

# REFLECTIONS

## MAGAZINE

*Becoming living proof of God's love,  
one person at a time.*



# PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Rev. Thom Brown, Associate Pastor

One of the most important questions that a pastor asks when he or she receives a new appointment is this, "How is the church impacting its community?"

The answer to this question tells a pastor a lot about the people he or she is sent to serve in love. It is more than just a litany of programs and attractions separated from the story of God's people. It becomes an opportunity to hear firsthand accounts of how the people of God are sharing the Gospel. This allows a pastor to discover and live into the mission and vision of the people that make up that faith community. As a pastor, we learn so much about the people we are sent to serve in love by hearing how they are serving and loving others. We learn what their passions are. We learn what breaks their hearts. We learn where the Holy Spirit has been leading them. These stories give us a bridge to the lives of our flock. So, we ask and listen excitedly to the answers.

That same question was one of the first that I asked when I was appointed to Christ Church a few months ago. The answer has, frankly, blown me away.

It has been a joy and a blessing to see the passion of God's people here at Christ Church. I have been amazed to see the heart of this church for those in need, for the outsiders, the outliers and the lost. From our communities on the west end, to our mission to Bless Children both inside and outside of our walls, you are making a difference in the lives of the people of Louisville. In the coming pages, you will hear about how the mission of this church is being lived out in the community. You will hear the firsthand accounts of how we are impacting our world. They are amazing. So, I want you all to hear them like I did.

It may be tempting to read these stories as something you have already heard. If you have lived in this faith community for a while, it may seem routine to you to see these kinds of impacts. You may have become used to them. The danger becomes that you might forget what makes this church so special.

I challenge you to read these pages with fresh eyes, hear these words with fresh ears and open your heart to see the way that God's people are moving in the community. Let this be an answer to your question: How are we impacting our community?

Rev. Thom Brown  
Associate Pastor

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REFLECTIONS MAGAZINE • *Making an Impact*  
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"I did this with God! That's the first thing Rebecca said when she approached the podium in a room stuffed with at least 200 people..." (Rebecca's Story, pages 12-15)

## BRIEFLY STATED

### Get Social

Be a part of demonstrating God's love through social media.



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@ChristChurchKY

### REFLECTIONS Magazine

Thank you to all of our contributors. Have you seen a group or individual *becoming living proof of God's love*? Have a story idea for *Reflections*? Contact [communications@ccum.net](mailto:communications@ccum.net).

**On the cover:** Christ Church Christmas concert 2017.

# BEHIND THE FESTIVAL OF STARS

By Katie Sanderson



Christmas lists are important; ask any 5-year-old what is on their Christmas list and be prepared for a list as long as the Constitution. Children start planning their Christmas lists on December 26 to ensure every little thing their heart desires is accounted for.

Adults plan with lists of a different kind. We plan for Christmas dinners, twinkle lights on the trees and memorable gifts for those we love.

What if, instead of lists with Peppa Pig, yard inflatables and candied yams, our lists included wants like sliding scale dental work, 25 additional units for an elderly living facility and a safe, inviting place for students to worship and grow in Christ on a college campus?

Not on your list? No, maybe not. But these are the exact items on the lists of organizations benefiting from Christ Church's Outreach and Justice Ministry.

Roughly 20 years ago, Frankie Turner founded the "Festival of Stars" at Christ Church. Each year, it has grown in size and scope to incorporate the support of the church and bless as many organizations as possible with as much as possible. Each year, the Festival works in two models: first, a Marketplace selling themed baskets, original artwork, homemade treats, handcrafted items and high-end donated items all procured by committee volunteers. The money raised in the Marketplace allows continued benevolence to the Outreach and Justice Ministry. Secondly, "stars" featuring wants and needs of the families Christ Church supports through the Outreach and Justice Ministry are available for those looking to bless these groups during the holiday season.

Last year, almost 500 gifts were distributed to children at the Portland Promise Center, Lighthouse Ministries, the Kentucky United Methodist Home for Children and Youth and Breckenridge Franklin Elementary School. Gifts were also

distributed to all residents of Wesley Manor and to refugee families that Christ Church has sponsored over the years.

This year, our church community has heard the call. Donations, volunteerism and organization of the event will prove to reach another level of support for organizations like Prodigal Ministries, Wesley Foundation, Open Door Ministries, The Healing Place, Wesley Manor and the Uganda Mission.

Through the support of the Festival of Stars and Christ Church, miracles are happening in our community. And not just Christmas miracles.

Randy, a recovering addict, has benefited from the support of Prodigal Ministries in a transformative way. Coming from a broken home in the southwestern corner of the state, Randy might have seemed destined for failure. Addicted to hard drugs by the age of 16, he received a 20 year jail sentence that he now refers to as a rescue. While in prison, Randy asked God to protect him. During his incarceration, Randy found Malachi Dads and started learning God's word and, better yet, God's plans. Today, Randy lives a full life as a master plumber with a wife and children. He even encouraged his brother to seek help through Prodigal Ministries and this year, Randy baptized him. God's plan of redemption and restoration is living proof in Randy and Prodigal Ministries.

Reagan, a student attending the Gathering through the U of L Wesley Foundation, had been raised in a religious home. After three years of on and off attendance, she began to struggle with the idea of the existence of God and stopped coming. After an extended period of absence, Reagan was drawn back to the Gathering, saying that she felt like a sheep that had gone astray. Reagan felt unworthy of God's love. Leaders at the Gathering continued to pray for and spent time with Reagan to encourage her on this journey. A few weeks later, Reagan

*This*  
**IS MY  
CHRISTMAS**

*List...*

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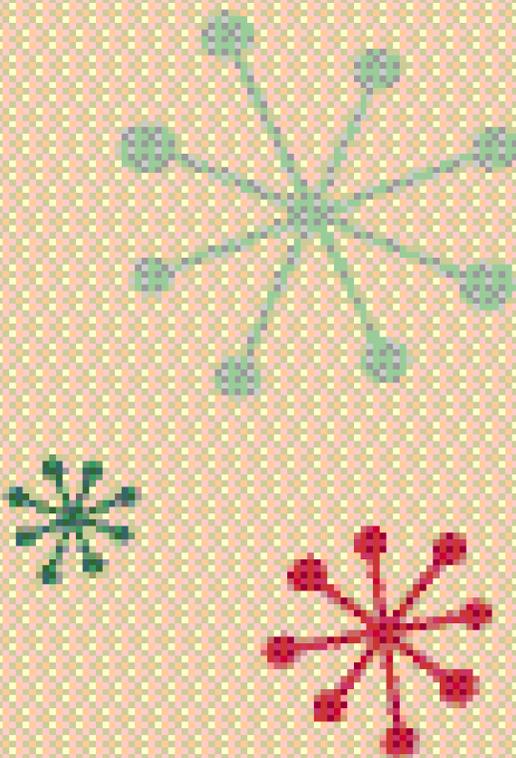
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gave her life to Christ. When asked “Do you believe that you are deeply loved by God?” Reagan smiled the smile of her life and replied, “Yes I do!” The Gathering supported Reagan through a time of question and trial to come to understand that she is completely worthy of the love of Jesus.

Open Door Ministries serves the poorest zip code in Kentucky. Serving up to 113 meals a day, 5 days a week, they realized the dining room was not handicap accessible. In response, they began making “To-Go” meals for those who could not eat in the dining room, but could still be blessed with a meal. One guest, Cecil, had been a walk-in guest. That is until COPD robbed him of his mobility and confined him to a wheelchair. Without the meals provided through Open Door, Cecil would have been in a very different situation. While he misses the companionship of the dining area, he always offers a, “Thank you, God bless you,” when given his meal. Christ Church’s support of The Open Door Ministry for over 20 years ensures that consistent, nutritious meals are provided to those who otherwise might not have them.

Stories like these are endless. You do not have to look far in our church community to find devoted volunteers, committee members, financial supporters and lovers of these programs. While Christ Church devotes our resources to supporting these organizations, these organizations and their recipients provide endless blessings to our church community.

Lists... the lists of possibilities the groups attain with our support is endless.

Goals for bigger facilities to serve more people, providing beds for orphans in a foreign country and even basic necessities like winter coats and gloves are goals important to these organizations and the people whom they serve.

Luckily, our list of support is simple; Give.

Through our church communities’ gifts of volunteerism, securing and providing donations and support from financial resources, we can ensure that stories like these continue on long after the Christmas lights come down.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the Festival of Stars, please contact Carol Powell at 303-6894 for more information.



# YOUTH IN ACTION

At the very beginning of Mark's Gospel, Jesus begins proclaiming God's Good News by saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand." Over the last year, the Youth Ministry at Christ Church has made a radical shift in the faith formation of youth by taking Jesus at his word and finding ways for teenagers to put the work of the Kingdom of God into their own hands.

If you poke your head into the Youth Center these days, you are less likely to see youth sitting in chairs and listening as a speaker teaches on a topic or a Bible study. Instead, you will more than likely see youth poring over the Scriptures, using resources such as commentaries and Bible dictionaries to discover

the meaning of the Biblical text for themselves. You might also see them putting their faith into their own hands by creating projects that help others, from t-shirt fundraisers to donation drives, to making their own podcasts. Or you might find them engaging in their own giftedness - whether it is baking, the care of animals, or even gaming - to launch new ministries that serve others.

## This project-based learning is at the heart of a new model for Christian formation.

It is based on the belief that we are not truly spiritually transformed when we passively receive information; rather, we are transformed when we actively

put our faith into action. For our Youth Ministry gatherings, we have incorporated capstone projects at the end of important seasons for groups of youth to share with others, to make an impact on the community and to learn to use their gifts for God. The results have been beyond our wildest imaginations.

Levi Lucas used his skills and interests as a videographer last spring to create a video Bible study based on some of the Scripture from Isaiah. The video was written, directed by and starred a whole crew of 7th graders. Another group of 6th graders created a skit based on the wilderness wanderings of the Israelites in the book of Exodus, which included a hilarious infomercial for "manna from heaven."

Some projects connected with the youth, leading them on a deep level. Reid Olash, who is now a freshman at the University of Kentucky, brought his group of high school friends the idea of using one of his t-shirt designs to raise money for the Portland Promise Center. The idea birthed the creation of *Love the Lord*, a clothing line founded on the principle of giving back. The original t-shirt they designed is an all-white shirt with a blue dove and "Love the Lord" emblazoned across the back. "This has been a dream my group has had for a while and it's crazy to see it all come together!" Reid shared in an email to the Youth Group to promote sales of the t-shirt. The t-shirts sell for \$20 and are available at [teespring.com/stores/lovetheford](https://teespring.com/stores/lovetheford).

The projects not only develop out of the giftedness of students, but also are born out of their experience. This was especially true for a small band of 6th and 7th grade guys who wanted to create a podcast to help comfort lonely boys. "We picked loneliness because most of us have been lonely at one point or another," said Drew Blosser, a member of the group. "We're introverts and we thought we should help people going through what we're going through." Allan Bagley, another member of the group, agreed, "The first thing we were really excited about was that this is for lonely people just like us."

Many of the projects arise out of a small group experience we offer to our youth. They gather in small groups of their peers and use a tool called "Holy Listening" to share with one another what is going on in their lives and where they feel God is leading them. As the groups grow together, we present them with this challenge: Find what it is God is calling your group to do to bring about the Kingdom here on earth. Then, go do it. If they want to partner with an organization, we can help to make contacts and reach out to people we know. If they



T-shirt designed by Christ Church youth and sold for a fundraiser.

need equipment, we reach into our networks of support and find what equipment we can get a hold of. But ultimately, the youth figure out what they want to do, who they want to help and it is up to them to make it happen.

"Small groups are good for us introverts," Allan said. The students like the opportunity to learn from their peers as well as the freedom to pursue their own interests and gifts. "Most of the time it is hard for us to talk about personal things with a large group but with a small group you have people you can talk to who you know won't share this information with everyone," Drew

said. Allan added, "When you're asked to do a project and given a few parameters, you can hone in on what you're really interested in as a group."

Matt Stoflet, another member of the group, described the small group projects as a bonding experience. "I learned that everyone has their own story and I learned that even though people have completely different situations than me, they have the same feeling of loneliness that I sometimes have."

Connection, belonging, sharing stories and growing closer together - these are just some of the intangibles



Youth brainstorming with Allyson Smith, former youth group member and current Youth Ministry leader.

we have seen as a result of project-based learning. In this model, we learn by doing, and so we have many tangible signs of growth as well: learning how to use recording equipment, graphic design, creating an online store, sharing media online and seeing a project from start to finish. Sometimes there are obstacles and sometimes even failures. These are learning experiences as well for students.

**The transformation is infectious and even adults volunteering with the Youth Ministry can see it.**

Allyson Smith is significantly involved as a volunteer for both the One Voice high school choir and Sunday night Youth Group. “The

youth were able to thoughtfully decide the group of people they wanted to make an impact on, and be creative in pursuing a loving response to the need they saw,” she observed. “This allows them the space to be vulnerable and crack open parts of themselves that may also need some love, while spreading light to others at the same time.” Indeed, the Kingdom of God is at hand.

For more information on our Youth Ministry, contact Leanne Hadley, Youth and Children’s Ministries, [leanne@ccum.net](mailto:leanne@ccum.net) or 893-2201 x236.





# REBECCA'S STORY

“ I did this with God.”

That's the first thing Rebecca said when she approached the podium in a room stuffed with at least 200 people. Rebecca was accepting her 365 day chip and she was beaming from ear to ear. So were her friends. So was I. I was honored to witness this extraordinary event on November 4, 2018. How did I get to be so lucky?

Almost a year ago, my small group of women decided we wanted to serve together in some way. Our church had launched two new communities in the west end and meals were needed. We agreed that we would take one of our monthly gathering times to take a meal to the Thursday community. We looked forward to serving a warm meal and participating with the community there. Our thinking was that this effort of planting new faith communities needed our support.

I have to admit that we didn't know what to expect. The group we had committed to feeding met at 25th and market in the Russell neighborhood. While it's just about a 15 minute drive from our building on Brownsboro Road, in our minds it seemed a world away. On top of that, this group that would eat the meal we prepared was made up largely of alcoholics and addicts. I've had a heart for people battling addiction since we started doing Maundy Thursday and Thanksgiving dinners with the men and women of The Healing Place. But how would they feel about us being there? A bunch of privileged women from the east end of Louisville?

I'm an introvert. New situations with people I don't know are near the bottom of the list of things I want to do on a Thursday evening... or any evening for that matter. But I also love helping people, and I wasn't doing it alone, so away we went. I had no idea then that I was about to encounter a group of people I would

soon be in love with.

My group has continued for the last year to serve meals monthly. But something, I now know it was the Holy Spirit, nudged me to go more often. Soon, I was attending every week.

## I didn't know why I wanted to be there. I didn't know why God wanted me there.

I didn't talk to many people when I was there. Before long, though, I started to recognize some faces. I slowly got to know them by things they shared with the group. Then I met Rebecca.

Rebecca doesn't know a stranger. She's bubbly and vivacious...both things that I am not. I came to know a number of things about Rebecca: she's from Eastern Kentucky, she has a full-time job in a box factory, she lives in a halfway house with other women, she likes hot dogs and the Kentucky Wildcats. She also works part-time at the YUM! Center and Cardinal Stadium. She has children, but they aren't with her.

I began to observe some things about Rebecca, too. She notices when someone isn't there. She's a problem solver. She doesn't make excuses for herself or her actions. Others look to her for guidance. She's a hugger. She's a leader. She's smart. She's a caretaker. And she has a very strong faith. I wanted to learn more.

When I asked Rebecca if she would share her story with me for a possible article for Reflections, she immediately said yes. She invited me to her house so that I could interview her. The House of Grace is on a quiet street in the Parkland neighborhood. The inside is cheerful and very girly, with pink and purple painted walls. I see several women I know from the Thursday gatherings.

It feels like a home.

In a soft, deliberate voice, Rebecca began to tell me her story. She was the second youngest of eight siblings, between her mom and dad (the day I was at Rebecca's house, she found out about two half-brothers she never knew about). Rebecca talked about her mom, and it is clear there is a lot of love there, but also pain. Rebecca lost her mom to cancer the summer before her senior year in high school. More about that later.

The house Rebecca grew up in was full of women. Rebecca says that's where she got her work ethic. They did everything...the yard work, the repairs.

Her mom, her grandfather and her uncle were all alcoholics. Functional, Rebecca shares, meaning they worked hard at their jobs, but when 5 pm came, they drank until the next morning. She was given alcohol at an early age: beer to flush her kidneys which were prone to infection and whiskey for other ailments. Sometimes Rebecca and her twin sister would poke holes in their mom's beer cans because they knew that whatever was in that can changed her. Other times, they would sneak drinks of their own.

When her mom, Gail, was diagnosed with cancer during Rebecca's junior year of high school, it was already stage four. Rebecca's older sisters began to take care of their mom during the day, and it was Rebecca's job to care for her at night. Rebecca was fully committed to her role as caretaker. Her mother loved the flower garden, but couldn't go outside to see it, so Rebecca would bring flowers inside for her. When Gail wanted to see the sunset at the lake one last time, Rebecca did the next best thing. After she got off her job at a grocery store at midnight, she packed her wheelchair-bound mom in the car and drove the 100 miles to the lake. They saw the sunrise. Rebecca then drove them



significant downward spiral in her emotional and mental well-being. She cried all the time. She began snorting her pills. She was introduced to cocaine. She found the needle. Her

home and then went to school.

Her mom died in June, one month after Rebecca turned 18, and just before she began her senior year of high school. Custody of her 8-year-old sister and responsibility for the house fell to her. She was going to school, working a full time job, caring for a child and a home and was mourning the loss of her mom. She felt depressed and guilty over her mom's death. Maybe she hadn't prayed hard enough.

Nobody sets out to become an addict, and Rebecca is no exception. She didn't know then what she knows now...that there can be a genetic component to addiction and that addiction to drugs is similar to alcohol addiction. She started drinking regularly during this period when she was overwhelmed by responsibility and grief. Always a straight-A student, her grades began to suffer.

Soon after graduation, she married. She had her first daughter. She experienced post-partum depression and was prescribed valium. Over the following years, she had another daughter. Rebecca's voice is full of pride talking about her girls. She recites their birth dates and weights.

Rebecca's third pregnancy ended in the fifth month when she was attacked by a family member. She had to have surgery and they gave her pain killers. This began a

life was spiraling out of control. She told her husband that she thought that she had a problem with drugs. "People like us don't have problems like that," he replied.

Eventually, Rebecca began dealing drugs so she didn't have to ask her husband for money to buy them. Her marriage ends and she marries her drug dealer. Rebecca describes him as the devil incarnate. At this point, she was using all the time and wanted to die. Each day when she woke up, she was disappointed to still be alive. Finally, one night she prayed to God to put an end to her suffering. She couldn't go on like that.

**The next morning, state troopers arrived and took her to jail. This was the beginning of Rebecca's life being saved.**

Rebecca's came to know God while she was in prison. Her history with church had been hurtful at best. Children in her small town were not allowed to play with her because her mom was divorced. A preacher told her that if she prayed hard enough, her mother wouldn't die. Her ex-husband's family were church-goers, but didn't seem to live a Christian life behind closed doors. But once

she had lost everything, once she was totally alone, abandoned by everyone in her life, she found God.

The Rebecca I know today is one of the biggest fans of God I've ever met. She sees now how many people God has put in her life that have made a difference. There was the judge that sentenced her to prison. There was the woman in prison who saw the light that Rebecca has, the way her smile lights up a room, and encouraged her to not let her present be her future. There are the people at Trilogy Treatment Center for Women in Hopkinsville where she stayed after she was released from prison.

She sees how God has put her in a position to help others like he helped her. She is the house leader at the House of Grace. She is not required to live at the halfway house, but she chooses to so that she can help others. That's what Rebecca does best. When someone has a problem or a challenge, she can help them address it.

Rebecca plans to go back to college. She would like to become a licensed counselor for children. She still carries guilt and shame for not being the mom for her kids that they deserved. But she feels that, with all that she has learned, she could help other children from making the same mistakes that she did.

By getting to know Rebecca and others on Thursday nights in the Russell neighborhood, I have been blessed beyond any expectation I had going in. I'm still wondering how God might use me to make a difference to the people there. But I know that God has used them to impact my life. I've learned so much from Rebecca: you can never be too busy to pray; if you lead by example, others will follow; and God can do anything.



*"I did this with God." -Rebecca*

## FROM THE STAFF

If you are not receiving our weekly eNews e-mail, visit [www.ccum.net](http://www.ccum.net) to sign-up.



### Join us in saying goodbye to Amy Roberts, Assistant to Music, Youth and Children's Ministries.

Amy Roberts, who served as an assistant to Music, Youth and Children's Ministries has left to pursue her dream job as a Production Director for Crossings Camp.

Amy shares, "Christ Church has been the warmest and most uplifting environment I've ever worked in. The staff has supported and encouraged me professionally and loved my family well. I'm excited about what God is doing at Crossings Camp and I am looking forward to being a part of it. At the same time, I will miss Christ Church, and miss being a part of God's work here. I will be forever thankful for how much you've taught me and the friendships I've formed while I have been here. The only thing left to say is thank you!"

## MAKING AN IMPACT



### Scouts Honor Adult Leaders

Karin Jackson and Victor Gomez were presented the Cross and Flame award. This award gives recognition to adult leaders who have given exceptional service in the use and promotion of programs for young people and have actively and effectively promoted the religious program.

The award is administered by the General Commission on United Methodist Men and is based on approval from the local church. The award was presented by David Sparks, Troop Committee Chairman.

## MAKING AN IMPACT



### Healing Place Volunteers of the Year

The Healing Place recently honored the Jewels of Grace, a Christ Church jewelry-making ministry, at their reunion.

About the Jewels of Grace, The Healing Place said:

Our Volunteer of the Year is actually going to a group, because it takes more than one special individual to accomplish what they do. This team of individuals provided computers, making it possible for our clients to get their GED. We have 18 currently enrolled in the GED program. They also provide tutoring, study books and supplies.

It doesn't stop there, as bus tickets are also provided so our clients can get to where they need to go.

Last and definitely not least, are the beautiful necklaces each of our clients gets after they reach the twelfth step of recovery. The necklaces are handmade and brought to life from acorns that you find in your own backyard. Handmade and all uniquely designed, no one is like the other, just like the men and women on our campuses.

A mighty oak tree starts with just one acorn, and because of these special ladies and their unique talent, our clients develop just the same.

The ladies of Jewels of Grace... or as they are affectionately known around here as "The Acorn Ladies" are the winners of this year's Volunteer of the Year Award.

Jewels of Grace members:

- Paula Matthews
- Jenny Hollenkamp
- Ann Simms
- Jennifer Johnson
- Sue Causey
- Cindy Scheldorf
- Robbie Lovett
- Janet Hagerty
- Terri Scharff
- Mary Lou Duke
- Vicki Salyers

# CHURCH EVENTS

For a complete list of Christ Church events, visit [www.ccum.net/calendar](http://www.ccum.net/calendar).

## Advent Sermon Series: Christmas Playlist - The Songs of Christmas Begins Sunday, December 1

Dive into the familiar songs of Christmas through this inviting and challenging sermon series.



## Family Advent Lunch Stars of Wonder, Stars of Light Sunday, December 1

Children and families celebrate the beginning of the Advent season together through this special event. Join us from 12:15 - 2 pm in Fellowship Hall.



## Christmas Concerts Long Expected Jesus

Sunday, December 9 at 5 pm

Wednesday, December 12 at 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 16 at 9 and 11:15 am

Tuesday, December 18 at 7:30 pm



# CHURCH EVENTS

## Blue Christmas

Sunday, December 16

This service is designed for those who may not experience the joy of the holiday season due to loss, suffering or life's challenges. Join us for this meaningful service beginning at 5 pm in the Chapel.



## Holiday Hope Caroling

Wednesday, December 19

This Christmas tradition at Christ Church is a wonderful way to serve our community and build Christmas memories together. Join us from 6 - 8:30 pm.



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

3, 5, 8 and 10:45 pm

Childcare available at 3, 5 and 8 pm

Communion served at 5, 8 and 10:45 pm



# OUR CHURCH FAMILY

## Christian Sympathy

Jennifer Giacobbe on the death of her father, Dr. Lafayette Gilmore "L.G." Owen, who died July 23.

Ronda Carol Talley on the death of her mother Ronda McCoy Talley who died August 4.

Billy Kinman, Lauri Knabel, Kay Peak, Debbie Owens and Kim Neuner and families on the death of their mother, Evelyn Kinman who died August 6.

Family and friends of Maxine McCarty who died August 9.

Wenda Webster Fischer on the death of her brother, Ray Webster, who died August 10.

Sandra Farber on the death of her father, Bob Simms, who died August 21.

Jansey Troutman and family on the death of her husband, Scott Troutman, who died August 21.

Family and friends of Gene Respini who died in August.

Charlotte Steele Haffermann on the death of her father, Robert Steele, who died August 30.

Carol Wellman on the death of her mother, Nora Lynn Berger, who died September 4.

Rich Stoflet on the death of his grandmother, Jean Bushman, who died September 7.

Harold Anderson on the death of his wife, Laurel Anderson, who died September 11.

Kim Smith on the death of her father, Nicholas Johnson, who died September 19.

John Anderson on the death of his mother and his sister who both died in September.

Linda Shepard on the death of her husband, Bob Shepard, who died October 3.

Marilyn Edington on the death of her father in law, James Edington, who died September 27 and her mother in law, Fan Edington, who died October 8.

Gerry Isaacs on the death of her husband, Carroll Isaacs, who died October 8.

Richard Estes on the death of his wife, DiAnne Estes, who died October 9.

SuzAnne Caraway and Michelle Rayzor on the death of their mother, DiAnne Estes, who died October 9.

Gary Scheldorf on the death of his mother, Genny Scheldorf, who died October 10.

Elizabeth Straub on the death of her father Dr. William Duval Bushong, who died October 12.

## Weddings

Aria Watkins and Caleb McDaniel were married in our sanctuary by Dr. George Strunk on August 11. Aria is the daughter of Wade and Lisa Watkins.

Maggie Schmidt and Austin Yates were married in our sanctuary by Dr. George Strunk on September 8. Maggie is the daughter of Ben and Julie Schmidt.

Jo Ann Blacketer and Brian Boor were married in our Chapel on September 8 by Dr. George Strunk.

Meredith Benninger and Andrew Hagan were married by Dr. George Strunk on October 6. Meredith is the daughter of Phil and Chris Benninger.

Amanda Faulkner and Ben Khouri were married in our sanctuary on October 13 by Rev. Patty Groot. Amanda is the daughter of Bill and Dana Faulkner.

Michael Olafson and Crystal VanArsdale were married in our Chapel on October 20 by Dr. George Strunk.

## Baptisms

Kenton Warren Smith (12/5/2017) and Clarkson Burton Smith (12/5/2017), sons of Sarah and Raymon Smith, were baptized on August 12 by Dr. George Strunk.

Eli Orin Schulze, (7/2/2018), son of Lindsay and Andrew Schulze, was baptized on August 12 by Dr. George Strunk. Kenton, Clarkson and Eli's proud grandparents are Kent and Heidi Hatteberg.

Lucy Mae Bauer (3/23/2018), daughter of Nicholas and Mary Bauer, was baptized on September 23 by Dr. George Strunk.

Sara Adair Farmer and her daughter, Whitney Kay Farmer (10/14/2015) were baptized by Dr. George Strunk on September 23.

Shane Caldwell and Kortney Caldwell were baptized at our downtown community on October 2 by Rev. Patty Groot.

Samantha Peyton Deegan (5/17/2018) and Avery Elizabeth Deegan (5/17/2018), daughter of Mac and Lydia Deegan, were baptized on October 21 by Dr. Leanne Hadley. Samantha and Avery's proud Grandparents are Susan and Daniel Deegan.

Margaret Lee (Margot) Maloney (8/23/2016), daughter of Garrett and Tiffany Maloney, was baptized by Dr. George Strunk on October 28.

## New Members

Brownsboro Road Community:

Liz Patrick

Joe and Amy Burns

Chris and Sarah Covington

Sara Adair Farmer

Mike and Hardy Mowry

Doug and Caroline Holm

Duray and Debbie Hale

Jonathon and Katherine Sides

Lydia Deegan

Garrett and Tiffany Maloney

Downtown Community:

Christina Walker

Eric Ferguson II

Heather Caudill

Shane Caldwell

Kortney Caldwell

## Serving our Country

Lt. Col. James E. Chapman, Jr., US Army (Son of Janice and Jim Chapman, brother of Jana Ladd)

Capt. Douglas Cummings, US Army Chaplain (Son of Sally and Jack Cummings)

Captain Danielle L. Cummings, M.D., US Army (Granddaughter of Sally and Jack Cummings)

2nd Lt. Bailey Hawkins, US Army (Granddaughter of Marie and Richard Johnson)

Lt. Col. Brian Haysley, U.S. Air Force (Son of Marilyn Edington)

Lt. Zachary T. Huff, US Navy (Grandson of Allys and Bill Huff)

David Farc, Kentucky Air National Guard

Capt. Travis Johnson, US Army (Grandson of Marie and Richard Johnson)

Sgt. Jacob Longest, US Air Force (Grandson of Ruth Murray)

Airman First Class Michael Kluever, US Air Force (Son of Rev. Karen Kluever)

Stephanie Muir, US Army (Granddaughter of Ed and Bobbie Larkin)

Lt. Grant Parker Roberts, US Army (Son of Bill and Laurie Anne Roberts)

Lt. Cameron Kelley Roberts, US Army (Son of Bill and Laurie Anne Roberts)

Capt. Jordan Shontz, US Army (Grandson of Jane Shontz)

Ens. Jonathan Shontz, US Navy (Grandson of Jane Shontz)

Madeline Smith NROTC program at Tulane University Midshipman 3rd class

Capt. Noah J. Snyder, US Army (Grandson of Kathleen and John Snyder)

Capt. Christopher Wardlaw, US Army (Nephew of Russ Wardlaw)

Capt. Aaron Wellman, USMC (Son of Wayne and Carol Wellman)

Lt. Shelley Worth, Canadian Forces (Granddaughter of Colleen Berry)

Capt. Cheri Renaud, Air Force (daughter of Bobby Renaud and Diane Price)

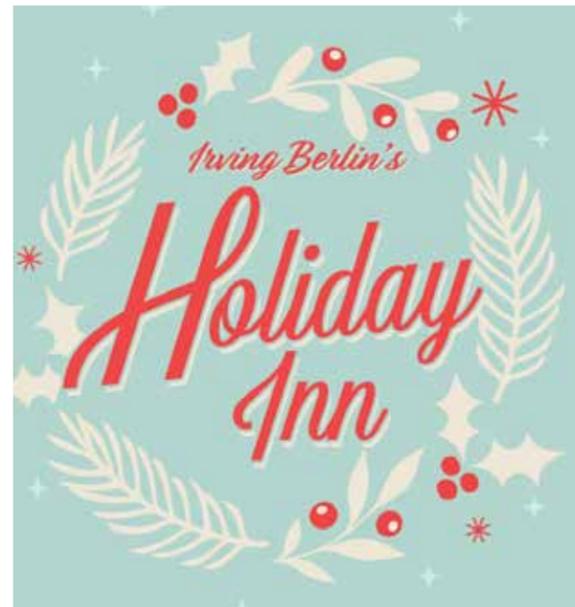
# SENIOR ADULTS

For more information on Senior Adult Ministries visit [www.ccum.net/SAM](http://www.ccum.net/SAM).  
To reserve your spot at this event, call the SAM reservation line at 893-2201 x328 .



## December 10 – Luncheon Joyous Singers Christmas Classics

11:30 am in the Chapel. Lunch in Fellowship Hall. Lunch reservations (\$10) by 12/5.



## December 20 – Outing Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn at Derby Dinner Playhouse

Bus departs church at 11:15 am, returns by 3:30 pm.

Cost is \$36, payment required for reservation, due by November 25. Checks made out to CCUM, "SAM Derby Dinner" on memo line.

# FINAL WORD

Rev. Patty Groot  
Director of Outreach

893-2201 x251  
[patty@ccum.net](mailto:patty@ccum.net)



## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE FUTURE

You are an amazing church. I've been reflecting over this past year and I've begun to grasp all the wonderful work God has been doing in, and through, you. I've heard story after story about how people are being transformed inside and outside our walls.

Our people are growing in their relationship with God and reaching out to others in order to expand the Kingdom. Our children are growing in their faith and have become empowered and equipped to reach out to the community in so many wonderful ways.

The future looks to be full of possibility and promise. I can only imagine what God will do over the next year with our faith communities in the west end. God has been faithful and shown us proof of lives changed through many baptisms and professions of faith. God has grown relationships with other churches and other areas of town to enable us to form a Freedom School next summer. How many lives will be touched? How many lives will be changed because of God's faithfulness?

I am so proud to be a part of a church who honors its past but constantly looks to the future.

I can't say it better than St. Paul when he said,

*This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:12-15*

I am honored to walk alongside you on this journey,

Patty



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# **NEXT ISSUE BUILDING BRIDGES**



*A congregation of The United Methodist Church*