

## **Bellevue Community News – October 2022**

### **“Something Old, Something New”**

Standing since the late 1800's at the southeast corner of Center Street and Taylor Avenue in the Taylor's Daughters Historic District in Bellevue is an old church building. Originally built in 1892, it was the initially the home of Trinity Lutheran Church and then the home of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. In December 2019 this historic building became the home of a new congregation, Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church.

Grace and Peace began as a Bible study in 2007 and became a self-supporting and self-governing local church of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) in 2016. After meeting in several locations in Northern Kentucky for a dozen years, the church held its first worship service in its new and permanent home in May 2020. We are glad to be here, thankful for the welcome we have received from the community, and eager to continue the tradition established in 1892 of there being a group of people gathering to worship God and to serve the people of Bellevue.

As a new congregation meeting in an old building, we are inviting the community to meet us, learn more about our ministry, and tour our building during an open house on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 12-3pm. Refreshments will be provided, books will be given away, and a petting zoo for the kids will be set up in our parking lot. Everyone is welcome!

Speaking of things old and new, later that day at 7pm we will host a concert featuring “Matthew Smith and Indelible Grace”, a four member band out of Nashville, Tennessee. *“My grandmother saved it. My mother threw it away. And now I’m buying it back.”* That’s not only a great advertising slogan for an antique store, it’s also a good way to describe how many churches have been re-discovering the richness, beauty, and depth of traditional hymn lyrics. For over two decades, Indelible Grace Music has been a leader of the movement of setting old hymns, familiar as well as forgotten, to new music.

As Kevin Twit, the founder of Indelible Grace Music, explains, *“Hymns are some of the richest expression of Christian experience we have. They are a doorway into sensing the truth in our hearts rather than just ‘knowing’ it in our heads.”* According to the Indelible Grace Music website, *“Our hope is to be a voice calling our generation back to something rich and solid and beyond the fluff and the trendy . . . We want to invite the Church to appreciate her heritage without idolizing it. We want to open up and world of passion and truth and make it more than just an archaic curiosity for the religiously sentimental. We believe worship is formative, and that it does matter what we sing.”* Yes, what we sing is vital, and the rich theology and great poetry of many traditional hymns can help us to think more clearly and deeply about what matters most in life.

The concert will feature hymns with old lyrics set to new music. Seeing old and new brought together is a good reminder that the Christian faith is an old faith, yet one that brings in the new as it makes known the good news that *“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come”* (2 Corinthians 5:17). It is a faith in which the object of the faith, Jesus Christ, is *“making all things new”* (Revelation 21:5). Christianity is something old, something new.

Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church is a new congregation in an old building here in Bellevue, a 150 year old city where tradition is honored and the new is welcomed. Please join us on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>: in the afternoon from 12-3pm at our open house and in the evening at 7pm for a free concert of old hymns to new tunes. Additionally, please join us for worship on Sundays at 10:30am and become a part of something old, something new.

Rev. Lee F. Veazey is the pastor of Grace and Peace Presbyterian Church, located on the corner of Taylor Avenue and Center Street in Bellevue, Kentucky.