CRESTWOOD THE CREST

Our Vision: Connecting People with God and Each Other

Volume 64 Issue 4

Sunday, April 6 Were You There? Sermon Series The Crowds Rev. Kelly Hale

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Articles are due by Noon Thursday, April 24

Send articles to: office@crestwoodchristian.org

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT CRESTWOOD

Aprll 1, 2025

<u>Thursday, April 17</u> **Maundy Thursday service** 7:00 PM Sanctuary

<u>Friday, April 18</u> **Good Friday service** 12:00 PM Central Christian Church

<u>Saturday, April 19</u> Easter Egg Hunt and Pancake Breakfast 10:00 AM breakfast, 10:45 AM Egg hunt, Gym

Easter Sunday, April 20 9:00 AM and 10:45 AM worship services (no Sunday School on Easter)

Sunday, April 27 Baptism Sunday 9:30 AM breakfast, 10:45 AM worship service NO 8:30 AM service this day



A WORD FROM KORY



This year's Pastor's Class has been one of my all-time favorites. It's such an interesting mix of youth that come together each Sunday to learn about God and what it means to have faith. This year's group is so big (17 youth!) that I considered dividing them into two classes, but I've really enjoyed having them all together

each Sunday. We have introverts and extroverts, thinkers and doers, youth who sit nicely in their chairs and...well, some who don't.

One of the reasons I've enjoyed it so much is that, for several of these youth, I had the honor of dedicating them when they were babies. One of the blessings of my job is walking with people through different stages of life and rites of passage. It's hard for me to believe these babies I walked with down the center aisle of the sanctuary are now sitting in Pastor's Class getting ready to make their decision about baptism. Where does the time go?

It's amazing to me how these youth have grown, not only physically, but intellectually and spiritually. I can tell that these youth have come up through our Worship and Wonder program, because of the knowledge they display and the questions they ask. Their level of inquisitiveness and curiosity displays a depth of thought and curiosity well beyond their years. Crestwood, I believe we're doing a great job of making disciples!

For example, during our first class, I asked the youth this: "If you could ask God one question, what would it be?" We then spent about an hour going on a theological adventure that included reincarnation, the limits of the known universe, how Jesus could be both God and the son of God, ghosts, and a host of other topics. They are asking some of the same questions I wrestle with!

That's one sign of a vibrant faith, the willingness to ask questions. Some flavors of Christianity tell you that to question God is a sign of a weak faith. "God's ways are not our ways." And yet, when you read the Bible and look at our world, how can you NOT have questions? A growing faith is one that asks the questions and then seeks the answers. A stagnant faith is one that doesn't pay enough attention even to ask questions.

As we get closer to the end of the class, each

youth will be given the opportunity to make their decision about baptism. There is no assumption or expectation that they will say "yes." I emphasize that this truly is each youth's decision to make on their own, and it's a big one. Giving your life to Christ through baptism fundamentally changes you, because it makes a public claim about what you believe. It doesn't mean you understand everything about your faith, but it does mean you are committing the rest of your life to figure out what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

So, Crestwood, will you join me in praying for these 17 youth as they prepare to make this decision? Pray that God's spirit stirs in their hearts and gives them clarity about the decision they face. I look forward to the day when we celebrate this group and those who choose to give their lives to Jesus Christ by entering the waters of baptism.

> 2025 Pastor's Class and Mentors Keira Boggs – Missy Wallace Nora Brancato - Katherine Steckler Charlie Brandt - Matt Bacon Fiona Friis - Lucy Wells Briggs Hall - Dabney Parker Ella Hall - Dabney Parker Emory Horton – Steph Wallace Isabel Kingsolver – Libby Wachtel Jack Neal - John Gretz Margot Nunnelley – Amy Wheeler Ollie Peace - Kelly Hale Clark Pickrell - Patti Bridges Madeleine Sarver - Megan Bacon Maddie Thompson - Gayle Hutcherson Quinn Wells - Jay Prather Eliza York - Saralyn Kingsolver Grace Zakowski - Sice Shanklin

ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK BAPTISM BREAKFAST

Please join us for our all-church potluck baptism breakfast at 9:30 AM on Sunday, April 27. There will no Sunday school or first service that day. Come celebrate our kids as they take the next steps on their spiritual journey. Sign-up <u>here</u> to bring a potluck dish or to volunteer.

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: Fred Kidd, the Sovkoplas family

- <u>FAMILY</u>: the family of Kevin Cobb (brother of Patti Bridges), the family of Jan Taylor (niece of Minva Hodgins)
- FRIENDS: Joshua Bush & Annessa Dunaway (of Crestwood), Gay Cecil (of Joy Leet-Mullins), Phil Dare (of Dabney Parker), Susan Griffith (of Joanne Brown), John Gross (of Karen Coultas), David Johnson (of Libby Wachtel), Chris Miniard (of Brianna Browning), Mary June Moseley (of Libby Wachtel), Arlen Stoltzfus (of Crestwood)
- LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Tyler Coultas (son of Karen Coultas), the Cristi family (of Crestwood), Frank Dickey, David Farmer (friend of Kimberly Sparks), Jo Fulkerson, Laurie Hart (granddaughter of Susan & Kendall Hart), Jordan & Ginny Sue Hemphill (brother & sister-in-law of Monte LaFrana), John Royse, Tony Shartle, Henrietta Shores (granddaughter of Mary Beth Shores), Nathaniel Sligh (nephew of Kimberly Sparks), Jim Wallace (father of Scott Wallace), Carter Yates (nephew of Stephanie & Josh Moore)
- <u>ARMED FORCES</u>: Alex Back (son of Andrea Back), Anar Aliyev (of Crestwood), Karlis Bowman (nephew of Debbie Gardner), Tristan Bowman (nephew of Debbie Gardner), Daniel Day (grandson of John & Carol Royse & son of Tracy Day), Bud DeLacey (nephew of Matt & Michelle DeLacey), Connor Hankins (nephew of Lauren York), Matt Holman (son of Gaye Holman), Zoe McIntyre (granddaughter of John Sims), Ashlyn Marra-Sigler & Daniel Sigler (daughter-in-law & son of Pam & David Sigler)
- HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Carlene Adams, Karen Billings, Janice Boyd, Dick Featherston, Bonnie Flanery, Sylvia Griffin, Buzz Mattingly, John Sims, John & Carolyn Thomas, Lucy Wheeler
- **OUR WORLD COMMUNITY:** We pray for the victims and loved ones impacted by violence, inmates of the Fayette County Detention Center and their families, an end to wars across the globe, the peace of God to rule in the hearts of our local and national leaders, those affected by natural disasters, and for God's spirit of reconciliation to bring healing during these difficult times.

FUN + LUNCH = FUNCH!



FUN + LUNCH is our monthly potluck when we share good food and great conversation and have lots of fun playing BINGO for prizes! Please plan to join us on Friday, April 25, at 11:30 AM in Chalice Hall for FUNCH. Bring a

dish to share and come enjoy this special time of fellowship. No RSVP is needed.

FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Please join us for First Sunday Fellowship on Sunday, April 6. Refreshments will be served in the children's wing following each service. This

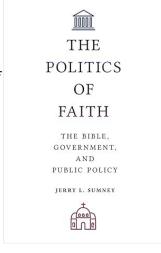


is a great opportunity to spend time with friends and make new ones!

NEW BOOK STUDY IN MAY

Steph Wallace will be leading a book study for three consecutive Monday afternoons in May. We are going to read *The Politics of Faith* by Jerry L. Sumney, which can be purchased on Amazon using this link HERE.

We will meet in the Bradford Room from 3:00-4:00 PM on May 5, May 12, and May 19. For the first meeting on May 5, please read chapters 1-4



of the book (pages 1-42). Bring your Bible with you to the meetings, as well. We will refer to those Scriptures that Sumney references in his book as we discuss and attempt to discern what God wills for God's followers in the realm of government and political policies today.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!



CARLIE FUGATE with her fiancé, church member Will Lovan



CODY AND JOY STEMLE

APRIL MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our April Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, April 12, in the Bradford Room. All men of Crestwood are invited to join us! A tasty breakfast and good conversation will be



provided. Please RSVP to Kory if you can attend.

TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST!



Please plan to join us on Saturday, April 19 at 10:00 AM for a pancake breakfast and craft activities in the gym, followed by an Easter Egg Hunt at 10:45 AM. Hope to see you all there!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Vacation Bible School registration is now open, and we are in the process of recruiting volunteers to serve the children of our community. VBS is a hiahliaht for Crestwood kids and visitina quests. For some it may be their first time entering a church environment. Our goal is to help families feel welcomed as we extend Christ's hospitality and connect kids with the message of God's unconditional love. It takes a village to bring VBS to life and we hope you will prayerfully consider joining us. Please sign up below and reach out with any questions you may have to Missy Wallace at missy@crestwoodchristian.org.

> Volunteer Sign Up Child Registration

PASTOR'S CLASS YOUTH COLLECTING BOOKS FOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

HELLO Crestwood! We are Ella and Briggs Hall and are members of the Pastor's Class. Our mentor is Dabney Parker. We are collecting <u>books</u> for the new Children's Library in the Children's Wing. Please consider dropping books off in the bin that will be located in that hallway. The collecting will go through Sunday, April 13. Books – new or gently used – for ages 3-12 years old are welcomed! SO... please consider donating some books to the cause! Thanks for your help! **Ella and Briggs**

APRIL 27, 2025 - MAY 2, 2025 REBUILDING MISSION TRIP

We are planning a rebuilding mission trip to Western Kentucky after the devastating 12/10/21 and 5/27/24 tornadoes! The dates of the trip are April 27 through May 2, 2025. We will be staying at the former Earlington School in Earlington, KY, and working near Earlington rebuilding homes. No skills are necessary! The cost of the trip will be \$125. If you are interested in going on this much needed construction rebuilding mission trip, please contact Steve Seithers at <u>sseithers@gmail.com</u>.



Crestwood was honored to host the Kentucky Regional Women's Conference on March 22. Over 90 women from around the region joined together for a time of fellowship, education, and worship. What a blessing for us to host this event!

SPRING REGIONAL DWM MEETING

SRO ADVENTURE!

Seniors, Retirees, and OTHERS: We are putting the Crestwood bus back on the road in April! Our first trip will be to Tater Knob Pottery and Farm, located nine miles east of Berea—a nice country drive in the springtime! Tater Knob is known internationally for its family-made pottery and has had visitors from 45 countries. Their Pottery production includes place settings, pitchers & vases, lamps & bells, and a celebrated specialty—Spoonbread Bakers. Prices range from \$5 to \$750. Among the pottery you might find just the right gift for that special person (or yourself). Our visit includes a tour of the production shop, including the kiln, and learning about using earth to make beautiful,



utilitarian vessels. (The kiln will be working only if it is full of pottery ready to be fired.) Tater Knob coordinates with Berea College, a place well-known for quality Kentucky crafts, and with Tim Farmer of the KET show, "Tim's Country Kitchen." There is no charge for the visit to Tater Knob.

Itinerary:

Tuesday, April 22, 2025.

10:30 AM Leave Crestwood Church for drive to Berea.

11:30 AM Arrive at Boone Tavern in Berea for lunch. (The dining room will be undergoing renovation, so we will be seated in the Skylight room.) All guests are served a slice of spoonbread with their meals.

12:30 PM If interested, walk a few steps to the traffic island outside Boone Tavern, where a Historic Road Marker commemorates Boone Trace, a 200-mile trail from North Carolina through Cumberland Gap to Fort

Boonesborough. The trail, significant in settling Kentucky and the West, was named in honor of Daniel Boone. 12:45 PM Leave Berea and drive to Tater Knob.

1:15 PM Arrive at Tater Knob Pottery and Farm.

3:00 PM Leave Tater Knob to return to Lexington, or spend 30 minutes at the Artisan Craft Center on I-75 if we are not too tired.

4:00 or 4:30 PM Arrive back at Crestwood Church.

Cost: Your lunch and a donation for gas

RSVP: Please call Jeanette Knowles at 859-554-5204, or email <u>jeanettevalerie@gmail.com</u> if you would like to join us on this trip. The bus holds 14 passengers besides the driver, and you will be added to the list as you notify Jeanette. We are prepared to have a car follow behind the bus if many people are ready for an outing! Join us for a day of learning and adventure together!

TIME TO REGISTER FOR WAKON' DA-HO!

It's time to register for camps this summer! Registration forms for the 2025 camping season are now available on the Christian Church in Kentucky (CCK) website, **ccinky.net.** On the home page select the **MINISTRIES** tab and follow the prompts to **Camp Wakon' Da-Ho.** PLEASE register **BEFORE MAY 1**, which is when the prices will increase.

SCHEDULE:

- Chi Rho 1 (Just Completed 6th 8th grade) June 30 July 5.
- Chi Rho 2 (Just Completed 6th 8th grade) July 7 12
- Camp 101A (Just Completed K 2nd grade must be accompanied by an adult) June 20 22
- Camp 101B (Just Completed K 2nd grade must be accompanied by an adult) July 19
- Mini Camp (Just Completed 2nd 3rd Grade) May 30 June 1
- CYF 1 (Just Completed 9th 12th grade) June 2 7
- CYF 2 (Just Completed 9th 12th grade) June 23 28
- Eighter's Camp (Just Completed 8th grade) June 8 14
- Junior Camp (Just Completed 4th 5th grade) June 16 20
- (Detailed descriptions of each camp can be found on the website link above.)

The biggest change this year is how billing and payment will be handled. Campers must pay when they register. After submitting registration forms, please go to <u>campwakondaho.ludus.com</u> and select the camp/ camps your camper(s) are attending. Families can pay for more than one camp when providing their credit card information.

The church still pays half of each camper's fee. Use the following coupon code on the payment screen: CRESTLEX. When you enter this code, our church automatically is billed for half the camper's fee, and you pay only the other half. Please let Steph Wallace know if you have any questions at all about the registration or payment process.

THANK YOU, CRESTWOOD

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. On behalf of our enthusiastic and appreciative M.Div. students, thanks for your partnership and gift of \$696.74 on 2/2/2025 and \$642.41 on 3/2/2025. Thanks to all the members of the Crestwood congregation. LTS celebrates our partnership and fellowship in ministerial education.

Mark V. Blankenship, Vice President for Advancement

Week of Compassion is grateful for you! Your church's generosity, in all its forms, means Week of Compassion remains steadfast alongside our partners: caring for families and churches affected by disaster, welcoming neighbors to new life and hope, and working with resilient communities toward a stronger future.

Rev. Courtney Richards, Communications & Development Manager Thank you for your compassion and generosity; your continued support makes it possible for Christian Care Communities to fulfill its faith-inspired mission of providing care, healing, hope, and a home for seniors. This grant (\$50,000) will make possible the preliminary start-up, a feasibility study, engineering, and architectural drawings for our Midway Phase II project. Thanks for the blessing!

Since over 60% of our re4sidents live on a limited fixed income, we appreciate you choosing to help relieve them of the burden and anxiety that comes with an inflationary economy. Thank you for your gift of \$496 in March.

James W. Patton, Vice President-Mission Advancement Mary Lynn Spalding, President & CEO

Thank you for all your hard work at our shelter during Shop & Share! We are so grateful for your continued commitment to our mission and service! We couldn't do it without you!

With gratitude, the staff at Greenhouse17

Children's Ministry

Missy Wallace

Dear Crestwood Families,

We've had an incredible start on our Lenten journey with 17 kids (yes, you read that number right) in pastor's class. It's an amazing group of young people who are overflowing with questions. I can't wait until you get to meet them on baptism Sunday when we come together for our all-church breakfast. Please join us as we greet the kids and their families with open arms.

The children's library project is making progress. Our room was recently painted, and we are continuing to collect children's books in new or like new conditions. We offer a special thank you to our volunteers who are faithfully sorting, scrubbing, and planning.

Our egg hunt, Palm Sunday procession, and flowering of the cross are all on the horizon. The children are full of joy, chatting about their favorite Easter candy and making plans for spring break. It's a season of renewed hope as we celebrate the warmer weather and the gift of new life through the power of the resurrection.

Our next stop? Believe it or not, Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it (see article on page 4). This time of the year connects us together as a church family in many unseen ways. Whether you are in the choir singing, a smiling face in a pew, or come bearing gifts of breakfast casseroles, know that YOU help make Crestwood a church home that shines brightly with the love of Christ.

Blessings,

Missy

SAVE THE DATES

- April 6 First Sunday Fellowship
- April 13 Palm Sunday Childrens Procession at 10:45 AM
- April 19 10:00 AM Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt
- April 20 Easter Sunday Children's Flowering of the Cross at 10:45 AM
- April 27 Baptism Sunday, no service at 8:30 AM, all church breakfast at 9:30 AM (no Sunday school)
- May 4 First Sunday Fellowship
- June 23-26 Vacation Bible School

ELEMENTARY SUMMER CAMP DATES

Camp 101A - June 20 - 22 (Just Completed K - 2nd grade - must be accompanied by an adult)

Camp 101B - July 19 (Just Completed K - 2nd grade - must be accompanied by an adult)

Mini Camp - May 30-June 1 (Just Completed 2nd - 3rd Grade)

Junior Camp - June 16-20 (Just Completed 4th - 5th grade)

EASTER CANDY NEEDED BY APRIL 6!!



Please help us get ready for the Easter Egg Hunt this year by donating individually wrapped candy that will fit inside plastic eggs. There are two bins for dropping off candy donations - one in the children's wing and one in the breezeway by the main entrance. Thank you so much for your help!



THE CRESTWOOD CHOIR DURING HOLY WEEK

Our choir will begin Holy Week by singing *Cantique de Jean Racine* and *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré with a small orchestra in both services at Crestwood on April 13th. Our soloists for the Requiem are Kayla Wilson Emerson, soprano, and Maximus Taylor, baritone. Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) was a French composer, organist, pianist, and teacher. *The Requiem Op. 48*, first performed in 1888, was not composed to the memory of a specific person, but, in Fauré's words, "for the pleasure of it." (His mother and father, however, had both died not long before, and some think that may have influenced him.) It has been described as "a lullaby of death" because of its predominantly gentle tone. Fauré omitted the *Dies Irae*, though reference to the day of judgment appears in the *Libera Me*, which he added to the normal liturgical text. There are seven parts to this mass: 1. *Introit and Kyrie.* 2. *Offertory*, 3. *Sanctus*, 4. *Pie Jesu*, 5. *Agnus Dei*, 6. *Libera Me*, and 7. *In Paradisum*. Fauré revised the *Requiem* over the years, and several different performing versions are now in use, from the earliest, for small forces, to the final revision with full orchestra.

We hope you will join us in worship that morning, April 13, as we consider both Christ's entry into Jerusalem and His passion.

KNOW ANYONE WHO IS GRADUATING?

It is our tradition to recognize graduating high school and college students each May on Youth Sunday. Please email Steph Wallace (steph@crestwoodchristian.org) as soon as possible if you know of a graduating student, so we can be sure they are recognized and celebrated on May 11, 2025 (Youth Sunday). Thank you so much!

GREETING CARDS NEEDED

Get well cards,

thinking of you cards, and sympathy cards

are needed for the table by the Giving Lane. Please bring your contributions to the church office or give them to Monte LaFrana. Thank you very much for your generosity.

CRESTWOOD'S YOUTH MINISTRY HAS A NEW SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE!



Please follow us on Instagram! Click <u>here</u> to access us there.

Meetings and other events will be posted weekly!

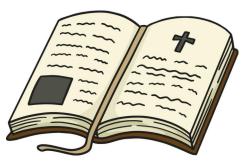
Keep up with all the wonderful ways our youth are sharing Christ's love

in the world as we seek to live out God's love to our neighbors, our community, and beyond.

LITURGISTS NEEDED

Lend your voice to our worship services! We're looking for liturgists for both services on Sunday morning. The liturgist leads the congregation in the Call to Worship and reads the first scripture (both of which are provided during the week before). We'd love to have you be part of leading worship on Sunday, so please sign up. No previous experience necessary! Here's the link:

Liturgist Signup



TYLER CHILDERS CONCERT PARKING AT CRESTWOOD!

Why pay higher prices (\$50?) at Kroger Field when you can pay \$20 cash and park at Crestwood instead! All proceeds go to the Youth Mission Fund to help us pay for our upcoming summer Mission Trip! Parking starts at



5:30 PM on Saturday, April 19. See you there! And tell all your friends....

APRIL CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE (except where noted otherwise)

8:30 AM - Worship Service

9:30 AM - Sunday School

10:00 AM - Choir Practice

10:45 AM - Worship Service

Tuesday, April 1

9:00 AM - Library Team - Library

Wednesday, April 2

1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library 6:00 PM - Young Adult Gathering - Parlour Restaurant

Thursday, April 3

9:30 AM - Stephen Ministers - Chapel 11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room 6:00 PM - Personnel Committee - Bradford Room 7:00 PM - Choir Practice - Choir Room

Sunday, April 6 - FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

9:30 AM - Kentucky Refugee Ministries in Sunday School 4:00 PM - Combined Youth Group - Easter Egg Prep!

Tuesday, April 8 2:00 PM - Property Team - Bradford Room

Wednesday, April 9

1:00 PM - Bible Study - MC3 2:00 PM - Safety & Security - Bradford Room

Thursday, April 10

11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room 6:00 PM - Finance Team - Bradford Room 7:00 PM - Choir Practice - Sanctuary

Saturday, April 12

8:00 AM - Men's Breakfast - Bradford Room 8:00 AM - Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

Sunday, April 13

8:00 AM - Choir Breakfast - Chalice Hall 8:30 AM - Worship Service 10:45 AM - Worship Service - Palm Procession 12:00 PM - Elders Lunch - Chalice Hall 4:00 PM - Combined Youth Group - Easter Egg Prep!

Tuesday, April 15 9:45 AM - DWM Naomi Circle - Bradford Room

Wednesday, April 16 9:45 AM - DWM Dorcas Circle - Bradford Room 1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library 7:00 PM - Ministry Council - Bradford Room

Thursday, April 17

11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room 7:00 PM - Maundy Thursday service - Sanctuary

Friday, April 18 12:00 PM - Good Friday service - Central Christian

Saturday, April 19

8:00 AM - Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary 10:00 AM - PANCAKE BREAKFAST & 10:45 AM - EASTER EGG HUNT 5:30 PM - Parking for Tyler Childers Concert

Sunday, April 20 - EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 AM - Worship Service 10:45 AM - Worship Service-Flowering of the Cross

Monday, April 21

6:45 PM - DWM Julia Circle - Bradford Room 7:00 PM - Endowment Committee - Bradford Room

Tuesday, April 22

10:30 AM - SRO trip to Berea 6:45 PM - DWM Board Meeting - MC2

Wednesday, April 23 1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

Thursday, April 24

11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room 7:00 PM - Choir Practice - Choir Room

Friday, April 25

11:30 AM - FUNCH potluck - Chalice Hall 6:00 PM - All Youth Friday Night Fellowship

Sunday, April 27 - BAPTISM SUNDAY

NO 8:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

- 9:30 AM Fellowship Breakfast
- 10:00 AM Choir Practice
- 10:45 AM Worship Service
- 4:00 PM Combined Youth Group Youth Sunday Planning & Practice

Monday, April 28

6:30 PM - Crestwood Book Club - MC8

Wednesday, April 30

1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

Youth Corner By Steph Wallace

Happy April and happy spring and happy (?) Lent... are we happy that it is Lent? Is it fun to ponder our flaws and mistakes and ask forgiveness from God when we fall short? Well, it certainly can be - because we worship a God who forgives us with open arms and showers us with unconditional love and mercy every single day, if we only trust in that promise. I



think it can be harder to forgive ourselves than to believe that God forgives us. I encourage you to spend some time this Lent just thanking God for the grace and mercy that each one of us can claim and trust in, no matter what the circumstances. When we embrace that gift, that unconditional acceptance and love that God offers us, exactly as we are, with all our imperfections, we can't help but rejoice and be happy. What a gift!

This month brings one of our biggest special events of the year - the annual Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, **April 19**! This year we will start with the pancake breakfast at 10:00 AM in the gym, followed by crafts for all the children. At 10:45 AM we will form into age groups and head outside for the Easter Egg hunt! Please plan to join us on this most special of mornings. Youth need to be at church no later than 9:30 AM to help set up and prepare, please.

As we look ahead, we have one more very significant event on our horizon that we will be preparing for this month - Youth Sunday! This year we will celebrate Youth Sunday on Mother's Day - May 11, 2025. Mark your calendars!

I am so thankful to be your Youth Minister and to serve alongside you in so many wonderful ways. Never hesitate to let me know how I can serve you and yours.

Until I see you in church, may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Yours in Christ, Steph Wallace

Calendar of events for April, 2025:

Sunday, April 6: Combined Youth Group Meeting

• 4:00-5:30 PM in Youth Meeting Room - stuffing Easter Eggs

Sunday, April 13: Combined Youth Group Meeting

• 4:00-5:30 PM - Finish preparing for Easter Egg Hunt; game time in the Fun & Fellowship Room

Sunday, April 19: Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt

- 10:00 11:00 AM in the Gym
- Youth please be at church by 9:30 AM to set up!

Sunday, April 20: Easter Sunday

• No Youth Groups in the afternoon

Friday, April 25: Friday Night Fellowship

• All youth welcome - 6:00 - 8:00 PM; dinner will be served.

Sunday, April 27: Baptism Sunday; Combined Youth Group in afternoon

- All-church potluck breakfast in the gym at 9:30 AM
- 10:45 AM service only
- All Youth meet from 4:00-5:30 PM to finish planning for Youth Sunday.

CIRCLE MEETINGS

CWU CWU Athros Women United Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Southern Hills UM Church 2356 Harrodsburg Rd., Lexington 9:30 AM fellowship 10:00 AM program

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

Crestwood DWM is a participating organization with Church Women United. *Contact Pat Waggener at 859-266-6313 or patwaggener@twc.com. **April Bible Study:** The Power of Grace (Luke 2:39-40)

Naomi Circle

Tuesday, April 15, 9:45 AM in the Bradford Room Minva Hodgins will lead the Bible study, and Steph Wallace will be our hostess.

Dorcas Circle

Wednesday, April 16, 9:45 AM in the Bradford Room Joan Stafford will present our Bible study program.

Julia Circle

Monday, April 21, 6:45 PM in the Bradford Room Steph Wallace will present our Bible study program, and Annetta Carter will be our hostess.

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

APRIL SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE: THE NEST



The Nest is an agency that has been serving the Lexington area since 1977. It is a lifeline for all individuals and families in crisis, facing adversity, or who have unexpected needs. Programs are free for early childhood education, family assistance for basic human needs, counseling and advocacy for survivors of intimate partner violence, and education and support for parents.

Everyone who needs the services of The Nest can rest assured that safety is number one as this agency prioritizes the mental, physical, and emotional wellbeing of their clients, team, and partners.

The Nest provides caregivers equal access to high quality child care providers, personal hygiene necessities, car seats, and children's clothing.

Counseling is provided for intimate partner violence in both individual and group settings, as well as legal advocacy for survivors.

Parenting classes for female and male caregivers that focus on healthy parenting are provided in order to assist caregivers in helping them to become skilled and knowledgeable caregivers for the children that they support.

This month Crestwood's service project is The Nest. They need only one item for April in order to support their Diaper Drive. Diapers may be placed in the Giving Lane, located in the hallway that leads to the Administrative Wing:

DIAPERS in all sizes for babies and toddlers

For those who wish to make a monetary contribution, you may write a check made payable to Crestwood Christian DWM with the letters 'NEST' in the memo line. Please mail your check to DWM treasurer Gayle Hutcherson, 1005 Firethorn Pl, Lexington, KY 40515.

For more information, you may contact DWM service coordinator Tracy Lovan at 859-948-1955 (call or text) or email at <u>thelovans@gmail.com</u>. The Nest website <u>www.thenestlexington.org</u>

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

The Crest

Crestwood Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

Return Service Requested

CRESTWOOD CARES

Your Generosity as a Congregation Makes It All Possible!

In March, our **Local Outreach** gave \$2000 to Natalie's Sisters.

Additionally, the **Bridge Fund** was able to assist one family in need by making the following payment:

KU Electric - \$57

Our **World Outreach** committee gave \$992 to KY Council of Churches and \$595 to Cane Ridge. Additionally, World Outreach provided special assistance of \$2,000 to Kentucky Refugee Ministries and \$3,000 to Christian Appalachian Project.

Crestwood, none of this would be possible without you and your generous giving to spread love and hope to those who need it most. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with others in this most meaningful way! CRESTWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship – 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM

10:45 AM service is available on Facebook and YouTube.

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kory Wilcoxson, Senior Minister Steph Wallace, Student Associate Minister Missy Wallace, Children's Minister Rev. Kelly Hale, Interim Pastoral Care Minister Jim Cristi, Facilities Manager Mary Van Kesteren, Office Administrator Frank Spragens, Music Director Jane Johnson, Organist Cindy Abernathy, Pianist Amber Combs, Childcare Director

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Church Office Kory Wilcoxson Kelly Hale Missy Wallace Steph Wallace Frank Spragens Jim Cristi office@crestwoodchristian.org kory@crestwoodchristian.org kelly@crestwoodchristian.org missy@crestwoodchristian.org steph@crestwoodchristian.org fspragens@yahoo.com facilitiesmgr@crestwoodchristian.org

WEBSITE

www.crestwoodchristian.org