

THE MESSENGER

A Publication of Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church (khpsharon@fuse.net)
6312 Kennedy Avenue Cincinnati OH 45213 (513) 631-1114

*Our mission is to share the good news of Jesus Christ with all people
as a racially diverse congregation, through worship, service, education, and fellowship.*

JUNE, 2011

From Pastor Hart Edmonds, Interim:

What Is a Blessed Church?

In writing about “Forming a church of Spiritual Purpose, Presence, and Power”, Presbyterian pastor Graham Standish recalls hearing someone tell him early in his ministry: **“You know, God never sets you up to fail.”** What a wonderful blessing to receive at any point in life! So many people and churches today struggle to live out of a confidence that God is a God of blessing and not rejection. So many people today feel like there’s not enough of God’s abundant blessing to go around. And yet early in the story of God’s call of Abraham in Genesis 12: 1-4 there is this powerful affirmation, “You are blessed in order to be a blessing to all families in the earth.” This is God’s powerful intention, that we become a people and a church of blessing! As a community of faith, Graham Standish believes, **we are called to be “Grounded in God’s Purpose, Alive to God’s Presence, and Open to God’s Power”.**

God never sets us up to fail, but if we are faltering and have faith, God sends all sorts of people into our lives to pick us up and make sure we don’t fail. That doesn’t mean we won’t go through difficult times. That God doesn’t set us up to fail doesn’t mean that we won’t suffer, struggle, falter, or fall. It simply means that if we have faith and trust in God, God will find a way to help us. Our part is to have faith.

What Is Our Purpose? All churches are started for a purpose. All churches are started in response to God’s call, whether it is to plant a new church in a growing community or to reach new immigrant populations or to address profound human needs for compassion, justice, and mercy. Here at KHPC, the early years of the church focused on meeting the spiritual needs of young people in a community that needed a church. That initial passion and purpose can sometimes fade. **Whenever we lose a sense of connection with our purpose as a church body, we lose our connection with God as Purpose.** And when that happens, a church can drift aimlessly, because it has lost a deeper sense of what God is calling the church to be and do. This is not just a contemporary phenomenon. Even the first Christians lost their purpose. It can happen quickly. In the book of Revelation, we find a clear example of churches that have lost their sense of purpose.

In Revelation 1:17-3:22, God’s angels deliver messages to seven churches. Five of them are sharply criticized for one simple reason: they abandoned their purpose, their calling. The church at Ephesus was criticized for abandoning its original call to love. (Rev. 2: 2-4). The church at Sardis was criticized for being dead (3:1). The church at Laodicea was criticized for being lukewarm (3:15) Two churches were praised, the ones in Smyrna and Philadelphia. They were praised because they remained faithful to their calling, even though they suffered all sorts of afflictions. To begin the process of becoming a blessed church, Graham Standish affirms, we must communally ask a basic question that lies at the heart of the life, ministry, and mission of a church: **“God, what is your call for us? What do you want us to be and do?”**

As a part of the KHPC family of faith, you are invited and encouraged to attend a Vision Retreat on Saturday, June 11 at Hueston Woods State Park, near Oxford, Ohio. 6 churches in our presbytery will share in this experience of “Exploring God’s Vision Together: Learning How to Vision, Share, and Grow! There is still time to register, by June 1, so that adequate food and refreshments can be arranged for everyone. A generous grant from Presbytery makes this retreat cost free! The only cost is your time, your willingness to grow and learn and share with others seeking God’s Vision!

This is an exciting time in the life of KHPC, but also a time of deep examination and growth. Consider these thoughts for your own spiritual reflection: **“If you want to build a healthy, strong, and growing church you must spend time laying a solid foundation. This is done by clarifying in the minds of everyone involved exactly why the church exists and what it is supposed to do. A clear purpose not only defines what we do, it defines what we do not do.”** The more we ask, “God, what is your call for us?” and patiently listen for the answer, the more we become a blessed church. The less we ask this question, the more God’s blessings are dammed up.

What does it mean to be alive to God’s Presence? It is amazing, observes Pastor Graham Standish, what can happen in churches that are grounded in God’s purpose. They form a strong sense of identity and are filled with a sense of direction. To be a church of Presence means to be a church that intentionally tries to awaken people to God’s presence and grace in their midst so that they can connect with Christ more powerfully in their daily lives. Churches that become alive to God’s presence may not be perfect (no church is), but even in their imperfection they are alive because Christ- God as Presence- is in their midst.

The focus of a church that’s alive is spiritual growth- the deepening and transformation of peoples’ lives- not necessarily physical growth, although that may follow in time. Some seekers will turn away from a church of Presence because they do not want depth and transformation. Many want simple rules to follow and quick, easy, and clear answers to their deepest questions. A church of Presence offers neither. A church of Presence offers a pathway for people to experience Christ. It calls them to commitment, prayer, sacrifice, love, and transformation. Such a church invites us to adopt lifestyles and practices that allow the life of Christ to grow in us.

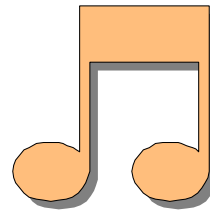
If we are to become a church that is alive to God as Presence, where do we begin? Everything begins with leadership, maintains Graham Standish. If the church’s leaders, lay and pastoral, are not alive to Christ, the church won’t be either. This means that the “business of the church” is to transform the lives of people and to become “salt and light” in the world.

What does it mean to be Open to God as Power? Forming a church filled with the Holy Spirit was Jesus’ promise. It is the power of the Holy Spirit that truly distinguishes the liveliness of faith. It means that we do not operate our lives with our own self-contained power source. It means that we are powered with the same Spirit that filled Jesus with courage, with perseverance, with love and with passion for God’s Kingdom. In a church of God as Power, leaders and members sincerely try to discern God’s will for the church. Such a church also ends up helping people to discern their own life’s purpose and to discover more clearly God’s power working in their lives.

Pastor Hart Edmonds

Postscript: In recent days you may learned from a variety of media sources that the Presbyterian Church has voted through its Presbyteries to amend the constitutional standards for ordination. While this is true, it remains the case that presbyteries and congregations retain the right to determine who meets the standards for ordination.

For more details, go online to www.pcusa.org or to www.pres-outlook.org for more information. A large group of former General Assembly Moderators (including our own Pat Brown) have also written a letter of encouragement to the whole church, which is found at www.pcusa.org. If you have questions about this action, please feel free to speak to me.



JUNE 2011

PENTECOST!!

During the month of June our focal question in worship will be “Are we in charge of our own destiny as a church, or are we anticipating God’s Spirit to show us the way?” This question will be considered in several ways, including our vision retreat on June 10-11 and also in our Pentecost celebration.

JUNE 5—Worship in Fellowship Hall Today we have a special worship as we prepare for our all-church Visioning Retreat at Hueston Woods. The worship theme is “What Kind of Power? What Kind of Witnesses?” and we will be thinking of what kind of impact we are having in our neighborhood, our city and the world. We will recognize our graduates and have a short congregational meeting following worship to elect our new class of elders.

JUNE 12—PENTECOST SUNDAY!! Come early, wear red, and enjoy the Dixieland music of Ted Ziedses des Plantes and celebrate! As a follow-up to our Vision Retreat, we will be asking “Will we accept the Spirit’s power to dream and vision a new world and a renewed community of faithful witness?” All ages are invited to dream and vision. Communion will also be celebrated.

GOSPEL CHOIR ANYONE??? Last summer, we re-convened this group and rehearsed a few times and sang on one of the summer Sundays. If enough people are interested, we will do that again this summer. Please contact Janet ASAP if you are interested.

JUNE 19—TRINITY SUNDAY!! As we celebrate the gifts of the Trinity, we will focus on Matthew 28:16-20 and consider the question “What does a disciple look like, act like, think like?” Abby and Ben Langhorst will be offering the special music this morning and Janet will be at Montreat.

JUNE 26—Today we will continue the ongoing theme of discipleship by asking the question “What kind of welcome?” and our focus scripture will be Matthew 10:40-42. Music is TBA.

Called to Serve as Church Officers of KHPC

The date for election of church officers to serve on Session as elders is set for Sunday, June 5 at a brief congregational meeting following worship that day. Worship will take place in Fellowship Hall to allow for a participatory and creative opportunity for worship that day as planned by the Worship Committee. The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that the following persons have answered positively to the call to serve as members of Session. Renewing for partial terms are: Bob Rankin, Sue Roerdanz, Wade Swormstedt, and Lynwood Battle. Gary Langhorst has previously been ordained and has said yes to service in a new term. Both Janet Langhorst and Jonathan Simmons (Youth Elder) will be ordained and installed. Following a time of preparation and examination by the Session, as called for by the Book of Order, the elders will be ordained and installed in September.

Recently, a presbytery sponsored workshop was hosted by KHPC for Advanced Elder Training, with Dr. Cynthia Campbell –President of McCormick Theological Seminary- as the leader for this learning experience. Dr. Campbell made three opening comments: Congregations are part of the whole Church of Jesus Christ and do not operate at their best without affirming this connection. As Presbyterians we choose and elect our officers and leaders, with the understanding that we will support them. And finally, Dr. Campbell remarked, leaders work together and not alone. Three words describe leadership she also stated. Leadership is “**personal**” and is related to our faith that the Spirit of Christ calls forth giftedness in each person. Leadership is “**collegial**”, which means that we work best when we work together. And leadership is “**communal**” with a focus on building up the community of Christ for the sake of our service to God in the world. Personal, Collegial, Communal; these three words affirm the call of our new class of elders as they work together with the whole Session “**to lead the congregation continually to discover what God is doing in the world and to plan for change, renewal, and reformation under the Word of God.**” (Book of Order G-10.0102-j) Your own prayerful support for new and returning elders is part of your own ministry as a member of the body of Christ.



KEEPING THE DOOR OPEN AT KHPC CELEBRATING THE GOOD STUFF

“Celebrate God all day, every day.....Summing it all up, friends, I’d say you’ll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse.” (The Message Bible--Philippians 4: 4, 8-9)

RECENT “GOOD NEWS EVENTS”:

- We are growing our total for Pennies for Peace. Our original goal was \$180, which would cover a teacher’s pay for the length of an American school year. We have now collected **\$265**, as we focus on our next goal, which is to get to \$365 and fund a teacher every day for a year. Thanks for your continued support and keep bringing your pennies!!
- We are celebrating graduations this month!! Ben Langhorst, Bobby Rankin, and Jonathan Simmons are graduating from high school. Bobby and Jonathan are headed to NKU and Ben is going to NYU. (must be something in the initials!) Christopher Muldrow has graduated from the New Mexico State and is headed to law school at the University of New Mexico. Allison Walker received a Master’s Degree in Professional Studies with an emphasis in arts and design from New York University.
- We also continue to celebrate our church’s strong commitment to children and education as we celebrate Monica Battle’s new appointment as principal of Westwood Elementary School. Congratulations!!
- KHPC Youth Group earned **\$322** in their car wash on May 22. Thanks to everyone for your support!
- KHPC is going on a field trip! Our all church retreat at Hueston Woods will be on June 10-11. For the first time in years we will all be talking together and enjoying nature in a beautiful setting.

WANT TO HELP KEEP THE GOOD NEWS COMING??? VISIT THE MISSION TABLE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL TO SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP. ALSO, BE SURE AND SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS. (OR ANYONE ELSE’S 😊)

KHPC YOUTH GROUP

June-July 2011

Congratulations to our graduates!! Ben Langhorst (Indian Hill) and Bobby Rankin and Jonathan Simmons (Walnut Hills)

Thank you for your support of the Youth Sunday worship service and the car wash. We made \$322 at the car wash!!!!

We have service opportunities through the summer and we will be participating in the Visioning Retreat at Hueston Woods on June 11.

Then we will be helping with Vacation Bible School the week of June 13.

Our next IHN date will be July 24.

Youth Group is open to ALL KHPC youth--and their friends--in grades 7-12.



WHERE KID'S CARRY OUT GOD'S RECIPE

JUNE 13-17, 2011 (mark your calendars!)

(6:30 – 8:30 p.m.)

FELLOWSHIP HALL @ KENNEDY HEIGHTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRE-K THROUGH 6TH GRADE

In this kid-friendly café full of chef's hats and aprons, pots and pans, checkered tablecloths, and chalkboard menus, you kids will explore the Bible as a cookbook filled with recipes for living out God's Word. Through interactive lessons boys and girls will celebrate biblical festivals that reveal ingredients for being a follower of God.

DAY-BY-DAY-LESSONS

Session One

Today's Special: Israelites Celebrate Passover - - *Exodus 13: 3-10*

Special Ingredient: Be Ready for God

Bible Bites: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! - - *Psalms 27: 14*

Session Two

Today's Special: Festival Celebrations for the Israelites - - *Leviticus 23*

Special Ingredient: Give Happily to God

Bible Bites: Don't forget to do good and to share what you have, because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices. - - *Hebrews 13: 16, CEB*

Session Three

Today's Special: Jesus Celebrates the Festival of Booths - - *John 7: 37-44*

Special Ingredient: Believe Fully In Jesus

Bible Bites: Believe In God, Believe also in me. - - *John 14: 1b*

Session Four

Today's Special: Jesus Celebrates Passover - - *Luke 22: 8-20*

Special Ingredient: Remember Jesus Often

Bible Bites: Do this in remembrance of me. - - *Luke 22: 19b*

Session Five

Today's Special: Celebrating the Festival of Weeks and Pentecost - - *Acts 2*

Special Ingredient: Celebrate God Forever

Bible Bites: I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations; therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever - - *Psalms 45: 17*

CINCINNATI JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL

JUNE 18 (SATURDAY) & 19 (SUNDAY) 2011

Juneteenth celebrates the end of American slavery. Slavery "officially" ended in 1865...and Cincinnati commemorates & celebrates that historic event with the annual Juneteenth Festival.

The Festival organizers (all volunteers) have been working for months to make sure you and your family can have a great weekend in Eden Park.

The Saturday Festival has lots for everyone

A unique "Parade of Flags" (at about 12:30); young *and not so young) folks will parade through the park showing the colors of over 70 countries, representing lands from which Africans were captured and enslaved and the lands to which they were taken to live and work as enslaved people.

Continuous entertainment on two stages throughout the afternoon, with a final blockbuster concert at 6:30 p.m. in Seasongood Pavilion, featuring LAKESIDE® Capt'n Mark Wood Solo.

Lots for Kids!

A very active Children's Area with free horse rides by the Cincinnati Urban Cowboys, games, books and read-alouds, crafts...and, of course...free balloons.

Drum line Showcase, featuring enthusiastic & talented high school drummers from Cincinnati and Columbus.

History & Culture

Historical exhibits from numerous area museums, with a focus on the history of slavery & its legacy

Health

Health screening and information by volunteer health professionals and much, much more.

Vendors

The Juneteenth Festival offers a great opportunity to sell crafts, books, clothing, etc...or to distribute information about your company, agency, or services. Our fees are very reasonable.

Spread the Word

We need all the help we can get to let folks know about the Juneteenth Festival. Our advertising budget is tiny! Tell your friends. Add a link to your Face Book page....and pass it along to your many friends....and even follow Juneteenth on [our own Face Book](#) page.

How to Get to Juneteenth

Parking on Gilbert and along street up to the Playhouse in the Park (follow signs). We have arranged for parking at the Cincinnati Association for the Blind, which is on Gilbert, just north of the park entrance. Free shuttle busing to the Festival.

JUNETEENTH ENTERTAINMENT

The Saturday Festival has two stages, with simultaneous performances throughout the afternoon. "The Mirror Lake" stag is at the end of the lake; "Seasongood Pavilion" is in the nearby amphitheater.

Sunday features a single, Father's Day concert in Seasongood Pavilion

Saturday

Kick-off at Seasingood: 12:30 pm

Parade of Flags of the African Diaspora (Children parade with over 70 flags representing the origins and destinations of enslaved Africans)

VLТ Academy Choir

Abe Lincoln

Seasingood Pavilion

1:30--6:30 pm

Ms Jaz

Basic Truth

New Brasil with AndreSouza

Rollins Davis Band

Soul Power with Nu Soul

6:30--9 pm

In the Pocket Band

LAKESIDE® Capt'n Mark Wood Solo...Original Lead singer and founder of platinum selling funk band Lakeside.

Mirror Lake

1:00--7:30 pm

Drum Line Showcase

CIA Drill and Drum

Withrow Drum Line

Yellow Jackets Drill Team

Youth United Precision Drill Team

Abraham Lincoln (Stanley Wernz)

Pat Fann as Harriet Tubman

Rhetorical Spirit of Praise

Dunamis Sign and Mime

Bi-Okoto African Drum & Dance

Hope Greene

Salsaires Cuban Afro Salsa and Dance

Afro Beat Band

Jamal Willetts

**Sunday 3-6 pm
(Listed alphabetically)**

Bernell Wright

Dunamis Sign & Mime

Empty Vessels

Gospel Music Workshop of America Cincinnati Chapter; Youth and Adult Divisions

Gospel Sign Language Choir (Golden Leaf Baptist Church)

John Thorburn Trumpet

Melvin Taylor

P. A. C. Musik Ministries

Rhetorical Spirits of Praise

Roth School Sign Language Choir

St. Mark's Missionary Baptist Choir

VLT Academy

**Saturday, June 18, 2011 / Sweet Potato Pie Bake-Off
Rules**

- ! Use your favorite recipe to bake the world's best sweet potato pie.
- ! Bake in an 8 or 9 inch, disposable pie tin.
- ! No commercial mixes.
- ! \$5 Entry fee is due with entry form.
- ! On Juneteenth (June 18) deliver the pie (covered with plastic wrap) to the Juneteenth Hot Dog Booth between 10:30 & 11:00 am
- ! Your pie will be assigned a number and judged anonymously.
- ! Judges' decisions are final and all pies will become the property of the Juneteenth Committee.

Cash Prizes: 1st \$75.00 / 2nd \$50.00 3rd \$25.00

<u>Entry Form</u>	
Name:	_____
Address:	_____
Phone:	_____ Email: _____

**Return with \$5 Entry Fee to
Juneteenth Cincinnati
6242 Orchard Lane
Cincinnati, OH 45213
(513) 631-7289 juneteenth@fuse.net**

REMEMBER OUR

SHUT-INS

**WITH LOVE AND PRAYERS,
CARDS, CALLS, AND VISITS**

Fay Bach, Priscilla Burroughs, Lena Freudenberg,
Arcenia Mason, Lorene Robbins, Beulah Weppler.

DIRECTORY CHANGES:

NO ADDRESS CHANGES FOR THIS MONTH

Thank You!

Thank You,

Many thanks and much appreciation to all of you
our KHPC friends, for the cards and messages,
the phone calls and prayers, following our
February auto accident – your caring has meant
so very much!

*Love and blessings to all,
Art and Evie Schiltz*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

WISE WOMEN BOOK CLUB:

Wise Women Book Club, Saturday June 18, 2011
at KHPC at 7:00 p.m. Host TBA. Please R. S. V.
P. to the church office (631-1114)

Book: Cutting for Stone

Author: Abraham Verghese

W. O. K. & NAOMI CIRCLE:

The Women of Kennedy and Naomi Circle will
have a business meeting on Monday, June 20,
2011 at 12 noon in Room A. Please bring your
brown bag lunch.

YOU'RE INVITED:

The Charter Committee of Greater Cincinnati
invites you to a party honoring Lynwood Battle,
on Thursday, June 16, 2011 from 5:30 p.m. –
7:30 p.m. at the Maxwellton House,
2024 Edgecliff Point, 45206. Tickets are: \$50.00
Per Person / \$150.00 More Generous / \$250.00
Most Generous. Please RSVP by June 6, 2011.
Mail your checks to the address above with the
number of guest attending.

UPDATING OUR PRAYER LIST:

The Worship Ministry will be updating our
bulletin prayer listings to make them more easier
to read. In the process, the following changes will
be made in the next few weeks:

1. The descriptions of illness will no longer
be printed. This is new to preserve a
person's privacy. Friend's names of non-
members will be listed for you to keep in
touch about an ill person. Bereavements,
hospitalizations, hospice care and
celebrations will be listed as needed.
2. Names will be automatically removed
from the prayer list at the beginning of
each month. Names will be listed for one
month starting at the beginning of each
month. You are asked to call the office or
submit a new card at the beginning of each
month. Persons in long term care facilities
will be listed by the facility and always
appear in the bulletin.

We hope these procedures will make the prayer
list easier to read and more up-to-date. If you
have questions or suggestions, please contact a
member of the Worship Ministry – Sue
Imhausen, Janet Langhorst, Mary Kamp, Sue
Kitchen, Edith Patton or Donna Ziedses des
Plantes.

COMMUNITY ITEMS:

METALLIC MEN:

The Metallic Men meet here at Kennedy Heights
Presbyterian Church on the 1st & 3rd Fridays at
10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. This is the last
meeting before summer break. See you
September!

June 3: Topic TBA

Speaker: Thane Maynard,
Director, Cincinnati Zoo



BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

- 1 Oliver Payne
- 4 Pamela Harshaw
Carol J. Hubbard
- 5 Eleanor Kirby
Marcia Williams
- 9 Dorothy Hiles
- 11 Lowell Hiles
- 13 Carl W. Schmidt
- 14 Mark Brasington
G. Robert Smith
- 15 Christopher Che
Emily Johnson
- 16 Evelyn "Evie" Schiltz
- 17 Everitt "Ev" Kitchen
Lorene Robbins
- 25 Rose Hunter
- 26 Bruce Kitchen
- 29 William "Bill" Brown

CHILDREN BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

- 23 D. Myles Faison
- 25 Charles Stewart Pelz
- 28 Joey Furlong



PARKING LOT FOR JUNE

- 5 Harry Stebbins
- 12 Lynwood Battle
- 19 Carl Schmidt
- 26 Gary Langhorst

USHERS & GREETERS

FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

- 5 Lydia Morgan, Captain, Joyce Drake,
Martha Highsmith, Carmen Hull
- 12 Jeane Goings, Captain, Mary Lee Maier,
Carolyn Miller, David Walters
- 19 Brenda Wallace, Captain, Anthony &
Carrie Wallace, Sue Ann Spears
- 26 Jim Walker, Captains, Kate & Joey
Furlong, Tyler Davis

(please call Bob Kamp, 631-4924 if unable to Usher or Greet)

LITURGIST FOR JUNE

- 5 Sue Kitchen
- 12 Jack Drake
- 19 Bill Brown
- 26 Edith Patton

COMMUNION SERVERS

- 12 Jack Drake (liturgist)
Janet Berger
Lydia Morgan
Bob Young

BEADLES FOR JUNE

- 5 Bobby Rankin
- 12 Emma Rankin
- 19 Kristen Scott
- 26 Allison Singleton

COFFEE HOUR

- 5 Barbara & Lisa Smith
- 12 Mary Kamp & Liturgical Dancers
- 19 Kate Furlong & Jim Walker
- 26 Mary Frances Shea

(if you can't make your Sunday for Coffee Hour in June,
please call Joyce or Jack Drake @ 770-5505)

