

# June 2016

#### Interim Pastor Rev. Kathy Riley

## Session

Class of 2017 Meaghan Mullin Jim Burdick Stacey Ross Class of 2018 Shannon Murphy

Tim Reed Jeff Buckhout Class of 2019

Stephanie Boyd Sarah Cottongim Amy Rigney

## Committee Chairs

Stewardship/Finance Dan Alexander Worship Kim Newton Christian Education Erin Murphy Mission Heather Alexander Building and Grounds Walt Cottongim Congregational Life Becky Burdick Personnel Meaghan Mullin

Clarion Editor Terry David terrydavid05@gmail.com

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What a wonderful day it was at CSPC on Sunday, May 22, 2016! Carol Holbrook Ferguson was elected, by unanimous vote, as your next installed pastor. The Pastor Nominating Committee worked hard and faithfully to bring Carol to you as their candidate and your enthusiastic response to her reflects their own excitement. I am thrilled to know you will be embarking on this new journey with such strong feelings of hope and joyous expectation on all sides! Carol will be examined by the Presbytery of Cincinnati at a called meeting on June 14. Assuming that this examination is sustained, Carol will be ordained in her home presbytery on June 26. She will begin her ministry here on July 10 and will be installed here at CSPC once she has had a chance to make those arrangements.

Also on May 22, elders and a new Nominating Committee were elected with a full slate of elders in all three classes. And a tradition was continued in grand fashion, with the annual Bake-off fundraiser for the Flames' youth group. The election and the Bake-off remind us that even in the midst of change and transition, the work and ministries of the congregation go on. New faces join in the work just as new baked treats make their appearance every year. In every congregation that worships and serves the living God, this is as it should be: a constant interplay of new and old, change and continuity.

I have so many prayers in my heart as I write this. I am so very grateful to have had the opportunity to walk with you on this stage of your journey. I treasure the relationships we have formed and the memories we have made. We have worshiped and praised God, prayed for one another and for the world, and we have opened our doors and our hearts to strangers, to new friends and new members. I thank you for your trust in me as your interim pastor, and for your work through the process. I offer prayers of gratitude for all of you and all that you do in so many ways for the congregation and in the name of Christ.

Even as I give thanks for what has been, I offer prayers for your future. With you, I look forward to a bright future for CSPC. I trust that you will learn and grow with Carol as she serves her first church as an ordained minister of the Word and Sacrament. She will teach and you will learn new things, just as you will teach her. Mistakes will be made, missteps will be taken - and forgiveness will be offered and grace will abound. And you'll go forward together, finding new ways to life faithful lives in your ministry and mission.

You will remain in my heart and in my prayers, this day and forevermore Peace,

Kathy

## Exciting Times at CSPC



A "Meet and Greet" was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> for the congregation to meet Carol Ferguson. Carol preached her first sermon with us the next day. If you want to know more about Carol, please pick up a copy of her P.I.F. and a brief biography provided by the P.N.C. from the table in the narthex.

### **Meet Your New Elders**

The slate for a new class of Elders and a new Nominating Committee was accepted at the congregational meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. An Elder Training Event is being planned and the new Elders will official begin their duties on June 12<sup>th.</sup> Your current Elders and members of the Nominating Committee are as follows:

Class of 2016: Jeff Buckhout, Jim Burdick, Walt Cottongim – This class will complete their duties and "rotate" off Session Class of 2017 – Jim Burdick, Meaghan Mullin, Stacey Ross Class of 2018 – Shannon Murphy, Tim Reed, Jeff Buckhout Class of 2019 – Stephanie Boyd, Sarah Cottongim, Amy Rigney

2016 – 2017 Nominating Committee: Scott Mozea, Craig Mullin, Betty Cottongim – The Chair of the Nominating Committee will be chosen from the Session Board.

## New Committee Looking for Dedicated Members

The new Congregational Life Committee will have its first meeting on <u>Thursday June 9 at 6:30 PM</u>. Becky Burdick has agreed to chair this committee, which will assume responsibility for organizing fellowship events, communications with homebound and hospitalized members, funeral meals and other functions that the deacons have been coordinating. If you are interested in helping with these important aspects of life at CSPC please come to the meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> or get in touch with Becky or Rev. Riley.

## Flames Youth Group

Keith and Cathy Maddox spoke to the Flames Youth Group recently about their mission trip to Peru this summer. The children decided to collect items to donate for the Maddox's trip. They have also been taking photos of themselves and other children and writing "We are all the children of God" in Spanish on the pictures.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Flames hosted a dinner and a Bake Off. Approximately 25 items were auctioned off and a profit of \$2,220 was added to The Flames' budget to be used for their Camp



Fund and mission activities. Tom and Stacey Ross won a CD with songs from the 2015 Montreat Middle School Conference for being the "non Flames family member" who spent the most at the auction. Thanks to our church family and friends for their generosity in helping us with this fun event! Future plans involve an





interchurch kickball game with other youth groups in the area.

Erin Murphy and Meaghan Mullin

## Local Community Mission

Food for Thought food items can be brought in over the summer. Please check the "use by" dates and make sure that your donated food item does not expire before October 2016. Lists and examples of food items are in the Gathering Room.

## **Global Mission**

Grace-Marie Thompson is asking for gently-used or new children's books this summer to be sent to children in Malaysia. Beginning in July and throughout the summer please bring in early-reader books and beginning-reader chapter books. The CSPC Mission Committee will also be supporting this project with a financial donation.

### VBS

Art Camp, An Expression of Worship, is the theme for Vacation Bible School this year. It will be held on June 20 - 23 from 6:15 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Through the Books of Psalms, they will look at the life of the prophet David. Signups are in the narthex for your children and for volunteers to help. Please pre-register your 5-year olds through fifth graders. Older children can sign up to be volunteers.

## Happy Travelers

The seniors club at CSPC was named the Happy Travelers Club by Norma Lutz 5 years ago. Norma has since moved to Texas to be closer to family. We meet the 4th Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. and in May we went to Max and Erma's for lunch. Before lunch, we discussed upcoming lunches and outings. We also share news-worthy issues like scams against seniors. Cards are sent out to all our homebound church members. Possible upcoming events that have been discussed are a trip to Maysville, KY for lunch and a visit to Miller's Amish Bakery and Furniture Store in West Union, OH. We are not limited to church members, so this is a great outreach opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors looking for a little "senior fun" and fellowship! Oh – and there is usually a discussion about all our aches and pains, but lots of laughs. Come join in the fun!

#### **Betty Eichelberger**

#### Where in the World is Sam Martin?

While CSPC's Music Director Sam Martin will not be out and about in exotic, foreign locales this summer. He <u>will</u> be engaged in several exciting projects. From May 19-June 12, he will work with the Opera Company of Middlebury (VT) as a coach/accompanist for their production of Verdi's MACBETH. He will also perform in public concerts with OCM's young artist singers. From June 25-July 10, Sam will serve on the faculty of the Ithaca Suzuki Institute in New York, where he will work with young Suzuki students in a two-week program.

Eileen Thirs Dunavan has graciously volunteered to step in during Sam's absence. Eileen was raised in our church and was our organist "a few years back". Thanks for sharing your musical talents on piano and organ with us this summer, Eileen!

#### **Deacon News**

Yes, the Deacons have been dissolved, but several events have been planned for the summer. See Becky Burdick or Terry David to reserve your seat for the Florence Freedom ballgame on June 26<sup>th</sup>. Seats are \$9 and reservations are due by the 19<sup>th</sup>. This is a GREAT family-friendly event with lots of activities going on between innings (and even between batters), so children who may not be interested in watching a baseball game will still be entertained!

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, we will have an Ice Cream Social. Mark your calendars and watch for details!

## **Building and Grounds**

"Danger! Do Not Enter" - have you seen the signs on the doors leading down to the old basement? Walt Cottongim reports that now that the water proofing is completed, the demolition is well under way for the old fellowship hall, kitchen, bathroom, and downstairs Sunday school rooms. The appliances are gone and all the flooring has been removed. The next step is to get bids for painting and flooring for the whole area, and remodeling the kitchen and bathroom. Bids will be submitted to the Finance Committee which will pass their recommendation on to Session. The B and G Committee will work with the Design Committee for final decorating options. Walt says that the remodel is projected to be complete by the fall.

## **Bound by Books**

Our adult book club discussion group is made up of men and women, church members past and present, and community members. Most months they meet at church at 7 p.m. and are open for new members. Here is a list of the books they will be discussing this summer:

June 28 – <u>The Great Gatsby</u> by F. Scott Fitzgerald July 26 – <u>Unwind</u> by Neal Shusterman August 23 – <u>The Luckiest Girl Alive</u> by Jessica Knoll

"Check in" with Nancy Reed for more information.

## The Tabitha Guild



We honored our high school and college graduates this year with scarves to remind them of the warmth and safety of God's loving arms that He will provide as they enter a new chapter in their lives. We also presented Tom and Stacey a baby blanket for their new daughter, Nora.

If you are free this summer on the first and third Friday of each month from noon until 2:00 p.m., join us to learn to knit or crochet or share patterns for one of the many projects we support at our church, community, and the world.

Terry David

## Pretty on the Inside and Out!



Did you notice the new plants in the "red-door garden"? Doug Thompson says

it will take a little time for some of the plants to become established but he has planted a great variety of perennials that will a beautiful addition to all the work being done inside our church. Take a moment to tell Doug "Thanks" for sharing his gardening talents with us!



### Reminders

Don't forget to bring in packages of Freezer Pops for the Fort Mitchell Fourth of July Parade! Highlights of the Session Meetings Minutes are available outside of church office and on the table in the narthex. Adults are needed to help with VBS – sign-up poster is above the table in the narthex.

## Our Graduates



Our graduates this year are: Chris Boyd, Grace-Marie Thompson, Rylee Stevenson, Sarah Cottongim, and Maggie Wallace. It has been so fun watching these kids grow during their years at CSPC! Here is a little bit about their future plans.

#### **Grace-Marie Thompson**

I graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in Community and Leadership Development with specialties in Non-Formal Education, Leadership Development and Community Communications. I spent three years as a member of the UK Center for Community Outreach as a Coordinator of PLAY, Director of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service and the Director of External Relations, progressively. I have served on 5 Alternative Service Break trips: David, KY, Accra, Ghana, Napo Region in Ecuador, Atlanta, Georgia, and Mullens, WV.

I am an AmeriCorps TASK Vista for the UK Center for Community Outreach in Lexington, KY. I am a staff advisor for three of our programs: Big Blue Pantry, National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, and Beyond the Blue. The Big Blue Pantry is our on-campus food pantry for students in need. National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is in November and we have a full week of educational/advocacy programs and volunteer events. The program does work year round to serve the Lexington community. Beyond the Blue is our program dedicated to global empowerment, working in topics surrounding poverty both local and abroad. They do work throughout the year to support local organizations, specifically those who work with some of our New Americans.

My favorite memory was last year in Ghana. My friend Jason turned 22 while we were there and we wanted to have a birthday celebration for him. My team strategized throughout the school day about how we could make a cake. We finally decided that we would use Ghanaian sweet bread (the best bread l've ever eaten), Nutella and raspberry jam to make our pseudo cake. On the way back from school we picked up the bread and a pineapple and headed home. When we told the other team Jason was not on about our plan, they brought out the very cake that we envisioned! Jason did not get two cakes, however. We just ate a lot of sandwiches.

I really enjoyed the Coffee House we put on here at CSPC a few years back. I loved being able to play with the full band.

I'm really excited to be able to serve as a Site Advisor (a staff member) for our Alternative Breaks program this upcoming year. I am an avid Netflix watcher and am currently binge watching The 100 and Lost. I'm also looking to be a dog mom this upcoming year.

#### **Rylee Stephenson**

I will be attending Clemson University in South Carolina in the fall. I will be majoring in Spanish and International Health. I hope to complete a year studying abroad in Spain while at Clemson. I enjoy doing service and I am involved in many clubs at school including: National Honors Society, Rho Kappa, GAA, Panda Eating Team, and Peru Cru.

My favorite memories from Notre Dame Academy would be winning the 9<sup>th</sup> Region Championship game in 2015 with my softball team and also going on my first mission trip to Peru in 2013.

My favorite memory from CSPC would be my confirmation. I loved the classes and meeting with the elders before my confirmation. I grew in my faith tremendously and I really felt the love of Christ through my church family during that time.

#### Sarah Cottongim

I graduated in December from Xavier with an MBA with a concentration in International Business. I am still working for Owens & Minor, a healthcare logistics company and recently transitioned into a new role of Client Director. I primarily

oversee the sales team and the strategy for 4 key accounts: TriHealth, UC Health, UK Healthcare, and KY One. I did my concentration in International Business because Healthcare is an international business with many of our products and key vendors being located oversees.

My dream job in the future would be to work for an international company with a focus in Israel that would allow me to travel frequently to my adopted other homeland.

## **Maggie Wallace**

I graduated from Calvary Christian School, where I have been for 6 years. I will be attending Transylvania University in August and will major in Elementary Education and possibly minor in Psychology. In high school, I was heavily involved in dance, singing, and theater. I have been blessed to have had some amazing performance opportunities including dancing in the Macy's Parade and for a TV special at Disney as well as singing in Washington DC at the Kennedy Center and in NYC at Carnegie Hall. I was awarded the top scholarship at Transylvania for Performing Arts and will still be singing and dancing in college.

One of my best memories from school is going on the senior trip with my class this year to Disney World. I have really enjoyed getting to know CSPC and singing in the praise team and am extremely grateful for the Scott Scholarship I received through CSPC.

## June Calendar

Fridays – 7:00 A.A. Meeting Saturdays – 8:00 a.m. – Men's Fellowship

- June 2 Deacon's Final Meeting 7:30 p.m.
- June 3 Tabitha Guild noon 2:00 p.m.
- June 6 NO Softball (Bye)
- June 7 Cornerstone
- June 9 Worship Committee Meeting 5:30 p.m.; Congregational Life Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- June 13 Men's Softball 7:15 p.m., Pioneer 2
- June 14 Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- June 16 C.E. Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.; Mission Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- June 17 Tabitha Guild noon 2:00
- June 19 Kathy's last sermon at our church; Deadline to reserve a seat for the Florence Freedom Game
- June 20 Men's Softball 6:15 p.m. Pioneer 2, VBS 6:15 8:00 p.m.
- June 21 VBS 6:15 8:00 p.m.; Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- June 22 VBS 6:15 8:00 p.m.
- June 23 Happy Travelers 10:30 a.m.
- June 26 Florence Freedom Game 6:05 p.m.
- June 27 Men's Softball 7:15 p.m. Lincoln Ridge
- June 28 Bound by Books 7:00 p.m. (The Great Gatsby)