

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1400 HIGHLAND PIKE, COVINGTON, KY 41011



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 29, 2017

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)
COVINGTON, KENTUCKY
16TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
January 17, 2016

The 16th annual congregational meeting of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church, Covington, Kentucky, was called to order by the moderator, The Rev. Sharon Carter, in the sanctuary at 12:10 P.M. on Sunday, January 17, 2016. Rev. Carter called the meeting to order and led the congregation in prayer.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM (11): The clerk declared that a quorum was present.

2015 ANNUAL REPORT: The Annual Report for 2015 was distributed before the meeting for informational purposes. Included in the report were the minutes of the 15th annual congregational meeting which was held on January 25, 2015, and minutes for two special meetings of the congregation, held on November 1, 2015, and December 13, 2015. The three sets of minutes were previously approved by the Session.

Also included were the Pastor's report by Rev. Sharon Carter, the Church Attendance and Annual Statistical Reports, Roster of Session and Board of Deacons, the Treasurer's report, and the annual reports of the Board of Deacons, Congregational Care Team, Administrative and Property Team, Mission Team, CLASP (Children of Ludlow After School Program).

Reverend Carter asked for questions and comments on the annual report. Co-treasurer Matthew Hastings explained how mission funds were handled, and Elder William Lindsay thanked the congregation for their good support of mission projects and offerings during the year.

CLERK'S REPORT: Clerk of Session Rebecca Lindsay expressed appreciation for an increase in membership with one additional member added by transfer of letter and no losses during the year. Active membership stood at 107 on December 31, 2015.

TERMS OF CALL: Elder William Lindsay presented the Terms of Call for Pastor Sharon Carter for 2016 based on an increase from 5/8 time to ¾ time and including the following:

Pastor (75% of Fulltime)	\$30,636
Death and Disability Insurance	306
Dental (includes spouse)	636
Medical (includes spouse)	10,776
Pension	3,370
Mileage*	900
Study Leave**	<u>1,500</u>
Effective Salary (3/4 Full)	\$48,124

*Vouchered mileage to be paid at the IRS maximum rate.

**Study leave is prorated based on \$2,000 per year for fulltime.

ACTION: A motion to approve the terms of call for Reverend Carter as presented to the congregation was adopted. The terms of call will be reported to Presbytery.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE: ACTION: A motion to dismiss the 2015 Nominating Committee with our thanks for the committee's hard work was approved. **ACTION:** A motion to elect three members-at-large to the 2016 Nominating Committee was adopted. The three members were Johanna Willis, Ron Carlin, and Jo Shade.

There being no further business, Rev. Carter closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

The Rev. Sharon Carter, Moderator

Rebecca S. Lindsay,
Clerk of Session

Happy New Year!

Greetings to you all in the new year! I hope everyone is off to a good start in 2017 and that you will have a very good year, and will find ways to grow in faith, hope and love for your fellow human beings. 2016 was a good year for COF. We began a new ministry in conjunction with Union PC serving meals to the Cornerstone Project in Covington and continued our relationship with the SPARK homeschool group. Our partnership with CEPAD in Nicaragua continues, enabling communities to have access to fresh water and helping a sewing cooperative continue to create school uniforms for local children.

In 2016 we began a process through the Presbytery of Cincinnati called "Transformation 2.0". Led by Bill Lindsay and Jo Willis as our guiding team we are beginning to explore ourselves and our neighborhood with the hopes of becoming more community minded. So far Bill and Jo have interviewed some church members, neighborhood residents and community leaders, as well as going on two neighborhood walks (accompanied by Gary Willis, Lynda Jaeger, and myself.) The next step is to create an experiment that will consist of engaging the community around us in some way.

Budget-wise we stayed on track for the year. Our co-treasurers Matt Hastings and Kim Suer kept things in line, enabling us to continue with the good work we are doing in the world. Income from SPARK helped bolster our bottom line (as well as keeping our building in use during the week!) Thanks to the generosity of our members we are in stable financial condition as we head into 2017.

Also thanks to the generosity of our members we were able to contribute to community and PC(USA) missions in a big way. Our Be Concerned bin is continually being refilled with food and cleaning supplies; we collected school supplies for Be Concerned and Covington Partners and held a special drive for Transitions, Inc. During Advent we supported the Ludlow giving tree with purchased gifts and Brighton Center through gift cards. We continue to support the PC(USA) special offerings through our giving, and the Fair Trade mission through coffee and chocolate sales.

I anticipate that these missions and ministries will continue into 2017, along with worship services, Sunday school and Bible studies, choir practices and fellowship activities. I also anticipate the need to evaluate our building and perhaps invest in some repairs and upgrades, such as new front doors and new flooring for the narthex and hallway; evaluation and possible repair of a crack in the wall of the education building; and perhaps some physical plant upgrades, such as new thermostats throughout the building. Upkeep for a building such as COF's is a work in progress, and as things age we must be ready to repair or replace them. I anticipate a fund drive in 2017 to complete some of the things that the building needs.

I so enjoy being the pastor here at COF and I continue to pray for all of you—for your lives in and outside of COF and your ministries in the world. I look forward to seeing what God will have in store for us in 2017!

Peace,

Rev. Sharon

Annual Statistical Report for 2016

Church Membership on January 1, 2016		107
Additions		
Confession of Faith	0	
Reaffirmation of Faith	0	
Transfer of Letter	0	
Restored to Roll	<u>0</u>	
TOTAL	0	107
Losses		
Deaths	3	
Transfers of Letter	0	
Removed from Roll	<u>8</u>	
TOTAL	11	96

ADDITIONS

Confession of Faith

None

Transfer of Letter

None

Restored to Roll

None

Adult Baptism

None

Infant/Child Baptism

Sara Grace Kleier
Paisleigh Alyssa Suer

LOSSES

Deaths

Linda Hils
Dolores Gaddis
William Dupps

Transfer of Letter

None

Removed from Roll

Joelle Van Alstine
Steven Van Alstine
Kathy Bergman
Karen Clarke
Jonathan Harrison
Eric Massey
Dorothy Thomsen
Reeka Whitaker

Church Attendance 2016

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

51	Services	Average Attendance	32
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SPECIAL SERVICES

Ash Wednesday	xx
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Maundy Thursday	23
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Easter - Sunrise	21
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Christmas Eve	34
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not included in average or grand total

TOTAL ATTENDANCE 2016	1,639
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2016 – Deacon Report

The board served COF during the year with 8 members (Kittie Dupps (16), Dan Farwick (16), Lynda Jaeger (17), Sharon Carlin (17), Janet Stadtmiller (17), Freda Carlin (18), Jeff Carter (18) and Carol Schomaker (18)) The board met approximately once a quarter and nominated Janet Stadtmiller as moderator.

Lynda Jaeger served the board being responsible for the church card ministry. More than 115 cards were sent in 2016 for sympathy, get well, to our shut ins or to honor special occasions.

Deacon procedures continue to be revised to reflect current operations. Deacons are responsible for turning on lights, coffee pot, putting out snacks, lighting candles, counting attendance, collecting offering and locking the building after services. Pencils, envelopes and prayer request sheets were refreshed in the pews.

Hospital visits were made as needed and the shut in list was updated to include Nita Kleier, Margaret Meyer and Emille Walden. (Other shut ins include Mary Lee Harrison, Donna & Kliff Kreiker, Marge & Bud McDermott, Betty Murphy, Ruth Roeber, Shirley Weigel, David Weitzel and Nancy Zeigler. Dottie Thompson passed away in September.) Shut ins were assigned to deacons for contact and care and each deacon coordinated with Rev. Sharon to deliver communion to their shut in. The board provided each shut in with devotional booklets in May and ice cream from the ice cream social. A Guidepost publication called “Plus” is also being ordered.

Receptions were provided for the Dupps family on the death of Bill in June and the Bell family on the death of Martha in September. No reception or service was provided for the family of Linda Hils as the church was not notified.

A \$600 donation was approved to CLASP and money was set aside for Rev. Carter to use as needed when people approach the church for help. In May the deacons unanimously approved \$100 to be given to a neighbor of Christian Addison who was robbed.

Dan Farwick represented the Deacon Board on the Nominating Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Stadtmiller

Moderator

Congregational Care, 2016 Annual Report

As Chairman of the Congregational Care, I coordinated the Easter Breakfast, the Anniversary/Birthday Celebration, made ice cream, did Ice Cream Social and

The Christmas Tea.

Thanks to all who donated, set up and cleaned up for these events.

I helped serve at two funeral luncheons.

Thank you to Vaughnita Kleier for the Christmas Tea decorations.

Sincerely,

Jean Jennings.

Dear Members of the Presbyterian Church,

Once again the 2016 Giving Tree benefited many families in our community. Without your help and generosity it would have been impossible to fill all the children's wishes. We appreciate all you do to help us out each year. We were a blessing to be able to help all 55 children have a Merry Christmas. May God bless you & your congregation throughout the year.

Hope your holiday

is decorated

with the warmth of good cheer
and every joy of the season.

Cindy & Lynn

St. Boniface & James Giving Tree

Administrative Committee 2016 Annual Report

Another good year in the books!!!

Luckily, there were no major problems this year. Just the usual repair and maintenance. We have some larger projects looming, however, that we will need to be addressed soon. Namely the front door replacement and flooring in the narthex and beyond.

Our partnership with SPARK continues to go well. If you ever have questions or comments about them and our partnership, please don't hesitate to talk to me, Jo Shade or Erika Berry.

There are always more tasks to be done, so please stay tuned for "opportunities" to help!

Thanks to everyone who helped with all the tasks that were accomplished during the year. I am continually amazed at the work that we are able to do together.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Farwick

CLASP – Annual report 2016

Community of Faith Presbyterian Church (Covington), Lakeside Presbyterian Church (Lakeside) and Crescent Springs Presbyterian Church (Crescent Springs) have continued our partnership in our vital urban mission project of CLASP (Children of Ludlow After School Program) for over 18 years. We continue to receive recognition as a mission partner of the Presbytery of Cincinnati.

CLASP's mission statement says: CLASP is committed to providing a high-quality non-denominational, faith-based after school program in a clean, safe, caring environment for Ludlow (KY) students in grades K-6. CLASP was established by two members of the First Presbyterian Church of Ludlow in 1998, prior to the merger to form Community of Faith Presbyterian Church. We have served a complement of approximately 25 students during the annual year of 2016 [which includes the last half of our FY 2015-16 and the first half of

FY 2016-17], with as many as four children on full scholarships. Our fiscal year extends from July until June.

CLASP volunteers and the part-time paid staff of 3 people are essential to our success. We are blessed with 11 active board members, many of whom are "hands-on" in day-to-day CLASP operations, as well as being administrative leaders and decision-makers. Volunteers come from our partner Presbyterian churches, the First Baptist Church of Ludlow (FBCL), and from the community at large. We are grateful for the enthusiastic support of Rev. Sharon Carter, Rev. Chris Torrey, and Rev. Paul Anglin, Jr. (FBCL), as well as Presbyterian leaders, who lead in daily devotionals and programs.

The program incurred total expenses of around \$30,000 during the 2015-16 FY. Those costs have remained very stable over the last few years. Funding for the program comes from parent fees, support from our sponsoring churches: Community of Faith, Lakeside and Presbyterian churches, FBCL, and from the Presbytery of Cincinnati. Individual donations have declined slightly during the Recession, but significant annual donations from the Cincinnati Presbytery have helped to offset the decline. Donations from foundations and organizations, fund-raisers, and numerous individual contributors have been gratefully received. We were fortunate to receive a grant of \$1,000 from the (Norman Vincent) Peale Foundation for the first time, this year. Our parent fee of \$50 per month has been held constant for the second year. The number of full and partial scholarships has continued to be stable.

In summary, CLASP appears to be in stable condition, in terms of staff personnel, program, location, and finances. In June, we will complete our 19th year of serving the children and families of Ludlow.

2016 Mission Team Annual Report January 29, 2017

The Mission Team began our year by reviewing the mission activities and programs that we completed in 2015. We began this review by thinking about and answering the question “What does Mission mean to you and to a larger extent to COF?”

We wanted to learn from the congregation on where they felt God and the Holy Spirit was calling COF to go next in the area of mission? In order to accomplish this we co-sponsored a town hall meeting with the Transformation 2.0 Guiding team. Our members shared how they felt mission is indeed a part of COF’s identity. We also were excited to learn about the many volunteer activities that are members are undertaking to personally share God’s love with their neighbors.

The town hall meeting built a strong foundation for us to begin reviewing the breath and depth of our mission partnerships. We spent time with our current mission partners such as Covington Partners and Be Concerned to learn about their existing needs and new opportunities. We also prayed and thought about new mission opportunities that would help us reach out to our neighbors.

Some new opportunities that grew from these conversations included expanding our participation with Cornerstone Inc and implementing one new community outreach activity a quarter. We want to thank Reverend Carter for her support and encouragement as she has helped us think outside the box and explore the possibilities.

Our annual delegation visited Nicaragua in February with the support of our congregation as well as our friends from First Christian Church of Madisonville, KY and Lakeside Presbyterian Church. During their visit to Nicaragua two of the water projects we sponsored last year were completed and the third project in an adjacent community was underway. We also learned that the sewing cooperative we have supported for years is continuing to grow and become financially stable.

We continued to deepen our work with our friends at Covington Partners where we again sponsored two school supply drives in August and December. We also promoted mentoring opportunities to our congregation with Covington Partners.

We also worked with our friends at Reading-Lockland and Westwood Presbyterian to support the Synod of the Covenant Mobile Health Fair program. This year we were able to donate 25 hygiene kits to My Neighbor’s Place. The congregation also gave our local portion of the Peace and Global Witness Offering to the Reading-Lockland Summer Enrichment program.

This year, we also continued our ministry with Transitions, Inc., which provides support to those struggling to overcome drug addiction. Often, those who are coming out of drug rehab have only the clothes that they wore when they entered. Through our donations, we provided clothing and hygiene kits to help them make a new start.

Additionally, we continue to support the CLASP after-school program in Ludlow, with three members who serve on the Board of Directors. COF members supported fundraisers throughout the year and helped organize an annual fundraising campaign. We also continued supporting Buckhorn by donating gift cards for the Christmas season. Additionally, we supported families and seniors in the Ludlow area through our Giving Tree Program. Our friends at the American Red Cross also partnered with us to provide holiday cards to our service members who we were able to thank for their service.

A special thanks to members who have given faithfully to the Be Concerned Inc. Food Program. We have continued to provide critical food and basic household supplies throughout the year. Furthermore, we were able to participate in both the Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Drives for our neighbors.

Our Evangelism Ad-Hoc team worked with our friends from Third Presbyterian Church to sponsor our 3rd Annual Family Fun Night in October. We also supported Third and Knox Presbyterian as they sponsored a Presbytery Youth Connection event on responding and reflecting on racism. The team also completed a redesign of our church website. A special thanks goes to the students at NKU for their help with our website redesign.

The Outreach Ad-Hoc team also supported Reverend Carter in promoting Advent and Lent bible studies for the community. We have begun a mission based bible study that explores our mission programs in greater detail. The team completed the year by sponsoring a mission fair to share volunteer opportunities with members in our community.

Finally, the Stewardship Team continued our work of strengthening the financial resources of the church. We continued to make strides in achieving a balanced budget. Our members have given steadily and faithfully. The team just completed planning and implementing the 2016 Stewardship Campaign. We want to take a moment to thank those who have given their pledges and gifts to the church and PCUSA.

In closing we also want to thank Miguel Carlin for serving as the chair of the stewardship committee for the last several years. We are looking for a new Stewardship Chair for 2017-2018. Please contact us if you are interested. Thank you for your support in 2016.

Yours in Christ:

Bill Lindsay -- Chair
Jack Kleier- Co-Chair
Al and Linda Jaeger
Miguel Carlin