

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

As we approach September, traditionally a high energy time of the church as new programming begins and people settle into their routines, we realize we do so with both anticipation and some anxiety. Here we are in September 2021 and the considerations of the COVID pandemic remain. The recent collapse of the government of Afghanistan coincides with the 20th anniversary of 9/11. And CRUCC anxiously awaits the news that a candidate has been chosen as the next settled pastor. Having named the points of anxiety, I hope we can concentrate on the anticipation aspect of September's arrival.

Your worship team is working on producing a filmed worship service commemorating the events of September 11th. It will be premiered on YouTube and Facebook on that day. It is a service of scripture, music and prayers organized under the theme of "Honor-Heal-Hope". We hope you will tune in to it at some point that weekend as we remember that life-changing event.

September 11 is also the Day of Service in Middletown where people of all faiths join to give a helping hand.

Our Contemporary Praise Service resumes on Sunday mornings on September 12.

The fall services will be focusing on themes presented in John Philip Newell's new book, "Sacred Earth Sacred Soul, Celtic Wisdom for Reawakening to What Our Souls Know and Healing the World". Each service will provide a time for interaction/conversation, prayer and plenty of praise music.

Kathleen is busy working on how she can bring back learning experiences in person and continue other learning experiences virtually. A Day Apart Retreat is on the planning board for the first Saturday in November with a theme "Joy". We plan anticipating being in person but realizing that the Delta Variant is active and plans might have to change.

The Reopening Committee meets weekly and assesses the statistical information about Delta spread in our area. As of this writing the % of fully vaccinated people in Frederick County is only 59.66%. We have to improve those numbers, or we will be spending this fall reacting to viral spread. Masks and vaccinations are the tools we have available to mitigate spread.

The Church Profile went active in February and we all thought that we would be talking about the new settled pastor by now. The Search Committee has been active and diligent. Unfortunately, there have been setbacks. The following is the most recent update:

Update on Settled Pastor Committee: The roller coaster ride continues as our latest primary candidate chose to end the candidacy with us and go elsewhere. The Committee is disappointed, yes, but continues its work. We have more candidates who have indicated interest in our church and the Committee will be interviewing and evaluating their candidacy. The Committee is committed to doing the work necessary to bring this to a successful conclusion. Our Conference Minister, Freeman Palmer has been very helpful to us and very encouraging. Please continue to pray for us and for those who might be considering CRUCC as their next place of ministry. As always, if you have any questions, please contact me, Jesi Bell-Godfrey at cruccsearchocommittee@gmail.com.

September is on the horizon. Let us look forward to it with anticipation and joy. Things haven't always turned out in the ways we thought they would, but it has been my experience that many times they have turned out in surprising and promising ways. Some of the things that raise our anxiety are things we can do something about. We can get

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September is back to school time.

Motivational quotes for you.

"Nothing is Impossible"

"Think big"

"Your only limit is your mind"



*Have a wonderful school year,
 from Called to Care*



our vaccines. We can wear our masks. We can give one another breathing room. We have put in ultraviolet lights on our air handlers to clean the air. We do have a sanitizing system to use after using our facilities.

CRUCC does have a dedicated group of people on the Search Committee working with interested candidates to promote this congregation as a wonderful place in which to serve in ministry. We do have sorrow when the anniversary of 9/11 comes around, but in our grief we also honor those who died that day and those who did what they could to save lives. Let us greet September in hopeful anticipation.

Grace and Peace

Clara

Plan Your Calendar

Christ Reformed UCC Church Presents

An Outdoor Concert

with Frederick Favorites
Andy Carignan and Brian Derek
featuring ANTE UP

Sunday October 24th, 2021
2:00-5:00pm

with Todd Walker as Emcee

Cost of tickets:
\$10 per person or \$20 per family
in case of rain the concert will be held in sanctuary
concert proceeds to benefit:



THE RELIGIOUS COALITION
For Emergency Human Needs
and the Emergency Family Shelter on Hayward Road in Frederick



BEYOND SHELTER
Embracing the Path Home

Ladies Only "Chill Night"
Red Lobster
Frederick, MD
September 17th @ 6:30pm
Come and enjoy fellowship and food. Add your name to the signup sheet in the Narthex by 9/13.

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS FOR TODAY

Book Study

Sundays (begins 9/12)
@ 5pm

Please contact Kathleen at kathleen.rogers1@comcast.net for the link.



joy

Day Apart Women's Retreat

Skycroft Conference Center
9621 Frostown Road
Middletown, MD

8am-4pm
11/6/2021

\$26 per person (Lunch included). Please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Narthex. Contact Kathleen for more info.



Midweek Bible Study

Wednesday Mornings @
8:00AM Via Zoom
with Pastor Clara



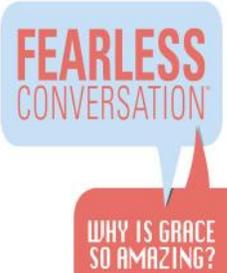
FEARLESS CONVERSATION

Women's Study

Weds (begins 9/8)
@ 7pm

Please contact Kathleen at kathleen.rogers1@comcast.net for the link.

WHY IS GRACE SO AMAZING?



Laughter is the Best Medicine:

- Why did the tiger eat the tight rope walker? *Ans: He wanted a well-balanced meal.*
- Knock Knock. Who's there? - Matthews. Matthews who? Matthews are wet. Can I come in and dry my socks?
- This one is from Jay "Why can't a skeleton play music in the church?" *Answer: Because they have no organs*



- ◆ **Sunday Evening Group** will resume on September 12th at 5pm. Contact Kathleen for the Zoom link.
- ◆ **Wednesday Evening Group** study to begin again on September 8th. Contact Kathleen for the Zoom Link. We will be doing a study on Fearless Conversation "Why Is Grace So Amazing". You can find the book on E-bay, it is a 13 week course. It is by Group with discussions from Acts, Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians and 1 Thessalonians. Book cost \$5. Sessions will start at 7pm. Hope to see you in the fall.
- ◆ **Needed:** aluminum cans (all sizes) for crafting projects. Please remove the paper and clean out the can.
- ◆ **Adult Sunday School** (that met off the chapel area) will resume on September 12th at 9:30am. *(things can change depending on the numbers and CDC guidelines)*
- ◆ **Youth Craft Day** September 19, from 12-2. We have some projects to get started on for the upcoming season. We will share some pizza and good fellowship, parents can attend.
- ◆ **Youth Sunday School Kick-Off/Pajama Day** back in our space upstairs will resume on September 12th at 9:30am. It will be our kick off, wear your pajamas day. We will have snacks and juice as we get reacquainted. Hope to see you there. *(things can change depending upon the numbers and CDC guidelines)*
- ◆ **Christian Ed Meeting** September 13, 2021 at 7pm (date change due to Sept. 6th being a holiday)
- ◆ **Donations Needed:** I am looking for donations for Ballenger Creek Middle School. As the Community Liaison I try to ensure that the students have some sort of nutrition when they come to me hungry. I am accepting donations of Juice boxes, Pop tarts (very popular), bottled water, rice krispy treats , fruit snacks, non- refrigerated yogurt packs. I will place a donation box in the parish house conference room labeled BCMS. Thank you for any support given.
- ◆ **80+ Bingo:** We hope to be able to resume our 80+Club in September (2nd Thursday of each month from 12pm-2pm). If you would like to attend, please give your name to Debbie at the church office, or contact Bunny at 301-662-8082. Everyone brings their own your lunch and Called to Care will provide beverage and dessert. Hope to hear from those who have attended and hopefully some new folks.



Thank You Note

Thank You

"Thank you to all for your words of comfort, thoughts and prayers online, by mail and in person after the passing of my mom, Sallie F. Spinks on April 29, 2021. I am grateful to belong to such a wonderful church family.
Blessings, Dinah

Operating Finances

2021 Operating Finances Year-to-Date – JULY 31, 2021

	Actual Income	Budgeted Expenses	Actual Expenses	Variant
Operating	\$203,273.47	\$265,004.53	\$206,025.73	-\$2,752.26
Children's Center	\$424,455.57	\$508,013.87	\$367,518.27	\$56,937.30
Global	\$627,729.04	\$773,018.40	\$573,544.00	\$54,185.04

*Christ Reformed
United Church of Christ*

Rev. Clara Young, Pastor

In Person & On-Line Worship
Sunday Worship 10:30am
Sunday Coffee Hour 11:30am

August Church Office Hours
Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm/Fri 9am-Noon
301-371-6610
Fax: 301-371-6912

12 South Church Street
P.O. Box 333
Middletown, Maryland 21769
christreformeducc@comcast.net
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 7:00am – 5:30pm
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.*

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

Saturday, September 11



VOLUNTEER

8:00am Continental Breakfast
(CRUCC Parking Lot)

8:30am Send Off
(CRUCC Parking Lot)

9:00am Job Sites until finished
(approx. 4 hours)
(Various Locations)

Volunteer Sign up Link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4EAAAAA2EAAF49-dayofservice_911
Contact Renee Brandenburg for more details.