

September 2011

# Chronicles

Community of Faith Presbyterian Church  
1400 Highland Pike, Covington, KY 41011  
[WWW.COENKY.ORG](http://WWW.COENKY.ORG)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

On Death and Dying  
(Apologies to  
Dr. Kubler-Ross)

Well of course it's on my mind. After the last month or so, isn't it on yours? Charlotte, Irma, and Marilyn were familiar faces and personalities and each had sewn an inimitable if not unique stitch in the fabric of this church. In addition to all of this, Linda Bowen is very sick and as of this writing (September 2) the prognosis is predictable and soon.

So my question is simply, does our understanding of death and dying change as we age? As the prospect of our own death draws nearer, as the ages noted in the various obituaries are increasingly

younger than ours? I'm thinking yes. How could it not? There's a theory about the optimal recruiting age for young men who will serve in combat. It is simply the younger the better. Eighteen year olds have more of a sense of invulnerability than, say, twenty-six year olds. The younger men are more willing to do the otherwise unthinkable because they have a lighter grasp on their mortality.

I remember as a 21 year old newly minted second lieutenant standing in a C-119 aircraft in preparation for my very first static line parachute jump. I was thrilled and anxious, but I would not be one of the jumpers they told stories

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about: neither the one who “froze” in the door nor the one whose parachute failed to deploy and of whom it was said in the parlance of the airborne community, “He ain’t gonna jump no more!” But that first jump went better than I could have dreamed, as did the next ten, more or less.

Twelve years later I was a pastor in Louisville, doing my part to prepare a couple for their wedding when I learned that her dad was in the Army Reserve. He was Special Forces and they jumped all the time at Fort Knox. When I met him, we formed an almost instant bond and he offered me the opportunity to jump with his small unit. Ten years before? No problem! But at 33, I politely declined.

The seasons change, the years pass, summer turns to autumn and then to winter. It is the way of life and death, but wait-- after winter comes the spring with greenery and new life.

The question I am always tempted to ask in sermons, and sometimes succumb to the temptation, is, “What’s going on here?” Perhaps it is the very passing of the seasons from life to death to life that is God’s sign to us and that yes dying is hard because we know it, many have seen it, but being born seems equally hard even though our unformed brains can’t remember it.

If we can take seriously the promises of God both written and observed, at this point in my life I have concluded that there can be far worse things to endure in this life. But then I’m not telling you anything new. Maybe I just needed to remind myself. Yeah, that was it.

Thanks for the opportunity.

*Don*



**We extend our sympathy** to the family and friends of Irma Bales. Irma died on Monday, August 1, 2011.

**We extend our sympathy** to the family and friends of Marilyn Gordon. Marilyn died on Wednesday, August 24, 2011.

**IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS**



Pete Beckett, Mark Brant, Donna Kreicker, Linda Lavelle, Linda Bowen, KC Clarke, Phyllis Houpp, Lynda Jaeger, Gary Willis, Inky Hall and Susan Ziegler.

Please remember our nursing home residents and shut ins: Ruth Comisar and Evelyn Wallace

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Anji Hurt	6th
Bart Groeneveld	9th
Erika Berry	10th
Erica Dupps	10th
William Dupps	15th
Freda Carlin	24th



**COF has a Facebook group!** Invite your friends and family to check out our new and improved website and to join our Facebook group! You can access our website to share with your friends and family at [www.cofnky.org](http://www.cofnky.org). Our Facebook group can be found by searching for Community of Faith Presbyterian in the search engine.

**FROM OUR TREASURER**

<b>GENERAL</b>			<b>MISSION</b>				
			<u>Year - To - Date</u>				
<b>2011</b>	<u>July</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Desig.</u>	<u>Other</u>	
Beg. Balance	8,312	4,308	-389	305	547	-1,210	
Income	14,253	78,839	218	777	2,381	1,120	
Expense	11,552	<u>72,135</u>	<u>1,397</u>	<u>476</u>	<u>2,526</u>	<u>2,485</u>	
End Balance	11,012	11,012	-1,568	605	402	-2,575	

## MISSION AT WORK

The ice cream social turned out well thanks to a few hardy souls. The grounds looked great and the crowd was steady both days. Everyone seemed to enjoy the festivities at the museum. A great big thank you to all who helped. Our bicycle ministry opened the bike shop Sunday afternoon, Jerry was in the shop to explain the process and what it is all about. Thanks to all that stopped by. If you would like to visit sometime we are there almost every Tuesday from 10am to 4pm

Community of Faith will be hosting some folks from Nicaragua the week of September 25. They will be a covered dish dinner on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> after service. I hope that many in the congregation will attend and get to know these folk and find out about our ministry south of the border. They will present a program at Lakeside on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup>. Check the bulletin for the time. After they leave our area, they will travel to Madisonville and spend some time with Ed Ramsey's Church, from there they will return home. We will be looking for help with the pot-luck dinner from the congregational. If you can help, please see Erica Berry.

## BY: JACK KLEIER

We have been sending people from our Church to Nicaragua for a number of years. We have sent money to buy material so that local village people could sew school uniforms for the young people. Sewing machines have been given to them in the past. This ministry has been instrumental in improving people's lives and helps us to reach out to god's children in another part of the world.

This is a great opportunity to meet some mission workers first hand. Some of our members, who have made the trip to Nicaragua, have worked very hard to make this visit work. Our visitors will stopover at churches in Michigan and travel from there to Kentucky and then back home. If you can help during their stay here let Bill Lindsay know.

We took up a special offering to help meet our share of the cost of their trip. By working together with all the other churches involved, the cost was rather minimal. If you did not have a chance to make a gift you may still do so. Try to attend one of the functions during their stay here. It would be nice to have a good turn out for each and I think it is an excellent opportunity to hear about this outreach ministry.

## FILM CAPSULES

*Film Capsules Summer #2, 2011*  
*Monthly short takes on the movies*  
*by Presbyterian minister Dr. Edward*  
*McNulty. His longer reviews*  
*are now available free at*  
*www.visualparables.net.*

Note that I have just learned that two of the films reviewed below will be closing at the art house theaters this week, so you might have to wait until they are available on DVD and at Netflix. They are worth the wait.

### The Help

Rated PG-13. Psalm 146:7b-9. Proverbs 31:8

Through the effort of a young white woman, liberalized while away at college, a group of maids in Jackson Mississippi give their version of what it is like to live in the segregated South of the early Sixties. The three principals in the story, the two maids Aibileen and Minny, and the writer Skeeter Phelan, form an unusual friendship that sees them through danger and difficulty in getting their stories into book form. Told with much humor, this is a compelling example of the survival tactic of blacks living in our racist society have had to adopt, what poet Paul Laurence Dunbar meant when he wrote his great poem "We Wear the Mask." Despite criticism from some black leaders, some of it justified, this film is well worth seeing and will provide plenty of material for reflection and discussion on racism and the innate thirst for justice and freedom.

## BY: ED McNULTY

### Captain America: The First Avenger

Rated PG-13. Psalm 1:1.

Set in an idealized World War Two era wherein whites served in the same regiments as African Americans, contrary to the harsh segregation that actually ruled, this adaptation of the story of the first of the Marvel Comics superheroes is much better than I expected it to be. It has so much heart, especially compared to such CGI films as *The Transformers*, that even adults not enamored with the Tooth Fairy-like mythology of the genre can enjoy it. Young, Asthmatic Steve Rogers, constantly labeled "4-F" when he tries to enlist in the Army, is transformed through the serum of a German refugee scientist into Captain America who battles a Nazi villain named The Red Skull.

### Cowboys and Aliens

Rated PG-13. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. Psalm 133:1

If this combination of genres sounds ludicrous, I can assure you that it is—and yet I enjoyed it, even with its plot so full of improbabilities. Such as that a posse of cowboys and Indians (yes, the film should have been entitled *Cowboys, Indians, and Aliens*) being able to unite and outfight the aliens who are armed with such superior weapons. Six-shooters against ray guns? Horses against jet fighters? Give me a break! Daniel Craig and Harrison Ford are the main reasons for plunking money down for this oater, both of them trying vainly to impart a measure of believability in the tale. Catch it at a cheap seats theatre if you must see it.

## FILM CAPSULES , CONTINUED

### Another Earth

Rated PG-13. Proverbs 16:6a; 28:13

On the night that teenaged Rhoda Williams hears on her car radio about a blue planet entering our solar system, she makes a fatal mistake. Intending to study astrophysics at M.I.T. after her high school graduation, she is on her way home from a drinking party when she looks up to catch a glimpse of the blue star. Thus her car wanders from its path, crashing into another car and killing the wife and daughter of a famous composer and college professor. After her release from prison, she has given up college plans and works as a cleaning woman at her old high school. When she learns the whereabouts of the man she made a widower, who has dropped out of life, she goes to seek forgiveness. However, unable to find the words, she instead manages to hire on as his cleaning lady. It is fascinating to watch their relationship develop and to learn that the mysterious planet, now so close that it can be seen even in the daytime, turns out to be a mirror image of our Earth. An intriguing "What if...?" film exploring the themes of guilt and atonement and the theory of multi-universes. (*Showing at the Esquire Theaters*)

### Rise of the Planet of the Apes

Rated PG. Proverbs 12:10 & 14:31-32

This origins tale, sometimes called a "prequel," joins a long line of sci-fi cautionary tales, such as *Frankenstein*, *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*, *The Fly*, and *Jurassic Park*. Like the protagonist in the other stories, genetic scientist Will Rodman

## BY: ED McNULTY

(James Franco) oversteps his bounds when he develops a serum to combat Alzheimer's disease and injects it into a laboratory chimpanzee and then his Alzheimer-ravaged father. Here the use of CGI is very effective, with actor Andy Serkis perhaps turning in the best performance of the film as Caesar, the chimp that Will raises in his home. The film raises ethical questions about the nature and treatment of primates, especially in the light of the Spanish government adopting a law making it a criminal offense to experiment or upon or abuse primates. Also the likelihood of unintended consequences.

### 30 Minutes or Less

Rated R. Psalm 141:8-10

Filled with gratuitous gutter language in order to appeal to young adults who love raunchiness (there's a topless lap dance scene), this admittedly funny movie is not for church movie groups. Set in glamorous Grand Rapids, Michigan, it is one of those things-go-wrong affairs, with two bumbling would-be criminals knocking out Jesse Eisenberg's pizza-delivering Nick, strapping a bomb to him and forcing him to rob a bank in order to raise the 100 grand they need to hire a hit man to kill the father of one of them. That's enough of the details of a movie for which Eisenberg, so effective in *The Social Network*, should fire his agent for suggesting that he make it. The same goes for stand-up comedian Aziz Ansari who plays Jesse's best friend. Both are so much better than this sordid material.

**FILM CAPSULES , CONTINUED****BY: ED McNULTY****Winnie the Pooh**

Rated G. Proverbs 18:24.

What a tonic to see this gentle little adaptation of three stories by A.A. Milne right after enduring the disappointing *30 Minutes or Less*. Winnie the Pooh and all of his Hundred Acre Wood friends are present, along with the imaginative boy Christopher Robin. Both adults and children will laugh at the script's word play, much of the all too brief film focusing on the friends' search for the gloomy donkey Eeyore's missing tail. The animation, based on those of the books' illustrations, is an extra treat in that the characters are seen climbing/walking/falling off the printed lines of a page. As with the earlier Pooh films, this is an affirmation and celebration of friendship among diverse characters.

**Fright Night**

Rated R Psalms 34:21

This remake of a popular vampire horror film is set in a suburban housing development of Los Vegas. This is very appropriate in that many of the citizens of the city work at night at gambling casinos and sleep much of the day, as do vampires. The plot even of the original was an old one, a teenager thinks his neighbor is up to evil—in this case is a vampire—but no one believes him. Lots of blood and gore, with the climactic battle enhanced by the 3D and CGI effects—sparks from explosions seem to come right at you. Even with a fine cast that includes Colin Farrell (as the vampire) and Toni Collette as the mother I found it hard to sit through this thing. Guess you have to be a fan of the vampire genre to appreciate it.

*Longer reviews of the above can be seen at [www.visualparables.net](http://www.visualparables.net). Subscribers will also be able to access discussion questions for the films.*

**Fireworks Party**

7:00pm on Sunday, September 4th

Food! Fun! Family Friendly!

Ample parking! No alcohol, please.

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES

### MINUTES OF THE SESSION COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH July 14, 2011

A quorum was present.

The Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr. opened the meeting with prayer.

**DOCKET:** The docket was approved as presented with the addition of one item to New Business—a request for use of the fellowship hall.

**MINUTES:** The minutes for the regular Session meeting held on June 9, 2011, were approved as presented. The called meeting scheduled for Sunday, June 12, 2011, for the purpose of receiving a new member, lacked a quorum. Notes from that meeting will be included in the minutes register. The action taken without a quorum will be submitted to the Session for ratification.

**CLERK OF SESSION REPORT:**  
**Communion:** The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated by intinction on Sunday, July 3, 2011, during the morning worship service. Rev. Smith presided assisted by Elders Jim Berry, Erika Berry and Marilyn Gordon.

John Wesley McClellan Mehl was welcomed into the membership of the church on Sunday, June 12, 2011, during the morning worship service. Prior to worship, John met with the Session to be examined as to his faith and intentions to serve Christ. Although a quorum was not present at that meeting, those in atten-

dance concurred in their decision to continue with John's profession of faith at the morning worship service. This clerk requests that the Session ratify the action taken at that meeting.

**ACTION:** A motion to accept John Wesley McClellan Mehl into the fellowship of Community of Faith retroactively to June 12, 2011, was adopted.

The clerk has reviewed materials provided by the presbytery and General Assembly--now called councils of the PC(USA) rather than "governing bodies"--and reports that the Session and congregation will need to make a number of decisions regarding polity over the next year. She will provide a list at the August Session meeting.

**PASTOR'S REPORT:** Rev. Smith provided a written report of his activities on behalf of COF over the past month. He updated his scheduled vacation days to July 20 – August 1, 2011. The Rev. Cecil Albright, HR, will preach on July 24 and July 31.

Rev. Smith announced that he will seek Honorably Retired status with the PC(USA) effective January 1, 2012.

**ACTION:** A motion was adopted that we contact the Committee on Ministry of Cincinnati Presbytery and ask COM to send a representative to our August 11 Session meeting to speak with us about the pending retirement of Rev. Smith.

**TRUSTEES: ACTION:** Upon recommendation by the Trustees, the

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES, CONTINUED

Session approved the inclusion of CLASP liability insurance on our new insurance policy. This insurance would protect CLASP personnel, not the Ludlow Baptist Church.

A workday is being planned for the Ludlow building. Trustee Miguel Carlin is arranging for a Boy Scout troop to help with the work.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Gary Willis provided a written report of the church's finances over the past month. The treasurer's report will be filed.

**UMBRELLA REPORTS: ADMINISTRATION AND PROPERTY:** Elder Jack Kleier reported a continuing problem with balls landing in the gutters at the Ludlow building when children play there. The balls stop up the gutters and downspouts, forcing water to back up and flow into the building.

**ACTION:** A motion was adopted to change the lock on the back door of the Ludlow building to limit the number keys and the number of people who can enter the building.

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** Rev. Smith and Clerk Rebecca Lindsay reported in the absence of Congregational Care Umbrella chair, Elder Erika Berry. The Ice Cream Social is planned for Saturday, August 20 and Sunday August 21, to be held in con-

junction with Battery Hooper Days at the James Ramage Museum. Ice cream will be made on Saturday, August 6, 2011. Jack Kleier will see if he can have a replacement part made for the 5-gallon ice cream freezer. Anji Hurt will make an announcement about the Ice Cream Social during the Minute for Outreach on Sunday, July 24.

**MISSION AND EVANGELISM:** Elder Jack Kleier reported.

**ACTION:** Permission was granted to the Mission and Evangelism Umbrella to conduct a school supply drive.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is identifying ways to support rebuilding in areas hit by tornados and flooding. **ACTION:** Permission was granted for the umbrella to conduct a special offering to be sent to PDA.

The umbrella will work on the evangelism campaign in the fall. Ten more bicycles and four scooters have been repaired and donated to Brighton Center.

**NEW BUSINESS: ACTION:** A request by the Calvary Chin Church to use the building on July 29 – 30, starting at 8:00 A.M. and lasting all day, for the purpose of holding a regional Sunday School training event was adopted

**ACTION:** Permission was granted to the Kleier family to use the fellowship

## COMMUNITY OF FAITH SESSION MINUTES, CONTINUED

hall on September 17, beginning at 3:00 P.M. for the purpose of holding a family event.

**CLOSING:** Joys and Concerns: Prayers of thanksgiving and concern were lifted for Irma Bales; Jerry and Candice Hinners at loss of their son; Rob Lindsay; Eric and Crystal Ramsey; Third Presbyterian's Bible School; Molly Kinzer; Tom and Barbara York.

Rev. Smith closed the meeting with

prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

The next meeting of the Session of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2011, at 7:00 P.M. at the church.

Rebecca S. Lindsay,

Clerk of Session

## COF SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES

*The action taken without a quorum will be submitted to the Session for ratification.*

**JUNE 12, 2011**

**PRESENT:** Elder Jim Berry.  
**EXCUSED:** Elders Floyd Hastings, Jack Kleier, Erika Berry.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rebecca Lindsay, Clerk of Session; The Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr., Moderator; John Mehl.

**Quorum (5):** A quorum was not 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 10:35 A.M. on the above date in the parlor. Rev. Smith opened

the meeting with prayer.

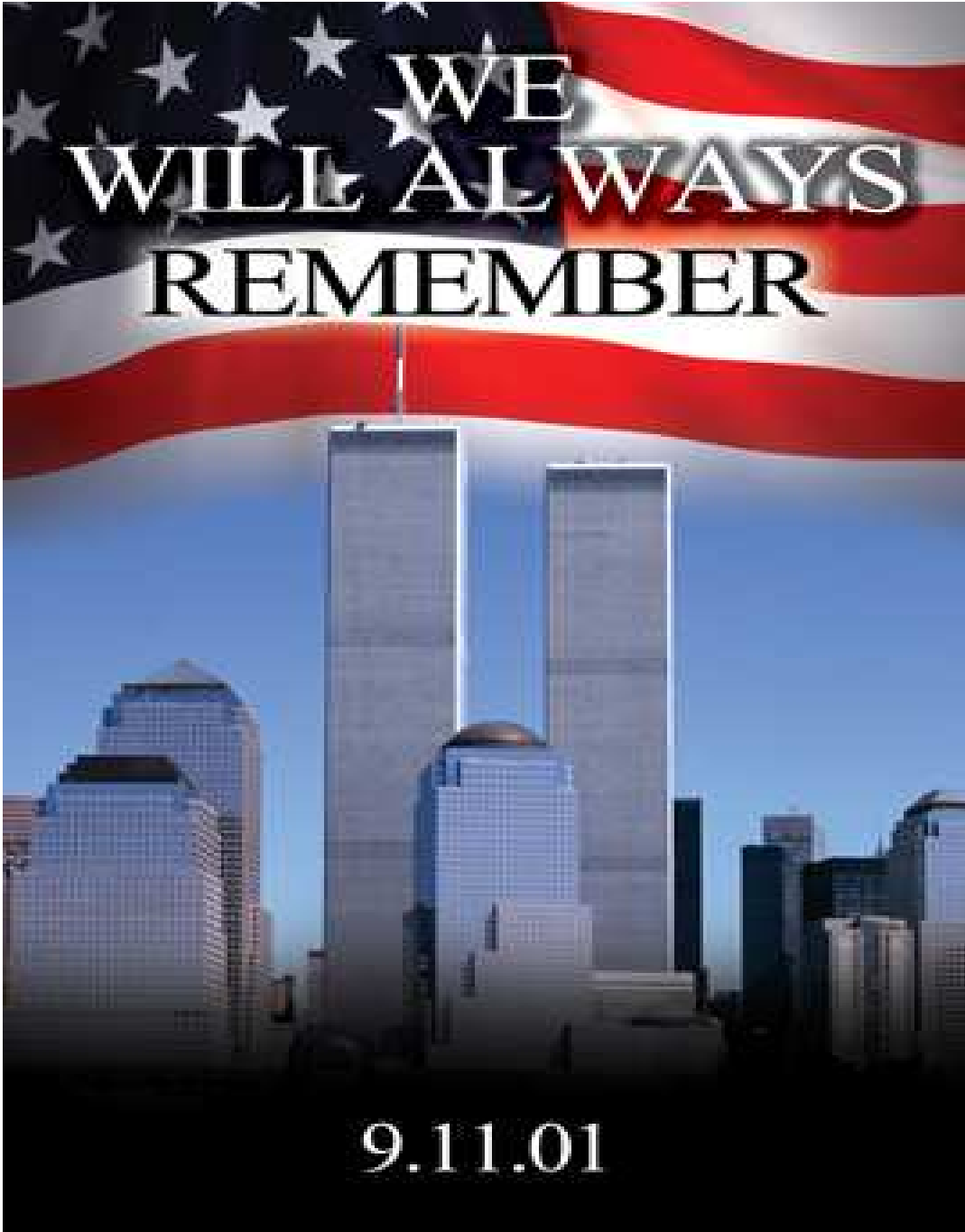
**PURPOSE:** To exam and receive John Wesley McClellan Mehl into the membership of Community of Faith Presbyterian Church.

**ACTION:** After discussion with John about his faith and his desire to unite with the church, a motion to receive John into membership of COF by profession of faith was approved. In light of the lack of a quorum, the clerk will ask the Session at its next regular meeting to ratify this action.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 A.M. and closed with prayer by Rev. Smith.

Rev. Donald H. Smith, Jr., Moderator

Rebecca S. Lindsay, Clerk of Session



## **CLAPS ANNUAL REPORT FY 2010 - 2011**

With God's help and dedicated volunteers and staff, CLASP has completed another very good fiscal year of 2010-11. This year, our student enrollment fluctuated between 32 and 21 students. As of the end of 2010-11 year, there were 21 students, with 2 on full scholarships and 1 on partial scholarship.

Our staffing, which is critical to the quality of the program, is stable. Melodie Corbett, is our outstanding director. She and Kellie Trammell, have provided daily program leadership. Our attendance monitor was Barbara Atwood.

Funding for the program comes from parent fees, on-going support from our sponsoring churches, foundations and organizations, and numerous individual contributors. Two foundations and a trust, the Durr Foundation, Ludlow Education Foundation, and the Virginia B. Hunnicutt Trust have given grants of \$2,000, \$500, and \$1,000. We have held four fund-raisers. With fund-raisers at Lakeside, Max and Erma's, and our annual Spaghetti Dinner, our "special" fund-raising netted \$7,600, which was

lower than last year, but still adequate. Bill Hitch, Nancy Faulconer, and Jack Kleier, our lead fund-raisers, have helped achieve outstanding results. Our supporting churches, Lakeside Presbyterian, Community of Faith, Crescent Springs, and First Baptist of Ludlow, have provided more than \$8,100 in cash contributions. Other financing has come from about 200 friends who gave approximately \$5,300 throughout the year.

The Kroger gift card and Remke card programs have helped to support CLASP. A value equal to 4% of the Kroger purchases made with the special CLASP-Kroger gift card is donated to CLASP. These programs have netted \$2,500 this year for CLASP.

CLASP volunteers are essential to our success. Our sincere thanks go to all of them. We are blessed with our faithful board members, many of whom are "hands-on" in day-to-day CLASP operations, as well as being administrative leaders and decision-makers. We also have a

## **CLAPS ANNUAL REPORT FY 2010 O 2011, CONTINUED**

number of others who come from Community of Faith, Lakeside, and Crescent Springs Presbyterian churches. We are especially grateful for the enthusiastic support of Rev. Don Smith, Rev. Chris Torrey, and Rev. Paul Anglin, who regularly lead the devotionals and participate in special CLASP programs and celebrations.

Long-time board member Richard Donahue stepped down in December and parent representative, Rebecca Hewitt, resigned in March. Four new board mem-

bers, Richard Bodnar, David McMullin, Lynda Jaeger, and Ken Wynn were added during FY 2010-11. Melissa Corn will become the parent representative in fall, 2011. Officers for the fiscal year, through June, 2012, are Board chair Bill Lindsay; Vice-Chair, Jerry Hinners; Interim Secretary, Nancy Falconer; and Treasurer, Ernie Elliot.

Respectfully Submitted,

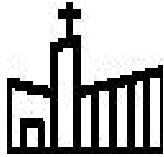
Bill Lindsay,  
Chair of the Board of CLASP

## **MISSION VISITORS FROM NICARAGUA**

We will be hosting mission visitors from Nicaragua: Anita Taylor, director of the Nehemiah Ministry at CEPAD, Leslie Clay, and her husband Carl Agsten, mission co-workers. They will be visiting September 24-27 and providing us with a unique perspective and update on their work and ministry. They will be preaching in the morning service on September 25, followed by a pot luck luncheon here. There will be a Mission Night at Lakeside Presbyterian on Tuesday September 27. Donations to defray \$200 in travel expenses will be appreciated. Label your check or envelope "Nicaragua Mission", please. More details will be announced, contact Bill Lindsay for any questions.

Link to Lesley Clay Letter

<http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/missionconnections/agsten-carl-and-leslie-clay-201106/> (if link doesn't open, copy and paste into your address bar).



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Presbyterian Church  
1400 Highland Pike  
Covington, KY 41011

## SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Choir Rehearsal September 14, 21, 28

Fireworks 7:00pm	4th
Board of Trustees 6:30pm	8th
Session 7:00pm	8th
Presbytery Meeting @ Knox 5:00pm	13th
Mission/Stewardship Umbrella Meeting 7:00pm	15th
Mission Group from Nicaragua arrives	24th
Fellowship dinner with Mission Group 12:00pm	25th
Mission Night at Lakeside & Pot Luck Dinner	27th

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