



Christ Reformed United Church of Christ

VISIONS

No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Because Jesus has taught us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves we declare Christ Reformed UCC to be an Open and Affirming church. We invite people of every race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, marital status, economic circumstance, and physical and mental ability into the worship, rites & sacraments, fellowship, and leadership of our church.

Markings



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I don't exactly remember who Rev. Neal Newlin was, but I will always be grateful to him. Just before Mary and I headed off to Andover Newton Theological School in 1977 I got a call from a member of the church in which I grew up, Little River UCC. She had a relative, an uncle I believe, who was a UCC pastor and was retiring. Rev. Newlin had accumulated, as all clergy do, a lot of books, some scholarly and some devotional, some dated by their language or perspective, some timeless. Included was a complete set of the Interpreter's Bible, the go-to resource for biblical commentary in the day. I sat for an hour or so looking over his treasure trove and boxed up more than I had a right to. They traveled with me to graduate school and in my subsequent moves. They became the core of my initial pastoral library.

I am now in Rev. Newlin's position and wondering what to do with all the books I have accumulated. I've been trying to think of an efficient way to distribute or dispose of them. Once I get a chance to sort through them and decide which ones I will take home I would be delighted if you or colleagues would like to add to your personal collection.

But what I've really been thinking about is not the books, but the giver. I'm not sure Rev. Newlin realized the impact his generosity had on my early years in ministry. In the pre-internet days it was a wonderful luxury to have such wisdom right at hand. I feel I have been blessed by and continued his ministry.

I've been thinking about legacies these days, in part because of my retirement, but more because of the deaths of Dick Holter and Lewis Corl. In the last few weeks we buried about 180 years of faithful service to the church. When I shared news of Lewis' death with Dick's son, Rick, he said "And Lewis Corl right after Dick Holter? That's a high percentage of the church's deacons in the 70's!" Dick and Lewis' service was not limited to any decade in which they were deacons. They remained faithful partners with the congregation in our music, education, service and worship life from their earliest years to their final days. I have been blessed by and hope I can continue their ministries.

Their burials with just a few family members present because of the Covid-19 social restrictions hardly did justice to the legacy they leave. There was so much more to remember and to say. There will be a time down the road when a larger group of family and friends can gather to lift up grateful hearts for the lives of these two men, but even before that day we can use what they and so many others have given us. They would expect nothing less from us than what they expected of themselves.

Nearly all the books I got from Rev. Newlin have his name inscribed on the title page. Perhaps he was in the habit of lending out the books and hoped to help the borrowers remember where they came from. Maybe it was to differentiate between those he had purchased and those given to him by his spiritual mentors and benefactors. Whose name is inscribed on your title page? There are many for me. My parents, of course, but also Beck, Skip, Scott and Allen. If I were to include CRUCC I would have to include Lee, Libby, Paul, Harold, Frances, Bill, Walter, Elizabeth, Dick, Lewis and a whole lot of other

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"There is no role in life that is more essential than that of motherhood".

Elder M. Russell Ballard



*Happy Mother's Day
 from Called to Care*



saints, some whom are still among us.

And, of course, the title page of my book like yours would bear the name of Jesus. Our book always begins with God, the source and the destination of life. It is both humbling and empowering, but each of us is called to be Jesus' legacy. May God bless and guide us as we respond to that call wherever it takes us.

Mark

Young Thoughts

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

We are in a season of change in so many ways. No one thought this Spring would unfold in this manner. No one thought goodbyes and hellos would be happening as they are. This is a season of change, of greening and flowering, of growth and new life. We are an Easter people, witnesses of resurrection power. Here at Christ Reformed United Church of Christ we are in the season of blessings for Mark's ministry in this place and in the season of anticipation for what will be. We are on Holy Ground.

As your Interim Pastor I look forward to walking with you in this journey. Let me share a little bit about myself as a way of introduction.

As you have been told, my name is Clara Young. My husband, Randy, and I have just celebrated 48 years of marriage. We are the proud parents of Grant Young, our son who lives with his family in Pittsburgh, and Tammy Winters, our daughter who lives with her family in Cincinnati. We have three grandchildren. I call Greenville, PA my hometown. I was baptized there at Zion's Evangelical and Reformed Church (now UCC). I also spent a good part of my life living in Plant City, FL. You will detect the influence of the south on my speech patterns. I am a graduate of Pfeiffer College in Misenheimer, NC, majoring in Christian Education. I did the majority of my M.Div. work at Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA, finishing at The School of Divinity of Howard University in Washington, DC. This October you will be part of my celebration of 20 years of ordained ministry in the United Church of Christ. Part of my story includes that of Army wife as my husband was a career officer in the U.S. Army. I was the called Associate Pastor of First and St. Stephen's UCC in Baltimore for ten years. I have been doing Interim Ministry for 10 years.

Now that you know a little bit about me, I look forward to meeting you and getting to know you. I will admit that process will look and feel a little different this year. Who thought our smiles would be hidden by fanciful colored face masks? Who imagined we would be talking to one another through cloth barriers? I'm sure no one imagined the effort it will take not to extend our hand to one another in greeting – or share a hug for those who are "huggers". But because we care for one another that is what we will do for the foreseeable future. And we will remind each other of the boundaries as an act of caring and compassion.

We have been worshipping with you virtually for a couple of weeks. It has been good to be a part of this faith community. It has only convinced me more that we are where we need to be, in company with one another on the journey to the next chapter in the life of CRUCC. Your Search Committee for a Settled Pastor was hard at work last fall and winter. We will continue that work. We will also do the work we are called to do at this time, healing the wounds of the pandemic and preparing ourselves for a future that carries some uncertainties. Our blueprint will be listening to the health authorities, listening to one another, and above all listening to the work and the movement of the Holy Spirit. It is a powerful image to realize that we begin this Interim transition on the weekend of Pentecost when the Spirit was birthed into those disciples gathered in a room. It was a new beginning then as it is a new beginning now.

Trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit may we look to the Interim period of transition with hope. God is with us. Thanks be to God.

Grace and Peace, Rev. Clara

Operating Finances

2020 Operating Finances Year-to-Date – MARCH 31, 2020

	Actual Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses	Variant
Operating	\$103,998.53	\$96,746.00	\$99,478.86	\$4,519.67
Children's Center	\$178,323.75	\$204,096.93	\$176,293.41	\$2030.34
Global	\$282,322.28	\$300,842.93	\$275,772.27	\$6,550.01

KATHLEEN'S KORNER:

Just letting you all know that I truly miss you and can't wait until we can be together again.

**I still believe laughter is the best medicine:**

Chris: "I understand you have been seeing a psychiatrist, has it helped you?"

Darrel: "It certainly has, for weeks when the phone rang, I was afraid to answer it. Now I go right ahead and answer whether it rings or not."

Church bulletin bloopers: sometimes it is not what we say, but how we say it, for example:

- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. Please come, they need all the help they can get.
- Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10am. All ladies are invited to lunch in the fellowship hall after the B.S. is done.
- The youth will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement Friday at 7P.M. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- Ms. C. Mason sang, "I Will Not Pass This Way Again," giving obvious pleasure to those in the congregation.

- ◆ Please join us for Children's Church/ Sunday school each Sunday through Zoom at 9am. Link sent out each week.
- ◆ Please Join us on Saturday at 2-3pm for a youth study of the Parables of Jesus. If anyone would like to join us please send me a text and I will send you the study info for the upcoming week.
- ◆ Ladies, our study will begin Saturday May 2, at 4pm. The study is on the Book "I Am Loved" by Wendy Blight. Tracy B. and I would love to have you join us. It is a 6 weeks study. Daily short reading and then discussion at the end of the week. Book can be downloaded from Amazon., \$10.49. If you need financial assistance to purchase the book please let me know, please do not let finances stop you from participating.
- ◆ All who are interested, please join us Sunday evenings at 5pm for our next study. We will be studying the Psalms of lament. If interested please contact David G. at griegerdavid@gmail.com.

Worship at CRUCC

We are grateful to the members of our congregation who have worked each week to plan and produce our online worship services. Terry Sparks, Ed Bower, Kathleen Rogers, Jesi and JJ Bell-Godfrey, Andrew and Tiffany Corl and Gregg Petermann. When we began livestreaming the services on Facebook and putting the recorded service on YouTube we presumed this would only be necessary for a short time. As the pandemic deepened and the social restrictions became greater we moved to recording the pieces in isolation and then having the pieces put together electronically. The worship planning team has been aided by a large number of families and individuals in the church who recorded elements of the service each week. At present we will continue to record the services and premier them on Facebook and YouTube each Sunday morning at 10:30. As strategies for fighting the virus allow we will hope to move toward more live online worship and, in time, be able to invite the congregation to return to the sanctuary.

Called to Care News

Hello to all of our 80+Club folks from our Called to Care group. We sure have been missing our monthly get together and are looking forward to being together on June 11th. What's that saying "If the Lord's willing and the river don't rise". I'm also hoping that by May 26th we can hold a CTC meeting. I'm sure there are many kindnesses being done for others during this time of hibernation and I look forward to sharing them at our next meeting. Stay well, everyone!! Bunny

Live Music on Facebook

Each week Terry Sparks and Ed Bower have been providing a wonderful half hour of inspiring music live on Facebook. They have been taking requests for favorite hymns and offering other songs that express their faith. Join them and other members and friends every Thursday at 7:30pm by going to the church's facebook page.

Upper Room Devotionals

For a number of our members one of the daily devotional tools they use is the Upper Room. We have put copies of the Upper Room in the mailbox on the Parish House porch. If you would like a copy of the devotional you are welcome to stop by the Parish House and take one from the mailbox.

Middletown Food Bank

The Middletown Food Bank is serving about 50% more people than prior to the pandemic. They need hamburger helper, rice-a-roni, coffee, tea, mayonnaise, ketchup, sugar, flour, jello, toilet paper, bath soap, shampoo, laundry soap and spray cleaners. They currently do NOT need canned soup or peanut butter.

Discipleship Board News

The Discipleship Board, like most of our Boards, has been somewhat stifled with the confinement laid upon us with the current Pandemic, but we can report on a couple of our accomplishments during the month of April. The Soup Kitchen was able to serve a hot meal prepared by Anita & Ed Link, to 130 people! Due to the many lay offs, this was a larger than average number of folks. There were plenty of side dishes and desserts as well, contributed by church members, for which we are grateful. Before the Pandemic, the Board had been planning a joint Easter Fundraising Project with the Sunday School Classes, to benefit HEIFER INTERNATIONAL. Instead, we decided to donate \$200 and take advantage of a Match Donation Program, doubling our contribution to \$400! We hope to carry out our original fundraising project when church services and Sunday School Classes resume and make an additional donation to this worthy program. We plan to meet on our regular Board Night, May 11th, via ZOOM, to discuss ongoing events such as the annual Habitat trip and the Service Project and how we can adapt to the current social distancing restrictions. We would appreciate your good thoughts and prayers as we attempt to carry out the mission of our Board, and we hope all our church members and friends keep sight of our blessings even in these trying times.

*Christ Reformed
United Church of Christ*

Rev. Mark Wakefield, Pastor

Contemporary Worship 8:15am
Sunday School for All Ages 9:15am
Traditional Worship 10:30am
Coffee Hour following 10:30 Worship

Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm
301-371-6610
Fax: 301-371-6912

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www.crucc.org

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Frederick, Maryland 21701

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Christ Church Children's Center
Childcare*

Mrs. Missy Payne, Director
Mrs. Jesi Bell-Godfrey, Asst. Director
6 Weeks—5th Grade
Mon-Fri 6:30am – 6:00pm
301-371-0360
www.christchurchchildrenscenter.net

*Reaching out to help people to know
God through Jesus Christ.
Equipping people to love God through
the community of faith.
Sending people to serve God
throughout the world.*

WORSHIP SERVICES

**Sunday mornings
at 10:30am**

Pre-recorded services viewing options are available on our Facebook page and on YouTube (links posted on church website at www.crucc.org)



**May 7th @
6:30pm**

Formerly the group had been meeting at local restaurant to share a meal and/or beverage while considering some of the challenges of seeing how our faith fits into our lives. The group is currently meeting via Zoom and you are invited to take part. You can use the following link to join in: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77319666192>
[pwd=VmZlbiVNUZwTXFhRE1qakVUNDJ3dz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77319666192?pwd=VmZlbiVNUZwTXFhRE1qakVUNDJ3dz09) .

Meeting ID: 773 1966 6192
Password: 6x5rwJ.

...on Tap!

If you have any questions contact Christine Fontaine at 97cfontaine@gmail.com.