



Celebrating 115+ Years of Ministry
1906-2021

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church
1722 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40205

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August
2021

Greetings Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church,

The bees continue to return daily to our budding Pollinator Garden. Perhaps this is a living illustration of how we truly can make an impact in the world in which we live. Maybe to some it seems like a small thing, or inconsequential, but I have watched our garden grow. I have had the privilege to water and weed our garden. I have had the privilege to be present when we planted some of these plants with only the hope that they would arrive in the current state in which they are. Next year we hope to expand to the entire length of our parking lot. I look forward to that very much.

It has been a full summer at Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church compared to last summer. The Spirit is moving in new ways as so many people flow in and out of our building every day. It is a gift to be God's house where people gather to share in worshipping God, learning, laughter, music, love, various areas of support, and fellowship. As I mentioned to our Session at our recent Stated Meeting, I want for all of us to keep an open mind about what church is, and needs to be, in the world in which we live. The location and front door of our church is being tasked with some new challenges. Our building and staff are responding to renewed use. Our lights haven't been on this much in a year and a half. Our water hasn't been used this much. In many ways it has caused many of us to relearn our own property yet again. Our church community is being asked to serve in potentially some new or different ways as we seek to be a neighbor in our immediate community.

Coming out of a major world pandemic, I have to see the hope that there are many people who might be reconsidering and re-looking for support in their lives. Can churches be a place for that on-going community and support? I think that we can. In fact, I know that this church can. The many theological conversations that I have had with folks in the LGBTQia+ community gives me hope; many who have had no idea that there is a church and a pastor that would whole-heartedly welcome them in to the doors. The many theological conversations that I have had with our guests in the addiction recovery community gives me hope; that there is a safe space and place for them to be in solidarity. The many conversations that I have had with parents of our Dreams with Wings campers who barely knew about this church prior to this summer gives me hope; who have said that the pandemic year of isolation both for them and their children was nearly more than they could handle, but BRPres opened its door to this camp. A potential weekly presence at a table out at the Bardstown Road Farmer's Market with an emphasis on justice gives me hope. Our attendance on Sunday, July 18th, gives me hope. The slow and patient return of our choir gives me hope! You give me hope!

I have said it before and I will say it again - Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church has, WE HAVE, done a wonderful job of responding to a most challenging time in the life of universal church. I hope that we will continue to dream together about our future; to ask, and seek, and open doors to those asking for the church be one willing to respond - to be a sanctuary space of gathering for many.

God's blessings to each of you!

Pastor Mark

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2021-2022

It has been a challenging time with our youth and children who are still affected by the inaccessible vaccinations for our under-twelves. Please stay tuned as we are making plans for a roll out Sunday, September 12, and a return to fall/winter programming September 19, 2021 before church. There will be some new faces chipping in to assist in teaching our children and youth, and Pastor Mark will be one of those faces. Sarah Hageman and Pastor Mark will also be working with our confirmation class over this next year. It was a true blessing to confirm Ivona Nijimbere in to full membership of BRPres months ago. We look forward to the return of sharing God's Word and our bible stories with one another, and what they might mean for us in our every day lives.

BIBLE READ-THROUGH

Pastor Mark will be offering Read-Through-The-Bible-In-A-Year again starting September 1, 2021. Is this your year to read the entire bible? Over the course of the year, it requires roughly fifteen minutes per day to read the entire bible, roughly three chapters per day. Pastor Mark plus a group of three, two being a couple from Chicago joining remotely, are still pushing toward the finishing line. Stay tuned as there are also conversations in the Worship Committee about the purchase of some new bibles for our sanctuary. Let's continue the tradition that Jesus lived and shared of reading God's word for us, and sharing together in its wisdom in our lives.

ADULT EDUCATION

Adult Education has taken a summer break after reading some challenging and heavy life work of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Howard Thurman, and James Cone. Pastor Mark has some plans for a series on the book of Job parallel read with Ta-Nehisi Coate's best selling book *Between the World and Me* – a letter to his son in 2015. Please continue to reach out to Pastor Mark if there are theological works that you would like to explore in a group setting. The adult gathering group has offered a short-list of book and conversation ideas for 2021-2022 that will follow the class on Job.

Dates to remember:

August 1: Rev. Nancy Troy is Pulpit Guest

August 8: Rev. John Odom is Pulpit Guest

August 15: CCC will return to the BRP Sanctuary

September 11: Habitat Workday

September 18: Red Cross Blood Drive
NeighborFest

September 26: HCM Empty Bowls

October 9: Autumn Under the Cedars

October 30: Family Camp at Cedar Ridge

November 13: Project Warm Blitz

November 20: Red Cross Blood Drive

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Todd Guelda	4
Sheldon Shafer	11
Lin Block-Coalter	13
Laura Lear	15
Beverly Gradisek	15
Anna Foshee	17
Gillian Hollis Kraus-Neale	17
Rev. Mark Eldred	17
Robert Moss	18
Gus Kotheimer	19
Linda Bowman	24
Bob Kotheimer	29
Arianna Vanamburgh	29

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

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**July 18 2021 BRP Service
RETURN OF THE CHOIR!**



VACATION BIBLE SHOOOL 2021

Music Dir Pat leads closing session



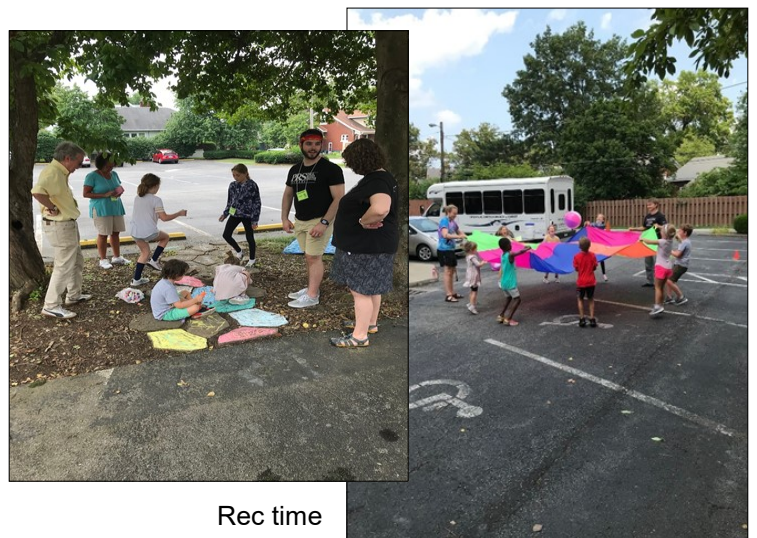
Goodbye to Theo



One of 3 bible classes taught by Molly Bill & Keith



Theo and Viv in nursery



Rec time

Vacation Bible School 2021: We Did It!

Molly Rapp and Samantha Barrett, VBS Co-Directors

VBS 2021: Knights of North Castle

BRP and IUCC combined once again for our thirteenth year of Vacation Bible School. This year our program, Knight of North Castle was held at IUCC on July 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Our participant numbers were down this year due to family vacations, children's camps, COVID concerns, and children aging out of our program. Because of the decreased number of children, we decided to do a one day blast with several bible stories and multiple opportunities for bible class, music, crafts, and recreation. Most of our activities were held outdoors and mask protocols were in place for children and adults while inside the church building.

Our focus was on three bible stories. The first story was Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego Stand True from Daniel 3. Our castle call out was Armor up with Truth! Our bible characters emphasized that our belt of truth will help keep us honest in all situations. We will work to speak the truth and look for the truth in all we do. The second bible story was David Defeats Goliath from 1 Samuel 17:1-50. Our castle call out was Armor up with Justice! Our bible character talked about wearing the shirt of justice and that God calls us to work for justice for all God's people. The third bible story was Mary's Journey to Bethlehem from Luke 2:1-20. Our castle call out was Armor up with Peace! Our bible character shared that we need to wear our shoes of peace and walk kindly wherever we go, sharing the good news with others.

Our children enjoyed the songs and movements for Hot, Hot, Burning Up, and Giants in the Land. They made creative crafts including a mosaic cross and wind chimes. In recreation they loved participating in relay races and parachute games. We all enjoyed lunch together outdoors and snow cones for our afternoon snack.

Throughout our bible classes and activities, the children received the message to be strong in the Lord. While life has ups and downs we know Jesus gave us strength and faith to prepare us for life. We are all the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

Our nine children and 15 adult and older youth volunteers worked well together and had a wonderful experience. We are so grateful for their time and energy to help make our program successful and special.

Molly Rapp- VBS Co-Director



Music

Crafts



Crafts & Rec time



Drumming

Crafts



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JULY SESSION MEETING

For the opening prayer Rev. Eldred shared an experience he had during his recent vacation in Chicago. While waiting in line Sunday morning in a coffee shop, he noticed two young women sitting in a booth singing. Actually, they were worshipping during a church service on their i-phones. He was witnessing what a future church might be.

The Session /Staff Retreat on August 20 and 21 will have a catered dinner with no planned agenda on Friday. Saturday will be responding to the two-part question of "do you want the pastor to put the church to sleep or get busy living"? We chose the church's direction by supporting our own ideas. Some of the attendees will participate in the service on Sunday. We are waiting to hear from Westwood Presbyterian Church about another gathering between congregations. A picnic together in Chickasaw Park was suggested.

When requests are made for the use of the church, a process needs to be in place by the Building and Grounds Committee and the Session for making decisions.

LLester Gamble expressed he wanted people to feel safe when they visit the church. The building is getting better illumination and the 5th District Police have been contacted to observe the grounds. With greater attendance there is additional cleaning required and if something is broken Rev. Eldred or LLester Gamble should be contacted so as to reduce Doug Rapp's involvement.

The total income for June was \$13,912 and total expense was \$17,901. The year-to-date balance is a positive \$7,704. A large recent expense was paying our annual Property and Liability insurance.

Givers record statements were mailed. Members paying online is preferred for the money goes directly into the church's account. The pros and cons of having a back-up church endowment fund was discussed. It was agreed that it is a form of legacy giving and an investment for our future.

Doug Rapp and Marty Hageman were complimented on preparing a year-end projected total income and expenses breakdown for 2021. The projection for total expenses is \$229,734 which will reduce the amount of the budgeted endowment fund transfer.

Sarah Hageman said the kids are excited being together again and she requested help in transporting kids to and from church. The fall curriculum has been prepared and a future mission trip is being considered.

The Personnel Committee approved increasing Johanna Fears paid vacation from 10 to 15 days starting in 2022 since she has worked as Office Manager for 11 years. Juneteenth (June 19) will be added as a paid holiday for all staff. Doug Rapp prepared Vacation Planner forms for staff to keep track of their vacation time.

Scheduled mission events include Red Cross Blood Drive on September 18 and Nov. 20; Habitat House workday on September 11 and Project Warm Blitz on Nov 13.

Covenant Community Church is planning to resume Sunday afternoon services on August 15. They are still without a pastor and Rev. Eldred will be having a meeting with them to determine their expectations.

Anne Campbell reported for the Worship and Music Committee that their 2022 increased budget will include stands for the bells, large print bibles and updating the welcome pamphlets for the pews. Distributing home communion to shut-ins will restart.

The Congregational Life Committee is continuing to find ways of helping those in the congregation that need special attention. Rev. Eldred will contact these members to see what their expectations are.

BRP church is planning to have a presence at the Farmer's Market by sharing a table with another organization starting in August with the PCUSA Hunger Program. A volunteer sign-up will be needed for the 9AM to 12PM hours each Saturday.

The members of Session were asked to submit by email to Rev. Eldred 5 people who could serve on the Steering Group. These names will be shared at the retreat.

From the MISSION COMMITTEE HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

**Empty Bowls! Save the Date for the HCM Annual Fundraiser...Reimagined for the 25th Anniversary!
Sunday, September 26, 2021, 4-7 P.M., 1228 E. Breckinridge St.**

To give local restaurants more time to recover from the pandemic, HCM is hosting a **Soup and Chili Cookoff** on the main campus grounds where friends and neighbors will vie for bragging rights of "Master Soup Chef"! All for the good cause to end hunger in our community.

HCM hopes to have a group from each member church enter the cookoff. Maybe our **Souper Sisters** would like to compete!?! Any extraordinary **chili masters in our congregation**?!?

Many popular events will be held as usual: Hand-made pottery bowls by local artists will be for sale, the ever-popular theme baskets by HCM's Member Congregations will be raffled, and a few special items will be offered in a silent auction. (*continued on next page*)

Mission continued...

Refreshments, music, and good times will round out this 25th annual event. Details on tickets will be coming soon. We look forward to seeing you there!

Annual Summer Food and Back-to-School Supplies Drive: If you did not contribute to the **Annual Summer Food and Back-to-School Supplies Drive, either financially or with gift cards or goods, you can still do so.** We were asked to provide soups and crackers, and backpacks. You may purchase items or gift cards, or make a monetary donation to help purchase these items. Limit Gift Cards to \$25 from Walmart or Target. You can drop off all items to HCM's Food Pantry, 1228 E. Breckinridge St., during these times: **Wed-Fri, July 28-30, 10 A.M.-1 P.M. (please, no unscheduled drop-offs)** Drop-off will be at the back door at the food pantry location. Please pull up in the alley in the back of the building (off Barret Ave. at our parking lot) and ring the bell. Our staff and volunteers will assist in unloading your vehicle. **To arrange for a different dropoff day/time,** please contact Food Pantry Coordinator, Tiffany Murphy as soon as possible: 502/451-3695 x260 or email tmurphy@hcmloouisville.org. You can assist with HCM's work any time by visiting hcmloouisville.org to make a monetary donation directly or sending a check to BRPres with "HCM donation" in the memo line. Thank you for all your support of our community through HCM!

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP: Save the Date! On October 9, **Autumn Under the Cedars**, CRC's annual fundraiser, will return in a brand-new format. Watch for more information in the next newsletter. To see updates about the Calvin Chapel construction and more, visit the CRC Facebook page [facebook.com/Cedar-Ridge-Camp-115963338425269/](https://www.facebook.com/Cedar-Ridge-Camp-115963338425269/) or Instagram [instagram.com/cedarridgecamp.louisvilleky/](https://www.instagram.com/cedarridgecamp.louisvilleky/). To read more about the project, see [presbyterianmission.org/story/ground-is-broken-for-new-chapel-at-cedar-ridge-camp/](https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/ground-is-broken-for-new-chapel-at-cedar-ridge-camp/).

DONATIONS NEEDED! Both Highlands Community Ministries and Cedar Ridge Camp are asking churches to donate a **gift basket** for their upcoming fundraisers. BRPres will again plan to fill a **Bardstown Road Bounty** basket for each event, so we will need your donations of gift cards or items from the restaurants, shops, breweries, and other businesses on Bardstown Road.

HCM and CRC are also seeking individuals who can donate special "big" items to be auctioned or raffled at their fundraisers. Perhaps you have a special talent (painting, quilting, knitting, woodworking, etc.) and wish to donate a handmade item. Or you are a gourmet chef or superb baker and Or you have the ability to donate a special item such as a trip; tickets to a cultural or sporting event; a television, grill, firepit, etc.; or a bourbon, beer, or wine collection. a trip; tickets to a cultural or sporting event; a television, grill, firepit, etc.; or a bourbon, beer, or wine collection.

Please contact Alicia Bloos at 502-496-0345 or alicia-bloos@gmail.com to indicate how you can help. All items will be needed by **Sunday, September 19 for HCM Empty Bowls** and by **Sunday, October 3 for CRC's Autumn Under the Cedars.**

TARC BUS PASSES and BRPC FOOD PANTRY

We help many who come to the church door in need. Please consider: Donating to help purchase TARC Partner Passes, discounted passes for the elderly, disabled, and those on assistance. The need has multiplied, and only a small amount has been budgeted for this! **You may mail a check to church with "TARC passes" on the memo line.** Donating bottled water and items such as tuna and chicken lunchables, men's socks, and travel size men's toiletries. **Thank you, as always, for your generosity!**

HABITAT NEWS: The Presbyterians will be building again in 2021! The Raise the Roof will be the second weekend of September, so we're planning on having a BRP team work on **Saturday, September 11.** Please contact Bill Bowman if you're willing to work that day. The new homeowner will be David Allen, age 47, who is a graduate of Manual High School. The new house will be in the Smoketown neighborhood, on the site of the old Sheppard Square apartments. BRP will be partnering with half a dozen other Presbyterian churches to fund the materials and provide labor for the new house.

BLOOD DRIVE: The Red Cross and the Deer Park Neighborhood Association partnered with BRP on a Saturday in June for a successful blood drive. These same groups will sponsor another blood drive on **Saturday, September 18**, and volunteers are needed for one-hour shifts to welcome visitors, answer questions, and check in the donors. Please contact the church office (451-8305) if you can spend one hour that Saturday to help out.

PROJECT WARM: The Project Warm Blitz is scheduled for **Saturday, November 13.** That's the day when volunteers will spread out across the city to weatherize the homes of low-income elderly and disabled persons in need. Over two weekends, over 300 homes are tightened up in advance of the cold winter months. Although we're in the middle of the summer, with steamy temperatures outside, please go ahead and mark your calendars for this upcoming opportunity!

POLLINATOR GARDEN: Have you gotten up close to the new pollinator garden to see how the plants are thriving? Have you noticed how the bees and other pollinators have been enjoying the flowering plants? Have you noticed the moon flowers climbing up the steps outside the church office? Although the garden was planted in mid-May and it has certainly made the parking lot more attractive, the only way it can stay beautiful is with rain and the faithful watering by many volunteers. If you'd be willing to spend a week in August to be sure that the garden gets sufficient water, please let Bill Bowman know when you can help.

LAST CALL: Just a quick reminder that the **collection of household batteries (and mercury thermometers)** to be taken to Hazardous Waste disposal will end at the first of September. Please deposit those items in the container at the rear of the sanctuary during August.

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Nancy Troy Preaching	2 5-6 PM Solidarity Stand-in	Rev. Eldred is on vacation from July 26—August 8			6	7 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
8 11 a.m. Worship Rev. John Odom Preaching	9 7pm Congregational Life meeting	10 7 p.m. Session Meeting, Club Room	11	12 6 pm CE Meeting	13	14 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
15 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	16 5-6 PM Solidarity Stand-in 7pm Worship Committee Mtg. Club Room	17	18	19	20	21 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
22 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	23	24	25 JCPS back to school	26	27	28 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
29 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	30	31				



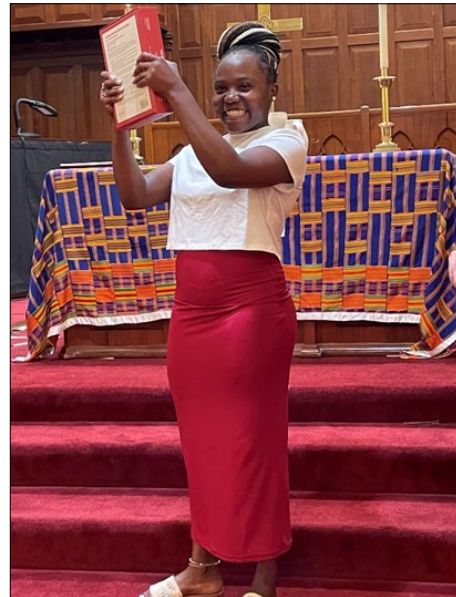
Celebrating 115+ Years of Ministry 1906-2021
Bardstow Road Presbyterian Church
1722 Bardstow Road
Louisville, KY 40205

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The Presentation of the Confirmation Bible to Ivona Nijimbere by Pastor Mark
at the July 25, 2021 BRPC Sunday Service



Pastor Mark,
Ivona,
and Sarah



Pastor Mark,
Ivona,
Sally,
and Sarah