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Making a Difference

Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church Newsletter
March 2025

This month as we enter the season of Lent, a time of reflection and honesty about our human condition, I find myself returning to a book title that has stuck with me: Kate Bowler's *No Cure for Being Human*. In a world where instant gratification is the norm, often problems can be solved quickly, desires sated with a click or a scroll, that phrase "no cure for being human" is a clear reminder that our humanity is an integral part of who we are and our daily lives.

There are aspects about being human that we can't run away from or quickly solve. Sometimes those are the things that are the most wonderful parts of life – a baby's giggle, a breath of fresh air, a comforting meal, experiences that make our heart and soul sing. Sometimes those things are the hardest, darkest parts of life.

Bowler, who was diagnosed with stage four cancer in her 30s, speaks with raw honesty about the beauty and fragility of life. Perhaps that's why she makes such a compelling companion for this Lenten season. This Lent, as a church community, we will be engaging with Bowler's devotional and worship theme, 'The Hardest Part: Hurt We Carry, Hope We Find.'

Throughout the season she issues the invitation to stop pretending we're holding it all together, to pause, to sit with what is unfinished and to let God meet us there. Lent has traditionally been a season in the church calendar when we pause to reflect and allow God's love to accompany us throughout. We begin Lent with the imposition of ashes on our foreheads and the reminder that "you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This dust is an invitation from God to be reconciled – to be in communion with the Holy One, humanity and all.

In our humanity we experience all the greatest and hardest parts of this beloved life -joy and sorrow, love and loss, heartbreak and hope, all tangled together. Our invitation this Lenten season is to pause and sit with it, welcoming God to meet us there.

A Blessing for Ash Wednesday These days of dust. These days of despair. We can hear reality speak to us in a clear, ringing voice. So we approach. Carefully. Barely ready to hear the hard truths we long to be told about beautiful, terrible death.

How strange that it feels so right and good to walk forward together wearing our finitude, a mess of ash smeared on our foreheads to be told: remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

How strange that it feels so right and good at the edge of awareness

—the balance point of being and non-being. I catch my breath as I turn and look to see the shining faces all around. I see it all in a glance: how precious how precious how precious how holy each single, imperfect life, how beautiful how great how unconquerable each single, unfinishable life, because you deemed it so. You looked on us, covered in death. as a man about to walk a darkening path, the only one who could wipe away our ashes with a single act of love.

Kate Bowler. "A Blessing for Ash Wednesday" in *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day: Daily Meditations for the Ups, Downs, and In-Betweens.* (New York: Convergent Books, 2024). 99.

Call for Annual Meeting

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 The Session of Harvey Browne Memorial Presbyterian Church has called for the Annual Congregational Meeting to be held Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 11:30 am. The following business will be transacted at this meeting: 1. Hear reports from Committee Chairs a. Review of 2025 Budget b. Vote on Terms of Call for Rev. Christine Coy Fohr and Rev. Katherine Kupar 2. Review of Statistical Report 3. Report from Trustees 4. Election of Elders, Board of Deacons, Trustees 5. Election of Officer Nominating Committee 						
March Birthdays!						
Adeline Adan Jim Bale Barbara Blain Pam Bliven Lilly Brent Ellie Buckne Ruth Buckne Iris Carter Marisue Coy Ann Forseth	Benjam Ne Susan Audra Carolyr r Louise M r Ernie Diane y Angie	ney GieselJohn SeewerHappy Birthdaynin GilfertEvan SmithViv Smithn GilfertViv Smitha GroggArt Stewartn JohnsonPenny StewartMcKinneyJane Thomase MickaFlo TrinkleOsborneNancy Troye SchulteAnnabeth Welchy ScottLarry Whitledge				
Sunday Worship		HB Prayer List				
Ushers: March 2 Kelly Burke* Joni Burke Mike Rodgers Jane Elkin Thomas March 9 Bob Smith* Kathy Williams Dee Pregliasco Steve Buckner March 16 Brian Pollock* Pollock Family Nancy Pollock Molly Pollock	March 30Peggy Campbell*Lynn ColeSarah BumpasAnn BurgeLav Readers:March 2Bev HamptomMarch 9Judy StubbsMarch 16Nancy PollockMarch 23Rob Fohr	 PRAYER LIST: Family and friends of Bob Roberts on his death; Martha Scott; Marcia Lewis; Family and friends of Cheryl Hamilton, (friend of Angie Schulte) on her death; The family and friends of Officer Michael Wehdah upon his death (friend of Chris Denny)*;Gary Luhr; Ginny & Tom Darrah, friends of HB members; Chuck Worley on the death of his grandmother; Peggy Mastropaolo; Debbie Moore; Natilea Boyd, cousin of Ramona and Rhonda Woodcock; Greta Marcum; Marybelle Duff; Elana Centuro, niece of Judy Laning; Barb and Tom Benkert, relatives of Lynn Cole; John Reeker, Sr.; LaToshia Woods, friend of Veda Pendleton; Lois Allen; Virginia Strahl; Kenton Smith, friend of Dan & Judy Askins; Lois & Peter Laning, Sister-in-law and brother of Judy Laning; Pat Lewis, mother of Kathy Williams; Cyndi Lee Johnson, daughter of Marilee Phillips; Max Schuester, friend of Eric Hilyerd; Diana, daughter of Skip & Edith Light MISSION CO-WORKERS: Tyler, Rochelle & Mphatso Holm, Jeff & Christie Boyd, Dr. Larry and Inge Sthreshley If you would like to send our mission co-workers a birthday greeting here are their birthdates: 3/15 Larry Sthreshley, 4/04 Rochelle Holm, 				
Sara Sutphin* Leight Wilson Margaret Wilson Meg Buckner	March 30 Kathy Williams * Head Usher	4/09 Jeff Boyd, 5/24 Inge Sthreshley, 7/21 Tyler Holm, 8/08 Lisa Sthreshley, 9/04 Christi Boyd, 11/15 Mphatso Holm If you wish to get the quarterly newsletter from any of these mission co- workers, go to pcusa.org/missionconnections. The letters can be quite enlightening and, of course, pray for their work and safety.				

Sunday School

Sunday Breakfast is served at 9:00am in Eline Hall. All are welcome!

Children & Youth

• 0-3 in Nursery

• 4's- K & 1st in Room 212

- Grades 4-5 in Room 206
- Youth Class (6th—12th grade) Meet in the Loft.

• Grades 2-3 in Room 212

Please initial the clipboards and ensure we have your contact information when you drop your child off

Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull

The Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull is A.B. Rhodes Professor Emerita of Old Testament at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, an environmental theologian, and author of Inhabiting Eden: Christians, the Bible, and the Ecological Crisis (2013) and Let Justice Roll Down: God's Call to Care for Neighbors and All Creation (2024-2025 Horizons Bible Study). A 2016 recipient of the Presbyterians for Earth Care William Gibson Eco-Justice Award for faith-based environmental work, she lives with her spouse, the Rev. Don Summerfield, in the net-zero home they designed near Henryville, Indiana. They enjoy life with their six kids, four in-laws, and eight grandkids.

HBUniversity - Healing a World of Wounds

We're excited to welcome Rev. Dr. Patricia K. Tull for this HBU series. In three sessions on March 30, April 6, and April 13, we will discuss the biblical and theological basis for Christians to see ourselves as deeply related to the natural world as well as to God and humans. We can grow in joy, using our God-given skills and interests to address the multiple ecological crises our generation faces today.

RSVP to Montreat	4th-5th Lift
The deadline to RSVP to Renata and make a deposit for Montreat Youth Conference (\$75 deposit) and Middle School Conference (\$50 deposit) is March 16. Don't miss out on these exciting summer opportunities for incoming 6 th graders through graduating seniors!	This spring in 4th-5th Lift we will be learning all about the Bible. Our meetings include time for play, study, and snack. We meet from 4:00-5:30pm. Drop off and pick up at the church office entrance. Lift meetings are, March 9, March 23, April 6, April 27, and May 18.

Wednesday Night Dinners

Dinners will be catered by Kingsley Meats & Catering. Kingsley will provide an entree, two sides, and a vegetarian entree. Meals are served from 5:15-6:00 pm. Meals include a salad bar, assorted desserts, and beverages that include iced tea, lemonade, water, and coffee. There is also a "children's table" with milk, chocolate syrup, bread, and peanut butter. We are asking for a suggested donation of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, with a family cap at \$25. Please do not let cost keep you from attending! We will also have the option of paying electronically.

March 5 Ash Wednesday Breakfast for dinner: Pancakes, Bacon, Eggs, Fruit Salad, Cinnamon Rolls

March 12 **Bill's Cookout** Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Green Salad, Assorted Desserts, Veggie Burgers

March 19 Chili with Toppings, Baked Lasagna, Green Beans, Fruit Potato Bar, Fresh Fruit Salad, Green Salad, Assorted Desserts, Vegetarian: Chili

March 26

Salad, garlic bread, Green Salad, Assorted Desserts, Vegetarian-Veggie Lasagna

The Nursery is provided for children preschool and under from 6:00-7:00 on Wednesday nights.

BookTalk	Pastor's Book Group				
Booktalk for 11:30 on Tuesday, March 25th on Zoom and in the Living Room will be <i>Sipsworth</i> by Simon Van Booy. The brief novel is about a lonely 83 year old wid- ow who is just waiting to die until she finds a mouse in her house and then Hope you can join us for this fun book. Grab a sandwich and a drink and be ready for a fun discussion. All are welcome whether you have read the book or not. If you buy the book at Carmichael's, mention Booktalk at Harvey Browne and receive a 20% discount.	 Pastor's Book Group will meet on March 2nd at 4:00pr to discuss <i>Searching for Sunday</i> by Rachel Held Evans. Join us for a time of discussion and sharing. April 6 – A Human-Shaped God: Theology of an <i>Embodied God</i>, Charles Halton May 4 – On Critical Race Theory, Victor Ray Summer Read – All My Knotted-Up Life, Beth Moore 				
Bookanalia					
Bookanalia will meet after Weds night dinner on March 19th to discuss <i>Spying on the South:</i> <i>An Odyssey Across the American Divide</i> by Tony Horwitz. Carolyn Diener will facilitate our discussion of this memoir/history as the Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Horwitz follows the travels of a young Fredrick Law Olmstead as he went "undercover" traveling through the South. LFPL has the book available in multiple formats. Reminder of our remaining schedule: April 23, 2025 - <u>The Women</u> by Kristin Hannah May 21, 2025 - <u>Solito: A Memoir</u> by Javier Zamora					
March Grocery Cart - Hope Village					

are requesting Canned goods (any kinds veggies/beans), Tuna packets (ready to eat), Vienna sausages, Breakfast bars, Plastic bags, Cleaning supplies (Lysol wipes, bleach etc), Individual snacks (peanut butter crackers, chips), Bath towels and wash rags, Hot hands (warmers), Paper towels, Dishwasher liquid and Laundry detergent.

Powered by The Hope Buss, the Hope Village works to establish an environ-

ment that acknowledges the distinctiveness and individuality of each resident, where she/he is called by their preferred name. Project staff accept each person wherever they are in their life journey. We seek not to fix residents but rather to provide a safe haven for them. Working with other grassroots organizations, the Hope Village uses innovative approaches to find new paths to healing.

Tree Planting

Join us for a Tree Planting Sat. 3/22 from 10am-12:30pm. To add trees to Louisville's sparse tree canopy, Harvey Browne and Beechmont Presbyterian are joining together to plant trees through TreesLouisville. The site is near Meriwether Ave. just east of UofL. Training is provided on site. All members, including children are invited to participate. If bringing children, an adult is required to be with them at all times. Please bring your water bottle, sunscreen and wear your "get-dirty" clothes. A limited number of spots are currently available so please sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49AFAC2C2CA0FBC43-55221448-meriwether. Please text me to let me know if you have signed up. Thanks, Pam Glaze, 502-298-5492, Hunger-Justice-Earth Care Ministry Team.

HB "Tentmakers" Pull Up Stakes

After 30 years, the Harvey Browne quilters are going to disband. There are too few of us now to sustain a group identity and maintain the equipment, tools and fabrics. Our most recent donation of lap quilts to Hosparus Health Louisville was our last. Stitch, a ministry of Highland Pres and Kentucky Refugee Ministries, is delighted to accept our offer of machines and yards of fabric.

The Harvey Quilter Bees organized in 1993, led by Carolyn Tucker. The original quilters joining her were Joyce Munson, Marian Carter, Dot Shalhimer, Joyce Steiner, Barbara Emler, Ann Burge, and Dorothy Holt. Many other quilters came and went over the years. One of the group's earliest projects was to make a quilt for Harvey Browne's first Habitat house, presented to the family in December of the founding year.

The quilters have always been mission-oriented, making quilts for Habitat families, Home of the Innocents, Maryhurst, Marion County Abuse Center, Kosair Children's Hospital, Appalachian Project, Bellewood Children's Home, and most recently Hosparus. In addition to quilts, other sewing projects were accomplished – in recent years making window treatments for the office, mementos using the Centennial quilt block for the church's Centennial in 2016, and face masks for the COVID pandemic in 2020.

The first location for the group was the former pastor's study in the chapel wing, and in 2000 moved their stash and equipment into Room 209. After worship on March 2, the quilters invite all fabric artists and crafters to Room 209 to select from our remaining stash – fabric (large scraps), patterns, books, and tools. We will also have 30 years of photos to share with you.

Thanks to Harvey Browne for your kind words and compliments. It has been our joy to represent the church in our projects that have offered comfort to people in Louisville and beyond.

Maggie Chilton, Jeanne Luhr, and Ann Burge



Mission Connections - The Sthreshley Family

A letter, paraphrased from our Mission-Coworkers Inge and Larry Sthreshley working in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"Sometimes things go like you planned and sometimes they just don't." When we started the SEMI project (Essential Maternal and Child Health Services), we had great plans to start 200 Village Savings and Loans Associations or VSLA (Village Savings and Loan Association). The VSLA group goes through extensive training and then meets weekly where members begin purchasing shares. The amount is recorded in a member's savings book. Their books and cash are stored in a metal box (their safe) with three keys, taking three people to open the box. When members build up their savings, they can take out a loan with interest. Each member must pay a minimum amount at each weekly meeting. Their savings are returned to them with interest at the end of the savings and loan cycle.



Meeting to distribute capital at the end of a VSLA cycle in Kakenge health zone. Photo Credit: PRODEK.

Although both women and men are involved in an VSLA, the focus is on young women who have had very little opportunity to manage money and who might then start their own business with a loan. This project is also linked to some of the health and nutrition agencies since poverty is one of the primary drivers of chronic malnutrition. Since Fall 2024, 32 VSLA's have been established with other villages able to form their own banks using the VSLA as an example.

Inge will be traveling around Kasai province to train 20 community members on how to establish a VSLA; in return they will train 20 village agents to do the same. Our goal is within 2025, 250 VSLAs will have been established; it's a bit of a stretch however with prayers they will move forward.

Don't forget to wish our mission co-worker, Larry Sthreshley a "Happy Birthday" on March 15th! Contact the church office for his email address!

Mission Connections - The Moe Family

Dear people of God at Harvey Browne, Gric and I want to express our deep gratitude to you for supporting us as Mission Co Workers during our term of pervice (2020-2024). You prayed for us, welcomed is in & your church, and supported us financially. You came alongside us and believed in the work we were a part of at CEDEPCA. We have now settled back in to the Spokane, WA community; I just started a position as Interim Pastor at a church in the presbyteny. We plan to Stay muslied in ministry in Guatemala through CEDEPCA and also find ways to integrate the peacemaking work we learned there into our lives in Spekane. Thank you, bod bless you! With love, Rev. BetseyMor



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:00- 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall) 5:30- Beats & Eats (Eline Hall)
2 Sunday Schedule 11:00-Reception for Julie Rousseau (Foyer) 11:45 PW Craft Group (Craft Room) 11:45 Scrap Fabric Giveaway (209) 4:00- Pastor's Book Club (208)	3 9:00-Harvey's Helpers 10:00-Tai Chi (Eline)	4 9:45-Staff Mtg (Session) 7:00- Session Meet- ing (Session+)	5 10:00– 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall) 1:00- Prayers Mtg* 5:15- Dinner (Emory) 6:30- Ash Wednesday Worship (Sanctuary)	6	7 5:00- Youth PYOCA	8 <i>All Day</i> - Youth PYOCA <i>9:00</i> – Men's Breakfast at Farm- ington House <i>10:00</i> – 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall)
9 Sunday Schedule 11:30-Annual Congre- gational Meeting (Sanctuary) 4:00- LIFT (Gym)	10 9:00-Harvey's Helpers 11:00-Writing Your Story (Eline Hall) 11:00-Tai Chi (Eline) 8:15– Men's Group (209)	11 9:45-Staff Mtg (208) 10:30- Grace Circle (Session), Ruth Circle(Living Rm.) 11:30- Miriam Circle (Eline Hall) 3:00- Hope Circle (Living Rm.)	12 10:00- 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall) 1:00- Prayers Mtg* ◊Wednesday Night	13	14	15 10:00– 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall)
16 Sunday Schedule	17 9:00-Harvey's Helpers 11:00-Tai Chi (Eline) 11:00-Writing Your Story (Eline Hall) 11:00-Property Commit- tee Meeting (Session) 6:00- Louisville Philhar- monia Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	18 9:45-Staff Mtg (Session) 1:30- Congrega- tional Life Meeting (Living Rm) 7:00- Outreach Committee Meeting (Zoom)	19 10:00- 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall) 1:00- Prayers Mtg* 1:00- Worship & Mu- sic Committee* ◊ Wednesday Night 6:00- Bookanalia (Session+) 6:00- Confirmation (Eline)	20	21	22 10:00– 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall) 6:00- FRIENDS Night In (Eline Hall)
23 Sunday Schedule 4:00- LIFT (Gym)	24 25 26 9:00-Harvey's Helpers 9:45-Staff Mtg 10 10:00-Tai Chi (Eline) 8:15- Men's Group 11:30-Booktalk 12 (209) 200-Finance 10 10 9:00-Harvey's Helpers 9:45-Staff Mtg 10 11:30-Booktalk 12 12 (209) 11:30-Booktalk 12 7:00- Finance 10 10 7:00- Welcome 62 10	26 27 10:00 – 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall) 1:00 - Prayers Mtg* 4:00 - PW Coordinat-	27	28	29 10:00 – 5,000 Steps (Emory Hall)	
		2:00- Finance Meeting (Living Rm) 7:00- Welcome Committee Meeting	ing Team Meeting (Session) ◊ <i>Wednesday Night</i> 6:15- Wellness Pro- gram (Eline)		Contact the church office for links to Zoom. ~ <u>Sunday Schedule</u>	
30 Sunday Schedule	31 9:00-Harvey's Helpers 10:00-Tai Chi (Eline)		©Every Wednesday Night 5:15 - Dinner9:00 - Breakfast 9:30 - Choir Rehearsal 9:30 - Choir Rehearsal 9:30 - Sunday School ALL Ages 10:30 - Worship+ 1:00 - Pickle Ball (Emory) 3:30 - HBYouth Group (Loft) 4:00 - Yoga at HB (Session)		hearsal School ALL Ages+ + all (Emory) th Group (Loft)	

Notes from Session

The Session of Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church held a stated meeting on February 4. Anne Hughes led the Session in prayer after which the following business was conducted:

- Received into membership Doug & Karen Curnutte
- Heard staff reports from Christine and Katherine
- Approved having Rev. Trisha Tull to preach on April 6 and Rev. Tim Cargal preach on April 27.
- Reviewed and approved the 2024 Statistical Report.

• Julie Rousseau has retired as Director of our Parents' Day Out Program. Session approved establishing a task force to review the PDO program and recommended any changes to Session. Members of the task force will be representatives from Personnel Committee, Christian Education Committee, Preschool, PDO teacher, and PDO interim director.

- Approved 2025 Operating Budget.
- Approved donating to Cedar Ridge Camp 22 bunk mattresses that HB no longer uses.
- Reviewed reports from committees.

Commissioners to the February 22 Presbytery meeting are Jim Boswell and Anne Hughes.

Anne Hughes, Clerk of Session

VBS Volunteers Needed

Come have a fun week of stories, songs, activities, and most of all fun! VBS this summer will be June 23-27th, 9:00am - 12:15pm each day, and we need volunteers. Can you help decorate, set-up, clean up, shepherd a group of kids, lead an activity, or support in any way? If so, please contact Katherine Kupar with questions.

Men's Breakfast at Farmington

On Saturday, March 8 at 9am, the Men's Breakfast will be meeting at the historic home called Farmington. David Green of our congregation has been a board member there, and generously offered to host us for breakfast treats, some education, and a tour of the historic property. Address: 3033 Bardstown Rd, Louisville, KY 40205

Pastor and Staff Contact Information

Rev. Christine Coy Fohr, Pastor	<u>christine@hbpres.net</u>
Rev. Katherine Kupar, Associate Pastor	<u>katherine@hbpres.net</u>
Rev. Jim Hubert, Co-coordinator of Pastoral Care	jim@hbpres.net
Kristy Hubert, Co-coordinator of Pastoral Care	<u>kristy@hbpres.net</u>
Renata DeWees, Director of Youth Ministries	<u>Renata@hbpres.net</u>
Larry D. Brandenburg, Minister of Music	<u>ldblouisville@yahoo.com</u>
Timothy L. Baker, Organist/Assistant Director of	Music <u>kewlpipes2@gmail.com</u>
Beth Brandenburg, Director Children's Choir	<u>bethbrandenburg12@yahoo.com</u>
Carl Enoch, Sign Language Interpreter	<u>carlenoch48@gmail.com</u>
Amy Squires, Preschool Director	(895-2577) <u>harveybrownepreschool@gmail.com</u>
Debbie Jaha, Interim Parents' Day Out Director	Ext. 119, <u>pdodirector@hbpres.net</u>
Cheryl Granger, Church Administrator	Ext. 104, <u>cherylgranger@hbpres.net</u>
Tim Miller, Building Manager	Ext. 106, <u>tmillerhb@hbpres.net</u>
Grace Graves, Admin. Assistant	Ext. 100, <u>gracegraves@hbpres.net</u>
James Logan, Asst. Building Manager	

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Church Office Phone: (502) 896-1791 After-hours pastoral emergency number: (502) 208-8472 Harvey Browne Weekday Preschool: (502) 895-2577

HBPres Website: www.hbpres.net

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