



CHRIST CHURCH

A GLOBAL METHODIST COMMUNITY



Matt's Meanderings

Lent & Torah

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength."

Deuteronomy 6:5 (CEB)

"...you must love your neighbor as yourself; I am the Lord."

Leviticus 19:18 (CEB)

Lent is the 40-day preparation for Christians as we approach Easter Sunday. Easter needs no further explanation for most; it is the day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ three days after his death. He once and for all conquers death and the grave so we might be set free from our sin and embrace life everlasting.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, when we remind ourselves of our mortality. We also remind ourselves that in Jesus Christ we are more than just dust. We have been created in God's image (Genesis 1:27) and, through Christ's resurrection, we're able to live into that image by God's grace.

In our 2026 Reading Plan, we find ourselves deep into Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Not exactly fun or easy reading; but important reading. In Leviticus we're reminded of the importance of worship and how God expects his people to approach him in holiness of heart and life. Leviticus reminds us that how we approach God matters and that he is willing to tell us exactly what he expects. We must remember, however, that some of those expectations have changed because of Christ. He is the ultimate atonement for sins. His death, resurrection, and ascension cleanses us, which was much of the goal of the commandments in Leviticus before Christ came.

In Numbers we see, quite literally, how God is blessing his people through multiplication. God's people grew in numbers and their capacity for blessing the world around them grew as they did. In the same way, we are called to multiply and make disciples of Jesus Christ. We are called to grow as individuals through sanctification, as a community through fellowship and accountability, and as part of a world-wide denomination in the Global Methodist Church seeking to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe.

We have the *Shema* in Deuteronomy 6:4. That, coupled with Leviticus 19:18 above, encompass the two Great Commandments: Love God and love others. Or, as we understand it, "Connect with God and Connect with others." Let us lean into love during this Lenten season so that we might greet Easter morning with joy and thanksgiving!

God bless!



Matt

March



2026

CHURCH CONTACT INFO:

Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs; 8am-2pm

Address:
716 Cave Mill Road
Bowling Green, KY 42104

Phone Number:
270-842-4343

E-Mail Address:
info@christchurchbg.org

Web Page:
www.christchurchbg.org



Contact info for Pastor Matt:

Cell phone
270-719-2389

Email
seelrev@gmail.com



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

♥ Spreading Love to Our Community

We are so proud of our kids! They colored and donated 100 Valentine's cards to be distributed to local nursing homes. What a beautiful way to share God's love with our neighbors who may need some extra encouragement. Thank you to all the children who participated in this special outreach!



Angie

📖 March Activities

Children's Bible Study

Join us for Children's Bible Study on **March 8 and March 22** beginning at **5:30 PM**. We'll start with a meal together, followed by fun, age-appropriate Bible lessons and activities. It's a wonderful opportunity for kids to grow in their faith and build friendships!

Palm Sunday Celebration

On **March 29**, we celebrate Palm Sunday! The children will wave palms in **both services** as we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. If you'd like your child to participate, please plan to attend either service that morning.

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School

May 31 - June 3

Start thinking about ways YOU can volunteer!

VBS is one of our biggest events of the year, and we need volunteers to make it happen! Whether you can help with games, crafts, Bible Story, music, or set-up, there's a place for you. More details and sign-up information coming soon!





Michael

YOUTH MINISTRY



I am so proud of all our youth. Youth Sunday is a great deal of work for the students in our ministry and yet they always handle that pressure with grace and seriousness. I think you will agree that our youth led us in beautiful worship. I give thanks to and for each of them and their willingness to lean into their own God given talents and skills.

I am also proud of our youth who came out on February 13th and helped with the Valentine's Baby-Sitting Date Night. Our youth had their hands full keeping up with the kids who came out for three hours. They were exhausted when they were done but they did a wonderful job of loving and having fun with these kids.

As we look ahead to March, I am looking forward to a more normal Sunday Night Gathering and Wednesday Night Dinner and Discipleship schedule where we can really start to dig into study and discipleship. In March we will be continuing in the Minor Prophets on Sunday and with our study of spiritual disciplines on Wednesday.

Our next big event will be March 20th when we will gather at 7pm for an all-night lock-in. This night will be filled with silly games, worship, sleep deprivation for the adults, and of course, fun! This is an on-site event and is a great event for inviting friends. Maybe your student has a friend that doesn't have a church home or a youth ministry they are already involved with. Invite them to our lock-in.



CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

I recently attended the Worship Together conference in Nashville focused on remembering and reflecting on God's faithfulness in our lives so that we can move forward in a spirit of deeper worship and connection with our Creator. During one of the sessions, pastor Darren Whitehead delivered a message that compelled me to evaluate the state of my own heart in worship. The main theme of his sermon was the idea that how we assess the weight of our personal sin has a direct correlation with the depth and authenticity of our worship.

I thought it very applicable this Lenten season to remember, as Romans 3:22-24 reminds us that "The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe, since there is no distinction. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus."

All have fallen short. HOWEVER, there is redemption - payment for sin and bondage - that is offered through Jesus. If we give the proper weight to our personal sin and depravity and spend less time attempting to justify ourselves and redirect blame, we can begin to appreciate more deeply the restoration that is offered through the grace and mercy of God. How much greater does the good news of the gospel become in our lives? In our workplaces and in our homes? In our worship?

We are an imperfect people living in a broken world, but we have a perfect Savior who brings hope, healing, and restoration. As we worship through Lent, I encourage us to lift up praises to God who would die for us... while we were yet sinners.

God Bless

THE LEARNING TREE

Looking for a way to serve? Have a book you love or that was a favorite for the little ones in your life? Sign-up to come read to the students in our PDO program! We will have story time at **10:40am on Tuesdays**. There is a sign-up sheet on the rolling board. We are also in need of subs on Tuesdays and Thursdays! Please reach out to Abby Seel if you are willing to sub. She would love to match your skills and needs to the perfect class! Email Abby at pdoatthelearningtree@gmail.com



Nick

In Christian Sympathy

Our Deepest Condolences are given to:

The Rose Davis Family on the passing of her sister, Margaret King

The Hall Family on the passing of Lorenzo Hall Jr.

The Douglas Family on the passing of Johnny Douglas

In Memory of Lorenzo Hall Jr.

Don and Margaret Johnston

In Memory of Johnny Douglas

Woody and Becky Harrell



SATURDAY MEALS

A big "thank you" to our volunteers who helped with MEALS on Saturday, February 7, when over 200 meals were prepared and delivered to community members. Special recognition to Nancy Pollock, who pulled triple duty: Panera pick-up, preparing meals, and delivering them! We appreciate Nancy's and all of our volunteers' great work ethic, service, and dedication. You represent our church so well!



Looking ahead, Christ Church's next scheduled Saturday for MEALS is [May 16](#), so please mark your calendars. If you are interested in volunteering, please call or text Sean Kinder at 270-996-0890. We hope you will join us as we help those who are in need, serving the Lord as we serve others.

Thank you very much,



Sean & Val Kinder

MOUNTAIN MISSION

The next Mountain Mission pick-up will be on March 17th. Items can be dropped off after services on the 15th or during office hours on the 16th.



Urgent needs list:

- Men's, Women's & Children's
- Winter Coats, Winter Shoes, and Belts
- Men's Shoes
- Men's Summer Clothes
- Yarn
- Pots & Pans
- Uniforms & Scrubs
- Whatnots (collectible and homey things)
- Men's, Women's & Children's
- Socks and Underwear
- Purses
- Prom Dresses
- Quilt Pieces
- Caps
- Gloves
- Scarves

FAITH FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry Needs for month of March include:

- Canned soups (Cream soups, chicken noodle and Chunky soups)
- Canned Fruits (Peaches, Mandarin Oranges, Pineapple, Fruit Cocktail, Pears)



FEED THE NEED FOOD DRIVE

United Way of Bowling Green is sponsoring the annual FEED THE NEED Food Drive on Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29. Our Food Pantry has been selected as one of their recipients again this year. This donation helps us tremendously. We normally receive 25-30 boxes of food from this event.

In order to be a recipient, we need to provide them with volunteers to help collect food items from local grocery stores and to sort items at the collection site. If you could possibly spare a few volunteer hours on either of the above listed dates (March 28 and 29) to pass out flyers and collect food at local grocery stores or to work at the collection site, please see, call or text Sharon Dillard (270-779-4279).

THANK YOU for your ever-present support of our Food Pantry and all of our Outreach Ministries.



Sami Says



“Confession Is Good For the Soul”



Sami

I have a confession. It’s hard being human. I want to show up for life available to the needs around me, blessing the people around me, and influencing the world around me in positive ways. But every single day I can find multiple ways that I fail. I’ve been doing this faith-walk a long time. I think I should be better at it by now. I remember wistfully the pastor who said to me early in my ministry, “People think they are holy when really they are happy.” It offended me then. Now I understand.

Earlier this week I was praying in the sanctuary, listening to Andrew Peterson sing “Is He Worthy.” His words just washed right through me: “Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?” None of us are that, but Jesus is. He alone is worthy, whole, and able to bring the power of Heaven to the dustiness of earth. Paradoxically, to be reminded that I am not worthy sounds like good news. My spirit is weary with trying to be perfect. No matter how hard I try, there are and always will be times when I blow it. This is what it means to be human.

So what are we to do with this conundrum? Our church doctrine asks us to pursue perfection. And yet perfection seems so far out of reach. I want to offer this for those who are tired of chasing the idol of perfectionism: Sanctification and perfectionism are not the same. Jesus is the only One who is perfect. But my confession and recognition that I too am a sinner in need of a Savior is the beginning of the perfecting work of the Holy Spirit. When I admit to being what I am—flawed, and flailing, incomplete and insufficient, and most of all in complete denial of the reality of my sin and the need it creates—I find restoration and relief. When I get to that confession, it’s like Jesus gently says, “Dear child, let me take it from here.”

The good news is that I don’t have to do His job. My job is to receive His grace, to remember that I need it, and then to share it. So let us do that in this season of Lent. Let us lean into confession. And then let us receive the grace that is offered from Jesus who knew we needed it all along and offers it freely. Confession is the doorway to grace.

Did you miss Network, the Spiritual Gifts seminar, the first time but really want to be a part of discovering how God has uniquely designed you to serve within the church? We are offering it during the Sunday School hour! Sign up now! Cost is \$10 for course materials. Meeting dates are May 3rd-June 7th. All ages welcome! To register, contact Pastor Sami at sami@christchurchbg.org.

MARCH

Birthdays

3/1 Kelly Lovell	3/18 Makenna Twyman	
3/5 Michael Romans	3/23 Randy Hanes	3/26 Laura Elizabeth Orr
3/10 Tom Willis	3/23 Sean Kinder	3/27 Amy Berry
3/13 Ron Wilson	3/23 Dave Pollock	3/28 Zoe Heckman
3/14 Joan Krenzin	3/24 Liliana Bull Di Gaetano	3/28 Molly Turner
3/16 Nora Seel	3/24 Elijah Truelove	
3/17 Linda Tidwell	3/26 Daisy Wilkerson	



Stewardship and Attendance



Budget for the Year	\$686,309.81	Building Fund Received in February	
Needed Per Week	\$13,198.27		\$2,365
<u>Stewardship:</u>		<u>Attendance:</u>	
February 1	\$15,149.40	February 1	120
February 8	\$18,653.25	February 8	239
February 15	\$10,942.00	February 15	220
February 22	\$week not ended	February 22	225

Sunday Worship Times

Traditional Service 8:45 am
Sanctuary

Sunday School 10:00 am

Contemporary Service 11:00am
Family Life Center

Watch Online

<https://www.christchurchbg.org/online/>

Past Services

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA_hizimRxR-kTXwdpEMkOw?



CHRIST
STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matt Seel.....Lead Pastor
 Rev. Michael Romans Associate Pastor
 Rev. Sami Wilson.....Pastor of Congregational Care
 Angie Gordon..... Children’s Minister
 Abby Seel Asst. Children’s Min. & Learning Tree Dir.
 Lee Young.....Traditional Worship Leader
 Nick Winquist..... Contemporary Worship Leader
 Emily Romans..... Administrative Assistant
 Jeanie Orr Organist
 Bonnie HanesTreasurer
 April Taylor Nursery Supervisor
 Tiffany Baker.....Custodian



716 Cave Mill Road
Bowling Green, KY 42104