

# Presbyterian Courier

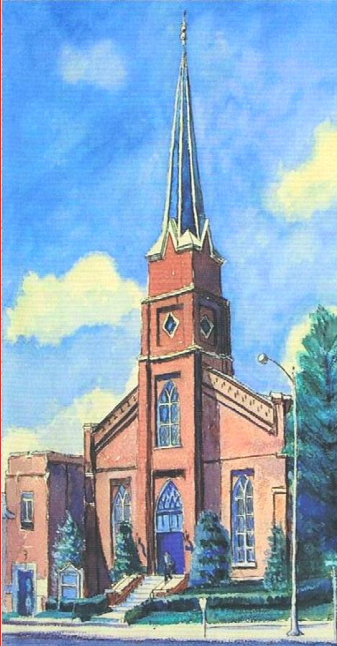
The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green, Kentucky



Volume 18

July 2014

Issue 7



## Pastor's COLUMN

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) meets every two years. The 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly concluded recently, on June 21. Sometimes the plans and policies that come out of these meetings are troubling. I want to reflect on that a little bit here. We will be placing a full digest of the actions of the 221<sup>st</sup> General Assembly in the bulletin July 6, so this is not a digest, but a rationale.

God created all things, and God raised Jesus from the dead. These are decisive signs. God is the maker and re-maker of all life. So it is that we who worship God, and especially those of us who worship the risen Christ, are to be engaged in our world. Nothing is out-of-bounds for God, so nothing is beyond our theological thinking.

Our faithful engagement in this world the Lord has made is so deep that we may be said to reverse the old saying, "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread." In fact, we rush into many situations, not as fools, and not quite as angels either, but as people devoted to God's creation. Our breadth of interest is not high-mindedness, but merely a sign of our faith in God, whose loving hand touches all things.

Not as fools, and not quite as angels either, does our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (USA), do its work. Our Presbytery of Western Kentucky sent two commissioners, the Rev. Sam Yang, who is the Pastor of the First Korean Presbyterian Church of Clarkesville, TN, and Mr. Ralph Young, the Clerk of Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Paducah. These are real people, as were each of the 654 commissioners. Their individual opinions, their faith, and their consciences make for a wide, wide range of thought on the issues of our day.

What happened at General Assembly? People considered God's will on such wide-ranging topics as marriage, same-gender marriage, the involvement of corporations in the politics and destruction of war, initiatives for teaching the poorest of the poor children, concerns about gun violence, and the formal acceptance of an historical statement of faith written by South Africans into our church's constitutional documents.

There was more. I hope you will be interested in the digest we will provide July 6<sup>th</sup>. Copies will also be available in the church office.

Additionally, I would be glad to discuss joys and concerns with you. That's my job, and I love it. Call me!

And Know You Are Loved.

Matthew



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# Congregational Care & Fellowship

A BIG thank you to my church family,

Many of you are aware that I have been ailing for the last year or two. Many of you have helped me in many ways and I want you to know how I appreciate your thoughts, prayers, cares and concerns. Abundant food deliveries, trips to the grocery, transportation have been an enormous help. We have both been sick at the same time. I have good news to report. I am improving and getting better! Chuck is too, he had pneumonia and another debilitating infection.

I have a condition known as Non-Pressure Hydrocephalus: too much cerebral-spinal fluid in my brain. The pressure was causing several very disparate conditions that were untenable. The only "fix" is to install a shunt draining the fluid into the abdominal cavity where it will be reabsorbed by the body. I had that surgery June 2, 2014. You can see the tube running down my neck under the skin. (Inspections are welcome)

A year ago, while laying the groundwork for this shunt, I contracted spinal meningitis. This was followed by five weeks in intensive care and rehab. This set me back quite a bit; all the while the symptoms of the Hydrocephalus were getting worse. So I am very thankful to have this surgery behind me and to start resuming my life! I don't think we would have made it without you!

Thanks again,  
Tina Coates

## SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL—Lifes's Differing Perspectives:

- July 6 Hymn Perspectives—Led by Mike Kanan and Tom Moody
- July 13 Cultivating Faith in Families—Led by Jody Johnson
- July 20 Spiritual Practices—Led by Sally Calkins
- July 27 Hymn Perspectives—Led by Mike Kanan and Tom Moody
- Aug 3 Moving Beyond Charity—Led by Rhondell Miller
- Aug 10 Engaging Children—Led by Judy Whitson
- Aug 17 Hymn Perspectives—Led by Mike Kanan and Tom Moody

## Youth News

**HOLIDAY WORLD:** July 26. Cost is \$40.

**CITY SIGHTS/CITY LIGHTS: Middle School Mission Experience** will be July 6-9. Cost is \$40. First Presbyterian - Paducah will be hosting. This year's theme is "Let Your Little Light Shine". This trip is for rising 6th graders - rising 9th graders.

**MONTREAT:** Final payments are now due for Montreat Youth Conference, July 12-19. Total cost is \$350. We have room for a few more. This trip is for rising 9th graders - graduated seniors.

# Church and Community

## Photography Exhibit Continues

The current display in the Fellowship Hall is a spectacular collection of photos from the Sunny 16 Photography Club. Sunny 16 consists of photography enthusiasts from South Central Kentucky, including several members of this congregation. This exhibit will continue through August 7th.

## Library

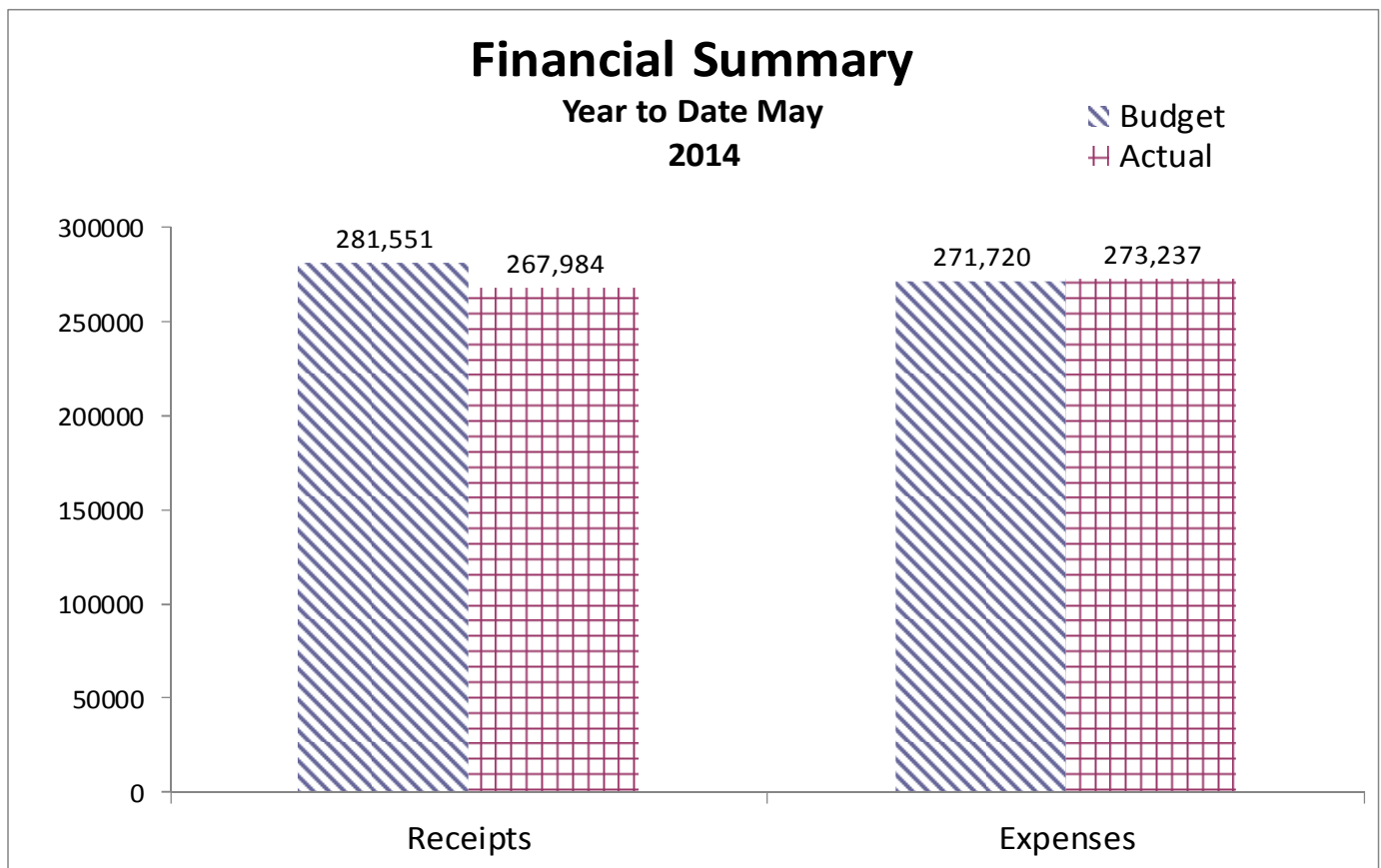
The book drop drawer is located at the bottom of the stairway across from Fellowship Hall. It may be used to return library books, if you do not wish to go all the way to the library. You may also leave Paper Backs for the Homeless in this drawer. You may also leave requests for library books. The drawer will be checked on Sundays.

You may also contact the Librarian, Arnie. at 270 904 0393 or [arfranpe@msn.com](mailto:arfranpe@msn.com)

## Check In Calls

The church is considering offering a daily phone call/check-in to persons who are living alone, and who would take comfort from a daily call just to check up on their well-being. If you would be interested in this service, or are willing to help make calls for the church, please call the office to let us know (270-843-4707).

## Is your pledge up to date?



# Mission work of The Presbyterian Church

"Gathered and sent, sowing the infinite love of God."

We have been created for good works which God prepared for us beforehand to be our way of life. Mission is our purpose and discipleship is our labor. We are inspired by scripture, faith, and the needs of others, to proclaim God's love for the world in Jesus Christ in word and deed, to give justice to the weak and maintain the rights of destitute people, and to give generously from resources of energy and property.

## Habitat for Humanity



We are signed up for a BUILD day on **Saturday, August 2**. Fred Kernohan reports Habitat volunteers will work on a second subdivision house and might need to do some finish work at the first house, the one church volunteers worked on in May. These homes are in a beautifully planned subdivision. We are taking part in making this happen through our yearly financial commitment, as well as with our hands on BUILD days. Our support of Habitat has life changing consequences on multiple levels for generations to come. When we work and serve together we build new relationships and bonds within our community as well as within our own church membership.

## MEALS INC.

**VOLUNTEERS - SAVE THE DATES!** The remaining 2014 dates for our church are August 9 and November 8. The following special dates are designated as "all church" Saturdays: October 4, November 29, and December 20.

Gary and Liza Ahrendt have agreed to take on the chairmanship of MEALS INC. Gary and Liza have been faithful volunteers, taking the lead on picking up Panera bread donations, substituting for organizers, and distributing meals. Pam Bratcher remains our church liaison member of the board and the one to call or email when volunteering for our church dates.

## Disaster Relief

Jan Albert reported in June that she delivered fourteen disaster relief clean up buckets to the Church World service pick up site in Indianapolis. This project is part of a new mission focus on disaster relief. In May members donated some items for the buckets prepared by some of our children and adults and made possible with money donations and mission funds.

## Food Pantry

Debbie Trickey asks that we remember to include items for the food pantry when we shop for groceries. The food pantry serves an average of 125 individuals per month.

***Our deepest sympathy is extended to the following members and friends of this church who have recently lost loved ones:***

*Lauren French in the death of her grandfather*



## Donation Request

Do you have any used floral frogs sitting in a drawer or cabinet? Sandy Brown needs some for making floral arrangements for the art shows and gallery hops at the church. They need to be at least 2 inches, nothing smaller. If you can donate any, or if you have any questions, please call Sandy at 270-781-2656. Thank you!



**MISSION—CUIC HELP MINISTRY NEEDS FUNDS:** Our church participates with other Bowling Green churches in providing help to people in financial emergencies. Churches United in Christ (CUIC) has helped 343 people, with \$25,915 in 2014. The need is great going into the summer, when utility bills are high. Donations may be marked for CUIC.

**SIMPLE GIFTS:** The giving and receiving of gifts continues. If you have a nice story or testimonial about this experience, and would like to share with the congregation, please call or email Steve Todd at [stephenc.todd@yahoo.com](mailto:stephenc.todd@yahoo.com)

### **Southern Teas and Appetizers & Silent Auction**

**Saturday July 19, 2014  
4:00—6:00 PM**

**The Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall**

***Sponsored by Chapter AD of the P.E.O. Sisterhood  
To help fund scholarships for women***

**\$15 per person / \$25 per couple**

**All are invited!**

**Please contact Sally Calkins (270- 843- 3948) to make a reservation**

*Members of Chapter AD who are also members of this church:*

*Rosamond Beard, Pam Bratcher, Barbara Brindle, Sally Calkins, Ann Covington, Emily Davenport, Mary Evans, Patty Greninger, Sharon Hendrix, Rosemary Henry, Wanda Hunt, Melissa Johnson, Nancy Keyser, Nancy Moore, Sheila Reeves, Ann Rudolph, Diane Simmons, Karen Watson, Marti Jo Watson, Meg Webb*

# July Birthdays



July 1

David Wilkinson

July 3

Larry Warden

July 4

Joel Brown

Tom Maurer

July 5

Rob McAllister

July 7

Andy McLaren

Erika Solberg

July 8

Nancy Keyser

Donna Wolbe

July 10

Dot Koven

July 12

Jack Glasser

July 13

Lou Mary Carwell

July 14

Hank Hanson

Marilyn Mattingly

Minda Schafer

July 16

Alan Reeves

July 17

Matthew Covington

Chloe Johnson

Zoe Lebedinsky

Peyton Phillips

Bobbie Strickler

July 18

Fran Bowen

Mary Evans

Jack Grise

Samuel Grise

Allison Webb

Sarah Webb

July 19

Nathan B. Algie

Nathan C. Algie

Kyle Barrick

Pam Bratcher

Nancy English

Donald Nuerge

July 20

Grace Alexieff

Rob Byrd

Sheryl Goad

Bette Jo Miller

July 21

Gary Ahrendt

Jack Atkerson

Susan Howard

Trey Just

July 24

Gretchen Bettersworth

David Thomison

July 25

Ann Dickey

Helen Hatchett

July 26

Judith Rabold

July 27

Charles Runner

Austen Seidler

Owen Seidler

July 28

Leslie Embry

Martha Schell

Arvin Vos

July 29

Bill Beard

Myra Dwyer

Janice Glasser

July 30

Patrick Bryant

Katie Maurer


Bruce White

July 31

Sandy Brown

Herb Simmons

# July Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Mtg.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  7:00pm Theology Pub	<b>4</b> Office closed	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 8:30 Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Mtg.  7:00pm Camera Club	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  7:00pm Theology Pub	<b>11</b> 10:30am Morning Prayer	<b>12</b>  Youth to Montreat
<b>13</b> 8:30 Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Mtg.	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  7:00pm Theology Pub	<b>18</b> 10:30am Morning Prayer	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 8:30 Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Mtg. 7:00pm Book Club	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  7:00pm Theology Pub	<b>25</b> 10:30am Morning Prayer	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 8:30 Breakfast 9:00am Sunday School 10:00am Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 11:00am Special Care 2:00pm Staff Mtg.	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  7:00pm Theology Pub		

**The Presbyterian Church**  
1003 State Street  
Bowling Green, KY 42101  
(270)843-4707

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**July 2014**



*"Our reason for being is to manifest the good news of Jesus Christ in word and deed so that disciples are made by means of inspiring and engaging worship, relevant and reliable education, compassionate and caring fellowship, meaningful and magnanimous outreach, to the glory of God."*

**Tuesday, July 15th is the deadline  
for the August 2014 newsletter.  
Send your information to  
[sheilareeves@reevesfirst.com](mailto:sheilareeves@reevesfirst.com)**

Full Color Newsletters are available online at  
[www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org)

## **The Presbyterian Church**

Bowling Green, Kentucky  
(270)843-4707  
[www.bgpres.org](http://www.bgpres.org)

### **The Presbyterian Church Staff**

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**David Muffett**

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**Steve Moore**  
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**Sheila Reeves**

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**Associate Pastor**  
**Organist, Pastoral Assistant**  
**Choir Director**  
**Director of Youth Ministries /**  
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