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Church Reopening Update

Greetings, Crestwood! We continue to pay attention to all the information available about the possibility of reopening the church building for Sunday worship and other use. Despite the call from the national level for churches to reopen, we are not at a point to be able to do this in such a way that fully protects our worshippers. There are many considerations to take into account when we talk about in-person Sunday worship, and at this

point, a church the size of Crestwood faces several obstacles to making that happen (see Kory's article on page 2).

Therefore, Crestwood will continue to postpone in-person worship on Sunday mornings for an indefinite period of time. We'll continue to explore the issue and all the aspects involved, but will only consider Sunday morning gatherings when we know everyone who attends can do so without fear of getting sick or infecting others. In the meantime, we will continue to offer online worship, devotions, and other means of connection.

We are also continuing to work with our outside groups to discern the right time to invite them back into our building. Even with small groups, there are issues of cleanliness and sanitization that must be observed. Many of the groups have their own guidelines (like the Boy Scouts), while other groups are still working out those logistics.

At our Board meeting last week, we suggested creating a task force to work on issues of sanitization and reopening. The staff will head this team, but if you would like to serve on it, please contact Kory and let him know. As always, we welcome your input and feedback as we try our best to be faithful to our calling to serve God and this wonderful congregation.

Your Crestwood Staff

CRESTWOOD WORSHIP ONLINE

On Sunday at 10:00 AM, you'll receive an email with a link to a pre-recorded worship service. If you wish to be added to our distribution list, email office@crestwoodchristian.org. The service will also be posted on our Crestwood Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/CrestwoodLexington

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATE

Although the physical church office is closed, office operations continue virtually.

For non-urgent matters, send email to office@crestwoodchristian.org.

For urgent matters, contact Kory or Trish.

Note about the June CREST:

If you usually receive the CREST by both postal mail and email, you may expect to receive it only by email this month.

NEXT CREST - JULY 1

ARTICLES DUE BY NOON ON
FRIDAY, JUNE 26

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

For our summer sermon series (HEY PREACHER!), we want to know what YOU want to hear! What's a topic you've always wanted to hear addressed in a sermon? Or a question you would like your preachers to address?

Email your questions to Kory (kory@crestwoodchristian.org) and he and Trish will compile a list of topics for our summer sermons. Let your voice be heard!



PRAYER LIST

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: Brian Buchanan, Ellen Frost, *Rick Jouett and family, Barb Schriefer, the family of Ruby Thornton, Mary Janice Towles, Winn Turney, Sonia Woodall and family, the family of Paul Young

FAMILY: **Lindi Campbell** (daughter of Virginia Long), **Janet DeLacey** (mother of Matt DeLacey), **Tim Dudley** (nephew of Minva Hodgins), **Mary Herald** (sister of Kimberly Sparks), **W.E. Parker** (grandfather of Beth Taylor), **Ronnie Smith** (brother of Fay Isaacs)

FRIENDS: **The family of Gina Andreoli** (of Donna Wray), **Chloe Craycraft** (of Kimberly Sparks), **Aileen Dalton** (of Christie Oliver), **the family of Bev Dunn** (of Bettye Burns), **Jeffrey Foxx** (of Tom and Billie Arnold), **Cellina Gantley** (of Kathy Stone), **Larry Hopkins** (of Betty Barton), **Bill Mann** (of Phoebe Wiley), **Katherine McKee** (of Phoebe Wiley), ***Grant Miller** (of Crestwood), **Mary Ross** (of the Jouetts), **Jane Tucker** (of Kathy Stone)

ARMED FORCES: **Anar Aliyev** (of Crestwood), **Paul Baird** (grandson-in-law of Minva Hodgins), **Blake and Jill Chambers and family** (grandson of Joe & Karen Billings), **Travis Cramer** (son of Rick and Cathy Tittmann), **Bud DeLacey** (nephew of Matt and Michelle DeLacey), **Scott Eldridge** (of Pamela Wainscott), **Andrew Lynn** (grandson of Joe & Karen Billings), **Patrick Ritter** (great-nephew of Betty Tester), **David Schloesser** (of Matt Staggs), **Rocky Shapla** (friend of Jane Johnson), **Zoe Sims** (granddaughter of John Sims), **Dalcus Sparks** (nephew of Andrea Back), **Justin Witt** (nephew of Jack Witt).

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Jean Aspley, Margaret Buchanan, Billie Casey, Carolyn Floyd, Carl and Jean Ham, Nettie Sue Highbanks, Georgia Meece, John Sims

OUR WORLD COMMUNITY: We pray for the inmates of the Fayette County Detention Center and their families, our healthcare workers, and for God's presence and peace in areas of turmoil and suffering around the world.

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

A WORD FROM KORY



Crestwood never closed.

There's been a lot of talk recently about the importance of churches reopening. Churches have been labeled "essential," which is nothing new to followers of Christ, and been told its OK to unlock the doors, fire up the organ, and start holding worship services again. After all, if there is anywhere it should be safe to gather without fear, it should be the church, right? Unfortunately, no. Like youth soccer leagues, COVID-19 is no respecter of Sunday mornings. You're just as likely to infect someone by belting out "How Great Thou Art" as you are breathing on them in the grocery store. As much as we want to get back to our routines, especially on Sunday morning, we have to protect ourselves and each other. For that reason alone, Crestwood will continue not to hold in-person worship for the foreseeable future.

I was recently on a conference call with several other pastors of larger Disciples churches during which we discussed the challenges of starting in-person worship again. It was a lively and fruitful discussion, and we all agreed that Sunday gatherings are still a long way off for us. We identified three broad criteria that will help us define the right time to open our doors again.

Feasibility – How feasible is it for us to worship in person while following the safety guidelines? Do we have the resources and volunteer strength to sanitize the bathrooms after each use? How about fully sanitizing the sanctuary after each service? We recognized that a lot of time and money would be put toward keeping our facilities clean and safe just for the purpose of worshipping in the same space. Is that the best use of our resources? And how feasible is it to ask this loving, caring congregation to come together and NOT greet, handshake, or hug? It's unlikely everyone would follow the rules.

Logistics – If we follow the six-foot rule for social distancing, we can fit 70-80 people in our sanctuary at a time. That would mean at least 3-4 worship services each weekend to accommodate our regular Sunday morning crowd. And how do you divide up the congregation for worship? Alphabetically? First come, first served? How do you get people in and out of the worship space and church building with no interaction? How do you serve communion, if at all? The logistics involved with in-person worship are complex and will require a lot of thought and planning before we open our doors again on Sunday morning.

Integrity – This is the biggest obstacle for me. Is it worth the risk of coming together for worship if we can't greet each other, can't sing any hymns, and would have to severely alter how we take communion? I know where two or three are gathered, Christ is there, but I don't want to rush back to worship only to find we are disappointed that our worship, like our environment, feels drastically sanitized. I'd rather worship face-to-face when we can truly worship, hugging and singing and sharing the bread and cup.

Those are a few of the issues involved in considering in-person worship again. Your church staff will continue to monitor the guidelines put forth by the experts, making sure we are doing everything we can to keep you safe.

But let me say it again. THE CHURCH IS NOT CLOSED. Never has been. We still worship on Sunday morning. We are still doing outreach work and Bible studies. Our youth are still gathering for games and devotions, our Elders still meet monthly, your ministers are still reaching out and connecting with the congregation. Our church didn't close. Our church is not closed. The church is not the building, it's each one of us who are living out our faith in ways that serve others. YOU are the church. Keep being the church in your own space until we can be the church together in the sanctuary.

MAY LOCAL OUTREACH GIVING

Arbor Youth Services, the only emergency shelter for unaccompanied children in Central Kentucky - \$1000

Greenhouse17, committed to ending intimate partner abuse in families and the community - \$1000

New Life Day Center, designated for Rental Deposit Program to assist with permanent housing - \$2000

Bridge Fund

\$150 - rent

\$200 - rent

\$200 - rent

\$150 - Kentucky Utilities

Please contact me if you are aware of an organization that needs assistance.

Thank you,
Sheri Shaver

Chair, Local Outreach Ministry Team

sheri.shaver@gmail.com or (859) 797-4164

CRESTWOOD BRIDGE FUND

The Crestwood Bridge Fund can assist 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. If they will leave their contact information, we will return the call to get the necessary information.

TRISH TALK



Dear Friends,

I miss you. I miss Crestwood being together in the sanctuary singing and praying together. I miss sitting across the table as we read the Bible and look at each other and say, "what?" and reread the passage with a little laughter and curiosity. I miss holding your hand while praying for you. I miss hugs. I miss the parking lot being full on Tuesday nights. I miss the people who are coming for one of the many community groups wandering around trying to figure out how to get back to their cars. There is so much to miss. BUT there is so much more to lose.

Friends, I understand the longing of wanting to get back to the way things used to be but the cost is too high. I have been so impressed by the way that you understand that. We have not received pressure from any of you to open up and get back to the sanctuary. You seem to know what I have stated here. God is not locked in the building. God would expect more from us than to risk the lives of loved ones just to be together. So, we trust that God is at work in and through us in this time. We will continue to Zoom our way together, recognizing that there are blessings in that. We still read scripture together and still look at our screens and say "what?"! Our Saturday group acknowledges that we would not get up, get beautified, and drive to Crestwood on a Saturday morning, but we will log onto Zoom. There is now a group of women navigating these days together and looking for ways to be found faithful.

Sunday is Pentecost--the Holy Spirit coming upon the people of God and birthing the church. Let us be open to that Spirit that continues to come upon the people. The mission of Jesus Christ did not stop at his death and resurrection. It moved from one man to many. God is a God of re-creation and new life. I trust the Spirit that first moved upon the waters of creation, that birthed the church, to continue to bring new life even now. Let us move into these days with expectation.

Blessed to share the journey!

Trish

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

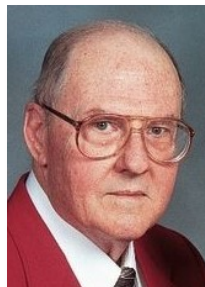
The DWM Service Project for June has been postponed due to the coronavirus. Dress for Success has no plans to open soon.

Watch the *Weekly* for updates on DWM Circle summer Zoom meetings.

In Memory of...

**PAUL YOUNG
(1938-2020)**

Paul Young passed away on April 4. Please keep Peggy and their family in your prayers.



In Memory of...

**RUBY THORNTON
(1924-2020)**

Ruby Thornton passed away on April 30. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.



WEEKLY ZOOM MEETINGS

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

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays @ 8:00 PM

Our Men of Crestwood Bible study is meeting by Zoom on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM. Join Kory as he leads us through a study of scripture. No previous knowledge needed, just a desire to learn! If you want to join by phone, let Kory know.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/94478525193>

SOUL CARE CAFÉ

Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM

Have a thought on Sunday's sermon? Want to know what's going on with the church? Just need to vent or see a friendly face? Join us for Soul Care Check-in on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM. Kory is leading this group, which includes scripture reading, prayer, and a chance to check in and see how everyone is doing.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/93130030767>

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY (Proverbs)

Thursdays @ 11:15 AM

This is a great time to join a Bible Study! We're discussing the wisdom of Proverbs.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366>

FELLOWSHIP AND FUN

Fridays @ Noon

Join us for fun and fellowship each Friday at noon! Break up the monotony of the day by getting onto Zoom and playing with your church friends. We'll play games.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366>



ZOOM FAITH GROUP

Saturdays @ 10:00 AM

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

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays @ 9:15 AM

All are welcome to Zoom Sunday School at 9:15 AM. Email Trish for the article being discussed and then sign in on Zoom at the link below at 9:15 AM on Sunday.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7893516366>

3rd - 5th GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays @ 9:15 AM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82979668809>

YOUTH ZOOM MEETINGS

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

PROPERTY UPDATE

During the continued closing of Crestwood's physical facility during this pandemic, the Property Team has remained active. The painting project in the Mission Center, Chalice Hall, and Chapel has been completed. We worked on the front Crestwood sign, removing tree limbs to improve the sign's visibility and weeding the area in front of the sign. Two of the retention ponds near the north parking lot have been cut and cleared. We picked up three bags of trash in those areas and removed the cut debris. Also, clean-up work has begun in the playground area.



Above: Freshly visible Crestwood sign
Below: Sparkling clean Chalice Hall



Thank you,
Ward R. Ransdell, Property Ministry Team

CRESTWOOD YOUTH

Weekly Youth Zoom Schedule

Youth Group - Sundays @ 4pm

Chi Rho Zoom Devotional - Tuesdays @ 4pm

CYF Zoom Devotional - Thursdays @ 4pm

Camp Wakon'Da-Ho

There will be a virtual summer program, so watch for future communications about how to participate.

Our youth continue to create ways to thrive during our current pandemic. They created a way to recognize and celebrate our two high school seniors, plus prepared and led our traditional Youth Sunday worship service. We have amazing and dedicated youth who care about each other's faith formation experiences.

In June, Chi Rho and CYF will continue to meet through weekly Zoom gatherings. Each group will read a book of the Bible, followed with a discussion after each chapter per week. Chi Rho will read the book of Ruth on Tuesdays at 4:00 PM, and CYF will read the book of James on Thursdays at 4:00 PM. The Sunday evening youth groups will consist of online group games and prizes. Youth are encouraged to invite their friends to join the weekly youth gatherings.

If you have any ideas or questions, please contact me via email, text or call.

Blessings,
Brian Miller



Wacky Hair Wednesday on Tuesday with Chi Rho Youth



In May we celebrated our graduating high school seniors, Grace Hughes (left) and Olivia Webster (right).



WAYS TO CONNECT



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

Crestwood Online Calendar

<https://www.crestwoodchristian.org/calendar/>



Follow us on Instagram at
crestwood.youthministry



Join the Crestwood Christian
Church Youth page

Dear Crestwood,

Your gift could not have come at a better time. So many of our neighbors are in critical need and **Nathaniel Mission** is the place they find refuge from the storms of life. We are honored to partner with you in being the hands and feet of Jesus. May the Lord bless you and keep you; may his face shine upon you and be gracious to you and give you peace.

Sincerely,
Meghan Talley

Dear Friends,

You are a hero in the hearts of many. You have delivered hope to our neighbors who struggle with food insecurity, including many individuals and families who have reached out to us for the very first time in recent weeks. Communities throughout our region are experiencing an unprecedented increase in food assistance requests due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, you made it easier for our neighbors who are feeling the personal stress of this crisis to have nutritious food on their dinner tables. Your generous gift of \$1,000 to **God's Pantry Food Bank** is at work now providing nourishing food to help children, seniors, and families stay well. Your kindness has made an immediate, positive difference in their lives. Thank you so much for supporting our community in such a thoughtful, caring way. Together, we are fighting hunger and delivering hope.

With gratitude and warm wishes,
Michael J. Halligan, Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friends,

What a blessing to receive your donation to **Natalie's Sisters**. It came just as we were informed that the city's social resources grants were suspended for the year, so it will make a huge difference to our sisters! We are so grateful for your continued support and prayers!

Blessings,
Jani

Dear Crestwood Christian Church,

On behalf of **Six Treasures Ministries** I want to express our appreciation for your recent generous gift to our organization. It is so encouraging to receive support from local churches.

Gratefully,
Robert Littrell

Dear Crestwood DWM,

As spring arrives in Kentucky, our farm at **GreenHouse17** is busy with preparations for the warmer months ahead. Survivors like "Rebecca" are helping plant seeds that will soon sprout into beautiful flowers and delicious vegetables. At the same time, they are sowing hope for the future. Thank you for your donation. Your support helps Rebecca and other survivors like her start a new season of growth. This year hundreds of survivors will begin seasons of transformation at our emergency shelter, with calls to our 24-hour hotline, in regional courtrooms, and during support group meetings. Our shelter and outreach services are still operating during this uncertain time. Together, we are creating safe opportunities for survivors of intimate partner abuse to re-imagine their lives without violence. And we could not accomplish this difficult mission without people like you by our side.

In gratitude,
Darlene B. Thomas, Executive Director

Dear Friends at Crestwood,

It is so heartening to receive a gift from a steadfast donor who understands that men and women facing hardships like homelessness, addiction, and mental illness are worthy of help. Your donation allows the **Hope Center** to continue saying "yes" to everyone who comes to our doors seeking help. Because of you, help for everyone who needs it is here and free to them. It saves lives. Your gift of \$1,000 will be used to house and help more than 650 of the most vulnerable in Lexington each day. As Daniel said, "I wouldn't want to put a number on how much a recovering man is worth, because it is more than a dollar figure." We are so grateful that you understand that, too. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Janice James, Interim Executive Director

Dear Members of Crestwood Christian Church,

I would like to express our thanks to you for the gift of \$920 to the **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky**. This over and above outreach gift will help strengthen and expand our service to congregations. We appreciate the many ways that the church is involved in witness and serves through the Christian Church in Kentucky. We claim your ministry as our ministry together in the name of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,
Dean Phelps, Transitional Regional Minister

.....Notes of Thanks.....(cont.)

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the board of trustees I want to thank you for your recent generous donation of \$920 to the **Cane Ridge Shrine, Inc.** This has not been the year we had hoped for. For the first time in decades we did not open on April 1 due to the coronavirus pandemic and we have postponed the annual Cane Ridge Day in June. At this time, we aren't sure when, or if, we will actually have Cane Ridge Day this year. We hope to open on June 1 to individuals and groups under 10 in number. We hope that our guests this year will follow social distancing guidelines and consider the safety of our other visitors and the staff. With at least two months of no visitors and a decrease of charitable giving, we appreciate even more gifts such as yours that help us with those bills that don't go away, even in times like this. We are grateful for all the support we receive from visitors and friends like you from around the country and the world. We are honored to maintain and preserve the history of these grounds and we hope you will continue to support our efforts in the future.

Thank you again,
James H. Trader, II, Curator

CANE RIDGE OPENING (Update as of May 22)

This week the Governor released information about the opening of museums in Kentucky. In accordance with the guidelines, we will open Cane Ridge to visitors on Monday, June 8. Although we will open the Meeting House, we will not take group reservations during the month of June at least, and we will only allow less than 10 visitors inside at one time.

We are not sure if our museum and restrooms will be available by June 8. Renovations to the restrooms are not yet complete, due to the interruption of the shutdown, and may not be available when we open. We request that our guests respect the social distancing guidelines and stay home if they are experiencing any symptoms of illness.

Please stay safe and keep Cane Ridge in your prayers as we anticipate our opening.

James Trader, Curator
The Cane Ridge Meeting House



DRIVE-BY BLESSING BOX

In an effort to continue serving our community, Crestwood is offering a Blessing Box, located outside of the Children's Wing entrance. This box will provide a supplement for our neighbors when they need help to stretch pantry items. When you find yourself with extra, please consider contributing to the box, and please share with others that this box is available if they need something.



SUGGESTED ITEMS:

Mac and cheese	Canned veggies
Canned/bag tuna	Canned fruit
Canned/bag chicken	Instant mashed potatoes
Peanut butter	Muffin mix
Rice	Cereal
Beans	Shampoo
Canned pasta	Conditioner
Pasta	Body wash
Canned spaghetti sauce	Lotion
Crackers	Feminine hygiene products

From a Crestwood Member:

Here's a little story. Since I live so close to Crestwood and have nothing else much to do these days, I check the blessing box every so often to see if there is still food there and what people seem to be using the most. I took some spaghetti and pasta sauce and toilet paper up there on Friday and noticed that all the canned chicken was gone. I went to the grocery store today and picked up some more canned chicken and a couple of other canned meat products. As I was pulling in the driveway at church, there was a car at the portico and a little girl probably about 10 or 12 years old was holding up the toilet paper and grinning at her mom. Her mom got out of the car and they started looking through the cabinet. I pulled up and got out in case they needed some of the things that I had with me. The woman asked if members of our church supplied the food and I told her yes. She thanked me and said how much they appreciated it and I asked her if they had found what they needed. She smiled and said her daughter was hoping for spaghetti today and it was in there. So I felt totally blessed to know that someone was benefiting from what we are doing and I cried all the way home. And of course then I ran to Trader Joe's and got more toilet paper, spaghetti, and paper towels. I wish I had had the presence of mind to ask her what kinds of things they are looking for that they didn't find. Missed that opportunity! I noticed a week or two ago that someone had put some masks in there and they are all gone.

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

THE CREST

Crestwood Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Return Service Requested



DRIVE-THROUGH WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

June 7 @ 7:00 PM

We invite you to join us at Crestwood for a drive-through worship experience! There will be stations for a welcome, prayer, communion, and benediction, with music provided along the way.

This is a great opportunity to get out of the house and experience worship in a safe, socially distanced way. We'll be sending out an email with more specific instructions.

We hope to see you on June 7!

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, Interim Childcare Director
Tara Monzon, Parent's Day Out Director
Lynn West, Facilities Manager

EMAIL ADDRESSES

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Peggy King	peggy@crestwoodchristian.org
Frank Spragens	fspragens@yahoo.com
Rhiannon Jackson	rhiannonwhite91@gmail.com
Lynn West	custodian@crestwoodchristian.org

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