

June 2023

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

A Pilgr-image *Through the Sermon on the Mount*

By now you all probably know that we are going to be spending a LOT of time with the Sermon on the Mount from now through mid-November. I have honestly never done a sermon series this long so I am going into it with a bit of fear and trepidation. But I also really feel a deep sense of calling about what the Spirit is going to speak into our lives through this time. In our Open and Affirming Team meetings recently, one of the folks shared about how vital it is that we center ourselves on Jesus through this (and all) time and focus simply on "Following Jesus." No place in the Gospels shows us what that looks like better than the Sermon on the Mount.

But it is going to be a long journey with many steps along the way. So, I invite you to think of it a bit like a pilgrimage. One definition of pilgrimage is "a long journey or search, especially one of exalted purpose or moral significance." That really feels like what our congregational life is going to be like. It is going to be a long journey. It is going to be a search inward and outward, and there is deep purpose and significance for us. God's going to do some work in us if we open ourselves up to what God wants to do!

So, we can go into this in a lot of ways – through worship, through our discipleship groups, on our own, and in something else I am going to offer through the coming months. A way to envision it is as a pilgr-image.



On Sundays and Wednesdays each week, I'll be sending out an email "postcard" from one of the wise teachers from the book. Each "postcard" will be an image that came out of the wisdom of one of the weekly writers along with a short reflection. In addition to them being emailed out, they will also be posted on a mural that will be in the hallway behind the sanctuary, noting the steps along the journey.

However, I hope these are not only postcards "from me" but also please share along the way if there is something where the Spirit spoke to you from each of the chapters. You can write it on a post-it note or print it out and just stick it on the mural.

I am so excited for how God is going to use this journey. I feel there's something special and transformative ahead for us.

Grace, Peace. Love. and Jov.

Pastor Ed

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Ed".

Time Away This Summer

With summer approaching, we felt it would be good to share the times staff members know they'll be away.

- **Pastor Edward Goode**
June 6 - June 13: San Victor, Belize to bless the opening of the community center
June 25 - July 9: Vacation
August - Dates TBD but moving kids back to college
- **Kelly Kuhnhein**
July 8 - July 15: Vacation
- **Toni Sheffer**
August 7 - 18: Vacation
- **Michele Wright**
May 31 - June 7: Vacation

Thanks from the Mai and Rice families

We would like to thank you for your love and support for Sara Mai while she pursued her Master degrees in Arts in Christian Ministry and Christian Leadership/Church Ministries. She just graduated and is serving at a church in Acworth, GA. When God called Sara to ministry after graduating from NKU, it was not easy for her to move to Lynchburg University in Virginia with no job, church or friends there. It was unbearable at times. Your cards, letters, calls and prayers were what got her through it. And the gift cards and donations? Wow, the support was immense and needed for sure! We are also very grateful to the Executive Council for their contribution of educational funds. Having you as our church family fills my heart with unspeakable joy. We are blessed beyond measure! There is no doubt in my mind that your love has helped to shape her into a servant of Christ. Also, a huge thank you to Pastor Ed who visited Sara on May 5th! Julie Mai and family

Pastor Ed's Summer Reads

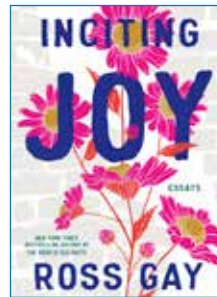
From Pastor Ed

As I have done each year, here are a few books that could be good reads for you for the summer that I have read during the first few months of 2023. All are available as print or ebooks.

Non-fiction:

• **Following the Call** – No surprise here. This book on the Sermon on the Mount will be with us for a while but when I read it for the first time, it just rocked my world. So much wisdom and insight. If you read no other book this year, make it this one.

• **Inciting Joy** by Ross Gay – This is a series of essays about how to literally incite joy in our lives. There are a few essays that aren't great but it is still worth the read as a whole.



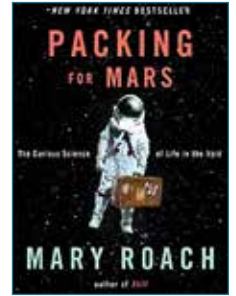
• **Enchantment** by Katherine May – This and the next one have a similar theme – finding and cultivating wonder in our lives. This book is more of a memoir of Ms May's experience during Covid but just beautiful and insightful.



• **Awe: The New Science of Everyday Wonder and How it Can Transform Your Life** by Dacher Keltner – this book was incredible – it combines both personal reflection and scientific research into what the experience of wonder really does within and for us.



• **Stiff** and **Packing for Mars**, both by Mary Roach – If your sense of humor is on the fritz these probably are not for you. They are funny and deeply well researched books into some things that we don't think much about. What happens to some of our bodies when we die (Stiff) and then the other a bunch of things that NASA had to work through in past spaceflight endeavors and what they're working on towards getting to Mars.

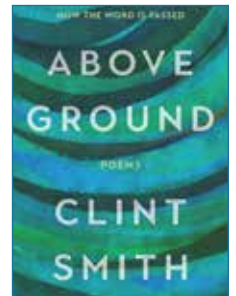


Fiction:

I haven't done a ton of fiction this year so far but I re-read a few John Grisham novels and I did read two books by Gabrielle Zevin that were just wonderful. One is called **The Storied Life of AJ Fikry** and the other is **Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow** – both are a bit mysterious, a bit funny, and honestly a bit edgy.

Others:

I have also spent a good bit of time with poetry this year, notably **Devotions** by Mary Oliver, **Above Ground** by Clint Smith, and several books by the US Poet Laureate, Ada Limón. These are each wonderful and are great for just something to settle before going to bed. I often read just one poem each night before bed for a week to really let it settle into me.



I hope you find something that can be a blessing for you this summer!

Mission Team Update

From Kelly Kuhnhein

The mission team used our typical meeting time this month to help assemble period packs for Church World Service. We really appreciate those of you who stayed after to help with this project. You can find more information about Period Packs in the article written by Susan Gabbard in this issue of *The Guide* on page four. Our team would love to hear from you with any ideas or if you just want to learn more about what we do, please join us on the third Sunday after the service in the conference room. Our next meeting is June 18.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

• Brighton Center:

Thank you for supporting our collection of canned fruit and vegetables.



June/July: Hygiene Items (deodorant/toothpaste/soap/etc.) Don't forget we have a new shelf in the parlor to make donating easier.



• Ronald McDonald House (RMH)

Thank you to those who generously gave of your time to serve a meal at RMH on May 25. We plan to serve lunch in December as we did last year.



The Ronald McDonald House team



Assembling Period Packs for CWS

Christian Education Update

From Kelly Kuhnhein

Our children continued to follow along with the same liturgy being read weekly upstairs in the sanctuary. We discussed walking with Jesus and made a flip flop craft as a reminder.

For our members unable to be in worship, they decorated cards and on Mother's Day, they colored bookmarks and cards while learning about Naomi and Ruth. We also spent a week focused on prayer and the children made a craft to help them when they pray.

I've purchased several new books for the Sunday school room and the children have enjoyed taking books home from our library.

We've enlisted the help of



Sara Loving, our long-time babysitter, came to visit with baby Nate.

several new volunteers to assist throughout the coming months.

Each week renews my faith and energizes my spirit as I experience the Bible through



Our children with Pastor Ed celebrating Pentecost.

the eyes of the children. If you have any ideas or would like to share your time with the children, please reach out to Kelly.



Congratulations to Our Graduates!

High School

• **Ryan Honchell** graduated from Highlands High School and will be attending Western Kentucky University, majoring in Sports Management. Ryan is the grandson of Ken and Carolyn Honchell.

Lauren Thomas is graduating from Highlands High School and will be attending the University of Kentucky to study Marketing. Lauren is the daughter of Shannon and Hunter Thomas.

College

Sara Mai graduated in May from Liberty University with a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry. Sara graduated in May 2021 with a Master of Divinity in Christian Leadership and Church Ministries! Sara is the daughter of Julie and Daniel Mai, and granddaughter of Al Rice.

Matthew Scott Walkenhorst graduated from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in May. Matthew is the grandson of Barb Walkenhorst-Darby.

Kara Wright graduated from NKU in May with a major in Political Science and will be going on to get her Masters in Public Administration. Kara is the daughter of Michele Wright.



Supporting justice with 'Period Packs' donations

From Susan Gabbard

Imagine having to leave your home due to war, violence, political oppression, or natural disaster. Or not being able to go to school or work for a few days each month. These are situations faced by women and teens of childbearing age who have no access to, or cannot afford, menstrual hygiene products. (U.S. government assistance programs do NOT cover these items!)

Christ Church is joining forces with Church World Service (the "School Kit Bag" organization) to alleviate the problem of "period poverty," by assembling Period Packs. These packs "give women and teens living in poverty what they need to feel clean, be healthy, and live with dignity during the menstrual cycle," says Craig Hoffman of UCC's Wider Church Ministries.

The UCC is offering a \$250 matching gift grant to assemble these packs. The Mission Committee pledged \$500 for the project, which meant we received the

grant! This allowed us to assemble 80 packs!!

On Sunday, May 21, church members put these packs together. Kevin Gehres of the Heartland Conference Disaster Team, wrote, "I want to express my appreciation to Christ Church's passion, dedication, and outreach in the creation of the 80 period packs. Blessings on your congregation in this ministry!"

Our Conference Minister, David Long-Higgins, upon hearing of our project, wrote, "This is wonderful news. Thanks for your partnership as together we work to meet the needs of God's people in so many different ways! You and the folks at Christ Church in Fort Thomas are a gift!"

Many thanks to the generous people here at Christ Church for helping us show the love of God to those in need! And thanks to Kelly Kuhnhein and the Mission Committee for their support of this project!

Open and Affirming Update

Greetings from the Open and Affirming (ONA) Group! We want to keep you well informed about where we are as part of the Open and Affirming process. Over the summer, we'll be meeting every other Wednesday. We'll start with learning the vocabulary while listening and asking questions of people who have gone through the ONA process or other training or study. Once we as a group are up to speed with concepts and best practices, we'll be ready to start intentional one-on-one conversations with the wider congregation in the (we hope) early fall.

Some of these conversations may be challenging, but these dialogues are something we hope will bring us all closer as a faith community. ONA is a Biblically grounded process that will benefit us as a congregation by giving us the skills to listen and talk about topics that affect us all as a church family beyond whether or not we choose to make an Open and Affirming Covenant. By having these conversations, we'll be able to determine

how members feel and where we want to head as a congregation. The process is a flexible and thorough one, which allows us to take as much time as we need to reach whatever decisions we make as a congregation. We want everyone to feel respected and be heard as part of a loving church family.

I'm sure people will have questions—we all do at this early point in the process! Please feel free to reach out to members of the ONA Group. Our goal is to make ONA as transparent and accessible of a process as possible. We may not be able to answer every question, but we'll do our best and find someone who can give you an informed response if we can't. My contact information is below. Please feel free to email, call, or text me if you have any questions or comments.

On behalf of the ONA Group and in Christ,
Beckie Borah,
ONA Co-Leader
she/her, LGBTQ+ Ally

San Victor, Belize Mission Team

From Rev. Howard Storm

Your support of the Mission to Belize is much appreciated and many people



you may never meet will benefit because of your love and compassion, Visit Belize and see for yourself.

Please pray for the team going June 6-13. They are Rev. Ed Goode, Rev. Howard Storm, Joy Storm, Andreana Hernandez, and Tammy Wiedinger.

We hope to accomplish much and dedicate the completion of the San Victor Community Center. With the help of God, we will experience a little of the fruit of our labor to help these good people.

Your prayers are important to our success.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Marilyn Chapman	6/01	Betsy Beimesche	6/29
Bert Bathiany V	6/02	Susan McDonald	6/29
Kelsey Thomas	6/02/2007	Ken & Carolyn Honchell	6/04/1966 57 yrs.
Al Rice	6/10	Larry & Donna Stinson	6/05/1976 47 yrs.
Barry Petracco	6/12	Michele & Randall Wright	6/05/1993 30 yrs.
David Huelsman	6/13	Gary & Rebecca Plummer	6/09/1973 50 yrs.
Jeffrey Pinguely	6/21	Joshua & Erin Vogel	6/09/2018 5 yrs.
Michael Luken	6/23/2022	Kevin & Sharon Siple	6/16/1989 34 yrs.
Adam Tenhunfeld	6/24	Snezana & Adam Tenhunfeld	6/17/2011 12 yrs.
Sallie Schmidt	6/28	Bernie & Nancy Barre	6/18/1977 46 yrs.
Russell Laake	6/29/2012	Terri & David Jager	6/25/1983 40 yrs.
Megan Abner	6/29	Jack & Sandra Hurtt	6/25/1988 35 yrs.
Lillian Chapman	6/29	Gregory & Ramel Vogel	6/30/1984 39 yrs.



Schedules for June

Liturgists

- June 4 Jane Petracco
- June 11 Laura Petracco
- June 18 Marcia Storm
- June 25 Carolyn Tyler

Deacons

- June 4 Marie Cunningham
- June 11 Amy Thornton
- June 18 Barb Korpik
- June 25 Jean Braun

Ushers

- June 4 Marie Cunningham
Shelley Kappesser
Steve Kappesser
Jay Wainscott
- June 11 Amy Thornton
Scott Turner
Jane Petracco
Carol Himes
- June 18 Andy Borah
Patti Miller
Nancy Pinguely
Steve Weber
- June 25 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



Memorials

Memorials for Bonnie Hitch

- Melissa Cox
- Al Rice
- John & Pam Rogers
- Barb Walkenhorst-Derby

Memorials for Jim Gracey

- John Alexander
- Carol Bechert
- John & Jane Black
- Rita Byrd
- Melissa Cox
- Ruth Duckworth
- Judy Erschell
- Kathy Hosea
- Bill & Judy Klopp
- Hank & Julie Kraemer
- Marvin & Pat McCord
- Don & Francie Mosser
- Debbie Paillette
- Beverly Pemberton
- Diana Paternoster
- Mike & Laura Randall
- Al Rice
- John & Pam Rogers
- Mike & Bonnie Roth
- Pat & Cindy Roth
- Ruth Rowe
- Larry & Donna Stinson
- Brenda Swan
- Barb Walkenhorst-Derby
- Steve & Pam Weber
- Steve & Sharon Witt

Memorials for Wilma Graves

- Janet and Tony Fago
- Linda Gracey
- Connie Hammond
- Rob & Sandy Kiefer
- Phyllis & Gary Stephens



Thanks to Our Church Family

Dear Church Family and Friends,

I want to thank everyone for the many cards, phone calls, and support during my shoulder replacement surgery and fracture.

A special thank you to the many people that took me to my physical therapy appointments: Jean Braun, Barb Korpik, Mary Hertzman, Susan McDonald, and Donna Stinson.

And a very special thank you goes to Linda Gracey for taking such good care of me for three weeks after my surgery.

*Love and blessings,
Emma Hamann*

There will be no Lunch and Learn in June. It will be back in July.

Speaking of Postcards

Pastor Ed wrote about the postcards from our Sermon on the Mount journey but with summer coming we know that many will be heading out on trips of their own. So please remember to send a postcard to the church with a sentence about where you saw God in your travels. The address is:

15 S Ft Thomas Ave
Ft Thomas, KY. 41075



Church Council Meeting Notes

5/15/2023

In Attendance: Pastor Ed Goode, Snezana Tenhundfeld, Jen Korpik, Betsy Beimesche, Becky Borah, Linda Gracey, Jenny Herrmann, Donna Hoffman, Nancy Hunter, Kelly Kuhnhein, Debbie Paillette, Sallie Schmidt, and Greg Vogel

• **Appreciation Dinner**

The council shared an appreciation dinner for incoming and outgoing Council Members.

• **Gathering/Centering**

Ed read from 1 Corinthians

• **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the previous month's meeting were reviewed. Sallie made a motion to approve the minutes. Nancy seconded the motion. Council voted.

The Minutes were approved.

• **Financial Report**

Linda Gracey reported on behalf of the Finance Committee. The Pledge giving for the previous month has improved. The insurance company covered the \$19,000 cost to fix the elevator.

Report approved.

• **Update on Building Improvements and Maintenance Processes**

- The Elevator has been fixed and is properly functioning We need to continue to have ongoing conversations with Schindler and Duke to get an idea of the cause so hopefully we can prevent it happening in the future.
- Bill Hitch is getting some quotes for a lift in the Narthex for situations where the elevator is not properly functioning.
- We are making progress in the kitchen remodel with repairs to

the industrial dishwasher and are staying within budget.

• **Pastor's Report**

- **Open and Affirming Process:**

The Open and Affirming Team has had two meetings since they reconvened last month. Becky Borah has been selected as the Moderator and Ken Weidinger as the Vice Moderator. The main focus at this time is establishing a direction and the focus as well as exploring the partnership with St. Paul's Church in Alexandria.

- **Green Team:** The Green Team's participation at the Fort Thomas Earth Day festival was well received. The reusable bags were distributed along with information. There are ongoing conversations about solar power. The Council will be further informed once initial quotes are gathered.

- **Time Away:** Pastor Ed will be on a Mission trip to Belize from June 6th-13th. Pastor Ed will also be taking vacation time starting June 25th through the first week of July. Upon his return, he will report back to the Council on any major decisions made during the UCC General Senate Meeting

- **Volunteer Opportunities:**

Serving at the Ronald McDonald House on May 25. Still need volunteers.

- **Relief Mission:** Ken Weidinger has gathered several volunteers for the Western Kentucky Tornado Relief mission trip in early June.

• **Meeting Closed with Prayer:**

May Attendance

	In Person	Online
5/7/23	78	24
5/14/23	100	15
5/21/23	98	20
5/28/23	98	15



Prayer Requests

Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:
Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH

Faye Gately, Joy, Genene Lyons, Margi McKenna, Pierce, Ev & Jack Weber, Don Spaulding, Tom Cox, Marie Shields, 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, Dale Ann Wight, The family of Bonnie Hitch, Chris, Sarah, the family of Jim Gracey, Kim Schnier, David Hosea, the family of Wilma Graves, the family of Nancy Faulkner,
(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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship	5 10 am - UCC Clergy	6 No Study Group 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	7 7 pm - AA Group	8	9	10
11 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship	12 10 am - UCC Clergy	13 No Study Group 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous 7 pm - Finance Meeting	14 6-8 pm - Open & Affirming 7 pm - AA Group	15	16	17
18 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 11:30 am - Mission	19 10 am - UCC Clergy 6 pm - Church Council	20 12 pm - Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	21 7 pm - AA Group	22	23	24
25 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship	26 10 am - UCC Clergy 10 am - Bloom Work Day	27 No Study Group 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	28 6-8 pm - Open & Affirming 7 pm - AA Group	29	30	

Events in black are affiliated with Christ Church
Events in blue are outside groups

No Lunch and Learn in June. Back in July.