



Volume 14 • Number 8 • Sept. 2021

## Children's Sunday 2021!

By Rev. Steven Straub

Children's Sunday will be held at Beargrass on **Sunday, September 26** at the 9 am and 11 am worship services.

Children will be taking an active part in the service by leading worship, including singing, leading prayer, serving communion, and much more.

While the JYF group will provide the primary leadership for the service, all children will be involved in different aspects of worship. The Children's Choir, Children's Handbell Choir, and the Melody Makers will also participate in the service.

Plan to be at church on **Sunday, September 26**. You don't want to miss this meaningful worship experience!



## The Table is Off To A Great Start

By Alan Forsythe



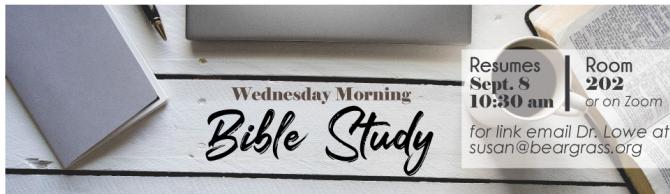
"Involving, personal, compelling, communion focused, and totally relevant" is how one attendee described Beargrass's new chapel worship service, "**THE TABLE**."

Our new Sunday night worship service is off to a great start, featuring weekly communion, a casual atmosphere, increased attendance, new multimedia setup, greater energy, and a renewed commitment to being an integral part of the larger Beargrass family. We welcome you to give it a try, no matter whether this kind of service is what you've been looking for on a weekly basis or if you just come from time to time when not able to attend the morning services.

The congregants of the new 6:15 service get to experience an amazing, highly personal, and uplifting service that does more than make us observers by becoming participants in an experiential worship community. The camaraderie, the worship, the inspiring music of

Phillip Morgan, the meaningful message by our ministers, and the intimacy of a small church service (*all in a 45 minute format!*) is so meaningful and a great way to start the week before Monday morning gets here. All ages are celebrated and welcomed – *kids activities are available during the worship service, and of course the ARK Wing is open with the fabulous Ms. Dodi as well.*

So please help us get the word out as we continue to launch this new worship opportunity on Sunday nights. Perhaps there's a friend you know who'd like to be part of Beargrass but might be intimidated by being part of such a big church? Maybe there's a neighbor you've been meaning to invite to our congregation but have been waiting for the right moment or reason to ask them? Or maybe there's just a Sunday morning you didn't make it to church in time and you don't want to wait another whole week to make a connection at Beargrass? Whatever the reason, it's a great time to give us a try. Check out "**THE TABLE**" service any Sunday night at 6:15 in our Beargrass chapel – you'll be glad you did, and so will we!



## Wednesday Morning Bible Study Resumes

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Resumes September 8, 2021 at 10:30 am. Please join Dr. Bob Sutton in person in Room 202 or on zoom as we dive into the book of Colossians. All are welcome! To receive the zoom link, please email Dr. Lowe at [susan@beargrass.org](mailto:susan@beargrass.org).



## Ultimate Matters

By Dr. Susan Lowe

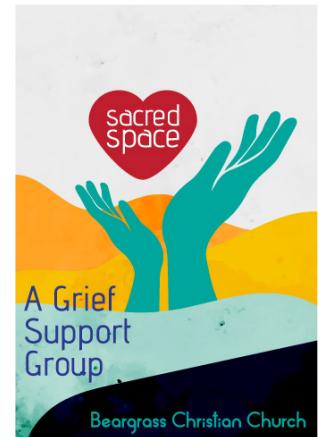
Please join us for a three-week series (*Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:00 pm*) involving discussions and resources around "Ultimate Matters" including:

- **September 12:** A Bible study and discussion focusing on abundance as we consider how we view the gifts we have been given (*abundance vs. scarcity*).
- **September 19:** A discussion surrounding our passions and purpose in life.
  - How are we and how do we hope to be involved in God's working in the world (*what are you passionate about?*)?
  - How do we want to live?
  - What legacy (*legacies*) do we want to leave?
- **September 26:** A time of engaging with experts who will share knowledge and resources to help participants make specific plans for the legacies each one wants to leave behind, financially and otherwise. Resources regarding advanced directives, wills, financial planning, life insurance, funerals, etc. will be available this evening.

## Sacred Space A Grief Support Group

By Dr. Susan Lowe

If you or someone you know has experienced the death of a loved one (*friend, family member, etc.*) please join us, or invite them to join us, as we gather together to share our stories and encourage and support one another in our grief. The group begins **Wednesday, September 8 at 6:30 pm**.



Grief is most certainly individualistic, we each have our own time table and process, and yet being a part of a grief group and sharing stories and receiving support and encouragement along with information about grief and loss can help individuals in their healing.

Please join Dr. Susan Lowe, a certified Thanatologist (*scientific discipline that examines death from many perspectives, including physical, ethical, spiritual, medical, sociological, and psychological*), and Dr. Joseph Quaye, a licensed marriage and family therapist for this 8-week period of sharing *Sacred Space*.

For questions or to express interest in attending, please contact Susan Lowe at [susan@beargrass.org](mailto:susan@beargrass.org). (*Room will be decided based on group size.*)

## Gifts To Beargrass

### **¶ In Memory of Karyn Rademaker:**

Julie Kottak · John Curtis

### **¶ In Memory of Nancy Maney:**

Matt Hargan Jr. · Elizabeth Fowle · Robert & Lynne Steineker · James Wood · John & Julie Beran · Jerry & Ann Maney · Cheryl Dunphy · To The Beargrass Choir- Marjorie Hanks

### **¶ In Memory of Kendall Dyson:**

Joe & Kathy Babcock



## September Birthdays

Below is the list of September birthdays at Beargrass. We wish you a very happy birthday! If you have been left off the list or are listed with the wrong date, please contact us.

- 1:** Mark Phelps · Mariam Rueff · Izzy Grass · Caden Holland · David Turner
- 2:** June King · Jim Nicolaus · Susan Parks · Ken Parsons · Kristen Scott · Trey Owen · Scott Regan · Dale Senior · Ainsley Ellis
- 3:** Rob Rupp · Pauline Moyers · Charlie Grass
- 4:** Brad Williams · Maya Wilhoit
- 5:** Donna Lytle · Molly Miller · Beverly Meyer · CeCe Sublett · Aimee Johnson
- 6:** Johnnie Romine · Remy Aldridge
- 7:** Lois Gerlach · Jim Jackson · David Smith · Serenity Hartman
- 8:** Sharon Asfahl · Kate Thomas · Tammy Ackerson
- 9:** Jean Nicolaus · Sapphire Carson
- 10:** Terry Dick · Carol Smith · Nancye Claypool · Madelyn Thomas · Matthew Johnson
- 11:** Phillip Smith
- 12:** Jeanne Beard · Jane Rechter · Lisa Lanning · Carrie Kemp · Lindsay Dunn
- 13:** Gabriel Reisert · Marilyn Rodman · Wendell Townsend
- 14:** Mary Woodward · Rex Cox · Damon Holland · Joseph Quaye · John Slaughter
- 15:** Roycelea Scott · Peggy Hoben · Lyric Brown
- 16:** Kennedy Bridwell
- 17:** Mary Garrett · Debbie Rupp · Rita Maxwell
- 18:** Ron Straub · McCall Miller · Kelly Anderson
- 19:** David Taylor · Nita James · Joyce Streever
- 20:** Dale Curth · Patrick Strehl · Juanita Hagan · David Mills
- 21:** Pam Kirkwood · Marshall Hicks · Pili Dunn · Hays Galloway
- 22:** Donald Evans · Mike Shugart
- 23:** Dick Barnett · David Rademaker · Rodney Rodgers · Chris Redman
- 24:** Liz Robinson
- 25:** Ellen Bond · Luneita Cotton · Tim Hatfield · Kittrick Carson · Allen Cantrell · Yan Ju Wang · Penny Hageman
- 26:** Joe Geoghegan Jr.

- 27:** Elaine Hoig · Maggie Delaney · Steve Kerrick · Spencer Campbell
- 28:** Roberta Harper
- 29:** John Richardson
- 30:** Yvonne Miles · Michael Cannon



## Wednesday Evening Children's Programming Kicks off!

Rev. Steven Straub

Our Wednesday evening programming for children will resume **Wednesday, September 1**.

Programming for children in 1st through 5th grades will be offered through music and Bible study. The schedule will run through November 17. Childcare is available on the ARK wing for children kindergarten age and under.

- **6:00-6:30 – Children's Bell Choir**  
(Room 200)
- **6:30-7:30 – Children's Choir and Bible Study**  
(starts each week in Room 203)

For more information, contact Steven Straub ([steven@beargrass.org](mailto:steven@beargrass.org)) or Meg Blackwell ([megblackwell@btsales.net](mailto:megblackwell@btsales.net)).



## Be a Hero. Save a Life. Blood Drive

Saturday, September 4 during The Farmer's Market, the Health Ministry Team is hosting The Kentucky Blood Center. Donation beds will be in the Church gym 8:00 am - 12:30 pm. You may register through: [my.kybloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/79006](http://my.kybloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/79006)

## Faith Grows By Risk: The Story Of Kentucky Refugee Ministries

By Mike Puckett

There is a quote widely attributed to President John F. Kennedy: “*One person can make a difference, and everyone should try*”. Certainly there are myriad examples throughout history of individuals who have impacted countless lives from a humanitarian perspective. Late Louisvillian Donna Craig is one such person.

Responding to the teachings of Jesus and a challenge from her minister at Highland Presbyterian Church in 1989, Donna began to plan for the reception of the Radu family, Romanian refugees, from her kitchen table. They arrived in Louisville in May, 1990, and Kentucky Refugee Ministries ([KRM](#)) was born. Donna resettled 25 people channeled here by Church World Service the next year; then became a site for Haitian and Cuban cases in 1995; and opened a satellite office in Lexington in 1998. Three decades later, KRM has resettled over 20,000 refugees in Kentucky ([the majority of them children and women](#)), from all over the world—Vietnam, Sudan, Bosnia, Myanmar, Iraq, Somalia, Syria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cuba, the list is long. Refugee is an official classification under the US State Department, referring to people received here legally who cannot safely return to their native land due to persecution or violent living conditions. I’m confident that Donna, who passed away in 2012, could never have envisioned her work bringing so many people to safety and freedom, while also enhancing the faith journeys of thousands of Kentuckians in the process.

Today, KRM employs more than 80 people. It provides basic needs like housing, furnishings, food, clothing, and transportation. The caseworkers coordinate medical and other community services for all clients. KRM holds classes in English, citizenship, and cultural orientation. It assists in preparing clients for the American workplace, and importantly, finding them jobs. KRM youth services provide assistance with public school enrollment, tutoring, and mentoring, as well as college

and career readiness. The immigration legal staff serves clients in citizenship achievement, obtaining green cards, and with family reunification.

Donna Craig had a vision from the outset—to involve local churches as partners in “[welcoming the stranger](#)”, as Christ implores us to do. And, did she ever succeed! KRM and its refugee clients have benefited from the help of thousands of church and community volunteers in the past 30 years. Faith-related volunteers, including scores from right here at Beargrass, have been given the gift of living out their faith while making a huge humanitarian difference. Beargrass co-sponsored its first refugee family through KRM in 1995, and has assisted with 15 additional families over the years. Those in this church family will attest to always receiving more than they gave when working in this mission field. Information regarding a new co-sponsorship will be forthcoming soon.

Reverend Jim Chatham was the minister who inspired Donna to found KRM. A collection of local refugee stories was published in 2013 in tribute and to honor her life. Rev. Chatham concluded the collection this way: “[Donna’s life is a sermon that calls us to deeper faith. ‘Faith grows by risk,’ she said. If we want to meet God, let us involve ourselves seriously with human struggle, with the toils, the conflicts, the struggles, the hopes of embattled people. Let us walk beside them as they seek new direction. Let us empower them to speak and advocate for their cause. In so doing, we will, through sacred mystery, encounter the living Christ who also walks their path. This is where we will find him, where he will find us, among the world’s beleaguered and struggling people seeking redemption. The cause is not only their redemption but ours.’](#)”