

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/christchurchcft
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

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

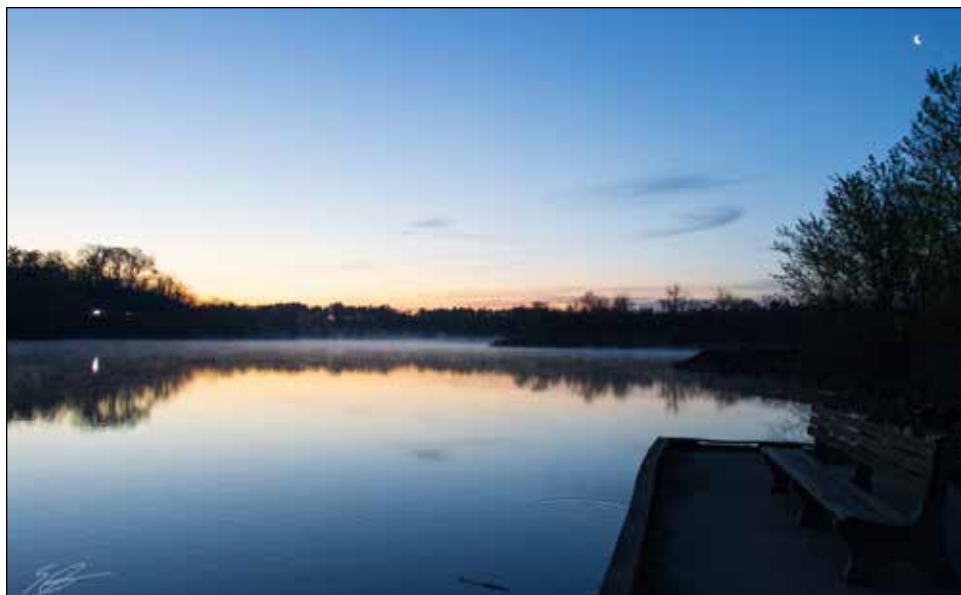


Photo by Edward Goode

Beginnings and Endings *The In-between Time*

I have shared many times how I love the sense of new beginnings that a sunrise brings. Whether it is glorious and colorful or gray and cloudy, they all speak of new beginnings. But something else spoke to me on this particular morning as I was out with Scout. Not only is there a sense of beginning but there is also an ending with a sunrise. Above is what we saw as we arrived at the lake (and the bench is still being the bench).

This was photographed at around 6:30 a.m., about 25 minutes from “official” sunrise. But even as I had left the gym about 30 minutes before, there were initial glimpses of light starting to appear in the eastern sky. So we could talk about all the beginnings with all this. But something else is ending when the light begins to emerge – The night is ending.

The night that began with the sun setting on the previous day is ending as the next day’s sun arises.

And when can we really say when the day ends and the night begins, or when the night ends and the day begins? I know “officially” our clocks say that when 12 a.m. shows up, a new day has begun, but we’re still in the middle of the night. But what about our ancestors? For them, would it be that the night began when the last light fell and the day began when the night began its shift into day rather than an arbitrary time in the middle of the night?

This particular morning, what was on my heart was the beauty and hope and anticipation of something new beginning but also a recognition that with the new also comes the end of something else.

Continued on next page

Continued from front page

This was on my heart because that's the space I find myself in. As I have shared in recent weeks, I have accepted a new call and will be moving into that new role in the coming months. While I could share more about the new position, right now I'm being in the present, with all of you who have meant so much to me over the last seven years. I am feeling the excitement of what God has led me to but also the grief of being a part of this dear community. While I am in the place of being between the what is going to be and what has been, many of those I have been with in this congregation are in a place of seeing that something is ending and they don't have the excitement of what is to come. It's all in there.

As I took in this moment at the bench, I saw several things of this spectrum. Obviously the scene is still rather dark as the sun was still a little ways away from fully rising. But there's also the moon up in the top right that is in a waning phase — it was full about 10 days ago and is slowly making its way to the new moon phase. So there is a spectrum of ending and beginning in the sky.

Headlights are also shining on the road on the left. They could be someone whose work time has finished (working an overnight shift) and they are driving home to rest. Or it could be a teacher who has left home for another day beginning. Or it could be someone driving to the next parking lot by the lake to go for a run.

Notice the circular ripple in the water just in front of the bench. I don't know what caused it — likely a fish briefly surfacing but the ripples began and will slowly spread out and end before they emerge somewhere else again

when another fish briefly surfaces.

And as I stood there to photograph this scene, I myself am in the place of something ending and something new beginning. You may be experiencing the same.

It is here where I found Psalms 70 and 71 speaking into my life and maybe into the lives of some of you reading this as well. These two Psalms (one quite short and the other quite long) are both Psalms calling upon God for help amid trial. Of course this is not unusual to find in the Psalms, but in my own feelings in this in-between space and in what I have experienced from others these last few weeks, I have heard variations on what this Psalm lifts up.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you...hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!
(Psalm. 70: 4, 5)

Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. (71:3)

For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.
(71:5)

But I will hope continually, and will praise you yet more and more.
(71:14)

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come. Your power and your righteousness, O God, reach the high heavens. You who have done great things, O God, who is like you?
(71:18-19)

You...will revive me again; from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again. (71:20)

I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel. (71:22)

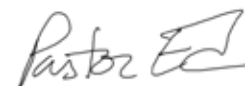
Even within these is a sense of that spectrum of longing for God's help but also expressions of deep trust. There is the spectrum of feeling like something is ending but also the trust in something new to emerge.

Fr. Richard Rohr often shares how the pattern built into the cycles of life are order/disorder/reorder. Another way of saying the same is that the cycle is birth/life/death/resurrection. But even with these stages, none of them are neatly divided. Order flows into disorder into reorder — there's not a clear point when one becomes the next. Same with the others.

To return to the image and what I experienced this morning...The cycles of the moon aren't distinct but instead flowing one into the next continually. Even as I watched it in a singular moment, it is (imperceptibly) shifting more into the waning phase. The ripple in the water was not static but continually moving further and wider until the ripple was unnoticeable. The gradualness of the light growing on the horizon is so slow that it is hard to see until you compare it to a later time.

Each of us finds ourselves in this in-between time here at Christ Church. And each of us is met by Jesus in this in-between time.

Grace, Peace, Love, and Joy,



Pastor Ed

Christian Education Update

From Madeline Queen

Director of Christian Education

April was a vibrant month for our Sunday School as we celebrated a successful and joyous Easter Sunday! The children had a wonderful time participating in our Easter egg hunt, creating lasting memories filled with laughter and excitement!

As we look to the future, we recognize that the growth of our Sunday School program is a team effort, and we warmly invite all members of our congregation to consider getting involved. Your support and engagement can make a significant difference in the lives of our children, enriching their spiritual journey and fostering a strong sense of community. Together, we can create an even more dynamic and nurturing environment for our kids to learn and grow in their faith.

We are also excited to announce



that we will be sharing our summer plans for our kids soon! If you're interested in lending a hand, whether it's through volunteering, sharing your talents, or simply being present, we would love to hear from you! Thank you for your continued

support—let's work together to inspire the next generation!

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

Mission Team Update

From Christ Church Mission Team

This month's update is basically about food. Food prepped, served, and shared. Food collected and donated. First let's talk collected and donated.

We spoke with some folks at Brighton Center and they are continuing to hand out the giveaway bags that we packed on Be the Church Sunday. They are slowly getting through them but they have been perfect for having on hand and sharing when an immediate and small need arises. Every little bit helps.

Speaking of Brighton Center, **we are going to be collecting peanut butter through the end of June!**

Food prepped, served, and shared? **On April 8, we had a wonderful group of eight people come together to prep and serve and share dinner at Washington UCC in Cincinnati.** Washington is working on getting their dinner program back up and consistent and have asked partner congregations to come in every few months to prep and serve. Our group had a great time but, most of all, was so grateful for the opportunity to share with our friends at Washington.

And coming up on Friday, May 2, we will be having our next time to serve at Ronald McDonald House. We're seeing how doing a Friday night works out! This is one of the most special times

we have as we work with families of all backgrounds who are in the same place for the same reason — they have a very sick child in their family. So the meals we prep are a wonderful gift to each family going through the often-unimaginable.

Something to think about as you serve in these ways is to use each thing you do as a prayer.

As you chop up vegetables or trim chicken or cook pasta or slice bread. As you help get food on plates. And as you serve each person, use each as a way to pray. May each action spur a prayer in you for those you are serving and for the countless others in similar situations throughout the world.

Photos from Palm Sunday and Easter



Special Congregational Meeting Summary for April 27, 2025

- **A quorum was present (55 members)**
- **Election of Council, Legacy and Personnel Committee members**
- **Church Council**
- **New Members**
 - Linda Gracey – Coordinator of Service
 - Josh Woodward – One year term as Councilor
- **Members adding another term**
 - Beckie Borah – Councilor
 - Greg Vogel – Vice Moderator
 - Marcia Storm – Councilor
 - Bert Bathiany – Treasurer
- **Personnel Committee**
- Ramel Vogel
- Marie Cunningham
- **Legacy Committee**
- Tom Pendery
- **All members were voted in.**
- **Thanks and gratitude given to all who are leaving office:**
- **Council:**
Jenny Herrmann, Donna Hoffman and Sallie Schmidt
- **Legacy Committee:**
Andy Luken and Steve Kappesser
- **Personnel Committee:**
Howard Storm, Audrey Bernhard).
- **Open and Affirming (ONA)**
- Snezana reported on the straw poll results
 - 176 ballots sent out, 102 ballots returned (57.95%)
 - Yes 62.74%
 - Not Yet 7.89%
 - No 29.41%
- Snezana announced that the Church Council has voted to disband the current CCT/ONA team and pause the ONA process at this time as they have completed the goals originally set by the Church Council 7 years ago.
- **The Council is very appreciative of all the hard work the ONA/CCT teams have devoted to this process.**
- **Meeting adjournment**
Jane Petracco made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Emma Hamann seconded.
Meeting was adjourned.
- **Meeting concluded with prayer.**



New Interim Pastor!

*From Debbie Paillette
Personnel Committee Chairperson*

Good news! Council members met Monday evening and voted to hire Diane Vego as our full time Interim Pastor. It was amazing that Diane was just finishing another position and would be available immediately after Ed's last Sunday preaching. She has two years that she will be available and willing to fill the position of interim pastor at Christ Church. Our goal is to hire a Called Pastor within those two years to become our permanent pastor. Next step...forming a Search Committee!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Kathryn Lukjan

Jack Hurtt

Anna Gise

Gregory Vogel

Stanley Grau

Judy Land

Jill Draper

Mary Hertzman

Ken Honchell

ZsaZsa Bach

Rebecca Borah

Terri Jager

Elizabeth Beimesche

Shannon & Hunter Thomas

Ellen & Scott Turner

Steve & Dana Pendery

Howard & Joy Storm

Gordon & Jean Braun

Greg & Susan Houben

David & Donna Pendery

Andrew & Jessica Bach

Ken & Tammy Weidinger

April Attendance

	In Person	Online
4/6/25	92	28
4/13/25	108	15
4/20/25	197	24
4/27/25	87	12



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., Bènè and Janis, Don Seifert, Rev. Andrew Bierkan, Mike & Laura Randall, Shane, Dave, Tim, Karen, Jerry Baynum, Jan Kennedy, Allen, Tammy Weidinger, Jim Rechten Jr., Carol Manning, Danny Manning, Jana Guido, Béné, Nelly, Carol Blair, Tony Asher, Shelley, Lee Cordray, Steve McCall, Jackson Vanderpool, Warren Witt, Jason Pierce

(Names underlined indicate request for anonymity)

N. Kentucky Youth

**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 to a close, with a special night of programming and grilling hot dogs.

[Don't forget to RSVP!](#)

Pastoral Search Committee

If you are interested in serving on the pastoral search committee, please contact Debbie Paillette

Lunch and Learn

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

Join us as our guest presenter will be **Mr. Scott Ernschwender of the Cincinnati Museum Center.**

His presentation is titled, "The Roaring 20's and Depression Era, 1920-1940." The Art deco designs of such iconic buildings as the Crew Tower, Union Terminal, the Enquirer, and Times Star buildings will be discussed.

The architecture in Cincinnati and the nation reflected the unbri-dled optimism of the post-WWI era. The Classical designs of such buildings as the Dixie Terminal, Cincinnati Club and the Gas and Electric Company reflect the optimism of the architects who designed them.

This mega-construction period helped to lessen the depth of the Depression for the citizens of Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. 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.**

Open and Affirming

From Snezana Tenhundfeld, Moderator

Several weeks ago, members were asked to complete a survey to measure where they stood regarding the Open and Affirming Process. The survey read, "This community commits to welcoming and including people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, and is committed to work for racial equity and anti-racism" and asked if they would be in support of adopting a statement similar to this at Christ Church. Of the 176 ballots sent out, 102 replied, for a total of 57.95% participation. The results showed 62.74% were "yes," 29.41% were "no," and 7.84% were "not yet." Based on these results and recommendations by the Covenant Conversation Team, who has relied on the guidance of the "Building an Inclusive Church Manual," the Council voted to pause the Open and Affirming Process at this time. It is important if we are to move forward as an open and affirming congregation, the direction is supported by the vast majority of the congregation. According to the Manual referenced above, the majority is defined as around 75%. This is not only for the health of the congregation but also a faithful witness shared with those we are seeking to serve. At the request of the Covenant Conversation Team, the Council voted to disband the group as they had completed their goals originally set forth and will re-evaluate the process in the future and make appropriate recommendations. The Council would like to recognize the Covenant Conversation Team (formerly known as the ONA Team) for their hard work and dedication to this process over the last seven years. Their commitment, patience, sacrifice and love are a true example of how we journey the way of Jesus.



Church Council Meeting Notes

4/21/2025

In Attendance:

Pastor Ed, Snezana Tenhundfeld, Beckie Borah, Linda Gracey, Jenny Herrmann, Donna Hoffman, Jen Korpik, Debbie Paillette, Jane Petracco, Sallie Schmidt, Marcia Storm, Greg Vogel, Ken Weidinger, Josh Woodward

• *Gathering/Centering*

Read Psalm 22

• *Approval of Minutes from March*

Jenny made a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting, Marcia seconded.

Minutes approved.

• *Financial Report*

- Ed read the update from Bert via text.
- Roof on the education wing is finished
- Still assessing the bathroom's leak.
- Sallie made a motion to approve the Financial Report, Greg seconded. **Report approved.**

• *Personnel*

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

• *Council Positions*

- Linda Gracey has agreed to fill Coordinator of Service
- Josh Woodward has agreed to serve the remaining one-year Councilor term.

• *Legacy Committee Positions*

- Tom Pendrey has agreed to serve on the Legacy Committee

• *Covenant Conversation Team (CCT)/Open and Affirming (ONA)*

- Ken and Beckie gave us the final straw poll results
- 176 ballots were sent out, 102 ballots were returned (57.95%)
 - Yes 62.74%
 - Not Yet 7.89%
 - No 29.41%
- The council read all the comments left on the surveys
- After a brief discussion with Ken and Beckie, it was decided that we should pause the ONA process.
- A motion was made to disband the CCT/ONA team by Jane and seconded by Beckie, **Motion carried.**
- **The council is very appreciative of all the hard work the ONA/CCT teams have put in the last seven years.**
- *Pastor's Report*
 - Ed informed the council that he is resigning as pastor of Christ Church and handed out his letter.
 - A motion was made by Marcia to accept Ed's resignation and seconded by Beckie. **Motion carried.**
- *Special Congregational Meeting on April 27*
 - Council and committee members will be voted in.
 - Snezana will announce the results of the straw poll and decision of the Council going forward.
- *Meeting concluded with prayer.*



Schedules for May

Liturgists

May 4	Marcia Storm
May 11	Carolyn Tyler
May 18	Scott Turner
May 25	Bert Bathiany

Deacons

May 4	Jean Braun
May 11	Jack Hurtt
May 18	Greg Vogel
May 25	Jean Braun

Ushers

May 4	Jean Braun Gordon Braun Debbie Paillette Thierry Paillette
May 11	Jack Hurtt Ellen Turner Scott Turner Marcia Storm
May 18	Greg Vogel Patti Miller Carol Himes Andy Borah
May 25	Jean Braun Gordon Braun Ellen Turner Scott Turner

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 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	2	3
4 8:30 am -Fellowship 9 am -Adult Discipleship 10:30 am -Children's Christian Education 10:30 am -Worship 11:30 am -Choir 2 pm -Student Rehearsal	5 10 am - Bloom Homeschool	6 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	7 3 pm -Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group	8 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting 7 pm - Doll Group	9 3 pm - Recital	10
11 8:30 am -Fellowship 9 am -Adult Discipleship 10:30 am -Children's Christian Education 10:30 am -Worship 11:30 am -Choir	12 10 am - Bloom Homeschool 7 pm - Survivors of Suicide 7 pm - Finance Meeting	13 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	14 3 pm -Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group	15 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	16	17
18 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	19 6 pm - Church Council	20 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	21 9:30 am - Mom's Club 3 pm -Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group	22 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	23	24
25 8:30 am -Fellowship 9 am -Adult Discipleship 10:30 am -Children's Christian Education 10:30 am -Worship 11:30 am -Choir	26 OFFICE CLOSED Memorial Day	27 11:30 am - Lunch and Learn 1:30 pm - Art Group 7 pm - Overeaters Anonymous	28 9:30 am - Mom's Club 3 pm -Small Group Zoom Link is: bit.ly/ccwednesday 7 pm - AA Group	29 12 pm - Study Group 7 pm - Prayer Meeting	30	31