

The Bridge

March 2022 Monthly Newsletter of Bridgeport Christian Church

Minister's Moment

I can't believe that Lent is already here! Lent is one of my favorite times of the year. It gives us a chance to slow down and really reflect on our faith journeys and what we need to do to draw closer to God.

More often than not, we think of Lent as a time to give something up, to deprive ourselves of something we love so that we can somehow feel that we are suffering with Christ. I have discovered that doesn't always work so well. Like the Lent I gave up chocolate, just to eat a fruit dessert with just about every meal. I missed the point. This year, I feel like it may be too much to ask someone to give something up. Just look at all we have had to give up over the last two years—time with our families and friends, eating out, going to concerts and plays and other events. We have had to make so many sacrifices to share our love, the very love of Christ, with the world around us.

I have also heard that Lent is a good time to take something new on. Maybe a new spiritual practice

or something one has been putting off. We ask people to start a new ministry or read a new book or to try something that we have never tried before. I think that this year, though, asking people to take something else on may be too much as well.

So, this year, I want us to look at Lent differently. Instead of giving something up or taking something on, what if we try caring for ourselves and each other in new ways and old ways. Many of us are living with fatigue from COVID and the strain of all that is happening in the world and we need time to take care of ourselves. Remember, we aren't just commanded to love our neighbor, but to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. So, let us practice loving ourselves a little bit more this Lenten season.

Peace & Love,
Ann

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



It's time for Church Camp

It's that time of year when church camp dates have been posted and it's time to get registered for Wakon'Da-Ho. This year the camp dates are as follows:

Camp 101 A (K-2)	June 24-26
Camp 101 B (K-2)	July 23
Mini Camp (2-3)	June 3-5
Junior Camp I (4-5)	June 20-24
Junior Camp II (4-5)	July 18-22
Chi Rho I Camp (6-8)	July 4-9
Chi Rho II Camp(6-8)	July 11-16
Eighter's Camp	June 12-16
CYF I Camp (9-12)	June 6-11
CYF II Camp (9-12)	June 27-July 2

Campers need to pick their option based on the grade just completed at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Youth that have completed Second grade may attend either Camp 101 with a parent or Mini Camp without a parent.

Camp is a wonderful experience for our youth to meet other youth and leaders from different churches and explore the wonders of God's creation in a whole new way. It offers fellowship, worship, recreation, and learning in a wonderful outdoor setting. If you have any questions please talk to me about camp. I have attended as both youth and counselor. Forms may be found on the Kentucky Christian Church Regional website at ccinky.net under Ministries/Wakon'Da'Ho or they will be available at church. The church will pay half the cost for each youth to attend one camp. Please talk to Pastor Ann if you have any financial concerns.

I look forward to sending many of our kids to camp this year.

Happy Camping,
Anita Bolen
502-229-3757

Youth Groups Meetings
Mar. 6, 13, 27
5-6:30 pm
ages 4 years to 12th grade



The Youth of Bridgeport Christian Church are excited to invite everyone to attend a Chili Cookoff Fundraiser!

Sunday, March 20
12:00pm
Fellowship Hall

We need people to bring chili to compete and people to come and eat. And you can even place a "to-go" order for chili, if you would rather take your chili with you. Please call/text Kim Minter at 502-330-4836 to place an order.

We will also be using this as an opportunity to say "thank you" to Marty Hammons for 20 years of service to the youth of Bridgeport Christian Church. We will be collecting cards for Marty that day, as well as ahead of time. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Minter.

We look forward to sharing chili, desserts, and fellowship together once again!

Helping Hands
Circle Meeting

March 2
5:30pm
Fellowship Hall



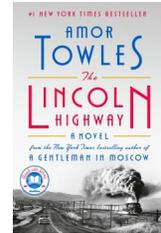
175th Celebration Continues in 2022

COVID may have delayed some of our plans for 2021, but the celebration will go on! We will have a special community-wide gathering on **Sunday, June 12**. The Rev. Dr. Donald Gillett, Regional Minister for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky, will deliver the message during the 11am worship service. Lunch and other activities will follow and continue throughout the afternoon. So **SAVE THE DATE** for this very special event.

Community Outreach activities will continue each month throughout the year. In March, we are collecting canned protein items for the Senior Activity Center. We are requesting donations of **canned beef stew, tuna, Spam, chicken, beef, spaghetti and meatballs, etc.** We are focusing on protein as the Senior Activity Center has shared a drastic need for these items for many of their senior folks who cannot afford fresh meat.

May God continue to richly bless this congregation as we move forward to show God's love to each other, our siblings in Christ, and our neighbors both in this community and beyond.

Book Club Meeting on March 29



#1 bestseller "The Lincoln Highway" is next on Book Club's shelf.

The BCC book club will read "The Lincoln Highway," the Amazon Editor's Pick for Best Book of 2021, as our March book. A novel by Amor Towles, "The Lincoln Highway" follows three young men and an 8-year-old on a winding whirlwind trip across the country.



Wednesday, March 2
7:00pm

a service of scripture, music,
and ashes

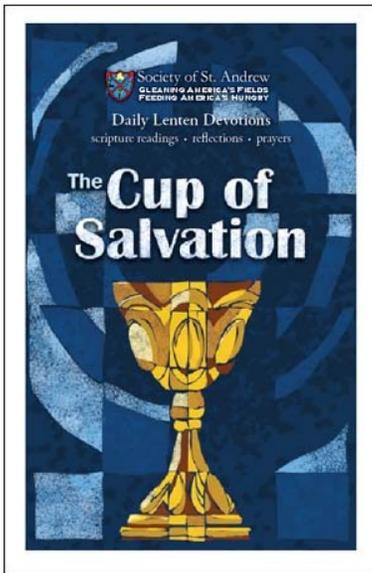
Ways to Continue Your Giving to BCC

- 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.

Worship Opportunities

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

YouTube - [https://
www.youtube.com/channel/
UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U_VTg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U_VTg)



Pick up your Lenten Devotional!

This year, we are using the devotional “The Cup of Salvation” from the Society of St. Andrew. Each day is written by a different volunteer in this organization.

You can also receive the devotion by email! Sign up at <https://endhunger.org/lent/>.

To learn more about the Society of St. Andrew, a partner organization with Week of Compassion, visit www.endhunger.org

The Passion Play: Living the Story of Christ’s Last Days

Tuesday Zoom Bible Study during Lent
Tuesdays, starting March 1, at 2pm

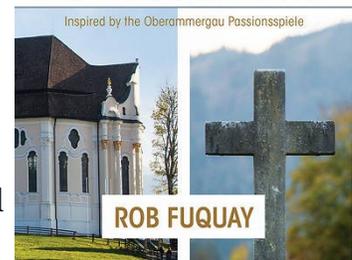
From cokesbury.com “With few exceptions, the Oberammergau Passion Play has been presented by the inhabitants of the village of Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany every 10 years since 1634. The play is a staging of Jesus' Passion story, covering the final period of his life from his visit to Jerusalem to the journey to the cross.

In his new book and study, *The Passion Play: Living the Story of Christ's Last Days*, author and pastor Rob Fuquay follows the biblical story of the Passion and how it has been experienced through the centuries against the backdrop of this amazing play.

Perfect for Lent, this study takes you on a journey to the origins of the Passion Play and helps you understand how the play has been used both as a ritual of praise and later as a weapon through its anti-Semitic past. The book and study help readers and small groups feel a sense of connection to the play while recognizing their own place in the story of Jesus.”



THE PASSION PLAY
Living the Story of Christ's Last Days





Green News

Doing Our Part to Benefit Creation and Love our Neighbors

(Adapted from The Good Guide to Reducing Your Carbon Footprint by Rebecca Gao)



In the January issue, we began a series on climate change and the effects of global warming. We provided an explanation of how greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide) warm our planet, resulting in an increased number and magnitude of natural disasters across the planet. In February, we addressed changes in weather patterns, natural disasters, property damage, and health-related issues. Reducing our carbon footprint was introduced as a means to help our earth recover before it's too late. *Your carbon footprint is a representation of the total amount of climate-changing greenhouse gases you produce as you make your way through your daily life. Visit www.coolcongregations.org to calculate your household carbon footprint.*

Greenhouse gases come from basically everything we do. From turning on the blender for a smoothie to driving off to a weekend getaway, we use energy and other resources that create emissions of various gases. The bulk of these emissions comes from burning fossil fuels (gas in your car), land use changes like deforestation (to grow cattle feed for the meat we consume), and generating electricity (coal, natural gas).

International research teams have stated that the United States needs to cut carbon emissions by nearly 90 percent. The Environmental Protection Agency has identified the drivers of our changing climate as transportation (29%), electricity production (28%), industrial production (22%), business and residential (12%), and agriculture (9%). This month, we will feature transportation, the largest driver of climate change in the U.S., to examine our lifestyles and identify ways we can lower our carbon footprint to help creation recover.

Most of us use cars for commutes and planes to visit family and friends. But that doesn't mean we can't make changes for the better. We need to ask ourselves, "Is this necessary?"



Cut Back on the Gas Guzzling

1. Spend less time in your car. Carpool to work, shopping, or the grocery whenever possible. Combine errands into one trip. Walk, bike, and use public transit. Work from home.
2. Choose a fuel-efficient vehicle when it's time to upgrade. A smaller vehicle, hybrid, or electric will get much better fuel mileage, which cuts emissions. The manufacture of vehicles is carbon intensive, so a used vehicle may be your best buy. However, if you are buying a new car, look for a [SmartWay-certified](#) vehicle — this government program run by the EPA certifies the lowest emitting cars each year.
3. Make your ride more fuel efficient. Save gas by accelerating and braking gradually. Gas mileage decreases when driving over 50 mph. When hauling cargo, attach a container to the back of your vehicle rather than to the rooftop. Aerodynamics saves fuel. Service your vehicle regularly: Check and adjust tire pressure, and upgrade motor oil. Replacing a faulty oxygen sensor can improve your mileage by as much as 40 percent.
4. Fly mindfully, only when necessary. Economy class is less energy intensive than business class. The more people on a flight, the smaller the airplane's carbon footprint per person.
5. When you do need to fly, look into carbon offsetting. You can use a flight carbon calculator app or website (terrapass.com) to do the math on your emissions. For example, a round-trip flight from Louisville to Tampa, Florida for two people will cost \$14.85 to offset the carbon emissions. This money is used for projects like reforestation, farm power, and landfill gas capture to remove carbon from the environment.

Let's do our part to *walk more gently on God's creation* for the benefit of all!

Regional & General Church News

[Click Here to Access the Spring Edition of The Kentucky Christian](#)

An Interfaith Call to Peace for Ukraine

Rev. Terri Hord Owens (General Minister & President, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)) joined other ecumenical leaders and heads of communion to sign a shared statement released by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America regarding the invasion of Ukraine. Read the full statement below.

“Though we have been anxious about the recent growing tensions between Ukraine and Russia and between Russia and the NATO countries in recent weeks, we remain deeply concerned, as we have been since 2014, for the impact of this ongoing conflict on innocent civilians throughout Ukraine. All parties to the conflict must take every measure possible to protect civilians. All parties and the international community must renew efforts to de-escalate this threat to international peace and security.

All our religious traditions call us to pray and work for peace. We join our voices and hands together. We must open our eyes to those who are suffering, and we cannot remain indifferent to the injustice this conflict has brought on the people of Ukraine and may bring on people of neighboring countries.

We call on all those involved—whether governments, movements or individuals—to repent of aggression and violence, and turn instead to the way of peace through dialogue. We also call upon the faithful people of our congregations and communities to pray for wisdom, peace and justice to prevail in Ukraine.

Join us as we pray:

Oh Divine, most mighty, most merciful, our sacred stories tell us that you help and save your people. You are the fortress: may there be no more war. You are the harvest: may there be no more hunger. You are the light: may no one die alone or in despair. Oh Divine, most majestic, most motherly, grant us your life. Amen.”



The Welcome Table

A Reunion of God's Beloved Community

Make Plans to Attend the Reunion

Regional Assembly - November 3-5, 2022 - Georgetown KY

BCC Financial Snapshot

Giving in February	\$ 15,625
Giving to date	\$ 36,804
Budget to date	\$ 42,950





Calendar—March 2022

Mar 2—5:30pm Helping Hands Circle in Case Hall
7:00pm Ash Wednesday Worship in Sanctuary

Mar 6—10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship in-person & online
5:00pm Youth Groups

Mar 9—6:00pm Choir in Sanctuary
7:00pm Administrative Board Meeting

Mar 13—2:00am Daylight Savings Time Begins
10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship in-person & online
5:00pm Youth Groups

Mar 14—6:00pm Community Engagement Team

Mar 16—6:00pm Choir in Sanctuary

Mar 20—10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship in-person & online
12:00pm Youth Group Chili Cookoff Fundraiser

Mar 23—Choir in Sanctuary

Mar 27—10:00am Sunday School
11:00am Worship in-person & online
5:00pm Youth Groups

Mar 29—5:30pm Book Club

Mar 30—11:00am Elders
6:00pm Choir in Sanctuary

March Birthdays

3/1—Steve Minter
3/3—Glenda Abrams
Morgan Minter
3/6—Sara Garner
3/7—Mary Fint
3/13—Myra Boyson
3/15—Nick Perkins
3/18—Madalyn Baesler
Micah Baesler
3/19—Mary Taulbee
3/23—Sarah Boston
3/24—Donna McNeil
3/25—Gary Wolf
3/26—Lisa Smith
3/29—Skyler Shepherd
3/30—Kinsley Alford
3/31—Cindy Elrod



<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Worship & Wonder</u>	<u>Following Jesus</u>
Mar 6	Don Morse	Anita Bolen	Angie Grash & Jackie Hensley	Lorrie Devers & Laura Begin (The Lenten Puzzle)	Brian Devers (The Most Important Commandment)
Mar 13	Ted Sloan	Larry Hayden	Donna Long & Judy Ziegler	Karen Averill & Donna Long (Jesus & the Children)	Anita Bolen (The Gift of the Poor Widow)
Mar 20	Linda Wilson	Don Morse	Kim Minter & Morgan Minter	Lorrie Devers & Kirk Shepherd (Jesus & Bartimaeus)	Brian Devers (A Woman Anoints Jesus)
Mar 27	Sissy O'Brien	Ron Kelien	Linda Wilson & Larry Hayden	Anita Bolen & Angie Kendall (Jesus & Zacchaeus)	Lorrie Devers (Too Afraid to Follow Jesus)

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.

Scriptures & Topics for March

Date	Scripture	Topic
3/6	Psalm 104:27-30 John 11:1-44	Jesus Raises Lazarus
3/13	Psalm 51:7-12 John 13:1-17	Jesus Washes Feet
3/20	Psalm 17:1-7 John 18:12-27	Peter's Denial
3/27	Psalm 145:10-13 John 18:28-40	Jesus and Pilate

Worship Service Opportunities

[Facebook - www.facebook.com/bridgeportchristian](https://www.facebook.com/bridgeportchristian)
[YouTube - www.youtube.com/channel/UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U_VTg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsZ84Pu5U2KkzvKR26U_VTg)

Bridgeport Christian Church

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secretary@bridgeportchristian.org
pastor@bridgeportchristian.org

Staff

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



**Bridgeport
Christian
Church**