



The Clarion

Mike's Meanderings

The archerfish has turned spitting into an art. Floating near the surface, the archerfish waits for an insect to land on a nearby branch or an overhanging blade of grass. When the insect alights, the archer spits a liquid bullet and knocks the insect from its perch. Once the startled bug tumbles into the water, the archerfish closes in for dinner.

The archerfish rarely misses, all the more striking because the fish must compensate for the diffraction caused by the water's surface. Light bends as it enters the water, and the archer allows for this distortion when it aims.

The archerfish is born into one world, but spends a lifetime aiming at a higher world. Doesn't that sound like the calling of a Christian? We are born into this world of families, schedules, and jobs, and a good world it is! This world has so much potential for loving and being loved that we must thank God just for the opportunity to be here.

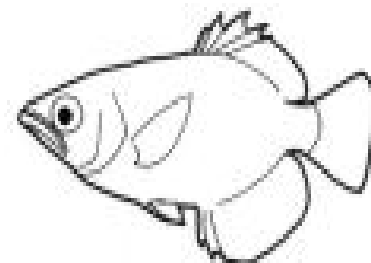
Nonetheless, as we live in this good world, God is calling us to an even better world. So many things can distract us from that calling: job demands, the search for success, keeping up with the neighbors, the merry-go-round of self-improvement. Not that these are all bad things! If God did not want us to take part in this world, God would not have put us here.

But remember the archerfish. He thrives in his underwater world. He moves with the current, breathes through his gills, accepts the place where God has put him. At the same time, he also fixes his eyes on the world above. He does not settle entirely for life in the water. He aims higher!

We Christians press on toward the upward calling of our Lord. Aiming for a higher world, we devote ourselves to loving one another in this world. Reaching for our heavenward calling, we seek the kingdom of heaven in our homes and our workplaces. Straining toward Christ-like maturity, we practice the teachings of Christ in this rebellious world.

We don't always reach what we aim for. We often miss the mark. But as long as we aim high, at least we are pointed in the right direction.

Peace!
Mike



Deacon Board Accomplishments 2005

The Deacon Board at CSPC consists of the following people: Janet Stadtmiller, Lynne Baker, Patricia McGregor, Crystal Harden, Linda Stith, Carol Points, Billie Grant, and Becky Burdick. In June, both Janet and Lynne will rotate off. We thank them both for their service as Deacons for the past few years.

Deacons are not a committee but are ordained members of the church who seek to provide comfort to those in need through visitation and other means. We rotate visitation on a monthly basis to persons in our congregation who are unable to attend Sunday services and to those who we feel would be comforted by a visit. We currently have a list of approximately 13 folks who we visit monthly on a rotating basis between Deacons. Three of those folks are unable to be visited and receive cards regularly.

The Deacons provide meals and/or flowers for funerals of our congregation's immediate family members. We also provide a rose for the parents of newborns.

The Deacons are currently accepting wedding photos of those couples who have recently been married at CSPC. Once we get a good number of photos we will be having them mounted and framed to display in the church building. We are also collecting photos of couples in the congregation who have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. We will be framing and displaying those photos soon as well.

The nursery also falls under the jurisdiction of the Deacon board. Kim Newton is our nursery manager and the two sitters are Maggie Hunter and Alecia Petroze. They are available for both services and during Sunday school hours.

The Deacons are currently

trying to form a new covenant group within the congregation. Covenant groups are a way to get to know people on a more intimate basis, through Bible and book study, fellowship and prayer. Please contact Becky Burdick or any other Deacon if you would like more information.

Other accomplishments of the Deacons so far in 2005 include a Golden Years Luncheon that was enjoyed by approximately 15 people on May 1st. We will try again in late summer or early fall to have another get together before the bad weather begins.

We look forward to the installation of three new members of the Deacon Board who will be announced at a later date.

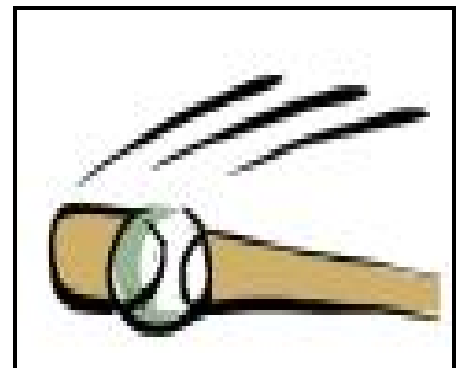
—**Patricia McGregor,**
Moderator,
Deacon Board

Men's Softball Team A Hit

The CSPC Men's softball team has gotten off to a promising start this season. At the time of this printing, the team sports a 2-2 record.

Coach Tim Reed is pleased with player turnout and is encouraged by the enthusiasm and good sportsmanship of the team.

Be a part of CSPC action and excitement and attend the games on Monday evenings. Check your Sunday bulletin for times and location.



It's Tool Time: CSPC College Students Participate In Habitat For Humanity

Ask Stacey Daly and Rachel Brewer about Habitat's "Theology of the Hammer" and they will be more than happy to explain! Stacey and Rachel recently dedicated their Spring Break to help construct a one-story house for a needy family in Galveston, Texas. They were part of a college youth group from the Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church in Lexington which participates in mission work every year.

Stacey and Rachel were quick to master carpentry skills such as hammering nails and utilizing a circular saw. Through the teamwork of the volunteers, they cut and placed vinyl siding on the house and applied aluminum flashing on the roof. The girls worked eight-hour days and made much visible progress by the end of the week.



Stacey admits it was her first time using carpentry tools but enjoyed learning new skills and the opportunity to help a needy family realize its dream: owning a newly constructed home for the first time. Rachel shares the same sentiment but adds this experience as being helpful and practical. As an avid power tool enthusiast, Rachel welcomes the opportunity to be creative and build with her hands.

Stacey and Rachel received much satisfaction with their efforts and were both inspired by the teamwork of the various work crews. The local construction crew consisted of a handful of retired workers who volunteer with Habitat on a regular basis. The girls speak fondly of a retired gentleman named Joe, who had been undergoing treatment of cancer. He was quick to offer help and readily available when needed. They were profoundly touched by his friendliness and dedication.



Both Stacey and Rachel look forward to future trips involving mission work. The girls maintain a close friendship and often attend church youth group activities in Lexington together. They plan to attend the Montreat Collegiate Conference together later this summer.

Stacey is now a junior at the University of Kentucky and majoring in Middle School Education. She frequently volunteers with providing sit-down dinners for the homeless through the Maxwell St. Presbyterian

Church. Stacey enthusiastically enjoys working with children and will be teaching gymnastics this summer at a local sports complex.

Rachel is now a senior with a double major in Art and English at Georgetown University. She is a member of the Alpha Gamma Delta sorority and participates in raising money for Juvenile Diabetes. She also travels with her sorority group on a regular basis to help exercise and nurture pets at the Scott County Humane Society.



Habitat For Humanity is a non-profit ecumenical Christian organization. Since 1976, Habitat has built almost 200,000 houses and has sheltered more than 900,000 people worldwide.

We are very blessed to have Stacey Daly and Rachel Brewer as part of our CSPC church family!!

-Editor

LaVerne Scott Scholarship Recipients

The LaVerne Scott Scholarship Fund was established by Robert Scott in 1994.

Mr. Scott was a firm believer in furthering the education of our youth. Through his generosity, many students will be able to

continue forward in their academic career.

Congratulations to the following students:

Grace Van Melle
Nick Phillips
Bryan Hicks

Michael Hicks
Sarah Reed Sarah Peters
Bethany Brewer
Rachel Brewer
Sarah Morrison
Stacey Daly

Handbell Choir To Attend Seminar

The CSPC Handbell Choir will be attending a hands-on learning seminar entitled "A Summer Weekend with the Raleigh Ringers" at DePauw University June 24-26.

The seminar teaches various handbell techniques and provides an



opportunity for the participants to perform a mass concert with other handbell choirs from around the country.

Best wishes to the CSPC Handbell Choir for a safe and productive trip!!

Loan Refinanced Through Bank of Kentucky

On May 2, CSPC signed the papers for our new \$458,000, 5-year ARM at 6.5%. This replaced the First Financial Loan on the church which had 3 years left to run at 6.75% and the \$30,000 loan on Gig's place. After closing costs we received a check for \$26,794 to go against the basement. Thanks to Todd Slagle's efforts, we received very good closing costs (total \$3,233) from all parties concerned. Our first payment (\$3,440.48) was made on June 2 replacing

previous payments of \$3,398.21 and \$423.34). As an added bonus when PCUSA prepared the subordination agreement, they reduced the interest rate on our \$130K note 6% to 5.15%. Payment will remain at \$1,433 but more of each payment will go to the principal! You should also know that Bank of Kentucky has bestowed upon CSPC "Group Banking Status": all CSPC members are eligible to open an account that includes no

monthly fee, unlimited check writing, free online banking and bill paying, free ATM at Bank of Kentucky, free traveler's checks and overdraft protection, no annual fee credit card, plus special rates on loans and CDs as well as free 1st order of checks and a free year of safe deposit rental. Visit the Bank of Kentucky to receive this great deal!

—Ernie Elliot

Fellowship News

May was a busy month for the CSPC Fellowship Committee. Mother's Day was celebrated with a reception of cookies and punch and a flower was given to each lady in the church.

An elaborate Pentecost Brunch was held in the new Fellowship Hall, decorated in red and white with doves descending from the ceiling. The Holy Spirit was present among the large crowd.

Many thanks to all who helped with these activities. All events at CSPC, large and small, require hours of work by the Fellowship Committee, their spouses, children and other volunteers. Thanks to everyone who dedicate their time and talents to all church events. These events could not occur without you!!

The Fellowship Committee will be planning quite a few summertime events:

- **Father's Day celebration (June 19)**
- **"Fun in the Sun" (July 2)**
- **Women's Crisis Center gift giving event (July 31)**
- **An evening out at the Florence Freedom (TBA)**
- **Progressive outdoor hors d'ouvres party at Center Ballpark (TBA)**

—Kim Martin

Vacation Bible School 2005

Mark your calendar for another exciting week of Vacation Bible School!!

CSPC will be offering children ages 4-10 an action-packed adventure "Around The World In 5 Days: Living As Forgiven Children of God." We need

folks (ages 11 and up) before and during VBS to help with activities, music, games, crafts, and food. We encourage everyone to bring a neighbour or friend. Registration forms are available in the Narthex and on the bulletin board, across from the church office.

You may also register online.

**Dates and Time: July 11-15,
9:00 am-12:00 p.m.**

—Christian Education

Mission Update

To-date in 2005, we helped 12 individuals/families with prescriptions, food, rent, utility bills, and gasoline. Your generous gifts of Kroger bonus gift cards help us meet these emergency needs of local families. Thank you!

United Ministries Summer Food Drive

Thanks for your generous donations of food for the United Ministries summer food drive! Our donations will help stock the UM pantry for local families in need during the

summer months when the food demand is greater with children at home to eat 3 meals a day.

IHN Night

Our next IHN night is on **Wednesday July 20th**. If you can prepare food, serve as a dinner host or activity host, or perform housekeeping duties that day please sign up on the poster in the Narthex on Sunday July 17th.

Women's Crisis Center Luncheon

Mark your calendars for our Women's Crisis Center Gift Luncheon on **Sunday, July 31st** after the 11 am Worship service. We invite the congregation to bring "gifts" for the Crisis Center. Maureen Rich of the Crisis Center is our featured speaker. A suggested gift list and more information will be provided as we get closer to the event.

—Dawn Miller, Mission Committee Co-Chair

Join Us For RiverSweep Saturday, June 18

Don't miss your chance to make a difference on the environment!! Alan Vicory is coordinating a team of volunteers from CSPC to assist in RiverSweep 2005. This is a yearly event to clean the banks of the entire Ohio River. Last year 21,000 volunteers from 6 the banks of the Ohio.



*Help clean the banks of the
Ohio River on
Saturday, June 18*

states removed 13,000 tons of garbage along RiverSweep happens to be one of the largest clean-up events in the U.S. and is an excellent way to show you care about the beautiful earth God has provided for us. This is also another great way to enjoy fellowship and team work with other CSPC members and friends.

We will meet at the church at 8:45 a.m. and drive down to the Ludlow/Bromley site. Call Billie Grant or Kathy Vicory for more info.

*Hope to see you there!!
Free t-shirt
included.....*

Youth Groups Enjoy Exciting Year

The Flames and Firesiders concluded an exciting and eventful year and have now adjourned for summer break.

The Flames expounded on adolescent issues in group discussions. They also tried and tested the devotional **Gotta Have God 2**, by author H. Michael Brewer. The group also participated in "Operation Preservation", a hands-on learning project pertaining to

environmental issues. Special thanks to Stan Clark and Alan Vicory for teaching the group about worm composting and water sanitation.

The Firesiders hosted a special Young at Heart Luncheon for adults in the congregation. They also attended the musical "Godspell" which was performed by two area high schools. Most recently, the

Firesiders hosted the annual Bake-Off and raised approximately \$2,000 for their annual trip to Montreat.

A big **THANK YOU** to all parents for their help in providing snacks, transportation and for all their help and support this past year.

—**Billie Grant & Bethany Brewer**

Building and Grounds Projects

Completed This Spring:

- Tar applied on vestibule roof to prevent leakage
- Air conditioners placed in windows
- Windows cleaned in Fellowship Hall
- Parking lot repaved
- Landscape lighting completed
- Various landscaping projects completed

Special thanks to the volunteers who are mowing the lawn this summer!!!



—**Donna Clark**

Our High School Graduates May 2005

Congratulations to the following CSPC High school graduates:

- **Grace Van Melle** graduated with honors from the Villa Madonna Academy. This summer she will be working at the Crescent Springs Animal Hospital. She plans to attend Furman University in the Fall and major in pre-med or pre-vet studies.
- **Nick Phillips** graduated from Dixie Heights High School and plans to attend Gateway Community and Technical College.
- **Bryan Hicks** graduated from Scott High School. He plans to attend the University of Kentucky and major in Mechanical Engineering.
- **Rick Dunaway** graduated with honors from the School For Creative and Performing Arts. He plans to attend Northern Kentucky University and major in Theatre.
- **Tyler Jones**

“On The Road” With Bret Olson

Editor's Note: Each May graduate was asked to submit a brief synopsis of post-graduate plans. Bret's reply was (simply put) quintessentially Bret Olson.. This was his response, unedited and in it's entirety.

I graduated from Wittenberg University on May 14, 2005 with an English Major and a Philosophy minor. After five adventure filled years, a dance with a tree, and a thesis on Jack Kerouac I will be jumping "On the Road" June 1st.

I will head to West Glacier national park in Montana where I will be working as a gas station attendant and helping plan worship services on Sundays through "A Christian Ministry in the National Parks." I will return sometime early September after bumming around the west for a while. My goal is to sleep on a friend's couch at Wittenberg for a day or two, say hello to the family, shower, and then fly to Sacramento for 10 months for Americorps. Shane David had a similar adventure. (Thank you Shane for your passion for it pointed me in a good direction).

After 10 months only God knows what will happen. Maybe I'll play my guitar for spare change in Louisiana, work in Alaska, or apply to Princeton for Divinity School. I'll take it a day at a time and perhaps I'll get swallowed by a fish and spit out where God wants me to be. I like running. It's good exercise. Plus, it's a known fact that God loves hide-and-go-seek.

Thank you my CSPC family for helping mold me into the man I am slowly becoming.

Peace and God Bless,

Bret

Talent Surveys Needed

We have not received everyone's stewardship form yet. Please complete your form or pick one up from the table in the narthex if you missed the Sundays they were passed out. We are busy compiling them for the coming committee year and would appreciate a form from everyone in the congregation. This is a very important tool to help the various committees and boards to know how we can all offer our time and talents to the church.



Please put them in the offering plate or the Stewardship committee mailbox in the office. Thanks for your help. Contact **Karen Peters** or **John Miller** with any questions.

“Fun In The Son” To Be Held July 2



Enjoy the unique sounds of

Purple Monkey and the Grace Notes

and the contemporary Christian
rock band



Last Day

CSPC will sponsor a fun-filled music event Saturday, July 2 at the Ft. Mitchell Park. Hot Dogs, chips and soft drinks will be served to CSPC church families and friends beginning at 4:00 p.m. At 5:30, CSPC's own “Purple Monkey and the Grace Notes” will perform hits by various artists such as Jimmy Buffet, Alan Jackson, Van Morrison, and many others. From 7:00-9:00 p.m. the contemporary Christian rock band “Last Day” will perform. We are all very excited about this event and urge everyone to bring friends and neighbors!! We especially urge all CSPC Youth to bring as many friends as possible for an incredible evening of **“Fun In The Son.”**

In the event of rain, “Fun In The Son” will be held in the Fellowship Hall in the basement of the church same time, same day!!

Volunteers Needed For This Event !!