



Celebrating 117+ Years of Ministry
1906-2023

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church
1722 Bardstown Road
Louisville, KY 40205

Volume 56
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August
2023

Dear Siblings in Christ,

You have spent some time with me these past few weeks in the garden with Jesus. It is that time of year where the garden begins to peak in many ways; where the efforts of many show their benefit and beauty. I won't belabor the garden as a wonderful symbol of what church can be in the world, but it is truly a solid illustration.

Below are a few photos. One is of a goldfinch. Goldfinches are the Iowa State Bird, and you have had some Iowans as your pastors here at Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church. Many of you may remember Rev. Dr. Dick Teaford, the tenth called and installed pastor of BRPres, who was also from Iowa. Some cultures believe that birds have messages attached to their appearances. Notable to Louisville, did you know that in some cultures seeing a Cardinal is an acknowledgement of someone gone on to God's great triumph in this life appearing in spirit's presence through the Cardinal. A wonderful thing to think about being Louisvillians.

The second photo is that of a bee house. These are mini mounted bee houses that some bees will actually utilize for winter. It is said they can take two and three years to fully take on. I believe that Jennie Guelda brought these to the church. If you look closely the little holes of the cork like material in the house have been filled up with pollen. Certain bees will live behind that pollen, sheltered from the winter temperatures, and the pollen will sustain them through the winter to spring where they will emerge from their more dormant state back outside.

We are at the crux of summer -the point where the days start to get shorter and the time to fall lessens. I ask that you enjoy these last weeks of summer. Get some rest. Enjoy the outdoors. Go for a walk. Pay attention to our earth and the nature around us. We have an abundant fall, winter, and spring ahead as a church. I look forward to the potential of our new church calendar year and all that will transpire as a community!

God's blessings to all, Pastor Mark



FROM PASTOR MARK
Adult Education Fall and Winter 2023-2024

This coming church program year, look forward to two Adult Education offerings. The first will be a series co-led by Pastor Mark and church member Linda White about the concept of Testimony in our Time. We will walk a path through daily faith and life, and what it means each day to consider God in our midst. This offering will take place on six Thursdays – tentative dates set are September 14 and 28, October 12 and 26, and November 9 and 30, 6:00 – 7:15 P.M.

Winter of 2024, Pastor Mark will lead a discussion on one of our many Confessions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our newest confession, the Confession of Bel-har. Our Book of Confessions and our history of being a confessional church is perhaps something that many have not often considered or discussed. Through the lense of challenging times in our world, many of our confessions were born through groups of theologians and folks just like us who wanted to profess a collective faith through the voice of the Presbyterian Church. This offering will take place Winter/Spring of 2024.

Youth and Children for Fall 2023- Save the Dates

We are full aware of the challenges of the past years, and this fall will be returning to a more regular schedule for our Youth and Children's Ministries. We will meet in a one room school- house format the First and Third Sundays of the Month in Fellowship Hall. Kick off weeks for gatherings will occur Sundays September 10 and 17.

(CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN)

On the First Sunday of the month we will split the groups for Confirmation aged folks to begin work on their Individual Faith Projects. We look forward to sharing more about this unique process. On the Third Sunday of the month young folks will share in a bible based gathering based on a yet to be decided theme. This will be the schedule for our gatherings through Christmas of 2023. We look forward to reconnection of many of your youth and children!

VACATION

Rev. Eldred will be on vacation from August 15 to September 5.

For PASTORAL CARE contact: Rev. Bill Williamson at 502-415-5469; Jeanie Grosz at 502-643-7660; Lin Block-Coalter at 502-552-4656.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

New members of BRP will be welcomed on Sunday August 6.

At 10:15 A.M. there will be a Called Meeting of Session.

At Noon there will be a Session Elder Retreat.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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Molly Rusk	1
Todd Guelda	4
Sheldon Shafer	11
Lin Block-Coalter	13
Marc Lewis	15
Beverly Gradisek	15
Laura Lear	15
Keith Payne	16
Gillian Hollis Kraus-Neale	17
Rev. Mark Eldred	17
Robert Moss	18
Gus Kotheimer	19
Linda Bowman	24
Clare Lewis	26
Bob Kotheimer	29
Kai Vanamburgh	29

Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Mark Eldred	Pastor
Jeanie Grosz	Director of Music Ministries/ Organist
Sarah Hageman	Children's & Youth Coordinator
Johanna Fears	Administrator
Marty Hageman	Treasurer

Editor, Johanna Fears

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SESSION HIGHLIGHTS JUNE 2023

Rev. Elder thanked Keith Clements for his three year service as Clerk of Session. He also thanked Anne Campbell and Clare Lewis for their service. He welcomed Clare Lewis back for an additional term, and Paul Johnson and Molly Rapp to the Class of 2026. Molly Rapp was appointed Clerk of Session.

Marty Hageman and Doug Rapp gave the treasurer's report and distributed budget packets to committee chairs. He reviewed the line items they were responsible for in the budget. He also reviewed the church investment accounts and addressed questions. A love gift was received from the Louisville Home School.

The Building and Grounds committee is exploring options for an expanded role for the Sexton position. Numerous projects will take place in the coming weeks, including air conditioner replacement, roof repairs, carpet cleaning, flooring and wall work, and preparation of rooms for Home School use.

The VBS day of service and fellowship with IUCC is July 16th at Des Pres Park. Rev. Elder and Sarah Hageman will be sharing more specific information about Sunday School, Fall curriculum, and faith study. A program for adults is also being planned.

Bill Bowman led a discussion about CLOUT membership. The session approved a one year membership in CLOUT. Carol Brees delivered letters in support of the Farm Bill.

Rev. Eldred reported a request made to consider hosting The World Day of Prayer in March 2024. This will be discussed further at the August session meeting. The Outreach and Communications committees will be merging. Neighborfest is Saturday, September 16th.

There will be a called meeting of the session at 10:15 on Sunday, August 6th. New members will join, and confirmation will occur during worship on Sunday, August 6th. The session Elder Retreat will be held following worship on August 6th.

Molly Rapp- Clerk of Session

We are thankful for:

The Pastoral team of Jeanie, Rev. Bill and Lin during our Pastor's absence.

The continued generosity of the BRP Congregation.

The work crew giving time and ongoing talent to our building and property.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
NEIGHBORFEST FOURTEEN
AT 1722 and 1733 Bardstown Road
Saturday, September 16, 2023
3:00 to 5:00 pm
A Compassionate Louisville Event
HONORING BECKY SHAFER**

Pony Rides, Free Food, Hamburgers/hot dogs, Live Music, Ice Cream Truck, Fire Truck, Cotton Candy, Snow Cones, Inflatable Jumper, Corn Hole Toss, Cake Walk/Walk in the Garden, Carnival Games, Face Painting,, Crossing Guard at Bardstown Road

Live Music "Another Colour"

Co-sponsors:

***Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church, 451-8305,
www.brpres.org Deer Park Baptist Church, 451-7220,
Deer Park Neighborhood Association,
www.deerparklouisville.com
Covenant Community Church, www.cccoflouisville.com***



The Neighborfest will be celebrating fourteen years on September 16. Becky Shafer has planned and supported this community event from the beginning. To perpetuate her guiding spirit, this Neighborfest will be dedicated to her honor.

SAVE THE DATE:

Choir retreat here in the church and in the club room. Read music for the fall and have a potluck luncheon. September 23 from 1:00 to 4:00 P.M.

Vacation Bible School 2023



VBS 2023

On Sunday, July 16th, BRP and IUCC gathered after worship at Des Pres Park for an afternoon of fellowship and service. We enjoyed having lunch together and doing a sing a long with Anne Payne playing guitar. Our youth and adults worked together to assemble 24 birthday bags for families in need. These bags included both baking and party supplies. The bags were delivered to the HCM and Deer Park food pantries. Both recipients were most appreciative. A few folks from IUCC also assembled 70 backpacks for Seven County Services.

We are grateful for the youth and adults who participated so willingly in our service projects. We are blessed to work so well with our friends at IUCC, and it was very successful day!

*Molly Rapp
VBS Co-chair*

VBS
2023



from the MISSION COMMITTEE

BRP FRONT DOOR MINISTRY

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 items such as tuna and chicken lunchables, and travel size men’s toiletries, package of razors, men’s socks are always helpful.

Thank you, as always, for your generosity!

THANK YOU FOR RESPONDING TO THE REQUEST BELOW FOR CONTRIBUTIONS!

HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

On Saturday, July 15, HCM was our partner at our Faith and Justice Table at Farmers’ Market bringing their van to haul away donations. BRP was asked to contribute SHAMPOO and BACK-PACKS. \$25 gift cards to Kroger and Target were requested, as well as the most needed food pantry items: jelly, soups, crackers, canned tuna and chicken, and spaghetti sauce.

THANK YOU FOR SO GENEROUSLY SUPPORTING THE HCM DRIVE!

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

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP

Interested in leading a camp activity for children, youth, and adults? Facilitators are needed year-round 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.

CEDAR RIDGE CAMP PHOTOS OF CHAPEL PROGRESS (next column)



Mission Committee will be asking for donations of wine for a gift basket to be raffled in October at Cedar Ridge Camp’s annual fundraiser Autumn Under the Cedars. If you are out and about and discover some interesting wines, please consider purchasing a bottle to donate. Contact Alicia Bloos with questions. alicia-bloos@gmail.com.

Thank you!

BATTERIES AND...

We will be collecting household batteries again this summer, to deliver them to the Hazardous Waste facility in the fall. Please collect your batteries--from flashlights, hearing aids, remote controls, toys, and other household gadgets--and bring them into the church in the next couple of months. There is a container in the rear of the sanctuary for your convenience.

We’ve also discovered that **mercury thermometers** can be recycled at the same facility, so add those thermometers to the things you’d like to recycle, and we’ll get them taken care of. Just like batteries, thermometers should not be thrown in the trash due to the heavy metals they contain.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVES

The June 5 blood drive at IUCC was successful, but the need for blood continues to be great. Please consider donating blood and/or volunteering to work at the next blood drive on August 21, at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 2300 Taylorsville Road, from 1 P.M. to 6 P.M. Contact Bill Bowman for more info.

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7 PM Personnel Meeting	2	3	4	5 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market Faith and Justice Table
6 Communion & Confirmation & new members 10:15 Called Mtg of Session 11 a.m. Worship Noon Session Elder Retreat Rev. Eldred	7 10 AM Congregational Life meeting 5-6 PM Solidarity Stand-in 5:30 PM CE Meeting	8	9 4pm Mission Committee in FSH JCPS first day of school	10 7 p.m. Session Meeting, Club Room	11	12 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
13 10 a.m. Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Eldred preaching	14 7pm Worship Committee Mtg. Club Room	15	16	17	18	19 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market
		Rev. Eldred will be on vacation from August 15—Sept 5				
20 10 a.m. Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Abbi Heimach-Sipes preaching	21 5-6 PM Solidarity Stand-in	22	23	24	25	26 9a.m.-Noon Farmer's Market 2 PM Shafer Memorial
27 10 a.m. Fellowship 11 a.m. Worship Rev. Ben Heimach-Sipes Preaching	28	29	30	31	Sept 1	Sept 2



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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

CLOUT

Paul Johnson BRP
CLOUT Representative
BRP Newsletter

As Your BRP representative, I recently attended my first CLOUT Board meeting. I am sure that the church could of had someone better than this ADHD lad, nonetheless, I persevered and learned a little something about this organization which we voted to align ourselves with - CLOUT (Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together).

Working since 1991, CLOUT has sought to solve many of Louisville's problems by uniting different Religious organizations to work united on social issues of common concern. CLOUT's vision is a city of justice where its systems assure that all people are treated fairly.

In this, my first meeting, I was honored to meet a number of people from across Louisville, from poor religious communities to those of wealthier religious communities. I was impressed to see the respect and decency shown amongst the board members, even when they disagreed.

Their passionate respectful arguments have bourn much good works in the past 25 years since their inception. From their "Open the Door" campaign that led to millions of dollars for the Louisville Metro Affordable Housing Trust Fund, or their fight for the "Louisville Village" where CLOUT's research revealed that older adults in Louisville are often forced to leave their homes and enter an institution, due to a lack of knowledge, or access to affordable services and programs for maintaining their homes and meeting their basic needs.

This last Spring CLOUT finally launched the Louisville Village and it is working to help the aged of our community stay in their homes secure.

With my job teaching Reading and Comprehension, I was duly impressed that CLOUT has recently taken on the poor reading performance in our JCPS school system. Research shows that there is a clear connection between the inability to read, and societies problems of crime, violence, and mental health. 65% of our students born in poverty are testing below their grade level in reading, thus our problems as a society are only beginning. Despite my many inadequacies, and my aversion to sitting through long discussions, I'm proud to be my Church Family's representative to Clout. An organization which, in this short missive, I have barely touched upon the many noble programs that they are effectively fighting for. Perhaps in the future I can speak more upon the many social ills which they, and now WE are working to solve. Many Blessings to One and All