

Our Vision: Connecting People with God and Each Other

Volume 59 Issue 9 August 1, 2020

In This Issue...

| A Word from Kory2 |
|-------------------------------|
| Prayer List2 |
| Trish Talk3 |
| New Members3 |
| Disciples Women's Ministries3 |
| Book Studies4 |
| Zoom Meetings4 |
| Youth5 |
| Leadership Report5 |
| Healthy Church Task Force5 |
| Thank You Notes6 |
| Memorials7 |
| Disciples Habitat House7 |
| Ronald McDonald House7 |
| Outreach7 |

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATE

Although the physical church office is closed, the virtual church office is open.

Contact the office at office@crestwoodchristian.org or (859) 266-0459.

NEXT CREST - SEPTEMBER 1

ARTICLES DUE BY NOON ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

DRIVE-THROUGH WORSHIP

with BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING August 2 @ 7:00 - 8:00 PM

We continue to miss you! It's been wonderful to see many of you at our Drive-Through Worship Experiences this summer. We're planning another one for Sunday, August 2, 7:00-8:00 PM, with a BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING.

STUDENTS, TEACHERS, SCHOOL STAFF & HOME SCHOOL TEACHERS:

You're invited to bring your backpack, tote, briefcase, or just yourself for a blessing of the new school year!

Starting at 7:00 PM, cars will line up in the Glendover Elementary parking lot. Then, they will be guided to the different worship stations. From the safety of your own vehicle, you will be able to participate in different elements of worship. The whole experience should only take about 10 minutes. We encourage you to come and bring friends. We hope to see you!

OPEN SANCTUARY FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION

Now, more than ever, we understand the need for sacred space. Starting Wednesday, August 5, we will be opening the sanctuary for individuals or families to come to the

atmosphere that helps move one from the secular to the sacred.

2:00-4:00 PM Saturday Mornings

Wednesday Afternoons

SCHOOL

church for a time of quiet reflection. During the posted times, you are welcome to come any time and stay as little or as long as you like. We will provide guides for prayer and an

9:00-11:00 AM

Masks and social distancing will be required. There will be limited access to facilities. If you have questions, contact Trish.

HEY PREACHER SERMON SERIES

Is the Bible true? August 2 John 18:33-38

August 9 What's the role of caring for creation in our faith? Psalm 95:1-7

ONLINE WORSHIP Sundays @ 10am

On Sundays, you'll receive an email with a link to a pre-recorded worship service (also posted on our Crestwood Facebook page. Our summer HEY PREACHER sermon series concludes this month with some of the great questions and topics you submitted.

PRAYER LIST

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: Joe Billings, Karen Billings, the family of Cal Grayson, the family of Mona Pence, Sarah Pergram and baby Grey, Harvey Thompson and family

FAMILY: Ginny Sue Hemphill (sister-in-law of Monte LaFrana), the family of Marcia Polischuck (aunt of Ben Thompson), Bradley Purple (nephew of Doug and Gayle Hutcherson), T.J. Richardson (brother-in-law of Sice Shanklin), Mike White (cousin of Sheri Shaver), the family of Sue Yates (aunt of Tara Wilkinson)

FRIENDS: Paul and Vicki Bernier (of Stephanie Wallace), Aileen Dalton (of Christie Oliver), Richard Faust (of Kory Wilcoxson), Cellina Gantley (of Kathy Stone), Betsy Goehrig (of Crestwood), Rebecca Long and family (of Fran Allen), *the family and friends of Katherine McKee (of Crestwood), the family of Mary Ross (of the Jouetts), Jane Tucker (of Kathy Stone), Diane Wyckoff (of Fran Allen)

ARMED FORCES: Anar Aliyev (of Crestwood),
Paul Baird (grandson-in-law of Minva
Hodgins), Blake and Jill Chambers and
family (grandson of Joe and Karen Billings),
Travis Cramer (son of Rick and Cathy
Tittmann), Daniel Day (grandson of John and
Carol Royse), Bud DeLacey (nephew of Matt
and Michelle DeLacey), Scott Eldridge (of
Pamela Wainscott), Andrew Lynn (grandson
of Joe and Karen Billings), Zoe Sims
(granddaughter of John Sims), Dalcus Sparks
(nephew of Andrea Back)

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Jean Aspley, Margaret Buchanan, Billie Casey, Carolyn Floyd, Carl and Jean Ham, Georgia Meece, John Sims, Mary Janice Towles

OUR WORLD COMMUNITY: We pray for the inmates of the Fayette County Detention Center and their families, for the peace of God to rule in the hearts of our local and national leaders, and for God's spirit of reconciliation to bring healing during these difficult times.

*Names added this week. Names are included on the prayer list for one month. If a name has been removed that you would like added back on, please contact the church office.

A WORD FROM KORY

I miss you. That's the simplest way to put it. I miss seeing you on Sunday morning, I miss having you stop by during the week, I even miss sitting in committee meetings with you! As this pandemic continues to drag on and seemingly worsen by the day, I worry that I won't get to see you for longer than I had hoped. And yet, your good health and safety is my top priority, so the staff will continue to make decisions with that in mind. Still, I miss you.



My thanks to everyone who filled out our congregational life survey. The results have given us a good snapshot of how people are connecting with us during the pandemic and how we can continue to serve you into the future. To date, we have 144 responses, and the results have given us a good idea of what's working and what other things people would like us to do.

Of those who responded, about 80% attended church weekly before the virus hit, and, more interestingly, two respondents had never attended Crestwood before we shut down. According to the results, about 90% of the people engage our online worship each Sunday. Those services are getting between 250-315 views each week, which is fairly in line with our average worship attendance before the virus. When you figure that an average of 2-3 people are watching each view, that means we're reaching far more people online than we were in person.

In addition to those who connect via our worship, a little over half the respondents said they also connect with Crestwood via a Zoom gathering (Bible study, book study, Soul Care, etc). Another 58% make use of the online devotionals that are offered each day. Thirty percent are connected through Facebook and another 25% have attended a drive-through worship experience. It's good to see people are connecting with Crestwood in a variety of ways.

When asked if they would participate in a small-group or fellowship experience (with the proper precautions in place), 27% said "No," 37% said "Yes," and 35% said "Yes, but only if held outside." As long as the guidelines allow for it, the staff is going to work on creating some small in-person gatherings for people to socialize and learn together.

When asked about using the sanctuary for a time of prayer, 75% were not interested, but 25% were. Trish and I are working on a plan to create this time and space in the sanctuary, recognizing that just sitting in that sacred space can help people feel more connected to God. We'll be sure to take all the proper precautions to keep everyone healthy.

Here's the question I found most interesting. We asked, "Which of the following best describes your perspective as we consider a timetable for returning to gatherings for in-person worship at Crestwood?" Here are the responses:

14.8% - I will return at the first opportunity with no reservations

31.7% - I will return at the first opportunity, but with concerns and precautions

20.4% -I will wait for several weeks, even after we start gathering for worship

33.1% -I will not be attending in-person worship until there is a vaccine or all is clear

(continued on page 3)

2 Crestwood Christian Church

A Word from Kory (continued)

Based on these results, when we open our doors for the first time, unless we have an "all clear," over 50% of the congregation won't be present. That's a huge factor for us to consider as we ponder re-opening. I would never want anyone to feel afraid to come to church; that's antithetical to the purpose of worship. And God forbid that we open too soon and someone gets sick because of it. We promise to continue to monitor the situation and discern the best path forward, but your safety will continue to be our top priority.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers, Crestwood. Please know your staff is doing the best we can to serve you, to stay connected, and to keep everyone's well-being in mind. As always, we appreciate your feedback and your love as we negotiate these crazy times. Always remember, God loves you and so do !!

WELCOME CRESTWOOD'S NEWEST MEMBERS! (Joined by ZOOM)



Annetta Carter
Date Joined:
July 19, 2020



Kelly HaleDate Joined:
July 26, 2020

TRISH TALK

Dear Friends,

During the past few months, thanks to the coronavirus, we've learned a few things. We've learned not to take things for

granted: worshipping together in the sanctuary, visits with family and friends, hugs, spontaneous shopping trips, even toilet paper.

We may have learned a lot about ourselves and our loved ones as we have spent more time alone or isolated with our families.

We have learned who real heroes are: health care workers, teachers, grocery workers, Dr. Fauci, and the many necessary folks who work to make our daily life happen.

We have learned new words and phrases: essential workers, COVID-19, social distancing, and COVID fatigue.

We have learned a lot. It's the last two-word phrase that I want to focus on now. COVID fatigue is not a symptom of the viral infection. It is the act of growing weary of the restrictions, the isolation, and the disruption that the virus has caused. As the numbers climb, we realize the need for staying the course. We have sacrificed much these past several months, but it seems more will be required of us. As people of faith called to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves, it is important that we stay committed to doing what is right and to care for one another however we can.

I've been reading the stories in the First Testament and being reminded of the challenges that the Israelites faced. I looked at church history and am reminded of the persecution the early church faced. I look at our country's history and realize the sacrifices made. In perspective, it makes several months of staying home something we CAN do. We are not alone. God is at work. Let us keep focused on learning and growing so that on the other side of this we are better, stronger, more loving, and more grace-filled.

Oh Crestwood, I do miss you. This month I celebrate my 5-year anniversary. Time flies—even on quarantine time.

Blessed to share the journey, Trish

Knowing and Doing the Will of God Book Study

Last spring, before the pandemic caused us to separate, a study on Knowing and Doing the Will of God by Henry Blackaby was in the process of forming. This book looks at how God is working in the world and God's invitation to join God in the work. Trish will lead this study that will begin by Zoom, but if deemed safe, may move to a small in-person group. If you are interested, please contact the church office at office@crestwoodchristian.org.

WEEKLY ZOOM MEETINGS

SOUL CARE CAFÉ

Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM

Have a thought on Sunday's sermon? Want to know what's going on with the church? Just need to vent or see a friendly face? Join us on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. Kory leads this group, which includes scripture reading, prayer, and a chance to check in and see how everyone is doing. Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/93130030767

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY (Job)

Thursdays @ 11:15 AM

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366

FUN FRIDAYS

Fridays @ Noon

Every Friday at noon a few folks gather on Zoom to visit and play games. Usually we play "Card Bingo." All you need is 6 playing cards to join in the game. We have also played Trivia. This is a great way to stay connected and start a weekend. Need help? Ask Trish. Just log onto Zoom on Fridays at noon. Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366

ZOOM FAITH GROUP

Saturdays @ Noon

Let's Zoom together on Saturday mornings! These are challenging days and having a group to connect and grow with is important. If you want to join the group, email Trish at trish@crestwoodchristian.org.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays @ 9:00 AM

All are welcome to Zoom Sunday School at 9:00 AM. Email Trish for the article being discussed and sign in at the link below at 9:00 AM on Sunday. Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366

3rd - 5th GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays @ 9:15 AM

Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82979668809

YOUTH ZOOM MEETINGS

Tuesdays @ 4:00 PM - Chi Rho Thursdays @ 4:00 PM - CYF Sundays @ 4:00 PM - Youth Group

As several of our Crestwood groups and teams continue to meet virtually through Zoom and other means of communication, stay in touch with your group leader to stay connected. Also, check the Weekly calendar for meetings in the upcoming week.

RACE RELATIONS BOOK TUDIES

...ROUND 2...

In an effort to help us educate ourselves on how to faithfully respond to issues of race and inequality, your ministerial staff have hosted 6-week book study sessions. To continue making these available at different time slots, new sessions on the same books will begin the week of August 17. You are welcome to join one or more of them! Here's the information you need to participate:

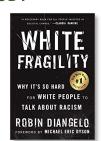
WHITE FRAGILITY BOOK STUDY

Mondays @ 7:00 PM **Beginning August 17** Led by Kory Wilcoxson

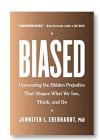
White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism by Robin DiAngelo

Amazon link here

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85753824754



BIASED BOOK STUDY



Tuesdays @ 10:00 AM **Beginning August 25** Led by Trish Standifur

Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudices That Shapes What We See, Think, and Do by Jennifer Eberhardt

Amazon link here

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366

NEW JIM CROW BOOK STUDY

Thursdays @ 7:00 PM **Beginning August 20** Led by Brian Miller

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander

Amazon link here

Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84707318365

4 Crestwood Christian Church

CRESTWOOD YOUTH

August is usually the month when we prepare for and experience new beginnings with school shopping, signing up for sports, writing our daily routines in our calendars, walking into our new classrooms, meeting new friends, 6th graders joining youth group, having a church promotion celebration of our children moving up to a different grade level, and so much more. The start of August 2020 is probably drastically different than any of us ever imagined, so it is okay to grieve what was, experience what is, and wonder what will be. God is walking with each of us and will never forsake us. We are living into our new beginnings together as Crestwood family, as One Body of Christ.

It is exciting to have our youth moving into Chi Rho (middle school) and CYF (high school) this month! I am thrilled to have the opportunity to welcome our new youth and continuing to get-to-know, grow, explore, challenge, and journey alongside our youth in their faith journey here at Crestwood Christian Church. Our Youth Ministry Team invites all youth currently in 6th through 12th grade in the 2020-2021 school year to join the weekly devotional and youth group gatherings.

Upcoming Event: Our youth ministry is working with other Disciples of Christ churches in and around Lexington to create a drive-in movie experience. We plan to have follow -up meetings to discuss our reflections of the movie and race relations. More information is coming in the following weeks.

Thank you for continuing to support our youth ministry. Please feel free to contact me via email or text, or call with your questions, concerns, or ideas.

Peace, Brian Miller

Weekly Youth Zoom Schedule

Youth Group - Sundays @ 4pm Chi Rho Zoom Devotional - Tuesdays @ 4pm CYF Zoom Devotional - Thursdays @ 4pm









Crestwood Online Calendar

2020-2021 CHURCH LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN FINALIZED

As a consequence of the current pandemic, the Administrative Board this year directed that the annual election of officers of the congregation be conducted through an online and mail-in vote. The election concluded on June 30. A total of 188 ballots were cast and the results were unanimously in favor of the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee and the Administrative Board. The full slate was published in the June 16 issue of *The Weekly* and is available on the church's website.

In addition, there were two unfilled positions that were not included on the slate of officers at the time of publication. That resulted in a vacancy in each of those positions. The Nominating Committee has recommended that Doug Hutcherson be appointed Financial Secretary for a term of two years beginning January 1, 2021, and Linda Ransdell be appointed Deacon for a term of three years, beginning July 1, 2020. Both Doug and Linda have agreed to accept these positions. Their nominations will be presented to the Administrative Board for formal approval at the September meeting.

Also, Matt Parsons has been elected chairperson of the Personnel Committee by the members of that committee.

We are grateful for the service of Linda, Bob, and Matt, and for all of Crestwood's leaders.

Jay Prather Moderator

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

The Crestwood staff would like to thank all those leaders who served during the 2019-2020 church year. Your leadership and service helped Crestwood continue to fulfill its vision to connect people to God and each other. Thank you for being a part of our team as we serve this congregation and the surrounding community. Well done, good and faithful servants!

HEALTHY CHURCH TASK FORCE

The Healthy Church Task Force met recently to discuss the future of gatherings at Crestwood. The group decided that, for the foreseeable future, we will not be gathering for in-person worship on Sundays. This will continue until the group feels that we can gather in large groups safely. The building will continue to remain closed to other kinds of gatherings through August, unless otherwise approved by the church staff.

Anyone wishing to use the building must call (859) 457-0980 so that we can track who has been in the facility. This will help us keep the church clean and help us alert anyone if a building user tests positive.

.....Notes of Thanks.....Notes of Thanks.....

Dear Crestwood Christian Church,

Summer or winter. Hot or cold. There's no good time to be hungry or homeless. It has been especially hard during the COVID-19 pandemic. Thanks to your generous gift of \$500 to **Lexington Rescue Mission**, the poorest individuals and families in our community will have hearty meals, housing, and the support they need to restore their hope during this trying time. As the Bible says: "If among you, one of your brothers should become poor...you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be...because of this, the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all you undertake." Thank you for opening your hand to provide care that reaches hearts and changes lives.

Gratefully,
Jim Connell, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

The Nathaniel Mission would like to thank you for your support and gift of \$1,427. Your generosity and kindness to our neighbors makes a lasting difference in their lives and the life of our community. From supporting essential services and staff to making creative programs possible, your donation ensures that The Nathaniel Mission can continue to invest in the lives of those around us, restore hope and dignity to our disenfranchised neighbors, and transform our community with God's love and power. We are eternally grateful for our partners like you. May God bless you as you continue to be a blessing to us and many others. Please remember The Nathaniel Mission in your prayers.

Gratefully, Rev. Dan Baer, Executive Director

Dear Friends of LTS at Crestwood.

The **Lexington Theological Seminary** community is blessed by your generosity and kindness. We thank you for valuing the work of the Seminary and joining with us in preparing men and women for service in Christ's church. When students reflect upon their opportunity to attend LTS, words can't describe how enthusiastic and appreciative they are to be in the Seminary's Master of Divinity program. On their behalf, thanks for your partnership, your belief in LTS, and your generous outreach offering of \$540. We are blessed to have such good partners as Crestwood Christian Church.

Sincerely yours, Mark Blankenship, Vice President for Advancement Dear Friends,

Since our doors opened at **Christian Care Communities** in 1884, friends like you have helped offer older adults an unprecedented level of care. We would like to share a few words of gratitude from our residents:

"I love my new home! Thank you for caring about me."

"Thank you for giving me a place to call home."

"I am grateful for the friendships I've made. I'm no longer alone."

"I am thankful for the chaplain."

More people than ever need the strength and comfort of Christian Care Communities' important services. With your gift of \$100, you join others who have made a commitment to help continue our mission of enhancing the journey of life for Older Adults. Thank you for partnering with us.

In His Service, James W. Patton, Vice President - Mission Advancement

Dear Local Outreach Team,

Natalie's Sisters wants to thank you for your recent donation of \$167. We are especially grateful, realizing the pandemic has affected everyone, and budgets are tight everywhere! We remain busy at the Drop-in Center, still serving 25+ women most days, and continue to make referrals to critical community resources for our Sisters. We're also making plans for when we're allowed to resume Jail and Club ministry. We know our Sisters who don't come to the Drop-in miss the community, encouragement, and support of our team members. To keep in touch, we're making regular contact via social media and telephone, and are holding "Zoom church" one Sunday a month. Thank you again for your support. Because of you, lives are being changed!

Blessings, Jani Lewis, Executive Director

Dear Crestwood,

Thank you for supporting the work of **FoodChain** and for helping us feed the community in a time of such need. Your generous donation of \$500 went toward supplies and ingredients that we need to make and distribute healthy homemade meals to the underserved and more vulnerable populations here in Lexington. Since March 17, we have given out over 65,000 meals and we aren't stopping any time soon. Thanks for helping to make this possible.

In gratitude, The FoodChain Team

6 Crestwood Christian Church

In Memory of ...

These Crestwood members passed away in July.
Please keep their families and friends in your prayers.



MONA PENCE (1953-2020)



CAL GRAYSON (1924-2020)



ADA JUNE THOMPSON (1936-2020)

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRIES CIRCLE MEETINGS ON ZOOM

Let's get together to visit and catch up! If you don't have video capability, you can Zoom! Just call the phone number listed in Trish's email using any phone.

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, August 17, 6:30 PM

Naomi Circle

Tuesday, August 18, 10:00 AM

Dorcas Circle

Wednesday, August 19, 10:00 AM

Crestwood Christian DWM invites all women to visit one or more of our Circles. Please contact Andy Bales at 273-0051 or arsb@usa.net for more information.

DISCIPLES FOR HABITAT 2020 HOUSE

Lexington Habitat for Humanity suspended the work of volunteers due to the pandemic, but part of their staff has been working on the Disciples' house (Crestwood's 34th sponsored Habitat house). Noella and her family will be the homeowners of the house, located at 519 Willy Street. You can help by making a donation by check (to *Crestwood Christian Church* with **Habitat** memo) or online (click here and note **Habitat** in the special instructions). Crestwood's goal is \$20,667 which is one third of the sponsorship of a house. With your help we can meet our goal. Thank you for your donations!

RONALD McDONALD REQUESTS THE HONOR OF...

...your aluminum pop top donations (from any aluminum beverage can). Please continue to save your aluminum pop tops at home and when we are able to return safely to Crestwood, place them in the cardboard McDonald house in the Giving Lane. The Ronald McDonald House sells these tops, which helps fund the awesome work they do. Now, more than ever, we need to be



Keeping families close

thinking of ways to reach out to our community and support efforts to help people in their time of need. You can also take the pop tops directly to the Ronald McDonald House (1300 Sports Center Drive) and place them in the red wagon on their front porch.



Virginia Long visits with Ronald

JULY LOCAL OUTREACH GIVING

Lighthouse Ministries

Local Outreach made a \$1000 donation to Lighthouse Ministries. Rather than table service lunch and dinner for about 150 meals each day, Lighthouse Ministries is packing and passing out an average of 300 meals each day. The annual post office food drive which typically brings in 10,000 pounds of canned goods for Lighthouse Ministries was cancelled this year.

Bridge Fund Assistance

Crestwood has assisted 6 families with overdue rent payments (\$150, \$200, \$200, \$231, \$200, \$200). Four of these payments were made on requests for assistance from the Resource Office for Social Ministries (ROSM). Crestwood joins with other area churches to provide the requested assistance.

DRIVE-BY BLESSING BOX

In an effort to serve our community, Crestwood continues to offer a Blessing Box, located outside of the Children's Wing entrance. This box provides a supplement for our neighbors when they need help to stretch pantry items. When you find yourself with extra, please consider contributing to the box, and please share with others that this box is available if they need something. For a list of suggested items, see *The Weekly*.

1882 Bellefonte Drive Lexington, Kentucky 40503-2046 (859) 266-0459 Fax: (859) 266-0450

THE CREST

Crestwood Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Return Service Requested

PUZZLE EXCHANGE If you'd like to share or borrow a puzzle, the puzzle table is now available in the breezeway between Chalice Hall and the sanctuary on weekdays from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Enjoy!

CRESTWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Online Sunday Worship - 10:00 AM

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kory Wilcoxson, Senior Minister
Rev. Trish Standifur, Associate Minister
Brian Miller, Associate Minister
Peggy King, Children's Coordinator
Maureen Howell, Office Administrator & Pianist
Frank Spragens, Music Director
Rhiannon Jackson, Children's Music Director
Jane Johnson, Organist
Elizabeth Napier, Childcare Director
Tara Monzon, Parent's Day Out Director
Lynn West, Facilities Manager
Chris Buckellew, Assistant Custodian

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Church Office Kory Wilcoxson Trish Standifur Brian Miller Peggy King Frank Spragens Rhiannon Jackson Lynn West office@crestwoodchristian.org kory@crestwoodchristian.org trish@crestwoodchristian.org brian@crestwoodchristian.org peggy@crestwoodchristian.org fspragens@yahoo.com rhiannonwhite91@gmail.com custodian@crestwoodchristian.org

WEBSITE