



As we continue to celebrate the season of Easter, we are reflecting on variations of a phrase we often hear after people are baptized: "Rise! Walk in the Newness of Life!"

What does—or could—that look like for us as individuals and a community of faith? What does it mean to be "Easter people?" What does it mean for us to be people of the resurrection?

Join us as we unpack what it means to rise and follow, listen, and be united. We look forward to seeing you 'round the table.

A SEASON OF BAPTISMS AND DEDICATIONS

Easter and springtime are reminders of God's gifts of new life and new birth. If you are interested in being baptized or participating in a service of dedication for a new baby or child, please contact the church office at 896-1161.



FAREWELL DR. HULL

Join us as we honor John's 20+ years of Ministry at Beargrass Christian Church Sunday, June 2 at 10:00 am in chalice hall. Come and share memories as we thank John for the many gifts he has brought to Beargrass over the years. John and his wife, Caryn, will be relocating to Colorado.

FARMERS MARKET SEASON OPENS MAY 11

Inspired by a Kentucky Author Forum in February 2007, a passionate organizing team from Beargrass gave birth to what is now one of Louisville's "premier" farmers markets. The market started its first season with 25 vendors and a committed group of volunteers. Now in its 12th season, the number has more than doubled. Vendors that emphasize quality and service are carefully selected and are primarily small farmers and food producers from Kentucky and Southern Indiana.

The farmers market is open every Saturday, May 11 thru September 27 from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. We're always looking for folks who are interested in becoming a part of the farmers market team. Contact Chad Teaford to find out how you can get involved at Beargrass and serve folks in the community by volunteering at the market. chad.teaford@gmail.com



BEARGRASS FOUNDER 2019: LOIS AKERS

By Mike Puckett, Nominating Team Chair

Life was awash with change when Lois Akers arrived at Beargrass in December, 1916—for her...for the church...in the environs of what would become St. Matthews...in the world at large. Just four months later, the US would enter World War I. Louisvillians were beginning to buy residential plots in this area five miles east of center city, although it remained overwhelmingly rural. And, the leadership of Beargrass Christian Church had recently elected to move from Westport Road, building a new church at our current location.

Our church minutes reflect a transfer of membership by the entire Akers family on December 17, 1916, from the Highland Park Church of Los Angeles. Lois joined along with her parents, O. M. and Catherine, and brother Miller. Our archives do not disclose what brought them to Louisville. Miss Lois, as she would later come to be called throughout the church, would leave an indelible mark on our history by the time she passed away in 1997.



In 1924, the first organized Sunday school classes began at Beargrass—the Gleaners (all female) and the Men’s Class. Gleaners thrived for many years, and Lois was its longest-serving teacher. One of her passions was working with the youth of the church, which she did for decades, leading a youth initiative called the Christian Endeavor Society for many years. When Rev. Walter Lawrenson was called to Beargrass in 1931, Lois became his sole administrative assistant...for the next 20 years. She was paid \$750 annually, of which she donated \$500 to church outreach! In 1939-1941, Lois was president of the Women’s Council, the forerunner of today’s Disciples Women’s Ministries.

Lois Akers was a ubiquitous pedestrian presence on the streets of the St. Matthews community for a good portion of her 8 decades at Beargrass. The Christian Women’s Fellowship (successor to the Women’s Council) honored her lifetime of Christian service in March, 1971. The senior minister then, Rev. Will Van Nostrand, had this to say about Lois on the celebratory occasion:

“...for many, many years she has performed a wonderful and unique sort of ministry. It is a ministry of visitation and concern, and it is a walking ministry. She doesn’t drive a car and she walks everywhere... She makes a fantastic number of calls in the name of the Church and the Lord. Wherever there is sickness, sorrow, or need, Miss Lois is there—and I don’t know how she does it but on many occasions she beats the ministers there. Her whole life is one of love and concern and we can’t begin to measure the good she has done, through the witness of her life.”

What testimony to the heart, faith, and service of Miss Lois, a 2019 Beargrass Founder. Thanks be to God for her life, servant-leadership and dedication to our Beargrass church family of the day!

(The honor of Beargrass Founder was created in 2018 to recognize the women and men who made significant contributions to our church during its first 150 years.)

Significant Celebrations Coming Up...

Pending their approval by the congregation on May 4 and 5, all new elders and deacons and youth elders and deacons will participate in a **service of ordination on Saturday, May 11, or Sunday, May 12, during the worship services**. Members of the Nominating Team, Ministry Leadership Team, and Board have approved a great new group of dedicated servant-leaders.

New Deacons: Susan Bronner, Donna Farmer, Jack Farmer, Nita James, Pam Olmstead, Jessica Pehlke, Don Ritter, and Wendell Townsend.

New Elders: Gerald Box, Sarah Gold, and Janet Thomson

New Youth Deacons: Caroline Shrader, Mariah Clark, Annie Coultas, Elizabeth Buttes, Elijah Clark, Isaac Wilhoit, Max Wise, McKenna Touro, and Mitchell Touro

New Youth Elders: Sarah Blackwell, Lauren Coultas, and Hampton Haile

2019 DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

The 2019 Discipleship class included seven fifth grade children and met on Sunday afternoons throughout the month of February. Led by John Hull and Steven Straub, the class baked some fabulous loaves of *challah* bread during the lesson on Communion. Six class members were baptized in April.

Remy Aldridge is the daughter of Jessica Pehlke and Jeremy Aldridge. She was baptized on Palm Sunday, April 14. Remy is a fifth grader at Wilder Elementary and will attend Kammerer Middle School next fall. Her favorite subjects are reading and social studies. She enjoys playing field hockey, playing the flute and hanging out with friends. Remy has two older sisters, Sidney and Regan, who are also active at Beargrass.

Five class members were baptized on Easter Sunday, April 21.

Addison Angermeier is also a fifth grader at Wilder and, like Remy, she will attend Kammerer next fall. Addison is the daughter of Jeremy and Laura Angemeier. Her favorite subjects are art, reading, science and music. Addison is interested in art, animals, nature, soccer, cheerleading, playing the ukulele and singing. She is a fourth generation Beargrass member and says, "my favorite color is Minty Blue. I have a sister and a dog named Cookie."



Presley Coffman is in fifth grade at Goshen Elementary and will attend North Oldham Middle School next fall. Presley is the daughter of Chris Coffman. She has two older sisters, Elizabeth and Sarah Kate, and a younger brother, Charlie.

Andrew

Dawson is a fifth grader at Locust Grove Elementary. The son of Doug and Allison Dawson, Andrew will attend Oldham County Middle School in the fall. His favorite subject is math and he enjoys playing and following sports and playing outside. His Little League team went to the state tournament last year, and he wants to be a Major League Baseball player when he grows up. He has two younger brothers, Benji and Clayton, and lots of cousins.



Alicia Kipp is the daughter of Joe and Liz Kipp. She is a fifth grader at Portland Christian School and will continue there in the sixth grade next fall. Her favorite subjects are math and history. She enjoys volleyball, reading and art. Outside school Alicia is interested in Dot to Dot books, swimming and writing. Her older brother is David Kipp.

Ethan Spurlock, the son of Jeff and Rachel Spurlock, is in fifth grade at Crestwood Elementary and will attend South Oldham Middle School next year. His favorite subjects are math and writing. He enjoys watching, playing and talking ALL sports—especially soccer, basketball, and football. He is a University of Kentucky Wildcats fan. Ethan also enjoys watching movies—super heroes; traveling and discovering new places; hanging out with friends and family; and he loves school. Ethan's older sister is Clara.



LIVE. LEARN. LOVE. Summer Mission 2019

CYF will travel to Birmingham, AL. for a service/ learning trip June 9-15, 2019. Students will be volunteering with (at least) the following agencies:

- **Graceworks** - a program for inner city youth. We will work alongside their participants on a variety of tasks.
- **Community Kitchen** - an organization that provides a hot lunch every day for anyone who is hungry. We will prepare, serve, and clean up one meal.
- **Greater Birmingham Ministries** - an organization birthed during the Civil Rights Movement. GBM is studying and working to address the root causes of poverty and racism. We will be working in their offices doing some phone banking regarding the importance of participating in the upcoming census.
- **Urban Ministries** - an outreach organization with many projects. We will be working in the West-End Community Garden. A project they call WE Garden.

Learning opportunities will include: A driving tour of Birmingham with a local historian including Ingram Park and 16th St. Baptist Church, The Civil Rights Institute of Birmingham, and The National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery.

Folks of all ages are invited to join the Youth during Sunday School for important conversations about the history of race relations in America as they prepare for the CYF Mission Trip to Birmingham. These Sunday School classes will take place in the Youth Space and visitors are welcome.

Sunday, May 5 Gaye Holman will be with us to share about her experiences as a college student in Birmingham, AL in the 1960's at the height of the Civil Rights Movement.

Sunday, May 12 Rev. John Richardson will share with us about his experiences as a high school student at Little Rock Central High School during the "Little Rock Nine" integration incident.

Sunday, May 26 Dr. Rex Cox will share with us his experiences marching with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. here in Louisville.

**Trip Registration Deadline is May 15
cost: \$175/student
rob@beargrass.org**

MAY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

01	The Didache Study	10:30 am
05	HS Senior Recognition Luncheon	10:30 am
	Men's Group	4:30 pm
	Space for Grace ends for the Year	4:45 pm
07	The Chalice Group	6:30 pm
08	The Didache Study	10:30 am
	Last Children's Handbells	6:00 pm
09	Dementia Support Group	10:30 am
	Jesus, Love Beyond Measure	6:30 pm
10	Farmer's Market Opens	8:00 am
11/12	Elder and Deacon Ordination in all services	
15	Wednesday Evening Program Ends	6:00 pm
16	Library Book Club	1:30 pm
	DWM Book Club	6:30 pm
19	All Church Strategy Session	10:00 am
	Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser	5:00 pm
	<i>Fired Up!</i> Children's Musical	6:30 pm
23	Jesus, Love Beyond Measure	6:30 pm

JUNE CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

02	Celebration for Dr. John Hull	10:00 am
07-09	Mini Camp (grade 3)	
09-13	Vacation Bible School	
	Youth High School Trip	
16-22	Eighthers Camp (grade 8)	
23-29	Chi-Rho Heifer Ranch (grades 6-8)	
24-28	Junior Camp (grades 4-5)	
28-29	Camp 101A (grades 1-2)	

JULY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

01-06	CYF Camp	
02	"Fanfare for the 4th"	7:30 pm
04	Independence Day, Church Office Closed	
08-13	Chi Rho Camp	
09-12	Mission Day Camp	
20-24	General Assembly, Des Moines	
26-28	Camp 101B (grades 1-2)	

GIFTS TO BEARGRASS

The Beargrass Christian Church Memorial Fund has received the following donations:

- In memory of Lynn Harding: Ann Northcutt, Bob Gilewski, Nancy KupperSmith
- In memory of David Hatfield: Jean Korfhage
- In memory of Harold Diamond: Velma Conry

The Beargrass Christian Church Guatemala Mission Trip received the following donations:

- In memory of Lynn Harding: Missy Aultman

