

# The Bridge

NEWSLETTER | BRIDGEPORT CHRISTIAN CHURCH | MAY 2023

## Green News

### What's in Your Water?

Have you ever heard of “forever chemicals?” Commonly known as PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances), these chemicals are found in non-stick cookware, food wrappers, firefighting foam, carpeting, cosmetics and clothing. They are ideal for waterproofing and stain resistance, thus making them incredibly resistant to breaking down in nature – hence the name “forever chemicals.” PFAS chemicals have been found throughout the Ohio River. The Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet found the chemicals in 90% of rivers and lakes it sampled and in every fish it tested.

The EPA has proposed the first-ever national standards for six PFAS. If finalized later this year, drinking water utilities across the country would be required to monitor for the chemicals, notify the public if levels exceed standards, and reduce contamination as necessary.

The community of Henderson is now treating its water for contamination from a Teflon recycler in the area. Using powdered activated carbon for the past few years, Henderson has significantly reduced PFAS levels. However, treatment has significantly increased costs. This will be devastating to small and rural water treatment systems.

Last month, the EPA announced Kentucky will receive more than \$22 million to manage PFAS in drinking water in rural and disadvantaged communities. The funding comes from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which invests \$5 billion across the country over five years to help communities managing chemical contamination.

## Inside this issue

Choir News

Missions Committee

Membership Committee

Guest Preacher

Mission Trip

Mother's Day

New Bible Study

Education Committee

Lunch and Learn

Book Club

VBS

Fundraising Ideas

End of Year Celebration

Graduates

Volunteers Needed

Test Your Water Knowledge

Answers



## Bridgeport Choir News

May 2023

I presented a session at the Kentucky Public Health Association Annual Conference in April in Bowling Green called "Music as Public Health". A growing body of scientific evidence suggests that music has a positive impact on the wellness of individuals and communities. This concept may have been news to some of the conference attendees, but the church has, of course, understood this fact for centuries.

Music has been and will continue to be a key part of the worship experience because of its ability to usher us into worship and into a deeper experience. Romans 8:26 teaches us that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us with "groans that words cannot express" – I've always felt this is a great definition for music.

Music is a gateway for connection, expression, and meaning. My prayer is that we may all look for ways, as individuals and families, to enrich our daily lives with music that draws us ever closer to God and keeps the Spirit near.

Love,

*Laura Foley*



### **FROM THE MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

Thanks to your donations, our BCC food pantry is now stocked. We assembled Easter baskets and delivered them to The Sunshine Center, The Women and Family Shelter, and the Men's Shelter/Soup Kitchen.

Our next project for garden planting at The Thomson-Hood Veterans Center is scheduled for May 16. We hope some of the congregation will come along and be blessed for helping our veterans.



### **Membership Committee**

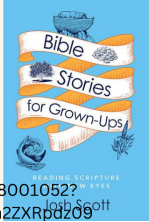
Many thanks to everyone who contributed the delicious food to the Easter breakfast and to the many hands who helped serve and clean up in the kitchen. Our Bridgeport family is a blessing!

Membership will meet Monday, May 1, at 11 a.m. on Zoom. Contact Donna Long if you would like to join us.

*thank you*



A New Bible Study Session is starting May 1 at 2pm on Zoom. We will study "Bible Stories for Grown-ups: Reading the Scripture with New Eyes" by Josh Scott. The schedule and zoom link are below.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>MAY 1</b><br/> <b>Preventing the Flood: The Story of Noah</b><br/>         Genesis 6:5-8; Genesis 7:17-24; Genesis 8:15-21; Genesis 9:8-13</p>     | <p><b>MAY 8</b><br/> <b>A New Vision of God: The Binding of Isaac</b><br/>         Genesis 22:1-19</p>                                      |
| <p><b>MAY 15</b><br/> <b>It's Not About the Fish: The Story of Jonah</b><br/>         Jonah 2:10; 3:1-5, 10; 4:1-11 (basically, read the whole book)</p> | <p><b>MAY 22</b><br/> <b>Jesus in Unexpected Places: The Parable of the Talents</b><br/>         Mark 4:10-12, 33-34; Matthew 25:14-30</p>  |
| <p><b>MAY 29</b><br/> <b>No Bible Study</b><br/>         Memorial Day</p>  | <p><b>JUNE 5</b><br/> <b>When Repentance Isn't Enough: Looking for Zacchaeus</b><br/>         Luke 19:1-10; Luke 5:27-32; Luke 18:18-25</p> |
| <p><b>JUNE 12</b><br/> <b>Updating Our Lenses: Healing the Man Who Was Blind</b><br/>         Mark 8:22-26; Mark 8:27-33; Mark 9:17-24</p>               |    |

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86208001052?pwd=RzhBQURyeUE5Qnc5UUVV1WlhZ2ZRdDZ09>

## Education Committee:

We need your help collecting paper towel tubes, boxes, soda cans, and gift wrap tubes for VBS.



## Guest Preacher

Rev. Katherine Raley Alexander will be our guest preacher on May 28. Rev. Alexander is the Director of Alumni and Church Relations at Lexington Theological Seminary.

Rev. Alexander came to LTS in January 2018 as the Advancement Associate and began in her current position in January 2021. Prior to her ministry with LTS, she served as Pastor at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Columbia, SC. Previously, she served as the Associate Pastor at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Colorado Springs, Colo. Rev. Alexander studied ministry and social work at the University of Chicago, where she received a joint Master of Arts in Social Service Administration and Master of Divinity in 2012. She is married to Nathan Alexander, and they live in Georgetown, KY, where they attend First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) with their two sons, Parker and Michael.



## Buy Stock in the CYF Mission Trip to Slidell, LA

Our CYF (High School Youth Group) will be partnering with the CYF of First Christian Church, Lawrenceburg to go on a mission trip to Slidell, LA June 11-17, 2023. There, they will be working with the Epworth Project to continue cleanup from Hurricane Katrina, other hurricanes, as well as floods that have happened since then.

And we are selling Stock in their trip!

You can become a shareholder in the mission trip by purchasing as many shares of stock as you would like for \$5 a share. Every shareholder will receive a Stock Certificate, as well as a special email each day of the trip with pictures and information about what the CYF are doing. Purchase at least 10 shares and receive a special souvenir from the trip!

This fundraiser is a fun way to learn more about what the youth are doing and connect with them during this very special trip.

To purchase stock in the CYF Mission Trip, mail your check or place it in the offering plate, with a memo that says "CYF Mission Trip". You can also give your check to a member of the Education Committee or Pastor Ann.



In Honor of Mother's Day and all the women of Bridgeport Christian Church, the Membership Committee is making a donation to the Simon House and the Franklin County Women and Family Shelter.





## SAVE THE DATE for Lunch and Learn

Sunday, May 21, 12:30ish

**A community effort** to bring affordable solar to the counties of Franklin, Anderson, Henry, Owen, Scott, Shelby, and Woodford. Andy McDonald, director of Apogee - Climate and Energy Transitions, along with an approved solar installer, will present and answer questions. With tax credits and other discounts, solar may be affordable for your residence, business, church, or other non-profit.

A light lunch will be served immediately following worship. For more information, visit the City of Frankfort website at [frankfort.ky.gov](http://frankfort.ky.gov).

Sponsored by Membership Committee and Green Team. We are looking for people to donate sandwiches for this event. If you are interested please contact Donna Long.



Save the Date for Vacation Bible School!

Sunday, July 9 to Thursday, July 13 \* 5pm to 8pm each night.  
For age 4 to Grade 5.



Committee chairs are working hard and our church is very involved and committed to our community.

Your board wants to keep you informed of where we stand financially. So every couple of months we will include a note to do so. Our annual budget is \$182,000.00. To date, we are at \$45,000.00. Bottom line is we have nine months to get to the \$135,000.00 we will need to make the budget. We would happily entertain any creative fundraising ideas. Send them to [diane.dominick@gmail.com](mailto:diane.dominick@gmail.com).

Thank you!



### BCC book club will read about the royals in May

The BCC book club will take a peek behind the curtain of the British royal family in May when we read "Spare," the controversial memoir by Prince Harry.

In June, we will return home with "Small Acreages," a collection of essays by Kentucky writer Georgia Green Stamper.

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 30. For more information, or to be added to the book club mailing list, contact Ted Sloan at [tsloan76@bellsouth.net](mailto:tsloan76@bellsouth.net).

BCC book club selections are available at a discount at Poor Richard's Books in Frankfort and Joseph-Beth in Lexington. Just tell them you are a member of the BCC book club. We encourage you to support our local booksellers!



# End of Year Celebration

WE WILL HAVE HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS, AND SOME SIDES. WE WILL PLAY GAMES AND PLAY ON THE PLAYGROUND.

JOIN US AT

DOLLY GRAHAM PARK  
(225 RIVER ST., FRANKFORT)  
MAY 7 FROM 5PM-7PM

WE WILL HAVE A GREAT TIME! SEE YOU THERE!!



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you good with electronics and technology?

We need your help!

Looking for volunteers to help in the AV booth.

Contact Pastor Ann if you are interested.

Do you have a person in your family graduating from high school or college?

CLASS OF

**2023**

Let the church know if you have a family member graduating! We will honor our graduates in worship on June 4.

COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US

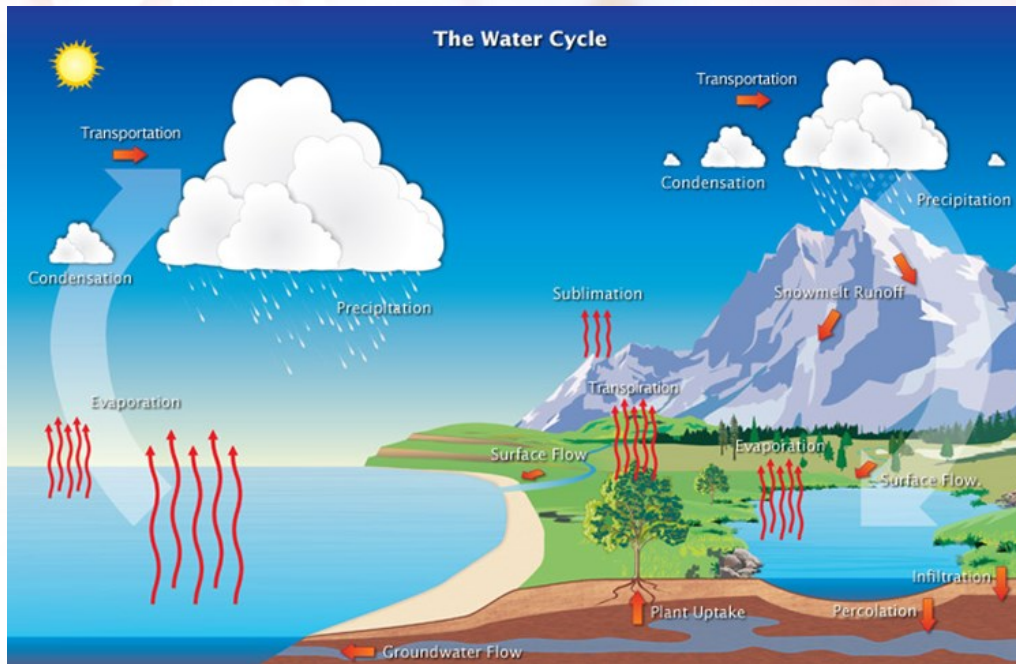
## Test Your Water Knowledge

The theme for Earth Stewardship Sunday (April 23) was Sacred Water. Test your knowledge of water by answering the following questions. **Answers are located on the next page.**

1. We potentially are drinking the same water from which Jesus drank and was baptized. True or False
2. Over 70 percent of Earth's surface is covered with water, most of which is suitable for drinking and bathing. True or False
3. Some reasons for water shortages include:
  - a. Drought
  - b. Industrial and large-scale agriculture use
  - c. Pollution
  - d. All the above
4. Nearly half of all the wastewater coming out of households around the world – from toilets, sinks, drains and gutters – flows back into nature without harmful substances removed. True or False
5. With all the rain that falls in our region, we don't need to conserve water. True or False

The Rev. Carol Devine, Minister for Green Chalice Ministry for the Christian Church (DOC), was our guest minister on Earth Stewardship Sunday, April 23rd. If you missed the service, we encourage you to watch her message of hope on our BCC YouTube channel or Facebook page. Blessings, Green Team

## Answers: Test Your Water Knowledge



1. True. Water is a finite resource. The water cycle (see NOAA diagram) illustrates evaporation, transpiration, condensation, and precipitation. This is a perfect illustration of global recirculation of the same water from the beginning of time.
2. False. Ninety-seven percent of all water on the earth is salt water, which is not suitable for drinking. Only 3 percent of Earth's water is fresh water, and only 0.5 percent is available for drinking. The other 2.5 percent of fresh water is locked in ice caps, glaciers, the atmosphere, soil, or under the earth's surface, or is too polluted for consumption. (U.S. Department of the Interior)
3. D. All the above. **a. Drought** – while we rely on the same water that returns to Earth through the water cycle, it's not always returned to the same spot or in the same quantity or quality. We know this from the recent drought in the western U.S., China, Africa, and Europe. Recent drought conditions are linked to the warming of the atmosphere globally from deforestation, livestock farming, and burning fossil fuels. **b. Industrial and large-scale agriculture use** – According to the United Nations, 72 percent of all water withdrawals are used by agriculture, 16 percent by municipalities for households and services, and 12 percent by industries. Many crops are water-intensive, especially for irrigation. Ninety percent of global power generation is water-intensive. In the USA, withdrawal of fresh water to cool power plants accounts for nearly 50 percent. **c. Pollution** – Degradation of our water comes from many sources: chemical spills like the recent one in New Palestine, Ohio; old pipes and outdated infrastructure as in Flint, Michigan; and a coal slurry spill in 2000 in Martin County, Kentucky, where the infrastructure remains in disrepair, to name a few.
4. True. According to the World Health Organization, 1.4 million people die annually and 74 million will have their lives shortened due to diseases related to poor water, sanitation and hygiene. Worldwide, one in four, or 2 billion people, lack safe drinking water.
5. False. Remember, water is a finite resource. When, where, and how much precipitation we get is affected by changes in the atmosphere (climate change) and how we use this precious resource. Consider the atmospheric rivers that have recently poured down on California, dropping several feet of snow across the northern U.S. and bringing heavy rains and thunderstorms to the south and our regions. And who can forget the 2021 tornados in western Kentucky and unprecedented flooding last year in our southeastern counties!



## Calendar of Events

May 1 -11:00 am Membership Meeting

2:00 pm Bible Study (Zoom)

May 2 - 2:00 pm Helping Hands Circle

May 7 - 10:00 an Sunday School

11:00 am In-person and Online Worship

4:30 pm Choir Practice

5-7:00 pm End of Year Youth Celebration

May 8 - 2:00 pm Bible Study (Zoom)

May 10 - 7:00 pm Board Meeting

May 14 - 10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am In-Person and Online Worship

May 15- 2:00 pm Bible Study (Zoom)

May 16- 12:00 pm Missions to Thomson Hood

6:00 pm Education Meeting

May 21- 10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am In-Person and Online Worship

4:30 pm Choir

May 25- 6:00 pm Men's Group

May 26- June 3 Ann Vacation

May 28 - 10:00 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship

May 30- 5:30 pm Book Club



# happy birthday

**May 1- Heather Hedges**

**May 6- Dennis Martin**

**May 13- William Arflack**

**May 18- Sue Clark**

**May 19- Diane Dominick**

**May 23- J.W. Kendall**

**&**

**Dove DeNigris**

| Date | Greeters         | Worship Leader | Elder         | Worship & Wonder   | AV Booth                   |
|------|------------------|----------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|
| 5/7  | Ted Sloan's Team | Don Flinn      | Jeff Pratt    | Anita Bolen & Kirk Shepherd (The Good Shepherd & the Lord's Supper I)              | Larry Hayden & Tommy Smith |
| 5/14 | Ted Sloan's Team | Diane Dominick | Don Flinn     | Karen Averill & Denisha Dodge-Summerour (The Good Shepherd & the Lord's Supper II) | Wayne Begin & Tommy Smith  |
| 5/21 | Ted Sloan's Team | Sissy O'Brien  | Sissy O'Brien | Donna Long & Laura Begin (Ascension)   | Wayne Begin & Tommy Smith  |
| 5/28 | Ted Sloan's Team | Anita Bolen    | Anita Bolen   | Karen Averill & Denisha Dodge-Summerour (Pentecost)                                | Larry Hayden & Tommy Smith |

**Worship Service  
Opportunities**

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

YouTube - [www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U\\_VTg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U_VTg)

**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.

**Scripture and Topics for May**

| Date   | Scripture                                   | Topic                 |
|--------|---|-----------------------|
| May 7  | Matthew 9:10-13; Romans 1:1-17              | Gospel as Salvation   |
| May 14 | Matthew 11:28-30; Romans 5:1-11             | God's Love Poured Out |
| May 21 | Matthew 6:24; Romans 6:1-14                 | Hope of Resurrection  |
| May 28 | Acts 2 – Rev. Katherine Alexander Preaching | Pentecost             |

**Bridgeport Christian Church**

175 Evergreen Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601

<http://bridgeportchristian.org>

Phone: 502.223.1165

[secretary@bridgeportchristian.org](mailto:secretary@bridgeportchristian.org)

[pastor@bridgeportchristian.org](mailto:pastor@bridgeportchristian.org)

**Staff**

- The Rev. Ann B. Shepherd,  
Pastor
- Valerie Drake, Admin.  
Assistant
- Laura Foley, Music Director



**Bridgeport  
Christian  
Church**