

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.



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Inside Kyle's Head

Recently I attended a Black History Month celebration at which Kavonté Duckett, Frederick County council member from district 4, was introduced. He is the first Black person ever elected to County leadership (council or commissioners)! Also in attendance was a friend, Takesha Martinez, who a few weeks ago was appointed by Hagerstown City Council to be Mayor, the first Black person and only the second woman to serve in the role! (Hagerstown's previous mayor left for a position in the administration of Governor Wes Moore, the first Black person to serve as governor of our state.)

There was much rejoicing at these milestones in our community's and state's history, but also a recognition that it took far too long to reach this point, that there are far too few examples of Black people in leadership positions in our government, our schools, our communities. There are myriad reasons why, but now-former County Executive Jan Gardner and I had a chance last year to commiserate over one reason: Black, Latin, and other People of Color may move to our county and enter professions here, but they often don't stay and put down roots because they feel like they are, and always will be, treated as an outsider.

If there is any part of our community and county in a position to change that, it is the Church. God throughout the Old Testament repeats the instruction for us to "love the stranger", the outsider, for perhaps we know or remember what it is like to be the outsider. The writer of the epistle to the Hebrews suggests that we "show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13)

I would change one word there: we have an opportunity to embrace angels by being radically welcoming of the stranger, those who are new or different or otherwise unknown to us. This is what sets apart a church that is welcoming in a friendly sort of way to a church that is deeply welcoming of all people, no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey.

What might that look like for our church, in our community and county? What would it take for us to become educated in the culture and needs of people very different from ourselves? How would we change how we see and use the church facility? How would we offer other types or paths of faith and spiritual development?

I don't know what, exactly, that process of becoming involves or what it might end up as, but I think it is an interesting possible future. What do you think?

Kyle

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Order your Easter Flowers

Use the enclosed order form to honor or remember special family members, friends or an event with potted plants which will decorate our sanctuary on Easter morning.



**Deadline to order is
Monday, March 8.**

Be The Church Series

We continue with our monthly series on the "BE THE CHURCH" that we as UCC members speak so much about and hold as our claim as followers of Christ. On March 26 during worship, Melissa Miller will present a segment on "Protect the Environment".

Coffee Hour Hosting Opportunities

We still have a few dates available if you would like to host Coffee Hour. Please check the schedule on the bulletin board in the Narthex if you are interested.

Book Club

Our Book Club will meet at Fratelli's at noon on Tuesday, March 28th to discuss Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt. Please contact Charlotte Hanson at hansonc3306@gmail.com for more information. New members are always welcome!

One Great Hour of Sharing

One Great Hour of Sharing is an offering that makes the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship. This offering is taken by all Christian denominations and supports more than 100 relief projects around the world. This year's OGHS offering is on Sunday, March 19th. You can place your offering in the offering plate or simply send a check to the church and note it "OGHS."

Congratulations to the New Consistory Officers

- ◆ President: Laura Fontaine
- ◆ Vice President: Renee Brandenburg-Huffer
- ◆ Secretary: Gail Johnson

Thank you for your willingness to serve your church during this coming year.

Boards/Committees Update

Thank you to all the people that have volunteered to serve on a Board or a Committee. We still have open positions available on the Property Board, Discipleship Board, Children's Center Board and Stewardship Committee. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Laura Verdi or view the information in this link: <https://tinyurl.com/yc3ub475>.

Church & Ministry Survey

The Church and Ministry Committee recently sent out a Congregational Survey requesting your feedback regarding the leadership of Pastor Kyle and the current direction of our church. Please return your completed survey back to the church by March 10th. Please contact Debbie in the church office if you did not receive a survey.

Share Your Palm Plant

Palm plants are needed to decorate the sanctuary for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. If you are able to share your palm plant(s), please bring them to the church sanctuary the week before Palm Sunday.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Parish Life Board will host an Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 5th grade on Saturday, April 8th, from 2 to 3:30pm. We will meet in the Social Room for some activities, followed by the hunt. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for names and ages of those planning to attend. Donations of plastic eggs and small wrapped candies, stickers, etc are appreciated for the egg hunt on April 8th. They can be placed in the box in the narthex by April 2nd. Thank you.

Ladies Luncheon

The Parish Life Board is organizing a Ladies Lunch to be held on Sunday, March 19 at Tapia's on Main. We will meet there at noon. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex or call the church office by March 12 so we can reserve some space.

Disaster Relief Fundraiser

To encourage donations to the UCC Disaster Relief efforts in Türkiye and Syria, Mary Garwood is making a most generous offer. The first 12 donors making a minimum donation of \$45 can choose from one of a series of collages Mary has made. Each collage is a one-of-a-kind piece, and all are on display in the chapel. To make a donation, send or drop off your donation at the church office, and let Debbie know which number collage you are taking (the numbers are on a sticker on the bottom of the frame). All donations will be sent to the Global H.O.P.E. department at the UCC national office, and from there will go directly to relief efforts on the ground in Türkiye and Syria.



Ladies Chill Night

Red Lobster
3/24 @ 5:30pm

*Come and enjoy fellowship and food.
Add your name to the signup sheet in
the Narthex by 3/22. Contact the church
office for more details.*

Guys Night Out



Main Cup
3/20 @ 6pm

Join us for fellowship & food.
If you plan to attend, please RSVP
to Bob Galey at robertgaley@hotmail.com
or text or call 301 712-8022.



Monday
3/6 @ 6:30pm
Main Cup

God on Tap is an opportunity for
members and friends of CRUCC to
gather to come to know each other
and to wrestle with some of life's
great (and small) questions.

.....on Tap!

For more information, please contact
Christine Fontaine de Servellon at
97cfontaine@gmail.com.

Online
Lectionary Based Bible Study
8am Wednesdays w/Pastor Kyle



Contact Kyle at kyle.crucc@gmail.com
for the Zoom Link.

The 80+ Club

Lunch, Bingo & Fellowship

March 9
Noon to 2pm
Coffee Hour Area

Add your name to the sign up
sheet or contact the church
office.

B I N G O					
5	18	27	24	21	
1	42	28	2	23	
11	13	★	7	34	
10	8	29	36	8	
44	6	43	31	13	

B I N G O					
22	14	5	16	13	
2	27	36	40	10	
8	44	★	13	17	
7	11	4	1	18	
24	21	34	42	39	



Downstairs Discussion Group
Sundays @ 9:15am Social Room
Contact Bill Steigelmann at 240-490-5880 for more information.

COURTNEY JOSEPH
with Beverly Wise

Ecclesiastes
Wisdom for Living Well
AN IN-DEPTH BIBLE STUDY

Women's Study Group
Wednesdays @ 7pm via Zoom
Contact Sue Wickless at
saw114@comcast.net for more info



Service of Installation of
Rev. Kyle Powderly

**Sunday
April 30**



MORE DETAILS TO COME



Children's Center Highlights

This past month we had the pleasure of serving in the Frederick Soup Kitchen. We had 4 staff members, Ms. Patty, Pre-k teacher, Ms. Emma and Ms. Kristin, School Age Teachers and Ms. Missy, Director, who served 74 hot meals to the community. The center also enjoyed their Valentine's Day card exchange with friends on Tuesday, February 14th. Thank you to all the parents who came and helped. We also want to say Thank You to Hannah Koops, mother of a child in our Pre-K class, who is a dental hygienist. Hannah came in to talk to the Preschool and PreK class about dental hygiene to celebrate Dental Week.





Below is a list of current members that we are unable to locate. If you have contact information for any of these Members, please contact Debbie in the church office. Thanks!

Sherri Bentzel
Wesley Bidle
Betsy Boyce
Bonnie Boykin
Jake Boykin
Elizabeth Brewer
Deborah Brown
Jonathan Burket
Caitlyn Cartlidge
Emily Cartlidge
Maribeth Champoux
Kevin Clements
Misty Clements
Elizabeth Cofrancesco
Jon Cofrancesco
Stacey Collins
Jessica Cone
Mandy Cook
Todd Crum
Andrew Dahlen
Laura Dahlen
Peggy Dahlen
Sarah Dahlen
Brett Deavers
Mike Deavers
Brooke Deavers
Hollie Divel
Barbara Eccard
Joseph Forsythe
Katelyn Forsythe
Cheryl Fox
Kenneth Fox
Kevin Fox
Wendy Frazier
Lynn Gartrell
Courtney Geiser
Larry Geiser
Sarah Gentile

Brenda Gipe
Gary Gipe
Joanne Harstad
Joni Hector
Nicholas Herrmann
Shelley Hicken
Chris Huffman
Eric Jones
Sam Jones
Terry Jones
Lynette Kaufmann
Joyce Kefauver
Mary Kefauver
Erin Kelly
Jennifer Kinsey
Karl Koops
Martin Kriete
Jill Latterner
Cathy Lepine
Margaret Lewis
Taylor Long
David Lowman
Lauren Lowman
Tyler Martin
Jillian McLaughlin
Alex Mekkelson
Karen Moberly
Mykenzie Montgomery
Bernard Murphy
Kathy Murray
Chelsea Nutter
Perry Nutter
Kaitlyn O'Brien
Pauline Reeder
William Remsberg
Lois Rhoderick
Katlin Rogerson
Heather Rudisill

Kara Rudisill
Judy Rye
Stephanie Rye
Vic Rye
Jack Saunders
Gloria Schroeder
Laura Schultz
Andreas Schwarz
Valerie Schwarz
Ted Scott
Janelle Shank
Debbie Simpson
Kevin Simpson
Robin Smyers
Terri Stork
Jean Stout
Denise Stull
Douglas Stull
William Thurman
David Tucker
Phillip Tucker
Sarah Tucker
Nathan Vallette
Heather Vollmer
Tiffany Vollmer
Christine Ward
Daniel Warren
Joshua Weichert
John Wickhizer
Dakotah Wiles
Grace Wood
Eric Young
Kristin Young
Amy Zecher
Lisa Zecher
Scott Zecher

Operating Finances Year to Date (Ending January 31, 2023)



CRUCC	Actual Jan 01,2023 -Jan 31,2023	Actual This Year to Date	Budget Remaining This Year to Date
Revenues			
Offering Income	\$ 54,021.23	\$ 54,021.23	\$ (20,992.52)
Investment Income	\$ 4,806.57	\$ 4,806.57	\$ (4,806.57)
Other Income	\$ 4,110.43	\$ 4,110.43	\$ 972.49
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 62,938.23	\$ 62,938.23	\$ (24,826.60)
Expenses			
Compensation Expenses	\$ 19,174.02	\$ 19,174.02	\$ 2,993.60
Operating Expenses			
Worship-Related Expenses	\$ 1,129.41	\$ 1,129.41	\$ (337.75)
Education-SS/CCCC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 375.00
Office & Supplies	\$ 2,398.85	\$ 2,398.85	\$ (319.61)
Utilities	\$ 4,887.07	\$ 4,887.07	\$ (2,120.41)
Building & Property	\$ 23,261.23	\$ 23,261.23	\$ (16,761.23)
Equipment Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 208.33
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<i>\$ 31,676.56</i>	<i>\$ 31,676.56</i>	<i>\$ (18,955.67)</i>
Ministry Expenses			
Ministry - Outreach	\$ 2,296.00	\$ 2,296.00	\$ (204.34)
Ministry - Boards & Committees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 562.50
<i>Total Ministry Expenses</i>	<i>\$ 2,296.00</i>	<i>\$ 2,296.00</i>	<i>\$ 358.16</i>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 53,146.58	\$ 53,146.58	\$ (15,603.91)
Net Total	\$ 9,791.65	\$ 9,791.65	\$ (9,222.69)

CCCC	Actual Jan 01,2023 - Jan 31, 2023	Actual This Year to Date	Budget Remaining This Year to Date
REVENUE			
Operating Income	\$ 87,337.99	\$ 87,337.99	\$ (7,091.76)
Investment Income	\$ 6.56	\$ 6.56	\$ (6.56)
Other Income	\$ 140.40	\$ 140.40	\$ 626.27
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 87,484.95	\$ 87,484.95	\$ (6,472.05)
EXPENSES			
Compensation Expenses	\$ 52,316.87	\$ 52,316.87	\$ 13,079.35
Operating Expenses			
Program Expenses	\$ 4,155.45	\$ 4,155.45	\$ 1,844.57
Education-SS/CCCC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Office & Supplies	\$ 1,613.40	\$ 1,613.40	\$ 1,153.27
Utilities	\$ 562.28	\$ 562.28	\$ (312.28)
Building & Property	\$ 5,106.42	\$ 5,106.42	\$ 951.91
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00	\$ 210.67
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<i>\$ 11,518.55</i>	<i>\$ 11,518.55</i>	<i>\$ 4,098.14</i>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 63,835.42	\$ 63,835.42	\$ 17,177.49
Net Total	\$ 23,649.53	\$ 23,649.53	\$ (23,649.54)



LAYREADERS

March 5 Dick Burd
March 12 Bunny Cramer
March 19 Andrew Corl
March 26 Gail Johnson

USHERS

March 5 Pat Joy, Nancy vom Lehn
March 12 Laura Verdi, Nancy vom Lehn
March 19 Wendy Campbell, Debbie Locke
March 26 Linda DeLauder, Bill Steigelmann

ALTAR FLOWERS

March 5 Sue Wickless
March 12 Bunny Cramer
March 19 TBD
March 26 Margaret Brandenburg

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

March 5 Mary & Griff Garwood
March 12 Laura & Tony Verdi
March 19 Jean & Bob Galey
March 26 Discipleship Board

CHILDREN'S STORY

March 5 Amanda Murphy
March 12 Meagan Fogle
March 19 Edward Fontaine
March 26 Kyle Powderly

PSALMIST

March 5 Nate Miller
March 12 Isaac Cummings
March 19 Scott Fogle
March 26 Alice Barnet

Church Attendance

JANUARY 2022

	8:15 am	10:30 am
January 1	N/A	58
January 8	32	59
January 15	17	60
January 22	22	50
January 29	24	49

Pancakes with the Pastor



Officer Installation

Each year we recognize and install the new members of our Consistory, Boards and Committees. On Sunday, February 5th we affirmed their leadership at both services.

*Christ Reformed
United Church of Christ*
Rev. Kyle Powderly, Pastor

In-Person
8:15am Contemporary Worship
In Person & On-Line Worship
Traditional Worship 10:30am

1st & 2nd Sunday
Coffee Hour 9:30am

3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays
Coffee Hour 11:30am

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

12 South Church Street
P.O. Box 333
Middletown, Maryland 21769
christreformeducc@comcast.net
www.crucc.org

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PERMIT 2202
Frederick, Maryland 21701

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Christ Church Children's Center

Mrs. Missy Payne, 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.*

Sunday, April 6th Palm Sunday @ 8:15am & 10:30am

On this day we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

Thursday, April 6th Maundy Thursday @ 7:00pm

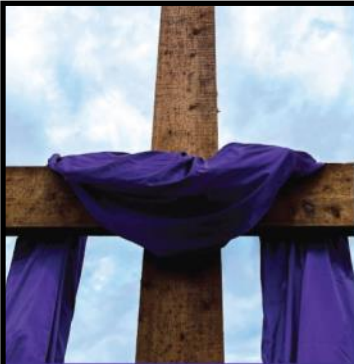
"Is it I, Lord?" was the question asked by each of the disciples at the last supper when Jesus said that one of them would betray him. It is a question that still resonates today and serves as the backdrop for our Maundy Thursday gathering. We'll share communion as part of the service.

Friday, April 7th Good Friday @ 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

The story of Christ's crucifixion is humbling and has very personal meaning for each of us. On Good Friday the church's labyrinth will be set up in the chapel between 1:00 and 6:00pm. You are invited to use it as an aid in journeying into the mystery of Christ's death.

Sunday, April 9th Easter Sunday @ 6:30am, 8:15am & 10:30am

We'll celebrate Christ's resurrection at three services of worship. We'll gather for sunrise in the gazebo in the cemetery. This service will start at 6:30am. Following the service the Parish Life Board will host a continental breakfast in the Coffee Hour Space. We'll then celebrate worship with communion at our 8:15am and 10:30am services.



*Holy
Week*