

OCTOBER 2009

# Chronicles

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
1400 HIGHLAND PIKE, COVINGTON, KY 41011  
[WWW.COFNKY.ORG](http://WWW.COFNKY.ORG)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### Risky Business

By the time you receive this, World Communion Sunday will have passed, as well as the Sunday following which is when we traditionally receive the Peacemaking Offering.

I believe that thinking about these two events requires some things of us. First it is clear that one feeds the other. Second there is a problem related to the communal aspect of the event: it is just for Christians. Third, it is a problem that demands a solution.

In John Lennon's famous anthem, *Imagine* he wrote about a time when there was "nothing to kill or die for," and then he added, "and no religion too." We know why he wrote it, because religion has always been something that too many

people have been willing to "kill or die for". I suspect that it is because all religion is flawed. You know I'm right about this; it's the proverbial "dirty little secret," that my religion is superior to your religion, and—not only is it superior—but my religion is the only true religion. Your religion is false. Even within the Christian faith we have found that to be true; within denominations of that faith and others, within individual churches, mosques, and temples.

My superior religion means that I have eternity in paradise and those who do not share my religion do not. And if that were all the difference, then we could agree to disagree. We know it is not. There is a wicked twist to many religions that cause believers to do harm

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to those who won't convert to the true faith—that is, the religion I believe in. When I confess that Jesus Christ is the only way, then I do harm to those who do not believe that. There is arrogance implicit in the confession as though I have something that others do not have; and that those who do not have it are inferior, even sub-human.

Does this mean I do not believe that Jesus Christ is the *only* way? The answer is that I refuse to deposit God, the God of the universe in a finite box that limits grace to those who believe in Jesus Christ. The better question is, do I believe in Jesus Christ? And my response is most definitely. There is no story I have heard that moves me as much as the Jesus story. In it, I find God revealed in a

wondrous and meaningful way.

Not only that but the church that professes that belief has for a long time now, acted out that story in my life with tunes of grace and forgiveness and challenge.

But true communion is the bonding of all God's people, not just the Christians. To truly do that, we must embrace those who practice religions where belief in Jesus Christ is not professed. We must do away with the dirty, not so little secret that proclaims one religion superior to another and trust God, in God's own time, to make things right.

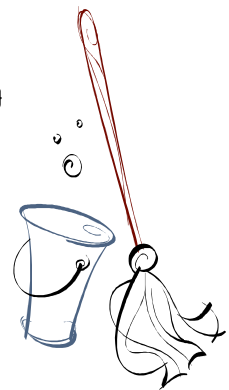
World Communion may then be truly celebrated; peacemaking raised to an as yet unknown level of grace.

### Putt Putt and Pizza

*Saturday, October 3rd. Putt-Putt beginning at 4:00pm followed by pizza at Pizza Hut. We'd like to get a head count. Please call the church office or sign up in the narthex.*

### Church Work Day

Saturday, October 17 beginning at 10:00am. Come when you can, stay for as long as you like, leave when ya gotta. We will be sprucing up the church and grounds. A sampling of the projects is posted in the narthex. Sign your name next to your favorite or call the church. Ask your children and grandchildren if they need service hours. This is a good opportunity to get some required hours out of the way and spend time together.



**IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS**



Henry Wallace, Robert & KC Clarke, The Kreicker Family, Pete Beckett, Eileen Hastings, and Bert Summerell. Please remember our nursing home residents and shut ins: Ruth Comisar, and Evelyn Wallace.

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

Miguel Carlin 7th  
 Nancy Ziegler 14th  
 Ryan Nowak 20th  
 Michael Roy 20th



Sandi Brown 25th  
 Robert Hamilton 28th  
 Jennifer Beach 31st

*Thank You*

Mark Brant wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, thoughts and gifts. Please continue to pray for him, his health and the cooperation of his insurance company.

**FROM OUR TREASURER**

**GARY WILLIS**

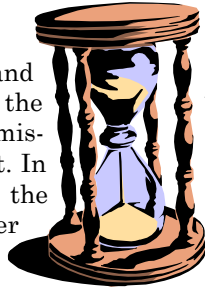
<b>2009</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>Yr-to-Date</b>
Beginning Balance	15,417	26,180
Income	10,970	75,913
Expense	<u>7,954</u>	<u>83,660</u>
Ending Balance	18,433	18,433

Please inform the office staff of any address, phone number, or e-mail address changes or corrections.

Call Patricia 859 331-3238 or  
 e-mail [communityoffaith@fuse.net](mailto:communityoffaith@fuse.net)

## MISSION AT WORK

The Mission Umbrella met in Sept. and laid out its work through the end of the year. Oct., Nov., and Dec. are busy mission months. This year is no different. In fact with the turn of the economy, the demand on mission resources is higher while mission giving is down. As we enter these winter months let us keep this in mind.



The Mission Group is lining up a work day in Oct. Here is an excellent opportunity to engage in good fellowship and do something to help the local Church remain in good repair and indeed looking good. The date selected is October 17, 2009. This is a Saturday and the "fun" times will begin at 10:00 A.M. There will be sign up sheets posted in the narthex so pick what you like and come ready to roll up your sleeves and spruce up the building. Come when you can, work as long as you want, and leave when ya hafta.

Between now and the end of the year we will receive the Peacemaking Offering and the Christmas Joy Offering. The Peacemaking Offering will be received September 27th. You may have noticed envelopes in the bulletin. Part of the offering will remain in the community to promote peace. Part of it goes to Presbytery and the rest to G.A. As our world seems to be getting more and more violent, the significance of the Peacemaking Offering becomes more and more important.

The Christmas Joy Offering will be received in December. This offering started out to help retired ministers wives. Today part of it goes to help families of active or retired church workers in need, and part goes to support the education of students at Presbyterian racial ethnic schools and colleges.

We are planning a Stewardship Campaign for Oct. and the first half of Nov. "Today, Tomorrow and Tomorrow". Doing Great Things is the

**BY: JACK KLEIER**

challenge that lies ahead for this congregation for 2010 and of course the Theme for Stewardship 2010. A preliminary budget will be prepared and through a series of Mission Minutes, presented to the Congregation. The challenge will be laid out of what we are able to accomplish with the budget proposed. Challenge cards will be given to the Congregation and each of us will be asked to decide what we can do for the Church in the coming year. When all the cards are in, the final budget will be pulled together and that will be the Session's guideline as we face 2010. The challenge then is three fold;

1. Will we be able to do as much as we did in 2009?
2. Will we have to cut back even more than last year?
3. Will we do great things , accomplishing more than we did in the past?

God's work needs to move ahead and through prayer we need to decide how much of that work we will be involved in. All of these questions will surface on November 22, 2009, Christ The King Sunday, when we will bring our commitment cards to church and dedicate them on an Homage to the King Day.

During Nov. and December we will have a series of special offerings for Buckhorn, The Ludlow Giving Tree, Be Con and of course the Women's Christmas Party with their gifts for the needy.

We will certainly see Mission up front Oct. 22-24 when many people involved in Mission around the world gather in Cincinnati to focus on the Presbyterian Church's work in God's name. For those so inclined it is not too late to call the Presbytery Office 513-221-4850 and volunteer. It will be a great opportunity to meet some very interesting people.

## FILM CAPSULES

**9** Rated PG-13. Running Time: 1 hour 19 min. Genesis 6:5 & 11:4a

**9** is a beautifully animated film set in a world made ugly by the wars against humanity--indeed, this being a post-apocalyptic film, the *last* war as far as humans are concerned. Centering on a few doll-sized androids created so hastily during humankind's last moments that their inner workings are covered by crudely stitched together burlap with a large zipper for closing, it is the old story of freedom versus security, of fear versus faith. In a series of old newspaper photos and a newsreel our hero, named 9 because he was the 9th in a line of experimental droids, learns of the wars among humans as they develop ever more intelligent machines of destruction, and then of the war of annihilation when the killing machines turned on their creators. 9 and the other droids debate whether to stay hidden in security or to venture forth into danger in order to combat the soulless machines that now rule the world. This is a well crafted film that asserts that there is a spirituality necessary for meaningful existence--but leave small children at home, because of numerous violent scenes that could lead to nightmares.

### **Inglorious Basterds**

Rated R. Running Time: 2 hours 32 min. 1 Samuel 15:1-3

Quentin Tarantino's films are always smart and interesting, filled with humor, allusions to classic or cult films, and sometimes, as in the case of my favorite, *Pulp Fiction*, with theological insight. His



**BY: ED McNULTY**

current rewrite of WW 2 history, mainly from the standpoint of the devourers of that period's pulp fiction, is too similar to the blood bath film *The Dirty Dozen* for this reviewer to feel comfortable, even though I enjoyed it. A band of American Jews recruited by an officer to wage behind enemy lines a vicious campaign of exterminating Nazis: a German movie star who spies for the Allies; a young theater owner in Paris who a few years earlier escaped the massacre of her Jewish family; and a Nazi SS officer whose manners make Agent 007 seem like a crude bumpkin yet whose ruthlessness makes Hannibal Lector appear to be a humanitarian--these are characters you will not forget. But can we as Christians condone their methods, even in a juvenile fantasy world that offers a comic book ending to the bloodiest war in history?

### **Two Excellent Films On DVD**

The following two films provide a great opportunity for church groups to gain insights into and discuss an important issue that will come to the fore again after the current furor over health care reformation (or not) has subsided.

#### **Sine Nombre**

Rated R. Running time: 1 hour 36 min. Deuteronomy 24:19-22

This is a heart-wrenching film that deserves to be seen by those advocating both sides of the debate over immigration policy in the US. Weaving together the stories of Sayra, a teenage girl who joins her father and uncle atop a train heading from Honduras to northern Mexico, with that of

## FILM CAPSULES , CONTINUED

Willy, nicknamed Casper, a member of the brutal Mara Salvatrucha gang in southern Mexico, it is the best film since 1983's *El Norte* for putting a human face on the issue of illegal migrants. Already in trouble with his gang leader for lying to them, Casper makes the final break when he rescues Sayra who is about to be robbed and raped on the train. The realism of the film stems from writer/director Cary Fukunaga's having himself ridden atop a Mexican train bound for the northern border. The story is a harrowing one, told with no sentimentality, yet filled with love and grace--and at the end, a shred of hope. The film played for just a couple of weeks at an art house theater, but thanks to its DVD release is now available to all. Please spread the word about this excellent study of "the wretched of the earth."

### **Sugar**

Rated R. Running Time: 1 hour 54 min.  
Leviticus 19:34

Like *Sine Nombre*, Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck's film came and went before it could

## BY: ED McNULTY

garner the audience it deserves. It too deals with the immigration issue, but from a very different perspective--through professional baseball and its program of recruitment in the Dominican Republic. Miguel Santos, nicknamed Sugar, is a young man with potential talent who is sent to a farm team in Iowa to prove himself and receive further training. The film follows his introduction not just to minor league baseball with its ups and downs, but also his introduction to American culture as he is boarded out to a farm family. He must cope with learning English, eating new kinds of food, adapting to a different form of the faith when he attends the Protestant family's worship and youth services, and the different customs in regard to relating to girls--the kindly family have a daughter about his age. The film's plot does not follow the usual arc of those of the sports genre, making this a much more original and interesting movie.

## ALUMINUM CAN TABS

Do you have some aluminum can tabs laying around the house that you would like to recycle? Please consider giving them to the Boone County Extension Homemakers. The scrap metal from the tabs is used to send children with cancer to a week long summer camp. It costs approximately \$500.00 for each child to attend camp. Last year the Boone County Homemakers were able to fund one child to go to camp

## BY: MIGUEL CARLIN

but are always looking to send more children to camp.

A tab collection bear is in the narthex for your to place your tabs throughout the month of October. More information on the camp can be found at [www.iscamp.org](http://www.iscamp.org). Thank you for your support in this important outreach effort.

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES

NOTE: In the interest of making Session minutes easier to read through and the interest of conserving paper, the following highlights are given. If you would like to read the complete minutes, please contact the Clerk of Session.

A quorum was present. The regular meeting of the Session of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church was called to order on August 13, 2009. The Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr. Rev. Smith opened the meeting with prayer.

**CLERK OF SESSION REPORT:**  
**Communion:** The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated on Sunday, July 5 and Sunday, August 2, at the morning worship service. The Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr. presided. On Saturday, May 2, 2009, Robert P. Clarke and Karen Day Clarke, both members of COF, were united in marriage in our sanctuary. Rev. Smith presided. Two weddings were held in the COF sanctuary during the month of June: (1) June 13, James Walter Ernst, Jr. and Sarah Lynley Dryden (both nonmembers) and (2) June 20, Cpl. Marc Esteves, USMC, and Ryanna Reeves (both nonmembers). Reverend Smith presided at both weddings.

The church was saddened by the deaths of members Warren S. Moore, Jr. and Madge H. Moore who were

killed in their home in Union Kentucky on June 13, 2009.

The clerk worked to restore access to stock accounts held in the name of the First Presbyterian Church of Ludlow, KY. (See Board of Trustees report below.)

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Elders Inky Hall, Marilyn Gordon, and Joanna Bailey volunteered to accompany Rev. Smith in taking communion to shut-in members as needed.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** President Pete Beckett reported. The Board of Trustees met just prior to this Session meeting to consider two items of business: (1) A motion was passed that authorized President Pete Beckett, and Elders Eileen Hastings and Roger Bell to sign documents for the church's line of credit with Bank of Kentucky as those three Trustees were already given authority as signers during the Session meeting on February 05, 2009, two of the three authorized signers being necessary to transact business. (2) Secretary Becky Lindsay reported that she had established access by computer to stock accounts which were held by the former First Presbyterian Church of Ludlow, KY, and which are valued at approximately \$8,000. The stocks are listed with BNY Mellon. There are

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES, CONTINUED

some small dividend checks that have not been delivered since C.L.A.S.P. changed its address and the Ludlow Post Office stopped delivering mail to the church on Oak Street. Elder Marilyn Gordon volunteered to have the address of First Presbyterian Church of Ludlow, KY, changed to 1400 Highland Pike, Covington, KY 41011. Secretary Lindsay will change the address on the BNY Mellon web site.

Elder Bill Lindsay reported for the Audit Committee that the committee had examined the books on June 30 and found them to be in good order.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Gary Willis presented a written report of the church's finances over the past month and answered questions about the report.

**C.L.A.S.P.:** Elder Bill Lindsay reported that C.L.A.S.P. reopened on this date since school began today in Ludlow. Concern over a decrease in enrollment has eased a little since there are now 34 children enrolled out of a possible 40. The board has had some discussion with the superintendent of Ludlow Schools about moving C.L.A.S.P. into the Ludlow school building. However, C.L.A.S.P. would not move during the fall term.

**UMBRELLA REPORTS:**  
**ADMINISTRATION: ACTION:** Elder Marilyn Gordon offered a motion from the Administration Umbrella that Joanna Bailey, our music director, take over all of the duties of former organist/pianist Daesik Cha, increasing her current annual salary from \$8665 to \$12,780 effective September 1, 2009. Joanna is willing to assume the additional duties. The motion prevailed.

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** Elder Joanna Bailey reported. **ACTION:** Permission was granted to Bill and Becky Lindsay to issue an invitation in the bulletin and newsletter to the congregation for the Eggplant Feast to be held at their house on Saturday, September 19. The umbrella will be looking for a date for the Fall Festival, perhaps sometime in October when the weather is cooler. A chili cook-off theme was proposed for the Fall Festival. A date needs to be set for the power point presentation that the youth and children are working on in Sunday School. We will need individuals to make ice cream since the church freezer has broken down and we have not yet made any chocolate. Joanna will give a minute for outreach on this coming Sunday reminding people that volunteers are needed for the Ice Cream Social.

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES, CONTINUED

**NEW BUSINESS:** **ACTION:** Dawn Farwick was granted permission to use the fellowship hall on Saturday, September 5, from 3 – 10 P.M. for a dinner party to celebrate her husband, Dan's, 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. **ACTION:** Approval was given for NKY START to conduct a fatherhood workshop at COF on Thursday, September 24 from 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. **ACTION:** Permission given by Rev. Smith to North Key to use our parking lot for overflow at their employee appreciation event on August 14 was affirmed. The session agreed to place the Youth and Life Coaches for Mentoring Plus on our prayer chain and to invite Kevin Kennedy to do a Minute for Outreach on the Mentoring Plus program. Rev. Smith was encouraged to give a Minute for Outreach seeking support and participants for two ministry groups, one a group to oppose the death penalty and the other a support group for female offenders who are about to be released from jail or prison.

Rev. Smith reported that he had been contacted by a woman about the possi-

bility of housing a preschool at COF. General discussion among Session members was in opposition to the proposal because of the church's past experiences in housing a preschool. **ACTION:** A motion prevailed to convey to the woman our lack of interest.

### CLOSING:

**Joys and Concerns:** Prayers of thanksgiving, healing or concern were offered for Patti Smith; Eileen Hastings; Marilyn Gordon and Pete Beckett; the family of Janet Shelanie; Robert Clarke; Johanna Willis; the Splaun family; Inky Hall's sister; Rev. Smith's daughter and son; Joanna Bailey's son.

Rev. Smith led the Session in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

The next stated meeting of Session will be held on September 10, 2009, at 7:00 P.M. at the church.

Rebecca Lindsay,  
Clerk of Session



You can now receive the newsletter via e-mail! Please send us your e-mail address. If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please let us know.



## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

AUGUST 30, 2008

**Quorum (5):** A quorum was present.

A special meeting of the Session of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church of Covington, Kentucky, was called to order by the moderator, the Reverend Donald H. Smith, Jr., at 12:15 P.M. on the above date in the parlor. Rev. Smith opened the meeting with prayer.

**PURPOSE:** To consider the request of the Calvary Chin Church to have worship services on two Saturdays of the month.

**ACTION:** Following a discussion of the costs to Community of Faith and the impact on the physical plant, a motion was made that we grant the

Calvary Chin Church permission to have two worship services per month on Saturday evenings at the current rate per service and that they be requested to be diligent in cleaning up especially after the Saturday services. The cost to the Calvary Chin Church would be an additional \$125 for a total of \$375 per month. The session voted to approve the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M. and closed with prayer by Rev. Smith.

The Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr., Moderator

Rebecca S. Lindsay,  
Clerk of Session

### *Your Presbytery Link*

Highlights of the meeting September 8, 2009

The Presbytery Youth Council announced an overnight retreat it is holding with Jr/Sr Highs on October 24 and 25.

The local planning committee encouraged the presbytery to attend General Assembly's World Mission Celebration at Cincinnati's convention center October 22-24.

The Young Adult Volunteers Net-

work introduced this year's volunteers: Maddie du Breuil, who will be working with College Hill Church's CRASH ministry, and Sara Bryant, who will be working with GLAD House and Pleasant Ridge Church, for one year.

Hart Edmonds (interim pastor, Kennedy Heights) encouraged the presbytery to attend a "Come and See" event about church renewal and transformation on September 19. It is being facilitated by the Center for

## Your Presbytery Link, continued

Parish Development.

The presbytery elected members to committees and chairpersons:

Ministry—L.P. Jones and Rhonda O'Reilly

Personnel—Daniel Watson

Preparation for Ministry—Kathy Westmoreland, and

Representation—David Ealy.  
Also elected were:

Vice Moderator Cinda Warner Gorman

Stated Clerk Janis Alling Adams  
President of the Board of Trustees David Legg

Council reported that it has dismissed the Presbytery Naming Mission Team. Having conducted a survey in late 2008, the team concluded that there is insufficient interest in renaming the presbytery to continue.

The presbytery approved the sale of portions of Crestview Church's and Crescent Springs Church's properties.

The presbytery approved changes in pastoral calls:

Jana Reister to associate pastor, Knox Church

Amy Rudiger to associate pastor, Heritage Church

Ron Rand to honorably retired

The presbytery adopted minimum terms of call for ministers and Certified Christian Educators for the year 2010. Although there are no changes from the 2009 amounts, churches are encouraged to consider a 2-3% raise for all calls.

The presbytery disapproved the call Seventh Church had extended to a pastor.

During worship, the presbytery installed Bill Brown (elder, Kennedy Heights) as Moderator and Cinda Warner Gorman (minister member at-large) as Vice Moderator. Tom York (pastor, Knox), as immediate past moderator, will serve as chair of Presbytery Council.

The presbytery examined and approved Mark Mong (Muskingum Valley) for ordination to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament and approved the call for him to serve as pastor, Mowrystown Church.

The presbytery commissioned lay pastors James Faas to serve with Springdale Church and Charles Poston to serve with Cleves Church.

For more information about the presbytery, visit

[www.presbyteryofcincinnati.org](http://www.presbyteryofcincinnati.org)



Community of Faith  
Presbyterian Church  
1400 Highland Pike  
Covington, KY 41011

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Putt-Putt & Pizza 4:00pm	October 3
Wednesday Bible Study 11:00am	October 7
Trustees 6:30pm	October 8
Session 7:00pm	October 8
Wednesday Bible Study 11:00am	October 14
Church Work Day 10:00am	October 17
Wednesday Bible Study 11:00am	October 21
Wednesday Bible Study 11:00am	October 28

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