



April 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 Ofosuhenne

***Class of 2016***

Karen Greenhow  
Stacey Ross  
Doug Thompson

***Class of 2017***

Sheryl Eichelberger  
Sarah Cottongim

***Clarion Editor***

Wayne Buckhout

**Find us on Facebook!**



**Pastor's Column**

Lent is nearly over and Holy week is upon us!

It has been a blessing for me to share in the Wednesday evening soup suppers and worship services in this Lenten season. Our session, deacons and committees have been busy, and about a dozen women had a wonderful retreat planned by our Christian education committee. We are in the process of interviewing candidates for the Music Director position and hope to have an update soon. We'll be checking on interest in a short Wednesday evening Bible study beginning in mid-late April.

In response to the surveys indicating a strong interest in mission and outreach ministries here at CSPC, a Mission Committee is being re-formed, under the direction of the Deacons. Be on the lookout for a very short questionnaire designed to find out what kinds of activities and what days of the week work for our members to participate in mission work.

We are ready to begin the third phase of our self- study by engaging in small group conversations about the future of CSPC. I will lead us through a specific set of questions in these conversations in cottage meetings to be held on April 8, 9, and 15 in the evening, and right after worship on April 12.

Please sign up for one of these cottage meetings. There are sign-up sheets at the church, or you can email me and let me know which date you can attend. If we need a fifth meeting, it will be held on April 26. In addition to these meetings, everyone will be invited to fill out their own Ministry Information Form (MIF), which is the same form our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) will fill out when it is ready to begin the pastoral search.

The MIF includes a set of items that describe the skills and characteristics of the pastor CSPC members are looking for. We will tally up your responses to provide the PNC with ideas from the congregation about these desired characteristics.

Please sign up for a cottage meeting, and be sure to fill out the MIF when it is sent out. I will have one additional short questionnaire for you to fill out for this phase of our study.

Grace and Peace,  
Kathy

### Holy Week Services

Thursday April 2

Maundy Thursday Service at 7 PM

Sunday April 5

Easter Service 10 AM (no Sunday School)



CSPC women spent a rewarding and refreshing day March 21 reading scripture and discussing “seasons” in their lives at the Garden Getaway Women’s Retreat at the Lakeside carriage house. Participants, including Nancy Reed, Donna Rigney, Becky Burdick, Elizabeth Mozea, Mercy Ofosuhene, Karen Peters and Kim Newton, decorated flower pots intended as gifts for others in need of encouragement.

### Deacons

Heather Alexander attended the March 18 meeting to present a proposal to turn over the Deacons responsibility for mission programs at CSPC to a newly formed Mission Committee. The Deacons have discussed a range of community-wide mission programs that CSPC could offer to its members, including renewed support for a planned restoration of Interfaith Hospitality Network in Northern Kentucky, LifeLine Ministries in Elsmere, Cornerstone Ministries in Covington, and the continuation of CSPC’s traditional holiday and other special ministries. Heather said the new group would review that information and create a proposal to be shared with the Deacons and Session.

Rev. Riley suggested that Deacons consider a renewed Deacon-led effort to create a “shepherd/sheep” program to monitor worship attendance and follow up when regular attendees are missing, or have concerns. Deacons are continuing to provide after-service fellowship on selected Sundays, featuring drinks and snacks.

### Happy Travelers

Happy Travelers will be taking the **Spring Grove Cemetery Tram Tour** on April 13. They will gather at CSPC at 11 AM and leave at noon. They can accommodate up to 24. Cost will depend on number attending – contact Betty Eichelberger for more information. Looking at either **Jane’s Saddlebag Restaurant or Potter’s Ranch** in May. This summer, the Travelers may also visit **B&B Riverboat** again, **Bromley Yacht Club**, or a **Reds game**. Call the church office for the latest. Come join us! We have a lot of fun. Meetings every fourth Thursday at 10 AM at CSPC; next meeting will be April 24.

### Flames Youth Group

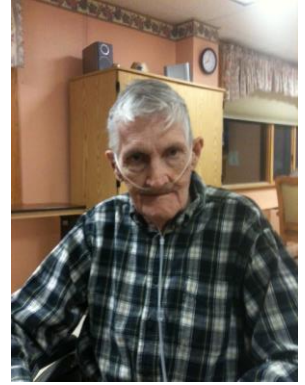
The Flames Youth Group continues to be very involved in outreach and mission projects in the Cincinnati community. On March 22, they made and delivered journals for the families at the Ronald McDonald House in Cincinnati. The handmade journals are for the guest families to read the thoughts and experiences of families before them, as well as record their own journeys for encouragement and support of the next family.

## Scott Scholarship

High-school seniors and college students can apply for the Robert and LaVerne Scott Scholarship. A hard copy of the application and requested academic documents need to be in the CSPC office (either mailed or hand delivered) by April 15. Please find a copy of the application at church, or see Crystal Harden for an electronic copy.

## Greetings From Gig

Wayne and Carol Buckhout visited Gig Henderson March 31 at the care facility where he and Marjorie live in New Jersey. Gig is doing well and hopes to be reunited with Marjorie in the same room soon. He sends his regards and Easter Greetings to all at CSPC!



## Financial Update

For many years, CSPC has earned rebates from Kroger as part of its Community Rewards program. A couple of years ago, the plan was changed to require people to re-confirm their preferred organization every year in April. Prior to the change, CSPC was earning a total of \$2,500 to \$3,500 per year in grocery rewards (including Remke's). Since the change, our earnings have fallen to around \$1,000 per year!

Please take a moment to re-enroll your Kroger Plus Card with CSPC, following the instructions posted on our website at: [http://www.cspresby.com/EmailAttachments/Kroger\\_Instructions.pdf](http://www.cspresby.com/EmailAttachments/Kroger_Instructions.pdf) If you have any issues with the process, please contact Dan Alexander at [jdalex@gmail.com](mailto:jdalex@gmail.com) or 859-466-3634. We plan to have laptops available at church after worship for a couple of Sundays during April to help those who may need assistance with in-person "IT" support.

You can also encourage friends and family who shop at Kroger to register CSPC as their preferred organization to support -- we are not limited to active members of our congregation. Also, if you would like more information about the Remke's rewards program (which requires pre-loadable cards), or need a replacement card, please contact the church office.

	February Budget	February Actual	2015 YTD Budget	2015 YTD Actual
<b>Income</b>	\$ 15,354	\$ 11,341	\$ 28,208	\$ 32,205
<b>Expense</b>	\$ 13,093	\$ 10,445	\$ 26,236	\$ 22,436
<b>Difference</b>	\$ 2,261	\$ 896	\$ 1,972	\$ 10,770

## Calendar

- April 2 – Maundy Thursday Service 7 PM
- April 3 – Tabitha Guild, Noon
- April 5 – Easter services 10 AM – no Sunday School
- April 8 – Cottage Meeting 7 PM – light supper provided
- Finance Committee – 7 PM
- April 9 – Cottage Meeting – 7 PM
- April 12 – Cottage Meeting, 11:15 AM
- April 15 – Deadline for Scott Scholarship applications
- Cottage Meeting, 7 PM
- April 17 – Tabitha Guild, Noon
- April 21 – Session 7 PM

Men's Fellowship every Saturday, 8-10 AM

## Session Notes

### Stated Session Meeting - Feb. 24, 2015

**Moderator:** Rev. Kathy Riley

**Guests:** None

Rev. Kathy Riley opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with prayer and the story of Elisha and Elijah from 2 Kings. Elisha asked for a double share of the spirit when Elijah left. He got it. Rev. Kathy Riley's prayer for our church is that CSPC members will receive a double share of the spirit, especially those who will be stepping into new roles.

### Moderator's Time/Docket Building

The agenda was approved by consensus.

Under her report, Rev. Riley:

- Discussed a request by a local worshipping congregation in need of worship space to use the sanctuary and three Sunday School rooms. They have about 120 in worship.  
Rev. Riley said if session agreed, the group would need to leave the space the way they found it. The church also could hire someone to clean with some of the rental money. She said renting the space would be beneficial to a group that is looking for a place to worship, and that she would oversee the process and write up an agreement. Further discussion ensued and Rev. Riley will follow up on this request.
- Rev. Riley has received 20 sets of questionnaires for the congregational self-study. She expects another 15. CSPC will have a cottage meeting March 1 to discuss CSPC's present. Going forward, Rev. Riley will talk about the future and the hopes of the congregation. The second piece will focus on what people are looking for in a new pastor. Rev. Riley will also look at renewing denominational linkages and facilitating shifts in leadership.
- Discussed deacon and session positions. The chair of the Nomination Committee said the church typically installs new officers after Pentecost. Rev. Riley would like to see the committee get together in March.  
Rev. Riley has discussed with deacons reducing their numbers. She reviewed deacons' duties with the deacon board. Deacons said they could probably perform the work they are doing with a board of five members. Session would need to change the numbers in the bylaws, Rev. Riley said. The board could be reduced when the 2015 class rotates off this year.
- Discussed a request to change the start of Rev. Riley's study week to March 8.

**Motion:** To change the previously approved study leave for Rev. Kathy Riley so the start date is Sunday, March 8. Approved

- Rev. Riley also reported she had visited and provided home communion to two homebound members.

### Clerk's Report

The clerk reported that she had provided copies of the Presbytery Corner and Presbytery Link for session members' review.

### Presbytery Meeting Report

It was reported that the Book of Order amendment revising the wording pertaining to marriage was approved at the Feb. 10 Presbytery of Cincinnati meeting. The amendment would change the language regarding marriage to "traditionally a man and a woman" instead of a man and a woman. There was also discussion at the meeting about replacing Jim DiEgidio, the general presbyter.

### Personnel Committee

Rev. Riley said there is a candidate interested in the music director's position. Because he has not worked with a praise band, he'd like to do the job on a trial basis. The first Sunday would be March 15 for the trial period.

**Motion:** To bring the candidate in to provide music on March 15. If that goes well, session would offer him a contract at \$250 a week. Approved.

There is one individual who may be interested in the nursery position. Eight church members are willing to volunteer.

### Building and Grounds Committee

Session agreed to pay nursery workers for the day they showed up for church on a day CSPC cancelled services because of snow. Session discussed a plan for weather contingencies. Someone would be assigned to put information on the television stations, on Facebook, on the church answering machine. B&G and Rev. Riley will work together on procedures for inclement weather. She said that the church has a responsibility to keep the drive and parking lot useable for tenants, even with snow.

**Motion:** To buy a new telephone with an answering machine for church. Approved

Session members discussed some of the needed repairs at church, including fixing water problems and dealing with mold in the basement, painting and replacing flooring in some rooms. Session will discuss it more in March.

#### **Finance Committee**

The committee met with representatives of the Building and Grounds Committee to discuss needed repairs. The committee also is reviewing financial records.

#### **Christian Education Committee**

**Motion:** To allow the Flames Youth Group to conduct the worship service on Aug. 2, 2015, following the middle-school retreat in July.

#### **Deacons**

The church received a donation from church members for benevolences.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: To approve the Stated Session Meeting Jan 20, 2014. Approved

Motion: To approve the Congregational Meeting Jan. 25, 2015 with corrections. Approved

#### **Secretary Items**

The secretary had been working Monday-Wednesday, but will have to change to Thursday-Saturday.

#### **Closing Worship**

A closing devotional was provided using a Lenten devotional from CSPC on Luke 23:26.

Rev. Kathy Riley closed the meeting with prayer at 9:20 PM