

# 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.*

## Young Thoughts

*"Are we there yet? Huh? Huh? How much farther?"*

I think we are all saying those familiar words. Right now we utter those words in reference to the pandemic. Months from now we'll be uttering those words in reference to the selection of a new settled pastor. But just like those road trips that may have solicited that sentiment from our children in the back seat, we are somewhere on the road, and no we aren't there yet.

As far as the pandemic is concerned, I suspect we as a region are nearing the ending of the beginning. Our region has been particularly traumatized with more than 95,000 cases in the greater Washington DC area as of the time of this writing. That said, the authorities looking at the data see positive signs. As a region we are slowly beginning to put our toe in the water of reopening. I can tell you that your Consistory has done an excellent job of forming task forces to look at the guidelines and outline plans for a gradual and responsible return to our life as a gathered community. The Committees are informed by data and by a real desire to assure everyone's safety when we gather together. Stay tuned.

With Mark's final service on May 31 we at Christ Reformed UCC are at the beginning of the beginning of the time before a new settled pastor is called. This is a time for all those who love Christ Reformed UCC to stay engaged and hopeful of your future. Timelines (just as with the virus) are a little murky. Our first task is to stabilize ourselves in light of our response to virus protection. We want to be able to paint a clear picture of who we have become to any prospective candidates. And believe me, any really good candidates are going to want us to do this work! As I said last month the Senior Search Committee has already done excellent work.

Right now, the most helpful thing you all can do at this time is:

- Pray for the Task Force Committee's working on reopening the CCCC and the life of the church within the building
- Pray for your leadership – the Consistory
- Have patience, we are working on the issues
- As we move forward having expanded our digital footprint – what do you feel has been working? What else might we do?
- Who might have connected with us because of a digital presence and how might we continue those connections and expand our ministry? (Some who have found us online might never venture on campus – but we may well be becoming their faith community).

Nuts and Bolts. It is my intent to maintain church office time on M-Th mornings from 8am to 1:30am. (I may well be there before 8am – commute traffic from Annandale impacts that!) I anticipate taking Fridays

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**"My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it."**  
*Clarence Budington Kelland*

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!**

*Happy Father's Day  
 from Called to Care*



as my day off. My time with you is further expanded by evening committee meetings, afternoon visits and Saturday events as they unfold in our life together. My office email is [revclara@crucc.org](mailto:revclara@crucc.org). And my phone 703-208-1166 has an answering machine (I know, old fashioned) where you can leave messages. I do go to bed early because I get up very early to get up to Middletown. However, I will respond to messages.

Let us have the courage in this time of uncertainty to take the words of the Apostle Paul to the church of Rome to heart: *But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Romans 8:25.*

Grace and Peace  
Rev. Clara

## Graduates

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

**Connor Christian Austin**, son of Dana and Bill, graduated from Middletown High School. He plans to attend Frederick Community College in the Fall to pursue studies in the Business Administration Program.

**Emma Bittle**, daughter of Lynn and David, graduated from Middletown High School.

**Tim DeLloyd**, son of Terri, graduated from Saint John's Catholic Prep in Buckeystown. He will be a member of the Honors College at Towson University in the fall, enrolled as a mathematics major.

**Caleb Hughes**, son of Kim, and grandson of Jean and Bob Galey, graduated from Friends Meeting School. Caleb will be attending Capitol Technology University in DC.

**Kylie Gorman**, granddaughter of Richard Kefauver, is a Middletown High School Graduate this year. Kylie currently works at The Valley School as an Aid in the preschool & daycare. She plans to go to school to become a certified preschool teacher.

**Katelyn Krapf**, daughter of Felicia & Andrew and granddaughter of Jean Frock graduated from Tuscarora High School. Her plans are to attend Goucher College.

**Grace Kroener**, daughter of Joe, graduated from Damascus High School and plans to attend Montgomery College in the fall.

**Griffin Kroener**, daughter of Joe, graduated from Damascus High School and plans to attend Montgomery College in the fall.

**Jordan Long**, daughter of Krista, graduated from Middletown High School.

**Cameron Lewis Nevel**, grandson of Ed and Anita Link, graduated from Washingtonville High School. He was Class President, Defensive Soccer star and Honor Student Cameron will continue his education at Northeastern University in Environmental Engineering.

**Owen Noble**, the son of Julie and Donald, graduated from Middletown High School. He played football all 4 years, was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes all 4 yrs and was Officer for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes his Senior year. He was accepted to the University of Kentucky and the University of Mississippi. He is currently undecided where he will study but he plans to study Criminal Justice and hopes to one day become a Detective.

### COLLEGE GRADUATES

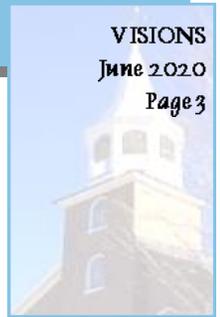
**Robert Corey Bays**, grandson of Diane Holter and son of John and Tracie Bays, graduated from Randolph Macon College with a degree in Communications.

**Mykenzie Clifton**, great-granddaughter of Janice Beachley, granddaughter of John and Marcia Bowers, and daughter of Scott Montgomery, graduated from Oregon State University with her Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree.

**Andrew Corl** completed his Master's Degree in Environmental Biology from Hood College in January 2020. He is employed as a Safety Officer with Leidos Biomedical Research at the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research.

**Congratulations to all of our 2020 graduates. We wish you all love and happiness.**  
~from Called to Care





**KATHLEEN'S KORNER:**

I still believe laughter is the best medicine (these are actual church bloopers)



- At the evening service tonight, the topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday in the church. Music will follow.
- This evening at 7pm there will be a hymn sing in the park across from the church. Come early and be prepared to sin.

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- ◆ Please join us for Children's Church/ Sunday school each Sunday through Zoom at 9am. Link sent out each week.
- ◆ All who are interested, please join us Sunday evenings at 5pm for our next study. If interested please contact David Grieger at [griegerdavid@gmail.com](mailto:griegerdavid@gmail.com).

*Operating Finances*

2020 Operating Finances Year-to-Date – APRIL 30, 2020

	Actual Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses	Variant
Operating	\$151,682.67	\$128,983.00	\$122,189.29	\$29,493.38
Children's Center	\$178,328.22	\$272,129.24	\$210,796.16	-\$32,467.94
Global	\$330,010.89	\$401,112.24	\$332,985.45	-\$2,974.56

*Thank You Notes*

I am so blessed to belong to this church! Cards with loving notes that I received after the passing of my dear sister Thelma are greatly appreciated. We had a family service and a regular service for her husband Mehrle in January. Suzanne Morris did a beautiful job for Thelma at Mt. Olivet in April. Only eight immediate family members could attend due to COVID19.

~Thank you, Josie



A very special and heartfelt thank you from me, for the lovely cards and kind expressions of sympathy you have sent on the passing of my mother, Anne. It has been difficult not being able to thank you in person, or give you hugs! I miss you all so very much. I am blessed to have the love and friendship of my church family. God Bless You.

~Sue Wickless

Dear Friends,

We have been overwhelmed by your prayers, cards and remembrances of Lewis. We have enjoyed your delicious food, the phone calls and the generosity of spirit that has been sent our way. What is missed most is the chance to say 'thank you' with a touch, a hug and a tear or two. I hope that will be sooner than later. We will be patient until it is safe to do so. Our church family is a very caring community and I have been cared for very well. With thanks for your many blessings and kindnesses.

~Diana Corl and family

*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

12 South Church Street  
P.O. Box 333  
Middletown, Maryland 21769  
[christreformeducc@comcast.net](mailto:christreformeducc@comcast.net)  
[www.crucc.org](http://www.crucc.org)

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
PERMIT 2202  
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](http://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.*

# BLESSING OF THE SEED SERVICE

Sunday, June 14th at 3:00pm  
Field of Hope Farm 11720 Wolfsville Road in Myersville

The Growing Project committee is looking forward to another successful year in 2020, raising funds for Growing Hope Globally. This is our thirteenth year of working toward helping our brothers and sisters in Africa, Central and South America, and southeast Asia rise out of hunger and poverty. We know we have made a real difference in the lives of many people around the globe. Please continue to support the Growing Project through your prayers, donations, and presence at our events throughout the year. This year we will be supporting the Colombia Sincelejo Montes de Maria program. Located in one of the regions of Colombia that was most affected by the drug-gang conflicts and violence of the early 2000's, this program focuses on increasing food security through improved agricultural practices and peace-building. Activities include agricultural training, community organizing, improving access to markets, and advocacy for victims of violence and displacement.



**GROWING  
HOPE**  
G L O B A L L Y

The *Blessing of the Seeds* event is held outdoors in a scenic grove at the Field of Hope Farm located along MD-17 about 6 miles north of Myersville. Please contact Linda DeLauder or Bill Steigelmann for more information at [linda\\_bill@comcast.net](mailto:linda_bill@comcast.net) or 301-293-3202.