

# The Guide

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



CHRIST  
CHURCH UCC

15 South Ft. Thomas Ave.  
Ft. Thomas KY 41075  
Phone: 859-441-2565  
Fax: 859-441-3117

office@christchurchft.org  
www.christchurchft.org  
facebook.com/christchurchucft  
Twitter@ChristChurch\_FT

#### Office Hours:

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

#### Worship Schedule:

Check calendar on back for  
worship, study groups, 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



Photo by Edward Goode

## Table Talk Letter From Pastor Ed and Pastor Amy

In both of our congregations during this Lenten season, we are centering on the table stories of Jesus and how these stories speak to the ways we are called to live as followers of Jesus. So, we wanted to share a bit of “table talk” with you all regarding our family.

As you all know, we have three children. What you may not know, however, is that our daughter Zoë identifies as queer (she shared this in a panel discussion with Christ Church’s Open and Affirming Core Team several months ago), our son Zachary identifies as cisgender hetero (meaning identifies with his birth gender and attraction to opposite gender), and our daughter Eldra (who you formerly heard spoken of as our son Zephan) is transgender. We have a variety-pack of children. All three are supportive of us referring to them in this way and we love, support, and affirm all of them as they are – created beautifully

and uniquely in the image of God. This may come as a surprise to you, but until now it was not our story to share. In mid-February, Eldra chose to come out as a part of the Wyoming High School production of Mamma Mia. We felt it was important to share this with you to avoid confusion as we will now be speaking of and referring to our youngest child using a different name and different pronouns (she/they).

We have been on this journey as a family for many years now which has included much prayer, lots of deep discussions and discernment, working with therapists and other medical professionals, and many “table conversations” as a family. We have not shared this information because our children were not fully “out”, and we needed to honor their choices and their timelines. In fact, it was not until last Fall that they shared this with our extended families.

*Continued on next page*

*Continued from front page*

We share this information with you as a way for us to be more integrated as parents, as pastors, and as people who are seeking to follow Jesus. We have been using one set of pronouns and name at work and a different set of pronouns and name at home AKA “code switching” to respect our child’s privacy and choices and it has been tiring. We are glad that we can live fully and openly as a family now. We are open to conversations or questions you may have but know that we are very much in process and can only share this story from our perspective. Zachary’s, Zoë’s, and Eldra’s stories are theirs to tell, not ours. This is not an off-limits topic and as you know us, we only ask that you approach with curiosity and not judgement, love, and a desire for greater understanding.

This reflection from a book Ed is reading really speaks to us right now and we hope to you as well. It is by Sarah Bessey as she reflects upon her daughter growing up:

*And our children become more themselves every day, living into their own experiences of being born again and again. The first baby I brought home in the mid-2000s is not the same as she was then: as I write this, she’s driving my old minivan, bringing home pamphlets for universities, and clocking in for her shift at the grocery store. She is and she isn’t still the baby with the triangle-mouth I held in my arms. She’s still the kid who dressed up as Darth Vader for Halloween when all the other girls showed up in princess dresses. She’s still the kid who read Roald Dahl books under the covers and wrote stories to swap with her friends and tacked up a life-size poster of the human body in her*

*bedroom to more easily memorize the musculoskeletal system in grade three. And she isn’t that either. She’s who she is now and who she will be, and I will remember and love all the old versions of her even as I love the woman she’s becoming. I can’t lock her into who she was once, I have to stay in step with all of her evolution to know and love her well as she grows and becomes herself.*

Bessey, Sarah, *Field Notes: Practices for an Evolving Faith*, p.51

We are grateful for your love, prayers, and support as we journey through this ever-changing world in which we live and as we continue to listen for God’s still-speaking Spirit in our lives, congregations, and the world.

Grace, Peace, Love, and Joy,

Rev. Drs. Edward Goode and Amy Snow

## 2024 Congregational Annual Meeting

Please plan on attending the **2024 Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 10** immediately following the worship service. The annual report will be available by March 3, both in paper copies and PDF versions. At the meeting, we will have the required actions from the ByLaws of reviewing the 2023 financials and approving the 2024 budget, and also acting on the report of the Nominating Committee in electing those to serve on the Council and the Legacy Committee. In addition, there will be a report from the Open and Affirming Team sharing about next steps for our discernment process together. This report will be included in the annual report as well.

## Green Team Tip of the Month

Warm weather can call us to start some garden cleanup but for the sake of bees, butterflies, moths, and other tiny animals, resist!

They are overwintering in your garden and their numbers are dwindling every year. The Bumble Bee is close to federal protection because their numbers are so low. These tiny animals are instrumental in either pollinating our food crops or eliminating the pests in our gardens.

How do you know when the right time is to clean up debris in your yard and garden? In our area, mid April is usually a good time. Here are some other indicators: Are temperatures consistently in the 50s overnight? Is the grass so long it needs



Photo by Michele Wright

mowed? Are pear and cherry trees in full bloom? These are all good indicators that pollinators have emerged and you can start cutting back perennials and clearing garden debris.



# Christian Education Update

*From Kelly Kuhnhein*

This month, the children started with several weeks of learning about how Jesus taught us to love one another. They made hearts from yarn to remind them of God's unending love and heard stories from the Bible and various children's books to accompany each lesson.

The following weeks brought the beginning of the season of Lent. The children will spend this time learning about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. They planted seeds of grass in a big pot to be kept at church and each took a small cup of soil and seeds home. Children were encouraged to care for their little pots of seed by watering daily and placing somewhere that it would get sun each day. We discussed how to reflect on ways they shined God's light on others and how they could grow closer to God as they care for their seeds.



We hope to encourage their faith and sharing love with others as we move through the coming weeks.

We will celebrate Easter with our annual egg hunt following the

service on Easter Sunday, weather permitting.

If you are interested in helping, **please contact Kelly.**

# Mission Team Update

## Room at the Table

God has a sense of humor and good timing as our team met after worship on February 18. We had just spent the morning hearing about the feeding of the multitude and how there's always room at the table in the Kingdom of God and lo and behold came a last minute request from Hosea House for us to help out in just a few weeks! So, we are jumping in to help — thank you to each of you who has signed up and is helping! Thank you for doing your part to make room at the table!



## Collecting for Brighton Center

Thank you also for your generosity around feminine hygiene items in February! Those will be delivered to Brighton Center at the end of the month and we'll move into our next collection... canned spaghetti like SphagettiOs®, etc. We'll be collecting those for the months of March and April. Thank you for your ongoing generosity in helping!

## March 10 - Annual Meeting

Part of our annual meeting agenda will be our team sharing about the opportunities ahead to serve.

We have heard from several groups in our local communities that we want to share about and see how we can be partners in ministry with them. So please plan to attend the meeting on the 10!

## April 14 - Hygiene Kits

Mark your calendar for Sunday, April 14 as we will be packing up hygiene kits that day to be sent to Church World Service. Nothing you need to do other than show up and be willing to help pack the boxes. This will be a part of our morning celebrating Kelly Kuhnhein's ministry with Christ Church — fitting that we will be doing a project of sharing with all that Kelly has shared with our congregation.



## Lunch and Learn

**Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 11:30 a.m.**

All aboard! Join us as we learn about the Cincinnati Southern Railway, the only major railway in the United States built by a municipality and until recently, owned by the City of Cincinnati. Along the way, hear about what it took to build the railway and the other lines that lease and use the rails today. Our guest presenter will be Mr. David Traut, docent from the Cincinnati Museum Center.

**Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by the presentation at noon. Reservations are required for lunch. For lunch reservations, contact Nancy Hunter.**

## Help Needed

Areas inside the church need **scraping repairs**. Barry Petracco has volunteered to do the patching and Bert Bathiany has volunteered to paint. If you have the time and would like to scrape, please contact Michele Wright in the office at 859-441-2565 or Linda Gracey, 859-380-1588. Thank you!

## Pastor Ed's Review Corner

Ok – full disclosure here...I am generally suspicious of any movie or TV show marketed as “Christian.” It is not because I am unsupportive of people sharing the Gospel message in these media but because they usually are pretty schlocky. Poor acting, poor film making, etc. Another way of putting it is that I’m a bit of a snob when it comes to movies and shows. So, when Nancy Pinguely shared in the 9 a.m. Bible Study a few years ago about a new TV show called *The Chosen*, I pretty much wrote it off. (I’ve since apologized to Nancy for that). Then about a year ago, Amy started watching the show and told me that I needed to watch. But (Nancy, maybe this will make things feel better), I kind of blew Amy off as well for the same objections. But then several months later, I decided to just give the first episode a try. And, well...I was wrong. It is a really good show and does an excellent job “playing with” the back stories of the followers of Jesus.

Here’s the premise. The show doesn’t seem to be as much about Jesus as much as it is about his followers because every one of those we meet in the Gospel stories about Jesus is given much more of a backstory than what we get in the Gospels. Remember, it wasn’t easy to write things at the time of Jesus so they didn’t spend a lot of time on details – the Gospels are a lot of “Jesus went here” “Jesus did this” “Jesus said this” and not a lot else. I can only imagine how hard it was to write on papyrus scrolls and ancient forms of ink. Yikes.

Back to the show. The show is basically a modern day “midrash” – a term that might not be familiar. Midrash is a Jewish practice of trying

to “read between the lines” where rabbis would take these ancient stories and play a bit with what isn’t said. Midrash was practiced to try to help in understanding. It was never lifted up as being the same as the original stories but they helped to try to get at motivations and the things unsaid. *The Chosen* is essentially doing the same thing. The writers are trying to get to a deeper understanding of why these people just responded when Jesus said, “follow me” and also trying to make connections between what can feel like very disconnected stories in the Gospels. One specific thing I have deeply appreciated is that they have intentionally centered on the women who were also followers of Jesus. The Gospels hint at this but this depiction really goes deep with it showing Jesus’ deep affirmation of their role and place with his ministry.

I don’t want to get into spoilers if you haven’t watched but it has been fascinating to join in this bit of midrash/play. As several in the 9 a.m. group have shared, these depictions have really helped to deepen understandings of the disciples as people just like us who have the baggage of our lives, varying motivations for action, and respond in our own unique ways. Again, it is important to remember that much of what is depicted is fictional and I’ve been working with our groups to help point out what is in the Gospels and what is not.

The episodes are all available for free at <https://www.angel.com/watch/the-chosen> and also on many of the major streaming services. You can also just jump in with either our 9 a.m. Sunday or 12 p.m. Thursday groups as we watch and discuss them together.

# N. KY Youth Events

**Hygiene Kit Service Night**  
**Sunday, March 3, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Lakeside Presbyterian Church**  
**Carriage House**  
**2690 Dixie Hwy., Lakeside Park**

We need your help to make a difference! Take part in a special service project by assembling health kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. RSVP at: <https://bit.ly/NKYouth311>.

**Youth Gathering**  
**Sunday, March 10, 5:30-7:30**  
**Lakeside Presbyterian Church**  
**Carriage House**  
**2690 Dixie Hwy., Lakeside Park**

Join us for a regular (but always awesome) meeting of the Northern Kentucky Youth Group. We'll gather for dinner, games, a special lesson, and fellowship. We can't wait to have you join us! Register at <https://bit.ly/NKYouth311>.



**Bowling Night**  
**Sunday, March 17, 5:30-7:30**  
**Strike and Spare**  
**Erlanger, KY**

Hit the lanes for an evening of bowling (and some special prizes)! Register for \$10 at: <https://bit.ly/NKYBowlingNight>.

**Prayer Night**  
**Sunday, March 24, 5:30-7:30**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Fort Thomas, KY**

The season of Lent, the 40 days of prayer and preparation before Easter, is coming to a close. Share a special evening of prayer and join us for dinner as we prepare our spirits for the arrival of Easter. Register at <https://bit.ly/EveningofPrayer>.



## Art in the Parlor

Be sure and check out the beautiful paintings in the Parlor. They were done by the women's art group that meets here every Tuesday afternoon. Several were done by our own Nancy Hunter. What a gift it is to be able to share in the talents of others!

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

Suzanne Jones  
Cindy Bathiany  
Benjamin Hack  
Steve McAllister  
Eugene Lukjan  
Zachary Hurtt  
Donna Wilson  
Mike Evans  
Kemper Fugate  
Noah Beimesche  
Leland Stevenson  
Thierry Paillette  
Angie Wells  
Audrey Bernhard

Amy Wainscott  
Donna Pendery  
Christian Mai  
Bridgette Luken  
Nancy Evans  
Terry Lyman  
Bud Leftin  
Steve Pendery  
Susan Gabbard  
Rebecca Plummer  
Carol Himes  
  
Debbie & Thierry Paillette  
Jeffrey & Nancy Pinguely



## Memorials

### **Memorial for Evie Weber**

Mark & Susan Bezanson  
 Rob & Gayle Bolton  
 Gordon & Jean Braun  
 Dan & Mary Draper  
 Dwight & Elizabeth Kollmeier  
 Doug & Patti Miller  
 Mike & Laura Randall  
 Michael & Mary Ann Romito  
 Carl & Mary Schwierjohann  
 Larry & Donna Stinson  
 Steve & Beth Zaugg

### **Memorial for Al Rice**

Gordon & Sarah Arey  
 Jim & Gayle Davis  
 Joe & Krista Hack  
 Bill Hitch  
 Judy Land  
 Doug & Patti Miller  
 Mike & Laura Randall  
 Ruth Rowe  
 Harold & Phyllis Taylor

### **Memorial for Judy Robinson**

Bill Hitch

### **Memorial for Billie Crowder**

Bill Hitch

### **Memorial for Bev Erschell**

Bill Hitch

### **Memorial for Bonnie Jones**

Bill Hitch

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*  
 — John 14:27



## Thank You

A very special thank you to **Joe Stevenson** for removing the dead shrubbery in front of the church. Joe also takes care of mowing the church grounds. **Thank You, Joe!**

A special, warm thank you to **Patti Miller** who has made home-made bread each week for communion! Her house must smell wonderful! Yum! **Thank you, Patti!**

Dear Christ Church Family,  
 I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your prayers during my recent surgery. Your love and support have meant the world to me. I truly believe your prayers played a significant role in my smooth recovery. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful church family. Thanks so much,  
 Jen Korpik

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

— 1 Thessalonians 5:11

## Lost and Found

Don't forget if you've left anything in the church, you may find it in our lost and found basket located in the Parlor. It's on the table against the wall on the left as you come in. Thank you!



## Schedules for March

### **Liturgists**

March 3 Bert Bathiany  
 March 10 Jean Braun  
 March 17 Janet Fischer  
 March 24 Donna Hoffman  
 March 31 Shelley Kappesser

### **Deacons**

March 3 Marie Cunningham  
 March 10 Barb Korpik  
 March 17 Jack Hurtt  
 March 24 Greg Vogel  
 March 31 Marie Cunningham

### **Ushers**

March 3 Patti Miller  
 Nancy Pinguely  
 Jeff Pinguely  
 Andy Borah  
 March 10 Mike Evans  
 Shelley Kappesser  
 Steve Kappesser  
 Jay Wainscott  
 March 17 Mike Evans  
 Patti Miller  
 Carol Himes  
 Andy Borah  
 March 24 Patti Miller  
 Debbie Paillette  
 Thierry Paillette  
 Audrey Bernhard  
 March 31 Scott Turner  
 Ellen Turner  
 Jane Petracco  
 Jean Braun



# Church Council Meeting Notes

## 2/19/2024

**In Attendance:** Pastor Ed Goode, Snezana Tenhundfeld, Bert Bathiany, Betsy Beimesche, Beckie Borah, Jenny Herrmann, Donna Hoffman, Nancy Hunter, Debbie Paillette, and Greg Vogel

- **Gathering/Centering**

Snezana's reflections on her trip to New York and prayer.

- **Approval of Minutes from Jan.** Minutes approved.

- **Financial Report**

Bert was not in attendance, so the Council briefly discussed the report. Will vote to approve at the next meeting.

- **Council/Legacy Committee Nominations**

- The Nominating Committee was formed with Nancy Hunter, Betsy Beimesche, Gordon Braun and Katie Leftin. Nancy reported Marcia Storm would be willing to serve the remainder of her term (1 year) and they are still in need of someone to fill Betsy's position (2-year term).

- Nancy reported that Andy Luken and Larry Stinson agreed to another term on the Legacy Committee so there are no vacancies.

- **New Sound System**

The company has been notified about the issues with the hearing aid assistance and a technician will be in this week to assess the problem.

- **Christian Education**

Debbie reported a search committee for Kelly's replacement has been formed and will meet later in the week.

- **Building and Grounds**

- **Update on Kitchen-** The dishwasher is operational but will need to be hooked up. Jay Wainscott agreed to help.

- **Update on Siding and Stonework for office-** Greg reported there is a bid for the stonework and hardy board installation but parts of the bid concerned him. He is going to reach out to the contractor for more clarity. A meeting is scheduled to discuss all the construction projects next Monday.

- **Outside sign-** Linda Gracey has contacted the City of Fort Thomas to get permission to get a new electronic sign to replace the one we currently have. That sign's message is unable to be changed due to the condition/age of the letters and holders

- **Open and Affirming (ONA)**

Beckie was not in attendance. Donna and Jen gave a brief update saying the group was meeting 2/21/2024 and there will be a report for the Annual Meeting.

- **Worship**

Donna reported that they are in the process of designing new paraments/banners for the sanctuary.

- **Missions**

Christ Church will be serving at the Hosea House Saturday, March 2 to fill in for a team that had to cancel. Please see a Mission Team member if you are willing to help.

- **Meeting Closed with Prayer**

## Feb. Attendance

	In Person	Online
2/4/24	92	12
2/11/24	80	19
2/18/24	89	30
2/25/24	103	25

## Help with Fellowship Time

In order to have breakfast available during Sunday Fellowship time, volunteers are needed.

For more information, please contact **Jenny Herrmann**.



## Prayer Requests

**Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:**  
 Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH  
 Jack Weber, Chris, Gary Kennedy, Kent, the family of Evie Weber, the family of Al Rice, Mike and Laura Randall, Gary Plummer, Stacey Seiter, Bonnie, Daryl, Susan Snyder, the family of Bonnie Jones, Susan Gabbard, Carolyn Ward, Beth Caby, Erin, Nancy H.

(Underline indicates request for anonymity)

Please call the office with changes.  
 (859) 441-2565



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>9 am</b>–Adult Discipleship  <b>10:00 am</b>–Fellowship  <b>10:30 am</b>–Children’s Christian Education  <b>10:30 am</b>–Worship</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>10 am</b> – Bloom Homeschool</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>1:30 pm</b>– Art Group  <b>7 pm</b>– Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>10 am</b> – UCC Clergy  <b>12 pm</b>–Green Team  <b>3 pm</b>–Small Group  Zoom Link is: <a href="http://bit.ly/ccwednesday">bit.ly/ccwednesday</a>  <b>7 pm</b>– AA Group</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>12 pm</b> – Study Group  <b>6:30 pm</b> – Choir practice</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>
<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>9 am</b>–Adult Discipleship  <b>10:00 am</b>–Fellowship  <b>10:30 am</b>–Children’s Christian Education  <b>10:30 am</b>–Worship</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>10 am</b> – Bloom Homeschool  <b>7 pm</b> – Survivors of Suicide</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>1:30 pm</b>– Art Group  <b>7 pm</b>– Overeaters Anonymous  <b>7 pm</b> – Finance Meeting</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>10 am</b> – UCC Clergy  <b>3 pm</b>–Small Group  Zoom Link is: <a href="http://bit.ly/ccwednesday">bit.ly/ccwednesday</a>  <b>7 pm</b>– AA Group</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>12 pm</b> – Study Group  <b>6:30 pm</b> – Choir practice</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>
<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>9 am</b>–Adult Discipleship  <b>10:00 am</b>–Fellowship  <b>10:30 am</b>–Children’s Christian Education  <b>10:30 am</b>–Worship  <b>11:30 am</b>–Mission Team</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>10 am</b> – Bloom Homeschool  <b>6 pm</b> – Church Council</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>1:30 pm</b>– Art Group  <b>7 pm</b>– Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>10 am</b> – UCC Clergy  <b>3 pm</b>–Small Group  Zoom Link is: <a href="http://bit.ly/ccwednesday">bit.ly/ccwednesday</a>  <b>7 pm</b>– AA Group</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>12 pm</b> – Study Group  <b>6:30 pm</b> – Choir practice</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>
<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>9 am</b>–Adult Discipleship  <b>10:00 am</b>–Fellowship  <b>10:30 am</b>–Children’s Christian Education  <b>10:30 am</b>–Worship</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>10 am</b> – Bloom Homeschool</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>11:30 am</b> – Lunch and Learn  <b>1:30 pm</b>– Art Group  <b>7 pm</b>– Overeaters Anonymous</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>9:30 am</b>– Mom’s Group  <b>10 am</b> – UCC Clergy  <b>3 pm</b>–Small Group  Zoom Link is: <a href="http://bit.ly/ccwednesday">bit.ly/ccwednesday</a>  <b>7 pm</b>– AA Group</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>12 pm</b> – Study Group  <b>6:30 pm</b> – Choir practice</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>
<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>9 am</b>–Adult Discipleship  <b>10:00 am</b>–Fellowship  <b>10:30 am</b>–Children’s Christian Education  <b>10:30 am</b>–Worship</p>						