



February 2015

Interim Pastor
Rev. Kathy Riley

Session

Class of 2015

Debbie Daly
Kim Newton
Joe Stephenson

Class of 2016

Jeff Buckhout
Jim Burdick
Walt Cottongim

Class of 2017

Dan Alexander
Meaghan Mullin

Deacon Board

Class of 2015

Wayne Buckhout
Elizabeth Mozea
Mercy Ofosuhene

Class of 2016

Karen Greenhow
Stacey Ross
Doug Thompson

Class of 2017

Sheryl Eichelberger
Sarah Cottongim

Clarion Editor

Wayne Buckhout

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Pastor's Column

I want to begin this first article of 2015 with a word of thanks for all that happened in 2014.

The Advent season and Christmas Eve services were filled with the gifts and voices of many people of all ages here at CSPC, and the children and youth told the story of Christ's birth delightfully and with joy in their annual pageant. I am grateful to everyone who spent time arranging and participating in these services and events, and in the fellowship events we shared.

We also completed a series of cottage meetings and discussions about the past, along with conversations I had with past members of the PNC, of session and others in the congregation. I have shared the summaries of the information gathered during this process with the congregation. A copy of that summary is available to anyone who would like to see it.

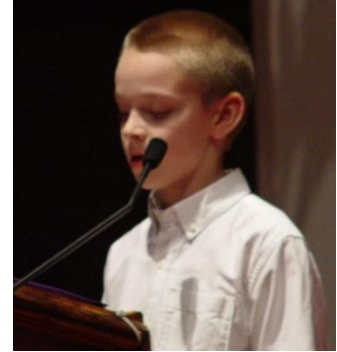
Our next step is to take a look at who CSPC is today. This will include sharing basic facts and figures about the number of active members and the kinds of work they are doing in the church. I will ask everyone to fill out a few surveys to learn more about your current interests, activities and concerns. We'll come up with an assessment of the time and talent resources in the congregation as we are today, and we'll learn about what the members here value most in the life of CSPC.


All of this will lead us to a set of cottage meetings and gatherings where we explore the hopes, dreams and expectations for the future of the congregation. This will include at least two very specific questionnaires about the characteristics and ministries that people will look for in the next installed pastor.

While this will not be the end of our work on the interim tasks, it should bring us to a point of readiness to request permission from the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry to elect the Pastor Nominating Committee. My goal is to have this take place in April.

I am enjoying my time at CPSC and look forward to this new year of ministry with you. As we continue in the shared life of the congregation, let's continue to ask for God's guidance and inspiration. We trust that there is a new word for us to hear as we follow Christ and join in prayer, worship, service and the fellowship together.

Grace and Peace,
Kathy




The King's Birthday
 Sunday December 14th, 2014 6:30pm
 CSPC Children's Christmas Pageant

Greeter: Delaney Murphy
 Narrators: Ryan Alexander, Corinne Mozea, and Aidan Murphy
 Innkeepers: Braden Alexander and Liam Mullin
 Tiny Shepherd: Madeline Mozea
 Mary: Corinne Mozea
 Joseph: Braden Alexander
 Star: Ross Mozea
 Soloist: Nana Boateng
 Shepherds: Braden Alexander, Madeline Mozea, Liam Mullin, Delaney Murphy
 Sheep: Haylee Alexander, Ashlynn and Ross Mozea, Carys and Quinn Mullin
 Inn Workers: Madeline Mozea and Delaney Murphy
 Little Stars: Haylee Alexander, Ashlynn Mozea, Carys Mullin, Quinn Mullin
 Angels: Haylee Alexander, Ashlynn Mozea, Carys Mullin, Quinn Mullin
 3 Kings: Madeline Mozea, Liam Mullin, Delaney Murphy
 A special thanks to Pastor Kathy Riley for her participation in reading.
 Ballet dancer: Madeline Mozea (Sanctus Real, "Silent Night(unexpected gifts)")



Deacons

Deacons continue to review the process for tracking church attendance. Doug Thompson provided an update about plans to restore the **Family Promise** ministry for the homeless in Northern Kentucky. Deacons plan to find out more about the **Cornerstone Ministries** mission in Covington as well. Visitations were restricted by the flu outbreak. Deacons intend to provide more after-service fellowship, featuring drinks and snacks.

Deacons are still collecting clothing to help support the needs of the community through **LifeLine Ministries of Northern Kentucky**. Please place your donations in the large container in the narthex. Those in need can visit LifeLine in Elsmere. LifeLine also runs a mobile distribution for the homeless and urban poor of Covington on the last Saturday of each month, in conjunction with Isaiah House Outreach. They have a continuing need for groceries, furniture and bedding, baby-related items, and household items, in addition to clothing.

Christian Education

Pastor Kathy Riley has been leading a six-week **Kerygma Bible Study called "Knowing God" on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 PM**. Turnout is good, and everyone seems to be enjoying the study - even a few visitors. This will wrap up on Feb. 11, the week before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lenten Soup Suppers. A children's study/activity is offered for preschoolers through third graders. If interested in helping with this, please see Elizabeth Mozea.

Worship

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on Feb. 18. Each Wednesday in Lent, CSPC will have a soup supper beginning at 5:30 PM, followed by a worship service at 6:30. These services will be brief, giving us a chance to hear Scripture, pray and spend some time in quiet contemplation. All are welcome to attend. There will be an educational program for younger children during the service.

Happy Travelers

Plans for the next three months include lunches (weather permitting) at **Tousey House** in February, **Colonial Cottage or Cracker Barrel** in March, and a trip to the **Bon Worth clothes outlet** in Dry Ridge. In April, we will take the **Spring Grove Cemetery Tram Tour**. In May, we are looking at either **Jane's Saddlebag Restaurant or Potters Ranch**. This summer, we may also visit **B&B Riverboat** again, **Bromley Yacht Club**, a **Reds game**, or ride the duck boat and lunch in Newport. There's also a new restaurant in the Dayton Marina. Call Betty Eichelberger for the latest. Come join us! We have a lot of fun.

Flames Youth Group

The Flames Youth Group has been very busy! In January, the Flames toured the Kenton County Animal Shelter, learned about the services they provide, and dropped off donations that they collected from the congregation on Sunday. The shelter needs old newspapers, old towels and blankets, cleaning supplies, animal treats, dog and cat toys, and metal food bowls. During the holidays, the Flames wrote letters of encouragement to children, decorated Cups of Cheer (hot chocolate included!) for hospice families, sent Christmas cards to soldiers overseas, and made hygiene kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. They also visited our shut-ins with goodie bags and singing Christmas carols.

Mission

Our **Christmas mission baskets were much appreciated** by those who received them. We gave out 19 baskets. Each family had a least two boxes of groceries. We did a quick calculation and **the total value of the items was over \$2,500**. Thanks to all who gave their share. **The River Ridge Family Resource Center** needs pants for girls, sizes 5-6, 6X, 7-8, stretch waist if possible. Also, please donate money, food or paper items for Jim and his 4 children. Many things are not covered by food stamps. For more information about mission needs, see Betty Eichelberger.

Financial Update

The past few months have been busy for the Finance Committee:

- Thanks to all of you, we completed a very successful stewardship campaign in October, meeting our campaign targets. Pledged giving increased 3% versus last year.
- In December, Session approved a balanced budget for 2015, marking the second time in the last three years we have been able to deliver this important goal.
- As 2014 came to a close, we finished the year with income at 100% of budget, and expenses at 81% of budget, primarily due to lower staff expenses when we did not have a full-time pastor in place.
- In January, Session authorized a mortgage principal payment of \$70,000, using a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the Lorraine Court rental property. This allowed us to re-amortize our mortgage and reduce the monthly payment, with no change to the loan term and at no cost to CSPC.
- We hope to sell the Western Reserve rental property in the next few months, and further reduce our outstanding loan balance and payment.

	December Budget	December Actual	2014 Budget	2014 Actual
Income	\$13,204	\$ 11,569	\$ 159,514	\$ 159,648
Expense	\$15,400	\$ 17,890	\$ 190,534	\$ 154,112
Difference	-\$2,196	-\$6,321	-\$31,020	\$ 5,536

	November Budget	November Actual	YTD Budgeted	YTD Actual
Income	\$ 13,210	\$ 12,916	\$ 146,310	\$ 148,079
Expense	\$ 16,429	\$ 12,193	\$ 175,134	\$ 136,222
Difference	-\$ 3,219	\$ 723	-\$ 28,824	\$ 11,857

Calendar

Feb. 5 – Deacons Meeting, 7:30 PM
 Feb. 6 – Tabitha Guild, Noon
 Feb. 11 – Bible Study 6:30-8:30 PM
 Feb. 12 – CE Meeting 7 PM
 Feb. 14 – Men's Fellowship 8-10 AM
 Feb. 15 – Young at Heart Luncheon, 11AM
 Feb. 17 – Session Meeting, 7 PM
 Feb. 18 – Lenten Soup Supper and Ash Wednesday Service, 5:30 PM
 Feb. 20 – Tabitha Guild, Noon
 Feb. 21 – Men's Fellowship 8-10 AM
 Feb. 25 – Lenten Soup Supper & Service, 5:30 PM
 Feb. 28 – Men's Fellowship 8-10 AM

Session Notes

Stated Session Meeting - Dec. 16, 2014

Moderator: Rev. Kathy Riley

Guests: None

<u>Class of 2015</u>		P	E	A	<u>Class of 2016</u>	P	E	A	<u>Class of 2016</u>	P	E	A
Debbie Daly		X			Walt Cottongim	X			Meaghan Mullin	X		
Kim Newton		X			Jim Burdick	X			Dan Alexander	X		
Joe Stephenson		X			Jeff Buckhout	X						

Clerk – Crystal Harden

P=Present

E=Excused

A=Absent

Quorum: yes

Kathy Riley opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with a devotional and prayer.

Moderator's Time/Docket Building

The docket was approved by consensus. Rev. Kathy Riley reported she met with CSPC's Committee on Ministry representative. She said 37 people have attended the cottage meetings. Rev. Kathy Riley discussed the following items:

- **Church cleaning:** Rev. Kathy Riley wanted to know what the plan is for making sure the church is clean. The session suggested going back to a sign-up sheet. Rev. Kathy Riley said the church could pay someone to clean once a month.
- **Funds for people in need:** Rev. Kathy Riley requested renaming a \$500 undesignated fund under the Deacon budget as a Pastor's discretionary fund to be used for people in need. She wants to be able to respond to requests for help, such as paying utility bills or down payment for rent, etc. Session members said the undesignated money was used for mission as determined by the Deacons board.

Approved Motion: To rename an undesignated \$500 fund under the deacon's budget as a pastor's discretionary fund to be used for people in need requesting assistance.

- **Interim process:** The church has had a potluck and four cottage meetings with 34 people in attendance. Rev. Kathy Riley plans to have a write-up of the meetings in January. During January and February Rev. Kathy Riley will look at who is at church and who is eligible to serve in leadership positions. She will focus on the future in March and April and what people are looking for in a new pastor. The target time for forming the Pastor Nominating Committee, likely with five members, is May. Additionally Rev. Kathy Riley is planning on conducting workshops of communication and conflict resolution and planning for growth.

Approved Motion: To set a congregational meeting Jan. 25 for the purpose of reviewing the budget passed by session.

- **Music Director & Worship Update:** The advertisement for music director is on the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music website, Cincinnati Presbytery website and the church website. Jeff Buckhout also suggested putting an advertisement on online websites and social media sites, such as LinkedIn.
- **Membership list:** Session should approve proposed changes in the membership list in January. Rev. Kathy Riley discussed sending letters to people who have not been seen. Some will be requested to respond by Jan. 30 to be left on the membership rolls.

Clerk's Report

The clerk reported receiving the Presbytery newsletter, *Presbytery Corner*.

Session Notes – cont.

Building and Grounds Committee

Committee member Jim Burdick provided information on money spent in recent months on the rental properties. Dan Alexander, finance chairman, said in the future he thinks the church should create a fund for repairs and spend the money down. Rev. Kathy Riley asked if the Building and Grounds Committee can provide a breakdown on what was spent with the money. She also asked to have a list of need projects from the committee.

Finance Committee

Written reports were submitted. Dan Alexander, chairman of the committee, discussed the proposed budget.

Approved Motion: Approve the 2015 budget as presented.

Worship Committee

Approved Motion: To approve the following dates for communion: Jan. 4, 2015, Feb. 1, 2015, Feb. 18, 2015 (Ash Wednesday) March 1, 2015, March 29, 2015 (Palm Sunday,) April 5, 2015 (Easter,) May 3, 2015, May 24, 2015 (Pentecost,) June 7, 2015, July 5, 2015, Aug. 9, 2015, Sept. 6, 2015, Oct. 4, 2015, Nov. 1, 2015, Dec. 6, 2015, Dec. 24, 2015, and Jan. 3, 2016.

Motion Approved With Amendment: To set times for Christmas Eve services at 7 & 11 PM, with an amendment from session to serve communion at both services, and Christmas Day lay-led service at 10 AM.

Approved Motion: To approve One Great Hour of Sharing (Palm Sunday or Easter) and Pentecost offerings for 2015.

Christian Education

A written report was submitted. Rev. Kathy Riley said she will offer Bible study during the week using Kerygma.

Approved Motion: To allow the Flames Youth Group to collect offering on Sunday, Feb. 1, for the Souper Bowl, supporting Hands Against Hunger.

Deacons

Written report submitted

Approval of Minutes

Motion Approved by Consensus: To approve the minutes of the Stated Session Meeting on Nov.16, 2014, and the Joint Deacon/Session Meeting on Nov. 16, 2014.

Rev. Kathy Riley closed the meeting with prayer at 9:15 p.m.