

Cincinnati Presbytery
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*“For the Lord sees not as man sees;
man looks on
the outward appearance,
but the Lord looks on the heart.”*

I Samuel 16:7b

For the week of August 9, 2018

The Cincinnati Sampler

A PASTORAL PARAGRAPH

“Listening is a primary leadership skill.” Perhaps you’ve heard this, and maybe you’ve shared this wisdom with others. To have a productive conversation you have to really listen. This is true especially when you are trying to solve a problem with someone who has different views than you. The wide range of different views is apparent in our culture and in our congregations, when often how someone listens influences their understanding or lack thereof: is the sermon political, or is it partisan? Is what was said at session a judgment or an observation?

Christian community is not the result of human efforts.

It is not family name, social status, economic standing, shared oppression or complaint, mutual attraction or affinity alignment that is the basis of the Christian community...but the Divine Call. These words and images give expression to the reality that the initiative belongs to God and God is the source of our life together.

If we are going to offer our best to God to enrich life together as a Christian community, we need to listen carefully enough to understand the other’s perspective. So, **if there is an interest in convening a courteous conversation experience about issues that are meaningful to all kinds of Presbyterian-church folks**, please let me know. The courteous conversation includes listening and speaking, and also generosity, empathy, with an absence of negative complaining and pessimistic whining, in an environment of hospitality.

If you are interested in such a theologically-rooted, courteous conversation, please email me at nancy@cpresby.org.

MAPC SUMMER INTERNSHIP

Angelita Tomaselli (pictured in the middle upper right) is the Summer Ministry Intern at Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati. Angelita is a student at the Waldensian School of Theology in Rome, Italy and a member of the branch of Protestantism known as the Waldensian Church. The Waldensian Church was a pre-Protestant denomination founded in the 12th century in Italy. Pictured with Angelita are Reverend Stacey Midge (pastor at MAPC) and Ruling Elder Bill Bogdan.



PRESBYTERY STAFF AND OFFICERS

- Nancy Kahaian, General Presbyter—nancy@cpresby.org
- Melana Scruggs, Stated Clerk—melana@cpresby.org
- Margaret Heidenreich, Administrative Assistant (summer)—secretary@cpresby.org
- Peggy Sanchez, Financial Secretary—peggy@cpresby.org
- Bob Young, Moderator
- Adam Fronczek, Vice Moderator
- **PRESBYTERY OFFICE HOURS ARE 9AM-2PM**
Monday through Thursday

HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS CONTINUES

AUGUST 2018

CALENDAR

PRESBYTERY OF
CINCINNATI (POC)

Fri 10 Aug

6:30PM CHE Network
Training at RLPC

Sat 11 June

9:00AM CHE Network
Training at RLPC

Tue 14 Aug

9:30AM Bible Study of
Pastors and Preachers at
the Presbytery Office—
Rabbi du Jour is Sharon
Carter

Wed 16 Aug

6:00PM Presbytery Coun-
cil Meeting at the Office

5:00PM Budget Commit-
tee Meeting at the Office

Thur 17 Aug

2:00PM Personnel Com-
mittee Meeting at the Of-
fice

Tue 21 June

9:30AM Bible Study of
Pastors and Preachers at
the Presbytery Office—
Rabbi du Jour is Kevin
Waters

11:00AM Nominating
Committee Meeting at the
Office



Richard Blackburn, Executive Director of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Institute, (and pictured above) returns to lead the workshop **“Conflict in the Church: Entrusted with the Message of Reconciliation” on September 21-22, 2018 in Wilmington, Ohio.** Pre-registration is necessary for the advance work required, and a registration form can be found on the Presbytery website at the “Office Forms” tab, or requested from the office at secretary @cpresby.org.

This workshop continues the series of workshops sponsored by the Committee on Ministry of the Presbytery to promote health and vitality in congregations. Previously a “Healthy Congregations” workshop was hosted at Kennedy Heights, and then “Pastor-Parish Relations Health” hosted at Richwood, and this third in the series co-sponsored with the COM of Miami Valley Presbytery at Wilmington.

Registrations and fees are **due Monday, September 10** in the Presbytery Office.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR YOU

Notice to the Clerk of Session! There is a Session Minutes and Records Reviews for 2016 Minutes is scheduled for Saturday, August 11 at 9:30AM at Carmel Presbyterian Church, 3549 Reading Road, Cincinnati. An additional opportunity is scheduled directly before our Presbytery meeting, that is, 12:30PM on Tuesday, September 11 at First PC, Harrison. Stay tuned to “The Cincinnati Sampler” for more information!

Ice Cream Socials this Saturday, August 11 at Bethel-Murdoch at 2:30PM and another at Cherry Form at 5:00PM with a variety of homemade ice cream flavors and other menu items. Come out and support your Presbyterian neighbors!

A Retirement Reception will be hosted for the Reverend Maurice Mitchell on Saturday, September 15 from 2-4PM, and the Presbytery is invited. The reception is hosted at the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church at 201 E. Main Street. Maurice has served the Hillsboro church for 25 years, we pray for God’s continued blessings for him as he enters this new season.

Presbyterian Women Summer Gathering on Saturday, August 25 at Westwood-First PC. Start time at 9:00AM with registration, fellowship and continental breakfast, followed by worship, communion, business meeting, and program by our General Presbyter, Nancy Kahaian. For more information, please email cythiafocke@cinci.rr.com.

The Annual Crop Walk hosted by the Eastern Area Council is scheduled for Sunday, September 16 from 1:00-3:00PM at Adams Lake State Park in West Union, Ohio. Everyone is welcome to participate in this Crop Walk, which includes a picnic for participants. Please bring a side dish to share. Hot dogs and drinks are provided.