CRESTWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH

THE CREST

Connecting People with God and Each Other

Volume 65 Issue 11 **November 1, 2026**

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NEXT CREST IS DECEMBER 1

Crest articles are due by Monday, Nov. 23

Send articles to: office@crestwoodchristian.org

ANGEL TREES ARE HERE!



This year, Crestwood has committed to helping 170 children from Russell Cave, Liberty, and Glendover Elementary schools. Angel trees are set up outside of the chapel and choir room with colored tags. Please sign out the numbered tag(s) on the clipboards provided. All gifts must be turned in no later than noon on Sunday, Dec. 6. All gifts need to be returned ***unwrapped*** in a trash bag with the provided color-coded sticker. Gifts may be left by the trees on Sunday morning or delivered to the church office. Thank you for your generosity in giving the kids of our community a Merry Christmas!

PLEASE HELP US FEED OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS AND DONATE TOWARD FOOD BOXES FOR THE NEST!



Every autumn, our Youth Ministry collects money to supply food boxes for The Nest - and this year our goal is 350 boxes! The cost is about $7000 - roughly $20 per box. Please consider helping by donating money to purchase food for the boxes. You can give $20 to cover the cost of one box, or donate however much you can to help us meet this goal and show our compassion this holiday season for our brothers and sisters in need. Please label your donation "Food Boxes" so we know your gift is meant to be used towards our goal. Thank you so much for helping make this wish a reality as 350 families with children right here in Lexington will be blessed through this project with a box full of food to feed their families at Christmas!

INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT WORKSHOP



Join us Sunday, November 29, after the second service for our intergenerational Advent Workshop. This year, we are partnering with Mad Potter to paint Christmas ornaments. Families will have the opportunity to create a "family" ornament for the tree in the narthex, and kids will decorate individual ornaments. Pieces will be ready for pick up Sunday, Dec. 13. A pizza lunch with hot cocoa bar will be served. Come join the fun - you won't want to miss it!

HELP DECORATE OUR CRESTWOOD CHRISTMAS TREE



We're bringing back the Crestwood family Christmas tree, and we want your ornament on it! We're asking you to bring in a family ornament, preferably that has your name(s) on it. It could be as simple as taking a plain ornament and writing your name(s) on it. To be clear, we're not asking you to bring in an heirloom ornament or one that is easily broken. We just want to make sure all our Crestwood families are represented! You can drop the ornament by the office or bring it on Sunday, Nov. 29, the first Sunday of Advent.

A WORD FROM KORY



Have you ever felt unwelcomed? During my sabbatical in 2016, I visited a local church much different than Crestwood to experience worship in a way that was unfamiliar to me. The music was contemporary, the sermon was more personal (and longer), and there was no communion. But that's not what made me feel unwelcomed.

At the end of the service, the pastor invited all guests to the "hospitality area," where we would be greeted by church members. So, I headed that way, following the excellent signage. I stood in the hospitality area while groups of church members stood around me, talking about the sermon and catching up on their week. I continued to stand there…in the middle of the room…surrounded by church members…for 10 minutes. Not one person talked to me. This church did a great job of saying they were welcoming, and yet their actions didn't match their words. In contrast, I've gone to plenty of other churches that have been truly welcoming, where I've felt seen and valued and genuinely felt like the congregation was glad to see me.

"Welcoming" has been a buzzword at Crestwood since I got here. It's something we've tried to be intentional about focusing on as we have sought to grow and expand our ministries and programs. Our major building project in 2016 to renovate and expand our Children's Wing was driven by our desire to make that space more friendly, accommodating, and welcoming to parents and their children. Judging from our numbers at Vacation Bible School and every Sunday at Children's Time, I'd say that was a success!

But there are so many more ways our church can be welcoming and I hope we can continue to work on that. For example, Kelly's work on our Silver Chalice initiative has as its goal to make sure our church is taking care of our senior members. At the end of September, the Elders and staff went through dementia-friendly training to ensure that we are providing a safe, familiar place to people with dementia and their caregivers. At its November meeting, the Administrative Board will be receiving the report from the Open and Affirming Task Force and voting on whether or not to adopt that designation for Crestwood, communicating to our congregation and the community that LGBTQ+ people are welcome at Crestwood just as they are.

Why are all these initiatives important? Isn't it enough to just throw open our doors and say "All are welcome?" Well, you'd think so, but remember my experience in the church I visited. Everything they communicated said they welcomed guests, and yet I found a glaring lack of hospitality to the stranger (that was me!). If we're not intentional about welcoming people, especially people who've felt excluded or forgotten by other churches, we may very well drive away people who are looking for a church home.

Each of us has a role to play in this effort. On Sunday morning, look around you and see if there are faces you don't recognize, and then introduce yourself to them. At the least, you've met someone you didn't know. At best, you may have made the difference for a first-time guest who wants to know if they are seen.

Your giving to the church also plays a part. Because of your generosity, we are able to open our doors to dozens of groups and hundreds of people in our community. Now, most of those people may never come to worship on Sunday, but that's not the purpose of hospitality. We welcome people here at Crestwood so that they may find God's love and grace, be it through an AA meeting, a community group, or a worship service.

You should have received an email letting you know where we stand in our stewardship campaign for 2027. We have such great plans for using your gifts to extend Christ's hospitality to others. Please know your gift makes a difference! My prayer for Crestwood is that every person who walks through our doors experiences the love, acceptance, and welcome that we feel each time we are here. What a blessing it is to offer that hospitality in the name of Jesus.

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NOVEMBER MEN'S BREAKFAST



We'll gather on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 8:00 AM in the Bradford Room for a time of good food and fellowship. All men of Crestwood are welcome to join us! RSVPs aren't necessary but always appreciated; you can let Kory know if you plan to attend.

FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

You are welcome to join us for First Sunday Fellowship today. Apple cider and glazed donuts will be served in the narthex following each service. Please join us for this special time together!

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: **Kristen Fowler**

FAMILY: **Family of John W. Collins** (brother of Susan Schell), **Reeves family** (cousins of Jennifer Bryant), **Paul Scott** (nephew of Bill McDonald)

FRIENDS: **Kate Fortune** (of Libby Wachtel), **Brian Hull** (of Jim and Fran McKinney), **Christine Hurtsellers** (of Robert Wine), **Libby Messer** (of Linda Ransdell), **Terri Rowland** (of Mandy Deerhake), **Matthew Spoonamore** (of Matt and Michelle DeLacey))

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: **Suzy Campbell** (of Libby Wachtel), **Steve Combs** (cousin of Libby Wachtel), **the Cristi family** (of Crestwood), **Anna Grace Day** (cousin of Libby Wachtel), **Eva Dennis** (of Crestwood), **Frank Dickey** (of Crestwood), **Jo Fulkerson**, **Jordan & Ginny Sue Hemphill** (brother & sister-in-law of Monte LaFrana), **Tari Moore** (mother of Judy Moore), **Riley Owens** (of Jeanne Jouett), **Rex** (of Jeanne Jouett), **Sally** (of Ann Kingsolver), **Nathaniel Sligh** (nephew of Kimberly Sparks), **Carter Yates** (nephew of Stephanie & Josh Moore)

ARMED FORCES: **Anar Aliyev** (of Crestwood), **Alex Back** (son of Andrea Back), **Karlis Bowman** (nephew of the Gardners), **Tristan Bowman** (nephew of the Gardners), **Bud DeLacey** (nephew of Matt & Michelle DeLacey), **Connor Hankins** (nephew of Lauren York), **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, Sylvia Griffin, Buzz Mattingly, Earl Pfanstiel, 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 and oppression across the globe, the peace of God to rule in the hearts of our local and national leaders, those affected by recent natural disasters, and for God's spirit of reconciliation to bring healing during these difficult times.

HYMN SING TODAY



Join us as we sing favorite hymns together today from 4:00-5:00 PM in the sanctuary. Cindy Abernathy will accompany us, and Jim Abernathy will lead singing the hymns chosen by you!

JOURNEY TO SRI LANKA NOVEMBER 12

Join the SRO (Senior, Retirees, and Others) group as they travel to Sri Lanka on Thursday, Nov. 12, from 4-5:30 PM in Blondell Chalice Hall. Church member Dr. Mark Whitaker, Professor of Anthropology, will introduce us to Sri Lanka and some of his work there. Everyone is welcome!

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE DINNER FOR NATHANIEL MISSION

Nathaniel Mission
Invest. Restore. Transform.

On Thursday, Nov. 19, Nathaniel Mission will serve Thanksgiving Dinner for the community and we are invited to participate! Help is needed in providing food, decorating, greeting, hosting tables, serving, and cleanup. If you'd like to serve our community in this way, please email Bonnie Lynch at lynchb@aol.com to sign up.

UPCOMING SERMONS AND ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Every song tells a story…so what's the story behind some of our favorite Christmas carols? For our Advent sermon series, we'll look at three popular carols to unpack the story behind their creation and the meaning in the lyrics. Join us as we celebrate "The Thrill of Hope" this season!

Nov. 1 – Is the Bible True?
Nov. 8 – Is the Bible Still Relevant?
Nov. 15 – Universal Children's Sunday – Missy Preaching
Nov. 22 – Thanksgiving Sunday
Nov. 29 – "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"
Dec. 6 – Lessons and Carols
Dec. 13 – "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
Dec. 20 – "O Holy Night"
Dec. 27 – Kelly Preaching

INSTALLATION OF MISSY WALLACE AS MINISTER OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

On Sunday, Nov. 22, during the 10:45 AM service, we'll officially install Pastor Missy Wallace as our Minister of Children and Families. Rev. Dr. Don Gillett, our regional minister, will be present to lead us through this. Please join us for this special Universal Children's Sunday and for Missy's installation. We are so blessed to have her as part of our church family!

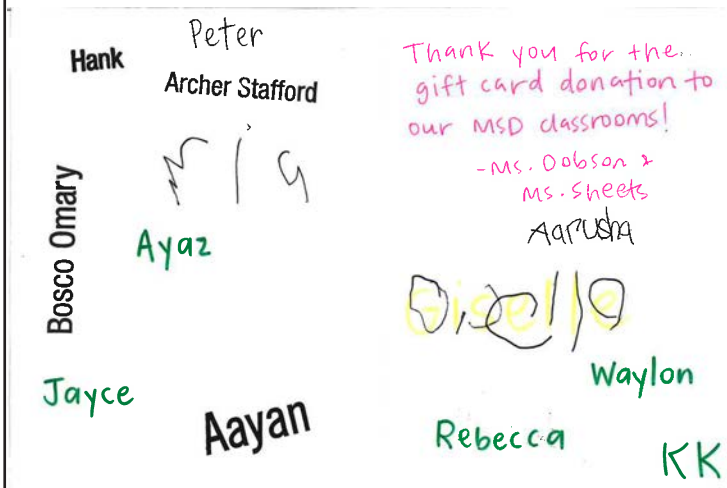
THANK YOU, CRESTWOOD

We are truly thankful for your congregation's faithful partnership with Christian Care Communities. Your generous support reflects Christ's love in action, reaching older adults across Kentucky with compassion, dignity, and Care. Because of your support, our residents are reminded that they are valued members of God's family, never forgotten and always loved.

In His Service,
Mary Lynn Spalding, Presiden & CEO

Our deep gratitude for your world outreach mission gift in support of Habitat's mission to create safe, stable homes for people throughout the world. Our affiliate continues to tithe in support of international projects, and your gift will help support that work in addition to making an impact in our community.

With gratitude,
The Habitat Family



A thank-you note from Glendover's MSD (moderate/severe disability) classes.

CRESTWOOD'S FUNCH GROUP WANTS YOU TO JOIN US FOR FUN+LUNCH!

We will meet in Blondell Chalice Hall on Friday, Nov. 20 from 11:30 AM-2:00 PM for a potluck lunch, great conversation, and BINGO games for prizes! Please join us - all are welcome!



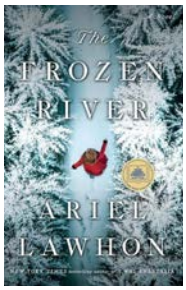
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD TO CONSIDER OPEN AND AFFIRMING DESIGNATION

At its November Board meeting (Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 7:00 PM in the Bradford Room), the Administrative Board will receive the final report from the Open and Affirming Task Force, and then will vote on whether or not to adopt this designation for Crestwood. All Board meetings are open to the congregation and anyone is invited to attend. If you would like to offer your input directly to a Board member, they are:

Moderator – John Hill
Vice-Moderator – Laura Bryan
Secretary – Beth Cooper
Treasurer – Annetta Carter
Deacon Chair – Adrianne Strong
Elder Chair – Matt Bacon
Trustee Chair – David Miller
DWM Chair – Gayle Hutcherson
Ministry Council reps – Joanne Brown, Ben Thompson, Lyndi Van Deursen, Sonny Wray
At-Large Members – Ed Richardson, Tracy Lovan, Dallas Kingsolver

CRESTWOOD BOOK CLUB

The Crestwood Book Club will meet on Monday, Dec. 14 at 6:30 PM in MC8 to discuss The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon. For more information, contact Beth Cooper or the church office.



WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER



BRENT CAMDEN

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Pastor Missy Wallace



Greetings Crestwood Families,

It's the time of year when we take a deep breath before the busyness of the holiday season begins. There are so many opportunities to celebrate, give, and rejoice. I'm incredibly excited about all that we have going on at Crestwood and the wonderful ways the Spirit is moving through our church family.

·Growing in God's Word Grant – Crestwood was selected to receive a children's ministry grant through the Lily Foundation and Christian Theological Seminary. We will be constructing a "Spirit Corner" of storytelling and art supplies in the rear of the sanctuary in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for details!

·Angel Trees – This year we are blessed to help 170 students across Russell Cave, Liberty, and Glendover Elementary schools have a Merry Christmas. Angels will be available Nov. 1 and all gifts are due back no later than Dec. 6 at noon.

·Universal Children's Sunday – Join us as our 3rd–5th grade Bridge students lead worship on November 15. Our regional minister, Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett, will be joining us to cheer on the kids and oversee my installation as a Crestwood minister.

·Advent Workshop – On Nov. 29, we will kick off the advent season with our annual advent workshop. This year, we will be partnering once again with Mad Potter and making ornaments! Each child and youth can create their own, and each family will have the opportunity to create one for our family tree in the narthex.

SAVE THE DATES

November 1
Angel Trees Arrive & First Sunday Fellowship

November 8
All-Music Sunday School

November 15
Universal Children's Sunday

November 29
Advent Workshop & All-Music Sunday School

December 6
Angel Trees Gifts due by noon & First Sunday Fellowship
No Children's Music

December 13
Live Nativity (4:00 PM) & Church Holiday Dinner (5:00 PM)

December 16
Christmas Caroling

December 20
Children Singing in Worship

December 24
Christmas Eve Family Service 5:00 PM
Candlelight Service 7:00 PM & 11:00 PM (organ prelude 10:30 PM)

December 27
All-Music Sunday School

Be sure to check the save-the-dates for all the fun still coming up in December. It's a busy season, but we remain anchored as we share the hope and unconditional love of Christ throughout our community. As we lace up our running shoes, may we all find our rhythm of celebrating, giving, and rejoicing.

Blessings,
Pastor Missy

Pictures of some of our Crestwood kids from pumpkin painting and the Halloween Bash in October - see page 8 for even more photos!









YOUTH CORNER

Jadyn Anderson



What a wonderful October we had! Coming off the coattails of our super-fun Halloween Bash, our youth have a pretty peaceful November ahead. While there isn't much to report on for the coming month in terms of events, I want to put a spotlight on all of the wonderful things our youth did in the past month.

We had three very fun and successful events last month. We had plenty of our youth show up to walk in awareness for those going hungry in our world, and our church exceeded our fundraising goal for the event. I'm so proud of our youth and all of the members that helped us achieve that goal! We also had a great time painting pumpkins; I know our children and youth all had some fun and unique pumpkin designs (and of course, some great pizza and cookies). Of course, our last event of the month was a smash hit. With everyone dressed up and filled with all kinds of sugary snacks, I think it's safe to say that our Halloween Bash was a great night for everyone involved (see pictures below).

Looking ahead to November, we have a normal array of Chi-Ro and CYF groups, although I am currently in talks about a potential outing alongside another local ministry, so stay tuned for that announcement!

Thank you all for the many ways you support our youth and their walk with God. I pray you all receive his blessings and peace.

- Jadyn Anderson

UPCOMING CAR PARKS

We have two more UK football home games, which means two more car parks! Please encourage your friends to park at Crestwood to help us raise money for our youth mission trips. We've had a fantastic season so far, both on the field and on the asphalt. Let's keep that going! Go Cats!

Saturday, Nov. 14 – Florida
Saturday, Nov. 28 – Louisville

YOUTH SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

Nov. 1
Regular Youth Groups with dinner – 5:00-7:00 PM

Nov. 8
Regular Youth Groups with dinner – 5:00-7:00 PM

Nov. 15
Regular Youth Groups with dinner – 5:00-7:00 PM

Nov. 22
(with a chance for a surprise event here, stay tuned!)
Regular Youth Groups with dinner – 5:00-7:00 PM

Nov. 29
Box Building for The Nest with dinner – 5:00-7:00 PM









CRESTWOOD LOVES & CARES FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

In October, the Bridge Fund assisted three families in total, with $200 and $100 going toward electric bills and $138 helping pay a rent balance due.

Your love and generosity changes lives! We are bringing hope to those who need it most through our mission and outreach. Thank you for your faithful giving that makes this possible.



The Thursday Bible Study group enjoyed a lunch out at Parlour restaurant to celebrate the completion of their study of Acts. Join us at 11:00 AM in the Bradford Room each Thursday. All are welcome!

Disciples Womens Ministries

CIRCLE MEETINGS

2026-27 Season
Please join us!

Deborah Circle
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6:15 PM in the Bradford Room

Dorcas Circle
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 10:00 AM in the Bradford Room

Julia Circle
Monday, Nov. 16, 11:45 AM in the Bradford Room

Crestwood Christian DWM invites all women to visit one or more of our circles September through May. Contact Gayle Hutcherson at gayle.hutcherson@gmail.com for more information.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Tuesday, Nov. 10
World Community Day Celebration
Theme: Peace Begins With Me
Southern Hills UMC, 2356 Harrodsburg Rd., Lexington
9:30 AM – Fellowship 10:00 AM – Program

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

Crestwood DWM is a participating organization with CWU. Contact Pat Waggener at 859-266-6313 or patwaggener@twc.com for more information.

NOVEMBER SPOTLIGHT ON SERVICE: SILVER BELLS

Silver Bells was created by the Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency in Lexington. Their mission is to provide gift items for the holiday season to residents in local nursing homes who might not otherwise receive gifts. According to the agency, as many as 60% of the residents in nursing homes do not have regular visitors involved in their lives.

Items requested by the agency include the following:

Blankets	Snacks
Candy	Pens
Stationery	Stamps
Body wash, lotion, shampoo	Socks

GIFTS SHOULD BE UNWRAPPED AND IN GIFT BAGS

Thank you for your continued support of our community. Donations may be brought to the Giving Lane located in the hallway that leads to the Administrative Wing or brought to the respective November DWM meeting.

For those who wish to make a monetary contribution, you may write a check made payable to Crestwood Christian DWM with Silver Bells in the memo line. Please mail your check to DWM treasurer Donna Thor at 3405 Brandon Drive, Lexington, KY 40502.

For more information, you may contact DWM service coordinator Loraye Jones at 859-940-1567 (call or text) or email at loraye.r.jones@gmail.com.







October was full of Halloween fun, with our families painting pumpkins to deliver to our church family who are in need of encouragement. We ended the month with our annual Halloween Bash and Chili Cook-Off. The youth did an amazing job with all the activities and special congratulations to Jill Howe who took home the trophy for Best Chili!














NOVEMBER 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

Daylight Savings ends

Sunday, November 1 *FIRST SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP*
4:00 PM - Hymn Sing - Sanctuary
5:00 PM - CYF and Chi Rho Youth Groups

Monday, November 2
6:30 PM - Local Outreach - MC 3

Tuesday, November 3 - Election Day
9:00 AM - Library Team

Wednesday, November 4
1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

Thursday, November 5
11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room
6:00 PM - Finance Team - Bradford Room
7:00 PM - Choir Practice

Sunday, November 8
12:00 PM - DWM Board Meeting - Bradford Room
12:00 PM - Social Justice Team - MC 4
5:00 PM - CYF and Chi Rho Youth Groups

Tuesday, November 10
9:00 AM - Property Team - Bradford Room

Wednesday, November 11
1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

Thursday, November 12
11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room
4:00 PM - SRO Guest Speaker - Blondell Chalice Hall
6:00 PM - Finance Team - Bradford Room
7:00 PM - Choir Practice

Saturday, November 14
8:00 AM - Men's Breakfast - Bradford Room
TBD - Youth Car Park

Sunday, November 15 *UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S SUNDAY*
12:00 PM - Elders Lunch - Blondell Chalice Hall
5:00 PM - CYF and Chi Rho Youth Groups

Monday, November 16
11:45 AM - DWM Julia Circle - Bradford Room
6:00 PM - Personnel Committee - Bradford Room
6:00 PM - Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, November 17
6:15 PM - DWM Deborah Circle - Bradford Room

Wednesday, November 18
10:00 AM - DWM Dorcas Circle - Bradford Room
1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library
7:00 PM - Administrative Board - Bradford Room

Thursday, November 19
11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room
7:00 PM - Choir Practice

Friday, November 20
11:30 AM - FUNCH - Blondell Chalice Hall

Sunday, November 22
5:00 PM - CYF and Chi Rho Youth Groups

Wednesday, November 25
1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

****THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THURSDAY, NOV. 26 AND FRIDAY, NOV. 27 FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY****



Saturday, November 28
TBD - Youth Car Park

Sunday, November 29 *FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
12:00 PM - Intergenerational Advent Workshop - Blondell Chalice Hall
5:00 PM - CYF and Chi Rho Youth Groups - Box building for The Nest with dinner

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

The Crest

Crestwood Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Return Service Requested



Crestwood Christian Church

Sunday Worship — 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM
Sunday School for all ages — 9:30 AM
10:45 AM service is available on YouTube

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Kory Wilcoxson, Senior Minister
Pastor Missy Wallace, Minister of Children & Families
Rev. Kelly Hale, Minister of Pastoral Care
Jadyn Anderson, Youth Ministry Director
Jennifer Heersche, Office Administrator
Jim Cristi, Facilities Manager
Frank Spragens, Music Director
Jane Johnson, Organist
Cindy Abernathy, Pianist

EMAIL ADDRESSES

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