



GOOD NEWS
August 2009
United Presbyterian Church
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

~~~~~

According to our Book of Order, one of the “Great Ends of the Church” is “the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God.”<sup>1</sup> To that end, we are called as a church to continuing education and spiritual formation. Presbyterians have a long legacy of prioritizing education. Presbyterians were instrumental in establishing public education and Sunday school programs in this country. Many of the oldest colleges and universities in this country (such as Centre College) were started by Presbyterians, driven in part by the need to educate clergy and teachers.

Christian Education has always been a priority and hallmark of UPC, as well. One of the first pictures that was pointed out to us when we came to visit was the picture of the Men’s Sunday School Class, now hanging in the Pathfinder’s Classroom. It is hard for us to imagine all of those men gathered together each Sunday for Sunday school! We have enjoyed hearing about the various educational offerings of this church over the years, including wonderful programs for youth, multiple adult classes on Sunday mornings, and the wonderful ministry of the Lads and Lassies program during the week.

Recently, we have been running a leaner program, but momentum is picking up, and we are excited for what is ahead of us! On Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> we will have Rally Day to kick off a new year of Christian Education. After church there will be a potluck meal. Please be sure to read the features below on our current and new class offerings. There is so much potential for growth, and we are excited to see things moving in that direction. Still, we need your help! More teachers are always needed to work with all ages. We would like to re-establish a Children’s Church program, and expand the offerings for our children and youth. The Christian Education Committee needs more support and participation, as well. If you feel called to get more involved in any way, please contact Irene Mitchell or Lee Russell for details. We want your input!

Also this month, there will be a Mission and Education Conference through the Presbytery of Transylvania. The event is open to everyone, and there should be something to interest just about anyone. We encourage anyone from UPC to take advantage of this event, August 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church in Lexington. Pre-Registration is required. For more information, or to register, go to <http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/435/LetYourLightShine.pdf>. Please call the church office if you need technical support accessing information or registering.

It is important to feed our minds as well as our spirits and bodies, to nurture children, youth, and adults in the faith, and to provide teaching that equips all of us to live as Christians in this work: to fulfill the ministry to which we are all called. As we all work together to expand our programming, we ask for your prayers. Prayerfully consider how you are being called to participate, and pray for the educational ministries of this church as we grow into the future.

Grace and Peace,  
*Stephanie and Andy*

---

<sup>1</sup> Office of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Church (USA) *Book of Order*; Copyright 2009, G-1.0200.

## *Rally Day and Potluck*

We will celebrate Rally Day to kick off the new year of Christian Education on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Did you know that Rally Day was first established by the denomination back in 1903? And that the day was not focused on the church members and children, but on their friends and neighbors who were not going to church? Let's take this Rally Day as a special opportunity to think of friends and neighbors who aren't currently active in a church and invite them to check out our new classes and worship with us. Following church we will have a potluck meal. Please bring your favorite dish to share.

## *Adult Sunday School Classes*

Nadine and Del White will be facilitating a new Sunday school class for adults starting on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. The class will use resources from [TheThoughtfulChristian.com](http://TheThoughtfulChristian.com), a denominational resource that has a very wide variety of studies, ranging from current issues to Biblical studies to spirituality to popular books and movies. These resources are being used now at many churches with huge success. The course will be very discussion-oriented. The class will meet in the Ladies' Parlor, down the hall from the church office.

Our current Adult Sunday School class will continue to meet downstairs in the classroom off of the Fellowship Hall, using *The Present Word* as its curriculum. The fall quarterly study will look at Covenant Community using texts from Joshua, Gideon, Ezra, Nehemiah, Mark, and 1 and 2 Peter. The winter study, "Christ, the Fulfillment," focuses on Matthew's Gospel as it confirms the fulfillment of God's promise to send the Messiah. The authors of that study's student book are Rev. Dr. Sheldon Sorge (Stephanie's father), and Stephanie and Andy Wing!

## *Children and Youth*

The confirmation class will continue through completion on Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Starting Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> our youth (grades 6 through 12) will embark on a journey through the stories of the Bible in preparation for a mural that they will then design, draw, and paint in the hallway of our education wing upstairs.

Our elementary school aged children will continue to meet each Sunday at 9:45 using a rotating curriculum. Nursery care for younger children is provided by Dorothy Shuman in the nursery starting during the Sunday school hour and continuing through worship.

## *Fall Bible Studies Led by the Pastors*

This Fall, Andy and Stephanie will lead a few "mini-series" Bible studies. We will be looking at the books of Joshua and Judges as books that portray the early tribal community of Israel. Most of us know about the exodus from Egypt, crossing the Red Sea, and the leadership of Moses to the Promised Land, and we can recall stories of Saul and David, Solomon, and subsequent kings, but what about the time in between? We will learn more about this time of transition and change among the tribes of Israel. Andy will lead the studies on Joshua, and Stephanie will lead the study on Judges. Classes will meet each week, but we will alternate between the two books. We will meet Tuesday evenings at 7pm and repeat the study on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm. Course materials: the Bible and handouts as needed. The class will start Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Starting the first week of November, we will shift gears to facilitate a book discussion of Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church Is Transforming the Faith. This book by Diana Butler Bass is the culmination of her studies of a number of mainline Protestant churches (Presbyterians, Methodists, Lutherans, Episcopalians, Congregationalists and Disciples of Christ, among others) who are thriving in their ministries while many other churches are simply struggling to survive. The religious landscape of the United States has changed quite a bit in the past 50 years, and many Protestant churches have struggled with dwindling memberships and churches that can no longer keep their doors open. Butler-Bass looks at what some churches who are defying these statistics have in common. We will study this book through the Advent season. You can purchase this book on your own through Amazon.com ([http://www.amazon.com/Christianity-Rest-Us-Neighborhood-Transforming/dp/0060859490/ref=pd\\_sim\\_b\\_1](http://www.amazon.com/Christianity-Rest-Us-Neighborhood-Transforming/dp/0060859490/ref=pd_sim_b_1)), or place your order with the church office no later than Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. Copies will be approximately \$12 each.

## *Welcome to our New Members!*

We are happy to welcome three new members this month. All are familiar faces who have been active already in the life of our church, and who are looking forward to being involved further in the life and ministry here at United Presbyterian Church. All three have been active in a variety of churches and denominations, but this marks their first membership in the Presbyterian Church. Greta Mulberry comes to us as a relatively new resident of Harrodsburg. Greta moved here last fall from Lexington, where she was most recently active in a Methodist Church, and is enjoying her recent move and semi-retirement that allows her to spend lots of time with her youngest grandchild, Glenn Lewis. Crystal Nichols has been sharing her gifts and wonderful soprano voice with us since she first started coming to UPC. Crystal grew up in Mercer County and was most recently a member at Burgin Christian Church. She and Bill now live in Danville, where they are ever-busy working on projects in their new home. Crystal has always been active in local theater, and recently made her directorial debut at West T. Hill. Crystal is also in the process of completing her Master's degree through ECU. Del White has been coming to UPC for a couple of years now, and he has quickly integrated into the life of the congregation. He and Nadine frequently serve as greeters on Sunday morning, and Del is already a very active member of the Evangelism and Outreach Committee. Del and Nadine are also co-leading/facilitating the new Adult Sunday School class starting later this month.

## *Grace Notes – A Monthly Feature on our Sacramental Practices*

This month's lectionary readings are full of passages from the Gospel of John about bread. August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> we read about Jesus as the Bread of Life, and then August 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> get even more graphic with talk about eating Jesus' flesh and drinking Jesus' blood. Of course this informs our own theology of the Lord's Supper. Food and drink are essential for our survival, and at the Lord's Table we should remember our dependence upon the grace of God, given freely to all. But food and drink also give us satisfaction and enjoyment in life, and at the Lord's Table we are also to remember that our chief end in life, as defined in the first question of the Shorter Westminster Catechism in our *Book of Confessions*, "is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever." Psalm 34:8 invites us to "Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him." So let us remember as we gather for Communion that we are not just sustained, but enriched, blessed, and gifted by the God in whom we take refuge. Enjoy!

## *Church Notes*

We would like to express our deep gratitude for a bequest of \$5,000 to United Presbyterian Church from the Estate of Emma Rogers, Joe Gill's sister. This generous gift will be used in her memory to build the ministry of the church, with specific use to be designated at a later time.

Church Directory: If you missed getting your picture made for the church directory, please submit a photo of yourself so that we can include it. It won't be complete without you! Professional photos must be accompanied by a signed copyright release from the photographer or studio. If you need a picture taken, contact the church office and we can arrange getting a digital photograph taken for that purpose. Also, if any of your directory information has changed or was incorrect in a previous edition, please contact the church office with updates, including cell phone numbers, email addresses, etc... Thanks for your help!

The Choir is back in swing after a month-long sabbatical. The doors are always open for new voices – no prior experience necessary. Practice is on Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Come join us! We also would like to take this opportunity to thank Susan Shewmaker for her wonderful leadership and gifts that she shares faithfully throughout the year. We are truly blessed by her continued ministry as our choir director and organist.

The Kate Riker Circle resumes monthly meetings next month. Study books for this year's study are now available for pickup in the Church Office. There is an envelope for your check payment. Please write your name on the envelope as you pick up your study book. The Kate Riker Circle meets on the first Monday of each month at 10:30am. This year's Moderator is Jane Adrian.

Based on interest in the congregation, we will be starting a second women's circle to meet on a monthly basis during the evening. We will have an initial meeting on Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Ladies' Parlor to

discuss the format of the group. If you are unable to make the meeting but would still like to get information, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board of the church office to let us know of your interest.

The trip on August 8<sup>th</sup> to Renfro Valley to see Ray Stevens will leave the church at 3pm. The tickets we had available have all been claimed, but we will certainly make more trips in the future!

We will take a trip to the Newport Aquarium on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome! Please sign up on the sign up sheet outside of the office. Discounted tickets will be \$18 per person.

Just a reminder: We have a King James and New International versions of the New Testament of Bibles on Tape in the conference room/doughnut room.

We are also in the process of planning church trip for the fall to Montreat for a conference or speaker. Most likely, we would leave on a Wednesday and return on Saturday. We need to gauge interest for such a trip. Please see Jane Adrian or one of the pastors if you would be interested.

### *Presbytery Mission and Education Conference*

The Presbytery of Transylvania will hold the annual Mission and Education Conference, with most events taking place Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church. There will be something for everyone, ranging from Fall Gardening to Dealing with the Economic Crisis, from Coaching to Presbyterianism 101 and 102 (all about our theology and polity), and more! The keynote speaker will be Ruth Farrell, Coordinator for the Presbyterian Hunger Program and former mission co-worker in Peru and the Congo. For more information, or to register, go to <http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/435/LetYourLightShine.pdf>. For technical support, call the church office. The registration fee is \$15 per day, but there are scholarships available through the Presbytery.

### *Contacting the Church*

Are you trying to get in touch with us? The Church Office is open from 9am to 12noon Monday through Friday. Call us at 859-734-4710 or email the church office at [upcharrodsburg@bellsouth.net](mailto:upcharrodsburg@bellsouth.net). If the phone rings without answer and without going to the answering machine, it means that we are on the line – please try back in a few minutes!

Bulletin announcements and updates for the prayer list should be submitted by Thursday before noon. Newsletter submissions should be sent to the office by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month. The pastors can be reached by calling the church office or emailing [upcpastor@bellsouth.net](mailto:upcpastor@bellsouth.net). If at any time there are pastoral emergencies or concerns, especially during the evenings or on weekends, please contact the pastors directly by cell phone or personal email. We appreciate your help in letting us know prayer concerns and other information so that we can respond and share information with the congregation as appropriate.

Personal contact information for the pastors (the best way to reach us outside of office hours):

Andy – 859-612-2316 or email [wingap1@yahoo.com](mailto:wingap1@yahoo.com)

Stephanie – 859-612-2317 or email [sorgewing@gmail.com](mailto:sorgewing@gmail.com)

### *Financial Report*

|                                    |             |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance as of <b>May 31, 2009</b>  | \$ 1,786.71 |
| Receipts for June 2009             | \$10,888.46 |
| Disbursements for June 2009        | \$11,012.80 |
| Balance as of <b>June 30, 2009</b> | \$ 1,662.37 |

## *Where do we stand... June 30, 2009?*

Here we are, six months into the year with new Co-Pastors, the largest budget in many years and slow economic activity in the nation, state and county.

Looking around the church I see new faces and young people. Not as many as in many past years, but more than in the most recent years. Activities in the church are continuing with the recent celebration of July 4<sup>th</sup> on July 9. I can report that we cooked hot dogs, hamburgers and rib eye stakes and when I went back for seconds, they were all consumed. I can remember some times when we sold uncooked meat.

Andy and Stephanie have been visiting sick and bereaved members, chaperoning youth outings to the Louisville Zoo and working with a new member class and a youth confirmation class. We are in the midst of an all member picture directory drive. We have several members involved in Presbytery and Synod committees and boards. We are also looking for more Christian education offerings, a trip to the aquarium, and great multi-generational activities.

While Art DeYoung served as Interim Pastor for two years, our expenditures for pastoral compensation was considerably lower than it would have been due to the fact that he was a retired employee of the General Assembly offices and we had a reduced medical liability due to his pension. We did not spend as much as we had projected in 2008 even though the Budget was only about 15% less than this year.

In 2009 we have set our goal to provide outreach and services, activities and staff support of \$146,391. At mid-year we have received \$66,406 and paid out \$71,467, still under mid-year budget of \$73,195. Most of the deficit has come from carryover from 2008, year-end balances, and by drawing more funds from the Pastor Housing Fund. We have been using the funds from the sale of the former manse faster than projected. At the current rate we will be out of reserves within 3 years.

How can we reverse this trend? How can we extend our outreach and benevolences? Some ideas:

Increased giving by those who are able.

Bringing in new members who will help and participate

Encouraging estate planning to include the church.

PRAY, Be involved, PRAY, Invite new members, PRAY.

For the Stewardship & Outreach Committee,

*David Weber, Secretary*

## *Calendar at a Glance for August 2009*

|           |                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 3  | No Kate Riker Circle – will resume September 7 <sup>th</sup><br>6:30 Property Committee Meeting<br>7:30 Nominating Committee Meeting               |
| August 8  | 3pm Ray Stephens at Renfro Valley                                                                                                                  |
| August 12 | 6:30 Christian Education Committee Meeting                                                                                                         |
| August 13 | 6:30 Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting                                                                                                       |
| August 15 | Newport Aquarium trip – more information to follow                                                                                                 |
| August 16 | Morning Worship – Communion<br>1:15 Evangelism & Outreach Committee Meeting<br>2:00 Session Meeting                                                |
| August 22 | “Let Your Light Shine” -The Presbytery of Transylvania will hold the annual Mission and Education Conference at Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church |
| August 23 | Morning Worship – Hunger Offering                                                                                                                  |
| August 24 | 7pm Evening Kate Riker Circle Meeting – this will be an information gathering meeting                                                              |
| August 30 | Morning Worship – 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering for Bellewood / Buckhorn<br>Sunday School Rally Day                                              |

## *Celebrations for August 2009*

### *Birthdays*

|   |                     |    |                     |    |                 |
|---|---------------------|----|---------------------|----|-----------------|
| 2 | Lee Russell         | 11 | Arthur DeYoung      | 23 | David Nicholson |
| 3 | Lee Sullivan Baxter | 13 | Jenny Dobbs         | 27 | Wade Hemphill   |
| 5 | Mark Haven          | 20 | Howard Howells, Sr. | 29 | Clifford Reed   |
| 6 | Bobbi Rightmyer     | 22 | Keith Batterton     | 29 | Stephanie Wing  |
| 7 | Jackson Baughman    |    |                     |    |                 |

### *Anniversaries*

|    |                           |    |                     |
|----|---------------------------|----|---------------------|
| 2  | Nick & Elaine Dedman      | 17 | Bill & Jo Marks     |
| 6  | Jason & Amanda Britton    | 18 | David & Mary Weber  |
| 13 | Mark & Susan Haven        | 22 | Bill & Nancy Lively |
| 17 | Keith & Carolyn Batterton |    |                     |

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

(859) 734-4710

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

---

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

---

*Lectionary Readings for August 2009*

Sue Saufley Sullivan – Elder Host

**August 2, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 51:1-12**

**2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a**  
**Ephesians 4:1-16 and John 6:24-35**

**August 9, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 130**

**2 Samuel 8:5-9, 15, 31-33**  
**Ephesians 4:25-5:2 and John 6:35, 41-51**

**August 16, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 111**

**I Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14**  
**Ephesians 5:15-20 and John 6:51-58**

**August 23, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 84**

**1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43**  
**Ephesians 3:14 - 21 and John 6:1 - 21**

**August 30, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9**

**Song of Solomon 2:8-13**  
**James 1:17-27 and Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**