

The Guide

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



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/christchurchuccft
Twitter @ChristChurch_FT

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 Christian Education

Toni Sheffer,
Music Director/Organist

Max Gise
Guitarist

Talia Zoll
Vocalist

Jeff Searcy
Custodian

Barb Walkenhorst Derby
Bookkeeper

Michele Wright,
Communications Director/
Church Administrator

Rev. Dr. David V. Schwab
Pastor Emeritus

Living the Way of Jesus *Through the Sermon on the Mount*

You may have noticed the different bulletin covers over the last several months as we have been exploring what The Sermon on the Mount says about seeking to Live the Way of Jesus. As we have come to our final bulletin cover variant, I wanted to reflect a bit upon what each of them spoke to me about this Way and of where we are as a community of faith.

The first was a simple one – it was just an ordinary path photographed when I was out at sunrise with Scout. I wasn’t anywhere exotic or unique – just about two miles from my house. This speaks of how the Way of Jesus is lived out right where we are, in the everyday things of our lives.



The second was a corridor at the monastery we visited in Quebec during the summer. I loved the colors and the artistry of this hallway but I also loved the fact that this monastery was continuing to follow the centuries old path that had been set before them. It speaks to me that this Way of Jesus is deeply rooted in those who have



come before us in faith and that we are continuing what they have first lived out. The other is that this path, while it can be challenging at times, is also beautiful for it is God’s way for us.

This nature path at sunrise reminds me that this path is how God created us to live, just as God created us as a part of this beautiful creation. It isn’t that this is some new thing that God came up with but instead that living in these ways as individuals and as community is who we are supposed to be. This path isn’t supposed to be unfamiliar but like we are finding a Way to walk that just fits who we are.



The next was this elevated walkway over some pretty marshy ground at the Manassas National Battlefield in Virginia. The morning Scout and I hiked out there, I had not seen anyone else out at that time. But when I came to this walkway, I saw footprints that were coming my direction. Yet, no one else had crossed my path.



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Now, I'm not saying there was a ghost or anything but here's what I see in this for us...the Holy Spirit may not always be evident but the Spirit is moving in all kinds of ways along the way of Jesus that we are seeking to walk. Sometimes we see the evidence of the Spirit, sometimes not. But the Spirit is always moving, always speaking.

The final one is from a few weeks ago at Rowe Woods in Cincinnati. While the Autumn colors are beautiful, they are a reminder



of the cycles of life that we are all a part of and that we are moving from the vibrancy and growth of Spring and Summer into the dying and stilling of Autumn and Winter with the promise of new life still to come. The cycles around us are the same as the cycles we see in the witness of Scripture – birth, life, death, resurrection, birth, life, death, resurrection. This is the Way of Jesus – being born to new life, living that life, dying to self, and eventually resurrection both in this life and the life to come. This is the Way.

So, as we come to the close of this series and also in the midst of our Stewardship time, reflect upon where you are along the Way of Jesus. How has Jesus met you along the way? How are you working to keep journeying the Way? How are you supporting the work of our common ministry in order that others may be drawn to this Way?

Grace, Peace, Love, and Joy,

Pastor Ed



Holiday Walk

Sunday, Dec. 3 • 4-7:30 p.m.

During the annual Ft. Thomas Holiday Walk, we will have music in the sanctuary by the Immanuel Student String Quartet.

We will be providing barbecue sliders, coffee, and hot chocolate. Please contact **Jean Braun** or **Linda Gracey** if you can help.

Christmas Gifts for Children!

You are invited to provide gifts for children with our local mission partner church, Washington UCC. The program gives each child an outfit (including underwear, socks, hat, gloves) and a toy. Starting November 12, you will see Christmas trees in the narthex and in the sanctuary with tags that list a child's name and the requested gifts. Please take a tag and a plastic bag, which will be near the trees. Then place your gifts, unwrapped, in the bag, tape your tag to the bag and return it to the conference room no later than December 3. Please contact **Melissa Cox** with any questions. Thanks!



Don't Miss "The Letter"

**November 12 at 6:30 p.m.
in Hoffman Hall**

The Christ Church Green Team will be showing a special screening of "The Letter." The film features Pope Francis and environmental champions of different faiths from around the world. Pope Francis wrote an "encyclical letter—a short book popes write—called *Laudato Si'*. It encourages us to see how "everything is connected."

The way we treat the Earth, our

common home, is all a reflection of how we treat each other. Caring for each other means caring for the home we share. This viewing will be open to both our church and the community. Please consider bringing someone with you. Light refreshments will be available.

For more information, go to <https://www.theletterfilm.org> For questions about the event, call the office at 859-441-2565.

Christian Education Update

From Kelly Kuhnhein

The children continue to explore different parts of the Sermon on the Mount.

Themes included forgiveness, worry, serving others, and working to not be quick to judge others. The children made worry/prayer stones from polymer clay with their thumbprint to remind them to go to God when they have a worry or need. We talked about focusing on the needs of others rather than our own



material needs and identified the difference through cutting and pasting pictures.

November is a special month where we focus on our many blessings and giving thanks to God. It provides a time to slow

down and think of all we have prior to the busy holiday season. Planning has begun for the season of Advent and the many activities we love in Sunday school during that time. The children will again participate in a Christmas Nativity program, but this year it will occur on the morning of Christmas Eve during our Sunday morning service. It is always a joy!

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

Mission Team Update

From Kelly Kuhnhein

The mission team is busy preparing for upcoming events and invites you to sign up to help where you are able. There are many ways to assist including purchasing boxed/bagged mashed potatoes, serving at Hosea House or Ronald McDonald House, and Prepare Affair. We need volunteers for each of the upcoming events to make them a success. The team is diligently working on ways you may help children this holiday season at Washington UCC as well. Please see the information below and determine how you might get involved.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES



• **Prepare Affair:**
Prepare Affair brings together volunteers to help elderly and disabled homeowners prepare their homes for the winter. The

event will be **Saturday, November 18 from 8:30 a.m. - Noon** with lunch to follow at the church. Those helping will meet at the church and then go out to homes. You are encouraged to bring tools (rakes/leaf blower), work gloves, and we will need a few volunteers to assist with transporting a ladder for gutter cleaning. For questions, please contact **Melissa Cox**. Please register at **www.pwchomerepairs.org/prepare-affair** (click on Volunteer Registration and complete the form using Christ Church UCC as the Volunteer Team Name)



• **Brighton Center:**
We are working on a goal of 2,000 bags/boxes of mashed potatoes. Please help us reach this goal!
– **October/November: Boxed mashed potatoes**

We have an additional shelf in the parlor to make donations.

- **Hosea House:**
Our next date to serve is December 10 and there are many ways to offer your support. You can sign up to bring brownies, assist with picking up food from Kroger, prep the meal, or serve. Please follow the link to sign up: **www.bit.ly/hosea12**
- **Washington UCC:**
The team is working to determine the best ways to support the children and families served by WUCC this holiday season. Look for more details on how you might help in the weekly bulletin and emails.
- **Ronald McDonald House:**
Ronald McDonald house provides a home for critically ill children and their families. We will serve lunch there **Wednesday, December 27, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.** Must be 16 years or older. For questions, please contact **Barb Korpik**. Use this link to sign up: **www.bit.ly/rmhchristchurch**

Oct. Attendance

	In Person	Online
10/1/23	90	10
10/8/23	76	30
10/15/23	67	15
10/22/23	79	21
10/29/23	86	19



Prayer Requests

Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:
Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH

Joy, Genene Lyons, Pierce, Ev & Jack Weber, Tom Cox, Marie Shields, Barry Bordenkircher, 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, Sallie Schmidt and family, Barb Walkenhorst-Derby, Landon Schmidt, Jesse Clayton, Bill P., Don Seifert, Raenon Justice, the family of Bonnie Hitch, Kim Schnier, Chris, the family of Wilma Graves, the family of Nancy Faulkner, David Hosea, Scott, Stacey Seiter, Jeff McCall, Kelly Greenwalt, Kristin Bailey, Jamie, Jenny Holek, Nancy McLane, Mike & Sheila Smith, the family of Margi McKenna, John Fugate, the family of Judy Robinson, the family of John Neumaier, Andrew, Howard Storm, the family of Faye Gateley, Marshall Gantt, Sophia, Carolyn Tyler, Shane, Parker, Dave, Jane Cox, the family of Lillian Chapman, the family of Steve and Lesley Ann Gracey, the family of Billie Crowder

(Underline indicates request for anonymity)

Please call the office with changes.



Because of you (and the Holy Spirit), the church changes lives

In the coming days, you'll be receiving a packet of information from the church about our commitments for the year ahead.

Much of what we share in there is a celebration of how you have allowed the Holy Spirit to work through you to be a part of God's life-changing work. I am so grateful for your commitment in your time, your energies, your giftedness, your resources, and simply your selves to the work of God in this past year.

Take some time with the resources you will be receiving in the mail and prayerfully reflect upon your commitment in the year ahead.

Maybe pray this simple prayer over it and around your decision.

Lord, thank you for your Holy Spirit working in and through me and through us to change lives in this past year. Guide me in what you call me to share in the year ahead and guide us all as we listen for your still-speaking Spirit in our lives, in our church, and in the world. Amen.

Online commitment form:
Either follow this link,
<https://bit.ly/ccucc2024>
or scan the QR code below.



Christmas Chili Potluck

Sunday, December 17

Hoffman Hall

Immediately after the service.

Join your church family for lunch. Please bring your favorite chili in a crock pot. The church will supply sides, drinks and

desserts. Helpers always appreciated!

Please let Jenny Herrmann know if you'll be bringing chili.

Blue Sunday Service – Dec. 3

Please bring in or email photos to the office from past family and friend celebrations that may bring both a tear and a smile.

Questions, please contact Michele Wright at the office: (859) 441-2565

Questions About Israel and Palestine?

**Wednesday, November 8
7:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
220 S. Fort Thomas Ave.**

We have all been struggling to understand the situation taking place in Israel and Palestine.

Dr. Dean Nicholas will be doing a presentation regarding his study and experiences in the Holy Land and also respond to questions you may have. Dr. Nicholas, is the head of Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy and has a PhD in Hebrew Studies from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. He will share from his study and experiences of over 40 visits to the Holy Land taking groups of students and adults to learn about the complex history of the different groups that call these lands Holy.

He has developed significant relationships with Jews, Muslims, and Christians, who reside in both Israel and Palestine. His work in the region focuses on the history and different perspectives of the diverse people in the region.

Open and Affirming Update

*From Beckie Borah,
ONA Group Leader*

In September, the ONA Core Group concluded our training phase and started *One-on-One Conversations: Graceful Engagement* with members of the congregation.

We met on October 11 to check in and see how the conversations were progressing and pick more members to interview. We're concentrating our efforts on members who regularly participate in worship and activities. Please reach out if you'd like to be interviewed sooner than later. Our tentative plan is to keep the conversations going through the beginning of the calendar year with a target date of mid-February for finishing up the interviews. Because we've had a number of team members on vacation and

a few illnesses, we've spaced out our meetings.

So far team members have reported the conversations have been very cordial and we're finding out about the variety of views people have regarding LGBTQ+ issues and where they see the congregation wanting to go. We've also identified subjects members would like to explore, or about which they want to be better informed, such as what the Bible says about gender and sexuality, the history and structure of the UCC, and "What are all the letters (LGBTQIA+) about?" Our next scheduled meeting is November 1, 2023

If you have any questions about our ONA Process, please contact **Beckie Borah**.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Jack Gise
Melissa Cox
Krista Hack
Shannon Thomas
Andrew Borah
Karen Robinson
Kyle Huelsman
Alex Petracco
Beverly Erschell
Jim Korpik

Janice Morris
Gary Hunter
Stephanie Laake
Dorothy Lyman
Shelley Kappesser
David Jager
Ken Honchell
Carolyn Cook
Julie & Daniel Mai

33 yrs.



Memorials

Memorial for Bonnie Hitch
Adult Sunday School Class

Memorial for Judy Robinson
Nancy Hunter
Lisa & Greg Mettens

Memorial for Faye Gateley
Fran & Steve McAllister

Memorials for Lillian Chapman
Ruth Rowe
Barb Stinnett
Linda Gracey
Class of 1960-Charlene Rasche



Congratulations

Congratulations to Steve Gracey, the General Counsel of TriHealth, who was the CLO (Cincinnati Chief Legal Officer) 2023 Winner. Steve is the son of Linda Gracey and the late Jim Gracey

Congratulations to Abby and Ryan Vogel on the birth of Cory William on October 9! Cory weighed in at 8 lbs. 2 ozs. Welcoming him are big brother, Colt, and grandparents, Ramel & Greg Vogel



Schedules for November

Liturgists

Nov. 5 Barry Petracco
Nov. 12 Marcia Storm
Nov. 19 Carolyn Tyler
Nov. 26 Scott Turner

Deacons

Nov. 5 Jack Hurtt
Nov. 12 Jean Braun
Nov. 19 Greg Vogel
Nov. 26 Barb Korpik

Ushers

Nov. 5 Jack Hurtt
Shelley Kappesser
Steve Kappesser
Audrey Bernhard
Nov. 12 Jean Braun
Scott Turner
Jane Petracco
Carol Himes
Nov. 19 Greg Vogel
Debbie Paillette
Thierry Paillette
Mike Evans
Nov. 26 Barb Korpik
Nancy Pinguely
Jeff Pinguely
Andy Borah

Lunch and Learn

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

Our guest presenter will be Ms. Carrie Harmes, director at Cincinnati Recycling and Reuse Center. She will explain the organization's mission to revolutionize how people think about "things" and to provide a place where almost anything can be reused or recycled. The Hub also provides a space to shop for free gently used or new items.



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



N. KY Youth Events

● **Sun., Nov. 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**
Lakeside Presbyterian Church Carriage House

Join us for a meeting of dinner, games, learning, and fellowship.
[Sign up at this link.](#)

● **Sun., Nov. 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**
Lakeside Presbyterian Church Carriage House

A dinner party is planned as we cook a delicious meal together!
[Sign up at this link.](#)

● **Sun., Nov. 19, 2-4:00 p.m.**
Underground Railroad Freedom Center

50 E. Freedom Way, Cincinnati
We'll learn about local history and ways that faith has helped God's people in the struggle for freedom.
[Sign up at this link.](#)

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



Church Council Meeting Notes

10/16/2023

In Attendance:

Snezana Tenhundfeld, Jen Korpik, Bert Bathiany, Betsy Beimesche, Beckie Borah, Jenny Herrmann, Donna Hoffman, Nancy Hunter, Kelly Kuhnhein, and Sallie Schmidt

• *Gathering/Centering*

Noticing: A Switch Flipped (from Ed's blog)

• *Approval of Minutes from Sept.* **Minutes approved.**

• *Financial Report*

Expenses are still lower than budgeted but giving is down \$7000 for the year. Budget will not change much for 2024. Since Kelly is going half time, savings from the reduced salary will help the shortfall. Stewardship campaign to begin in November. **Report approved.**

• *New Sound System*

- Ed sent a detailed proposal to the council about an upgrade to the church's sound system along with a YouTube video explanation of the current system and its problems and the proposed changes.
- Bert explained the system would have a wireless component for hearing aids and that speakers would also be placed in the Narthex and Hoffman Hall.
- The cost would be approximately \$15,000. Funds would come from memorial donations and Cabaret Night a few years ago.
- Jenny made a motion to go ahead

with the purchase of the new sound system. Sallie seconded it.

Motion passed.

• *Update on Kitchen*

- **Dishwasher:** Still not quite operational. Wires need to be upgraded and new chemicals need to be purchased at the cost of \$770-1500. Hobart will need to inspect unit when work is completed for the warranty.
- **Appliances:** 2 of the 3 appliances that were purchased after the closing of Johnson school were tested. The 2-door refrigerator is operational but the triple freezer turned on but didn't get cold (needs coolant?). We discussed getting someone to see what it would take to get it operational and then selling it as is because it will not fit in the kitchen.
- **Project Manager:** Nancy felt with all the projects going on, a project manager is needed to coordinate it all. We are going to ask for volunteers from the church. Motion approved.

• *Open and Affirming (ONA)*

- Beckie reported that the ONA team continues to have one-on-one conversations with members of the church, getting a wide variety of responses and suggestions. We plan to continue them for the next couple months and report our findings in February.
- One recurring theme is the need to teach the history of the UCC and explain its by-laws.

- Another theme is the need to look closer at what the Bible really says. Maybe having a Bible study during Lent.
- Beckie was talking to the members of St. Paul UCC in Alexandria about their process. They discussed finding movies, lectures and programs that help answer some questions the congregations are having. If you would like to have a conversation with one of the ONA team, or have questions regarding the ONA process, please reach out to Beckie Borah.

• *Planning Grief and Loss Sunday during Advent*

Kelly said that there would be a "Blue Sunday" service on November 5 and the congregation will be asked to submit old family photos of Christmas celebrations.

• *Missions*

- With Kelly stepping down as the Mission Coordinator, the Mission Team is absorbing some of her duties. Ed will serve as the staff liaison/point person for the Mission Team for the time being.
- There will be plenty of ways to serve in the next few months.
 - Serving at Ronald McDonald house
 - Serving at Hosea House
 - Buying and organizing gifts for Washington UCC

• *Meeting Closed with Prayer*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 All Saints Day 10 am - UCC Clergy 6-8 pm - Open & Affirming 7 pm - AA Group	2 6:30 pm - Choir practice	3	4
5 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship	6 10 am - Bloom Homeschool	7 12 pm - Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	8 10 am - UCC Clergy 12 pm - Green Team 7 pm - AA Group	9 6:30 pm - Choir practice	10	11
12 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship 6:30 pm - Film - "The Letter"	13 10 am - Bloom Homeschool	14 12 pm - Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous 7 pm - Finance Meeting	15 10 am - UCC Clergy 6-8 pm - Open & Affirming 7 pm - AA Group	16 6:30 pm - Choir practice	17	18 8:30 am - Prepare Affair
19 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship 11:30 am - Mission	20 10 am - Bloom Homeschool 6 pm - Church Council	21 12 pm - Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	22 9:30 am - Mom's Group 10 am - UCC Clergy 7 pm - AA Group	23 OFFICE CLOSED Thanksgiving Day NO Choir practice	24	25 7:30 am - AA Step Up Meeting
26 9 am - Adult Discipleship 10:00 am - Fellowship 10:30 am - Children's Christian Education 10:30 am - Worship Decorate Church	27 10 am - Bloom Homeschool	28 11:30 am - Lunch and Learn NO Bible Study 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	29 10 am - UCC Clergy 7 pm - AA Group	30 4:30 am - Viva Voices practice 6:30 pm - Choir practice		