

Weekly Newsletter

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THE COVENANT PROJECT

Taken from disciples.org/covenant-project/:

The Covenant Project began more than three years ago as part of the work of Governance Committee of the [General Board](#) of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. When the Governance Committee met in retreat in the fall of 2019, they committed to the work of aligning the Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) with God’s design for the church and to claim the power and potential of covenant. To that end, the committee took two important steps: the first was the development of the [Covenant Curriculum](#), a small group resource

for congregations to explore their identity as covenantal partners in the wider church. The second was a process of a review of [the Design](#), with an aim to explore how the church’s structures and practices might shift to better serve the church, with two main areas of focus.

When the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) established The Design in 1969, much of the structures and practices were adapted from the existing structures. As our church has grown more expansive and diverse, we’ve made adaptations on the model. However, the changing composition of the church and a growing desire to have our structures reflect our commitment to be a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world means rethinking how we engage and relate to one another. Put simply, if we are going to be the church we say we are, we need to dismantle structures that aren’t working well and reimagine how we relate to one another as the body of Christ.

“Over the course of time, we want the General Board not to send things down, but to be listening from the bottom up. What is on the hearts of the people? And how do we want to proceed?”

— Rev. Terri Hord owens, 2022 Kirkpatrick conference

The goal is for each member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to understand the Covenant Project proposed changes and have the ability to provide feedback. [We encourage you to attend a Covenant Project town hall](#). Please take time to explore some of the Frequently Asked Questions about this process and its impacts.

First Christian Church will be hosting a hybrid viewing of one of these sessions on September 11th at 7:00 PM. Please take a look at the registration dates and times and choose one that will work best for you!

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PRAYER LIST



We lift up these names to God, in hopes that their needs will be met:

- ◆ Rose & Elton Gudvangen
 - ◆ Gwen Leckecmby
 - ◆ Phyllis Mead
 - ◆ Helen Ferrell
 - ◆ Shane Ferrell
- ◆ Yuri Schottenstein

OUR CURRENT SERMON SERIES!

The book of Revelation is one of the most intriguing, most feared and least studied book of the Bible. I will be starting a sermon series this week on the book of Revelation. The series will have 7 sermons over 10 weeks. We'll break up the series a little bit on 7/31, a worship service led by

the young people in August and a work day on Labor Day weekend. I hope these breaks will give you a little time to shift our thinking about the book.

There are only 2 things that you must take away from this sermon series. First is that there is

only one revelation. Often people call it Revelations, but it is only one Revelation. Second is love wins. If you don't come away with a new found appreciation for the book, at least know that in the end the God who is love wins.



The Seven Churches	Revelation 3:1-6	July 24th, 2022
Before the Throne of God	Revelation 4-5	August 7th, 2022
The Seven Seals	Revelation 6-8	August 14th, 2022
The Seven Trumpets	Revelation 8-12	August 28th, 2022
New Heaven and New Earth	Revelation 21:1-27	September 18th, 2022
The River and Tree of Life	Revelation 22	September 25th, 2022

EKY FLOODING: HOW CAN WE HELP?

Taken from weekofcompassion.org.

Last week, in eastern Kentucky, 8 to 11 inches of rain fell in just 48 hours, devastating communities that are still recovering from last year's record flooding. There have been 35 confirmed deaths, including young children. Most of the damage is in Hazard, Whitesburg, and Jackson.

These communities were also the first to respond in December 2021 when tornadoes devastated western Kentucky towns. And so once again, Disciples are asking 'How can we help?'

Disaster response is an immediate reaction and a long-term response; through Week of Compassion, Disciples are there the whole way.

Week of Compassion is also in touch with our ecumenical partners in affected areas, already at work on emergent needs of safety and shelter. These partners are already creating response plans rooted in community assets and partner relationships, and making preparation for long-term recovery in these communities.



'How can we help?'

We have three quick answers:

1. Stay in touch. We are grateful for Disciples who are eager to step in and volunteer; right now, in the first days and weeks, the situation is best left to professional responders. When our partners determine ways for volunteer response - and there will be many opportunities, for a long time to come - Week of Compassion will be ready to make those connections. We will keep you posted as plans develop. If you do not already [receive our emails](#), or [follow us on social media](#), now would be a great time!

2. Giving to Week of Compassion - designated 'US Storms' - brings Disciples alongside our partners as needs emerge and as long-term plans take shape. Gifts can be [made online](#), or by mail to Week of Compassion, PO Box 1986, Indianapolis IN 46206.

3. Remain steadfast in prayer - for our regional ministers and staff, for local pastors and their congregations, for first responders and local entities going about the work of caring for their communities, and for all those who give time, talent, and resource in response to a neighbor in need.



GLOBAL MINISTRIES MISSION DASH

Taken from runsignup.com.

Join Global Ministries for a 5K for climate justice!

Creation care efforts by international partners evolve with each natural disaster and shift in weather patterns. Partners cope with the negative impacts of climate change by protecting and nurturing the natural world, preserving resources, and seeking to ensure food security.

You are encouraged to walk, roll, run, jog, or spiritually sprint wherever you are! You may choose to do the 5K with neighbors, friends, family, church, or on your own. The cost is \$25 per person, and each registrant will receive a collapsible water bottle and magnet.

Throughout the 5K month of August, there will be opportunities to participate in advocacy actions in solidarity with international partners. Part of the registration fee will also support the work of international partners in their climate justice efforts and additional fundraising opportunities are available.

Registrants may do the 5K anytime between August 1 and August 31, 2022.

Additional race information can be found at <https://www.globalministries.org/global-ministries-mission-dash-5k/>.



2022 LAY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY PRESENTATION

The Lexington Theological Seminary is offering the 2022 Lay School of Theology presented by Dr. Jerry Sumney. The Lay School of Theology is a continuing education program for all who wish to enrich their Christian faith.

In this Lay School, we will examine how the Bible can speak to social issues today. We will talk about how to use what we find in the Bible to bring it to bear legitimately and consistently on questions and issues we face. We will then turn to the kinds of issues Scripture addresses,

such as economic policy and reproductive rights, among others, and examine them. We will also talk about how to discuss these issues in our churches.

When: Saturday, Sept. 10th, 17th, and 24th, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM EDT

Location: Online and In-Person
230 Lexington Green Circle,
Suite 300
Lexington, KY 40503

Registration Fee: \$60

Register: www.lextheo.edu/lay-school-of-theology

Contact Information: Dr. Wilson Dickinson
wdickinson@lextheo.edu

Please plan to attend all classes, as each lesson builds upon the preceding one.



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT NAME	EVENT DETAILS
Sat – Sun, 10/15-10/16	Disciples Women’s Ministries Fall Retreat	Location: Barren River Lake State Park This year’s theme is: “Women, Get Ready... Get Set... Connect!” Registration forms can be picked up from the church office or women can register online at ccinky.net . Folks should make lodging reservations with the state park.
Thurs-Sat, 11/03-11/05	Regional Assembly 2022	The Regional Church of Kentucky will gather in Georgetown this fall. The Assembly team is planning for a feast of workshops, fellowship, worship, and prayer. They are also preparing a digital assembly experience for those who cannot make it to Georgetown.

RECURRING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT NAME	EVENT DETAILS
Sundays 10:45 AM	Morning Worship	Join us in-person or from home during our live-stream!
Tuesdays 2:00 PM	Women’s Bible Study	Join the weekly Zoom call for a prayer and Bible study session! Please contact the church office for the Zoom link if interested.
Saturdays 5:00 PM	Community Dinner	We prepare and serve a community dinner every Saturday and are always looking for volunteers! Contact Sheri Jackson to get involved.

Welcome Wholly. Love Authentically. Share God's Grace

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Visit our website

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