

# Chronicles

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

[WWW.COFNKY.ORG](http://WWW.COFNKY.ORG)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### A Parable

Once upon a time I was very nearly a pacifist. I had seen everything I needed to see about war, and peace seemed by far-- preferential. So there as a time during the eighties, the Reagan years, the climax to the Cold War was nearing, when I was very outspoken. I never had an honest answer for those who asked me, "What would you do if your home and your family were attacked?" I just knew that war was a bad thing and I was against it.

Times change, people change, and most of all situations change. Now, more often than not, I find myself trying to justify our participation in the so-called War on Terror. This has come as a surprise to current and, alas, some former

friends. But I want to tell you how I came to change my mind, and I thought I would do it with a parable.

Shortly after Steve and Maureen moved in to the house next door, Jim began hearing disturbing noises coming from the house. At first he thought that the neighbors had turned their TV up too loud, but soon realized that it was the sound of fighting: screams, objects shattering on floors and walls, and cursing. Jim dismissed it as a one time event. And all seemed to be well until three nights later everything replayed as it had been earlier in the week. In addition, the wife appeared in the yard the next day wearing sunglasses despite the overcast sky. Jim thought it over and

**ZTXG INSIDE  
THIS ISSUE:**

Prayers Needed	3
Birthdays	3
Treasurer's Report	3
Mission At Work	4
Film Capsules	5
Citizens Circle COF Anniversary	8
CLASP to Relocate	9

Continued on Page 2

Continued from page 1

decided that what went on in the neighbor's house was none of his business. "After all," said Jim, "a man's home is his castle." He had read that somewhere and it made sense.

The third time it happened, someone called 911. Maureen had apparently slipped from a step ladder. The twenty minutes of yelling and screaming that led up to the accident might have distracted her. But according to Jim, it was none of his business and he had no reason to doubt Steve's word.

The next day the police came to talk with Jim. They wondered if there had been a pattern of fighting in the house next door. Jim said he couldn't be absolutely sure but, "It sure sounded like it!" When asked if he had tried to contact the police, he said they had not; after all, it wasn't any of his business and as Jim was quick to point out, "a man's home is his castle."

The officers shook their heads as they left. Jim thought about it and wondered if he should contact an attorney but then again he hadn't done anything wrong.

### A NOTE OF THANKS!

### MIGUEL CARLIN

Last month Community of Faith received the opportunity to partner with our sister church Richwood Presbyterian to host the Trinity Presbyterian Church Youth Group from Raleigh, North Carolina. The youth group was in Northern Kentucky making a visit to do some mission work before they participated in the 2010 Youth Triennium at Purdue University. I received many compliments from both the youth as well as their chaperones on how awesome COF's hospitality was and how much they enjoyed the meal with us. Thank you to everyone who made our guests feel so welcome!



The narthex coat rack has several jackets and coats that need to find their way back home. If you are missing a jacket or coat, please visit the coat rack area to claim your lost friends. Unclaimed coats will be donated at the end of the summer.

### SAVE THE DATE, SEPTEMBER 14—CLASP FUNDRAISER

On Tuesday, September 14, Max & Erma's restaurant at the Crestview Hills Town Center will sponsor a FUNdraiser on behalf of CLASP. For every person who brings a CLASP coupon to the restaurant that day, Max & Erma's will donate 20% of the purchase price to CLASP. Coupons will be available, soon, in the bulletin, September newsletter, and on the Community Of Faith web site (www.cofnky.org) under "What We Do, "CLASP Events".

**IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS**



Pete Beckett, Mark Brant, Donna Kreicker, Linda Bowen, Eileen Hastings, KC Clarke, Phyllis Houpp, and Kay Smith. Please remember our nursing home residents and shut ins: Ruth Comisar, and Evelyn Wallace.

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

Derek Beach	3rd	Floyd Hastings	16th
Dolores Gaddis	4th	Margaret Meyer	16th
Betty Bickers	7th	Mary Lee Harrison	18th
Ronald Carlin	8th	Pearl Sandmann	24th
Jessica Owen	11th	Kittie Dupps	27th
Matthew Hastings	12th	Ruth Roeber	28th
Alicia Beach	13th	Dan Farwick	29th
Luke Van Alstine	13th	Bill Dupps	30th
Katie Hamilton	14th	Gillian Bales	31st
Marion Acree	16th		

Mark & Kim Suer (Wegford) have a daughter. Peyton Lorelei was born July 7, weighing just 3 pounds, she was 17 inches long. Please pray that she continues to grow and gain weight so that she can go home soon.

**FROM OUR TREASURER**

	<b>GENERAL</b>			<b>MISSION</b>			
				<u>Year -to-Date</u>			
	<b>2010</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Desiq.</b>	<b>Other</b>
Beg. Balance		9,485	18,217	519	561	547	32
Income		8,674	48,148	491	515	3,289	1,050
Expense		<u>7,993</u>	<u>56,201</u>	<u>591</u>	<u>964</u>	<u>3,461</u>	<u>1,151</u>
End Balance		10,165	10,165	419	113	375	-69

## MISSION AT WORK

It has been sometime since I wrote anything about the Buckhorn Children's Center. This Agency cares for troubled children, helping them get their lives together so they can return to the mainstream of society. Some years ago, Buckhorn was contacted and asked to take over a children's agency in Pine Ridge, Ky. Located near Natural Bridge. This agency was having trouble keeping beds filled due to changes in the way children's services referred children. They were down to three children and the Director, Mrs. Louise Winchip, thought that Buckhorn would be the best agency to take over Dessie Scott. About that same time Buckhorn was looking into opening a Campus in Ohio. Through a generous gift from the Broad Street Presbyterian Church, we were able to open the Ohio Campus at Chesterville. Buckhorn also has services for families as well as foster care service.

We have through the years grown to an Agency that had a budget of 18 million dollars. Most of this money comes from state and national governments, who are responsible for the lives of these children. In the past few years many governments, including Ky. and Ohio, cut funding to children's services. For a few years Buckhorn depended on Churches and their people to keep the Agency afloat. They have reduced budgets, staff closed offices and used reserve funds until now we have an annual budget of around twelve million dollars. In the last

**BY: JACK KLEIER**

couple of years, we have been affected also by the economic downturn. We have felt the crunch as donors have less and less disposable income to give to charities. We continue to look to the churches for support and we continue to have faith that God will provide for as long as there is a need for the work of this Center.

Since 1902, Buckhorn has been a witness for the Presbyterian Church to the People of the Mountains of Eastern Kentucky. It has seen an evolution from a school for girls, to a boarding school for mountain children, to an orphanage, to a treatment center for emotionally disturbed children. As the State has changed the rules for the kind of children agencies can care for, Buckhorn has changed to meet the needs of children. We have remained focused on our mission statement, "We answer God's call to seek out suffering children and families and improve their lives." We do this in the name of the many people and churches through the year, that have sent their gifts to help Buckhorn serve the children.

If you would like to visit Buckhorn, Dessie Scott, or the Ohio Campus, please let me know and I will help make such a visit possible. If you would like to learn more about the Agency please contact me. And of course, please feel free to send a gift now for back to school items. Buckhorn can especially use your help during these tough economic times.

## FILM CAPSULES

BY: ED McNULTY

### *Joy Story 3*

Rated G.

Andy is growing up and about to go away to college. What will happen to the toys? In most families either Plan A, B, or C would have been followed without any hitches. That is, the toys would be boxed and stored in the attic; the toys would be given away to others; or they would be placed curbside for the trash man to pick up. Almost all of these things happen, but, of course, in this fantasyland, the toys have minds of their own. This is a delightful tale of “putting away childish things (I Cor. 13), of friendship, and of united action in the face of peril. A wonderful morality tale for young and old (is Pixar capable of making just an average movie?). Adults will love the reference to *Cool Hand Luke*.

### *Winter Bones*

Rated R

It is easy to see why director Debra Granik’s Ozark-set film wowed the Sundance crowd. Dealing with those whom the Scriptures refer to as “the oppressed,” people of faith should also be drawn to it. 17 year-old Ree Dolly, at a time when teenaged girls of the dominant culture are dreaming about prom dates and going on to college, is worried that her family is going to lose their home, and only she can prevent this. She is enmeshed in the criminal activities of

her clan through her father, known widely for his “cooking”—and denizens of this rural drug-sodden culture are not referring to any recipes on the Food Channel when they use the term. The Sheriff tells her that after his arrest, her father was released only when he put up their house as collateral for bail. No one has seen him since. Ree has been caring for their mentally incapacitated mother and her younger brother and sister, so she has more than herself to worry about should they become homeless. Determined to find and convince him to turn himself in, Ree sets out, walking for miles up and down the hollows trying to find either kin or neighbor who might be willing to tell of his whereabouts. She soon finds everyone, even her uncle, upset by her quest, with everyone warning that she had better quit and go home—or else. A spare film that is somewhat similar to *Frozen River*, another film dealing with a family struggling to survive poverty, this is one of the best of the year thus far. Despite its bleakness and the horror of one scene, it is filled with stark moments of grace and ends on a note of hope.

### *Solitary Man*

Rated R

If you enjoyed hissing at Michael Douglas’s Gordon Gekko in *Wall Street*, and don’t want to wait till its

## FILM CAPSULES , CONTINUED

sequel comes out later this year, then this tale of a womanizing creep will do nicely. Douglas's Ben Kalmen is a once prosperous New York BMW dealer who lost everything because of shady dealings. That also included the wife he had known since school days because he cannot keep his hands off any attractive woman who glances his way. He hopes to make a comeback, and even has the support of ex-wife Nancy (Susan Sarandon), but will his many flaws—he cannot even keep his promise to his adoring grandson to come to the boy's birthday party—stand in his way? The film is a fine character study of a man who does not know what is really important in life. The ending might keep you guessing. (At the Esquire and Mariemont)

### Despicable Me

Rated PG

Filled with droll humor, this, the first of Universal Pictures animated feature films, is a story that could have come out of Charles Dickens (with a touch of James Bond thrown in). Orphans; a dastardly villain; and the melting of the latter's cold heart when he comes in contact with children. Gru thinks that he is the world's greatest villain. After all, he has stolen the Statue of Liberty and the Eifel Tower, he boasts to his minions, as the horde of little critters who labor happily in his secret under-

## BY: ED McNULTY

ground lab and factory are called. Then he adds that these are the smaller ones from Las Vegas. However, there is a new villain who manages to steal the real thing, the Great Pyramid of Egypt, thus jeopardizing Gru's reputation for evil. He comes up with a plan to steal the moon, a complicated task calling for the invention of a shrinking machine and the use of 3 innocent orphaned sisters whom he fraudulently adopts. It is not spoiling things for this predictable but delightful tale to reveal that the 3 adorable girls will have a greater affect on him than he upon them. Great fun, for all who love the similarly themed *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*; *A Christmas Carol*; or even *Shrek*.

### Cyrus

Rated R

Expecting this to be just another summer gross comedy, I was happy that this turned out to be a warm comedy/drama with themes of hope, change of heart, and reconciliation. John (John C. Reilly) is an emotionally needy guy who still turns to his ex-wife Jamie (Catherine Keener) for advice and support. He meets cute (this is not the place to say how) Molly (Marisa Tomei) at a party to which Jamie has dragged him, and it soon appears he has met his soul mate. All would be well, but

## FILM CAPSULES , CONTINUED

then he discovers Cyrus, Molly's 21 year-old still living with her in a relationship so close that it seems that there is still an invisible umbilical cord joining them. Cyrus seems warm and friendly in his welcoming John, but then...Funny and poignant at times, and unlike most summer comedies, insightful at times. Truly an adult comedy. (At the Esquire)

### *Inception*

Rated PG-13

I attended an advanced screening of director Christopher Nolan's film just two hours after experiencing the magnificent *Winter Bones*. Thus it became too readily apparent that excellence in filmmaking is more dependent on a great script and nuanced acting, than money, even the \$200 million spent on this blockbuster. Leonardo DiCaprio plays a corporate spy teamed up with

## BY: ED McNULTY

Ellen Page, stealing secrets from people's minds through the use of sophisticated technology. His wife has died because of the dream-invasion techniques he is so skilled at. The police think that he has killed her, and so he has had to flee the country, thus separating him from his two adorable children. Now he has an opportunity for wiping his slate clean and returning home by doing one last dream-invasion job. This time it is not to steal a secret from a person's mind, but the far more dangerous task of planting an idea in the target's mind. The sci-fi thriller keeps us on the edges of our seats as we follow him and his friends deep into the subconscious, but after over two hours of special effect laden action, the film seems likely to be easily replaced by still another thriller with even heavier music and more special effects.

## SOULS4SOULS

The Mission Umbrella Team, as a part of our activities for Rally Day 2010, will be sponsoring a shoe collection drive during the month of August for members to bring in new and gently used shoes to support Souls4Souls. Souls4Souls is a non-profit organization that collects gently used and new shoes to distribute to individuals in communities around the world that can't afford proper footwear. A collection box and more information on Souls4Souls will be placed in the communications center next to the Be Concerned barrel. If you have any question or would like to help with the sorting and sending of the shoes, please contact Linda Hils and or Jack Kleier for more information.

## THE 219TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY BECKY LINDSAY

The 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the PC (USA) convened on Saturday, July 3, at the Convention Center in Minneapolis, MN. Over 700 elder and minister commissioners and approximately 200 advisory delegates gathered to conduct the business of the denomination.

**Election of a new Moderator and Vice-moderator followed quickly** on Saturday evening. Elder Cynthia Bolbach, a former moderator of National Capital Presbytery, was elected on the fourth ballot as Moderator of the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. Ms. Bolbach chose the Rev. Landon Whitsitt, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Liberty, Missouri, to serve as Vice-moderator.

**Sunday morning worship service** at General Assembly is always a memorable event, and this year's service was no exception. With thousands in attendance, the service began with a celebratory procession of banners, kites, giant puppets and dancers representing all of God's creation, accompanied by flutes and drums. Worship was a truly multicultural event with a number of ethnic groups, including Native American, African American, Korean and Hispanic, represented in liturgy, dance and song; a wide variety of music from traditional hymns and classical organ to spirituals, contemporary praise songs, ethnic and folk songs; and communion observed in three languages—English, Spanish and Korean. Outgoing Moderator, Bruce Reyes-Chow, called upon the church to include and involve young people in ways that say, "We care about you." For the first time ever, a baby was baptized during a General Assembly service.

On Sunday evening many of those in attendance joined Presbyterians from the Minneapolis area in **celebrating the Fourth of July**. At least 2,000 people stood in lines to shake hands with the new Moderator and Vice-moderator and to load their plates with the provided feast, which included walleye, wild rice and 1,800 ears of roasted corn. The evening ended with a fireworks display over the Mississippi River.

**Committee Meetings** began with open hearings bright and early on Monday morning. Anyone registered as an observer had the opportunity to speak—all of 90 seconds—to any overture that was before a committee. Committees also heard from overture advocates who spoke in favor of individual overtures and from representatives of the Advisory Committee on the Constitution who gave that committee's recommendations. Then the committees got down to work. By Wednesday afternoon, all committee work was completed, and the **plenary sessions** began where more debate and voting occurred.

This year, the assembly voted to send a full plate of decisions to the presbyteries for their ratification, some of which are explained below.

By a 2 to 1 margin, General Assembly voted to send the proposed **new constitution**, often referred to as nFOG, to the presbyteries for their approval. This new constitution will replace Section G of the Book of Order with two documents: Foundations of Presbyterian Polity and a re-

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING, CONTINUED

vised Form of Government. Many have deemed the current constitution to be an inflexible manual of operations that often does not fit the situations in which many churches find themselves. Some, however, see the new constitution as a dangerous step toward congregationalism, where every church decides for itself how it will function.

The vote to send the **Belhar Confession** to the presbyteries for their approval of its inclusion in the Book of Confessions was a truly electric moment of the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly as commissioners and observers alike broke into cheers and applause upon its approval. Adopted by the Dutch Reformed Mission Church of South Africa in 1986 in response to apartheid, the Belhar Confession speaks for the unity of believers and against racism and injustice. Many think that the Belhar will give our Book of Confessions a strong voice against racism and injustice. Others fear that it will be used only to promote changes in ordination standards to include LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered) persons.

The 218<sup>th</sup> General Assembly established a special committee to consider the revision of five places in the **Heidelberg Catechism** (part of our Book of Confessions) that scholars consider to be incorrectly translated. One of those places is the answer to Question 87 where the phrase, “homosexual perversion,” was added in the current translation to a list of sins. As the committee worked, it discovered many more instances of poor or incorrect translation. The committee also discovered that the Christian Reformed Church in North

America and the Reformed Church of America were in the process of producing a new translation of the Heidelberg Catechism. General Assembly voted to continue the work of the special committee, expanding its charge to consider the entire confession and permitting it to work with the CRCNA and the RCA to produce a new translation by the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in 2012.

The assembly voted to send both the report by the **Special Committee to Study Issues of Civil Union and Christian Marriage** and the minority report of that committee to the presbyteries for study. In doing so, the assembly maintained the current definition of marriage as being “between a man and a woman.”

**Ordination standards** were again debated by the commissioners who voted by a narrow margin to return to the presbyteries an overture which would amend G-6.0106b, the paragraph in the Book of Order which states that church officers must be faithful in marriage between a man and a woman or chaste in singleness. The amendment makes no statement about sexual ethics but focuses instead on the calling, gifts, preparation and suitability of the candidate and on a candidate’s commitment to fulfilling the constitutional questions asked of all candidates for ordination. It gives the ordaining body (church or presbytery) the responsibility of determining each candidate’s suitability for office.

For additional information on action taken by the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, visit the COF web site at <http://www.cofnky.org> or the General Assembly web site at <http://ga219.pcusa.org> for FAQ’s, Assembly in Brief and the News Archive.



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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The Choir is taking off the months of July and August.

Trustees & Session

August 12

Ice Cream Social

August 21 & 22

**CLASP FUNdraiser @ Max & Erma's      September 14**

Phone: 859 331-3238

E-mail: [cfpastor@fuse.net](mailto:cfpastor@fuse.net)

General E-mail: [communityoffaith@fuse.net](mailto:communityoffaith@fuse.net)

**COFNKY.ORG**