



Berry Boulevard Presbyterian Church

News from God's world

News and happenings from Berry Blvd Presbyterian Church, Louisville, KY

August, 2004

News Items

Back Building Rented!

We have signed a lease with Larithia Walker, owner of the El Shaddai Christian Child Care, to lease the back building for the purpose of establishing a day care. I urge you to pray for God's blessing on this new work.

Jean Marie's Visit

The previous Pastor of Berry Blvd. Church, the Rev. Jean Marie Peacock, was in Louisville this week for her orientation for the office of Vice-Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA. She unfortunately had very little free time but was able to squeeze in a hastily arranged lunch this past Thursday with Kirby and Maureen O'Bannon. Berry Blvd. Church should stand in awe of God's mighty works in this most improbable (in human, not divine terms) sequence of events. Berry Blvd. was her first pastorate; for someone to rise from that position to the #2 post of the PCUSA within 5 years is truly remarkable.

Yard Work

Thanks to Maureen O'Bannon, Della Moberley, and Emmett and Kendall Swann, for the weeding and trimming out front, it hasn't looked this good in years. Surely God is smiling upon you all for making God's house look so nice!

CDU

Elder Kirby O'Bannon attended the July 1 meeting of the Congregational Development Unit at Strathmoor Church. The only 2 items addressed were the Racial/Ethnic ministry proposal, which is focusing for now on the needs and opportunities of the 4 African-American churches in the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky; and the proposal for planting a new church in Mount Washington. The goal in both cases is to have the proposals reviewed and approved by the requisite committees in time for enactment at the Presbytery's September 18 meeting.

Prayer List

Ray Mason

Dana

Kevin

John King

Cathy King

Jerry Gough

The Sick

The Lonely

Our Armed Forces

People having problems in their relationships.

People facing difficult decisions.

People who have lost loved ones.

For religious tolerance that does not compromise the principles Jesus taught.

For the unemployed

For the lost.

For the disenfranchised; for the mentally ill.

For our public servants, as well as those they serve.

Our Church

Pastor's Corner

The Storm – the worst damage to Louisville since the '74 tornado. I was here for that too. Before it hit, I had called up the radar map on the WHAS web site to take a look at what was bearing down on us. The form of the long, crescent-shaped cloud was unusual. It was more than a hundred miles across and had straight bands radiating from the back to the front. I thought, "This is going to be bad," and it was. It hit the town like a runaway freight train, and by the time it had moved on, 110,000 people had lost their electricity and some of my favorite trees were dead.

Thousands of people were without electricity for days. One member of John Calvin Presbyterian Church was quoted in the paper as saying, "We never lost power; we only lost electricity." This was said after John Calvin church had to conduct Sunday worship in a darkened gym because the electricity was still off. I liked that. The power for living is God in our lives, not the electricity running in the wires.

When a bad storm approaches, we instinctively take shelter, usually in our houses. The emergency weather radio chants the mantra, "Take shelter in a sturdy structure." Anyone who has ridden out a tornado or hurricane knows that this feeling of security in our man-made structures can be illusory. A storm that is strong enough can make a mess of our carefully constructed buildings and systems.

We know this about the weather, but do we forget it about our lives? We carefully construct our personal lives, doing everything that we can to build in security and comfort on the strength of our own skills, intelligence and social relationships. In doing so, we often forget to build in the source of true power and security in our lives. We didn't lose "power" in the storm because God didn't desert us. We lost electricity. If we have become so materialistic that we think that the electricity is the power for living, maybe it's time to take a fresh look at what it means to be a child of God.

There is one "sturdy structure" in which to take refuge when the storms of life rage, and that's our church. If you feel like the lights have gone out in your life, maybe it's time to reconnect with the true source of power, Jesus Christ.

Regular Monthly Church Calendar

First Saturday, 1:00-3:00 P.M. – Evangelism Team

Second and Fourth Sundays – Holy Communion

First Wednesday, 6:00 P.M. – Monthly Fellowship Dinner

Third Wednesday, 6:30 P.M. – Stated (Regular monthly) meeting of the Session

Every Sunday, 11:00 A.M. – Worship

Upcoming Events

Work Day at the Church, July 31, 2004, 10 AM to 4 PM.
Anyone who is free is needed to help. We will be painting.

Fellowship Dinner – August 4th, 6:00 PM.

Session Meeting - August 18, The Session still needs help and ideas in coming up with a regular midweek activity to resume in September. The next Stated Meeting is scheduled for Aug. 18. The Session also approved offering the back building for lease to El Shaddai Christian Child Care Center, and the lease was signed during the week. An effort will also be undertaken in the near future to connect more effectively with church participants who have been absent for an extended time.

Evangelism Team - August, 28. The Evangelism Team met Saturday the 24th of July and resumed visiting residents of the church neighborhood. We were blessed with incredibly beautiful weather in spite of the time of year, and felt the effort was a tremendous success. We will meet every 4th Saturday.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES

July 18 - **Emmett Swann**

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1340 Berry Boulevard
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"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

Contact Us

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