10 and May 24.



GIRL SCOUT COOKIES AT BRP

Great success with their sales in the BRP parking lot!

Dear Rev. Eldred,
Thank you so much for being a big help to our Girl Scout Troop! We hope we can return the favor sometime!
Sincerely,
Lucy S., Violet, Sophia, Harper
Troop 840

IVONA!



Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church is so proud of Central High School Senior **Ivona Nijimbere**! We are truly blessed with the most amazing young people at our church!!

BRP GRADUATES 2021!

Ivona Nijimbere – Central High School

Gabe Vanamburgh – Atherton High School

Evie Overstreet—duPont Manual High School

Congratulations to all!



Cedar Ridge Camp Executive Director shows lower level of new chapel construction to board members.

WEDDING BELLS

The family from Myanmar that we cosponsored through KY Refugee Ministries is settling in beautifully. They have bought 2 cars and a house! The 6 kids are amazing students and responsible workers.

Don Mang, the eldest daughter, is getting married on May 1st. The other two partner churches in Shelbyville have gone together with us to give her a \$1000 gift card to Value City for their dining room set. First Christian is gifting \$500 so we are working with First Pres to get the rest. The card is from all three churches.

The women's circle will help, but we wanted to ask for help from the entire congregation. Thank you for your support with this happy celebration.

Here are pictures of Don and her fiancé.
Jennie



May 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 9 a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market Derby Day!
2 Communion 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	3	4	5	6 7pm Personnel Mtg	7	8 9 a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
9 Mother's Day 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	10 10am Congregational Life Meeting 5-6:00 p.m. Solidarity	11 7pm Mission Team Meeting	12	13	14	15 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market 3:00 p.m. Pollinator Garden
16 10:30 Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	17 7 p.m. Worship Committee Mtg	18 7 p.m. Session Meeting	19	20	21	22 9 a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
23 Pentecost 11 a.m. Worship Noon Reception for Seniors Rev. Eldred Preaching	24 5-6:00 p.m. Solidarity	25	26	27	28	29 9 a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
30 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	31 Memorial Day					



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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

A LOVELY TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

BRPres Cherub Choir in the late 1950's. Two of these cuties still attend BRP.
Can you spot them? *From Alicia Bloos*

