The Window

A monthly newsletter published for the parish and friends of Christ Episcopal Church of Bowling Green, Kentucky

Photo Credit: L. Goodwin

APRIL 2020

Christ Episcopal Church is a community of Christ's servants who seek to —
Worship God with joy and wonder,
Learn and Grow together, and
Radiate God's love to all.

From The Rector

After my freshmen year of college, I transferred from the University of Pittsburgh to Millersville University, a small state school near where I grew up. I also changed majors from engineering to business administration, which meant an abrupt change in coursework. After an entire year of nothing but math and science, my sophomore year was full of general education requirements, including College Writing.

On the first day of class, the professor handed us a bluebook and told us to write for 45 minutes on a topic I can't remember now. Two days later, he returned them to us. I got a note on mine that recommended I drop the class and register for remedial writing instead. As the memory of this moment has grown in my mind over the last twenty years, I now recall my reaction as something akin to a Julia Sugarbaker or Scarlett O'Hara, you know, that classic genteel southern woman, "Well I never!" What really happened was a bit of panic. I did the math, and any disruption in my courses would mean I couldn't graduate in four years, which meant more debt, which meant…. I may have spiraled.

Instead of signing up for remedial writing, I worked my tail off. What I learned in that process is that I like to have some time to collect my thoughts. I'm not great in an interview, nor am I well equipped for a 45-minute surprise writing exercise, but in reality, I am pretty good at writing. For two years between undergrad and seminary, I wrote "diplomatic" letters on behalf of my father-in-law's construction company to customers who didn't want to pay, subcontractors who didn't keep up their end of the contract, and vendors who provided inferior products. In seminary, I wrote and wrote and wrote some more. Now, twenty-plus years after that disappointing first assignment in College Writing, I'm grateful for the motivation it spurred within me.

General Thanksgivings

1. A General Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.*

On page 836 of the Book of Common Prayer is a prayer written by the late Reverend Doctor Charles Price. It is titled, simply, "A General Thanksgiving," and I commend it to you as a daily practice during this time of isolation and uncertainty. Of particular note is the line that reads, "We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone." The Book of Common Prayer can be found online at https://www.bcponline.org/ or downloaded as a pdf from https://www.churchpublishing.org/siteassets/pdf/book-of-common-prayer/book-of-common-prayer-2006.pdf As we make sacrifices, collectively, for the welfare of the world, it is ok to feel disappointed in the things you will miss. I'm disappointed that our spring break trip isn't going to happen. I'm disappointed that Eliza can't have her roller-skating birthday party. I'm beyond disappointed that Easter won't mean a full nave, kids running all over the place, and the rumble of a timpani drum, but that disappointment reminds me of two things.

First, it reminds me of Charlie Price's words and our dependence upon God alone. God is present even in the midst of hardship. When you feel lonely, isolated, or afraid, God is there. Second, it reminds me of College Writing, and the reality that disappointment can be redeemed. Sadness need not have the last word. The Resurrection has already happened so that even if our annual celebration of it is muted and different, the hope that it brings of life beyond death; joy beyond sorrow; success beyond disappointment.

Keep your head up. Stay connected. Pray for one another. Feel your feelz. God is with us, even in our disappointment.

Grace and Peace,

Steve+

From The Associate Rector

Being in the middle of a global pandemic during the season of Lent can make the ideas of what we throughout our Lenten season be seem far-reaching and our fasts may no longer even be on the table. The thing about Lent, though, is that it isn't meant to be endured, it's meant to change us, and we are all certainly being changed daily. Lent is meant to create space for us to draw near to God, to trim away the little, insignificant things in life that distract or pull us away from God. For most folks, I think Lent shines a light on some of our dark places; places where we feel disconnected or where shame drives the bus tend to stand out in contrast when we start removing the things that don't draw us toward God or who God has created us to be. I like to think of this place as the wilderness.

The wilderness is where when we are stripped of the masks that we wear, or the assumptions that we hold about ourselves get set aside that we find ourselves. Not the self that is a well-known for being the best mom, or the greatest community volunteer, or even the most talented acolyte. The wilderness is a place where the things that we don't love about our life get just as much light as the things of which we are proud. Lent draws us into the wilderness, and it's in this drawing of our souls to the wilderness that we are able to wrestle with the truth that God is just as present in the wilderness as God is on the mountain top. For many of us, it is in the wilderness that we wrestle with the truth that God's love and grace and care hold no conditions; none, not even for you.

Lent draws us into the wilderness, but once Easter comes, it would be a mistake to run out of there and pretend that the darkness doesn't exist, that our lives never had any faults. The joy that will come later this month is true and its hope is abiding, even in a time of crisis, but that truth and that unrelenting hope of the resurrection does not exist in spite of the wilderness, it exists very often because of it.

As I was thinking about this month, and the extremes that it will hold in the journey from Palm Sunday to Easter morning as we worship from our homes, I was struck by the way in which Ross Gay, a poet who wrote daily essays about delight, describes the wilderness and how it often leads to joy:

> And what if the wilderness—perhaps the densest wild in there –thickets, bogs, swamps, uncrossable ravines and rivers (have I made the metaphor clear?)—is our sorrow? Or, to use Smith's term, the "intolerable." It astonishes me sometimes—no, often—how every person I get to know—everyone, regardless of everything, by which I mean everything—lives with some profound personal sorrow. Brother addicted. Mother murdered. Dad died in surgery. Rejected by their family. Cancer came back. Evicted. Fetus not okay. Everyone, regardless, always, of everything. Not to mention the existential sorrow we all might be afflicted with, which is that we, and what we love, will soon be annihilated. Which sounds more dramatic than it might. Let me just say dead. Is this, sorrow, of which our impending being no more might be the foundation, the great wilderness?
>
> Is sorrow the true wild?
>
> And if it is—and if we join them—your wild to mine—what's that?
>
> For joining, too, is a kind of annihilation.
>
> What if we joined our sorrows, I'm saying.
>
> I'm saying: What if that is joy?[1]

May God be present with you in the wilderness, the sorrow, and in the joy of this unprecedented time.

[1]Gay, Ross. The Book of Delights. Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. 2019. 49-50.

Holy Week at Home

Palm Sunday, April 5

Live-streamed from the Nave - 10:00am

Maundy Thursday, April 9

Liturgy at Home

Good Friday, April 10

Live-streamed from the Nave - Noon

Holy Saturday, April 11

Live-streamed - Noon

Great Vigil of Easter, April 11

Liturgy at Home

Lighting of New Fire live-streamed - 7:17pm

Easter Day, April 12

Live-streamed from the Nave - 10:00am

Live-streaming can be found at facebook.com/cecbg

Praying Together

Twice a week, open Zoom sessions, where anyone can come and share what they are praying for, where they have seen God at work, and what they are grateful for during this chaotic time.

Tuesday, clergy led – 10 am

Thursdays, lay led – 5 pm

Mid-Week Offerings

- Mid-Week Meditations - Short reflections by the clergy on the readings or the saint appointed for that day as we navigate this season. These will be available on our podcast stream and will also be done on Facebook live at noon on Wednesdays.
- Praying Together - Twice a week, open Zoom sessions, where anyone can come and share what they are praying for, where they have seen God at work, and what they are grateful for during this chaotic time.
  - Tuesday at 10 - 11 am Clergy led
  - Thursday at 5 - 6 pm Lay led

Church at Home: Creating a Prayer Space

Christ Episcopal Church will be offering Church at Home for the next several Sundays. To prepare, create a worship space and devote a specific time to come together.

1. **Identify a space and find a small table to set up as a family prayer space. For the safety of children, look for sturdy furniture. For small children, choose a table low enough that they can reach.**
2. **Find a cloth that, perhaps, matches the liturgical season. The color for Lent is purple and Easter is white. You can access a colorful liturgical calendar at https://myfaithmylife.org/liturgical-calendar-2019-20/**
3. **Locate your family Bible and place it on the table. Use it to show your children where the stories that you are learning come from. You may want to find a stand or place it on a pillow to show the preciousness of the Bible.**
4. **If you can, find a crèche from your Christmas decorations and set up the Holy Family. Make sure it is one that you want children to touch and hold so that they know that God is accessible at all times.**
5. **Find a candle to light while you are around your table. (Be sure children cannot access lighters and matches and that only adults light the candle) This reminds us that God's word is light for us.**
6. **Add some sacred art to your table. Children are attracted to beauty. This can include anything from a photo, an icon, a drawing that your child creates, or a plant or anything else that is part of God's creation.**
7. **Find a small basket in which to deposit prayer requests. Allow children (and adults!) to say what is on their hearts.**
8. **Find some pillows or blankets to place around your space so that it is comfortable when you are sitting together.**
9. **Explain to children that this space is for them and they can visit it any time. Also, schedule a time when the whole family gathers. Sunday morning online worship is a good start. You can also use some of the suggested resources on our website (www.cecbg.com) under the Learn & Grow ->Children's Ministry tab.**
10. **Most importantly, make the space your own. If you can, take a picture of it and email it to Laura@cecbg.com or share on our Facebook page! I'd love to see what you create!**

Created by Laura Goodwin, Director of Christian Education Christ Episcopal Church of Bowling Green, KY

Adapted from Goldy Play, Catachesis of the Good Shepherd, and Church of the Good Shepherd, Augusta, GA

Prayer Spaces

News from the Living Waters for the World Team on the recent trip to the Peruvian Amazon

"Relationships"

by Belinda Palmer

Relationships have to be cultivated and nurtured and our trip downriver in February reiterated that fact. The folks in Commandancia, Santo Thomas, and Nuevo Israel did not believe we would return. Going forward I believe that will be our focus. In a social justice workshop once, I learned that folks in a community can do for themselves if they are taught. They also would rather have a fostered relationship with those coming in to help rather than it be a one and done service project. Laura's vision for our Peru trips to become parish mission trips could accomplish that relationship nurturing. Our trips could provide manpower for a project and inject some dollars into their communities, as well as keep an eye on the water system. In our current climate we will have to be wait, be still, and pray for our Peru mission.

Installation

by Gary Reimer

The installation team of Gary, Percy and Abraham along with several locals cleaned the water system by draining everything including the big freshwater reserve tank. We changed the 5 micron and 0.5 micron filters, along with the trash filter. The entire system was flushed with a Clorox mixture and then everything was reassembled. Finally we had to pressure test the system for water leaks and we sampled the cleaned and purified water. Ummm ummm good!!! Time for a cold one!!!

"Education"
by Laurie Joyce

The Century Dictionary states that the word educate, (Latin roots-educere) refers to "bodily nurture or support." I am going to adopt this definition today... I believe the activities that we did this time and on our previous trip provided information that is supporting body and spirit.

Below are the topics we presented to impart the ideas we believe are most important. (They were fun too!)

- · Proper handwashing (used black light)
- Germs- what, where, when
- Proper uses of the purified water
- System information -what it does- how it works

We hope that these activities are remembered, followed, and bring bodily health (Laura has most likely shared how this indeed has occurred). I believe the spiritual support comes from our presence; it was conveyed that they were surprised to see our team return. Often people come and go, never to return. We did! We made a covenant to work WITH them, with God's help, to bring good things to them and us. It certainly has for me.

Thank you for your ongoing support of us with your prayers, support and donations as we continue this journey. There is still work to be completed.

NEED HELP?

FOOD | HOUSING | HEALTH CARE | CHILD CARE | CLOTHING | EMERGENCY SHELTER | IMMIGRATION
TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE | SUBSTANCE ABUSE | PRESCRIPTIONS | HOME REPAIR

DIAL 2-1-1

GET CONNECTED GET ANSWERS

- TRAINED COMMUNITY REFERRAL SPECIALISTS
- MULTILINGUAL
- FREE SERVICE
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SERVING ALLEN, BARREN, BUTLER, EDMONSON, HART, LOGAN, METCALFE, MONROE, SIMPSON, AND WARREN COUNTIES

LIVE UNITED
United Way
United Way of Southern Kentucky

211CENTER.COM
BROUGHT TO YOU BY UNITED WAY:
270.843.3205

2·1·1
Get Connected. Get Help.™

GET THE NEW CECBG APP

With our switch to Tithe.ly, an onlinegiving platform, Christ Church now has a custom app for use on your smartphone or tablet.
A one-stop shop for everything CEC, the app has information for visitors like service times, parking suggestions, and a sermon audio feed, as well as tools for long-time members like a prayer wall, online giving, Ministry Scheduler Pro, and a full calendar. Download the app today by following this link - tithely.app.link/christ-episcopal-church-or using the camera feature on your smartphone to open this QR Code

Lay Pastoral Care Ministry

The Lay Pastoral Care Ministry is designed to assist the clergy in providing love, care and concern to fellow parishioners and to be a "ministry of presence." The following persons coordinate the various aspects of this ministry:

Ministry Leader - Elizabeth Rhodes
Card Ministry - Sharon Dyrsen
Eucharistic Visitors - Deacon Kellie Mysinger
Food Ministry - Carol DuBose & Jamie Chaffin
Prayer Shawl Ministry - Mary Travelsted
Altar Flower Delivery - Daughters of the King
Communication Coordinator - Sue Edwards

If you would like to know more about this ministry, contact one of the coordinators listed above. Kathy Leonard & Bill Riedel are the Vestry liaisons to this ministry and can also provide additional information.

Pastoral Care Meal Ministry

Most of us experience times in our lives when we need a little help or would appreciate knowing that we are cared for. A prepared and delivered meal is one expression of love and caring that many of us are able to provide. The Lay Pastoral Care Committee would like to organize this effort so that Father Steve and Mother Becca can offer meals to parishioners in times of need, such as recovering from surgery or when grieving.

Photo Credit: Rachael Machado (Facebook)

If you would be interested in participating in this ministry or would like to know more, please contact either Jamie Chaffin (missjamie12@yahoo.com) or Carol DuBose (caroldubose@aol.com)

The Parish Register

Birthdays

04/03 Ken Cline
04/03 Caroline Derryberry
04/03 Sophia Frassinelli
04/04 Claire Campbell
04/04 Bill McKenzie
04/04 Angie Stewart
04/04 Josh Greenwell
04/04 Hallie Adams
04/06 Tom Hart
04/06 John Spraker
04/07 Ella Burch
04/07 Eliza Pankey
04/08 Retta Poe
04/08 Bill Riedel
04/08 Billy Van Pelt
04/08 Jeff Prewitt
04/10 Olivia Howard
04/11 Vanessa Colovos
04/11 Abby McReynolds
04/12 Judy Adams
04/12 Jodene Hughes
04/12 Amanda Derryberry
04/13 Vivian Hinton
04/13 Louise Gillock
04/13 Lauren Carmichael
04/14 Pat Hildreth
04/16 Lukas Forbes
04/17 Anthony Frassinelli
04/17 Elizabeth Wirth
04/19 Linda Surface
04/21 Rhonda Linden
04/21 Cindy Hines
04/22 Dennis Dipert
04/22 Justin Chaffin
04/22 Savannah Crabtree
04/23 Harper Gaines
04/25 Elise Hughes
04/25 Rumsie Massey
04/26 Tommy Adams Jr.
04/27 Kathy Leonard
04/27 Ryan Hughes
04/29 Mia Greenwell
04/29 Avery Frye
04/30 Andrew Kenney

The Parish Online

Be sure to check the parish's website at www.cecbg.com for any communication you might have missed. *The Lancet,* our weekly electronic newsletter and *The Window* monthly newsletter are found under the Connect menu. You can also check the church calendar along with the Ministry Scheduler under the Calendar menu.

Always remember to check Christ Church's Facebook page for up to date information and event pictures. You can like us at www.facebook.com/cecbg

Remember to check out the **Diocese of Kentucky** website for all things related to the Diocese. You can find news and events along with ministries the Diocese is partnered. Go to www.episcopalky.org

Financial Reports

Christ Episcopal Church

Outreach Funds Report for period ending February 29, 2020

Fund Name	Balance - 01/01/2020	Year to Date Income	Year To Date Expense	Balance - 2/29/2020	2019 Ending Balance
All Saints Center	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00
All Saints Scholarship	654.29	0.00	0.00	**654.29**	654.29
Bishop's Discretionary	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00
Churches United in Christ Help Ministry	6,610.09	1,090.00	2,000.00	**5,700.09**	6,610.09
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry	1,387.00	0.00	0.00	**1,387.00**	1,387.00
Diocese of Jerusalem Good Friday Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00
Episcopal Campus Ministry (ECM)	3,690.98	0.00	0.00	**3,690.98**	3,690.98
Episcopal Relief & Development - Hurricanes	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00
Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)	1,912.69	621.50	179.84	**2,354.35**	1,912.69
Heifer Project	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00
Hotel Inc	774.03	0.00	0.00	**774.03**	774.03
Living Waters for the World	7,961.83	96.40	1,417.83	**6,640.40**	7,961.93
Meals, Inc	312.50	0.00	0.00	**312.50**	312.50
Room In The Inn	1,518.90	25.00	101.78	**1,442.12**	1,518.90
United Thank Offering - Ascension Sunday	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**	0.00
Wednesday Community Lunch Ministry	2,047.10	867.25	980.28	**1,934.07**	2,047.10
Wednesday Community Lunch Ministry	961 served YTD; 27 volunteers average/week				
Yoga	676.43	159.75	0.00	**836.18**	676.43
TOTAL	**27,545.84**	**2,859.90**	**4,679.73**	**25,726.01**	**27,545.94**
Rector Discretionary	4.00	1,261.85	1,265.85	**0.00**	
Associate Rector Discretionary	4.00	351.20	355.20	**0.00**	
Deacon Discretionary	2.00	172.60	174.60	**0.00**	
TOTAL	10.00	**1,785.65**	1,795.65	0.00	
TOTAL OUTREACH INCOME		**4,645.55**			

Financial Reports

Christ Episcopal Church

Operating Fund Report for period ending February 29, 2020

Account #	Account Name	FEBRUARY 2020	YTD 2020	Annual Budget	% of Annual Budget
INCOME					
	Parish Offerings	81,376.40	197,351.11	688,873.00	29%
	Doicesan Support	2,295.00	7,340.00	38,540.00	19%
	Investment Income	0.00	0.00	76,893.24	0%
	Miscellaneous Income	100.00	550.00	2,000.00	28%
	INCOME TOTAL	83,771.40	205,241.11	806,306.24	25%
EXPENSE					
	Adminstration	3,377.29	6,243.07	34,600.00	18%
	Buildings and Property	11,550.04	19,666.83	125,500.00	16%
	Christian Formation	1,481.14	3,422.84	17,250.00	20%
	WKU Episcoapl Campus Ministry (ECM	758.17	2,488.05	11,000.00	23%
	Diocesan and Vestry Support	8,582.00	17,772.00	110,984.00	16%
	Music Ministry	1,552.78	3,251.73	20,600.00	16%
	Parish Life	285.69	522.79	17,700.00	3%
	Worship	2,493.08	2,858.42	4,000.00	71%
	Staff Salaries and Benefits	36,384.34	72,031.05	449,383.03	16%
	EXPENSE TOTAL	66,464.53	128,256.78	791,017.03	16%
	NET SURPLUS (DIFFERENCE)	17,306.87	76,984.33	15,289.21	

PSALM 107
LET THEM THANK THE LORD FOR THE LORD'S
STEADFAST LOVE
LET THEM TELL OF THE LORD'S DEEDS...
THE LORD SAVED THEM.
SOME WERE SICK.
THEY CRIED TO THE LORD IN THEIR TROUBLE.
THE LORD'S STEADFAST LOVE ENDURES FOREVER.

Christ Episcopal Church
1215 State Street
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
(270) 843-6563
www.cecbg.com

Office Hours Monday—Thursday
8:30am—4:30pm
Closed Fridays

Service Times
Sunday
8:00am Holy Eucharist Rite One
9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Holy Eucharist Rite Two

Wednesday
7:00am Morning Prayer
12:00pm Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayers
12:45pm Centering Prayer Community

CHRIST EPISCOPAL church

Christ Episcopal Church is a community of Christ's servants who seek to — Worship God with joy and wonder, Learn and Grow together, and Radiate God's love to all.

Clergy And Staff

The Reverend Dr. Steven J. Pankey
Rector
steve@cecbg.com

The Very Reverend Rebecca Kello
Associate Rector,
Chaplain to the Episcopal Campus Ministry at WKU
Dean of the Four Rivers Deanery
becca@cecbg.com

The Reverend Kellie Mysinger
Deacon
kellie@cecbg.com

Vonda Garringer
Parish Administrator
Vonda@cecbg.com

C. Kenneth Stein
Director of Music and Organist
ken@cecbg.com

Laura Goodwin
Director of Christian Education
laura@cecbg.com

Karen Crabtree
Director of Youth and Director of Online Communications
karen@cecbg.com

The Vestry

2020 Class
Gail Brooks
Justin Chaffin
Kathy Leonard
Gary Reimer

2021 Class
Leonard Edwards
Bill Riedel
Shawn Rhodes
Adam Tabor

2022 Class
Linda Mitchell
Belinda Palmer
Shanna Paul
Troy Puckett

Gary Reimer, *Senior Warden*
Shawn Rhodes, *Junior Warden*
Belinda Palmer, *Secretary*
Leslie Weigel, *Treasurer*
Hamp Moore, *Asst. Treasurer*
Mark Eastin, *Asst. Treasurer*

Seven Parish Ministry Areas And Vestry Member Liaisons

Worship
Steve Pankey, Becca Kello
TBA

Learn
Christian Formation
TBA

Grow
Congregational Development
TBA

Radiate
Fellowship
TBA

Radiate
Outreach
TBA

Radiate
Pastoral Care
TBA