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# BEARGRASS NEWS

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**Worship** Regularly **Grow** Intentionally **Serve** Generously

**VOLUME 11, NUMBER 10 BEARGRASS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) OCTOBER 2018**

## **Newcomers Classes Scheduled**

By Leigh Bond

The next Newcomers Class is scheduled for Sunday, October 14, 21, and 28, at 10:00 am in the Chapel. The class offers an informative introduction to the mission and ministries of our church and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). I recommend the class to people who are new to the church or considering Beargrass as their church home. Childcare is available for all sessions. Please let me know if you have any questions. You can register for the class by calling the church office at 896-1161 or by emailing me at leigh@beargrass.org. (Also, if you know a FRAN—friend, relative, associate or neighbor—who is looking for a church home, please pass along an invitation!)

## **Thanks from Dr. DeTienne**

By Leigh Bond

Dr. DeTienne sent this message to the congregation: “Thank you so much for the appreciation gift that you gave me before leaving Beargrass. Britt and I have often felt overwhelmed by the generosity of the church and this occasion was no exception. We are deeply grateful for the gift, prayers, and well-wishes. You all are truly a blessing!”

## **Sabbatical for Dr. Susan Lowe**

By Jim Jackson, Personnel Chair

At a recent meeting, the Personnel Team unanimously approved a request from Dr. Susan Lowe for a sabbatical from November 2018 through January 2019. Susan continues to do an excellent job of caring for the congregation, but we recognize the need for her to get some much-needed time to rest, recover, and recharge her “spiritual batteries.” She deeply appreciates your prayers and support and your willingness to share in the care of the church family while she is on sabbatical.

## **Beargrass Welcomes 20 New People!**

By Leigh Bond

It was wonderful to welcome twenty new people to the church family in September. Jim Sams II and Jack Jackson have a long history with Beargrass and have reactivated their membership.

Max Metrovich and Lara Wheeler will be married at our church on October 6. Max works as an interior designer and Lara is a coordinator with a foster care agency. She is also the daughter of Rev. Jim Wheeler of First Christian Church, Lawrenceburg.

We were glad to welcome our new Minister of Youth and Young Adults, Rev. Rob Shrader, his wife, Dr. Lisa Hoffman, and their children, Caroline, Lydia, Mariah and Elijah to the church family. Lisa is an Associate Professor of Education at Indiana University Southeast. Mariah is an 8th grader and Elijah is a 6th grader at North Oldham Middle School. Caroline is a 7th grader at South Laurel Middle School. Lydia is a 3rd grader at Wyan-Pine Grove Elementary School.

It was also a joy to welcome Jan Shrader, Rob’s mother, who joined with the rest of the family.

We were also delighted to welcome Brian and Sarah Price and their children, Jackson (11), Ashlyn (8), and Ainsley (4). They have been attending the 11 am service and Brian and Sarah participated in the Newcomers Class. Brian works with Owensboro Health and Sarah works with the Norton Medical Group.

Lee and Susie Smith also participated in the Newcomers Class and attend the 11 am service. Their children, Landis (9) and Clary Kate (5), attend KCD.

Let’s give all of these fine folks a warm welcome to Beargrass.

For the most updated information follow Beargrass Christian Church on Facebook or and on Beargrass.org.

### **Wednesday Morning Bible Study The Book of Acts: From Jerusalem to the World**

John Hull leads the study on Wednesday at 10:30 am in room 202.

### **Thursday Evening Bible Study “Understanding Faith”**

Every other Thursday through November 29, in Fellowship Hall, Dan Sprulock leads. Light supper begins at 6:30 is 7:00-8:15 pm. To RSVP Contact Dan (booksds16@gmail.com) or the church.

### **Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study “Jesus Among Secular Gods.”**

This six-week study begins at 5 pm. The workbook is available in the church office for \$13.00. Please call or text Missy Aultman at (502) 417-7046 with any questions. (Please contact church office if childcare needed.)

### **DWM’s Fall Program and Meeting**

On Saturday, October 27th at 10:30 in Chalice Hall, our guest speaker will be Surekha Kulknari, founder of the Beaded Treasures Project. She is a social entrepreneur, jewelry artist, and advocate for disadvantaged women in our community. She serves as the Executive Director without compensation and the proceeds of the sale of her jewelry are entirely donated back.

The program provides these women in Metro Louisville with tools and resources to overcome barriers to success. She has received numerous awards, two being the “WLKY Bell Award” and “Volunteer of the Year by Volunteers of America”.

There will be a lovely display of their beaded jewelry and other beaded items. This would be a great time to purchase a few holiday gifts!! It will definitely be an opportunity to help some of the refugees and disadvantaged women in our community. All are welcome to attend.

A delicious light brunch will be served. Please RSVP to church office by October 23rd, 896-1161. A signup table will be in Gathering Space on October 14th and 21st. Any questions, contact Donna Farris, dkfarris22@gmail.com or 777-7771.

### **“See to It!” Stewardship Emphasis 2018**

The theme for our 2018 stewardship education emphasis is “See to It!” Together, we will explore the importance of the spiritual discipline of generosity. “Commitment Day” will be November 10 for the Saturday service and November 18 for the Sunday services. We are looking forward to this important time in the life of our church and ask for your prayers and support. We hope you will be present for worship and that you will join us for an all-church dinner on November 18 at 4:00 pm.

### **Beargrass Property Wish List Volume #2 By Keith Wilson, Board Chair**

One of the unfunded needs of Beargrass is to obtain new chairs for Chalice Hall. Some of the current chairs are broken and unusable. All of the current chairs are covered with a cloth material that soils quite easily. Several of these chairs do show the effects of various stains. As a result, we are interested in purchasing 175 high grade vinyl chairs. This quality would allow us to have proper seating for larger church and social events that cannot fit into Fellowship Hall. Since we previously upgraded the flooring in Chalice Hall to better handle food and beverage events, the new chairs will allow us to complete our furniture upgrades for this space.

The cost for these chairs is \$16,310. This cost includes freight and set-up, to ensure all chairs meet proper specifications. If we are able to obtain the needed funds, the cloth chairs in the best condition will be stored near the sanctuary and used to provide additional seating for holiday services and special events. That would eliminate the need to manually move chairs back and forth between the two locations. We are hoping to receive multiple donations from individuals and/or groups. If you have an interest in helping fund this wish list item, please designate your gift of any size for “Chalice Hall Chairs” and send it to the attention of Jenell Buckman.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

## All Saints Day

On October 28 we will be observing All Saints Day, a day in which we celebrate saints who have gone on before us and reflect on our communion with all the saints. During the 11 am service on that Sunday, we will remember and honor those in our church family who have gone on to be with God in this last year.

We will certainly remember our "saints" in all the services, but we are inviting families to attend the 11 am service for a special time of remembrance. Our Disciples Women's Ministry will provide a reception following the service for family members of those whose lives we are remembering.

Thank you for your prayers for the families and friends of those we remember and celebrate this year:

- Sue Brandt
- Pat Jennings
- Kathleen Stone
- Jane Lollis
- Bruce Pelham
- Ann Wilson
- Cecil Jones
- June Meese
- Sue Greenwell
- Bruce Hamilton
- Mark Smith
- Roy Martin
- Norman Crabtree
- John Ewing
- Betty Gillis
- Jackie Cothren
- Naomi Terry
- Jan Rowland
- Harry Troutman
- Maxine Coleman
- Lisa Spurlock Gilmore
- Maria Hambrick
- Mary Pitchford
- Mae Huttsell
- Missy Dunavent
- Richard Brooks
- Joyce Lott
- Ann Kaufman
- Billie Catherine Dempsey Holcomb
- Brandon Nall
- Dick Taylor
- Doris Cowell

## Gifts to Beargrass

By Marikeith Mercke



The Beargrass Christian Church Memorial Fund has received donations in memory of Brandon Nall from:

- Alice Beckman
- Sue Ann Gittings
- Alan and Mary June Forsythe

The Beargrass Christian Church Memorial Library Fund has received donations in memory of Ann Kaufman from:

- Gregg and Carol Schumann

## SPECIAL GIFT RECOGNITION

By Keith Wilson, Board Chair

I am pleased to announce that our first project request has been fully funded. Due to the generosity of Jean Crosier, we have been able to move forward with the purchase of new window treatments for the Conference Room. We are replacing ones that are many years old with new room dimming sheer shades. These new window treatments will allow us greater functionality due to their design. They can be raised to allow a broad view outside and also allow full sunlight into the room. We can use the sheer feature to soften the intensity of bright light. Finally, we can fully close the shades to achieve opaqueness if we want to use the space for a video presentation or to allow a bride-to-be to use the space for wedding preparations.

Gifts like this allow Beargrass to enhance and update our campus space. Future articles will address other needs of the church. I hope others will consider supporting Beargrass in this manner. Once again, our thanks to Jean for her generous and timely gift!

## Grievers Sharing Sacred Space

The group meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in Room 114. Fall gatherings will wrap-up on Wednesday, October 24.

## Fall Festival

By Steven Straub

The Children's Ministry Team is sponsoring a Fall Festival on Sunday night, October 28 from 4:30-6:30 pm. Activities will include a Trunk & Treat, games, a spooky floor in the Upper Room, and a free dinner! All children ages 5th grade and under are encouraged to dress up and join us for the fun. Church members are encouraged to bring friends, relatives, neighbors, and associates who may be looking for a church home.

While the event appeals to children, this is actually an intergenerational event. Our youth will be running games for the children. Additionally, we need volunteers of all ages to decorate their trunks and pass out candy. The festival promises to be lots of fun for the whole church family. If you are interested in bringing your car to pass out candy, please contact Steven Straub (steven@beargrass.org).

To help with the preparations for the event, the Children's Ministry Team would like to ask that all cars be moved from the Cornerstone and Scout Building lots immediately after worship on October 28. Thanks for your help!

## The Great St. Matthews Pumpkin Caper

October 13-30, 2018

Monday-Friday 4:30-8:00 pm

Saturday-Sunday 9:30 am – 8:00 pm

Mark your calendars!

All proceeds benefit Scouts BSA Troop 115, sponsored by Beargrass Christian Church

## Sports Shorts

Volleyball is underway Thursday nights with both "Competitive" and "Recreational" Divisions. For more information contact Jim Sams III (377-8427), or at jimsams@beargrass.org

## Upcoming Basketball Tournament

Preseason 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament October 27, 2018. Double Elimination \$75 per team. Registration deadline Saturday, October 13. Call or text David Girton at (502) 931-8388.

## Rob's Reflections...

By Rob Shrader

## It's Time for Beargrass Youth Fall Retreat

Nov. 9th @ 5:30pm to Nov. 11th @ 1pm  
Calling all 6th – 12th grade students!

We will be spending the weekend at Camp Piomingo for an amazing weekend of community building, fun and spiritual formation.

This year's retreat theme is:

"The Good, The Bad, and The Redeemed"

We will follow Peter as his life journeys through some major ups and downs, only to discover Jesus has already redeemed him and called him to something greater.

The cost of the event is \$75.00 which includes: transportation, lodging and all meals Saturday and Sunday, activities, and an event T-shirt.

All students must be registered by Sunday, October 14th.

## St. MAM Pulling Together Auction & Banquet

Save the Date: Friday, November 9, 2018

Place: The Olmsted located on the Masonic Home Campus at 3701 Frankfort Avenue

The evening includes a Patriotic theme with dinner & live music, silent auction, live auction, recognitions, and more! Please join us for a perfect prelude to the holidays.

Tickets are \$55.00 per person (including taxes & fees). Tables will be arranged with 10 seats. You may RSVP before the deadline of Wednesday, October 31, by calling St. MAM at 893-0205.

Sponsorships are available For more information please call Julie Abbott at 893-0205.

Donations for our Live and Silent Auctions are requested.

Please make plans to come and celebrate with us! The doors will open at 5:30 pm with a cocktail hour and silent auction bidding until 7:00 pm. Dinner, live auction & program will commence between 7:00-9:00 pm. All silent/live auction items are subject to Kentucky sales tax.

We look forward to seeing you and having a successful event!

## In Other News



### The First Beargrass Men's Group Meeting was Held February 21, 2016

Among those first attending were Alan Forsythe, Cotton Beal, David Wilde, Dick Dennis, Jim Kearfott, and Gerald Box. Happily added to the current group is Sam Bohannon, Walden "Scrap" Laukhuf and Verle Heindselman. This photo includes all those named attending our 100th meeting on September 16, 2018.

Group photo credit goes to Michelle Dickerson. David Wilde gave a presentation on "Quieting Your Storm" based on Mark 4:35-41.

### Library News

Come and check out the library table in the Gathering Space this Sunday, September 30. We will have books by church consultant John Wimberly and associates. John is helping us to visualize the future of Beargrass. There will be titles such as *Mobilizing Congregations: How Teams Can Motivate Members and Get Things Done* and *The Business of the Church*. Come and check it out!

### Book Clubs Meet on October 18

**1:30 pm in the Library.** Book TBD

**6:30 pm in the Youth Room.** The Disciples Women's Book Club will be discussing *The Boston Girl* by Anita



### Pedal Power Brings Smiles

During a recent weekend sermon, Dr. Leigh Bond shared a poignant story that helped to emphasize the significance of random acts of kindness and our support for our "Pedal Power" and refugee ministry.

Someone left a note on a bicycle by the "Pedal Power" garage. It said: "Pay it forward for Lily Ann."

"On December 22 sweet, three-year-old, Lily Ann passed away very unexpectedly. It was SUDC—Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood.

The day of her passing she had asked for a pink bike for Christmas. In honor of her 6th birthday, her family asked that we celebrate by doing a random act of kindness for others."

The donor said: "I have seen firsthand the joy a gift of a bicycle can bring to a refugee child, so in a small attempt to continue sharing Lily's kind smile on earth, I share this bike to bring other smiles to other people."

After this was posted to the Beargrass Facebook page the family donating the bike responded in a comment: "Thank you very much for doing this. Lily would have loved this bike, I know this little girl is happy. Thanks for Paying it Forward for Lily"

## NEW REFUGEE FAMILY ARRIVES!

By Mike Puckett



In the August edition of this publication we announced that Beargrass was beginning the preparations necessary to welcome its 12th refugee family, through co-sponsorship with Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM). As you have done repeatedly in this mission work over the past two decades, the Beargrass church family responded with an amazing outpouring of generosity in spirit, material donations and hard work.

We learned in late August that our family of four from Kabul, Afghanistan would arrive in mid-September. KRM located a two-bedroom apartment in the Buechel area of Louisville and from September 6-8, fourteen inspired and energized members of this church went to work under the direction of team leader Wayne Mayes. First came furniture pick-ups, followed by delivery to the Maplewood Apartments where their new home is located. The final cleaning and set-up was performed on Saturday, September 8. Their home was furnished entirely by Beargrass with furniture and household items, and then stocked with food from the congregation. The finished product is, as always, an amazing sight to behold.

Hamidullah Haqanzai is 28 years old and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. He is married to 22-year old Safia, and they have two sons, Haseebullah (3 ½) and Hujatullah (2). Safia served as a teacher in Afghanistan while Hamidullah worked as a safety engineer. Their native language is Farsi, although Hamidullah also speaks English. This skill allowed him to work with the US military in his homeland for seven years, which made the family eligible for our Special Immigrant Visa program, under which they are being resettled here by KRM.

KRM will assign the family a caseworker and provide them many services—ESL; cultural orientation, medical assistance; document registration; employment services; and much more. Refugee families who have co-sponsors like Beargrass typically have a smoother transition here because of our work and support on their behalf. In addition to our lodging preparations prior to arrival, we will offer travel assistance; training in finances and conversational skills; and an orientation to the community and life here. Our most important role is simply that of befriending Safia and Hamidullah, as they start life anew here.

Their life in the US began on the evening of Thursday, September 13. After two full days of air-travel, they arrived at Louisville International and were met by a contingent of twelve from the Beargrass team along with staff from KRM. Upon being delivered to their new home that evening, they were provided an orientation to American kitchens, bath and laundry rooms, the HVAC system, etc. Now they are in for a host of orientation meetings, medical appointments, bus familiarization sessions and document completion in the days and weeks to come.

Christ tells us to welcome strangers, to love our neighbors and to compassionately serve as vessels of God's hope for those less fortunate. For the love and support you have extended already, and for your befriending of this family which is still to come, we thank you Beargrass!

## **Introduction to the Monthly Green Chalice Reflections**

From the Creation Care Team at BGCC.

We have been blessed by God with a lovely home called Earth. It has all of things we need to thrive like air, water, food, plants, animals and other materials that have made this a great place to live. Taking care of this lovely home did not come with directions and we are finding out that some of our actions, especially in the last 30 years, have put our home close to the edge of peril. We have done many things we never knew would hurt the Earth and ourselves. We have changed where carbon lives, from a place where it should be (the Earth's crust), to a place where it causes lots of problems (the Earth's atmosphere). Did you know that carbon in the Earth's crust is good but when it is treated in such a way that it escapes into the air, it causes heat to be trapped? Trapping heat makes the Earth much warmer than it should be. When we hear about sea levels and temperature rising, climate being chaotic, fires burning forests, and ice caps melting that is because carbon is in the wrong place. So the trapping of carbon and heat in the atmosphere is the bad news but the good news is that we can do something about it! We can choose to take actions that limit carbon's movement to the atmosphere and learn to keep carbon in the Earth's crust or help carbon find its way back to the Earth's crust. Some of the actions that help restore Earth's carbon balance take effort and money. Others are not hard or expensive at all. In fact many of these efforts can actually save money. If enough of us take these actions, we can help restore the carbon balance and keep our home safe.

The Beargrass Green Chalice/Creation Care Team is excited to share with you some Green Chalice Reflections in E-News every month. We will also have Green Tips in our bulletin once a month. Some of the Green Tips will deal primarily with keeping carbon out of the atmosphere. This is often called "energy efficiency." There will be other Green Tips that make us aware of what we can do to put carbon back into the Earth's crust where it belongs. These actions are now being called "drawdown."

As Disciples of Christ we are called to care for our common home. Our Lord created us and a beautiful place for us to live. From the greatness and the beauty of created things their original author is seen. Our Creator will not abandon us. We all need to work together, with our talents, to restore the damage our ignorance and sinfulness has bestowed upon our home by learning how to take care of it. Following up with Green Chalice Reflections will be Green Chalice Tips. The tip is a suggested habit to work on for the month. This month the "habit" will be installing and using programmable thermostats. Be on the lookout for the "Tip of the Month."

### **Green Chalice Tip**

Purchase a programmable thermostat because there is no sense in heating and cooling your house if you are not there or sleeping. In the cool months set the temperature 5 degrees lower than your ideal temperature when you leave the house or sleep. In hotter months set temperature 5 degrees higher. As a rule of thumb, for every degree of temperature you adjust, you lower your bill by one percent and that adds up to an average of \$165/year!

### **The Chalice Group Meet Tuesday, October 2, 6:30-8 pm in the Conference Room.**

Participants will bring a This I Believe essay to read and share with the group. (For those who do not like to write, bring an outline of your ideas to share.)

Essay writing guidelines <https://thisibelieve.org/guidelines/> This I Believe, Inc., was founded in 2004 as an independent, not-for-profit organization that engages youth and adults from all walks of life in writing, sharing, and discussing brief essays about the core values that guide their daily lives. All are welcome. For more information, contact Melissa Draut, [meldraut@bellsouth.net](mailto:meldraut@bellsouth.net) or 987-3975.

# Adult Sunday School Classes

**Adult Classes are part of Sunday School beginning at 10:00 am**

## **Agape (Room 202)**

Gifted facilitators guide discussion of issues related to the Christian journey (50s-70s).

## **CNN (Room 201)**

Studying the Bible and its practical approaches to today's complex society (multi-generational).

## **Common Ground (Conference Room)**

Building relationships and faith through discussions and videos (20s-30s).

## **Families of Faith (Room 114)**

Discussion of varied topics for parents of elementary and middle school children (multi-generational).

## **Fellowship (Room 208)**

A variety of teaching techniques and topics contributes to class members' faith development (Senior Adults).

## **Friendship (Fellowship Hall)**

A team of teachers guides Bible exploration using Uniform Lesson (Senior Adults).

## **Genesis (Room 207)**

Discussion on varied topics with tie-in to the Bible—social events to connect the class (50s-60s).

## **Grace (Room 215)**

Discussion facilitated by a variety of media for 30s-40s with diverse religious backgrounds.

## **Sojourners (Room 203)**

A discussion-oriented class with a strong sense of community (late 40s-50s).

Email announcements and news items to [michelle@beargrass.org](mailto:michelle@beargrass.org)

To submit items for the weekly E-News or bulletin, please submit by Tuesday.