



GOOD NEWS
March 2010
United Presbyterian Church
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

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Have you ever heard the saying that the longest distance in the world is the 18 inches between the head and the heart? Presbyterians have traditionally been good “head” people. We tend to follow Anselm’s motto, “*fides quaerens intellectum*,” faith seeking understanding. We start with faith, but we also want to understand what it is we believe beyond merely assenting to the dogma that has been handed down through the church. Often, what we understand in our minds or confess intellectually often remains there – firmly situated in the head rather than being rooted in our hearts.

John Calvin’s scholarship and intellectual mettle were beyond doubt. He attained the finest education available in theology, law, and the classics, and his scholarly output during his life was astounding – besides his landmark *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Calvin wrote commentaries on nearly every book of the Bible (which are still in print, and take up a full shelf and a half in our office!), around 1300 letters, other treatises and publications, not to mention countless sermons and lectures. Calvin easily could have borrowed Anselm’s motto, but he had one of his own: “*Cor Deum Tibi Offero Domine, Prompte et Sincere*,” or “My heart I offer to you, O Lord, promptly and sincerely.” This motto was eventually written around his personal seal, which showed a heart on fire being held and lifted by an open hand, shown at the right in one of its earliest forms. This gifted thinker and theologian was, at heart, a passionate follower of Christ whose heart was aflame with the love of God.



Lent invites us to embark on many different journeys, including the 18-inch distance between head and heart. Last month we suggested some spiritual practices that one might observe during the season of Lent. By engaging more intentionally in spiritual practices and disciplines during this season, we open ourselves to be healed and transformed in new ways by the love of God through the power of the Holy Spirit – intellectually, spiritually, physically, and emotionally. Often we want to cover our wounds with a band-aid and move on quickly to the next thing. Lent invites us to present ourselves to God just as we are – in all of our brokenness, with all of our pain and hurt.

This Lenten season, let us take up John Calvin’s motto, and offer our whole hearts to God, promptly and sincerely. Throughout this season, we are using the words of Psalm 51 for our corporate confession. May we be reminded each day that the sacrifice God desires is a broken and contrite heart. Let us offer our hearts promptly – without hesitation, and without feeling like we have to patch up the holes, hide the ugly spots, or first put the pieces together. And let us offer our hearts sincerely, knowing that despite our brokenness, we are God’s beloved children, fearfully and wonderfully made.

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.*

- Robert Robinson, “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*Grace and Peace,  
Stephanie and Andy*

## *Grace Notes*

Many of the meals we share today are meals of joy and celebration. We eat together to celebrate important events, such as birthdays, anniversaries, and other special days. We eat together to celebrate being together, as we do for family reunions, church fellowship meals, and other events. At times the mood of our meals is a bit different, such as a meal shared following a Service of Witness to the Resurrection, or perhaps the meal shared by a family preparing to send a family member off to war. Similarly, the meals that we share around the Lord's Table can signify many different things, and have many different moods.

For the month of March, we will celebrate communion on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, which is Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday, celebrated one week before Easter, remembers Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the back of a colt. All four gospels give witness to this event where Jesus receives praise and honor from the people as he makes his way into the city. The people throw cloaks and branches (identified as Palm branches by John) on the ground to prepare the way. Preparation for a royal visit included major road work – making the roads smooth and level. By throwing their cloaks and the palm branches on the ground, the people gave Jesus a truly royal welcome, fit for a king. As we celebrate the Lord's Supper on this Palm Sunday, let us do so as guests at the king's table, giving all of our praise and honor to Jesus Christ, our host.

Do you have questions about our Sacramental theology or practice? Questions about Baptism or the Lord's Supper? Pass those along, and we can answer them here.

## *Lent, Holy Week, and Easter*

Each Wednesday through March 31<sup>st</sup> we will gather here at our church for a brief Taize service at 7pm. For centuries Christians, based on Christ's acts of solitude and prayer, have sought intentional times of silence, prayer and meditation as a means for experiencing God's word to them and for them. Taize worship brings this ancient style of worship to the hurried and harried Christians of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Taize is an international ecumenical prayer community located in Taize, France. It was founded in 1940 by a young seminary student, Roger Schultz, as a place of hospitality and hope as a response to World War II, when Christians fought Christians on the battlefields of Europe. Now more than half a century after its founding, the worship style of Taize has spread across the globe. Taize invites each participant to "be still" in the presence of God – inviting us to remove ourselves from the busyness and noise of the world around us and enter into a time of silent meditation and contemplation based on the Scriptures. The simplistic and repetitive nature of Taize music becomes a sung prayer as the community unites in voice, allowing the words to become embodied in our thoughts.

Our church will also be hosting the weekday Holy Week Services, sponsored by the Mercer County Ministerial Association. From March 29<sup>th</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will gather each day at noon in the Sanctuary for an ecumenical service. Preaching and worship leadership will rotate among local churches, with those churches provided a light lunch (sandwiches and desserts) that will be served in the Fellowship Hall downstairs. Our church will supply paper products, chips, and drinks, as well as our hospitality as we welcome members of the community into worship and fellowship. Mary Weber is coordinating our hospitality on behalf of the Kate Riker Circle. Please talk to Mary if you are able to help!

On Maundy Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, we will join with Burgin Christian Church for an Agape Feast and Maundy Thursday devotion at 6:30pm. We will meet at UPC at 6pm and travel over together. The Good Friday service will be at 7pm at Harrodsburg United Methodist Church. We will also join with the other churches for an Easter Sunrise service at 7am at the Old Mud Church.

## *Presbyterian Women*

The Kate Riker Circle will meet Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. They will be studying Lesson 7 from the Horizons Bible Study on Joshua. The evening circle will meet on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Ladies' Parlor, and will study Lesson 6 from the Horizons Bible Study on Joshua.

## *Session Notes*

If you have questions or comments about any church business, you can always approach an Elder, or talk specifically to the Committee involved. If you are interested in getting involved on a Committee, please talk to the Committee Chair.

## Session Committees and Chairs:

|                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Christian Education:     | Nadine White                   |
| Hospitality:             | Sue Saufley Sullivan           |
| Mission:                 | Carrie Shewmaker               |
| Nominating:              | Doug Ferguson                  |
| Outreach:                | Lee Russell                    |
| Personnel:               | David Weber (Clerk of Session) |
| Property:                | Harry Woodard                  |
| Stewardship and Finance: | Henry Grall                    |
| Worship:                 | David Bradshaw                 |

## ***Safe Place Policy***

The Safe Place policy, passed by the Session on January 16<sup>th</sup>, requires that all paid staff, many church leaders, and any individuals working regularly with children or youth in the church be “certified” according to the policy. Current staff, church members, and volunteers can become certified now by going through a Safe Place training, which will take place in the middle of March. Please watch the bulletin or call the church office for more details. Any event that involves children in the church (under the age of 18), whether the event is on church grounds or off site, will require at least one “Safe Place Certified” adult leader in order to take place. This includes nursery care during worship, Sunday school teachers, and youth events. The more certified adults we have, the more programming we will be able to have for our children, so we encourage anyone who is occasionally volunteering or might be interested in volunteering in the future to become a certified leader now. Any events taking place on church property, whether organized by our church or another group, must meet the requirements of the Safe Place Policy.

Parents: if you have children under the age of 18 who are involved regularly or occasionally in church activities, please complete a Child Information Form for each child for our files. No child will be allowed to participate in an off-site church activity without having this form completed. Forms are available online or in the church office, and all completed forms will be stored securely in a locked cabinet. All parents must also read the policy and sign an acknowledgement of receipt.

The purpose of the Safe Place policy is first and foremost to insure that our church is a safe and nurturing environment for all of God’s children, especially for those under the age of 18. The policy also helps to raise awareness about potential areas of concern, and we hope that all church members take time to read through the policy. Members of the Safe Place Team for 2010 are: Nadine White, Harry Woodard, David Weber, Stephanie Wing, and Crystal Nichols.

## ***Christian Education***

### **Children and Youth**

Check out the 2010 Camp and Retreat Schedule from Camp Burnamwood, posted on the bulletin board to the left of the church office. There are weekend retreats throughout the Spring as well as week-long retreats and camps during the summer. Scholarships are available to cover half of the registration fee from the Jan Hylan fund.

### **Youth (6<sup>th</sup> grade through High School)**

Having mastered the book of Genesis, the Youth Sunday school class will be switching gears from now through Easter to study the Gospel of Luke. Visitors are always welcome! The class is geared for middle school and high school youth, and we start at 9:30am upstairs.

We are currently organizing a Youth Mission Trip for this summer for Middle School and High School youth. Registration must be submitted soon, so if you know of any youth who are interested in going but haven’t signed up yet, please talk to Andy as soon as possible!

### **Adult Sunday School Classes**

The Thoughtful Christian Class meets at 9:30am in the Ladies Parlor. All studies are available for download and reading online at <http://defaoite.us/UPCWeb/Index.htm>. Whether or not you have a chance to

look at the study in advance, we welcome any and all to join in the discussions on Sunday mornings. The class will be embarking on a Lenten series, studying the Lord's Prayer for the next few weeks.

The "Stage Class" meets in the classroom adjacent the Fellowship Hall in the Basement, using "The Present Word" as its curriculum. The Spring study will be starting in March, looking at the books of Ruth, Jonah, the teachings of Jesus, and some stories of the early church to demonstrate how the community comes together in response to God's will.

### **Temporary Classroom Relocation**

The Present Word Sunday School class will be meeting in the Pathfinders room (around the corner from the sanctuary) starting Sunday, February 28th. The nursery will temporarily relocate to the room next to the nursery (where the Present Word class has been meeting) while the Property Committee works to repair plaster and some other items in the nursery. The Elementary school class and the Youth class both meet upstairs, in the last and first rooms on the right, respectively.

## **Committees**

### **Hospitality Committee**

The Hospitality Committee invites all to a potluck meal following worship on Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. We will also have a Bible Trivia game, so come prepared to test your Bible knowledge. We will provide service and drinks, and we invite you to bring a dish to share. Please consider forming teams of 3 people beforehand (trying to be generational inclusive), or we will arrange teams from those wanting to test their Biblical skills. There will be no Bible peeking during the game, and there will be a prize for the winning team. Come and participate, or come and observe – the main purpose is to have fun and enjoy this time of worship! Even if you are unable to bring a dish, we hope to see you there.

### **Mission Committee**

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone who has donated so far to our special offering. So far we have received \$150 to be used to help people in the local community. \$50 of this money is being used to treat Kaylee, who was injured in a house fire in November, and her mother to Disney Princesses on Ice in March. This offering will be ongoing so any time you are in church please stop by and "feed the sheep". Also, if you or someone you know is in need of any type of assistance please let us know. We truly want to help in any way that we can. We would also love to know about anybody that has anything that they are willing to donate, because items can be just as helpful as money! We appreciate anything and everything that you do. If you have any questions or would like to help please contact one of the members of our committee.

God Bless,

The Mission Committee

Carrie Shewmaker- chair

Nadine White- co-chair

David Lynn

Mary Weber

Save the Date for Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be organizing a day for mission in a local service organization. Watch the bulletin for more details.

### **Nominating Committee**

On Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, the congregation elected the following individuals for service. Joining Elders Doug Ferguson and Carrie Shewmaker, David Lynn, Mary Weber, and Sherri Howe Prigmore will serve this year on the Nominating Committee. Bill Nichols and Elaine Dedman have been elected to 5-year terms on the Foundation.

### **Outreach Committee**

Do you need a ride to church? Know of anyone else who does? We would like to start using the church van to pick up members who need a ride on Sunday mornings. Please help us by letting us know if you need a

ride, or if you know of someone else who might. We are also interested in having a list of individuals who would be willing to drive the van on some Sunday mornings. Please contact Lee Russell or the church office for more information.

The Outreach committee is hard at work expanding our outreach to current active and inactive members, to get word out in the community as to what we are doing as a church, and to help develop our church membership. If you have suggestions or would like to get more involved, talk to Lee Russell.

### **Property Committee**

Last month the Property Committee had insulation blown into the ceiling above the sanctuary. We hope that this will not only help lower the heating bills in the church, but also reduce our carbon footprint. The Property Committee is currently looking into other ways that we might increase our energy efficiency so that we can be better stewards of our finances and the environment.

There is much work to do in and around the church! Harry Woodard is currently scraping and repairing the plaster in the nursery, and could use 3-4 individuals to help on Saturday, March 13th starting at 9am. Bring a scraper if you have one. Please contact him for more information if you are willing to help out. Also, watch the bulletin and newsletter for more information about a workday later this spring.

### **Stewardship and Finance Committee**

#### **Pledges Needed**

If you have not submitted your pledge card for 2010, you can still submit that to the church office. If you need a new card, please call Bobbi at 734-4710.

#### **Per Capita Payments**

Did you know that every PC(USA) church in the country pays a certain amount per member to support the operations of the Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assembly? Our Per Capita assessment for 2010 is \$33.31 per member. Of that, \$6.19 goes to the General Assembly, \$3.62 to the Synod of Living Waters, and \$23.50 to the Presbytery of Transylvania. While this is a small amount per person, it adds up to just under \$4800 for the year for our church. The Stewardship and Finance Committee would like to invite all members to consider making a special contribution in addition to your regular offering to cover the cost of your per capita payment. We send per capital installment payments each month, so you can make a special contribution now or at any time during the year.

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Budget Receipts</b> | <b>Actual Receipts</b> | <b>YTD Budget</b> | <b>YTD Actual</b> | <b>YTD Deficit</b> |
|-------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 01-31-10    | \$2,857                | \$ 950                 | <b>\$ 14,285</b>  | <b>\$ 10,167</b>  | <b>\$ -4,118</b>   |
| 02-07-10    | \$2,857                | \$4,139                | <b>\$ 17,142</b>  | <b>\$ 14,306</b>  | <b>\$ -2,836</b>   |
| 02-14-10    | \$2,857                | \$2,548                | <b>\$ 19,999</b>  | <b>\$ 16,854</b>  | <b>\$ -3,145</b>   |
| 02-21-10    | \$2,857                | \$1,978                | <b>\$ 22,856</b>  | <b>\$ 18, 832</b> | <b>\$ -4,024</b>   |

### **Worship Committee**

The worship committee oversees all things worship, and we need your help! Are you interested in being on the committee? If so, talk to David Bradshaw, chair.

### **Other Items**

#### **“Church Basement Ladies”**

We have a group of 20 going to see the “Church Basement Ladies” at the Norton Center in Danville on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. This musical comedy is a celebration of the church basement and the women who work there. The show features four distinct characters and their relationships as they organize food and the problems of a rural Minnesota church. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young bride-to-be learning the proper order of things, the show provides a touching and funny look at their lives. Though our

tickets are sold out, individuals can purchase additional tickets for \$35 from the Box Office by calling 877-HIT-SHOW or going to NortonCenter.com.

### **Presbytery Meeting**

The first stated Presbytery meeting of 2010 will be Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10am at Beaumont Presbyterian Church in Lexington. Elder Henry Grall is the Elder Commissioner. This meeting will have a special focus on Stewardship, and the Presbytery is encouraging visitors to attend. If you are interested in going to the meeting, please call the church office.

### **Communication**

Have you moved? Do you have a new address, phone number or email address? Keep us posted! It has come to our attention that some mailings have not been received by all of our members. If you suspect that postal mail or email are not reaching you from the church, please call the church office during regular office hours so that we can address the issue. Thanks for your patience!

We currently have 3 methods of distribution for the newsletter. The newsletter is always posted online, with emails sent out letting subscribers know when the new edition is available. We also have hard copies available for pickup at the back of the Sanctuary. This allows members to continue to receive a paper newsletter, but helps to save on postage. The third option is regular 1<sup>st</sup> Class mail delivery. If you would like to change your method of receiving the newsletter at any time, simply call Bobbi in the church office.

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, just send us an email at [upcharrodsburg@bellsouth.net](mailto:upcharrodsburg@bellsouth.net), and we will add you to the email list.

## **POT LUCK MEAL AND BIBLE TRIVIA SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2010 IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP**

Bring your “dish to share” and your Biblical knowledge. We will provide dinner service and drinks (there will not be any “meat entrée” provided). Please consider forming teams of 3 people beforehand (trying to be generational inclusive), or we will arrange teams from those wanting to test their Biblical skills. There will be no Bible “peeking” during the game. **AND**, there is a “prize” for the winning team.

Please come and participate, or just come and observe – the main purpose is to have fun and enjoy this time of fellowship!



### *Celebrations for March 2009*

#### *Birthdays*

|                |                    |                   |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 2 Emily Lawson | 8 Leslie Ferguson  | 22 John Wickliffe |
| 2 Henry Grall  | 8 Morgan Turner    | 26 Jack Prewitt   |
| 3 Caden Semrau | 9 Andrew Alexander | 30 Matthew Hall   |
| 4 Karla Correa | 14 Ann Hemphill    | 30 Chase Haven    |
| 5 Beth Smith   | 21 Jane Adrian     | 31 Elaine Dedman  |
| 7 Earl Motzer  | 21 Sam Watts       |                   |

#### *Anniversaries*

|                           |                         |                          |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 22 Andrew & Pat Alexander | 24 Earl & Eileen Motzer | 29 Andy & Stephanie Wing |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|

## *Calendar at a Glance for March 2010*

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 1            | 10:30 Kate Riker Circle<br>6:30 Property Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                                         |
| March 2            | 5:30 Outreach Committee Meeting<br>6:30 Christian Education Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                      |
| March 3            | 7pm Taize service                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| March 7            | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| March 8            | 7pm Evening Circle                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| March 9            | 10am Presbytery Meeting                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| March 10           | 7pm Taize service                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| March 11           | 6:30 Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                                                       |
| March 14           | 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent<br>After Worship – Potluck and Bible Trivia                                                                                                                                         |
| March 17           | Taize service                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| March 21           | 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent - Morning Worship<br>2pm Session                                                                                                                                                    |
| March 24           | 7pm Taize service                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| March 28           | Palm Sunday - Morning Worship – Communion and Hunger Offering                                                                                                                                                      |
| March 29 – April 2 | Holy Week – service at UPC at 12noon                                                                                                                                                                               |
| March 31           | 7pm Taize service                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| April 1            | 6:30 Maundy Thursday service at Burgin Christian Church                                                                                                                                                            |
| April 2            | 7pm Tenebrae service at United Methodist Church                                                                                                                                                                    |
| April 4            | 7am Easter sunrise rise service at the Old Mud Meeting House<br>Easter Breakfast – watch for more information in the next few weeks<br>Morning Worship – Communion<br>Special Offering - One Great Hour of Sharing |

*Revs. Andy and Stephanie Wing – Co-Pastors*

(859) 734-4710

Choir/Organist: Susan Shewmaker Thoughtful Christian Class @ 9:30  
Secretary: Bobbi Rightmyer Sunday School @ 9:30  
Nursery: Dorothy Shuman Present Word Class @ 9:45 am  
Treasurer: Pat Alexander Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:45 am  
Custodian: J. L. Devine Wed. Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 pm

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United Presbyterian Church  
326 S. Main Street  
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

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*Lectionary Readings for March 2010*

Doug Ferguson – Elder Host

**March 7, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 63:1-8**

**Isaiah 55:1-9**

**I Corinthians 10:1-13 and Luke 13:1-9**

**March 14, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 32**

**Joshua 5:9-12**

**2 Corinthians 5:16-21 and Luke 15:1-3,  
11b-32**

**March 21, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 126**

**Isaiah 43:16-21**

**Philippians 3:4b-14 and John 12:1-8**

**March 28, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Luke 19:28-40 and Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29**

**Isaiah 50:4-9a and Psalm 31:9-16**

**Philippians 2:5-11 and Luke 22:14-23  
or Luke 23:1-49**