


May 2010



# Chronicles

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

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

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The Mystery of Proximity

I don't remember the exact day of the terrible accident that so suddenly took the life of Maria Schaffstein in northern Alabama last week, but I will not soon forget the sight that greeted me early on the afternoon of April 22, as I headed home for a quick lunch. As I turned off of Dixie onto Sleepy Hollow, I saw the crowd standing in front of St. Agnes Church awaiting the priest and the pall bearers and the casket.

Up until that moment, I felt what I suspect others had felt who had not known her: a gray sort of drizzly sorrow caused by the loss of a life so full of potential, unexpectedly wrenched from the embrace of family and friends. Maria was a bright, healthy, popular, 17

year old girl. For her all signs pointed toward the sky as the limit.

But there is something else that troubles me which surfaced upon hearing about the death of Matt James who fell from a balcony at a motel in Panama City during spring break. He had a full scholarship to play football at the University of Notre Dame. For him all signs pointed toward the sky as the limit.

The reactions were of their communities, families and friends were identical. One of theirs was taken from them unexpectedly. Both losses were terribly sad--and troubling.

Here's the troubling part. What if the young person *is*

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*not* one of ours? What if she or he lives a long way from us, maybe on another continent, maybe of another race, maybe not as well off as we are. This person might be desperately poor. No chance he would fall from a balcony because there are no Holiday Inns or Ramadas where he lived. No chance she would be killed in an automobile accident on an interstate highway, because she never rode in a car or truck, and because the only “interstate highway” she knew about was a foot path.

He was a ten year old boy forced to fight and die in central Africa as part of something called ironically, “The Lord’s Army”. She was a thirteen year old girl who lived in southern Sudan who was ambushed by a group of men while she was gathering firewood alone.

For these two there will be no funerals. They were left for the animals. There was no one to claim the body of the little boy. No one was brave enough to venture out of the village to recover the body of the little girl.

I’m not suggesting that we shouldn’t mourn our loved ones. Of course we should. What I am hoping is that we expand our understanding of love and in this work grow toward a place where we have a hand in the prevention of the kidnapping of boys to fight in ragtag armies; and the prevention of the violation and murder of people like a young African girl whose name vanished with her breath.

Can’t we love them all?

*Don*

## **WE’RE HOSTING THE PRESBYTERY MEETING, MAY 11, 2010**

We’ve got the view, we’ve got the parking, and I’m hoping we have a bunch of volunteers available on May 11, in order to make this high profile, high visibility event happen seamlessly.

As of this date (April 27) we are still in need of four people to collate papers and register commissioners and guests (4-6pm), one additional volunteer to direct traffic into the parking lot (4-5:30pm), and a half dozen more volunteers (3-6:30pm) to help prepare and serve the food. Customarily there are light snacks

available to commissioners when they arrive; later on, in the social hall there will be a more substantial “finger food” and fellowship sort of snack time.

The Presbytery can help defray food costs, but I’m hoping that many of you will bake something to feed the hungry horde.

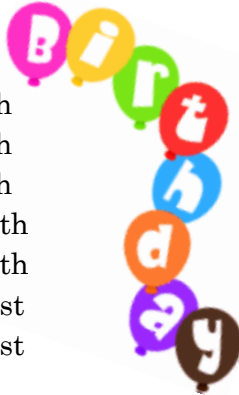
A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex, or just call the church office (331-3238) and we will see that your name is appropriately posted.

**IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS**



Donna Kreicker, Pete Beckett, David Weitzel, Mark Brant, Erika Berry, Lynda Jaeger, Eileen Hastings and Inky Hall. Please remember our nursing home residents and shut ins: Ruth Comisar, and Evelyn Wallace.

**M a y**



|                 |      |                |      |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------|
| Phyllis Houp    | 4th  | Roger Bell     | 22nd |
| Kyle Brown      | 5th  | Terri Brown    | 23rd |
| Kelly Stull     | 5th  | Ariana Beach   | 26th |
| Jessica Brown   | 12th | Evelyn Wallace | 27th |
| Jim Berry       | 15th | Johanna Willis | 27th |
| Cliff Brown     | 21st | Marilyn Gordon | 28th |
| David McDermott | 21st | Roy Miller     | 29th |

**TIME TO RECOGNIZE OUR GRADUATES !**



Please send graduation information to [communityoffaith@fuse.net](mailto:communityoffaith@fuse.net). We would like to publish the names of graduates, the name of the school he/she is graduating from and what they plan to do next; the name of the college they will be attending, employer's name, major league team they will be playing for, and anything else your graduates have accomplished that you want to share with your church family.

**FROM OUR TREASURER**

| <b>GENERAL</b> |               |               | <b>MISSION</b> | <b>Deacons</b> |                     |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| <b>2010</b>    | <b>May.</b>   | <b>Y.T.D.</b> | <b>Mar.</b>    | <b>Y.T.D.</b>  | <b>&amp; Desig.</b> |
| Beg. Balance   | <u>11,517</u> | <u>18,217</u> | 998            | 2              | 1,139               |
| Income         | 10,944        | 25,090        | 1,467          | 550            | 2,527               |
| Expenses       | <u>8,999</u>  | <u>29,845</u> | <u>1,292</u>   | <u>514</u>     | <u>2,530</u>        |
| End Balance    | 13,462        | 13,462        | 1,173          | 38             | 1,135               |

## MISSION AT WORK

**BY: JACK KLEIER**

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. This passage from Acts tells of the beginning of the Church as we know it. The birthday of the Church

This year, Pentecost Sunday is May 23, 2010. On this Sunday we will receive the Pentecost offering which is one of the special offerings we take up each year. This offering will be divided to help at-risk youth. 60% will go to G.A. for leadership development opportunities to for Presbyterian Youth and Young Adults to help them in their work with children at risk. 40% of the offering will stay with the local congregation to use in their programs for children at risk.

When we look around us, we can see the tremendous need for programs such as these in our communities. We don't often think about the many and diverse neighborhoods that children are raised in and how many children are at risk. There is much work that needs to be done and the church can be at the forefront of that work. This offering will ensure that the church can have the funds necessary to carry out God's call to serve children at risk.

You know, when we celebrate a birthday in our families we give gifts to honor the person who is having the birthday. Why not honor the church as it celebrates it's birthday by making a contribution to the Pentecost offering. During the month of May, there will be inserts in the bulletin telling you about the work that has been done through the Pentecost offering. Be sure to read these and find out how much you help children at risk in Jesus name. Remember, May 23, 2010 is Pentecost Sunday.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHURCH!**

## FILM CAPSULES

BY: ED MCNULTY

### *North Face*

(German with English Subtitles)  
Not Rated

This is a suspenseful fictionalized version of the 1936 attempt to scale the Eiger Mountain in Switzerland, the last of the peaks to be conquered. The Nazi government, preparing for the Berlin Olympic games that year, is eager that a German team win the glory. A female reporter, a former sweetheart of one of the climbers, is dispatched with her Nazi boss to cover the event. This is a real fingernail-biting film that demonstrates how politics and the press and sports have become intertwined. Showing only at the Esquire.

### *The Jones*

Rated R

A funny satire that changes into a tragic-comedy, this is the story of an artificial family sent by an advertising firm to infiltrate a posh neighborhood and plug a myriad of products to their unsuspecting neighbors and acquaintances. This makes Hollywood's present product placement practice seem amateurish by comparison. A delightful tale that will remind some viewers of Jesus' warning about selling one's soul to gain the world.

### *Kick-Ass*

Rated R

Funny at times, but filled with vulgar language and extreme violence, this comic book-based film will appeal mainly to young geeks who, like the teenage hero, also dream of becoming a superhero. Especially objectionable because a father trains his young daughter to slit the throats and machine gun bad guys, the two of them also don superhero costumes to fight crime.

### *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*

Rated PG

Although in some ways a bit like *Kick-Ass* in that the middle school hero dreams of being able to withstand the bullying bigger kids, including his obnoxious teenaged brother, this is a little more reality based—and a lot less violent. Not too likeable at first, especially when he betrays his chubby friend, the boy gradually becomes less self-centered, performing an admirable act of self-sacrifice at the end. A pretty good family film, though not nearly as good as the one it most resembles, *How to Eat Fried Worms*.



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.



**FILM CAPSULES , CONTINUED****BY: ED McNULTY***How to Train Your Dragon*

Rated PG

This delightful children's animated feature is a good peacemaking film. Hiccup (no, we're not told how our young hero got his name) is Viking teenager that, as is the usual case in such tales, does not fit in and often disappoints his father. All the other boys are much bigger, well on their way to becoming like the burly adults, whereas Hiccup is scrawny. His village is often besieged by fierce dragons, and then one night when the boy is told to stay inside during an attack, he sneaks out to fire his catapult weighted with balls on the ends of chains. The next day he discovers that he had snagged a young dragon, but instead of killing it, he befriends it, and---. A tip to save money—the 3-D is so-so, so go to the 2-D version, and you will miss very little.

*Clash of the Titans*

Rated PG-13

This mythology-lite epic is just the film for adolescents who love computer-generated special effects. Filmed in wide screen 3-D, the action thriller will especially delight fantasy fans. The script makes a number of changes in the classic myth, but the main plot is recognizable, with our hero Perseus, sired by Zeus, rescued from a box tossed into the sea and raised by a kindly fisherman. Growing into a young titan, he soon is off on his adventures to rescue humanity being beset by calamities unleashed when Zeus, worried that humans are no longer worshipping the gods. This deprives them of their power, so he allows his ambitious brother Hades to launch assaults on the kingdom with the aim of turning the people back to the gods. This latter will remind some of God's agreement with Satan in the book of Job. For adults the best thing in the film is Liam Neeson as Zeus.



Brighten someone's day with a card or note. If you have been missing a friend who hasn't been in church for a while, or if you were glad to see someone, let them know. Cards are available in the narthex to help you be the light in someone's day. The church will see that the cards get to the post office.

## 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.

**Note:** The annual joint meeting of the Session and Deacons was held in conjunction with this stated meeting of the Session.

**OPENING:** The regular meeting of the Session of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church was called to order in the church parlor on March 18, 2010, at 7:03 P.M. by the moderator, The Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr. Rev. Smith read from Psalms 46 and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was present

**MINUTES:** The minutes for the regular Session meeting held on February 11, 2010, were approved as written.

### CLERK OF SESSION REPORT:

**Communion:** The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated on Sunday, March 7, 2010, at the morning worship service. As Rev. Smith was in Nicaragua with the mission team, The Rev. Dr. Ed McNulty presided. **ACTION:** Upon recommendation of the clerk, the Session approved the following schedule for celebrating the Lord's Supper during 2010: the first Sunday

of each month with communion served by intinction in January, April, July, and October, Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve. Approval for celebrations that had already been held on January 3, February 7 and March 7 were included in this action.

The clerk has handed over to the Trustees the information on stocks held by COF along with the password to access the stocks still in the name of the former Ludlow Presbyterian Church which are listed on the BNY Mellon website.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** The following correspondence was received during the past month:

- a letter reporting on the value and use of the Ernst Scholarship Fund was received from Princeton Seminary. The letter was given to the Trustees.
- a report on the 2010 mission trip of the Kentucky Partnership with Rio San Juan, Nicaragua, was received from Bill Lindsay. A reading of the report was reserved for the Mission Umbrella report.
- a letter of thanks from Presbytery Council, Presbytery of Cincinnati, for COF's contribution of \$660.00 to the Mission Fund of the presbytery.

a letter of thanks from a woman who received financial aid from COF.

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES, CONTINUED

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Rev. Smith submitted a report of his activities on behalf of COF.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** President Pete Beckett reported that the Trustees met just prior to this stated meeting and elected Elder Pete Beckett as President, Elder Jack Kleier as Vice-president, and Miguel Carlin as Secretary. Elders Pete Beckett, Jack Kleier, and Floyd Hastings will have authority to open the safety deposit box. Floyd will be in charge of arranging repairs to the light pole that was knocked down, the broken glass in the sanctuary door, broken window in the educational building, and the cracked glass in the door in the fellowship hall. Floyd also was given the information on stocks held by COF for his review.

At this point, the order of the docket was changed to accommodate Deacons and others who needed to be dismissed.

**CONFERENCE WITH THE DEACONS:** A discussion of the role of the Deacons centered on varying expectations held by those present. Some thought that the Deacons should participate in giving care to congregational members in need; others emphasized the Deacons' current work in opening and closing the church, ushering and collecting the offering. One problem in abruptly changing the role

of the Deacons was identified as being that the expectations of individual deacons when they agreed to serve might differ from the changes made in the Deacons' role. The discussion was referred to the Deacons for their consideration and response.

**MISSION UMBRELLA:** Miguel Carlin reported for the umbrella. Saturday, March 20 was designated as a clean-up day at the church. Jobs are listed in the narthex; approximately ten (10) people are needed to complete the tasks. The One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering will be received on April 4. The umbrella has completed its winter projects: sponsoring an offering for Haiti disaster relief through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), sending four (4) care packages to soldiers serving in Afghanistan, and creating and delivering Valentine cards to our shut-ins. An additional care package will be sent in May, and more mission projects will be initiated in June. Elder Jack Kleier is working on an evangelism effort.

Rev. Smith read Bill Lindsay's report on the Kentucky Partnership's recent mission trip to Nicaragua.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Gary Willis presented his financial report for the past month.

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES, CONTINUED

**C.L.A.S.P.:** Bill Lindsay, President of the C.L.A.S.P. board, provided information about the after-school program. The Max and Erma's fundraiser earned \$540.00 for the organization. The board is also mailing out requests for financial donations.

Note: At this point in the meeting, the Session resumed the order of the original docket.

### UMBRELLA REPORTS

**ADMINISTRATION:** Elder Floyd Hastings is attending to the repairs to church property mentioned under the Trustees' report. The Calvary Chin Church will pay for the repair of the broken glass in the sanctuary door.

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** Elder Joanna Bailey reported for the umbrella. Plans for Holy Week and Easter need to be made. The Session discussed the practicality of continuing the early Easter service and breakfast, but no decision was reached on whether to continue or discontinue.

**ACTION:** A motion that we continue with the early service and breakfast for this year and that we evaluate the situation sometime in the near future for next year was adopted.

The schedule for Easter Sunday this year was set at 8:00 A.M. for the early service, 8:45 P.M. for the breakfast, and 11:00 A.M. for the regular morning worship.

Joanna agreed to give a minute for outreach inviting the congregation to the Maundy Thursday service.

**May Presbytery Meeting** – We will be hosting the Presbytery of Cincinnati on Tuesday, May 11. We need guidance from presbytery to begin planning. Jean Jennings has agreed to organize the food; however, she will not be available to help that night.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.

### CLOSING:

**Joys and Concerns:** Prayers of joy or concern were expressed. Rev. Smith closed the meeting with prayer.

The next meeting of the Session of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church will be held on Thursday, April 8, at 7:00 P.M. at the church.

Rebecca S. Lindsay,  
Clerk of Session

## *A Special General Assembly Connection*

Before the 219<sup>th</sup> General Assembly convenes in Minneapolis on July 3, commissioners and advisory delegates will receive training to prepare them for their service to the church at the assembly. One portion of that training will be to view a Power Point presentation prepared by Presbyterians for Disability Concerns (PDC) and presented by the Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association (PHEWA). Featured in the presentation will be our own Miguel Carlin! Freda Carlin and Linda Hils are also in the picture. (see page 11)

The purpose of the presentation, entitled "Offering Our Gifts," is to heighten awareness of the commissioners and advisory delegates of the gifts and talents that people with disabilities possess and to advise them of caring and respectful ways to interact with people with disabilities. Miguel, who served as a Youth Advisory Delegate from the Presbytery of Cincinnati for the 217<sup>th</sup> General Assembly held in Birmingham, AL, in 2006, speaks of his experience of being made welcome and included in the assembly.

Presbyterians for Disability Concerns is dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities find a place of belonging in the church. The network creates opportunities for each of us to learn how to have meaningful dialogue on not only our similarities but our differences as well. Additionally, PDC works with congregations and their respective communities to create friendly and inclusive environments for everyone. During the past two years, the PDC network has become an avenue to work with congregations on raising awareness of our disabled veterans coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan.

To view the presentation, "Offering Our Gifts," use the following link:

<http://www.pcusa.org/ga219/home/offering-our-gifts/player.html> or log onto the church website at [www.cofnky.org](http://www.cofnky.org) and click on "Breaking News."

To learn more about PDC and how you can support this valuable work, go to following sites: <http://www.pcusa.org/phewa/networks/pdc/pdf/2006-asr/PDCbrochure.pdf> and <http://www.pcusa.org/phewa/pdc.htm>



Pictured are Miguel Carlin, Freda Carlin and Linda Hils. Miguel is featured in a training presentation prepared by Presbyterians for Disability Concerns (PDC) being presented by the Presbyterian Health, Education and Welfare Association (PHEWA)

### **WE COULDN'T BE MORE PROUD OF.....**

**Bill Dupps** was honored at the Tri-State Habitat for Humanity appreciation dinner April 16th. Bill was among those recognized as long a long time volunteer. Bill has been

working at Habitat for 20 years! The Northern Kentucky Habitat Board meets here on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00pm.



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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

|                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Tuesday Morning Bible Study 11:00 | May 4, 11, 18 & 25 |
| Mother's Day                      | May 9              |
| Presbytery Meeting at COF 5:00pm  | May 11             |
| Trustees 6:30pm                   | May 13             |
| Session 7:00pm                    | May 13             |
| Pentecost Sunday                  | May 23             |
| Memorial Day (office closed)      | May 31             |

Phone: 859 331-3238  
E-mail: [cfpastor@fuse.net](mailto:cfpastor@fuse.net)  
General E-mail: [communityoffaith@fuse.net](mailto:communityoffaith@fuse.net)

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