

GOOD NEWS
November 2009
United Presbyterian Church
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

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I recently read an article on pastoral visitation called “Who Else Needs to Hear This?” which gave me the opportunity to reflect on our time with the congregation here in Harrodsburg. During this time, both Stephanie and I have had days when we share with each other, “I just had the most amazing conversation with (name of a congregation member).” There are few things that build us up in our ministry more than hearing the stories of your lives. Upon reflection, we are really honored that you have opened yourselves up to us. One of the most remarkably wonderful things about being a pastor is that people invite us into their lives in ways that few other professions afford. Pastors are there to see the happy new families at the time of the birth of a new baby and leading up to the time of baptism. We get to be there to celebrate with a couple as they prepare to marry. And we have the honor of being there to hear the honest emotions surrounding the death of a loved one. Pastors are invited into the “Thin Places” in the lives of people. These times have been both joyful and exhausting for Stephanie and me. But, what an honor it is to be part of what have become Holy Conversations.

For everyone reading this, we would love to have you share your answer to one question with us. When in your life has a pastoral visit been particularly meaningful? If you are reading this, this is your homework. Please write your answer in an email or if you prefer hand it to Andy after a worship service. We thank you for inviting us into your lives as Pastors, and we look forward to our continued journey together in the coming years.

*Grace and Peace,*  
*Andy and Stephanie*

### *Grace Notes*

*Word and Sacrament:* This month we will have an opportunity to celebrate both Sacraments in one worship service. On Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup> we will welcome our newest members to the church – the youth who have completed Confirmation class. Tyler Garrett, Elizabeth Lewis, Joe Mitchell, Emily Rawlings, and Morgan Turner have been preparing to become full members of the church, and Tyler, Elizabeth and Morgan will also be baptized into the Body of Christ on this Sunday. We will also be celebrating Communion, as we do on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.

At baptism, members of the church pledge to guide and nurture those being baptized, by word and deed, with love and prayer, and encouraging them to know and follow Christ. This pledge entails an ongoing commitment to the support, nurture, fellowship, and education of all of our members. As we baptize and welcome our new members, we invite you to make new commitments of Christian love and support to them, and also to remember all of the sons and daughters of this church, and our ongoing commitment to care and pray for each of them. Gathered at the Lord’s Table, we are reminded that we are created to be Christians in community, and that we are called to love and support each other, pray for each other, and maintain peace and unity as the body of Christ. It is only through the power of the Holy Spirit, whose signs we see visibly in the Sacraments, that we are able to fulfill this call. May it be so.

### *Presbyterian Women*

The Kate Riker Circle will meet Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. They will be studying Lesson 3 from the Horizons Bible Study on Joshua. The evening circle will meet on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Ladies’ Parlor, and will study Lesson 2 from the Horizons Bible Study on Joshua.

There are still copies of this study available in the church office for purchase (\$6 each).

## **Christian Education**

### **Children and Youth**

On Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, we will kick off a new 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday program for our youth (from 6<sup>th</sup> grade through high school). On Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, Carrie Shewmaker will be showing a movie and then leading discussion afterwards, starting at 2pm. Snacks will be provided, and youth are invited to bring their own drinks and additional snacks if they desire. Each 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month we will gather for snacks, a movie, and a discussion, or some other special event. This is a great opportunity to invite more youth into the church for fun, food, and theological reflection on things that are relevant to their lives. If you would like to get involved or have any questions, please contact Irene Mitchell or Lee Russell.

### **Confirmation and Baptisms Scheduled**

Though winter is the next season on our horizon, summer is already on our minds! This summer we would like to get our youth involved in special activities, including conferences at Burnamwood and/or Montreat, mission trips and service activities, and other opportunities. We will start planning dates for this soon. If you have suggestions or want to know more, talk to Irene or Lee.

## **Thoughtful Christian Sunday School Class**

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 topics for November are as follows:

- [1 November - Should Churches Pay Taxes?](#)
- [8 November - Torture](#)
- [15 November - Hezbollah, Israel & Lebanon: Why Should Christians Care?](#)
- [22 November - The Meaning of Thanksgiving](#)
- [29 November - Learning Compassion](#)

In the coming month they will be choosing topics for the next quarter or two for study. The possibilities are abundant, from contemporary issues to popular culture, Bible studies and studies on Christian Living. Go to <http://www.thethoughtfulchristian.com> to look at available studies. For more information, contact Del or Nadine White.

The “Stage Class” meets in the classroom adjacent the Fellowship Hall in the Basement, using “The Present Word” as its curriculum. The Winter Quarterly study will start in December, and the new books have already arrived at the church. The authors of the student book for the Winter Quarter include some familiar names – Sheldon Sorge and Stephanie and Andy Wing!

## **Pastors' Study**

The pastors will lead a book discussion of *Christianity for the Rest of Us* by Diana Butler Bass in November and December. This book looks at mainline churches like ours that are thriving and growing spiritually and otherwise. Though they are very diverse from one another, there are some characteristics that they all share. We will look at these and discuss how our church is already doing some of these things, and where we might be challenged to grow in the near future. If you did not order a copy of the book through the church, you can order it for yourself online. It is also possible to order the book through the local Cokesbury bookstores in either Wilmore (859/858-4242) or Lexington (859/268-1395). We also have purchased a library copy that you can use to read if you haven't purchased the book yet.

## **Living Wills**

Rev. Beth Mosier Silence, who was a guest preacher in May, will be coming to lead a workshop on living wills and directives for anyone interested. Many of us know the importance of letting our friends and

loved ones know our wishes in cases of medical crisis, but there is no substitute for a written living will. Watch the bulletin for more details on the scheduling of this workshop.

### *Advent Devotional Book*

Looking ahead to Advent: Are you looking for an Advent devotional book to use for your personal or family devotions? Consider ordering a new 2009 Advent study published by the PC (USA), *With Hearts and Hands Uplifted*. This devotional offers 28 daily devotions based on a familiar hymn of the season that provides time for reflection on our expectant waiting for the coming Christ. Songs include: “Amazing Grace,” “O Little Town of Bethlehem,” “While Shepherds Watch Their Flocks by Night,” and many more. If you would like to order a copy through the church (and save on shipping costs), please let us know by Wednesday, November 11th, so that we can get our orders in and have the books in time to start with the first devotion on November 29th. The cost is \$11 including shipping for each book.

### *Christian Education and Young Adult Surveys*

We have two surveys online – one for all young adults/adults regarding Bible studies, classes, and other activities at church, and the other geared specifically towards young adults. We would appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to fill out either or both of these surveys (both 10 questions or under). If you know of young adults that are not active in church anywhere or sometimes active here or elsewhere, please encourage them to fill out this survey, as well! For the Christian Education Survey, go to [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=PFd\\_2bnQYMea6dXOjrJu\\_2f3IA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=PFd_2bnQYMea6dXOjrJu_2f3IA_3d_3d), and for the young adult survey, go to [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2BTJMd8BlvHV7GPQ0rJWeQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2BTJMd8BlvHV7GPQ0rJWeQ_3d_3d). Thanks for your help!

We need a Calligrapher! If you have calligraphy skills or know of someone who does, please talk to either of the pastors or let Bobbi know in the office.

### *Stewardship and Finance*

#### **Pledge Sunday**

You will soon be receiving pledge cards from the Session for 2010 pledges. In addition to the regular pledge for contributions, there will be a new section on the pledge card so that you can pledge time, talents, and treasure, all resources that we are called to use to God’s glory as wise stewards of the gifts God has given us. On Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will have a time for dedication of these pledges in church. If you are unable to be in church that Sunday, please mail your pledges into the church. Otherwise, you can bring them with you on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. It has been and continues to be church practice that the Church Treasurer is the only person who sees the financial pledges. The “time and talents” section will be seen by the church leadership, including active Elders and the Co-Pastors. Please take time to prayerfully consider how God is calling you to share your time, talents, and treasures, and how you might give your “first fruits” for the work and ministry of the church.

#### **Special Offerings this Month**

This month we will collect the Hunger Offering as usual on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup>), and the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offering for Bellewood and Buckhorn on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>. The Hunger Offering is sent to the Presbytery for hunger relief work. We also collect food donations throughout the month for the Christian Life Center food pantry, benefiting individuals in our local community. The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offering is split between Bellewood and Buckhorn, both of which provide many kinds of assistance to and youth at risk, as well as support for foster care families and individuals transitioning out of state or foster care.

#### **Living Waters Fundraiser**

The Synod of Living Waters has a well-established mission, Living Waters for the World, which trains mission teams to install drinking water filtration systems in areas where clean drinking water is not accessible. Most of this work has happened in developing countries, but they have also been expanding to provide home units in some areas of eastern Kentucky and Tennessee. The Session has approved a new fundraising project to begin raising money so that we can fund a team and an installation project in Appalachia in the future. Mary Weber has already raised several hundred dollars for a local installation through the sale of her necklaces, in

addition to the thousand of dollars raised and still being raised for the Synod-wide project. If you would like more information about this, please contact Mary Weber, and keep an eye on the bulletin and newsletter for more details.

### *New UPC Bookmarks*

We have new UPC bookmarks with our church information and a brief church history on the back. If you would like to take some to post around town, just let us know. We hope this can be a tool for church outreach. If you would like to “purchase” bookmarks with a donation to help offset the costs, you can do that as well.

### *Upcoming Events*

#### **Trip to the Newport Aquarium**

We will go to the Newport Aquarium on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. The cost of Admission is \$18 per person, but the church will cover the ticket price for all youth through college age with funds from the Jan Hylen fund. All participants are also asked to bring money for food. We will leave from the church at 9am and return by 6pm. Lee Russell’s brother is Diver Dave. We will watch his dive show and then receive a behind the scenes tour from him! If you haven’t signed up yet, please do so on the signup sheet outside of the office or by calling the church office.

#### **Presbytery Meeting**

The final Presbytery of Transylvania Stated meeting for 2009 will be Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> in Lexington. The Friday night dinner will feature a conversation with Rev. Byron Wade, current Vice-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Elder Commissioner for this meeting is Irene Mitchell, and Henry Grall is alternate. Anyone wishing to attend may do so as a guest. For details on registration and the cost of the meals, contact Stephanie or Andy, or call the Presbytery office at 888-233-1544.

#### **Decorating the Church**

The Flower Committee will be decorating the church on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Please keep an eye on the bulletin for details about this, as well as Poinsettia orders for the Christmas season. Contact Sue Saufley Sullivan with questions.

#### **Christmas Open House**

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 3-6pm. The Evangelism and Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a Christmas Open House at the church. We will have a reception, including finger sandwiches, sweets, and holiday drinks, and there will be music playing throughout, provided by Susan Shewmaker and other local musicians. Please plan to come now and invite your friends, family, and neighbors. Food will be in the Ladies’ Parlor, but the sanctuary and other areas will be open for mingling and enjoying our beautifully decorated sanctuary.

### *United Presbyterian Church* *Christmas Open House*



*December 13<sup>th</sup> from 3 – 6pm*

### **Christmas Caroling and Christmas Day Gathering**

We will go Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. Mark your calendars now for this festive annual event! Also, please mark your calendars for a special new event on Christmas Day. From 2-4pm, we will open up the church for a Christmas Day drop-in for hot chocolate and Christmas treats, singing songs, and enjoying fellowship on this day when we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Christmas is typically a time for families to gather, but many in our community and even in our church find themselves alone on Christmas day. Please come join us to celebrate Christmas together with our church family. Think of those individuals or families you know who might especially appreciate this time to gather with others and share God's love. Both of these events are sponsored by the Worship Committee. If you have any questions, contact David Bradshaw.

### **Pastors' Travel**

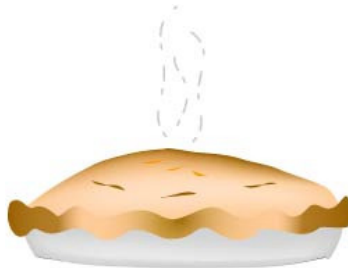
Andy and Stephanie will be completing their continuing education time for 2009 with a retreat for Pastors led by Executive Presbyterian Richard Smith on November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at Camp Burnamwood. They will also be taking vacation time from November 25<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup>. Linda Crawford, Moderator of the Presbyterian Women for the Presbytery of Transylvania, will be our guest preacher on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. During our absence, the Rev. Beth Garrod-Logsdon from Wilmore Presbyterian Church will be on call for Pastoral Care emergencies. The office will be open as usual, though closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

### *Youth Sunday School Mission Project for Heifer International*

This program helps the poor and malnourished families and small children.

*Thanksgiving Pies*

*\$5 each*



\_\_\_\_\_ **Apple Pie**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Pumpkin Pie**

**\*Delivery date November 25, 2009**

**Thank you for your help.**

For more information, contact Irene Mitchell or the church office.

## *Calendar at a Glance for November 2009*

|                  |                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 2       | 10:30 Kate Riker Circle<br>6:30 Property Committee Meeting                                                                                      |
| November 3       | 7pm Evening Bible Study Group                                                                                                                   |
| November 4       | 2pm Afternoon Bible Study Group                                                                                                                 |
| November 7       | 9a – 6p Newport Aquarium                                                                                                                        |
| November 8       | 1:15 Worship Committee Meeting                                                                                                                  |
| November 9 – 10  | Pastor's Retreat at Burnamwood                                                                                                                  |
| November 9       | 7pm Evening Women's Circle                                                                                                                      |
| November 10 – 11 | No Bible Study Group this week                                                                                                                  |
| November 11      | 6:30 Christian Education Meeting                                                                                                                |
| November 12      | 6:30 Stewardship & Finance Committee Meeting                                                                                                    |
| November 15      | 10:15am Called Session Meeting<br>Morning Worship – Confirmation and Baptisms – Communion<br>2pm Session Meeting                                |
| November 17      | 7pm Evening Bible Study Group                                                                                                                   |
| November 18      | 2pm Afternoon Bible Study Group                                                                                                                 |
| November 22      | Morning Worship – Hunger – Christ the King<br>Evangelism & Outreach Committee Meeting after Morning Worship                                     |
| November 29      | Morning Worship – 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Offering for Burnamwood/Buckhorn<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Program |

### *November Celebrations*

#### *Birthdays*

|    |                 |    |               |    |                 |
|----|-----------------|----|---------------|----|-----------------|
| 2  | Adriana Correa  | 18 | Cameron Duffy | 25 | Becky Dedman    |
| 5  | Jill Romero     | 18 | Phillip Roach | 27 | Anne Cherry     |
| 6  | Tyler Garrett   | 20 | Sarah Cooper  | 28 | Lauren Ferguson |
| 14 | Louise Dean     | 24 | Hailey Logue  | 29 | Sharon Johnson  |
| 15 | Jackie Lindberg | 24 | Chad Semrau   | 29 | Alex Prigmore   |

#### *Anniversaries*

|    |                          |    |                         |
|----|--------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 3  | Bill & Crystal Nichols   |    |                         |
| 14 | Jed & Jessica Duffy      | 20 | Mike & Barbara Lively   |
| 18 | Gordon & Beverly Woodard | 23 | David & Susan Shewmaker |

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

(859) 734-4710

Choir/Organist: Susan Shewmaker Thoughtful Christian Class @ 9:30  
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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326 S. Main Street  
Harrodsburg, KY 40330

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*Lectionary Readings for November 2009*

Doug Ferguson – Elder Host

**November 1, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 24**

**Isaiah 25:6-9**  
**Revelation 21:1-6a and John 11:32-44**

**November 8, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 127**

**Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17**  
**Hebrews 9:24-28 and Mark 12:38-44**

**November 15, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**I Samuel 2:1-10**

**I Samuel 1:4-20**  
**Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) and Mark 3:1-8**

**November 22, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 132:1-12 (13-18)**

**2 Samuel 23:1-7**  
**Revelation 1:4b-8 and John 18:33-37**

**November 29, 2009**

Old Covenant Lesson:  
New Covenant Lesson:

**Psalm 25:1-10**

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**  
**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 and Luke 21:25-36**