



The Clarion

Editor: Carol Buckhout

Between the Times

February 2009

Floyd H. Starr
Interim Pastor

Members of the Session

Class of 2009

Carol Buckhout
Ginny Clark
Kim Martin
O.B. Phelps

Class of 2010

Lynne Baker
Jerry Hinners
Scott Mozea
Tim Reed

Class of 2011

Kevin Ball
Jim Burdick
Ernie Elliot
Brad Neal
Janet Stadtmiller, Stated Clerk

Members of Board of Deacons

Moderator

Kim Newton, 341-2096
Steve Clark
Millie Lockert
Jo Frances Purdom
Meredith Brewer
Heather Alexander
Russ Letsinger
Nancy Reed
Jeff Williams

Committee and Contacts

Building and Grounds

Tim Reed, 291-6116

Christian Education

Carol Buckhout, 344-0306

Fellowship

Jim Burdick, 586-8528

Finance

Ernie Elliot, 331-2941

Mission

Brad Neal, 727-1424

Personnel

Ernie Elliot, 331-2941

Worship

Kevin Ball, 359-5119
Ginny Clark, 689-5371

Self-study groups - first step in search for installed pastor

The first of our self-study groups met during the Sunday School hour this past week, and I am encouraged about our future prospects. This is a process that is going to work out well. While it may seem time consuming, it will be time well invested.

I invite everyone to join us for one of these meetings. They will be offered during the Sunday School hour, as well as other days and times.

If you're attending a Sunday School class already, continue to do that. Each class will have the opportunity to devote a Sunday to the self-study instead of their regular curriculum.

What are we doing, and why are we doing it? We're sharing information. I'm asking for group discussion of four basic questions:

- Reflecting on your entire experience with this congregation, describe a particular time when you felt most alive, most involved, or most excited about your involvement.
- What are the things you value most about yourself, being a member of this church, and about the church itself?
- What do you think is the core value of this church?
- And, if you had three wishes for your church, what would they be?

You discuss, and I take notes. We finish up with data about this congregation, its hopes, and dreams for the future. These are processed into a document called the Church Information Form. It will be published among candidates who are seeking to

relocate, and it's the basic step in searching for an Installed Pastor.

That's what we're doing. Why we're doing it is more important. This congregation is in a transition time. What you do during the transition journey has a great impact upon where and how it finishes up. An important piece in the process

is a time to reflect with one another about those four basic questions.

We will spend about an hour discussing those questions. Obviously, the discussion can go in as many directions as there are people to discuss. Everything you say is important, and it will all be noted. My job is to take the notes, help clarify what I think I'm hearing, and keep the group on track with the clock.

Ultimately, what will matter most in this process is the experience we have with one another, sharing ideas. As we do, something will begin to happen: we will understand more about who we are and who CSPC is called to be within the Family of God.

God called you into being in the first place. God has given you gifts to share in Christ's service, as you have for over a hundred years. God is now calling you to follow where Christ leads through the journey of transition toward the welcoming of a new Installed Pastor. If we follow faithfully, we'll grow in understanding, love, and service to our Lord...*Between the Times*.

--FHS

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New Sunday School Classes Begin

Starting February 1, there are some new class offerings in CSPC's Sunday School program.

- Reverend Starr will be leading small group discussions as part of CSPC's church self-study. Some of these will occur during the Sunday School hour, with other sessions set for mid-week during both day and evening hours. Look for a separate schedule to see all these options. Please note that regular adult and youth Sunday school classes will be able to designate a future class for the self-study. Reverend Starr will coordinate with each class.

- The adult Bible study class is now being led by Heather Alexander. They will be looking at the book of James.

- The senior high students will do Bible study led by Doug Thompson, assisted by Brad Neal.

- Middle School students will continue their study of the prophets, led by Karen Ginn.

- Pre-K through elementary students, led by Sarah Cottongim, are following their study of Bible studies.

- The adult class studying contemporary topics in Christianity will continue their discussions, led by Dan Alexander.

All classes will continue to meet in their regular classrooms. Watch for announcements about meeting locations for self-study groups.

Everyone's welcome—we hope you'll attend.

A Time for Reflection and Fellowship

Lenten Soup Suppers and Services Begin February 25

Once again, CSPC will mark the season of Lent with a series of brief worship services, preceded by congregational soup suppers.

These will be held each Wednesday in Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25. A casual soup supper will be served in the Gathering Room at 6 PM, followed by a short service at 7 PM in the sanctuary.

Kevin Ball (359-5119) is planning the worship services and Ginny Clark (689-5371) is coordinating the soup suppers. Contact them directly if you would like to help with either part of this Lenten activity.

In past years, the Soup Suppers and Services have provided a meaningful time for the CSPC family to come together for scripture, reflection and fellowship. We hope you will join in these times of mid-week renewal.

Reminder: Roll Up Your Sleeves on February 28!

CSPC is hosting a Blood Drive Saturday, February 28. Hoxworth Blood Center will be here from 10 AM to 4 PM. We need blood donors and everyone can help. If you can't donate yourself, spread the word to your neighbors and friends. Call B.J. David at 261-3552 for more information.

CSPC Spring Fling '09

A Juried Exhibition of Arts and Crafts

CSPC will host an arts and crafts exhibition May 17-22.

This new event is open to artists and crafters in the Northern Kentucky/Greater Cincinnati region.

Professionals will judge entries in the following media: oils, acrylics, pastel, watercolor, computer graphics, photography, sculpture, photography, fiber, fabrics and woodworking.

Each artist may submit up to three entries for a fee of \$20; students may submit three entries for a fee of \$15. Best of show will be awarded a \$100 cash prize.

In addition to providing a new outlet for artists and crafters, Spring Fling 2009 will highlight CSPC by bringing members of the community into our church building. It also offers CSPC members the fellowship of working together.

If you would like to help organize the event, contact general chairperson Stephanie Redman (344-8032). If you know of locations to place posters promoting Spring Fling 2009, contact Carol Buckhout (344-0306).

Liturgist Training

Wayne Buckhout and Gig Henderson will be providing training for liturgists-- past, present and future. The two-part workshop will be scheduled soon. Although the primary goal is to equip those who are new to the role of liturgist, the sessions are also collaborative and past liturgists will be able to share tips and resources.

The first session will focus on content: why we have liturgists, their responsibilities, the elements of liturgy and resources for liturgists to use in preparing the elements they contribute to the worship service.

The second session will focus on delivery. Gig Henderson will share his professional expertise with public speaking techniques and tips that help the congregation understand, and be inspired by, the words of the liturgy.

More information is available from Wayne Buckhout (344-0306.)

January Session Notes

At its stated meeting January 13, CSPC's Session:

- heard a report from the Board of Deacons, including the resignation of Russ Letsinger due to health concerns;
- reviewed the Deacons' list of shut-ins within the CSPC family;
- approved Tim Reed to serve as nominating committee chair in place of O.B. Phelps, who will be out of town;
- Approved the transfer of membership of Janet Neff Brewer to Blue Ash Presbyterian Church;
- reviewed plans for the Youth Service Feb. 1, including elders to serve communion;
- appointed a subcommittee to develop a policy on use of CSPC's facilities; Scott Mozea, Jim Burdick and O.B. Phelps to serve;
- heard a report from Rev. Starr of the most recent Presbytery meeting, and update from Interfaith Hospitality Network on requirement for all volunteers at St. Agnes to participate in Diocese's misconduct awareness training;
- received Worship committee's plans for Lenten Soup Suppers and worship services; these begin Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25 (please see separate news item).

Mark Your Calendars!

Feb. 8	Chili Cook Off
Feb. 15	Young at Heart Luncheon
Feb. 28	Blood Drive
March	Coffee House with movies for kids
April 11	Easter Egg Hunt
May	Game/Card Playing night with snacks
May 17	CSPC Spring Fling '09 Art & Craft Show
June	Florence Freedom baseball game
July	Ice Cream Social