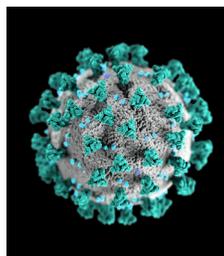


PRE-OPENING AND RE-OPENING UPDATES



At the June MLT meeting, incoming Board Chair, Alan Forsythe, shared proposed pandemic principles and values to adopt as we move ahead with our mission and ministry. A common set of values will help us stay focused during our pre-opening and re-opening phases.

Values during the Pandemic:

1. Motivated by love, our first priority is the health of the members and friends of Beargrass.
2. Maintain our care and ministry to the church family—especially those who are more vulnerable.
3. Continue to be a dynamic and “connecting” community of faith while adhering to “Healthy at Church/Work” guidelines.
4. Keep adapting and developing innovative in-person and on-line ministries and mission opportunities.
5. Communicate our plans and be consistent with the principles of our Strategic Plan and Mission Statement.

We hope to see each other “in person” in worship as soon as possible and we are excited about the creative ways small groups are gathering and staying connected. But we also have to watch the COVID numbers closely. The MLT approved the values, recommended that we do not have “in person” services until August (at the earliest), and passed a proposal to form a task force (with medical professionals in the church family) to provide guidance about moving to the next phase/s.

PENTECOST PERSPECTIVES

Series Continues

By Leigh Bond

The season of Pentecost, the longest of the Church calendar by far, began on May 31 and stretches all the way to Advent. It is a time for us to celebrate God’s gift of the Spirit to the Church and the “Pentecost Effect.” During July and August we will continue to make our way through the middle of the Gospel of Matthew, where there is a strong emphasis on discipleship and what following Jesus “looks like.”

The “Pentecost Perspectives” series is part of a year-long emphasis called “2020 Vision.” When we hear the number “2020,” we can’t help but think of eyesight—so we have been embracing it thematically and theologically. My colleagues and I hope to “be seen” around the Table during our livestreamed services—and we hope to see you ‘round the Table “in person” sometime soon!



SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Search Committee continues to make progress as we work and discern the next Senior Pastor of Beargrass Christian Church. We are happy to report receiving a number of excellent resumes. The committee carefully considered each submission and prayerfully considered which applicants might be a good fit for our Senior Pastor.

We are now extending invitations to first interviews with candidates. Thank you for understanding the need to honor candidate confidentiality as we continue this important phase of the process. We will provide updates and information as necessary and ask for your prayers as we schedule and complete the interviews.

2020 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Max Ackerson graduated from duPont Manual and will be attending the University of Miami (FL) in the fall.

Sarah Blackwell graduated from duPont Manual YPAS. She will attend Ball State University this fall.

Jacqueline "Lily" Cornell graduated from Eastern High School and will attend the University of Louisville.

Lauren Coultas graduated from Christian Academy of Louisville. Lauren will be attending Western Kentucky University.

Ava Ferree is an Assumption High School graduate. Ava will attend the University of Mississippi.

Maggie Galloway graduated from Assumption High School. She will be attending the University of Alabama.

Jeremy Gillies is a graduate of North Oldham High School. Jeremy will attend the University of Cincinnati.

Skylar Gillies is a North Oldham High School graduate. Skylar will attend the University of Kentucky.

Colin Hagerty graduated from St. Xavier High School and will attend the University of Alabama.

Hampton Haile graduated from duPont Manual High School. Hampton will attend the University of Kentucky.

Justin Hardy is a duPont Manual graduate and will attend the University of Alabama.

Lydia Holland graduated from Assumption High School. Lydia will attend the University of Cincinnati School of Nursing.

Dylan Mears is a Ballard High School graduate. Dylan will study at the University of Kentucky.

Jackson Meyer is a graduate of Fern Creek High School. Jackson will attend the University of Louisville as part of the PACT Program.

Cameron Mosley is a duPont Manual High School graduate and will attend Western Kentucky University.

Rebecca Phelps is a graduate of South Oldham High School. Rebecca will attend Grand Canyon University.

Nediva Quaye graduated from Kentucky Country Day. Nediva will attend Centre College.

2020 COLLEGE GRADUATES

William Grant Cornell graduated from Western Kentucky University with a degree in business.

Sabrina Lynn Lanning is graduating Magna cum Laud from the University of Louisville with a degree in Criminal Justice, Gender Studies, and Archeology. She will be moving to Irvine, California where she will continue to get her doctorate, specializing in counseling child victims of sex trafficking.

Derek William Holland graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in Economics. Derek will begin Medical School at the University of Louisville.

Emmalynn Rakestraw graduated from the University of Louisville with a degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in Spanish. In the fall she will begin her Masters in Justice Studies with an emphasis in Public Service Leadership and Social Justice at Campbellsville University.

SIGNIFICANT CELEBRATIONS COMING UP..

Members of the Nominating Team, Ministry Leadership Team, and Board have approved a great new group of dedicated servant-leaders. Typically, a congregational meeting is held during worship to approve the nominations. Since the building is currently closed and worship is online, voting took place electronically.

New Deacons: Tony Ellis, Lisa Hoffman, Sherry Lanoie, Jessica Mullins, Mills Sublett, Karen Sutton, Joe Walker.

New Elders: Justin Key, Pete McCartney, John Richardson, Bob Sutton, John Wise, Judy Wright.

New Youth Deacons: Remy Aldridge, Addie Angermeier, Dereck Bridwell, Maddy Brown, Andrew Dawson, Cameron Filzek, Alicia Kipp, Ethan Spurlock.

New Youth Elders: Sidney Aldridge, Lucy Brown, Anna Whittle, Kate Whittle.

All new elders, deacons, youth deacons, and youth elders will participate in a service of ordination when we are able to gather together for in-person worship.

SMALL PRAYER GROUPS NOW FORMING

If you are interested in participating in a weekly in-person prayer group, please call 502-896-1161 or email susan@beargrass.org. If you are willing and able to host a group in your back yard, please let Susan know that too! We are excited about this ministry opportunity to connect folks together during this time and provide a safe place for people to support one another and be supported in and through prayer.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Rev. Steven Straub

Primary Adventures and Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF) will have weekly, weekday check-in during the summer. **Primary Adventures** will meet Tuesday mornings at 10 am. These will last about 30 minutes as we'll check-in, read a short Bible story, and then do some sort of activity.. Pastor Steven will send out a Zoom link each week.

Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF) will meet Thursday mornings at 10 am. These will last about 30 minutes. Pastor Steven will send a zoom link each week.



FAMILY SUMMER MISSION MONTH

By Rev. Rob Shrader

The month of July will be Family Mission Month for Beargrass children and youth. Steven and I are putting together a plan for family mission projects every week in July. The idea is each week will have a theme and challenge. Every Friday in July we'll release information on the next week's theme. Families are invited to carry out these mission projects and send us pictures. We'll do a lot of good for the community and have terrific pictures for use in worship. I know it's not the same as a mission trip but I hope you'll have some fun with this. For more information contact steven@beargrass.org (k-5) or rob@beargrass.org (6-12). You can always visit beargrass.org.

GREEN CHALICE MOMENT: IS IT OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO CARE FOR THE EARTH?

By Mariah Clark, High School Student

God has given humanity responsibility over the fate of the beauty in this world, as expressed in Genesis 1 when God calls people to be stewards, or caretakers, of the earth. This is not the only time in the Bible where God specifically tells people to take care of the world. Isaiah 11:9 says, "They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." This verse reminds me that God cares about the state of the Earth and that we are not to damage God's beautiful creations. The words of God indicate that the Earth is a sacred place that shouldn't be polluted or defiled. The beauty of the world must be protected and cherished, and it's our job as God's stewards to ensure that God's commands, such as these, are fulfilled.



CAMP WAKON' DA-HO Virtual Summer Programming (K-12)

For the children and youth who have completed grades K-12, the programming will be video links that you can do ANY time. So that rainy day this summer when your kids have NOTHING to do, you can have them do some activities from counselors all around the state. Activities will include short keynotes, songs, energizers, crafts, games, and more.

Each of the four weeks will have a theme and Bible lesson. That same theme will be used with middle school and high school, so families with children and youth will have a common theme/story that all can discuss around the dinner table. The WKDH site team has designed the curriculum and activities to be done at home and fit the unique situation we are in during this time.

There is no charge for this virtual programming. For registration information go to beargrass.org/camp

YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES

KAYAKING

We have reservations with Nachand Kayaks (nachandkayaks.com). Please do not sign up through their website! Rob secured a group rate and will coordinate payment, etc. Our next trip will be (weather dependent):

- July 15 at noon

DISC GOLFING

We have two dates remaining for disc golf at Wendell Moore Park in La Grange, KY. (1551 North Hwy 393, La Grange, KY). Our disc golf outings will be:

- July 9 at 1 pm
- July 23 at 7 pm

To sign up for these opportunities please use sign up genius by following this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E44A5AB2CA4F49-youth3>

BEARGRASS FOUNDER 2020: GLADYS E. SARGENT*By Mike Puckett*

Gladys Cusick Sargent, now honored as a 2020 Beargrass Founder. Gladys was born in Oklahoma in 1897 prior to its statehood, but grew up in Louisville where she was baptized at First Christian Church. She married John Sargent (who would become Beargrass's second Elder Emeritus in 1967) in 1924, and they lived in surrounding states for the next 20 years. But Gladys maintained her allegiance to the Disciples of Christ, and in fact, she and John were founding members of Woodmont Christian in Nashville prior to returning to our fair city in 1945. When the Sargent family came to Beargrass that same year, it included young daughters Lelia and Ann. The family's contributions to our church in the 7 decades that followed would be huge.

Gladys's call to serve God's children ran deep and wide. She was a founding member of the Golden Hour Sunday School class in 1949, which would go on to support community non-profits such as Dare to Care, Center for Women & Families, and Wayside Christian Mission. She dedicated countless hours to Christian Women's Fellowship, as a pillar of her own circle and also by leading the Beargrass CWF as its president from 1959-1961. Daughter Ann did likewise from 1967-1969, making them the only mother-daughter team to do so at Beargrass. Gladys also volunteered and served on the Board at what is now Christian Care Communities for many years. She annually recruited Beargrass children's choirs to sing to the elderly at CCC on Christmas and Easter.

Our honoree remained a member of Golden Hour (renamed Naomi Hudson in 1982) until her passing in 1993. Leeann recalls that even when Gladys no longer had the energy to actively serve, she prayed ceaselessly for this congregation that she loved, and to which she had already contributed so very much. Praise God for her life, her servant-leadership, and her dedication to Beargrass!

(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.)

INVITATION TO JOIN Beargrass History and Archive Committee

During four years of research and writing about the 230 year history of our congregation, Mike Puckett compiled a large cache of materials which are now securely stored in a closet at the church. These documents include historic membership rosters, minute books and board records; four decades of Beargrass News and Beargrass Magazine; Sunday school class histories, many folders of historical articles and hundreds of photographs. Some of these materials need to be digitized; some need to be copied and the originals preserved at the Disciples of Christ Historical Society. All will be organized and placed in the Beargrass Library so that current and future generations can study, learn about, and celebrate the history of the church.

The Committee will be formed in July and the initiative will begin in earnest in August. So now is a good time to declare your interest. If you would like to join this important and enjoyable work, or at this point just want to learn more about it, please contact Rev. Susan Lowe at susan@beargrass.org or (502) 896-1161 or committee chair Tony Newberry at tony.newberry.an@gmail.com or (502) 386-1069.

PEDDLE POWER HITS 5,000

Pedal Power hit a remarkable milestone during COVID-19 – its **5,000th bicycle donation!** Michelle Shaffner, a member of Beargrass, felt compelled to help those in need of transportation during this crisis. Many "Saturday Night Saints" are aware of Michelle's loving nature and heart for those in need.

"The Pandemic flooded us with bicycles" states Bob Callander, Director of Pedal Power, "May was our biggest month ever with 130 bikes donated!" Due to the generosity of folks like Michelle, Pedal Power is now poised to gift this special 5,000th bike to an individual in the community. Thus, bringing the number of bikes given away by Pedal Power to over 5,000!

Pedal Power's volunteer team of about 20 people work year-round to deliver approximately 80 bikes a month. Unfortunately, this team has been cut in half due to COVID-19. Without these important volunteers, the ability of Pedal Power to continue providing essential transportation is greatly diminished.

