

April 2025

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

Max Gise
Worship Coordinator

Talia Zoll
Worship Coordinator

Danny Manning
Choir Director

Jeff Searcy
Custodian

Barb Walkenhorst Derby
Bookkeeper

Michele Wright,
Communications Director



Photo by Edward Goode

What Will We Experience *Can We Boldly Let Go?*

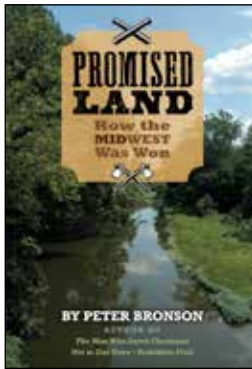
So, I'm writing this on Monday, March 10 knowing that this won't be shared and read until sometime in late March or early April. There's a lot that is going to happen in my life between now and then. If all goes according to plan, we will have flown on eight different flights (Cincinnati to Dulles, Dulles to Heathrow, Heathrow to Dublin, Dublin to Barcelona, Barcelona to Granada, Granada to Madrid, Madrid to O'Hare, O'Hare to Cincinnati), stayed in eight different places (one in Virginia, four in Ireland, three in Spain), have celebrated a family wedding for one of our nephews, and I will have filled up a few memory cards with photos. I will have read and reflected on 21 Psalms, spent our time in Virginia with one of our children, then Ireland with two of our children and my sister, then Spain with one of our children, and

then a few days just Amy and me. Amy and I will also, through all of this, be having an early celebration of our 25th anniversary. It is going to be a crazy, amazing, beautiful, and memorable next three weeks of our lives.

So, barring something catastrophic taking place, all those things are going to happen. But...what we don't know is what we will experience in this trip ahead. We don't know if the car we rent in Ireland will have a flat tire between Cork and Dingle (hopefully not) and we will be blessed by the kindness of someone going by. We don't know whether the day that we will get to spend at the Cliffs of Moher will be clear and sunny or cloudy and rainy (hopefully the former). While we have things scheduled to do and places to visit, we have
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Open and Affirming

If you have any questions about our Open and Affirming Process, please contact **Beckie Borah**. Thank you!



Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, April 22 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us as our guest presenter will be author and former newsman, **Peter Bronson**. His newest book, **“Promised Land: How The Midwest Was Won”** tells the story of how the early settlers of Kentucky, Ohio and the Northwest Territory survived despite starvation, poverty and Native Americans protecting their land. In addition, there are stories about the Ohio Mound Builders who created precision earthworks and a nefarious nationwide secret society in Cincinnati that plotted to create a huge slave empire. Please join us!

Reservations are Required for Lunch.

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

Palm Sunday and Easter Music

The Palm Sunday service will begin with a vibrant procession involving the choir, handbells, organ, and some other surprises! Special musical selections, include an original composition by Max Gise, entitled “Turning the Tables,” which we are excited to include in the service. On Easter we will have a guest violinist with

us, Lauren Schloemer Wilson. She, along with musicians from Christ Church and our Chancel Choir will be contributing to our celebration of the Resurrection on Easter morning. We are also very much looking forward to bringing back the Christ Church handbells for a vibrant musical program for everyone on Palm Sunday and Easter!

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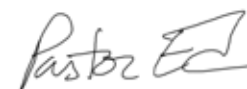
been on enough adventures to know that the most memorable things are those that weren't planned at all (remind me to tell you the story about the flatulent elephant in Addo, South Africa or the one about the herd of bison that surrounded Amy and me in Custer, South Dakota). I don't know what kind of feeling I'll have when I stand inside the Sagrada Familia Cathedral in Barcelona or when I look over the awe-inspiring cliffs on the western coast of Ireland or when we happen to run into U2's Bono while in Dublin (if only...). At this point, I only know what I think will happen based on our schedule.

I am a planner and I have our whole trip in a wonderful online travel organizer and I really hope that everything goes according to plan. But one of my growing edges has been to let go of control and let go of thinking that I can get everything all scheduled out. I am learning this about discipleship as well. I can think that I know what God wants, what God is doing, and how God is leading but something happens quite often when I fall too much into that thinking. God surprises me. God speaks in a way that I didn't expect. The Spirit engages me through a person in a conversation that took a unique

and beautiful turn. Jesus shows up in the face of a surprising someone.

The Gospel stories of Jesus are filled with moments like these. We have grown so accustomed to the stories that we don't pick up on the surprising and shocking moments when Jesus shares a conversation and a cup of water with a Samaritan woman. We don't pick up on the scandalous nature of Jesus and his followers eating with tax collectors. When the unnamed bleeding woman touches the hem of Jesus robe, we don't think, “wait—she's ‘unclean!’” but instead we talk about how great her faith was.

As we come towards the final weeks of Lent, we will be coming to the final stories of boldness in our sermon series this year and they will all be Jesus stories. Yes, we can boldly plan and try to control. Or we can boldly let go and trust in how Jesus is leading. These final stories of Lent show us where Jesus is leading and each one is surprising and unexpected for the people of the day. And yet many boldly responded and followed.



Grace, Peace, Love, and Joy,
Pastor Ed

Christian Education Update

From Madeline Queen

This March, our Sunday School classes dove into the theme of "Blessed," exploring the lives of those whom God has called blessed in the Bible. Through engaging lessons, crafts, and activities, our young learners are discovering the stories of biblical figures like Mary, the Beatitudes, and the blessings of perseverance.

Each Sunday, we gather in fellowship, sharing our insights and experiences while learning how these blessings apply to our lives today. Our children are not only growing in their understanding of Scripture, but also forming meaningful friendships within our church community.



We invite all families to join us for this enriching experience. It's a wonderful opportunity for our children to connect with God and each other!

Please contact Miss Madeline if you are interested in helping grow disciples!

Mission Team Update

From Christ Church Mission Team

Most of what the Mission Team has been up to for the month of March has been getting ready for **Be the Church Sunday** and for our first time serving dinner at Washington UCC!

We've been coordinating with First Presbyterian Church on the multiple events for **Be the Church Sunday** and making sure everything is set up and ready to go.

We are also working on our first time heading back to Washington UCC to cook a meal for their food program. **We are going to be serving at Washington on Tuesday, April 8!** A signup will have already been in the bulletin but contact Melissa Cox if you are still interested but missed the signup.

In the meantime, here are some photos from **Be the Church Sunday!**



Photos from Be the Church Sunday

161 Blessing Bags Filled!



Rocks of Forgiveness



Congratulations Barry Petracco!



Our own **Barry Petracco** was one of two people awarded the Outstanding Support Staff of the Year Award from the Fort Thomas Education Foundation. The Outstanding Support Staff of the Year Award honors a Fort Thomas Independent School employee who has made an outstanding contribution to FTIS schools, students, and community. He will be honored at the *4th Annual The Nesties: The Best of the Nest* event being held April 10, 2025, at the Fort Thomas Mess Hall. Details can be found at FTEF.org.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Christy Stevenson

Nancy Pinguely

Joshua Vogel

Gregory Oetjen

Jessica Bach

Jane Cox

Marie Cunningham

Toni Sheffer

Sara Mai

Nate Kuhnhein

Benjamin Gise

Emily Gise

Steve & Shelley Kappesser

James & Helen Long

Joe & Christy Stevenson

Ryan & Abby Vogel

Terry & Jorene Lyman

March Attendance

	In Person	Online
3/2/25	101	NA
3/9/25	86	NA
3/16/25	73	NA
3/23/25	70	NA
3/30/25	67	NA



Prayer Requests

Covenant Cluster Prayer Partner:
Washington UCC, Cincinnati, OH

Jeff McDonald, Nancy Castleman, Fred Nippert, Susan Gabbard, The family of Maxine Noble, Makayla, Jamie & Kelly Greenwalt, Mike Bizzarro, Dave Jager, Chris P., Bèné and Janis, Rev. Andrew Bierkan, Mike & Laura Randall, Don Seifert, Shane, Dave, Tim, Karen, Jerry Baynum, Betty Stein, Jan Kennedy, Allen, Tammy Weidinger, Jim Rehtin, Jr., Carol Manning, Danny Manning, Jana Guido, Béné, Nelly, Carol Blair, Tony Asher, Shelley, Lee Cordray, Steve McCall, Jackson Vanderpool
(Names underlined indicate request for anonymity)

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
— Philippians 4:6-7 NRSV

New Prayer Meeting Group

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary

Come for a relaxing, welcoming time of prayer. If you have any questions, please contact **Donna Hoffman**

Thank You to Our Church Family

Thanks to all my church family and friends for all the prayers and cards you have showered on me for my recent hospital stay. The prayers have worked and I finally have a fully functioning heart.
Thank you,
Jeff McDonald

Congratulations!



Laura Petracco has been cast in the Footlighters and Stained Glass Theater production of *Dirty, Rotten Scoundrels*.

It opens **Thursday, May 1**, and runs weekends through Sunday, May 18. Tickets are \$25. The Stained Glass Theater is located at 8th and York in Newport, Kentucky.

She would love to see some familiar faces there!
www.footlighters.org/dirtyrottenscoundrels



Interested in Joining Christ Church?

If you are interested in joining Christ Church as a covenant member, we are working on setting up our next time to do just that! Please contact **Pastor Ed** if you are interested!

Northern Kentucky Youth

Youth Gathering, Sunday, April 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Lakeside Carriage House
A regular (but always awesome) meeting. We'll gather for dinner, games, a special lesson, and fellowship. [Don't forget to RSVP!](#)

Creation Night, Sunday, April 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Lakeside Carriage House
Join us as we chat about how we can celebrate and care for God's creation. We'll have a special dinner, discussions, and more!
[Don't forget to RSVP!](#)

No meeting on Easter Sunday

Game Night, Sunday, April 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Lakeside Carriage House
It's time for a little fun! Join us for an evening of food, games, and more. Bring a board game to share! [Don't forget to RSVP!](#)

Park Outing, Sunday, May 4, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Highland Hills Park, Ft. Thomas
It's time to bring the 2024-2025 year of programming to a close, with a special night of programming and grilling hot dogs. [Don't forget to RSVP!](#)



Church Council Meeting Notes

3/17/2025

In Attendance:

Snezana Tenhundfeld, Bert Bathiany, Beckie Borah, Jenny Herrmann, Jen Korpik, Debbie Paillette, Jane Petracco, Marcia Storm, and Greg Vogel,

• **Gathering/Centering**

Snezana shared Pope Francis' Lenten message.

• **Approval of Minutes from Feb.**

Bert made a motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting, Annual meeting, and Zoom Council meeting. Debbie seconded. **Minutes approved.**

• **Financial Report**

- There have been a couple of pledges made since the annual meeting and the budget is looking better now.
- The proposed budget was given to the Council and it was noted that we are still waiting for everyone to turn in their yearly pledges.

• **Personnel**

- Ramel Vogel and Marie Cunningham have agreed to serve on the personnel committee.

• **Buildings and Grounds**

- We awarded the roof project to Matt Spence Roofing.
- There was a leak in the bathroom between the parlor and the sanctuary. Bert is going to have the roofer look at that.

• **Electronic Sign for Front of Church**

Debbie, Linda, and Steve Gracey got together to talk about the letter they are going to send to the city attorney clarifying what the sign would entail and times it would be off.

• **Open Council Positions**

- Linda Gracey has agreed to fill Jenny Herrmann's position.
- Josh Woodward has agreed to serve the remaining one-year Councilor term.
- Bridgette Luken has agreed to fill Sallie's position for Christian Education.

• **Legacy Committee Positions**

- Still looking for people to fill two positions.

• **Open and Affirming (ONA)**

- The preliminary survey results were reported.
- The CCT/ONA team will meet before the next council meeting and report the results

• **Meeting concluded with the Lord's prayer.**



Schedules for April

Liturgists

April 6	Nancy Barre
April 13	Barry Petracco
April 20	Jane Petracco
April 27	Laura Petracco

Deacons

April 6	Jean Braun
April 13	Jack Hurtt
April 20	Marie Cunningham
April 27	Greg Vogel

Ushers

April 6	Jean Braun Gordon Braun Nancy Pinguely Jeff Pinguely
April 13	Jack Hurtt Audrey Bernhard Ellen Turner Scott Turner
April 20	Marie Cunningham Marcia Storm Jay Wainscott Andy Borah
April 27	Greg Vogel Patti Miller Carol Hlmes Audrey Bernhard

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 1:30 pm- Art Group 7 pm- Overeaters Anonymous	2 NO Small Group 7 pm- AA Group	3 NO Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	4	5
6 8:30 am-Fellowship 9 am-Adult Discipleship 10:30 am-Children's Christian Education 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Choir	7 10 am - Bloom Homeschool	8 1:30 pm- Art Group 7 pm- Overeaters Anonymous	9 3 pm-Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm- AA Group	10 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting 7 pm- Doll Group	11	12
13 PALM SUNDAY 8:30 am-Fellowship 9 am-Adult Discipleship 10:30 am-Children's Christian Education 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Choir	14 10 am - Bloom Homeschool 7 pm - Survivors of Suicide 7 pm - Finance Meeting	15 1:30 pm- Art Group 7 pm- Overeaters Anonymous	16 3 pm-Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm- AA Group	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	18 GOOD FRIDAY	19
20 EASTER 8:30 am-Fellowship 9 am-Adult Discipleship 10:30 am-Children's Christian Education 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Choir 11:30 am-Mission Team	21 10 am - Bloom Homeschool 6 pm - Church Council	22 EARTH DAY 11:30 am - Lunch and Learn 1:30 pm- Art Group 7 pm- Overeaters Anonymous	23 9:30 am - Mom's Club 3 pm-Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm- AA Group	24 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	25	26
27 8:30 am-Fellowship 9 am-Adult Discipleship 10:30 am-Children's Christian Education 10:30 am-Worship 11:30 am-Choir	28 10 am - Bloom Homeschool	29 1:30 pm- Art Group 7 pm- Overeaters Anonymous	30 3 pm-Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm- AA Group			