



Celebrating 117+ Years of Ministry
1906-2023

Bardstow Road Presbyterian Church
1722 Bardstow Road
Louisville, KY 40205

Volume 56
Issue 5

May
2023

Greetings Church,

I want to thank all of you for a wonderful Holy Week and Easter. We have had many opportunities to gather in worship and fellowship. Louisville has had a rough go these past weeks with the national news of several more mass shootings here in our city. Barely out of the glee of Easter and "He is Risen", we regathered to pray, mourn loss, acknowledge despair, and share in grief.

The following Sunday, you heard me mention from the pulpit that I would be taking a day off Wednesday, April 12, to attend my first Louisville Bats game of the year - a day of Sabbath and rest after a very busy Holy Week and week following given the news of our city. It was a truly gorgeous weather day. The game was part of a series of "education days", 11:05 AM game start time, where the Louisville Bats organization invites local schools to attend the game. The fans were rewarded with a bottom of the ninth walk off win, 7-6.

As we proceed in to summer, I ask that all of you join me in acknowledging when you, personally, are tired or need rest. This is one way that we care for ourselves, and the greater work of the church. Weeks like the day after Easter downtown tragedy have a cost. These events tire us in ways that we might not be fully aware of.

I think that ancient Judaism had it right in protecting a Sabbath day. Maybe in our 21st-Century busy world it might look a little different, but I have a strong sense in our go, go, go and do more culture that it might be worth re-investing in as a people and culture.

As a church, in our wanting to do more, and be more, and grow, might we remind ourselves that we are in a lifetime of faith, not a sprint. It truly is a marathon where patience, and kindness to self, and rest aren't an option but a requirement. The Fourth Commandment in Exodus 20:8-10a - "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work." To this day, in Conservative Judaism this is strictly observed with some guidelines. A few examples, walking to temple and not driving, and preparing meals the day before so that little or no energy is spent therein.

It is our charge as a community to care for self and selves. You will have to decide for you what "Sabbath" means in your life. Gone are the days where everything was closed on a Sunday and Wednesday/Thursday evening was church activity night. It is our work, individually and collectively, to define a Sabbath rest need in our own lives. This, too, is a life-long venture. For me, sometimes that looks like the view from the picture below - intentional time to stop-time and to acknowledge some rest.

Peace and blessings to you all!

Pastor Mark



EASTER BASKETS AT THE EASTER BREAKFAST



JOB OPENING

The Permanent Nominating Committee is asking for suggestions from the congregation for a member who is willing to serve a three year term on the Session for the Class of 2026. Please submit a name to either Bill Bowman, Keith Clements, or Mary Myuenza by Mary 15 so that person can be installed in June.



Preparing for the Easter Egg Hunt the day before Easter!



MAY BIRTHDAYS	Peggy Winnenberg	5
	Stephen Overstreet	6
	Max Moss	7
	Paul Johnson	8
	Vivienne Rusk	8
	Ryan Clements	9
	Jim Brees	11
	Ella Green	12
	Emmanuel Muyenza	13
	Ernie Romans	24
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	Administrator
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

SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Rev. Eldred commented on the excellent quality of the Lenten programs and the attendance of 85 people at the Easter Sunday service.
- Keith Clements reported that our church received \$62.50 from Mid-Kentucky Presbytery for our 1/8 share of the \$500 runner-up prize from Interfaith Power and Light "Cool Congregation Challenge". This was for the installation of the electrical charging station.
- Marty Hageman said that HCM, shared mission and liability insurance have all been paid for the year. The mechanical repairs to the heating system have totaled \$15,000 this year.
- LLester Gamble reported that the concrete landing on the steps to the office is being repaired. Other planned projects include repairing the roof over the office, installing a mini split HVAC unit in the offices and the kitchen, and restriping the parking lot.
- Sarah Hageman has been working with the youth that has created a positive culture where they look forward to coming to church.
- Congregational Life/Care Committee expressed concerns for Charlie Bensenhaver who has long Covid and Brian Shaw who was in the building when the Old National Bank shootings occurred.
- Alicia and Kris Bloos attended the prayer vigil at Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church to honor the lives lost due to the mass shootings. Our church will contact Mom's Demand Action to inquire how our church can get more involved about gun violence prevention.
- Maddie Vanamburgh will have a high school graduation party in Fellowship Hall on June 3. The church will check on any other graduations to honor.
- Rev. Cheryl Barnes, who spoke to our church on March 26, shared the good news by letter that she will be working as the African Area Coordinator for Presbyterian World Mission in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
- The Bread for the World Sunday will be April 23 with Ed Henson presenting the Minute for Mission. The letters of support for the Farm Bill will be offered on April 30.
- Jennie Guelda, Margot Tomsen, and Bill Bowman attended the CLOUT Nehemiah gathering in March. There will be a "town hall" meeting on May 7 after church for the congregation and session to learn about CLOUT's objectives and consider joining. The entrance fee is \$1,500 based on the size of our budget.
- The Session received a letter from Sam and Cynthia Pendergest describing their volunteer work of border ministry in Douglas, AZ, and Mexico. A donation of \$1,000 from the mission bequest fund will be given to Frontera de Cristo for their health and education ministry.
- There will be a Pentecost offering on May 28 with 40% of the offering designated for local youth projects. BRP church's portion will go to Cedar Ridge Camp scholarships.
- Our church has received its Earth Care Congregation certification.
- The Permanent Nominating Committee was asked to select 3 people to be on the Stewardship Committee as well as request suggestions from the congregation for a willing member to serve on the Session for the Class of 2026.
- The Seed Exchange on April 15 was a success and will be integrated with the Farmer's Market next year. The preparing of the Pollinator Garden and grounds clean-up will be April 22 weather permitting.
- The review of the membership will be done in the future, but it was noted that Joe Anne Overstreet has been a member of BRP Church for 80 years as of April 18 and Paul Ray died on the same date.



Maundy Thursday 2023

WE ARE THANKFUL

Joe Anne Overstreet has been a member of BRP Church for 80 years as of April 18

Shirley and Anne C. picked up the Easter Lilies at KY Hemophilia Foundation for the Sunday service

Doug and Keith for showing up early to set up Easter Breakfast and for also for painting the new alley entrance

Our musicians for bringing us special music during Lent and Holy Week.

Doug and LLester for re-building our little library.

From the MISSION COMMITTEE

BRP FRONT DOOR MINISTRY

YOU can help those who come to the church door in need, by Donating money to buy TARC Partner Passes, discounted bus passes for those who are elderly, disabled, or on assistance. Label your check to BRPres "TARC passes."

Donating boxed Bumblebee chicken and tuna lunchables, soft fruit bars, razors and men's socks.

Thank you, as always, for your generosity!

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

Summer Sampler Returns: Save the Date! Tours of our Member Congregation buildings return this July! Watch for details on dates and locations coming soon!

Check out all that HCM offers, including childcare; senior activities; art, yoga, and tai chi classes; rental event spaces; and all Highlands Youth Recreation sports, at hcmloouisville.org.

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP

Summer Camps: Now is the time to register your children and grandchildren, ages 7-16, for summer day and overnight camps and leadership opportunities. Find dates and details, and register, at cedarridgecamp.com. Scholarships and discounts are available.

Interested in leading a camp activity for children, youth, and adults? Facilitators are always needed for school, church, and other groups. Activities include Archery, Canoeing, Fishing, Hiking, Team Building, Native American Lore, Settlers' Toys, Orienteering, Trekking Through the Trees, Bug Safari, Crime Scene Investigation, Low Ropes and High Ropes courses, and Ziplining. Training is provided, and there is compensation. Interested? Contact Alainna Brummert, Program Director, at alainna@cedarridgecamp.com.

From MID-KENTUCKY PRESBYTERY

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Hygiene Kits: MKP churches are invited to collect supplies and assemble over 1,500 personal hygiene kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Items needed are:

Toothbrushes, individually wrapped
Unscented bar soaps, individually wrapped
1-inch wide Band-Aids
Nail clippers
Wide-tooth combs (no picks)
Washcloths
Hand towels
Zip Lock one-gallon baggies

Monetary donations also accepted

Can BRP provide 100 toothbrushes? Place these and other listed items you wish to donate in the box provided in the sanctuary by Sunday, May 14, or deliver items to Beulah Presbyterian Church, 6704 Bardstown Road (502-239-3231), on May 15, 10 A.M. - 2 P.M. or 6 -7:30 P.M. You are also invited to assemble kits on Saturday, May 20, 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. at Beulah PC.

RIP Medical Debt: We have been asked to be part of the broader Mid-Kentucky Presbytery campaign to raise funds to eliminate the enormous burden of medical debt of many of our fellow neighbors in central Kentucky by partnering with [RIP Medical Debt](#), a highly rated 501c3 charity that specializes in forgiving medical debts.

RIP Medical Debt was founded in 2014 by two former debt collections executives. After decades of working in the for-profit debt-buying industry they eventually realized they were uniquely qualified to help those in need. They imagined a new way to relieve medical debt: use donations to buy large bundles of debt for pennies on the dollar thus erasing debt with no tax consequences to the recipients.

The results have been spectacular:

To date over \$8 billion in medical debt have been acquired and abolished for over 5 million families.

The respected charity rating service Charity Navigator rated RIP Medical Debt at the highest level: 100% 4-star level.

Operating expenses are being covered by philanthropic gifts from people like MacKenzie Scott, so 100% of your donation goes directly to debt relief.

RIP's debt abolishment process is transparent and efficient:

RIP contracts with a hospital or other medical providers. The hospital transmits a patient accounts data file to RIP.

RIP identifies patients in financial hardship by integrating data from TransUnion - Who benefits? Individuals who meet at least one of the two criteria below: 1) those Earning less than 4x the federal poverty level, or 2) those having debts that are 5% percent or more of annual income (it should be Noted: they do not abolish debt by request for specific individuals but only by geographic area)

RIP buys the medical debt for the provider at a highly discounted rate.

Families, without any prior awareness, will simply receive a surprise letter from RIP stating their debt has been paid off thanks to this Presbyterian Church effort.

Think about it:

Every \$10 you donate forgives approximately \$1,000 in Medical Debt

Every \$100 you donate forgives approximately \$10,000 in Medical Debt

This campaign is another example, much like the car charging stations, that we are church members who are more interested in helping than in being helped, ...in loving than in being loved, ...in giving than in getting.

(Continued on next page)

MISSION (CONT.)

The BRP Session recently approved the Mission Committee recommendation to donate \$2000 from Mission Bequest funds. Now church members are asked to consider making individual donations.

To make a donation visit: <https://ripmedicaldebt.org/campaign/central-kentucky/>

Or donate at church with a notation: RIP Medical Debt. Thank you for your consideration and support.

FRONTERA DE CRISTO

Many BRP members will remember Sam and Cynthia Pendergast from around 40 years ago. Sam was a student at Louisville Seminary, and he and Cynthia spent many enjoyable hours with the youth group of that time. After a career in ministry at a Presbyterian church in upstate New York, Sam retired last year, and one of the first things he and Cynthia have done is move to the southern US border to work with a nonprofit called Frontera de Cristo. This is a border ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA), working to assist migrants and others living in Mexico, just south of the US border.

The Mission Committee has recommended, and Session has approved, sending \$1,000 from our Mission Bequest Fund, to help Sam and Cynthia at Frontera de Cristo. We look forward for more news from our friends as they spend this entire calendar year working in ministry with those in need.

CLOUT

CLOUT (Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together) is an organization of churches in the metro area addressing community issues of importance to our citizens. Recent examples of their activities include plans for a "Louisville Village" to help older adults remain independent in their homes, working for gun violence reduction, improved policing and intervention with those in crisis, and helping students in JCPS improve their reading proficiency.

The Mission Committee wants you to learn more about CLOUT, and so we invite you to a discussion on **Sunday, May 7**, immediately after the church worship service. Come with your questions about CLOUT and any areas where you see improvements needed to make Louisville a better city for all its citizens. Pizza will be served!

Bill B

BLOOD DRIVES

The need for blood continues to be great. Please consider donating blood and/or volunteering to work at the next blood drives, on June 5 and August 21, at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 2300 Taylorsville Road, from 1 P.M. to 6 P.M.



JUSTICE AND FAITH TABLE—May 13 - Farmer's Market—Bread for the World

CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

All Graduates — College, High School and Middle School are encouraged to let the church office know of your impending graduation. We at BRP like to acknowledge such accomplishments. Please call Johanna at the church office, 451-8305, or email her at Johanna@brpres.org with your information: Name, school, grade or degree, awards, accomplishments, what is next for you.



Derby Party 2023

The **BRP DERBY PARTY** will be held at the home of Doug and Molly Rapp on Saturday, **May 6th** beginning at 5:00. Our address is 2215 Brighton Drive 40205. We will provide the main dish and the beverages. We would appreciate people bringing a side dish or a dessert to share. Please let us know if you can attend and what you will be bringing at your earliest convenience. You may call us, Molly at 558-5339, or Doug at 648-9439, or call the church office. We look forward to a fun day with our BRP family!



Emmanuel, Rev. Cheryl Barnes, Mary

We give thanks once again for the visit of Rev. Cheryl Barnes this past March 26 with news that Rev. Cheryl has accepted the new position of Africa Area Coordinator for Presbyterian World Mission. Rev. Cheryl will continue her partnership with the people of Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, while also sharing her gifts on a much larger scale with our PC(USA) partners on the continent of Africa. As a community, may we continue to pray for the good work of Rev. Cheryl!

PALM SUNDAY 2023



Tai Chi and QiGong classes

Have you ever wanted to try Tai Chi or QiGong? Join Nancy Carrington Wednesdays starting May 10 for six-weeks of QiGong at 10:00-11:00AM, and Kay Begley for Tai Chi on-going Thursdays at 3:30-4:30PM open to all of our community and free in Fellowship Hall. All classes are suitable for beginners and any physical scenario can be accommodated. If you have any questions regarding the classes, please email Nancy Carrington nancarrington@hotmail.com or Kay Begley kaybegleyww@gmail.com.

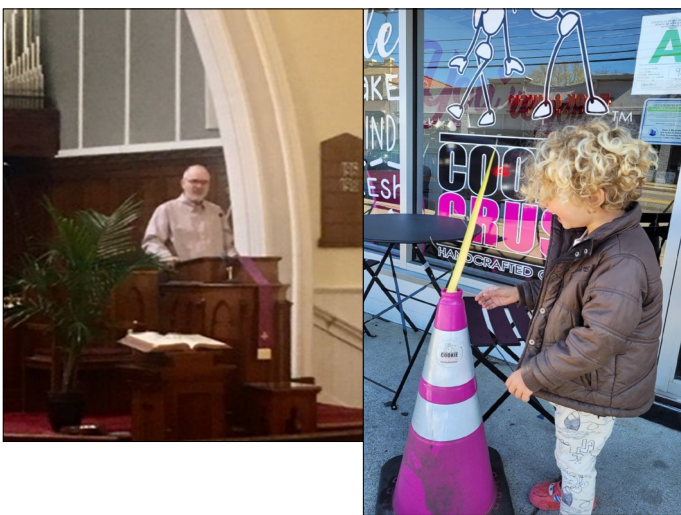
Thank you!

Thank you to all who participated in our property clean-up day Saturday April 22nd. As a community, we will continue to seek ways to care for our property and building.



Garden Seedling and Seed Share

Thank you to Mission Committee and our new Garden Club for our first annual seedling and seed share Saturday April 15. We enjoyed engaging the farmer's market community, and a morning of sharing stories and knowledge about the process of gardening. We look forward to next year where we will hold our seed share in late February and our seedling share the Saturday before Derby.



May 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 4:30—5:30 PM -Solidarity	2 4 PM Christian Ed Committee	3	4 3:30 PM Tai Chi	5	6 9 a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market 5:00 pm Derby Day! Party at Doug & Molly's house
7 10 a.m. Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching Clout Mtg after Worship with pizza	8 10am Congregational Life Meeting, FSH	9	10 10 AM Qi gong 7 pm Mission Meeting	11 3:30 PM Tai Chi	12	13 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market Just and Faith Table— Bread for the World
14 Mother's Day 10 a.m. Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred Preaching	15 4:30—5:30 p.m. Solidarity Stand in 7 p.m. Worship Committee Mtg	16 11 A.M. Women's Bible Study at Masonic Home 7 p.m. Session Meeting	17 10 AM Qi gong	18 3:30 PM Tai Chi	19	20 9 a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
21 10 a.m. Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred Preaching	22	23	24 10 AM Qi gong	25 3:30 PM Tai Chi	26	27 9 a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
28 Pentacost 10 a.m. Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred Preaching	29 Memorial Day	30	31 10 AM Qi gong			



Celebrating 117+ Years of Ministry 1906-2023

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church
1722 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40205



Dear Dear Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church,

Your generosity has assisted more than 895 thousand families get to a sustainable living income in 2022. In mindful stewardship, I have provided a link to the 2022 Annual Report. In the report, you will read about inspiring stories from farmers around the world that you helped make possible. You can access this report at https://media.heifer.org/About_Us/financial-information/Heifer-International-Annual-Report-2022-5.pdf

As Donor Relationship Manager, my commitment is making sure your community is having the best possible experience with our organization. Please let me know if you are interested in receiving a print copy of our annual report. I can be reached at beth.gunzel@heifer.org or 312-340-8866.

Yours for a better world,

Beth