Our Vision: Connecting People with God and Each Other

Volume 60 Issue 11 November 1, 2021

NOVEMBER 7TH John Rutter's REQUIEM Crestwood Choir

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NEXT CREST DECEMBER 1ST

Articles are due by Noon on Monday, November 22.

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

2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Dear Crestwood family,

We have completed our 2021 Stewardship Campaign, as we prepare our budget for 2022. We're excited to see how God will work through us to change lives and share the good news next year!

We'd first like to acknowledge that not everyone may have received their stewardship letter and pledge care in the mail. Lines of communication got crossed in the office and the letters wen out bulk mail instead of first class. We sincerely apologize if you did not receive your letter. That is completely our fault and we feel horrible not everyone was included.

Here's some good news to share: we have 45 new givers for 2021! Those are people who gave nothing in previous years but started giving this year. In this time of reduced attendance and engagement, 45 new givers is amazing. We also had 38 pledgers increase their pledges for 2022. Despite the challenges we face as a society, Crestwood continues to reflect God's generosity in its giving.

Still, these are still uncertain times and that was reflected in our pledges for 2022. Our overall number of pledges is down from last year, meaning that our Finance Team has to make more estimates for those who have not pledged. This isn't ideal because it puts more speculation into the budget than we would like. In addition, our overall giving is down about \$87,000. Much of this is reflected in the fact that our two biggest gifts for 2021 were cut in half.

There are few places in the church budget where numbers can be adjusted for shortfalls, the two biggest being Personnel and Outreach. We are committed to maintaining Outreach as a core value and make sure our staff is properly compensated. But when pledging falls short, we have to make up the difference somewhere.

There are a few things you can do to help:

- 1 If you have not pledged yet, please email your pledge amount to <u>financialsecretary@crestwoodchristian.org</u>. The more pledges we have in hand, the less we have to estimate.
- 2 If you've never pledged, consider making one. The pledge is not binding in any way, but it does give us a sense of what to expect for 2022, and it shows your tangible commitment to God's work through Crestwood.
- 3 If you pledged, consider increasing your pledge. We want our Outreach giving to remain at a high level, as in previous years, and your pledge will help us do that.
- . The Finance Team will present the final budget to the Administrative Board on Nov. 17 for approval. It will then go to the congregation in December. Any new pledges or changes to pledges should be received by Nov. 9. Thank you, Crestwood, for the many ways you support our congregation's mission. Let's make 2022 our best ever!

A WORD FROM KORY...



Well, another chapter in the book titled, "This Wasn't How It Was Supposed to Happen..."

It started as a minor headache and cough on Monday morning, right be-

fore staff meeting. Amy and I left later that day for a spiritual retreat in Edmondson County. By that evening, le was feeling worse, so decided to get a COVID test first thing in the morning. Both that test and a flu tst were negative, so I proceeded through the week as if I had a nasty cold, including doing a two-mile hike through Mammoth Cave.

When we got back to town Friday, I was still feeling badly, so I took a home COVID test. You're probably thinking, "Surely your earlier test wasn't a false negative?" Well, it was, and please don't call me "Shirley." I went to the UK test site for confirmation and got it. Despite two vaccines and surviving a year and a half without getting it, I now had COVID (and, we found out a few days later, so did Amy).

It's been a rough go. I know the virus hits everyone differently, but for me, this was more than just a cold or flu. I had almost every symptom except difficulty breathing and loss of taste (which was ironic, because the last thing I wanted to do was eat). High fevers, chills, body aches, loss of smell, inability to throw a decent curveball, consistently burning toast...you name it, I had it.

Thankfully, on Monday morning (a week after the symptoms started), I was able to receive the antibody treatment. Not wanting to bow out quietly, COVID threw a couple more fever bombs at me, but I woke up Tuesday morning without a normal temperature for the first time in days. As I write this, I'm on day 10 and will be officially released for quarantine tomorrow. Yay! But my body is far from recovered. This morning, I took care of the chickens, made breakfast, and then slept for two hours. This virus is no joke. Amy is also continuing to make progress. Thankfully, her case wasn't as severe.

We want to thank everyone for the cards, texts, emails, prayers, and overall support you've given us. It has meant the world to us to know that we have such a loving and caring church family. I give big thanks to Trish,

Steph, Brianna, and all our staff and volunteers who have picked up the slack for me. I'm blessed to work with some amazing people.

This was not what was supposed to happen. I was supposed to enjoy a relaxing spiritual retreat, a time to recharge my batteries and get ready for the rest of fall and a busy and exciting Advent season. Amy and I were supposed to enjoy the first few months of our marriage without fevers and quarantines. Crestwood was supposed to have an amazing fall, when everyone would feel safe to come back to church and we would feel like a family again. That's what was supposed to happen.

Well, I'm giving up on what was supposed to happen. I'm giving up on the hope that things will go back to how I want them to be. I'm giving up on the fallacy that life is predictable and COVID only happens to other people. I'm giving up on assuming I know what's going to happen. But I'm NOT giving up on God, God's goodness, God's promises. God never promised things would go the way I wanted them to go, but God did promise to be with me, no matter what happened. And because of that, I have hope in spite of all that has happened.

On another page in this Crest, you'll read about our budget shortfall for 2022. Another thing that wasn't supposed to happen. But I know this congregation, and I know that God is at work through each and every one of you. I have received your support and felt your prayers. God's spirit is POWERFUL in you, Crestwood! If COVID can't stop us from doing God's good work in this world, a little shortfall doesn't stand a chance. Crestwood, I'm asking you to step and show how the hope we have in God's promises will carry us into 2022 with renewed energy and excitement to be God's people in this world. God has given us such hope; now, let's be that hope for others! I'll be back soon and I can't wait to continue serving God with you!

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: The Family of Julia Blondell, Billie Johnson, Georgia Meece, Bob Noel, John Sims, Mary Janice Towles, Chris York

<u>FAMILY</u>: Kathy Bossart and family (Sister of Mike Bales), Glen Davis (Brother of Julie McDonald), Mark Johnson (Brother of Bill Johnson), The family of Jack Wilcoxson (Uncle of Kory Wilcoxson)

FRIENDS: Linda Jones (of Crestwood), Becky Witt (of Kimberly Sparks), Lee Yates and family (of Crestwood)

ARMED FORCES: Anar Aliyev (of Crestwood), (grandson-in-law of Paul Baird Minva Hodgins), Blake and Jill Chambers and family (grandson of Karen Billings), Travis Cramer (son of Rick and Cathy Tittmann), DanielDay (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 Karen Billings), Zoe McIntyre (granddaughter of John Sims), Daniel Sigler (son of David and Pam Sigler), **Dalcus Sparks** (nephew of Andrea Back)

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Jean Aspley, Karen Billings, Margaret Buchanan, Joe Clark, Carolyn Floyd, Georgia Meece, Betty Shanklin, John Sims, John and Carolyn Thomas, 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, for those affected by COVID and natural disasters, and for God's spirit of reconciliation to bring healing during these difficult times.

Trish Talk



I pray this finds you well. I asked a neighbor if she was ready for "trick or treat". Her response, "No! I am not ready for the holidays!" I clarified

my question about trick or treat and she said, "yes, but from Halloween it just seems like we just slide right into the holidays."

Dear Friends.

She may be right. I opened my mailbox on the 30th to find an add for Christmas Trees. Christmas is less than two months away. Crazy. 2022 will begin just 2 months from the day this is posted to our webpage. Unbelievable. Time does seem to be moving on even in the midst of Covid that seems to have us standing still on some of our usual activities. So, what will this holiday season look like?

Last year, for many of us, it was a solo or very small gatherings for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Christmas gifts were not center stage because many of us were not willing to risk shopping. What did the slower pace of 2020 holidays offer you that your want to retain? What do you want to be sure that you do this year that you didn't do last year? Now is the time to make these decisions. Like my neighbor said, with Halloween behind us, we begin the slide. I pray that we can make this season as special as it deserves by putting the truest meaning at the center. Let us be intentional about the way choose to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Maybe this year we choose to participate in an Advent Study. Maybe we decide to keep some of the quiet from last year. Maybe we find a way to serve some of those who are in need or plan to visit with one who is lonely. Whatever we decide, let us be intentional in our decisions.

Blessed to share the journey! Trish

HELP WRITE THE ADVENT DEVOTION

Do you have a special memory or ritual that shows the true meaning of this holy season? Have a story to share that shows "Immanuel"-God with us? Send it to Kory at kory@crestwoodchristian.org

ADULT EDUCATION THROUGH THE WEEK

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL IN-PERSON AND ZOOM

All are invited to join this class in person or on Zoom. We will study and discuss scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary. Trish will be leading this class.

Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83125044207

PARENTS OF YOUNGSTERS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This group is for anyone journeying through the joyful challenge of raising kids! We meet at 9:40 a.m. in Mission Center 4 (near the gym). Everyone is welcome!

TUESDAY HUNGERING FOR GOD LUCH GROUP

Looking for a way to connect to God and your church family? Kory will lead a virtual small group called "Hungry for God." Each week, we'll take a religious word ("grace," "forgiveness," "faith") and explore its deeper meaning. This group is designed for people who want a midday time to take a breath, share a conversation, and grow closer to God. If you're at work, you can take your lunch break and log on. If you're at home, fix yourself something to eat and join us! Wherever you are, we hope you'll take a few moments during your day to connect with us. A link will be sent out every Tuesday morning as a reminder.

TUESDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Every Tuesday at 8 p.m., our Men's Bible Study will meet in the Chapel and via Zoom. All men of Crestwood are welcome to join us, no prior knowledge, experience, or participation needed! Join us as we dive more deeply into God's word and connect with each other.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Dan Pence teaches at Bible Study in the Bradford Room. The class is currently studying 1st Timothy. All are welcome!

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every Thursday at 11:00 a.m. a group gathers for fellowship in Chalice Hall. At 11:30 a.m. the class begins a time of study. The class is taught by Trish Standifur. The group will take a break on the first Thursday in September and resume on the 9th to begin a study of the gospel of Luke. All are welcome!

NOVEMBER SERMONS

November 7: Requiem.

November 14: We will resume the series on the troublesome saying from the Apostle Paul: Paul and Marriage.

November 21 Paul and the Bible

November 28: Advent Begins!

KIDS ON A MISSION_{JR}. & KIDS ON A MISSION

Please join us every first and third Sunday for Kids on a Mission!

Beginning November 7th from 4:00-6:00 PM in the Children's Wing.

And now K-2 kiddos can be involved in the fun! KOM Jr. launches on November 7, same time same place!

Please contact Peggy for more information!

TRUNK OR TREAT 2021



COMING	U
Monday, Novem 7:00 PM	
Tuesday Neven	

7:00 PM ` Local Outreach

Tuesday, November 2

12:00 PM Hungering for God—Zoom

8:00 PM Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 3

11:30 AM Heart-to-Heart Team - Zoom1:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study - Bradford

7:00 PM Combined Youth Zoom

Thursday, November 4

9:30 AM Stephen Ministers - Zoom

11:00 AM Thursday Bible Study - Chalice Hall

Saturday, November 6

TBD UK Car Park

Sunday, November 7

8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Choir Practice - Choir Room10:45 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

3:00 PM Chi Rho Youth

4:00 PM CYF Youth

Monday, November 8

7:00 PM Property Meeting - Chalice Hall

Tuesday, November 9

12:00 PM Hungry for God - Zoom

6:30 PM Childcare Council - Childcare

Center

8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, November 10

1:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study - Bradford

7:00 PM Combined Youth Zoom

Thursday, November 11

11:00 AM Thursday Bible Study - Chalice Hall

6:00 PM Finance Team - Zoom

7:00 PM Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Sunday, November 14

8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Choir Practice - Choir Room

10:45 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

3:00 PM Chi Rho Youth

4:00 PM CYF Youth

Monday, November 15

6:45 PM Mary Martha DWM– Chalice Hall /

Zoom

Tuesday, November 16

9:45 AM Naomi DWM—Chalice Hall/ Zoom

12:00 PM Hungry for God - Zoom

8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, November 17

10:00 AM Dorcus DWM - Chalice Hall / Zoom

1:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study - Bradford

7:00 PM Administrative Board—Zoom

7:00 PM Combined Youth Zoom

Thursday, November 18

11:00 AM Thursday Bible Study - Chalice Hall

7:00 PM Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Saturday, November 20

TBD UK Car Park

Sunday, November 21

8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

9:30 AM Sunday School

1:00 AM Choir Practice - Choir Room10:45 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

3:00 PM Combined Youth Meeting

Tuesday, November 23

12:00 PM Hungry for God - Zoom 8:00 PM Men's Bible Study - Zoom

Wednesday, November 24

1:00 PM Wednesday Bible Study - Bradford

Thursday, November 25

Church Office Closed Happy Thanksgiving!

Friday, November 26

Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 28

Advent Begins

8:30 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM Choir Practice - Choir Room

10:45 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary



Youth Corner

Happy November! We have tons of exciting things going on this month and we hope you can join us for all of it!



Our Youth Ministry collects food and donations every year to fill food boxes for The Nest. This year we have been challenged to fill 350 boxes - more than ever before! With your help, we will meet this goal (or exceed it!) and feed hundreds of hungry families this holiday season! How can you help? First, by spreading the word and by donating food items from the following list: Items needed to fill one Nest Food Box:

3 cans vegetables, 3 cans fruit, 2 cans chicken broth, 1 box spaghetti, 1 can or plastic jar of spaghetti sauce, 1 lb bag of pinto beans, 2 boxes Mac & Cheese, 1 box or bag of stuffing mix, 1 box all-purpose baking mix (Bisquick), 1 box dessert mix (brownies, cake, or cookies)

Second, by showing up on November 21st for the Great Box Race! Our Youth groups will meet together from 3:00 - 5:00 pm that Sunday afternoon, and the two-person team that builds the most boxes will win prizes - including Amazon gift cards! Please plan to be there and help our neighbors in need and have some fun at the same time.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS NOW HYBRID! If you cannot join us in person at 9:30, join us virtually so you don't miss out on all the awesome discussions! Here is the link:

https://zoom.us/j/91874519478?pwd=STVQVIY5Q1h6VENoaStkM2wzSDB1QT09

Meeting ID: 918 7451 9478 Passcode: 214937

November Youth Calendar:

Wednesday, November 3rd: 7:00 - 7:45 pm - combined Youth Zoom game night

Sunday, November 7th: Regular Youth meetings (Fun & Fellowship Sunday)

Chi Rho 3:00 - 4:00 pm CYF 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, November 10th: 7:00 - 7:45 pm - combined Youth Zoom game night

Sunday, November 14th: Regular Youth meetings (Gratitude Discussion and Activity)

Chi Rho 3:00 - 4:00 pm CYF 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Wednesday, November 17th: 7:00 - 7:45 pm - combined Youth Zoom game night

Sunday, November 22nd: Combined Youth meeting

3:00 - 5:00 pm - The Nest Food Box Building Competition

Wednesday, November 24th - NO Zoom Meeting

Sunday, November 28th: NO YOUTH MEETINGS (Happy Thanksgiving!)

Tuesday, November 30th: 7:00 - 7:45 pm - combined Youth Zoom game night Come help out!

As always, please call or email me if you have any questions, or if you'd like to get involved and help work with our wonderful youth here at Crestwood!



Lexington Rescue Mission: \$1500 for Thanksgivinng meals for their clients.

The Nest: \$1500 for Cleaning and Laundry supplies for their families.

Natalie's Sisters: \$150 for clothing for their

clients.

Bridge Fund: \$200 for rent assistance





VIEW THE DEDICATION OF THIS YEAR'S HABITAT HOUSE! #38!

https://drive.google.com/file/ d/1FNExQvUIIzmGU5heYB8OAYF82LOHvpvA/ view?usp=sharing

Thank you to all who made this home possible!



OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE YOUR BLESSINGS

- NEST FOOD BOXES! Check out the information and the food list in the Youth Corner article on page 7.
- ANGEL TREES! Each year we provide gifts for children who may not otherwise receive gifts. We
 work with the Family Resource Centers of local schools to get names of children and their
 wish/need list. Each child's information is put on an "angel" and will be available on a tree a
 Crestwood or on Sign Up Genius. The "angels" will be available on November 14.
- BLESSING BOX! Each day, Crestwood offers two food boxes for folks who may need a little extra
 help that day. We stock the cabinet on the south wing portico at Crestwood and two bright yellow "newspaper" boxes on the porch of Winburn Church of Christ with supplies that can help
 those who are hungry. Please bring canned and boxed foods and put them in the Giving Lane.
 Our great volunteers will be sure to gather your offering and stock the boxes.
- ALTERNATIVE GIVING FAIR! Watch your inbox and the Weekly for information.
- Check with two of our mission partners who are serving and delivering Thanksgiving meals.
 Lexington Rescue Mission and Nathaniel Mission are looking for volunteers to make the holiday special.

8 Crestwood Christian Church

CRESTWOOD MAKING GOD'S DIFFERNCE



Dear Friends of LTS at Crestwood Christian Church,

The Lexington 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. If they could speak to you face-to-face, they would thank you for helping make their seminary education possible. So, on their behalf, thanks for your partnership and gift of \$304.73

Sincerely,

Mark V. Blankenship

Vice President for Advancement.

If it were not for Crestwood, LTS would have a much more challenging journey. Thank you! Mark

Dear Crestwood,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$1500!

Steve, a resident of our transitional housing program, recently said of his decision to come to the Mission, "It was the best decision I made in my life...The [people] here have helped me in my walk with Christ. They knew when I came in that I wanted to change my life, and they have helped me every day!"

Your generosity is changing lives and helping people like Steve find freedom and redemption in the Lord! Thank you for your partnership in serving our community together!

Gratefully,

Laura Carr

Executive Director

Dear Members of Crestwood Christian Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$500 given to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky for bath house improvements at Camp Wakon' Da-Ho.

We are grateful for you commitment to the ministry with children and youth of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett, II

Regional Minister



DISCIPLES WOMENS MINISTRY



NOVEMBER SERVICE PROJECT THOMSON-HOOD VETERANS

During this month, the women's group members will be selecting names to purchase Christmas gifts for residents at Thomson-Hood Veterans Center. The residents that we will be "adopting" have no family and might otherwise not receive a gift. In addition to selecting a personal gift for the individual, there are items that Thomson-Hood veterans enjoy, and they can use as prizes during games:

Electric razors (men and women's)
Neck pillows
Walmart Gift Cards
Men's lotion
Men's and Women's body wash
Little Debbie snack cakes, Puff corn, Tootsie Pop suckers, Soft candy, Snack Pack pudding
Gospel & Country music CD's (older artists)
Break away lanyards
Watches

All donations beyond the specific gift may be put in the designated area marked "DWM" in the Giving Lane (leading to the Administration Wing). Anyone is welcome to donate. For more information, please contact Kathy Stone at 368-8327.

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Please note that masks are strongly recommended for all while inside the church buildings.

November Bible Study: "Sisters In Power" (Numbers 27:1-11)

Marv Martha Circle

Monday, November 15, 6:45 p.m. in Chalice Hall and on Zoom

Trish Standifur will lead the Bible study, and Fran McKinney will be our hostess.

Naomi Circle

Tuesday, November 16, 9:45 a.m. in Chalice Hall and on Zoom

Patsy Anderson will lead the Bible study, and Elaine Lollis will be our hostess.

Dorcas Circle

Wednesday, November 17, 10:00 a.m. in Chalice Hall and on Zoom

Billie Arnold will present our Bible study program.

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



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Friday, November 5 on ZOOM*
9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10:00 a.m. Program
World Community Day Celebration

*Contact Mary Taylor mat3508@perspectives-usa.com for the Zoom link.

Join women from churches all around Lexington who **Agree** to differ, **Resolve** to love, are **United** to serve In Christ's Name - <u>ALL are invited!</u>

Crestwood DWM is a participating organization with Church Women United. Mary Taylor of Crestwood is the board secretary and may be contacted at 223-8206.

ALL SAINTS

As we remember these who have passed, we give thanks that they are now held by the One who loves us first and most.

Cal Fulkerson November 11, 2020

Billie Casey November 26, 2020

Carl Ham January 12, 2021

Jean Ham April 22, 2021

Susan Noel May 16,2021

Mary Ann Miller May 21,2021

Winn Turney June 7, 2021

Jerry Johnson June 12, 2021

Julia Blondell October 22, 2021

REMEMBERING JULIA BLONDELL



Julia Blondell passed away Friday, October 22. Julia was a beautiful thread in the fabric of Crestwood. She and her husband David came to Crestwood in 1968 when David was called as the Senior Pastor. Julia served and participated in many ministries of the church including singing in the choir and founding the Mary Martha Circle.

Please hold David and their family in your prayers.

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

THE CREST

Crestwood Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Return Service



CRESTWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Sunday Worship — 8:30 AM and 45 AM

10:45 AM service is available on Facebook and YouTube

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kory Wilcoxson, Senior Minister Rev. Trish Standifur, Associate Minister Steph Wallace, Student Associate Minister Peggy King, Children's Coordinator Frank Spragens, Music Director Jane Johnson, Organist Tara Monzon, Parent's Day Out Director Brianna May, Facilities Manager

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Church Office Kory Wilcoxson Trish Standifur Peggy King Frank Spragens Steph Wallace office@crestwoodchristian.org kory@crestwoodchristian.org trish@crestwoodchristian.org peggy@crestwoodchristian.org fspragens@yahoo.com steph@crestwoodchristian.org

WEBSITE