



*GOOD NEWS*  
*May 2010*  
*United Presbyterian Church*  
*Harrodsburg, KY 40330*

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On May 23<sup>rd</sup> we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, sometimes called the “Birthday” of the church. We read in the second chapter of Acts about the coming of the Holy Spirit to those gathered together in Jerusalem. Those who had followed Jesus in his life, who witnessed his death and resurrection, suddenly realized that God was doing a new thing through Jesus Christ. They had to discern what it meant to follow and proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior after his death and resurrection. In other words, they had to figure out what it meant to be church.

This month, the General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC) of the PC (USA) will be meeting to discuss how and where to cut about \$20 million dollars from the operating budget. The reason for such a big budget shortfall can’t be tied to any single factor. Church membership has dropped, and the recession has had major impacts on the budget. Many churches struggle to balance their budgets with fewer resources, and often less money gets sent to the GAMC. Some churches are keeping their mission dollars for local work rather and reducing their Unified Mission Giving to the denomination. Whatever the reasons, this budget shortfall will require significant personnel and programmatic changes at the denominational level. It will require new answers to the question, “What does it mean to be church?”

The Presbytery of Transylvania has also been undergoing some major changes, and is in the midst of considering others. New Standing Rules were adopted last year and implemented this year. Changes included a complete overhaul of the committees and committee structure, as well as new dates and times for Presbytery meetings. The Presbytery is now considering whether or not to move to a “Mobile Office,”<sup>1</sup> just as the Synod of Living Waters has done recently. The Presbytery and Synod are asking, “What does it mean to be church?”

Here at United Presbyterian Church, we face the question, “What does it mean to be church?” In our nearly 227 year history, the church has seen many changes. The task of discerning our specific call to ministry in our current context should always keep us asking, “What does it mean to be church?”

One response to this question can be seen in the recent committee changes passed by the Session in January. We now have a committee specifically dedicated to Mission, one specifically dedicated to Outreach, and a third that is dedicated to Hospitality. We have already seen new and exciting things coming out of each of these committees! This month the Session will also hear a presentation from Rev. Dr. Richard Smith, General Presbyter, about demographic changes and trends in our community. Through this presentation and discussion, we hope to discern more clearly how God is calling us to minister in our community.

The question, “What does it mean to be church?” is not a new one. We might look to the book of Acts to read about ways that the early church changed, grew, and adapted as needed in order to minister as they were called to do. And perhaps it will give us the confidence to follow, to step out in faith and see where God is leading us today. This month we invite you to be in prayer especially for the General Assembly Mission Council as they seek discernment in making very tough decisions. Pray for all of the personnel and the mission programs that will be affected, as well. Keep in your prayers the Synod of Living Waters, and the Presbytery of Transylvania, and of course the United Presbyterian Church in Harrodsburg, KY. We are the Reformed Church that is always being reformed by the Holy Spirit. May it be so!

Grace and Peace,  
Stephanie and Andy

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<sup>1</sup> For more information on this consideration, including the pros and cons, go to <http://images.acswebnetworks.com/1/435/AMobileOfficepresentation3910.pdf>

## Grace Notes

This month we celebrate communion on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. May 23<sup>rd</sup> is Pentecost Sunday. The disciples were gathered for Pentecost, a Jewish spring harvest festival commemorating the giving of the Law and Commandments, and as they were gathered, the Holy Spirit descended upon the crowd. The exciting story can be found in the second chapter of the book of Acts. It is sometimes celebrated as the “Birthday” of the church. The Sunday following Pentecost is always Trinity Sunday, on which we particularly celebrate the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Both Sundays are especially appropriate for gathering around the Lord’s Table in celebration of God’s activity in the world through the Holy Spirit, who continues to unite us around the table of Jesus Christ.

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.

## Holy Week and Easter

Many thanks to all who participated in the special services of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter! Thanks especially to the women of the church, who provided hospitality for the midday services, to Lee Russell for coordinating the Easter breakfast, and to all who came to worship and join together as a community of faith.

## Presbyterian Women

The Kate Riker Circle will meet Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. They will be studying Lesson 9 from the Horizons Bible Study on Joshua, and will collect the Birthday offering at this last meeting before the Summer break. The evening circle will meet on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Ladies’ Parlor, and will study Lesson 8 from the Horizons Bible Study on Joshua.

The Triennial Gathering for the Synod of Living Waters Presbyterian Women will be June 3-5<sup>th</sup> in Huntsville, Alabama. A brochure is available at [http://www.pwslivingwaters.org/files/Triennial\\_Gathering\\_2.pdf](http://www.pwslivingwaters.org/files/Triennial_Gathering_2.pdf), including registration information. All women are invited and encouraged to attend. The cost is \$115 per person before May 15<sup>th</sup> or \$125 after, which includes conference fees and catered lunches and dinners during the conference. Lodging and breakfast are on your own. If you have any questions, talk to Mary Weber.

## 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 Church

If you need to be trained and certified to work with youth, please let us know. All children (anyone under the age of 18) who participate regularly in our activities, Sunday school, etc... must have a Child Information Sheet on file with the church office, including an Emergency Medical Form and Permission to Administer Medicine, if applicable. Forms must be on file before children or youth can participate in an overnight event (such as the upcoming Lock-In) or any event off church property (such as the upcoming youth

Mission Trip). Forms are available in the church office, in the back of the Sanctuary, and online, and will be stored securely once they are completed. In addition, all parents must also read the Safe Place 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*

### **Offering**

As a reminder, we are collecting an offering in the elementary and Youth Sunday school classes. Even if it is a nickel or dime each week, this helps our children learn about the importance of giving to God in a planned and regular way.



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

The Youth Sunday school class is using a new curriculum, Seasons of the Spirit. This curriculum is based on the readings of the Revised Common Lectionary, which Stephanie and Andy usually follow for preaching and Sunday worship, and it incorporates different learning elements. We are excited to have this new resource!

### **A Gentle Reminder**

As we seek to be a safe place for all of God's children, the Christian Education committee would like to remind all church members that adult supervision is required for all children at all times. The playground outside provides ample space for running around; running in the church endangers our children and some of our members with mobility issues. Please encourage all children to enter the church with a posture towards worship and fellowship. This is for the safety and security of all of our members and guests.

### **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 "Stage Class" meets in the classroom adjacent the Fellowship Hall in the Basement, using "The Present Word" as its curriculum. The Spring study looks 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.

### **Save the Date – Back to School Festival!**

We will have a Back to School Festival on Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, here at the church. Proceeds will help fund mission projects. Watch for more details, but mark your calendar now! You won't want to miss this event.

## *Other Committees*

### **Hospitality**

The Hospitality Committee is planning another Dinner Theater/Talent Show evening! Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> we will have dinner at the church, and we need YOUR talent! There is a signup sheet at the back of the sanctuary, or you can sign up by calling the church office. We'd like to get a count for food preparation, so please sign up if you plan to attend, whether or not you plan to perform. Tickets are \$5 each. Visitors are welcome! Invite your friends, family members, and neighbors for this evening of food and fellowship.

Also, save the date for the Annual Early 4<sup>th</sup> of July Picnic! We will start the festivities at 6pm on Thursday, July 1<sup>st</sup>. Andy Alexander and the Young at Heart band will provide music. Make plans now to join us on the lawn.

### **Mission**

On Pentecost Sunday we will collect the Pentecost offering, the second of four national offerings that we collect each year. The offering helps 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. For more information, go to <http://www.pcusa.org/pentecost/>.

May 23<sup>rd</sup> is also the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, and we will collect the Hunger Offering as well. We continue to collect food items for donation to the Christian Life Center. Items can be brought throughout the month and put in the basket under the table in the Narthex. At the end of the month, these items are taken to the CLC to supplement the food pantry that helps to feed those in need here in Mercer County. May 30<sup>th</sup> is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, and we will collect the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering for Bellewood and Buckhorn.

### **Outreach**

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 World Equestrian Games are coming! Do you have ideas for ways that we can welcome visitors from all over the world into our church during the games? We need your creativity! Talk to Lee Russell 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.

### **Stewardship and Finance**



Coming soon...

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This year, 40% of the Pentecost offering received will go to help fund the youth mission trip to Chattanooga.

Are you financially at peace? Do you ever wish you could get a better handle on your household finances? Coming this fall, we will be starting a 13-week “Financial Peace University,” a program designed to help singles, couples, or families get out of debt and become better financial managers. Jesus spoke more about money and possessions than about any other issue except for the Kingdom of Heaven. Money is not just a material issue, but also a spiritual one. We will have more information in the coming months, and opportunities to sign up for this course. The cost for participants is \$100 per family, and for that you receive a Financial Peace University workbook, audio CDs with all 13 lessons, budgeting forms, and other materials. This is a 50% savings from the regular cost. The class will start in September and run through the first week of December. The \$100 fee might seem prohibitive, but if you set aside \$25 in May, June, July, and August (that’s less than

\$1 a day!), you can get there. On average, families in the program reduce their debt by \$5,300 and save \$2,700 in just 91 days. That's an \$8,000 turnaround! Contact Stephanie, Andy, or any of the members of the Stewardship and Finance Committee for more information. Class schedules will be set based on those who register for the class

## *Other Items*

### **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 emails 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.

### **Mission Insight**

Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, Rev. Dr. Richard Smith, General Presbyter of Transylvania, will be with us in worship, and will lead a special presentation on "Mission Insight" data. This data looks at demographic information for our area, and we can use that as an insight into evangelism and growth opportunities for our church. The presentation will be at 1pm Sunday afternoon, and we will be ordering chicken box lunches from Lee's for those who want to attend the presentation. The cost for lunch is \$6 per person, and we need a count no later than May 9<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to attend this presentation and lunch, please let Lee Russell know by May 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Fifth Sunday**

It's time for another 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday movie afternoon for the Youth (6<sup>th</sup> grade and up). We will be watching a movie and having a discussion afterwards. Popcorn will be provided, but we invite youth to bring whatever drinks or other snacks they want. We will meet at the church at 2pm, down in the Fellowship Hall.

### **New Books in the Library**

We have received a small grant from the Boudinot Library Fund through the Presbyterian Church (USA). We have purchased a number of new books that are now in the church library, ranging from Bible studies and discussion guides for youth and adults to books on church ministry and outreach, theology, spirituality and Christian formation, and more! Come and see! Come and read! Let us grow together in the life of faith.

## *Calling All Coats!*

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a giveaway of coats and accessories for women and girls who need them for job interviews and work. Date in the Fall to be announced later. Everyone check your closets and those of friends, neighbors and relatives for gently worn jackets, rain coats, parkas, blazers, as well as purses, totes, hats, caps, gloves and jewelry.

Garments will be dry cleaned free of charge by Scott Mosely at S & I Cleaners. Items may be dropped off there or at the church. Perhaps a woman would receive a coat and two accessories free - donations will be welcome and the money will be used for missions.

## *Save the Date*

Save the date for the Summer Pastors' Study: Wednesdays at 6:30pm in June, July, and August.

## *Calendar at a Glance for May 2010*

|        |                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 2  | 1:30 Worship Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                       |
| May 3  | 10:30 Kate Riker Circle<br>6:30 Property Committee Meeting                                                                                                           |
| May 4  | 5:30 Outreach Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                      |
| May 7  | 10am Church Women United Meeting at Harrodsburg Christian Church – Refreshments served at 9:30am                                                                     |
| May 9  | Mother's Day                                                                                                                                                         |
| May 10 | 7pm Evening Circle                                                                                                                                                   |
| May 13 | 6:30 Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting                                                                                                                         |
| May 14 | 6:30 Dinner Theatre Talent Night and Meal                                                                                                                            |
| May 16 | 2pm Session                                                                                                                                                          |
| May 23 | Pentecost<br>Morning Worship – Communion, Hunger Offering and Pentecost Offering                                                                                     |
| May 24 | 7pm Mission Committee Meeting                                                                                                                                        |
| May 30 | Trinity Sunday<br>Morning Worship – Communion and 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering for Bellewood/Buckhorn<br>2pm 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday movie afternoon for the Youth |

## *Celebrations for May 2009*

### *Birthdays*

|    |                     |    |                   |    |                  |
|----|---------------------|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
| 3  | Savannah Prigmore   | 14 | Nancy Gabhart     | 23 | Kathy Shewmaker  |
| 4  | Sheri Howe Prigmore | 15 | Pat Carpenter     | 24 | Bill Marks       |
| 5  | Lacey Miller        | 16 | Jeff Rawlings     | 25 | Jo Holbrook      |
| 7  | Jed Duffy           | 18 | Mary Ann Rawlings | 26 | Jennifer Baxter  |
| 8  | Brenda Watts        | 21 | Julie Dean        | 26 | David Berry      |
| 12 | Beverly Woodard     | 21 | Dixon Dedman      | 27 | Elizabeth Lewis  |
| 13 | Elizabeth Selleck   | 22 | LeeAnna Rawlings  | 28 | Trudy Sutherland |

### *Anniversaries*

|    |                         |    |                        |
|----|-------------------------|----|------------------------|
| 9  | Jim & Mary Alexander    | 21 | Henry & Conchita Grall |
| 12 | Dick & Shirley Howe     | 31 | Joe & Nell Gill        |
| 19 | Keith & Bobbi Rightmyer | 31 | Del & Nadine White     |

*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 May 2010*

Jean Buchanan (David Bradshaw) – Elder Host

**May 2, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 148**

**Acts 11:1-18**  
**Revelation 21:1-6 and John 13:31-35**

**May 9, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 67**

**Acts 16:9-15**  
**Revelation 21:10, 21:22-25; John 14:23-29**

**May 16, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 97**

**Acts 16:16-34**  
**Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21**  
**John 17:20-26**

**May 23, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 104:24-34, 35b**

**Genesis 11:1-9**  
**Acts 2:1-21 and John 14:8-17 (25-27)**

**May 30, 2010**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 8**

**Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31**  
**Romans 5:1-5 and John 16:12-15**

