



The Bridge

Newsletter

BRIDGEPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH | JUNE 2021

Minister's Moment

I am so looking forward to gathering together again in the sanctuary for worship! It will be such a joy to be together! Things will look and feel a little different than they did last March, but no matter what we do, as long as we are worshipping together, the name of God will be praised. I encourage you to go and read the frequently asked questions about regathering in this newsletter and if you have any questions about reserving a spot for worship or any of our protocols, please reach out to a member of the regathering team (Ronda Sloan, Anita Bolen, Don Flinn, Sissy O'Brien).

Another reason I am excited is that we are going to be doing another

National Parks Series this summer. It will be a 6-week series, beginning May 30. We will be virtually visiting Yosemite to learn about trust, Yellowstone to learn about faithfulness, Sequoia to learn about foundation, Rocky Mountains to learn about perspective, Redwood to learn about Peace and Pinnacles to learn about return.

All of these themes are topics that I believe directly relate to regathering together. We have to trust in God and each other to remain healthy and safe. We have been faithful to God and the church the past year and a half and our

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Regathering FAQ

By Ronda Sloan

We look forward to seeing many of you on June 6 when we will regather for on-campus worship. Some of you have said you are not comfortable returning at this time. We understand and will see you virtually!

Regathering FAQ Continued on page 2

A Green Chalice and Open & Affirming Congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) since 1846



Bridgeport Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
175 Evergreen Rd.
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502-223-1165

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Regathering FAQ Continued

The Reopening Committee wanted to provide answers to some questions we have received. If you have additional questions, please feel free to call any of us (Anita Bolen, Don Flinn, Brenda O'Brien or Ronda Sloan).

I am not ready to come back at this time. Will I be able to watch the services on YouTube/Facebook Live or call in on Zoom?

Yes. One of the improvements made during the pandemic was a total revamping of our audio-visual capabilities. Livestreaming our 11 am service will be permanent and enables us to reach out to a much larger audience.

How do I sign up to reserve my spot for in-person worship?

Reservations will open at 10 a.m. each Monday and close at noon on Friday for the following Sunday's service. (Example: spots for Sunday, June 6, will be available at 10 a.m. on Monday, May 31, and will close at noon on Friday, June 4.) There will be two services - 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. You can reserve online, following the directions below, or call Paula in the church office (502-223-

1165), and she will help you with your reservation.

- Go to www.bridgeportchristian.org
- Click on Book Online for Worship.
- Click "Book Now" for "Worship in the Sanctuary."
- Choose the Sunday you are reserving.
- Put in the required information.
- Repeat steps for each member of your family attending worship.

If you are staff, are working on the AV team, or are participating in the service as an elder/musician/greeter, etc., you do not have to register for that Sunday.

Why are the rules for June stricter than the CDC guidelines?

The main focus of the Reopening Committee since its first meeting in March 2020 has been safety. We are aware that some of you believe we are being too cautious. However, after much discussion, we agreed that we were most comfortable leaving some of the restrictions in place and conducting a gradual, phased-in regathering. A number of you have told us that this is the approach you

prefer, and you are more likely to return if we continue to take precautions, even if those safeguards are beyond the CDC recommendations.

For example, we feel it is important for everyone to wear a mask as an added layer of protection for you, your family, and the people around you. Also, if everyone wears a mask, whether they are vaccinated or not, no one feels singled out - what another church calls "the grace-based approach."

As conditions continue to improve, we anticipate returning to "normal" worship and church life within the next few months, including onsite meetings and regular activities. At that time, many of the current mandates also will be lifted. However, after 14 months of varying degrees of lockdown, a slower approach to regathering seems appropriate. We hope you will understand and support the decision.



Minister's Moment Continued

faithfulness continues as we return in the safest way possible. Our foundation is in God, no matter if we are worshipping in the sanctuary or in our homes. Our perspectives are always changing. But no matter what, we have peace in the presence of God, and we can return whenever we are comfortable.

I know this has been a hard time. I have missed having people in the pews on Sunday mornings and I know you all have missed being here. But know this – we have made the best decisions we could for our church and each other. And God has been with us through it all and will continue to be with us no matter what. May God bless you and keep you in all you do. I look forward to seeing some of you June 6 and I look forward to seeing each of you as you are comfortable returning.

Love,
Ann

Ripped from the Headlines Schedule Change

The Ripped from the Headlines class will meet on Wednesdays (instead of Sundays) in June and July at 6 pm on Zoom (NO class on June 9).

Contact Ted and Ronda Sloan for the Zoom link.

Disciples Virtual Gathering Saturday, August 7, 2021

An opportunity for Disciples to connect, learn, worship, and imagine new ways of gathering as church. Through Bible study, workshops, and worship, the event will focus on the covenant we share as Disciples. Sign up for updates at <https://disciples.org/2021-virtual-gathering/>

2021 Graduates and BCC Scholarship Recipient



By Annette Hayden

The BCC Helping Hands Circle is proud to announce that RiCharia Phillips is the recipient of the 2021 Helping Hands Scholarship of \$500. RiCharia is the daughter of Georgetta Phillips. She graduated from Western Hills High School where she was a member of Career and Community Leaders of America, Youth Coalition, and JV basketball team.

RiCharia will attend Bluegrass Community and Technical College in the fall to obtain an Associate Degree in Pre-nursing. Her ultimate goal is to earn a Bachelor Degree in Nursing specializing in pediatrics from the University of Kentucky. Congratulations RiCharia!



Katie Grasch, daughter of Angie and Chris and sister to Will, graduated from Eastern Kentucky University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing. She is a member of Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority.

Katie will begin her nursing career at the end of June at the University of Kentucky Children's Hospital as a pediatric nurse on an acute care floor. Until then, she is preparing for the state board exam and enjoying some leisure time with family and friends. Congratulations Katie!

Our graduates will be recognized during the 11 am worship service on June 6.

175th Anniversary Food Drive and Bench Dedication

By Annette Hayden

BCC will host a food drive for the Franklin County Food Pantry during the month of June. **Our goal is to collect 175 non-perishable items to donate in recognition of our 175 years of ministry to the community.** A collection container will be located in the narthex throughout the month.

On June 29, we will dedicate a beautiful red bench made from recycled plastic bottle caps and lids that you have provided. The dedication will occur during both the 9am and 11am services.

The BCC Youth and Green Team have plans to continue collecting caps and lids for making a picnic table for our church campus. So please continue to save these items and drop in the collection containers located in the narthex.



Food Drive In June

Goal: Collect 175

non-perishable items

Green News

Help Reduce Food Waste and Hunger in Our Community

By Annette Hayden

In last month's issue of The Bridge, the Green News focus was on food waste and how to eliminate it at home. This month, we will focus on eliminating food waste in our community and feeding the hungry. One in six Kentuckians don't know where their next meal is coming from. Yet 40 percent of food in the U.S. is wasted.

Glean Kentucky is a non-profit organization that provides volunteer opportunities to glean excess fruits and vegetables. Serving as the vital link between food waste and food insecurity, gleaners gather up fresh produce from a source (grocery store, farm, etc.) and immediately deliver it to a recipient site (food pantry, hunger agency, neighborhood ambassador, etc.) where it can be distributed to those in need.

Franklin County is one of several central Kentucky counties that participate in Glean Kentucky. Volunteers can glean and distribute food in three ways:

- Pick up produce at the Farmers Market on Saturdays from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Weigh, deliver to recipient site, and record on the Glean Kentucky website, gleanky.org.
- Join a Rapid Response Team to receive text message alerts about on-call gleaning opportunities. This may include gleaning a field or orchard with produce that is about to go to waste.
- Grow a Row to donate. If you are a gardener, plant an extra row for a soup kitchen or other recipient.

To volunteer, visit gleanky.org, complete an application, watch a training video, and choose your volunteer option. You will receive a bright green Glean Kentucky t-shirt. Contact Annette Hayden (502-330-9174) for more information.

Please consider donating a couple of hours of your time to help the hungry in our community. Bring the kids or grandkids along, and make it a family service project. Your soul will be fed!



Picture from Give Lively—GleanKY.org

175th Anniversary Upcoming Events

As we move through the year, please watch the monthly Bridge newsletter and Wednesday Email Blast for event details.

- ♦ **July** - A celebration and a recognition of the contribution of men throughout BCC's history.
- ♦ **August** - Collection of supplies for young people who attend the Kings Center.
- ♦ **September** - The annual GreenStock celebration will recognize the congregation's 175 years of service to the community.
- ♦ **October** - Donation of 175 handmade plastic mats. See page 3 for instructions on how to begin this project now.
- ♦ **November** - Big weekend celebration! On Saturday, Nov. 6, we will host an ice cream sundae party for the community. The service on Sunday, Nov. 7, will feature a guest speaker and commissioned music. Immediately following the service, we will share a catered fellowship meal.
- ♦ **December** - Special BCC 175th anniversary Christmas ornaments will be available for sale.

Thank!
you!

Dear BCC Family,

Thank you for the cards and the comforting words during our loss. They were greatly appreciated. We have the best church family.

Jay & Angie Kendall

Book Club June Pick of the Month

For June, the book club will read "The Four Winds" by Kristin Hannah.

We are scheduled to meet on Tuesday, June 29 at 5:30 pm. All are welcome to join us via Zoom.

Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87386586688?pwd=d0lXVIQ3c0NKSnFIVVVTYkdNlXREdz09>
Meeting ID: 873 8658 6688
Passcode: 511468



Calendar of Events



6/1—7 pm Green Team Meeting on Zoom

6/2—6 pm Ripped from the Headlines on Zoom

6/3—6:30 pm Greeter Training on Zoom

6/5—11 am Greeter Training on Zoom

6/6—9 am In-person worship service
11 am In-person, call-in, and online worship service

6/8—7 pm Education Committee Meeting on Zoom

6/9—7 pm Administrative Board Meeting on Zoom
NO Ripped from the Headlines

6/13—9 am In-person worship service
11 am In-person, call-in, and online worship service

6/16—6 pm Ripped from the Headlines on Zoom

6/20—9 am In-person worship service
10 am Ripped from the Headlines on Zoom
11 am In-person, call-in, and online worship service

6/23—6 pm Ripped from the Headlines on Zoom

6/27—9 am In-person worship service
11 am In-person, call-in, and online worship service

6/29—5:30 pm Book Club Discussion Group on Zoom

***Our 11 am online worship services are on our Facebook page and our YouTube Channel. The 9 am worship services will be in-person and NOT shown live.**

6/2 Addison Harrod, Casey Hayden, Emily Shaw
6/4 Tracy Averill
6/7 Clay Yeary
6/10 Julia Martinez
6/13 Larry Hayden
6/16 James Terry, Jodie Hillard
6/18 Allison Lile
6/25 Carol Kelien, Hollis Rosenstein
6/26 Betty Martin, Leland Miley, Robert Rowland
6/27 Jeff Pratt, Logan Coffey

Ways to Continue Your Giving to BCC

- Mail in your Tithes and Offerings! Mail is checked every day and deposits are made once a week. Our address is 175 Evergreen Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601.
- Use our new locked drop box, located by the side door of BCC! Our Administrative Assistant and our Treasurer are the only ones with keys to the box.
- Give using the Givelify app or website.

Call-in Option for Worship

We have a phone number for the call-in option. The Meeting ID and Password for all Sundays will remain the same. Below is how to access the call-in option for Worship at 11am on Sunday mornings.

1. Call **1-301-715-8592** at 10:59 am or so on Sundays by using any kind of phone that can call long distance.
2. You will hear a recording which will prompt you to dial the Meeting ID **895 4649 4510**.
3. After recorded message, dial #
4. After this, you will be asked to enter the password: **068564**. After entering this, you should be on the call and able to hear all of the worship.

“The Grace in Which We Stand” KY Disciples Women's Ministries Virtual Mini-Conference Saturday, June 19, 2021 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Rev. Marilyn Williams, North Carolina pastor and former IDWM President, will bring the morning message and Andra Moran from Nashville and Deb Garr from Paris providing the music. And, to top it off, Dr. Emily Askew, Lexington Theological Seminary's Professor of Theology, will lead a workshop on the theology of Grace! There will be closing communion.
For more details, contact the BCC office.

No registration required. Click on the Zoom link. [CLICK HERE to join the Zoom meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 893 1337 8514
Passcode: 712256

Scriptures, Topics, & Volunteers for June

Who is Bridgeport Christian ?

Founded in 1846, Bridgeport Christian strives to serve God and our community in the best way we know how. We are a certified Green Chalice Congregation and an Open & Affirming Congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada.

Date	Scripture	Theme	Worship Leader & Elder
June 6	2 Thessalonians 3:1-5	Faithfulness Yellowstone National Park	Don Morse & Anita Bolen
June 13	Matthew 7:24-27	Foundation Sequoia National Park	Ann Johnson & Donna Long
June 20	Psalms 121	Perspective Rocky Mountains National Park	Don Flinn & Jeff Pratt
June 27	John 14:27-31	Peace Redwood National Park	Sissy O'Brien

Worship Service Opportunities

[Facebook -
www.facebook.com/
bridgeportchristian](https://www.facebook.com/bridgeportchristian)

[YouTube -
www.youtube.com/channel/
UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U)
[VTg](#)

**Call-in—See instructions in
this newsletter**

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Staff

- The Rev. Ann B. Shepherd, Pastor
- Hollis Rosenstein, Dir. of Music
- Paula McQuate, Admin. Assistant
- Lorrie Devers, Dir. of Children's
Worship



**Bridgeport
Christian
Church**