



The Good News

Pulaski Heights Christian Church – web: phcc-lr.org | August 2017 – Volume 70 No. 8



Our Sanctuary before the 1959 remodeling

PHCC is a Hillcrest community church affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It has been at the corner of Spruce and Hillcrest since 1927. Our email is lrphcc@gmail.com.

2017-2018 Board:

Moderator, Sam Ellis (sam.ellis@pobox.com)

Secretary, TBA

Treasurer, Angela Frazier (afraz17@yahoo.com)

At-large: Dr. John W. Graves (johnwgrav@aol.com)

Chet Chaney (chetchaney@yahoo.com)

Phillip Bayne (pbayne314@gmail.com)

2017-2018 Elders: Rebecca Frazier (rfrazier@tomycpa.com);

Phillip Bayne (pbayne314@gmail.com)

Minister: Susan G. Miller

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From Our Archives (photo)

Thoughts from the Pastor

I found this beautiful ecumenical prayer by Pope Francis which was included in his 2015 letter called “Praise be to You” which calls for actions to curb the effects of climate change. I hope you find it to be inspirational.

A Prayer for our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,

so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,

that we may protect the world

and not prey on it,

that we may sow beauty, not pollution and

destruction. Touch the hearts

of those who look only for gain

at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,

to be filled with awe and contemplation,

to recognize that we are profoundly united

with every creature

as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.

(more on pg 2)

The Past inspires present Discipleship

My love for this church began when I read of its history on the church web-site. From that moment, I cared passionately about the church's future. The compassion for serving the poor homeless, the commitment to civil rights regardless of creed, class, color, or sexual orientation, and the conviction that the church can and must make a difference in the world are all things that I admired about our church.

It is well and good to be proud of our history but we run the risk of denigrating that history to the level of "nostalgia" if we fail to let it motivate us to continue the trajectory of being an inclusive congregation that is not afraid to stand for justice and peace no matter how unpopular or costly that stand might be.

When I was first asked to consider applying to be the minister at Pulaski Heights, I was not looking for a new ministry. Nonetheless, I was quickly intrigued with the idea. I was worried about the size of the church, and the enormous task of re-building that lay before it. I grew up in a very large Disciple congregation and my 2 previous calls were to congregations with Sunday worship attendance that were 5 and 6 times our attendance so I wasn't sure if I would know how to proceed in helping Pulaski.

However, I could see that the church had a strong foundation and that it would be a shame to let that foundation lay bare without any effort to build upon it. More importantly, I am convinced that God has a mission for our church. We still have a witness to share and many people for which to care. The Spirit is alive and well among us!

It seems to me that the world is becoming an increasingly hostile place for the poor, the disadvantaged, and the most vulnerable of our society. Pulaski Heights has always had a big heart for serving God's people—especially those that society shuns. As we approach our 90th birthday, I pray that we will continue to have that big heart as we walk with Jesus and serve as he served.

—Susan

General Assembly 2017 Results

Dear Friends, the link below is to the docket of the 2017 Disciples of Christ General Assembly. The docket includes reports from all the ministry programs, and it includes all of the resolutions that were presented to the assembly. The resolutions begin on page 316. The reports begin on page 113. The URL link is live in the online version of this newsletter:

<http://ga.disciples.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/GA2017-Docket-Web-version.pdf>

1964-1965 Approved Budget

This year is Pulaski Heights Christian's 90th birthday year. On October 7, 2017, we will conclude that year and start on our 91st. Meanwhile, let's look back at some historical highlights that have been boxed away for years. For August: those small-dollar old-timey church budgets! We found one of them preserved in a historical archive box.

Several years ago, a dollar bought more. The 1964 buying power of those dollars was at issue when the congregation considered and approved the coming 12 months' church budget on May 24 of that year.

PROPOSED 1964-65 CHURCH BUDGET FOR PULASKI HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (adopted by the congregation at a duly called meeting on Sunday, May 24, 1964)

"THIS CHURCH...HAS NO PURPOSE BUT TO SERVE"

Acts 1:8 - "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

1964 Paraphrase - But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Little Rock and in all Arkansas and the United States and to the end of the earth.

THE FOLLOWING BUDGET PRESENTS OUR CHURCH'S SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES DURING 1964-65. YOU ARE INVITED TO SHARE IN THIS SERVICE THROUGH YOUR TITHES AND GIFTS.

TO SERVE IN LITTLE ROCK (75% of our proposed giving) \$ 21,300.00

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <u>Pastoral Leadership.</u> | \$ 6916.00 |
| Minister's Salary | 5000.00 |
| Car Allowance | 900.00 |
| Pension Fund | 816.00 |
| Convention Expenses | 200.00 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| <u>Music and Worship.</u> | 1890.00 |
| Choir Director's Salary | 1740.00 |
| Music Supplies | 100.00 |
| Pulpit Supply Honoraria | 50.00 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| <u>Christian Education.</u> | 965.00 |
| Church School | 700.00 |
| Nursery Attendant | 200.00 |
| "Arkansas Christian" | 40.00 |
| Boy Scouts | 25.00 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| <u>Capital Expenses</u> | 4200.00 |
| Sanctuary Payments | 3000.00 |
| Parsonage Payments | 1200.00 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| <u>Maintenance.</u> | 5075.00 |
| Janitorial Service | 1500.00 |
| Utilities | 2100.00 |
| Repairs | 1000.00 |
| Insurance | 450.00 |
| Supplies | 25.00 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| <u>Administration</u> | 2254.00 |
| Secretary's Salary | 1416.00 |
| Social Security | 55.00 |
| Office Supplies | 650.00 |
| Offering Envelopes | 38.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 95.00 |

* The above figures for the support of our local program have been carefully considered and constitute a well-nigh minimal undergirding of our local needs. If you have any suggestions for further economizing, we shall greatly appreciate receiving them. Wherever we can save in the above expenditures, you may be assured we shall do so.

The dollar amounts are smaller than we see in the 2018 budget, but the internet allows us to convert amounts due to inflation. From the website usinflationcalculator.com we get "If in 1964 I purchased an item for \$21,300.00, then in 2017 that same item would cost \$168,307.79. Cumulative rate of inflation: 690.2%."

(collections.com stock photo)



From Disciples News Service

General Assembly elects Teresa Hord Owens as first African-American woman to head mainline denomination



INDIANAPOLIS – Rev. Teresa “Terri” Hord Owens was elected on July 9th to serve as the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. She is the first African-American to hold this post and the second woman to lead the denomination.

Hord Owens comes to the position in a time of renewed emphasis on the issues of race, particularly in the United States. Her election comes on the 50th anniversary of the Merger Agreement uniting the African-American and largely white branches of the American-born denomination. She is currently pastor of a predominately white congregation in the Chicago area.

“We need to stop demonizing differences as deficiencies,” Hord Owens says. “We should seek to understand, to work through our differences in priorities, opinions, methods, and goals. This will not be easy, but imagine what an example this will be for the world if we can bridge the gaps in politics, identity, geography and theology.”

Hord Owens’ resume includes more than 20 years in corporate America leading diverse teams in data management before she entered seminary. For the last 15 years, she has been the dean of students at the University of Chicago Divinity School, shepherding a varied student body in both background and theology.

The election of Hord Owens follows the 12-year tenure of the Rev. Sharon E. Watkins, who was the first female to lead a mainline denomination in the United States upon her election in 2005. Hord Owens’ term is six years with an option for re-election in 2023 for an additional six-year term.

From Our Archives



Looking back during our church's 90th year. Here is a photo that appeared in The Arkansas Gazette in September 1962. The note on the back says, "Sept 2 1962, Labor Sunday Observance, 'Dedication of Tools.'" The man is Rev. Colbert Cartwright who served the church from 1954 to 1964. The photo was taken by Gazette photographer Dan Miller. The tables with tools are sitting in front of the Communion table. The original choir loft is behind Rev. Cartwright.

June 2017 Stewardship Report

Jun. Budget Needs – \$8,166.67
 Jun. Offering – \$4,278.40
 Other Income – \$5,112.85
 Total Jun. Actual Income – \$9,391.25

Jun. Budgeted Expenses – \$8,890.33
 Jun. Actual Expenses – \$10,992.50
 Net Loss for Jun. – \$ -1,601.25

Fiscal-Year-to-date through 6/30/17
 Offering – \$58,421.30
 Other Income – \$48,598.85
 Total FYTD Income – \$107,020.15
 Expenses FYTD – \$103,567.20
 Net Result FYTD – \$ 3,452.95



Events in August 2017

- Birthdays in August 18 – Bill Ward; 29 – Jeannie Cross.
- Events of note
- 3 – 1st Thursday Shop 'n Sip.
- 13 – Quarterly Potluck Luncheon
- 14 - 6:00 pm Board Meeting
- 20 – Sign September birthday cards.
- 21 – Third Monday Meal is served; 1101 W. Markham St.
- Sunday School August 4, 11, 18, 25



Events in September 2017

- Birthdays in September 9 – Evelyn Behrle;
- 21 – Amber Perry; 22 – Ariane Whitson;
- 22 – Annie Robbins; 29 – Dylan Ryan.
- Events of note
- 4 – Labor Day
- 7 – 1st Thursday Shop 'n Sip.
- 13 - 6:00 pm Board Meeting
- 17 – Sign October birthday cards.
- 18 – Third Monday Meal is served; 1101 W. Markham St.
- Sunday School Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24

Please Continue Prayers for:

Stephen C., Martha C., Shannon P., Ron C., Jean H., Kim P., Trip R., Lynda C., Keith R., Mrs. F., Bill S., Ezgi Y., Wissam A., Uncle Johnny; our Church; the homeless of Little Rock; those who were victims of violence; the Mission First initiative of the DoC; those struggling to do God's will; refugees who are fleeing the viciousness of war. Pray for peace as global tensions rise, pray for the grieving, that they may be comforted; those worldwide being persecuted for being 'different'; the citizens and residents of the U.S.A., and others God leads you to know of.

Pulaski Heights Christian Church
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lrphcc@gmail.com ~ www.phccr.org
 Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 a.m.
 Rev. Susan G. Miller, Minister
 Music Ministry ~ Stephen & Jeannie Cross
 Musician ~ Betty Jo Thibault
 Office Assistant ~ Tom Ryan