

The Guide

*We embrace all
as we journey
the way of Jesus*



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Office Hours:

Monday–Thursday
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Closed on Fridays

Worship Schedule:

Check calendar on back for
worship, Bible studies, and
Youth & Children’s Ministry

Christ Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. Edward Goode
Pastor

Kelly Kuhnhein
Director of Outreach
& Christian Education

Toni Sheffer,
Music Director/Organist

Max Gise
Guitarist

Talia Zoll
Vocalist

Jeff Searcy
Custodian

Barb Walkenhorst-Derby
Bookkeeper

Michele Wright,
Communications Director

Rev. Dr. David V. Schwab
Pastor Emeritus

UCC 101–Part 1

A Denominational Mutt Reflects on the UCC

I am a theological and denominational mutt. While my dog is a simple mix between a bluetick hound and a beagle, I have a lot more influences. I was baptized in and grew up in the ELCA Lutheran church while attending Catholic elementary school. I was confirmed in that ELCA congregation and was active in the youth group. When I went to the University of Colorado, I started out getting enmeshed in what many viewed to be a cult-like Christian group before getting out and connecting with the campus ministry of First Presbyterian Church of Boulder. During the rest of university, I stayed active with this ministry and with FPC but also periodically attended a charismatic congregation in Boulder. I switched my church membership to FPC and began my ordination process in the PCUSA. I served in various roles in five PCUSA congregations before becoming a part of the UCC in 2018 and now officially hold “dual standing” in both denominations. And all that doesn’t include the theological work that has gone on through ALL of that! Hence... theological and denominational mutt.

Why do I share all this? Well, in each of those settings I have had to learn how that church functions but especially so as a pastor in the PCUSA (yay – seminary polity/governance classes and ordination exams!) and then shifting into the UCC (yay – online UCC Polity and History course!) I know that last



sentence sounded a bit snarky but I actually greatly enjoyed the classes and understanding of how we have gotten to where we are and how the Spirit has led through all these different settings of faith and ministry. It is important for us to periodically return to reminders of who we are as an individual congregation and who we are in relationship with our denominational community. So, over the next few months in *The Guide*, I am going to share some of what I have learned about the UCC and hopefully help all of our understandings.

The UCC was formed in 1957 as two denominations that came together (themselves mergers of multiple denominations). Each of the strands within these denominations brought with them unique heritages and ways of “being the church.” The founding motto of the UCC, which we hold to today is “that they may all be one” from John 17:21.

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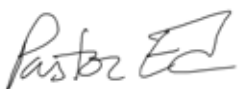
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From its founding, one of the core concepts of the United Church of Christ is that local congregations are at the center. The Constitution of the UCC, ([Read here](#)) goes into great detail about the centering of local congregations but these two lines sum it up well: *The basic unit of the life and organization of the United Church of Christ is the Local Church...The autonomy of the Local Church is inherent and modifiable only by its own action.*

So that means we, as a local congregation in the UCC, have inherent autonomy from other congregations in the UCC. That's why we have our own bylaws and function in the way that we do. This gives us a lot of space to understand our own place of ministry and how we hear God's Spirit about where we are led. So that's our starting place in our understanding of who we are as a congregation in the UCC. But here's the thing...as tempting as it is...it doesn't stop there.

In my next reflection, we'll talk more about what it means to be a local congregation but also how we are in a covenant relationship with the United Church of Christ as a whole. So, while we are autonomous, we are not disconnected. We'll reflect more about how we are connected and how we can hear the voice of God's Spirit still speaking through this covenantal relationship from all the settings of the United Church of Christ – associations, conferences, other local congregations, and general synod. May we continue to hold to and practice those founding words of the UCC – that they may all be one.

Grace, Peace, Love, and Joy,
Pastor Ed



Pastor Ed with our children during the February 9, 2023 Sunday service as he explains how our faith needs to be built, used, played with, and lived.



Our Sunday School children with Sara on her last day.

Mission Team Update

From Kelly Kuhnhein

The mission team continues to respond to needs in our community and beyond. This month, the team received a request from St. Vincent de Paul for rental support for a single woman trying to maintain her housing. The organization was working with her to ensure she had ongoing support and resources. Christ Church was asked for a one-time donation to assist in keeping her apartment. St. Vincent de Paul was able to match our donation and help get her back on her feet. She works full time at a local store and was able to maintain her current housing while receiving financial counseling and assistance in connecting to all

available programs in her area. Our team meets on the third Sunday of each month following the service at 11:30am in the conference room. Our next meeting is March 19th and all are welcome whether you are interested in becoming an active member of the team or would like to share an idea for the coming year.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

• Brighton Center:

The team delivered **80 cans of soup and 140 boxes of Mac and Cheese** last month due to your generosity, let's keep it going! We continue to collect items in an ongoing effort to help fill the most needed items.

February/March — Pasta and Pasta sauce

• Hosea House — Mark the Date!

Our church will serve on the following dates in 2023:

March 26 and August 8

Please mark your calendar and watch for information to sign up to serve closer to those dates.

• St. Vincent de Paul

Donated \$660 to support a local woman in maintaining her housing. The agency will continue to work with her on gaining financial independence and connecting to all available local programs. Our donation was matched by the agency allowing her to stay in her current apartment while she works on meeting her goals.

Christian Education Update

From Kelly Kuhnhein

This month, we followed along with the congregation as we learned about Jesus calling his disciples and the Sermon on the Mount. The children listened to scripture, read children's books, and explored various concepts through art and activities.

We enjoyed going fishing and making their own fishing poles using magnets and paper clips with paper fish. Each child was encouraged to write or draw on their fish ways they could fish for people which included sharing, praying, loving, and coming to church. The children learned about being the salt of the earth and the light of the world and made salt paintings. We read the popular children's book, *Enemy Pie* by Derek Munson which helped teach the difficult concept of loving our enemies as we follow the way of Jesus.



This month also brought the final day for our beloved sitter, Sara Loving, who has been with us for more than nine years. The children had books for her new baby expected to arrive next month and she blessed our class with the gift of new toys for the Sunday school rooms. Sara has been a fixture in the Sunday school room for many years and will be truly missed. If you would like to send her a card of thanks or gift card to celebrate the birth of her new baby, please send it to Sara Loving.



I look forward to the upcoming season of Lent and continuing to learn and grow with the children. If you would like to volunteer in the new year, please reach out to Kelly Kuhnhein.

The Green Team

I'm Looking Over a Lawn that's Clover

Spring is on the way and so is lawn care. Did you know clover wasn't always considered a weed? Prior to the introduction of broad-leaf herbicides in the 1940s, clover was a valued component of lawn seed mixtures for its ability to fix nitrogen, enrich the soil, and improve turf-grass growth. Then, in the 1950s, a war began on broad-leaf plants. Gardening and agricultural chemical companies, the same ones who create the herbicides we use today, began the campaign. Herbicides tend to have no effect on grasses — but they kill everything else, clovers included. By the 1970s, with aggressive marketing, clover became identified as a weed. Thankfully, now it's becoming a trend for people to switch to clover instead of grass or — more commonly — mixing the two.

Why Switch to or Add Clover:

- **Healthier Soil:** Clover pulls trace minerals into the soil making it much healthier. Healthy soil means both the clover — and the grass around it — are more disease resistant.
- **Self Fertilizing:** While grass needs fertilizer, clover pulls nitrogen from the air into the soil. The clover not only fertilizes itself, but also nearby plants, creating grass that is healthier, greener, and requires less care. No added fertilizer means less money and less labor. The CO² the clover pulls out of the air gives us cleaner air while synthetic fertilizers pollute our waterways which create algae blooms. If fish ingest them, they become diseased. Anyone who eats these fish, can also become ill. Lastly, synthetic fertilizers are produced using large quantities of petroleum and other fossil fuels that add carbon to our atmosphere.

- **Out Competes Weeds:** Clover spreads by secondary roots which gives it a dense root structure. This dense structure helps crowd out broad-leaf plants such as dandelions. According to the Cleveland Clinic, glyphosate-based herbicides used to control lawn weeds is a proven cause of cancer in people and dogs, especially Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
- **Stays Green Spring, Summer and Fall:** Because of the deep roots of clover, it withstands drought much better than grass and will stay green longer, even in some of the cold weather months. This cuts down on the amount of water needed through the growing season which can be a huge savings. Water is our most important natural resource yet 30% of it is used on landscaping in our country.
- **Attracts Beneficial Insects:** If you don't mow the flowers off, they're extremely beneficial to honey bees. It also attracts parasitoid wasps that are harmless to humans but feed on aphids, scales, and whiteflies. They're a great ally in controlling insect pests in your garden.
- **Immune to Dog Urine:** Dog urine kills lawn grasses, but clover stays green and lush.

There are many types of clover to choose from but white clover is best at transporting carbon to fertilize other plants. Unfortunately, it has a slight clumping habit and doesn't do well in shade. Interspersing it with grass eliminates these issues. There can be more grass in the shady areas plus the grass dissipates any clumping habit.



A new hybrid of white clover has come out called, Microclover. Like the name implies, Microclover is shorter, has much smaller clovers, and fewer flowers. It also creates a beautiful, consistent turf as seen in the photo above. It even does well in shade. As a registered hybrid, it is more expensive.

You can find microclover sold at many places. Click [here](#) for one such place. Adding clover to your lawn is a great way to be a good steward of creation.

The Green Team meets the first Wednesday of every month at noon. If you would like more information, please contact Michele Wright at (859) 441-2565.

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure. God covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

— Psalm 147:4-8



Serve God with Singing!

Open choir enrollment for those who love to sing. Come and join us on a Thursday evening, at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, and see if this is where you can serve. We are a fun group, working hard to lend appropriate music to the worship services and taking care of each other as only small groups can within the church. Questions? Contact Toni Sheffer.

Come, let us sing for joy to God; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving and extol our God with music and song.

Psalm 95:1-2

Thanks from...

United Church Homes

On behalf of all those we serve, thank you for your generous pledge payment of \$1,000 to United Church Homes for Affordable Housing. Your continued kindness celebrates the spirit of older adults and helps them enjoy life abundantly as they age. Thank you.

Your support allows residents to live with purpose so they can engage wholeheartedly in the possibilities of life. It provides important social connections and helps to create a safe and sound living community where health and wellbeing are put first.

Your gift provides a warm welcome for all. Not matter the individual, United Church Homes offers inclusive communities for all people including LGBT older adults, minorities, military veterans, low-income individuals and people of all faiths or no faith.

*With Gratitude,
Rev. Dr. Kenneth V. Daniel*



Congratulations to Max Gise!

Our own Max Gise as part of his Northside Trio band, will be playing at Memorial Hall on June 13, 2023 as the pre-concert entertainment for a Pat Metheny concert. Pat Metheny has won 20 Grammy Awards, has been inducted into the Downbeat Hall of Fame, and is considered one of the greatest jazz guitarists in the world. Please let Max know how proud you are of this huge honor and achievement!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Billie Crowder
Suzanne Jones
Cindy Bathiany
Benjamin Hack
Steve McAllister
Nancy Parrott
Eugene Lukjan
Zachary Hurtt
Donna Wilson
Mike Evans
Kemper Fugate
Evelyn Weber
Noah Beimesche
Leland Stevenson
Thierry Paillette

Angie Wells
Audrey Bernhard
Amy Wainscott
Bridgette Luken
Donna Pendery
Christian Mai
Nancy Evans
Terry Lyman
Bud Leftin
Susan Gabbard
Steve Pendery
Rebecca Plummer
Carol Himes
Debbie & Thierry Paillette 2 yrs
Jeffrey & Nancy Pinguely 42 yrs



Schedules for March

Liturgists

March 5 Katie Leftin
 March 12 Barry Petracco
 March 19 Jane Petracco
 March 26 Laura Petracco

Deacons

March 5 Amy Thornton
 March 12 Marie Cunningham
 March 19 Barb Korpik
 March 26 Jean Braun

Ushers

March 5 Amy Thornton
 Nancy Pinguely
 Greg Vogel
 Jay Wainscott

March 12 Marie Cunningham
 Scott Turner
 Jane Petracco
 Carol Himes

March 19 Barb Korpik
 Patti Miller
 Andy Borah
 Steve Weber

March 26 Marcia Storm
 Debbie Paillette
 Thierry Paillette
 Audrey Bernhard

If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

— 1 Peter 4:11 NIV



Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 12,

immediately after worship

We will vote on the following:

- Approval of 2023 Budget
- Approval of revisions to 2018 bylaws
- Approval of a UCC Creation Justice covenant
- Election of new members of the Christ Church Council and Legacy Committee



Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, March. 28 at 11:30 a.m.

Our guest presenter will be Dayna Ritchey, Education and Community Engagement Manager for the Greater Cincinnati Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Her presentation "Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body" will deal with four areas of lifestyle habits associated with healthy aging.

- Cognitive activity
- Diet and nutrition
- Physical health and exercise
- Social engagement

Please join us!

Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by the presentation at noon. **For lunch reservations call Nancy Hunter.**



Memorials

Memorial for Betty Deller

Jim and Linda Gracey
 Edward and Nancy McGuire
 Jennie Fennell Schlosser
 Bill and Donna Wilson

N. Kentucky Youth Group

Sunday, March. 12

5:30-7:30 p.m.

Lakeside Presbyterian Church, 2690 Dixie Hwy., Lakeside Park

Come for one of our regular (but awesome) meetings. A night of fellowship and food. RSVP at: <https://lakeside-church.org/index.php/nkyyouth/>

Thanks to Our Church Family

From Sallie Schmidt

Thanks to everyone for all your kind thoughts, words, and especially for your prayers during my brother's sickness and passing. This has been very hard for me and I really do appreciate just how much you all care. You have all been a blessing to me. Love, Sallie

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:11



Church Council Meeting Notes

1/23/2023

In Attendance: Pastor Ed Goode, Snezana Tenhundfeld, Jen Korpik, Betsy Beimesche, Beckie Borah, Donna Hoffman, Nancy Hunter, Kelly Kuhnhein, Debbie Paillette

• **Gathering/Centering:**

Pastor Ed read David Long-Higgin's poem "Slowly Budding" and "Oh, Snap"

• **Opening Prayer**

• **Approval of Minutes:**
Minutes approved.

• **Congregational Meeting:**

Date set for Sunday, March 5, 2023 (Later changed to March 12)

• **Financial Report:**

Ed presented in Bert's absence. Talked about the 2023 budget and the report for the Annual Meeting. **Report approved.**

• **By-laws Revisions/Changes:**

- Format Change (easier to edit in the future).
- Looked at all the changes that were made.
- Going to send changes to the congregation for questions before the meeting.
- Jen made a motion to present the changes at the Annual Meeting for approval. Debbie seconded, **Motion passed**

• **Mission Team:**

Still collecting items for Brighton Center and Hosea House.

• **Green Team:**

- Read the Covenant commitment that the Green Team would like to present at the Annual Meeting.
- Beckie made a motion that the Council recommends the Covenant commitment be presented at the Annual Meeting making us a Creation Justice Congregation within the UCC. Nancy seconded. **Motion approved.**

• **Nominating Committee:**

Committee has list of names of those willing to serve on Council and Legacy committee.

• **Meeting Closed with Prayer:**

Ed gave us an update on several members that need our prayers.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
— Isaiah 6:8 NIV

Feb. Attendance

	In Person	Online
2/5/23	96	42
2/12/23	99	12
2/19/23	97	14
2/26/23	110	15



Prayer Requests

Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:
Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH

Faye Gately, Jim Gracey, Joy, Genene Lyons, Margi McKenna, Ev & Jack Weber, Don Spaulding, Tom Cox, Marie Shields, Pierce, Barry Bordenkircher, Allan Smille, Jean Lacalley, Amber Schmidt, Bobby Grim, Roman, Lyuda & Natalya Shostak, Tim, John Jr., Sheila Mains, Sue, Judy & Greg Gadd, Kristen Bender, Mike & Laura Randall, Marcia Hosea, Emma Hamann, Lori Collins, Mary Ellen Harvey, Sallie Schmidt and family, Barb Walkenhorst-Derby, Landon Schmidt, Jesse Clayton, Liz Hotz, Bill P., Don Seifert, Raenon Justice, The family of Bonnie Hitch

(Underline indicates request for anonymity)

Changes to the Church Directory

Please contact the office if you have a change for the directory. Michele Wright: 859-441-2565
michele@christchurchft.org

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1</p> <p>12 noon - Green Team 3:30 pm - Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10 am - UCC Clergy 6:30 pm - Choir</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship 11:30 am - Annual Meeting</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 am - SPARK Homeschool</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12 pm - Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p>8</p> <p>3:30 pm - Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10 am - UCC Clergy 6:30 pm - Choir</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 am - SPARK Homeschool</p>	<p>14</p> <p>12 pm - Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous 7 pm - Finance Meeting</p>	<p>15</p> <p>3:30 pm - Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10 am - UCC Clergy 6:30 pm - Choir</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship 11:30 am - Mission Team</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30 am - SPARK Homeschool 6 pm - Executive Council</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12 pm - Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous 6:30 pm - Viva Voices</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 am - Mom's Group 3:30 pm - Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10 am - UCC Clergy 6:30 pm - Choir</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 am - SPARK Homeschool</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11:30 am - Lunch and Learn NO Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous</p>				