

News from Hunter

August 2020



Mask Confusion

If we have any "anti-maskers" who are a part of Hunter, I am not writing this to offend you, or shame you. In fact, I would love to hear your reasons for not using a mask when you are around people. Please call or email me and help me understand.

I remember needing toilet paper in late March, and optimistically hoping to go to a store and find some. Back then, masks were not required, nor was it necessarily known that they were of any benefit in keeping Coronavirus in check. Despite this, I was still acting out of more fear and caution, as many of us were back then. I decided to tie a bandana around my nose and mouth before venturing out. I snapped a picture of myself and sent it to a group of friends I have been in regular communication with. One responded "you look like you are going to rob a stagecoach!" That gave me a sense of excitement, and helped me overcome the fear I had of going out.

Since that time, we have learned that use of face coverings is a good way for the wearer to protect others from spread of contagion. Even if the wearer doesn't have symptoms, it is still a kind practice, in the event that they carry coronavirus, but are asymptomatic.

What it boils down to, is wearing your mask is an act of showing care for others. Several leaders from Transylvania Presbytery made a brief video communicating the point, "when I wear my mask, I show that I love my neighbors." Philip Lotspeich, our General Presbyter, has said multiple times, "even if the virus is a hoax, and wearing a mask is not truly helpful in preventing a disease, the worst thing that happens to anyone is they are subject to a few minutes of minor discomfort. Isn't that worth it, to show others you care?"

Beyond the 'why' of masks, I enjoy seeing how people express themselves with masks they choose to wear. From colorful patterns, to written messages, to those that give the image that a person's face is different, the mask diversity truly reflects the diversity of God's people.

I hope you sense that care, concern, and yes, love when you see others in masks. I hope you feel that from your congregation, and leaders especially. I hope you mask your face, but not your love for others.

J.T. Silence



Online Worship

Worship services will continue to be delivered online for the foreseeable future. We applaud those who are making it happen! With apologies to anyone inadvertently overlooked, we want to thank these leaders for the months of June and July:

Liturgists: Kent Brouwer, Ryan Callahan, Drew Gilbert, Matthew Goodrich, Carol Hulse, Cooper Silence, Adam Telechbush.

Musicians: Michale Brisentine, Ryan Callahan, Allen Fletcher, Matthew Goodrich, Debi Hardin, Hyun-jin Kwak, Kori Silence, Rubin Thomas, and guests Jyunghyun Lee and Kellie Sherwood.

Preachers: J. T. Silence and guest Mary Bader Reed.

Tech crew: Jackson Silence and Ryan Callahan.

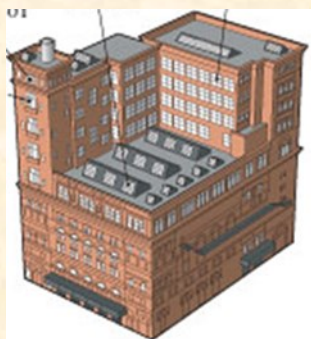
We look forward to hearing those who will serve in August!



J. T. has talked about the weaving, 'Our Lives Together and Apart,' the Bible school kids made several years ago. They brought T-shirts (they could part with) that held special meaning for them. Everyone's story was shared, then they were cut and woven together. Now, several years later, many of those T-shirt remnants, as well as some fabric from the Zeps, have gone into making 108 protective face masks for Hunter members, Kroger front-liners, and to some of Lexington's poorer neighbors. The stories go on!

A Conversation with Cara Richards, PhD

Cara Richards was born at home January 13, 1927 (as were most babies at that time) at 795 Ave C in Bayonne, NJ. Her father and mother both taught singing and were choir directors. Her mother was a choir director in a Presbyterian church and her father in a Methodist church and she always sang at her mother's church since her mother had a children's choir. Her parents also taught in a studio in Carnegie Hall.



Cara lived in the studio when she attended Queens College in NY. This studio was adjacent to the Agnes B DeMille Dance Studio (niece of Cecil B. DeMille). There was always a lot going on. Once there was lot of noise coming from the Dance Studio...so she pounded on the wall...twice and after the 2nd pounding things got quiet. The next day she was musing about the noise with someone whose eyes got big...."That was you?....We were having a séance and thought it was a spirit."

One teacher felt that singers could improve if they could be as good as animals at projecting. She recalls passing a studio where singers were projecting animal noises.

After she graduated from Queens College she went to Cornell where she earned her PhD in anthropology with additional courses in sociology. As an anthropologist her first field work took her to Native Americans south of Syracuse, New York. She lived with them for over a year. This was the Iroquois Six Na-

tions. It had started as Five Nations (Seneca, Oneida, Mohawk, Onondaga, Cayuga), but the Tuscarora were driven out of Georgia and they joined the nations since they shared a common language. Then she went to a Navajo reservation and was part of a medical research clinic which was studying TB and other diseases that plagued the Navaho.

She started her teaching career at Ithaca College that from a hilltop "looked down" on Cornell. She married an anthropologist, Henry Dobyns. He was hired at the University of Kentucky, but because of nepotism laws she could not teach there so instead joined the faculty at Transylvania. She started out teaching both anthropology and sociology but her true love is anthropology ("a marvelous profession") and taught for 27 years.

She feels the current political situation is "as bad as usual." Her perspective as an anthropologist, is that we have challenges because we are a "nation of nations" and do not have one unifying construct. This leads to disagreements between those who are from different parts of the country and world. She has been going to Hunter since she arrived in Lexington and as we know shares her love of singing there.



Coping with COVID 19: Read what you like! Consider Sir Terence David John Pratchett an English humorist, satirist, and author of fantasy novels, especially comical works.

Author's Note: this was a fun and educational interview. I can't help but think Dr. Richards was ground breaking in her early work as a woman anthropology graduate student at Cornell. She did not even consider this as she went through life since her work was so independent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Martin



Unity Garden Update

The church is still active despite the pandemic. I know Kevin has been active doing all sorts of things like waxing floors, etc. He and Cooper earlier this year trimmed back the honeysuckle from between the driveway and the extended parking lot. This trimming helped a lot for the 3 person work crew on Saturday, July 25th to get three yard bags of honeysuckle to be even with the ground. There would have been about 2 more bags but we saved the tall sticks to let the gardeners stake their tomato plants. There are no other Unity Garden work days scheduled, however Ann will be working with various individuals to do one on one work days.

First crop of garlic has been harvested and in the process of drying from the garden. There is also a large amount of carrot seed about to be harvested. Please let Ann know if you would like some free carrot seed.

A New Chance for Community Outreach during COVID-19

There are many patients at Eastern State Hospital (ESH), an acute inpatient psychiatric hospital, who because of COVID-19 are not able to receive visitors at this time. A letter or postcard sharing that we have each one of them in our hearts and are thinking of them would brighten their day.

We will include them in our Love Letter mission. We will be collecting cards on a monthly basis and Lynn (thank you Lynn) will batch them to Eastern State Hospital. If you want to send a card personally that is great also. Comforting prayers, Bible Verses, hymn lines or any other good wish will be appreciated.

Eastern State Hospital Volunteer Services
Attn: Compassion Letters
1350 Bull Lea Road
Lexington, KY 40511

An update from Eastern State: "I know several of my patients have received letters and have found them extremely uplifting and something that they treasure in their rooms and overall they've been a huge hit with our patients."

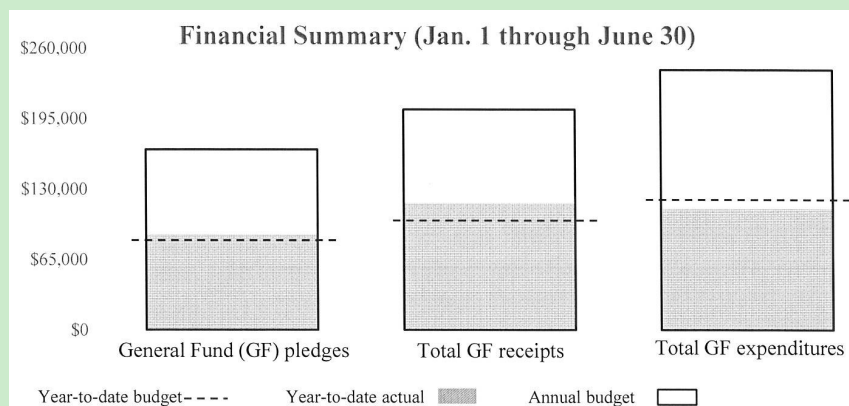
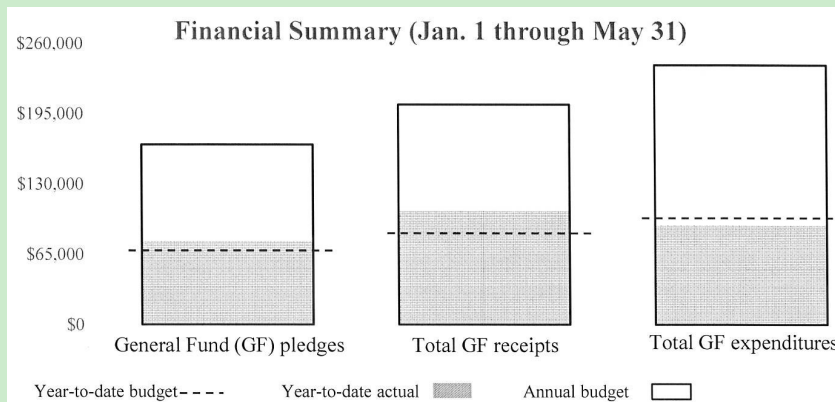


Another Graduate!

Michael Scott Flora (grandson of Jim and Betty Scott) graduated from Centre College with a double major in Physical Therapy and Spanish. He wants to be a sports trainer and is currently living in Glasgow, KY with his parents while he applies for jobs.



The World Is
Yours To Conquer



August Birthdays!

7 Rue Wallace
7 Sydney Isaacs
8 Andrew Bernard
9 Tom Biliter
11 John Goodrich
13 Robert Greer
17 Tibby Adams
17 Miles Brady
17 Fatima Kochanowski
24 Cathy Reilender
25 Drew Gilbert
27 Frankie Daniel
28 Stuart Daniel
29 Betty Scott
31 Cindy Isaacs



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Hunter is an Earth Care Congregation – Please Recycle

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l.davis@hunterlex.org—thanks! Lynn