

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, study groups, and
Youth & Children's Ministry

Christ Church Staff:

Rev. Dr. Edward Goode
Pastor

Madeline Queen
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



Photo by Michele Wright

Director of Music Search *An update from our Music Ministry Search Team*

As you will see in Toni's message, we had a beautiful celebration of Toni Sheffer's ministry on July 21. It was a wonderful time of music, heart, and lifting up the amazing musical gifts we have in our congregation. But we do need to be looking forward to our process of filling this vital position in our congregation. So, we wanted to update you on both the immediate and longer-term steps.

First, we have people in place for planning and leading in worship for the next several months. Max, and Pastor Ed will be sharing the responsibilities of choosing the congregational music in services while Talia and Max will be working to set up other music such as prelude, postlude, offertory for the services. We have also arranged with at least two people to serve as piano accompanists as well. As for the choir, Josh Woodward has agreed

to serve as interim choir director starting in August so that the choir can begin on schedule as well.

We feel very good about the people we have in place in these roles for our worship life ahead in the coming months.

Looking beyond the immediate, a search team has been formed following the same search team makeups we had for hiring Michele Wright as Communications Director and Madeline Queen as Children's Ministry Director. The team will be made up of a Council member (Debbie Paillette, also chair of Personnel), a choir member (Larry Stinson, who will also chair the team), an at-large member of the congregation (Marie Cunningham), and then Max Gise and Pastor Ed will serve as staff resources for the team.

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The team's first meeting was on Sunday, July 28 to finalize the position description and begin getting that out to the public. It is possible that we may hire multiple people for the position (such as a director and then separate accompanist(s)) but that will be determined as we receive resumes and conduct interviews.

We welcome your prayers for this process ahead and are open to any insights, resources, or thoughts you have to share.

Yours in Christ,
Music Ministry Search Team
Marie Cunningham
Larry Stinson
Debbie Paillette
Max Gise
Edward Goode



Photos from Toni's last Sunday



Christian Education Update

From Madeline Queen

What a busy month in our children's ministry at Christ Church!

We finished out our God Goes Green Nights, celebrated Independence Day, and even hosted a baby shower for Ms. Madeline!

Throughout our summer we have been learning about the fruits of the spirit in Sunday School and in July we talked about Kindness, Patience, and Goodness.

Lastly, I just want to give a huge thank you to all of you at Christ Church for the beautiful baby shower for me and our soon to be baby boy, Mateo! We are so blessed to have you all and can not wait for Mateo to learn the love and kindness of the Christ Church family!

As we venture into August if anyone is interested in volunteering to teach a Sunday School lesson while I am on maternity leave,



please sign up on our Children's ministry door, we still have quite a few open spots! Thank you all so

much for your support during this exciting time!

Mission Happenings

From Christ Church Mission Team



Thank you for your response on the dental care items for Brighton Center! It would have been great to have a total count of the number of toothbrushes especially but thank you thank you thank you! And thank you for the peanut butter response already! Wow!

We had a great group who served at Hosea House on July 21! Thank

you to each person who helped in picking up food, preparing, and serving



In August, we will also have our time of packing back-to-school kits for Church World Service. We will be doing this after worship on August 25.

The Mission Team has also continued to generously help fund ministries in our area. We sent a \$1,750 check to Washington UCC for their back-to-school programs and also assisted St Vincent De-Paul with several needs that have

recently arisen. We are also finalizing support for the Rubate School Program that we heard about in worship from Amy Weyand-Geise in June. More on that to come!



Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus in the world!

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

— 1 Thessalonians 5:11

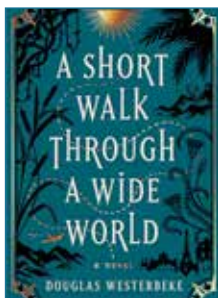
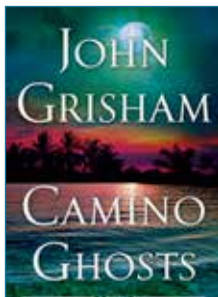
Pastor Ed's Summer Reads (a bit late)

From Pastor Ed

Yes, I know it is August and summer beach season may be getting behind us but I wanted to share some of the books I've been reading so far this year if you are looking for a read or two. As I have shared in these in previous years, I feel it is so important to continue to read and be continually learning and being open to what is being shared and written. Reading is exercise for the heart and mind just like weights and treadmills are exercise for the body!

Novels:

I struggle to find good novels as I'm really picky about them. I read three novels so far this year – one that was basically like eating a fast food meal (**Camino Ghosts** by John Grisham) and then one that I loved and one that I wanted to love but just couldn't get into. I LOVED **A Short Walk Through a Wide World** by Douglas Westerbeke – it was creative, original, and unique. I wanted to love **The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store** by James McBride but I just couldn't get going with it.

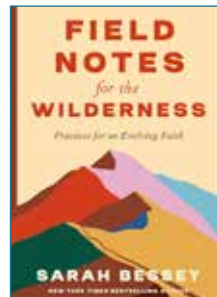


Faith-Related:

I am currently reading **The Exvangelicals** by NPR reporter Sarah McCammon as she shares about her experience

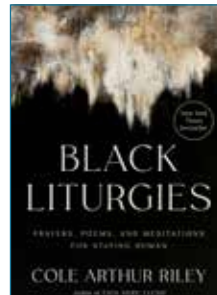


growing up in 90s evangelical culture and the ways that it has continued to shape her today. It is largely a book about “deconstructing” – taking apart what was once a core part of her identity and rebuilding something new. A similar book is **Field Notes for the Wilderness** by Sarah Bessey.

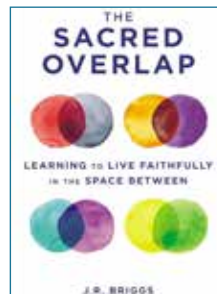


For those working through how to understand their faith in current times, it is a beautiful and healing book.

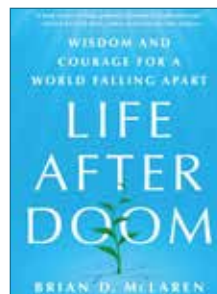
I also have been deeply moved by the deep, raw, and poetic sharings of Cole Arthur Riley in her book, **Black Liturgies**. This isn't one for just reading cover to cover but more as a devotional day by day. The fourth I'd lift up is **The Sacred Overlap: Learning to Live Faithfully in the Space Between** by JR Briggs.



This one is very much about how to move beyond just binary-thinking and into more of a both-and / overlap thinking. Really powerful.



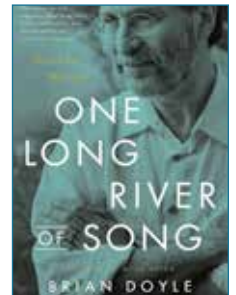
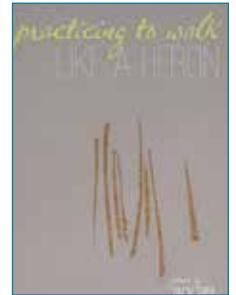
A fifth I read is called **Life After Doom: Wisdom and Courage for a World Falling Apart** by Brian McLaren. This would be a good book if one really needs to understand the realities we are facing with



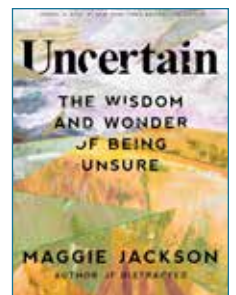
the climate crisis but if one already understands that, the first two thirds of the book doesn't cover a lot of new ground. That being said, the final one third of the book is incredible and hopeful and challenging.

Others:

I continue to spend time before bed each night reading poetry and the two that I have read thus far this year are **Practicing to Walk Like a Heron** by Jack Ridl and **One Long River of Song** by Brian Doyle. Both are really beautiful and deep.



I also read a book about introverts living in this extroverted world called **Sorry I'm Late, I Didn't Want to Come** by Jessica Pan. Another book with a similar sense (but not from a faith perspective) was **Uncertain: The Wisdom and Wonder of Being Alone** by Maggie Jackson.



There were a few others, but hopefully out of those, you can find something that will help you work out your heart and mind muscles! Happy reading!

Thank you from Toni Sheffer

Dear Christ Church,

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the past thirteen years that we have enjoyed together. I have come to appreciate the wonderful spirit shared within this church. I love each and every one of you and am proud to call you friends and fellow Christians.

First of all, let me thank you for the generous gift you gave me and I will carefully and prayerfully consider how best to use this. While it certainly was not necessary, I was very moved by your gift and want to lovingly thank all who shared.

While there is a continuing future in the life of Christ Church, I believe there is a future for me as well. We all know God has a plan and is definitely in charge. I'm not really one to sit back and do nothing, but I do realize I need some rest, relaxation and rejuvenation, including more time with family, children and grandchildren to make up for the time I've needed to make up the travels to see them as often as we would prefer. So thank you for

understanding this.

The song which Evan and Jameson sang to you this past Sunday, as words from me to you, seemed to have summarized how I feel about you, the congregation of Christ Church. "Because I knew you, I have been changed for good." Be kind to each other and to the new members who are bound to walk through your doors. Love them and accept them where they are on their journey. You will be blessed.

I will miss you and always love you. Thank you for being my church family all this time. I will see you again and will look forward to those times when we can be united again whether in a church service, on the streets, at a concert, or at other activities.

May the Lord bless you and keep you and may God's blessings be yours now and forever.

With love and admiration,

Toni Sheffer



Prayer Requests

Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:
Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH

Gary Kennedy, the family of Al Rice, Mike and Laura Randall, Stacey Seiter, Susan Snyder, the family of Bonnie Jones, Beth Caby, Erin, Naomi Carroll, Stephanie, June Warriner, Robyn Cox, Elsie Loos, Eve Wellborn, Stacey, Jamie & Kelly Greenwalt, Jennifer Flynn, Chris, John Thomas Flynn, the Flynn Family, the family of Phyllis Clark, the family of Evie and Jack Weber, the family of Rev. David Schwab, the family of Doug Miller, the family of Judy Gadd, Carolyn Tyler, Denise, Makayla, Gregg Frank, Cathy Van Lierop, Gordon Braun, Howard Storm, Sharon Roach, the family of Shane Miller, Steve Jarboe, Bette Ament

(Underline indicates request for anonymity)

Please call the office with changes.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dee Bathiany
Andrew Hack
Jennifer Korpik
Michael Long
Kristen Whalen
David Hosea
Sharon Siple
Joe Stevenson
Emma Hamann
Sandra Kuhnhein
Brenda Swan
Joseph Houben

Jim & Barb Korpik
Bert & Cindy Bathiany IV
Krista & Joseph Hack
Stephanie & Brian Laake
Gary & Nancy Hunter
Jeff & Susan McDonald
Dave & Jill Draper

July Attendance

	In Person	Online
7/7/24	98	12
7/14/24	71	25
7/21/24	128	12
7/28/24	88	

Changes to the Church Directory

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



Thank You!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped put in windows and fix the outside of the building on such a hot day. Barry Petracco also came in and patched up the issues in the Parlor and other places throughout the building. You are all so appreciated!

Recipes from God Goes Green

Below are two recipes from Rev. Dr. Amy Snow. She had many requests for them during our recent God Goes Green classes.

Lentil Sloppy Joes

Ingredients:

- 1 cup diced onion
- 1 tsp. vegetable oil or olive oil
- 1 cup lentils- rinsed and sorted
- 1 cup vegetable broth
- 1 can of Manwich sloppy joe sauce
- 8 hamburger buns

Directions:

1. Heat oil in pan and sauté onions until translucent.
2. Add in Lentils, broth and sloppy joe sauce. Bring to a boil and then reduce heat.
3. Simmer lentil mixture for about 30 minutes with lid on the pan, then remove the lid and continue to cook until lentils reach desired consistency. Serve about ¼ cup mixture on a toasted hamburger bun.

Tangy Apple Slaw

Ingredients:

- 1 bag of prepared cabbage and carrot 'slaw mix'
- 2 large Granny Smith apples
- 1 bottle of Brianna's Poppy Seed Dressing
- Apple Cider Vinegar

Directions:

1. Combine 1 cup cold water and 1 cup vinegar in a bowl
2. Cut the apples into matchstick size pieces and add to the bowl of vinegar water
3. Put slaw mix into a large bowl and remove any pieces of core
4. In a small bowl combine 2/3 cup Brianna's dressing and 1/3 cup apple cider vinegar and whisk until combined.
5. Drain the apples and spin in a salad spinner
6. Add to the cabbage bowl and pour dressing over the apple cabbage mixture. Toss to mix.
7. Serve immediately or chill and serve that day. This slaw does not keep well because the apples will brown.



Photo by Michele Wright

Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 11:30 a.m.

Our guest presenter will be **Mr. David Savage**, docent from the Cincinnati Museum Center. His presentation, titled "**Daniel Drake and Frontier Medicine**," will tell us the story of a doctor who rose from humble beginnings in backwoods Kentucky to become a preeminent physician west of the Appalachian Mountains in the early nineteenth century. It is a story of personal perseverance, intense rivalry among local physicians, and the founding of the institutions which make Cincinnati one of the finest medical centers in the country today. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR LUNCH.**

Please join us!

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

Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am faint; heal me, Lord, for my bones are in agony. —Psalm 6:2

Church Council Meeting Notes

There was no church council meeting in July

Mid-Year Financial Update

From Bert Bathiany, Treasurer

Greetings from the Finance Board. It is hard to believe that six months of 2024 is already past. I wanted to give everyone an update on Christ Church finances.

So far this year, we are doing well as a congregation for giving. Thus far, \$112,500 was pledged and \$122,840 has been given. Usually, at this time of the year, we are behind in our giving and I am usually asking for everyone to try to catch up. Not this year. That doesn't mean that our income is great. We are behind in overall income by about \$8,000. Please remember that the passed budget did have a deficit of about \$20,000 that we still need to make up. This congregation has always been generous and made up the difference. We are just in a better place at this time of the year than previous years. We have had and do have several projects that need to be addressed that will affect our

budget the rest of this year and probably into next year. Council is prioritizing them.

We are a financially strong church because of our fantastic congregation. The staff is diligent in keeping expenses down and we have a tremendous group of volunteers that look after the physical care of Christ Church. All of this helps keep our church financially secure. I have no doubt that this will continue.

Here are the numbers for those interested:

Income Pledged:	\$166,502
Income received:	\$122,847
Budgeted Income:	\$169,506
Received income:	\$161,325
Budgeted Expenses:	\$182,135
Actual Expenses:	\$165,154
Current Deficit:	\$4,829

If you have any questions, please speak with someone on the Finance Board.



Schedules for August

Liturgists

August 4	Laura Petracco
August 11	Barry Petracco
August 18	Marcia Storm
August 25	Carolyn Tyler

Deacons

August 4	Jack Hurtt
August 11	Jean Braun
August 18	Greg Vogel
August 25	Marie Cunningham

Ushers

August 4	Jack Hurtt	Debbie Paillette	Thierry Paillette	Jay Wainscott
August 11	Jean Braun	Gordon Braun	Carol Himes	Audrey Bernhard
August 18	Greg Vogel	Patti Miller	Mike Evans	Andy Borah
August 25	Marie Cunningham	Ellen Turner	Scott Turner	Marcia Storm

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

Work Trip in Western Kentucky

From Ken Weidinger

Our team worked at two different homes, removing large trees and debris from the recent storms that moved through the area over Memorial Day weekend. It was shocking to see the degree of damage that this new storm did following almost the exact same path as the storm that went through the area December 10, 2021.

We worked alongside Jaye Herrick (UCC Partner in Service), members of two other Indiana churches, and Greg Denk (IKC Disaster Coordina-



tor). Volunteers from the other two churches also worked on three different homes that are being readied for occupancy by families who have been displaced since the 2021 storms. There continues to be a great need in that area, and the people are very appreciative of the work of the volunteers.



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