

THE CREST

Our Vision: Connecting People with God and Each Other

Volume 63 Issue 6 June 1, 2024

Sunday, June 2
The Gospel According to
Disney sermon series
The Lion King
Rev. Dr. Kory Wilcoxson

In This Issue...

A Word from Kory2
Congregational Meeting2
Children's Ministry3
VBS News3
Church Calendar4
Youth Corner5
Join us for Funch5
Youth Sunday6
Mission Trip7
Prayer List8
New Members8
SRO Trip9
Pastoral Care News9
Thank Yous9
Outreach Giving 10

NEXT CREST JUNE 1

Articles are due by Noon Tuesday, June 25

Send articles to: office@crestwoodchristian.org







A WORD FROM KORY

How did you form your religious identity? I'm reading a book right now called <u>The Church As Network: Christian Life and Connection in Digital Culture</u>, in which the author, Jeffrey Mahan, makes the case that the formation of our religious identity has changed sig-

nificantly in the last few decades. It used to be that our understanding of ourselves as people of faith was informed by a singular entity, the local church. Our participation in that church and our connection with the people who were a part of it had enormous influence on who we were as people with spiritual beliefs.

Today, Mahan says, we have a much wider and more diverse spiritual marketplace from which to form our religious identity. For example, a Christian might go to church on Sunday, attend a yoga class (which has roots in Hinduism) on Tuesday, participate in a Buddhist meditation class on Wednesday, and engage in a spirited conversation about the nation of Israel on Thursday. Each of those experiences would contribute to the person's spiritual self-understanding, and they would use them (either consciously or subconsciously) to construct their religious identity. Our faith personas are often patchwork creations reflecting the diversity of the culture around us.

Those personas are not only informed by explicit religious practices, but also by cultural phenomena that transcend specific belief systems. While we might be quick to dismiss some things as mere "entertainment," the spiritual dimensions of "Hamilton" or the lyrics of a Taylor Swift song have an impact on us as we contemplate what it means to be a person of faith in today's world.

I've always been a lover of pop culture, dating back to my days as a music and movie reviewer for the Courier-Journal. As a minister, I'm fascinated to see how what people consume in the world of entertainment impacts their faith journeys. In the past few years, I've done sermon series on movies (from "Toy Story" to "The Shawshank Redemption"), in which I've tried to draw lines of connection between what we see on the screen and what we read in Scripture. And, more often than not, those connections are a lot stronger than people think.

This summer we'll embark on a similar journey with the iconic movies of Walt Disney. I'm willing to bet that we've spent more time watching these movies than we've spent in worship. (That's not a judgment, just a statement of fact.) Our understanding of the world has been shaped by the likes of Peter Pan, Simba, and Elsa and Anna. Phrases like "Hakuna Matata" and "Let it go" are not only clever catchphrases but carry with them a worldview with spiritual undertones. When you think about it, it's not a far leap from Snow White's eating a poisoned apple to the Garden of Eden.

So, this summer we'll spend some time with these beloved characters, looking at how their journeys of self-discovery and illumination mirror our own. Along the way, we'll process both the good and the problematic that the films have to offer. (Some earlier movies were not chosen because of the racism/sexism that permeates them.) We'll wrestle with the challenges presented by the representation of evil, of temptation, of the hero's journey, and we'll listen to what these movies have to say about, as one book calls it, "faith, trust, and pixie dust."

I hope you'll take time to watch each movie before the sermon each week. If you subscribe to the Disney+ streaming service, you can find all of them there. If not, I'm sure the library has copies. If you have any trouble, let me know. I look forward to this summer of entertainment and enlightenment as we explore together the gospel as represented in Disney movies.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING June 19 after 10:45 AM service

There will be a congregational meeting on June 19 following the 10:45 AM service to elect the leaders for the 2024-2025 church year. All Crestwood members are encouraged to attend and participate.

NO MEN'S BREAKFAST IN JUNE

Because of travel schedules and the general busyness of the month, we're going to cancel our June Men's Breakfast. We'll see you all in July!

Children's Ministry

Missy Wallace

Dear Crestwood Families,

Welcome to the summer season and another action-packed Vacation Bible School! This year our VBS theme is focusing on the fruits of the Spirit. Help us kick things off on Sunday, June 23, by dressing in your "Fruit Farm" attire (gingham, plaid, bright fruity colors). We hope you can join us June 24 -27 as we cultivate love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



VBS connects us together as a church family in special ways. It takes a village to bring the vision to life and it's an opportunity to watch the children of our community grow with the love of Jesus. When kids see adults engage at their level, they respond! We want to invite you to be a part of this amazing week through prayer and partnership.

Thank you for the love and support of our children's ministry programs. It is a joy to serve with you.

Blessings,

Missy Wallace

V.I.P. DATES FOR CHILDREN

June 16 - Last day for online VBS registration

June 18 & 20 - VBS decorating 5 PM - 7 PM

June 23 - Wear your fruity colors!

June 24 - 27 VBS

Aug. 11 - Blessing of the Backpacks

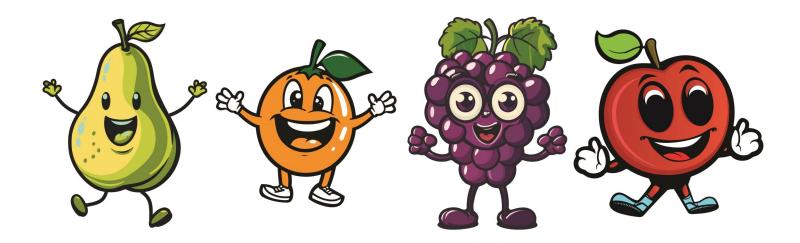
CERTIFIED WORSHIP AND WONDER STORYTELLER TRAINING

June 14 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

and

June 15 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Crestwood covers all costs and materials for children's ministry volunteers. To sign up, please email missy@crestwoodchristian.org.





JUNE CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, June 2

8:30 AM - Worship Service

9:30 AM - Sunday School

9:30 AM - Choir Practice

10:45 AM - Worship Service

12:00 PM - Tree Dedication - Virginia Long

Monday, June 3

7:00 PM - Local Outreach - MC3

Wednesday, June 5

1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

Thursday, June 6

11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room

Friday, June 7

9:00 AM - SRO Trip to Frankfort

Sunday, June 9

8:30 AM - Worship Service

9:30 AM - Sunday School

10:00 AM - Choir Practice

10:45 AM - Worship Service

Tuesday, June 11

9:00 AM - Library Team - Library

2:00 PM - Property Team - Bradford Room

6:30 PM - Personnel Team

Wednesday, June 12

1:00 PM - Bible Study - MC3

2:00 PM - Safety & Security Committee - MC5

Thursday, June 13

9:30 AM - Stephen Ministers - Chapel

11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room

6:00 PM - Finance Team - Bradford Room

Friday, June 14

8:00 AM - Worship & Wonder Training -Children's Wing

Sunday, June 16

8:30 AM - Worship Service

9:30 AM - Sunday School

9:30 AM - Choir Practice

10:45 AM - Worship Service

Tuesday, June 18

5:00 PM - VBS Decorating Event - Sanctuary, Narthex, Hallway, Children's Wing

Wednesday, June 19

1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

7:00 PM - Ministry Council - Zoom

Thursday, June 20

11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room

5:00 PM - VBS Decorating Event - Sanctuary, Narthex, Hallway, Children's Wing

Sunday, June 23

8:30 AM - Worship Service

9:30 AM - Sunday School

9:30 AM - Choir Practice

10:45 AM - Worship Service

12:00 PM - Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary

12:15 PM - Elders Lunch - Chalice Hall

Monday, June 24

5:00 PM - Dinner for VBS families - Chalice Hall

6:00 PM - VBS - Sanctuary

6:30 PM - Book Club - Chi Rho Youth Room

Tuesday, June 25

5:00 PM - Dinner for VBS families - Chalice Hall

6:00 PM - VBS - Sanctuary

Wednesday, June 26

1:00 PM - Bible Study - Library

5:00 PM - Dinner for VBS families - Chalice Hall

6:00 PM - VBS - Sanctuary

Thursday, June 27

11:00 AM - Bible Study - Bradford Room

5:00 PM - Dinner for VBS families - Chalice Hall

6:00 PM - VBS - Sanctuary

Friday, June 28

11:30 AM - FUNCH potluck - Chalice Hall

Sunday, June 30

8:30 AM - Worship Service

9:30 AM - Sunday School

10:00 AM - Choir Practice

10:45 AM - Worship Service

Youth Corner By Steph Wallace

Happy summer! As we conclude our youth program for the season, I want to express my profound gratitude for the way our Crestwood Youth rise to every occasion in the most spectacular, servant fashion! Youth Sunday was a glorious example of our youth's sharing their extensive gifts with our church family, and I could not be more proud of all their hard work. They are all such compassionate, gifted, and caring people, and I am so humbled by their servant hearts every day! They are the light of the world, and they surely know how to let their lights shine! We congratulate our three high school seniors, Ruthie DeLacey, Ben Hoellein,



and Will Martin, and ask that you hold them in prayer in the coming months as they embark on their college endeavors.

Our youth mission trip this summer will be to Asheville, NC, from Sunday, June 16, through Friday, June 21. We will be commissioning this trip on June 16 during the second service. After the second service the mission team will have a pizza lunch with our families in the CYF room and then depart from church no later than 1:30 PM. Please pray for traveling mercies and a meaningful serving and learning experience for the ten youth and three adults who are going on this trip. We plan to share stories and pictures from our experiences after we return.

If there is anything I can do for you or yours, please let me know. I will be reaching out to all youth families in July with detailed information about the fall schedule, upcoming youth events, and necessary forms to fill out prior to kicking off our new season in August. There will be a Friday Night Fellowship coming in July, and details will be shared in the next few weeks. I simply cannot imagine going all summer without at least one special fellowship night with these amazing youth!

My prayer for each of you is that you will have a restful, enjoyable summer, filled with blessings!

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.



FUNCH INVITES YOU TO JOIN US!

FUNCH (FUN + LUNCH) is a monthly gathering for anyone interested in some enjoyable fellowship and delicious food! Last month we played BINGO together after lunch and enjoyed plenty of laughs.

Our June FUNCH gathering will be on Friday, June 28, from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM in Chalice Hall, and it will be a potluck gathering once again. To sign up, please use this link: FOOD, or email Steph Wallace at steph@crestwoodchristian.org.

After lunch, we will play some more BINGO and enjoy fellowship together. Hope to see you there!



YOUTH SUNDAY 2024

Youth Sunday was on Pentecost, May 19, 2024, and our youth shared the gift of the Holy Spirit and let their lights shine for our church family to celebrate!



6

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL MISSION BUILDING TRIP TO WESTERN KENTUCKY

Eleven Lexington Disciples of Christ church members (and one Baptist!) volunteered in a successful mission building trip to Western Kentucky 4/28/24 - 5/3/24. The trip's purpose was to help rebuild after the tornadoes of 12/10/21. Crestwood and its World Outreach Committee helped sponsor the trip. Crestwood's volunteers were Lucy Wells, John Brown, Rick Fern, and Steve Seithers. Becky Ewalt Tossey, a former Crestwood member who now lives in Cincinnati, also volunteered. We stayed at a wonderful church, the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Madisonville.

Under the leadership of the Fuller Disaster Rebuilders, we were able to work on four houses, one near Nebo, one in Nortonville, and two in Dawson Springs.

On the house near Nebo, we worked on installing interior doors, baseboard, and interior window trim. We spackled, caulked, and painted those items. We also blew 28 bags of insulation into the attic. In the house in Nortonville, we blew 48 bags of insulation into the attic.

On one house in Dawson Springs, we removed a non-code-compliant front porch stairs and railing and replaced them with new stairs and railings that met code. We also blew in the attic Insulation. On the second house in Dawson Springs, we started rebuilding the front porch/deck and built the back porch, installed insulation baffles and wall insulation, and unloaded 80 sheets of drywall (but who is counting while performing this back breaking job)!

What joy and fun we had in fellowship and in working to help others! This was the fourth trip to this area for our group. We plan on going back on 9/8/24 - 9/13/24. Mark your calendars and consider going with us!

It will take several years to rebuild Western Kentucky. But thanks to Crestwood and other volunteers we are making a start!









Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: the family of Rev. John Browning, Diane Drown, the family of Brenda Jordan, Sandra Thompson

FAMILY: the family of Jimmy Greene (uncle of Libby Hulette)

FRIENDS: Lee Ferguson (of Crestwood), Tafonda Smith (of Crestwood)

Laurie Hart (granddaughter of Susan and Kendall Hart), Barry Newton (father of Laura Prather), Pat Nielsen, Henrietta Shores (granddaughter of Mary Beth Shores), Jim Wallace (father of Scott Wallace)

ARMED FORCES: 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), Matt Holman (son of Gaye Holman), Zoe McIntyre (granddaughter of John Sims)

<u>HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS</u>: Carlene Adams, Karen Billings, Janice Boyd, Joe Clark, Dick Featherston, Sylvia Griffin, Buzz Mattingly, John Sims, John & Carolyn Thomas, Lucy Wheeler

<u>OUR WORLD COMMUNITY</u>: We pray for the victims and loved ones impacted by violence, inmates of the Fayette County Detention Center and their families, an end to the war in Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza, the peace of God to rule in the hearts of our local and national leaders, those affected by COVID and natural disasters, and for God's spirit of reconciliation to bring healing during these difficult times.

TREE DEDICATION



THE DORCAS DWM GROUP
INVITES YOU TO THE
TREE DEDICATION
IN MEMORY OF
VIRGINIA BARTLETT LONG
JUNE 2, 2024
FOLLOWING THE 10:45 SERVICE
BY THE NORTH ENTRANCE

NEW MEMBERS Kevin & Sammi Barry Blake, Mila, Will



JUNE SRO (SENIORS, RETIREES, AND OTHERS) TRIP - YOU ARE INVITED!

State Capitol Tour: We will be heading to Frankfort to tour our State Capitol on Friday, June 7. See where our laws are made. Enjoy the beautiful French-inspired architecture, highlighted by the majestic marble staircases. The rotunda features the bronze statues of many of our founders. The floral clock, located just behind the Capitol Building, is an attraction co-sponsored in 1961 by Governor Bert T. Combs and the Garden Club of Kentucky. It is the most visited tourist attraction in Frankfort. We will stop by the Governor's Office in the hopes that he is available to say a brief hello!

Lunch: We will have lunch at Jim's Seafood Restaurant, which sits on the banks of the Kentucky River. This family-owned restaurant has been a landmark for 35 years and serves the freshest of seafood, as well as beef and chicken dishes.

Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial: After lunch we will visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, which contains the names of 1,108 Kentuckians killed in the Vietnam War. The memorial is in the form of a sundial with the names placed so that the tip of the gnomon's shadow touches each man's name on the date of his death, thus giving each fallen warrior his own personal memorial day.

On the way home we will take a vote on stopping at the Rebecca Ruth Candy Store for some carbs!

We will depart from church NO LATER THAN 9:00 AM and will be back no later than 4:00 PM. Email Steph Wallace to RSVP for this fun and informative day trip!

THANK YOU, CRESTWOOD

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 their behalf, thanks for your partnership and gift of \$697.39.

Mark V. Blankenship, Vice President

I would like to express our thanks to you for your gift of \$748 to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky in support of world outreach. This gift will help strengthen and expand our service.

Rev. Dr. Donald K. Gillett, II, Regional Minister

PASTORAL CARE AT CRESTWOOD

Crestwood prides itself on being strong in Outreach Ministry, but we also are very intentional about looking after one another. The Elders ministry includes making visits and offering communion to Crestwood members who are not able to attend services in person. The Elders call on these members according to their requested schedule, some weekly, some bi-weekly, and others monthly. It is an important ministry that the Elders provide that helps us stay connected to one another.

Aside from the Elder calls and visits, Kory, Steph, and Kelly are also providing pastoral care by calling and visiting members. Members who are in the hospital and/or about to have surgeries receive pastoral care from our ministers, as do many others in our congregation who are either homebound for various reasons or those who just need extra pastoral care because of age, health conditions, or other factors. Kory, Steph, and Kelly currently have a list of over 30 members (27 family units) who are receiving at least a monthly call/visit from one of the ministers and possibly from others, such as Elders. The three ministers rotate their visits so that these members see each of the ministers over a 3-month time frame. People on this pastoral care list may still attend worship in-person on occasion, but they include people with age and health concerns such that we just want to ensure that they feel cared for by their Crestwood family.

One of the Crestwood members on the receiving end of these Pastoral care visits recently expressed that they are so appreciative of how attentive Crestwood is to them, especially the time and attention they receive from the Crestwood ministers.

Crestwood also has a number of lay members trained as Stephen Ministers. Currently the Stephen Ministers are filling the role that the Caregivers ministry provided before COVID disrupted that program. You may have seen in the Crest and the Weekly lately that Crestwood is restarting the Caregiver program, where members receive a contact 2-3 times a month from a Crestwood member. We are calling this 'Heart to Heart'.

The Stephen Ministry program is designed to provide one-to-one care to persons who are experiencing a difficult period in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness. Stephen Ministers are lay members who have been trained to provide this one-to-one care. This is a highly confidential program and only the Crestwood minister is aware of the assignments. Members can self-identify to be matched with a Stephen Minister to receive one-on-one support.

If you or someone you know is in need of receiving Pastoral Care, please let the church office or one of the ministers know. We want everyone to feel cared for, and there are teams of people, ministers, and programs in place at Crestwood to do just that.

Lucy Wells, Chair of Elders

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

THE CREST

Crestwood Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Return Service Requested

CRESTWOOD CARES

In May Local Outreach provided the following funds to Lexington area nonprofits:

The Nest - \$3,000

Additionally, the **Bridge Fund** was able to assist our brothers and sisters in need by making the following payments:

Rent - \$250 KU - \$199.79 Rent - \$400

World Outreach provided the following funds to nonprofits in Kentucky in May:

Christian Churches in KY/DOC Region - \$748 Mission Behind Bars & Beyond - \$187 Habitat for Humanity - \$2,067

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we can continue to serve our community and show hope and love to those who need it most. Thank you for caring for all our neighbors and sharing the love of God with others!

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

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WEBSITE