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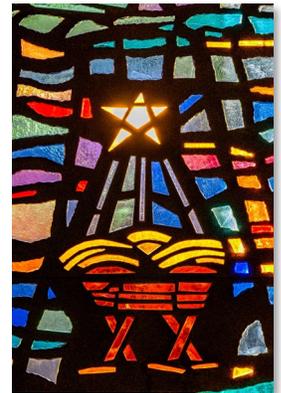
ADVENT AT CRESTWOOD

Come, O Long-expected Jesus



NATIVITY SCENES

We know that you all have some beautiful depictions of the nativity scene around your house and we want to see them! We're asking you to take a picture of your nativity scene (or scenes) and send it to office@crestwoodchristian.org. We'll be using these pictures as the background for music in upcoming services. Let's see the beauty and diversity of our Christmas decorations!



NEXT CREST JANUARY 1

Articles are due by Noon on Wednesday, December 23.

If you would like to receive the *Crest* by mail, please contact the church office at office@crestwoodchristian.org or (859) 266-0459.

CRESTWOOD MASKS THEY'RE HERE!



If you pre-ordered a Crestwood mask and have not yet received it, please let us know. The \$10 cost of each mask may be paid by cash, check, or online. If you would like a mask but did not pre-order, please contact the church office. Masks will be available on a first come, first served basis. These high quality masks make great stocking stuffers!

A WORD FROM KORY



I moved to Lexington in November 2009 and started working here at Crestwood on the first Sunday of Advent of that year. It was a magical season as my family and I settled into our new home, started making friends, and got to know this church which has been so special to us. We were expecting Christmas Day 2009 to be the best one we'd ever had together.

That morning, the girls (at that time 11 and 6) came excitedly downstairs to open their presents. Each got the usual assortments of clothes and toys, including one particular playset they both had been wanting. After present time, they started playing together with the playset. Within about five minutes, an argument began between the two of them. After a couple verbal warnings, which did nothing to quell the conflict, I announced, "OK, I'm taking the playset away for a few hours until you all can get along." Then, with angry tears in her eyes, my oldest daughter exclaimed, "Thanks for ruining Christmas!" I thought I was Santa, but it turns out I was the Grinch.

Many of us may feel like Christmas has been ruined this year. At the moment we are supposed to be at our most festive, the COVID virus spikes, our governor encourages restrictions on family gatherings and worship, and we are once again forced between being stuck at home or risking the health and well-being of others. Talk about a lump of coal in your stocking!

So, Christmas 2020 won't be like any other Christmas. Many of our holiday traditions will be augmented to meet the demands of our circumstances or jettisoned all together in the name of safety. No one will miss our Christmas fellowship dinner and the Kentuckians Men's Chorus concert more than me. Those and other church events were spiritual eggnog for my thirsty soul, and I need them now more than ever. But, that's not the right thing to do, so we're not going to do it.

Does that mean Christmas is ruined? I sure hope not. If we let the joy of this season turn to lament for what we can't do, then we've totally missed the point of Christmas. Christmas is not about what we can or can't do; it's about what has been done for us. Christ's coming into this world is not affected in the least by whether or not we worship in person or gather for a church dinner. Christ has come, Christ is coming, and Christ will come again, and the only thing that can stop us from celebrating that fact is our own attitude. We can focus on what we can't do, or we can focus on what God has done for us.

At Crestwood, we're still working hard to make this season meaningful and to mark the miracle of Christ's birth. We know it's not the same as before, but we can't control that. What we can control is the spirit in which we gather together online or in our cars. We control how generous we are to those in need through our Angel Trees, Food Boxes, and Alternative Christmas Giving. We control whether or not we connect with God through devotionals, Sunday worship services, and Christmas Eve services.

This is not easy. I want to see you, to sing with you, to lead you in worship. But, this Advent and Christmas, we simply can't do that safely. So, we can lament what's been taken from us, or we can celebrate what's been given to us: a child who bears the promise that no darkness can overcome the light that has come into the world. I hope you choose to let that light shine this season, in your hearts and in the world. Don't let the darkness ruin Christmas for you. Let your light shine! There is so much for which we can be grateful to God. May the circumstances of this season help us focus on what God has done for us at Christmas. Christ is still coming, thanks be to God.

PRAYER LIST: JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEMBERS: Bettye Burns, *the family of Billie Casey, Cindy Fulkerson and family, Bill McDonald, Rainey McDonald, Carolyn Rasnick and family, Karen Schell, *Wayne Shaver, Michael and Phyllis Trowbridge, Sonia Woodall

FAMILY: **The family of Meryl Clements** (cousin of Joe Clark), **Betty Donaldson** (aunt of Susan Hart), **Derrie Edge** (sister-in-law of Chrystal Schoeder), **Loretta Grannis** (aunt of Susan Hart), ***the family of Carl Hensley** (brother-in-law of Colette Lane), **Joycie Holbrook** (aunt of Susan Hart), ***Wilma Horn** (aunt of David Wiseman), **Kath Wathen** (mother of Kory Wilcoxson)

FRIENDS: ***Becky** (of Crestwood), **Ingrid Compton** (of Betty Barton), **Aileen Dalton** (of Christie Oliver), **Paul Devine and family** (of the Harts), **Verna Fairchild** (of Libby Wachtel), **Lucia Felix** (of Libby Wachtel), **Caden Freeman** (of Crestwood), **Cellina Gantley** (of Kathy Stone), **Vicki Lucero** (of Crestwood), ***Isaiah McDowell** (of Georgia Meece), **the family of Suzanne Mitchum** (of Callie Price), **Joanne Shuman** (of Monte LaFrana), **Janet and Gary Taylor** (of Kathy Stone), **the family of Betty Willis** (of Callie Price), **Brad Woods** (of Betty Barton)

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 and son of Tracy Day), **Bud DeLacey** (nephew of Matt and Michelle DeLacey), **Scott Eldridge** (of Pamela Wainscott), **Andrew Lynn** (grandson of Joe and Karen Billings), ***Daniel Sigler** (son of David and Pam Sigler), **Zoe Sims** (granddaughter of John Sims), **Dalcus Sparks** (nephew of Andrea Back)

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Jean Aspley, Karen Billings, Margaret Buchanan, 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.*



TRISH TALK

Dear Friends,

I pray that, though our Advent is different this year, this detour leads us to the place that we encounter Christ and all of the love that shines in the LIGHT.

Joyce Rupp works speak to my heart. I pray this prayer is a blessing for your Advent journey.

Blessings, Trish

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

by Joyce Rupp

Emmanuel, God with us you chose to come for each person,
the destitute and the wealthy, the unfortunate and the privileged,
the troubled and the peaceful, the healthy and the ill.
You came in human form with a message of extravagant love,
showing us how to be with those who have much less than we do.
You came offering a gesture of respect and reverence instead of
indifference and disdain;
giving courteous kindness in place of thoughtless disregard;
contributing ongoing support rather than merely holiday handout.
Change my heart. Turn it inside out, toward the larger world.
Remind me daily of those who struggle with their basic existence.
Lead me to help change social systems that contribute to this
ongoing struggle.
Enlarge my awareness. Increase my generosity.
Guide my choices of how to live, what I purchase, and how I use
my material wealth.
Remind me often of your presence in those I tend to ignore or
forget
Boundless Love, thank you for cherishing each person on this
planet.

WELCOME

CRESTWOOD'S NEWEST MEMBERS!



The Zakowski Family

Thomas, Christina, Charlie, TJ & Grace (left to right)
Date Joined: November 15, 2020

NOVEMBER LOCAL OUTREACH GIVING

Lexington Rescue Mission - \$540

(250 Thanksgiving Meals)

In response to the recent fire at LRM we are providing lunch for 75 people for 3 days in November.

Natalie's Sisters - \$400

10 backpacks full of warm gear and other items for the colder weather.

Nathaniel Mission - \$104

Purchased 14 pies, mashed potatoes, and green beans for their Thanksgiving Dinner.

Fraternal Order of Police - \$400

Sponsor two children for Shop with a Cop.

Room in the Inn - \$1000

Guests will be housed at the First United Methodist Church guest house from November 29, 2020 through March 27, 2021. Donation to assist with linen cleaning charges and other expenses.

Bridge Fund Assistance provided:

\$150	Rent
\$200	Rent
\$287.37	Kentucky Utilities

The Crestwood Bridge Fund assists with overdue rent or utilities. We know there are individuals who have been affected by the pandemic and may need assistance. If you know someone who is in need of assistance, please have them contact the church office.



OUTREACH FOCUS

The Mission: To provide hospitality that inspires individual growth and recovery in an environment that is free of drugs, violence, and abuse, through the power of spirituality and love.

Room In The Inn was founded in 1985 in Nashville by Father Charles Strobel when he opened the doors of his parish to individuals seeking sanctuary in the church parking lot. In December 1986 four congregations committed to sheltering homeless people through March 1987. By the end of that winter, 31 congregations had joined. Today over 200 congregations from a wide variety of faith communities and over 7,000 volunteers shelter nearly 2,000 men and women each season.

Lexington's RITI program began 17 years ago in 2003 when a cease-and-desist order was issued by the LFUCG against a local church who began offering food and shelter in their basement to the homeless during the coldest nights of the winter. In response, a small delegation was formed that traveled to Nashville to learn about Room In The Inn. Today there are more than 20 congregations in the Lexington area that provide safe shelter, warm meals, and fellowship for men struggling with homelessness during the coldest months of the year.

Covid19 has changed many things in our lives and RITI is no exception. In past years, the men would be transported to a host church where they would spend the night in quarters prepared by the host church. They were served a dinner meal and breakfast, and a sack lunch would be provided upon departure the next morning. Crestwood hosted the men twice a month November - March. This procedure will not be possible this year due to the virus.

The RITI Board of Directors has determined how to continue the program in a safe manner for the men and volunteers. The 12 eligible men will be sheltered in the Guest House of First United Methodist Church located on Upper Street. Volunteers from the participating congregations will deliver meals to this location. Men have been housed here during the pandemic and continue to practice the CDC guidelines.

Below is the link to SignUpGenius created by Room in the Inn.

Please consider volunteering. If you have questions, contact Sheri Shaver at (859) 797-4164.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B4DAEAA2BA6FB6-season>

ADVENT 2020

“...prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.” Isaiah 40:3

ADVENT STUDY

Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation

At Christmas, we celebrate the greatest of God's gifts: the birth of Immanuel, God with us. Throughout the season of Advent, we're able to anticipate God's gifts to us and consider what they really mean. We want to help you dive deeper into the meaning of Advent with a four-week study called **Peace, Justice, Joy, and Salvation**. This resource from the Thoughtful Christian will help us consider familiar texts from the book of Isaiah through the lens of gifts. Embedded in these texts are gifts that God longs to give us and deeply desires for us to receive into our lives: peace, justice, joy, and salvation.

The study will be offered at the following times:

Mondays @ 7:00 PM, starting November 30
(Led by Kory)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82378831147>

Thursdays @ 11:30 AM, starting December 3
(Led by Trish)

Sundays at 9:00 AM during Adult Sunday School
(Led by Trish)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366>

ADVENT SERMON SERIES DETOUR!

Have you ever thought you were going a certain way, only to find that way was blocked? Detour! That's the theme of our 2020 Advent sermon series. Every character in the Christmas story - Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, the wise men - all had to take detours from what they thought their lives were going to be. Many of us are experiencing detours as well, as COVID alters what we thought life was going to be like. In these sermons, we'll learn how God helped these people through their detours, walking with them into a new way of living and being.

Nov 29 Mary
Dec 6 Joseph
Dec 13 The Shepherds
Dec 20 The Birth Story
Dec 27 The Wisemen



On Sunday, November 29, we began our annual journey to Bethlehem. This year has been one of many challenges and the journey is definitely different than in years past. We are going to hope that we make the most of this detour.

In order to aid you in this effort, we are putting together packets with tools for the journey. Each pack will have a set of Advent votive candles (3 purple, 1 pink), a calendar with a daily scripture, a devotional booklet with readings by Henri Nouwen, a sheet with suggestions for service opportunities and suggestions for making this time meaningful, and maybe a few other surprises that will make this a meaningful road trip.

If you would like a packet, please email Trish (trish@crestwoodchristian.org), call the church office, or pick one up in the breezeway. We may be separated this year, but we still travel together. May our efforts be such that we are renewed by the gift of the Christ.

CRESTWOOD WORSHIP

Online Worship

Available through Sunday email link

[Facebook page](#)

[YouTube channel](#)

Drive-In Vespers

Join us on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM for Drive-In Vespers in the North Parking Lot, broadcast through your FM radio. Bring your own communion elements. We hope to see you!



CHRISTMAS EVE KIDS SERVICE December 24 @ 5:00 PM

For our Children's Christmas Eve service, we're inviting everyone to Zoom with us as we sing Christmas songs and share in a festive story about the birth of Jesus. Kory, Trish, Brian, and Peggy will all be there to help us celebrate this meaningful time of year. We hope all our kids will join us at 5:00 PM on Christmas Eve for this service.

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83244450553>

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Prelude @ 6:30 PM ♦ Service @ 7:00 PM

We know that Christmas Eve will be different this year than ever before, but we are committed to celebrate this most holy of nights as a church family. On December 24, we will host a hybrid worship service combining pre-recorded music with a live stream from the sanctuary. The service will feature all the familiar elements of Christmas Eve - amazing music, powerful solos, the reading of the Christmas story, and of course, the lighting of candles and singing of "Silent Night." And if you can't join us at that time, the service will be available to watch at any point afterward, so you can celebrate this special night at your convenience. We look forward to being with you on Christmas Eve!

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES DURING ADVENT

DELIVER GIFTS/FOOD BOXES FOR THE REINDEER EXPRESS

Friday, December 11

This year, Crestwood is housing the NEST's efforts to help families have a bright Christmas. Crestwood is not on a bus line and this is the mode of travel for many families. We may need to assist. Volunteers will pick up a bag of gifts and a food box and deliver these items to the sidewalk/porch of one family. All will be done with safety in mind.

SPONSOR AND/OR PACK LUNCHES FOR LEXINGTON RESCUE MISSION

As you know, the Lexington Rescue Mission had a fire that has made it impossible for them to cook and serve meals. During this time they are looking for volunteers to provide 75 lunches each day. Crestwood and Crestwood members have already completed and committed to 4 days. If you or your family would like to sponsor and/or make and deliver lunches, contact Trish (trish@crestwoodchristian.org) and she will help secure a date. Each lunch service is about \$150.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE Monday, December 21 @ 7:00 PM

On Monday, December 21, we will gather for worship via Zoom. This is the longest night of the year. For those who bear the weight of grief, illness, and other challenges, this season is difficult. The Longest Night Service is designed to remind us of the true message of Christmas: that light comes into the darkness. By being together and turning to the source of our comfort, we will worship God in the promise that we are not alone. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88399256803>

A WEARY WORLD: REFLECTIONS FOR A BLUE CHRISTMAS CONVERSATION GROUP

Thursdays, December 3, 10, 17 @ 6:00 PM

We recognize that this season is not jolly and joy for everyone. For many this is a difficult season. Those who have lost loved ones during this chaotic year have had extra challenges on the grieving journey. The focus on family and togetherness opens wounds of brokenness and loneliness. Let's face it - the year has been a mess that has compounded any difficulty we may have to bear. We are offering a small group opportunity to share with those who understand as we reflect on these days through Kathy Escobar's book *A Weary World: Reflections for a Blue Christmas*. Contact Trish if you're interested in this group.

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light,
those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. Isaiah 9:2*



ANGEL 2 TREE 20

Greetings, Crestwood Family,

Thank you for choosing to adopt an Angel again this season! In doing so you are providing a child with a Christmas memory to cherish for many years, maybe even a lifetime.

This year, because of COVID-19, our process will be a little different; however, the need is greater than ever. Following is the step-by-step process for adopting your Angel(s):

Choose any Angel, or group of sibling Angels, through the sign-up link below. If you need help, please contact Peggy King at peggy@crestwoodchristian.org. When choosing your angel(s), please take note of the number associated with your choice(s) as these numbers will be used to match your gift to the correct child. If your number also has a letter beside it (101a, 101b, etc.) that means this child has siblings. Please plan to shop for all siblings in this group so that gifts are consistent within that family.

Shop for your Angel. Please remember, the gift suggestions are meant to be a guide, not a list to be fulfilled.

Package your gifts. Please do not wrap your gifts. If you wish, you may include a roll of wrapping paper and some ribbon with your gift. Place unwrapped gifts in a black trash bag (to keep little eyes from seeing gifts before Christmas). Trash bags will be available at Crestwood in case you don't have any. If you have chosen siblings or multiple Angels, please use a different bag for each child.

Contact-Free Drop off: You may drop off your gifts on Saturday, December 5, from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Enter the North Parking lot, drive through the circle overhang, and pop your trunk. A volunteer will retrieve your gift(s) and get them tagged for you. Or you may bring your gifts to Crestwood Monday - Friday, from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, and leave them in Lollis Chapel (enter from North parking lot). Tie or fasten the bag(s) securely. A table will be set up inside with your numbered sticker(s) along with your name. Place the corresponding sticker on each bag. If you have adopted sibling Angels, please be sure to tie these bags together. **Gifts need to be at Crestwood no later than Monday, December 7 at Noon.**

Thank you so very much! You have now given a child more than a gift. You have given a child hope, joy, and a memory. And who knows where this will lead!

[To Choose an Angel, click here.](#)

THE NEST FOOD BOXES

Our Youth Ministry is asking for your monetary donations to supply the goal of 300 food boxes for The Nest, which will cost an estimated \$6,000 (\$20 a box). Your generosity last year allowed us to fill 325 food boxes and give a financial donation to help supply other needs at The Nest. Due to the pandemic and in an effort to keep everyone as safe as possible, we are only asking for monetary donations to help cover the cost of the food. We will order the food and have it boxed at a later date by our Youth Ministry. Send your donation to Crestwood Christian Church. Thank you for continuing to make an impact in our community, especially for the 300 families who will receive these food boxes. We can do this! We will do this! We are Crestwood!

*For checks, write in the memo: **The Nest Food Boxes***

*For cash, write on the envelope or note: **The Nest Food Boxes***

*For online giving, note before submitting: **The Nest Food Boxes***

DECEMBER YOUTH CALENDAR

December 4 - 6

Youth Families Fill The Nest Food Boxes

Dec 11 @ 5 PM (Friday)

2nd Friday Game Night on Zoom

Dec 13 @ 4:30 PM (Sunday)

Virtual Youth Christmas Party on Zoom

Dec 20 @ 5 PM (Sunday)

Youth Merge via Zoom

Theme: Ugly Sweater

Dec 27 (Sunday)

No Youth Gatherings

Youth Families - Each youth family is invited to sign up to help fill **The Nest food boxes** from December 4-6. We are asking for each family to pick a date and time to tape boxes and pack food in the 300 boxes. The times will stagger so that we only have one family packing boxes at a time. You will receive an email to sign up. **Youth Christmas Party** will be virtual through Zoom on December 13 at 4:30 PM. It would be wonderful for our youth to spend time together this holiday season.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR! - Brian Miller

WAYS TO CONNECT

remind

6th-8th Grade: Text @chirho1920 to 81010
9th-12th Grade: Text @cyf1920 to 81010

Follow us on Instagram at [crestwood.youthministry](https://www.instagram.com/crestwood.youthministry)

Join the CCC Youth page

[Crestwood Online Calendar](#)

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIVING

Crestwood's Alternative Christmas Giving will be observed November 15 – December 6. The worship service in coming Sundays will feature the various agencies Alternative Christmas Giving supports. The agencies are listed below. *Please complete and include this form with your gift so that we know which agency/agencies you are supporting when Alternative Christmas gifts are distributed.*

This form is also available on the Alternative Christmas Giving table located in the breezeway to Chalice Hall. Cards are available to send regarding your gift in honor/memory of someone.

ARBOR YOUTH SERVICES cares for At-Risk and Runaway Youth

Gift Amount: _____

CRESTWOOD'S BRIDGE FUND provides a "bridge" for families temporarily in need

Gift Amount: _____

CENTRAL KY MUSIC ACADEMY gives musical training for low income children

Gift Amount: _____

GREENHOUSE17 assists women who are survivors of domestic violence

Gift Amount: _____

HEIFER INTERNATIONAL addresses international poverty and hunger

Gift Amount: _____

MILITARY MISSIONS supports deployed military personnel

Gift Amount: _____

NATHANIEL MISSION provides medical and dental care, and gives daily support to Lexington's neediest

Gift Amount: _____

Check ____ **Cash** ____ **Online** ____ **(check one, please!)**

If you choose to make your donation online, please go to <https://www.crestwoodchristian.org/giving> and follow the link in the paragraph **Online Giving with Credit/Debit cards**. Once on the Online Donations page, select Payment. In the **Special Instructions** box, please indicate **Alternative Christmas Giving**.

For all giving options for your Alternative Christmas Gift, please complete this form and:

Mail to:

**Crestwood Christian Church
1882 Bellefonte Drive
Lexington, KY 40503**

OR

**Drop it off in the box provided
on the Alternative Christmas
Giving table located in the
breezeway.**

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

DECEMBER SERVICE PROJECT CHRYSALIS HOUSE

Chrysalis House is a substance abuse treatment program for women. They provide domestic violence counseling, job readiness training, medical care, and child services.

Items especially needed:

Feminine hygiene products (Tampax), twin sheets, deodorant, body wash, body lotion, bus passes (\$1 each), diapers.

Please place all items in the designated container marked "DWM" in the glassed-in breezeway between Chalice Hall and the Administration Wing.

If you prefer, monetary donations are also accepted - please make checks payable to Crestwood Christian DWM and write "CH" on the memo line. Please send to the DWM Treasurer Carol Rogers.

Anyone is welcome to donate. For more information, please contact Kathy Stone at 368-8327.

CIRCLE MEETINGS

*Due to current COVID-19 restrictions on small groups, our circles are meeting virtually this month.**

Mary Martha Circle

Monday, December 14, 6:30 PM on Zoom

Join us for virtual sharing of your favorite photos, cards, poems, and other memories from past Christmases.

Naomi Circle

Tuesday, December 15, 10:00 AM on Zoom

Please join us for a time of sharing Christmas memories or stories that are special to you.

Dorcas Circle

Wednesday, December 16, 10:00 AM on Zoom

Join us for lovely Christmas music by Katherine Steckler.

**An email will be sent out before the Zoom meeting with a link to join in using your smartphone, tablet, or computer, or a telephone number to call.*

Please check *The Weekly* e-newsletter on Tuesdays for any updates to the meeting information listed above.

Crestwood Christian DWM invites all women to visit one or more of our Circles during September through May.

In Memory of...



Tommy Lyne

January 1933 -
October 7, 2020

Please keep Peggy
and their family
in your prayers.

Billie Casey

July 29, 1933 -
November 26, 2020

Please keep Billie's
daughters and their
family in your prayers.



Dear Crestwood - We are giving thanks for you! This has been a uniquely challenging year, but you have helped make it better. Together, we have advocated for 601 children over the past 12 months. Thanks to you, children's lives are being changed for the better! - **CASA of Lexington**

Greetings Crestwood Family - The generosity of the Crestwood Christian Church family and friends these past many years Walking Together (even if apart this year) affirms the love and care you have for all God's children near and far. Your ever faithful gifts along with actively participating in the **Greater Lexington CROP** (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk are abundantly appreciated! - Judy Maxson, Walk organizer

Dear Crestwood Family and Staff - This year, **Kentucky Refugee Ministries** marks its 30th anniversary. Thirty years of airport arrivals and apartment setups. Thirty years of saying, "Welcome to Kentucky!" Thirty years of learning bus routes. Thirty years of ESL classes. Thirty years of sharing culture and language. Thirty years of creating community. In recent years, and especially in 2020, there have been immense changes to resettlement and asylum in the United States. But we want you to know that a few things haven't changed. The reasons refugees and asylum-seekers flee have not changed. People are still looking for safety for themselves and their families. No matter the challenges they face, families continue moving forward and into their future. Thank you so much for your recent donation of \$587 to the general fund, which helps us provide the services, supports, and programs families need as they move forward into that future, building their lives here. We are grateful you are with us.

- Derek Feldman, Community Engagement Coordinator

DECEMBER AT CRESTWOOD

Tuesday, December 1

- 6:30 PM God's Girls Reading Group
- 8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, December 2

- 10:00 AM Soul Care Café - Zoom
- 11:30 AM Heart-to-Heart Team - Zoom
- 2:00 PM Open Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Drive-In Vespers - North Parking Lot
- 7:00 PM Called Elders Meeting - Zoom

Thursday, December 3

- 10:00 AM Stephen Ministers - Zoom
- 11:30 AM Advent Study (Led by Trish) - Zoom
- 6:00 PM Blue Christmas Conversation Group
- 6:30 PM God's Girls Reading Group

Friday, December 4 - Sunday, December 6

Youth Families Fill NEST Boxes

Saturday, December 5

- UK Football Parking
- 9:00 AM Open Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Zoom Faith Group - Zoom

Sunday, December 6

- Online Worship
- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School - Zoom
- 9:15 AM 3rd-5th Grade Sunday School - Zoom
- 11:00 AM Parents of Youngsters Sunday School - Zoom

Monday, December 7

- 7:00 PM Advent Study (Led by Kory) - Zoom
- 7:00 PM Local Outreach - Zoom

Tuesday, December 8

- 6:30 PM God's Girls Reading Group
- 8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, December 9

- 10:00 AM Soul Care Café - Zoom
- 2:00 PM Open Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Drive-In Vespers - North Parking Lot

Thursday, December 10

- 11:30 AM Advent Study (Led by Trish) - Zoom
- 6:00 PM Blue Christmas Conversation Group
- 6:00 PM Finance Team - Zoom
- 6:30 PM God's Girls Reading Group

Friday, December 11

- 7:00 PM Youth 2nd Friday Game Night - Zoom

Saturday, December 12

- 9:00 AM Open Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Zoom Faith Group - Zoom

Sunday, December 13

- Online Worship
- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School - Zoom
- 9:15 AM 3rd-5th Grade Sunday School - Zoom
- 11:00 AM Parents of Youngsters Sunday School - Zoom
- 4:30 PM Youth Virtual Christmas Party - Zoom

Monday, December 14

- 6:30 PM Mary Martha DWM - Zoom
- 7:00 PM Advent Study (Led by Kory) - Zoom

Tuesday, December 15

- 10:00 AM Naomi DWM - Zoom
- 6:30 PM God's Girls Reading Group
- 8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, December 16

- 10:00 AM Dorcas DWM - Zoom
- 10:00 AM Soul Care Café - Zoom
- 2:00 PM Open Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Drive-In Vespers - North Parking Lot

Thursday, December 17

- 11:30 AM Advent Study (Led by Trish) - Zoom
- 6:00 PM Blue Christmas Conversation Group
- 6:30 PM God's Girls Reading Group

Saturday, December 19

- 9:00 AM Open Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM Zoom Faith Group - Zoom

Sunday, December 20

- Online Worship
- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School - Zoom
- 9:15 AM 3rd-5th Grade Sunday School - Zoom
- 11:00 AM Parents of Youngsters Sunday School - Zoom
- 1:00 PM Congregational Meeting - Zoom
- 5:00 PM Youth Merge

Monday, December 21

- 7:00 PM Longest Night Service - Zoom
- 7:00 PM Advent Study (Led by Kory) - Zoom

Tuesday, December 22

- 6:30 PM God's Girls Reading Group
- 8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, December 23

- 10:00 AM Soul Care Café - Zoom
- 2:00 PM Open Sanctuary
- 6:00 PM Drive-In Vespers - North Parking Lot

Thursday, December 24

- 11:30 AM Advent Study (Led by Trish) - Zoom
- 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Children's Service - Zoom
- 6:30 PM Christmas Eve Prelude
- 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 27

- Online Worship
- 9:00 AM Adult Sunday School - Zoom
- 9:15 AM 3rd-5th Grade Sunday School - Zoom

Wednesday, December 30

- 6:00 PM Drive-In Vespers - North Parking Lot

Thursday, December 31

- 11:30 AM Bible Study - Zoom

2021 PROPOSED BUDGET

A NOTE FROM FINANCE MINISTRY TEAM

The Finance Ministry team recommended the 2021 Proposed Budget, included below, for approval at the November 18 Administrative Board Meeting. The Administrative Board approved the proposed budget and the 2021 Proposed Budget will be presented to the congregation for approval at a congregational meeting scheduled for Sunday, December 20, at 1:00 pm via Zoom.

The number of pledges for 2021 was 132 compared to 163 in 2020. Due to the lower number of pledges, approximately 23% of the budget is based upon estimates of giving for 2021 compared to 14% of estimates of giving in the 2020 budget. Thanks in part to two large pledges, we are able to recommend, and the Administrative Board approved, a balanced budget with an increase in total giving of 6.1 %. The budgets for all ministry teams, with the exceptions of Personnel, Finance, Technology, and our Outreach ministries, are at the same level as 2020. The increase in Personnel is due to the addition of the position of our Communications Intern, Griffin Allen, and increases in health insurance. There are no salary increases for church staff in 2021. The increase for Finance is due to increases in insurance premiums. The increase in Technology is due to increased fixed costs in phone and internet charges. The budget increases the total outreach giving by 30.8 % from \$116,592 in 2020 to \$152,492 .00 in 2021. The overall percentage of outreach giving increased from 13.34% in 2020 to 16.45% in 2021.

Thank you to the members of Crestwood for providing the resources to Crestwood so that the Finance ministry team was able to recommend a balanced budget to the Administrative Board which sustains and increases the work and mission of Crestwood. Thank you to the members of the Finance Ministry team for your service to Crestwood. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me (erwachtel@twc.com or 859-269-1665) or any member of the Finance ministry team.

Libby Wachtel
Chair, Finance Ministry Team

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	Y-Y change	pct change
Total Giving	874,000	927,000	53,000	6.1%
Other Receipts	49,300	49,300	0	0.0%
Endowment Fund Income	6,000	6,000	0	0.0%
One Time Gift for Debt Service	18,000	13,100	-4,900	-27.2%
Total Receipts	947,300	995,400	48,100	5.1%
Debt Service	18,000	13,100	-4,900	-27.2%
Transfer to Contingency Reserve	0	0	0	
Outreach Local	26,816	35,073	8,257	
Outreach World	26,816	35,073	8,257	
Disciples Mission Fund	53,632	70,146	16,514	
Ministerial Education Fund	9,328	12,200	2,872	
Total Outreach	116,592	152,492	35,900	30.8%
Personnel	536,168	551,133	14,965	2.8%
Administration	26,500	26,500	0	0.0%
Music	6,500	6,500	0	0.0%
Adult Education	1,400	1,400	0	0.0%
Caregivers	500	500	0	0.0%
Children	13,800	13,800	0	0.0%
Evangelism	200	200	0	0.0%
Fellowship	1,550	1,550	0	0.0%
Finance	41,700	42,500	800	1.9%
Library	200	200	0	0.0%
Property	165,000	165,000	0	0.0%
Shalom & Social Justice	0	0	0	0.0%
Stewardship	600	600	0	0.0%
Technology	7,700	9,000	1,300	16.9%
Worship	2,700	2,700	0	0.0%
Young Adult	400	400	0	0.0%
Youth	7,350	7,350	0	0.0%
Other	440	475	35	8.0%
Total Expenditures	947,300	995,400	48,100	5.1%

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

THE CREST

Crestwood Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Return Service Requested



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
Griffin Allen, Communications Intern
Lynn West, Facilities Manager

EMAIL ADDRESSES

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

WEBSITE

www.crestwoodchristian.org