

***GOOD NEWS
May 2009
United Presbyterian Church***

Harrodsburg, KY 40330



Luke 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. *31* Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.

How exciting it is that although Easter Sunday is over, the season of Easter is still in full swing. In this season, we remember that Easter Sunday did not complete Jesus' ministry, but only began the first wave of the real mission, building up the church.

After his resurrection, Jesus appears to his disciples opening their eyes to their newfound ministry. In Luke 24, Jesus walks unrecognized as a stranger with two of the disciples who were discouraged after seeing Jesus die on the cross. Their "hearts burn within them" as they hear what this stranger says. They are so blessed by what this stranger says that when they all arrive near the disciples' homes, they compel him to come into their home, so that they can have a meal together. Jesus has the honor of breaking the bread to share at the table. When they see this stranger break the bread, their "eyes are opened" and they suddenly recognize him. In this one act, Jesus has shown them how they will relate to one another: breaking bread, having fellowship and practicing hospitality with all people.

The Easter Season is really the season when the church was established. It was established through people sharing their testimonies about what they had seen, heard, and experienced, as well as sharing their food.

The Easter season is an especially appropriate time for us to focus on practicing hospitality. Our lives are gifts to us from God; and each day is an opportunity for us to be the grateful guests of our savior. In turn, we also play the host to neighbor and stranger, showing them welcome. Hospitality is a gift from God; it is also a spiritual discipline and something that we practice by doing. Even if you think others are better at showing hospitality, we are all called to practice hospitality with each other.

Remember there are many people who would come to church if only someone asked. Maybe they need a ride, but maybe they just need an invitation. Our practice of hospitality extends far beyond these church walls as each of you is an ambassador of Christ. This is why the Apostle Paul writes,

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. 20 So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

If you receive this newsletter, you are a part of our church. And each person you come in contact with is a visitor to our church through your presence. We are grateful for each of you.

As always, please share with us any ideas that you have for building our fellowship.

Peace in Christ,

Andy and Stephanie

Special Offerings

This month we will be collecting a few special offerings. As usual, we will collect the Hunger Offering on the 4th Sunday, May 24th. We will also collect the 5th Sunday offering to benefit Bellewood and Buckhorn Presbyterian Homes for Children on May 31st. May 31st is also Pentecost Sunday, and we will collect the Pentecost Offering. The Pentecost Offering is one of four national offerings taken each year throughout the PC (USA). The first, the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, was taken on Easter Sunday. The Peacemaking Offering is taken in October, and the Christmas Joy offering is collected in December.

The Pentecost Offering provides a direct way to meet the needs of children at risk, youth, and young adults. Congregations are encouraged to keep 40 percent of the Offering to support ministry with children at risk in their communities. The remaining 60% provides leadership development opportunities for Presbyterian youth and young adults and supports children-at-risk programs at the national

level. Since 1998, Presbyterians of all ages have raised over \$7 million for these ministries that benefit younger members of God's family. For more information, go to <http://www.pcusa.org/pentecost/>.

Plant Swap

The E&O Committee and the Kate Riker Circle are sponsoring a potluck fellowship lunch and plant swap after church on Sunday, May 17th. The church will provide chicken and drinks, and ask everyone else to bring salads, veggies, side dishes, and desserts. For the plant exchange, you can bring plants from your house or garden or go out and pick something up from the store. You can exchange as many plants as you'd like to bring. See you there!

Summer Camp

Summer means time for camps and conferences for our children and youth! Camp Burnamwood has programs for children of all ages. Check out the schedule online at <http://www.burnamwood.net/>. The Montreat Conference Center is one of three national conference centers of the PC(USA), located in beautiful Montreat, NC. The Presbytery of Transylvania Youth Committee is going to send of combined group of youth to a youth conference this summer, likely sometime in late July or early August. Rising 9th graders through graduating high school seniors can register for the Youth Conference. Financial support is available through the church. Contact Andy for more information.

UPC T-shirts

After the Maundy Thursday service at St. Philip's, Rector Jon Hall said to us, "I had no idea so many of those great folks went to your church. You all need T-Shirts!" Great idea! We would love to have United Presbyterian Church t-shirts that we can wear to share our testimony without saying a word (ok, so hopefully it will lead to words...). We are looking for attractive t-shirt designs; if you have any ideas, please send those ideas to Irene.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School: We are joining once again with some of the other downtown churches for VBS. It will be held at the Methodist church, and the

theme is “Crocodile Doc.” Mark your calendars for June 22nd –26th from 6pm to 8:30pm. Children ages 3 through 5th grade can register to participate. Older youth/teens can volunteer as crew leaders or helpers. Adult volunteers are also needed. There will be some work days in May to get ready, so if you are able to help in May or during VBS, or to register your children, contact Debbie Blankenship, debbie323@sent.com.

May Phone Challenge

May Phone Challenge: Call friends and neighbors and invite them to church on May 17th and to stay for the potluck and plant swap afterwards.

Pictorial Directory

We will be doing a new picture church directory and we need your help! Every family unit who is photographed will receive a free copy of the directory along with a free 8x10 portrait of your choice. Additional pictures will be available for purchase when your pictures are made. Let’s work towards 100% participation! Please keep an eye on the bulletin and newsletter for more information on how to sign up. If you would like to get more involved in organizing this, contact the church office.

Early 4th Picnic

Save this date: Thursday, June 25th - 6pm - Annual Early 4th of July Picnic. More information to follow.

Leavened Bread? Intinction?

Have you been wondering about some of the changes in our communion services? Go to http://www.upcharrodsburg.org/?page_id=135 to read the document, "What is Communion?"

This document was compiled from some of our denominational resources. For more information, feel free to ask Stephanie or Andy, or members of the Worship Committee.

Community Dinner

St. Philip’s Episcopal Church hosts a Community Dinner on the 4th Thursday of each month. The dinner is offered to anyone in the community free of charge. They

rely on volunteer help to set up, cook, serve, and clean up once a month. If you are interested in helping, contact St. Philip's at 734-3569. Even if you are unable to help, you are welcome to come to the dinner!

Resource Table

Did you know we have a resource table in the Narthex of the church (to the side of the sanctuary)? In addition to print copies of the monthly newsletter, we also have a number of issues of "Presbyterians Today" that are available for anyone who is interested. The church subscribes to this great denominational magazine. Please take advantage of these resources.

UPC Website

Have you been to our website lately? Visit www.upcharrodsburg.org to read lectionary texts, sermons preached by Andy and Stephanie, the monthly newsletter, announcements, links of interest, and other resources. If you would like to see anything added to the website, please let us know. This is the quickest and easiest way for us to post announcements. If you have announcements to share, send them to the church office.

Co-Pastor News

Andy and Stephanie will be at the Festival of Homiletics, a national preaching conference that will be held in Atlanta, GA this year. They will be out of the office the week of May 18th and will be back Monday, May 25th. The church office will be open as usual, Monday through Friday from 9am to noon. Rev. Steve Pace of Frankfort will be on call for pastoral emergencies. He can be reached by phone at 502-669-2556 (cell) or 502-223-8723 (home), and by email at paces51@aol.com. Rev. Beth Mosier Silence will be the guest preacher on Sunday, May 24th. Beth's current call is as a Chaplain at Baptist Central Hospital. Her husband is also an ordained minister and is the Associate Pastor at Beaumont Presbyterian Church in Lexington. Some of you might remember meeting Beth and their three children at the Ordination and Installation service in January.

Shoe Box Worldwide Sharing

Many families in third-world countries have no access to simple remedies we keep in our bathroom cabinets. Tylenol ... Band-Aids ... ointments ... these are unknown to a family that does not even have clean drinking water or soap.

Now, in a SHOE BOX, you can send these basic medications to a third-world family and know the joy of direct sharing. You may never see that family in Africa or India who will open the shoe box you've prepared for them. But when they see your picture and the life-giving items you've sent, they'll know there is someone in the USA who cares. Someone has heard their cry of need and responded in love. And you will have linked your love to someone on the other side of the world.

1. Find a shoe box with a lid and fill it with: family or personal photograph, small flashlight and batteries, bars of soap, Tylenol tablets, Pepto Bismol tablets, Bacitracin ointment, Halazone (water-purifying tablets), \$5 in an envelope for shipping and Gospel literature.
2. Put a rubber band around your shoe box and take it to church for a special service of Dedication.
3. Your church sends the shoe boxes prepared by the congregation to the Medical Benevolence Foundation headquarters in Houston.
4. Shoe boxes are sent out in containers of medical supplies to Presbyterian hospitals around the world.
5. Hospital / clinic distributes them to families in the surround area.
6. Family opens box, sees your picture, and perhaps for the first time has clean drinking water, soap for washing, and simple medicines. And God has linked you with a family on the other side of the world because of your love and concern.

Kate Riker Circle

From the Kate Riker Circle: Food for Thought

When we personally know of someone who really needs help, Christians usually respond. While we are all feeling the present economic crunch, few of us have to worry about our next meal. Yet there are those in our own community who go hungry. Did you know that in the 1970's our church started the first Community Food Bank? Several of our members who worked with that service had the opportunity to see first hand how our church body served many needy in those days. Today the Christian Life Center, located on Main Street, is the "umbrella location" that tries to meet those needs; but they can't do it alone!

The Kate Riker Circle has been studying Luke's Gospel concerning the Jubilee – the time when the Messiah will come and turn the world upside down. Christ, as God's messenger, brings us the reality of Jubilee throughout His ministry. A very

graphic parable concerning this is explained in Luke 16:19-31. How well are we hearing this message? Can our church do more to meet the needs of the poor? Maybe we all could approach this giving with more thought and conviction.

There is a Hunger Offering, the fourth Sunday of each month. This money goes to support hunger relief programs through the Presbytery of Transylvania and the Presbyterian Church (USA). What if every church member also brought food to help supplement the Food Bank at the Christian Life Center right here in Harrodsburg? Canned food is always good, but there is a great need for items like cereal, peanut butter, crackers, etc... The Session has approved a box to be kept for this purpose under the "message table" before entering the sanctuary. Collected food will be taken at the end of each month to the Christian Life Center. The box will be there so you can bring food each Sunday, but we especially encourage you to think about it on the Sundays when we take the Hunger Offering. The Christian Life Center also accepts unwanted items (clothing, etc) for resale. If you have items for resale and donation, please take them directly to the Christian Life Center rather than bringing them to the church.

Mark your calendar now to bring non-perishable food staples with you to church. Can you think of other ways our congregation might explore feeding hungry people in our community? God's message is clear; ALL are invited to his table.

- Marilyn Allen in behalf of the Kate Riker Circle

Financial Report

Balance on February 28, 2009 \$ 2,531.97

March receipts \$13,336.00

March Disbursements \$12,481.76

Balance on March 31, 2009 \$ 2,386.21

Flower Committee

Flower season is coming into bloom and if anyone has flowers from their gardens they would like to share with the church, please contact the church office or Sue Saufley Sullivan. We are in need of flowers for arrangements on Sunday mornings and for special programs.

Calendar at a Glance for May 2009

- May 4 10:30 Kate Riker Circle
6:30 Property Committee Meeting
- May 10 1:15 Worship Committee Meeting
- May 13 6:30 Christian Education Committee Meeting
- May 14 6:30 Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting
- May 17 Morning Worship – Communion
After morning worship a Potluck Lunch and Plant Swap
No Evangelism & Outreach Meeting
2:00 Session Meeting
- May 18–24 Andy and Stephanie will be at the Festival of Homiletics in Atlanta, Georgia
- May 24 Morning Worship – Hunger Offering
- May 28 Community Meal at St. Philips Episcopal Church – volunteers needed
- May 31 Pentecost – Pentecost Offering
5th Sunday Offering for Bellewood / Buckhorn

Future dates:

June 22–26 6 – 8:30 pm Vacation Bible School at United Methodist Church

Celebrations for May 2009

Birthdays

3 Savannah Prigmore	14 Daphne Correa	21 LeAnna Rawlings
4 Sherri Howe Prigmore	14 Nancy Gabhart	23 Kathy Shewmaker
5 Lacey Miller	15 Pat Carpenter	24 Bill Marks
7 Jed Duffy	16 Jeff Rawlings	25 Jo Holbrook
8 Brenda Watts	18 Mary Ann Rawlings	26 Jennifer Baxter
12 Beverly Woodard	21 Julie Dean	26 David Berry
13 Elizabeth Selleck	21 Dixon Dedman	28 Trudy Sutherland

Anniversaries

2 Les & Jeannie Greenwald	21 Henry & Conchita Grall
9 Jim & Mary Alexander	28 Steven & Isabel Hall
12 Dick & Shirley Howe	31 Joe & Nell Gill
14 William & Sara Sims	31 Del & Nadine White
19 Keith & Bobbi Rightmyer	

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

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Lectionary Readings for May 2009  
Carrie Shewmaker – Elder Host

|                     |                                                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>May 3, 2009</b>  | <b>Psalm 23</b>                                 |
| Epistle Lesson:     | <b>Acts 4:5 – 12; 1 John 3:16 - 24</b>          |
| Gospel Lesson:      | <b>John 10:11 - 18</b>                          |
| <br>                |                                                 |
| <b>May 10, 2009</b> | <b>Psalm 22:25 - 31</b>                         |
| Epistle Lesson:     | <b>Acts 8:26 – 40; 1 John 4:7 21</b>            |
| Gospel Lesson:      | <b>John 15:1 - 8</b>                            |
| <br>                |                                                 |
| <b>May 17, 2009</b> | <b>Psalm 98</b>                                 |
| Epistle Lesson:     | <b>Acts 10:44 – 48; 1 John 5:1 - 6</b>          |
| Gospel Lesson:      | <b>John 15:9 - 17</b>                           |
| <br>                |                                                 |
| <b>May 24, 2009</b> | <b>Psalm 1</b>                                  |
| Epistle Lesson:     | <b>Acts 1:15 – 17, 21 – 26; 1 John 5:9 - 13</b> |
| Gospel Lesson:      | <b>John 17:6 - 19</b>                           |
| <br>                |                                                 |
| <b>May 31, 2009</b> | <b>Psalm 104:24 – 34</b>                        |
| Epistle Lesson:     | <b>Acts 2:1 – 21; Romans 8:22 – 27</b>          |
| Gospel Lesson:      | <b>John 15:26 – 27, 16:4b - 15</b>              |