



The BEACON

The Official Newsletter of Christ Church United Church of Christ, Des Plaines, Illinois
An Open & Affirming WISE for mental health congregation

Volume II, Issue V

May 2025

From The Pastor

"The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit." – Psalm 34:18

Lately, I've found myself missing my mom. It's been twelve years since she passed, and yet it feels like just yesterday. We weren't always close when I was growing up, but in my late twenties, something shifted. We began talking more—sometimes about big life questions and sometimes completely random things. I turned to her not only for advice but also because I admired her. She was a steady presence, someone who had lived more life than I had—someone I could talk to as a son, friend, and role model.

Growing up, I was often asked if I knew my "real mom." Even now, as an adult, that question still comes up. The problem with that question is that it erases everything my mom did—the love she gave, the care she offered, the consistent presence she was in my life after she adopted me. There's a saying that any man can be a father, but it takes someone special to be a dad. I believe the same is true for moms. My mom may not have been my birth mother, but she mothered me. She loved me into being. She is my real mom.

One of the things I respect most about her was her willingness to grow alongside me. Like many in her generation, she wasn't raised to talk about mental health. You were expected to "shake off" and move past it. But when I began to share that I was living with mental illness, she didn't turn away. She started the journey of understanding—quietly, steadily. I don't know how far she came before she passed; truthfully, it took me many years to give my own mental health the attention it deserved. But she tried. And that mattered.

May is **Mental Health Awareness Month**, and it's also the month we celebrate **Mother's Day**. I don't think that's a coincidence. I believe the two belong together. So many mothers carry immense emotional and mental weight—raising children, working, volunteering, caregiving—often while carrying their own pain silently. My mom was one of those women. She didn't always say much about her own feelings or mental health but knew when something was off. She had a way of noticing what others missed.

I remember one time in my late teens when I was (emotionally & mentally) struggling and living in San Antonio. I wasn't calling home often, and she could sense something was wrong. She called. I didn't answer. She wasn't the type to keep calling and calling, but she left a voicemail. It was simple, but I remember my mom saying something like: *"I love you. You matter. You're not alone. And you need to know that."* That was my mom—gentle, direct, and loving in ways that didn't always need a spotlight.

Our relationship wasn't perfect. We had our growing pains, both of us. But we also grew together. And now, when I see young adults, those my age or older who no longer make time for their parents, I think—*Do they realize how sacred it is to still have that time? To make memories? To repair what's broken? To love in real-time?*

As I reflect on this month, I also think of those who are grieving, who are estranged, or who carry complicated relationships with their mothers. Mental health touches every one of those stories. So does love.



In this newsletter you can expect:

Nourishment through
Scripture.....2

Financial
Report.....3

Get
Involved.....4

Council
Report.....6

Easter.....8

Birthdays,
Anniversaries,
Memorials, &
Honors.....14

Calendar of
Events.....15

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

My hope—both in life and in ministry—is to carry forward what my mom gave me: compassion, presence, courage, and the quiet kind of love that stays. If you're struggling, know this:

You are enough. You matter. And you are not alone.

Whatever your story is—whether you live with mental illness, love someone who does, or are simply trying to get through one day at a time—there is no shame in needing help. This journey was never meant to be walked alone.

*With hope and in Christ's love,
Rev. Gilbert*

Nourishment Through Scripture

For all those who are following the Scripture lessons used during the Sunday Worship Services, here are the April 2025 Common Lectionary readings:

May 4: Acts 9:1-20; John 21:1-19

May 18: Acts 11:1-18; Rev 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

May 11: Acts 9:36-43; Rev 7:9-17;
John 10:22-30

May 25: Acts 16:9-15; Rev 21:10,
22-22:5; John 14:23-29



Pastor's Office Hours:

Sundays: By Appt after worship.

Mondays: Phone, Video, or Appt.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: 10 am - 3 pm*

Thursdays: By Appt.

Sabbath: Fridays and Saturdays

Finance Manager's Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday: 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Administrative Assistant's Hours:

Tuesday - Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

*Can schedule later appointments on a case-by-case basis. For emergencies, call the pastor on his cell: 224-250-9898

STAFF MEETING: Tuesdays 10 am - 12 pm
The office phone is not answered.

COMMUNITY BACKPACK PROGRAM

Suggested items - please, no peanut based snacks and no glass jars!

- Single-serve breakfast cereal
- Instant oatmeal packets
- Pancake mix (add water variety)
- Canned red beans
- One-pound bags of rice
- Pasta and pasta sauce (in cans or plastic jars)



- Canned tuna, beef or chicken
- Peanut butter and jelly (in plastic jars)
- Fruit cups, pudding cups, fruit snacks
- Individually wrapped snacks and chips
- Canned pasta (ravioli, beef-a-Roni, stew, or chili)
- Canned soup

Giving

Did you know our church offers online giving and text-to-give? They're easy to use and secure! You can give a gift of support online at <https://bit.ly/ChristChurchUCCGive> or give via text message by texting the amount you would like to give to 847-750-3007.



Kindness is free.
Let's sprinkle that stuff everywhere!



SUNDAY CHURCH MINISTRIES

	<u>Liturgist/Lector</u>	<u>Council Greeter</u>	<u>Streaming Coordinator</u>
May 4	Holly Schmidt	Mandy O'Donnell	Judy Rosedale
May 11	Jacob Guerra-Martinez	Bob Neil	Mandy O'Donnell
May 18		George Bielat	Judy Rosedale
May 25	Jessica Busse	Laura Hallberg	Mandy O'Donnell



	<u>Ushers</u>
May 4	Rita Barth, Gary Smith, Cathy Wiesner, George Bielat, Rahsaan Strode Jr
May 11	Jan Storm, Donna Boyko, Alice Barnhart, Julie Radman, Carolyn Amick
May 18	Rita Barth, Gary Smith, Cathy Wiesner, George Bielat, Rahsaan Strode Jr
May 25	Jan Storm, Donna Boyko, Alice Barnhart, Julie Radman, Carolyn Amick



POTLUCK: Come and bring a dish for the potluck dinner. The dinner will be at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, May 14th. The theme is *Taco Night*. Join us for fellowship.

988
SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE

988
LÍNEA DE
PREVENCIÓN
DEL SUICIDIO
Y CRISIS

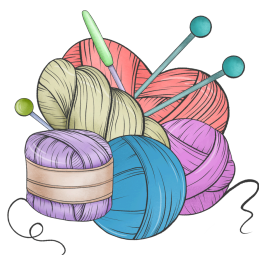
**APRIL'S AVERAGE
ATTENDANCE:**
51±



FINANCIAL REPORT

Christ Church UCC Des Plaines
Statement of Financial Activity
March 30 through April 26, 2025

	Week of Mar 30, 25	Week of Apr 6, 25	Week of Apr 13, 25	Week of Apr 20, 25	TOTAL
▼ Ordinary Income/Expe...					
▶ Income ▶	6,450.50	2,399.50	1,226.51	2,883.00	12,959.51
▶ Expense	4,098.79	507.49	8,265.36	301.47	13,173.11
Net Income	2,351.71	1,892.01	-7,038.85	2,581.53	-213.60



Lets Get Involved!

GET IT TOGETHER: Tiny Toes & Big Hearts! Our Get It Together group crafted blankets, hats & booties for Project Baby Blanket! They'll bring a little love to NICU babies. Can you crochet or knit? Consider joining our group! The group meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the lounge. *The next meeting will be on May 21st, from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.*

NOTABLES: The Notables will meet again to prepare for the coming busy season. As always, in Wobbe Hall from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Contact Kyle Speer for more details.



MISSION COMMITTEE: On the first Sunday of every month, we collect food for the Self-Help Closet and Pantry of Des Plaines. The Red Barrels will be in the narthex.

Please, no expired food; here are a few suggestions:

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| • Ketchup | • Body wash | • Men's, Women's, and children's all-sizes underwear |
| • Mustard | • Shampoo | • Ensure, Boost, Glucerna (generic ok) |
| • Mayonnaise | • Dish soap | • Canned dinners (hash, chili) |
| • Pasta sauce (plain) | • Laundry detergent | • Canned fruit |
| • Flour | • Paper towels | • Peanut butter |
| • Sugar | • Dog food (canned and dry) | • Jelly or jam |
| • Instant coffee | • Cooking oil | |
| • Juice (large bottles or boxed) | | |
| • Breakfast cereal (chocolate if possible) | | |
| • New or like-new clean bed linens and towels | | |



Please bring clean, dry plastic grocery bags. Thank you everyone for all your help.

Men's Lunch:

Next meeting is Monday, **May 12th at 11:45 am.**

Sunrise Grill: 1930 E Touhy Ave, Des Plaines, IL 60018



Women's Breakfast:

Next meeting is Tuesday, **May 13th at 9 am.**

Sunrise Grill: 1930 E Touhy Ave, Des Plaines, IL 60018



LIBRARY

NEW BOOKS IN THE LITTLE LIBRARY!

Looking for a good read? Thanks to our dedicated Faith Forward Commission, our Little Library is stocked with various books for all ages. Each book has been carefully selected and stamped with our library stamp.

Want to contribute? Please hand your book donations to a Commission member. Remember, only pre-approved books will be stamped.

BOBBY JO VALENTINE

HEART-OPENING, AWARD-WINNING FOLK/POP

"Bobby Jo has both the spirit and songs that bring us back to believing. Whatever our faith, he has the humor, compassion, words, and music to help us believe again."
-Dar Williams

"Catchy songs with good tunes and intelligent, thoughtful lyrics in the tradition of Bob Dylan, Cat Stevens, and Bruce Hornsby."

-Stephen Schwartz, Tony award-winning creator of *Godspell*, *Wicked*, and *Pippin*



MAY 8, 2025

7 PM

**CHRIST CHURCH U.C.C DES
PLAINES**

1492 HENRY AVE

TICKETS: \$20

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/BOBBYJOVALENTINETIX](https://bit.ly/bobbyjovalentineticx)

See Rev. Gilbert for free tickets.
It will not be live-streamed.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES – APPLY BY MAY 11TH!

The Faith Forward Commission pleased to offer three scholarships to support the educational and camp goals of our congregation:

Rev. Dr. George Goebel Scholarship: This scholarship is available to anyone in the congregation pursuing vocational, college, or graduate education. Recipients will be honored on **Sunday, June 8th**, during our Pentecost/Confirmation Service.

Comstock Fund: This scholarship helps cover the cost of sending children to HUG or Hug Tenderfoot Camp. It's available to community members wishing to send their children to camp.

HUG Camp Fund: This fund assists church members and their immediate families with partial tuition for HUG or Tenderfoot Camp.

Applications are available in the office or online at <https://bit.ly/CCUCCScholarships> on our website [Faith Forward Commission] (the preferred method).

The deadline to apply is Sunday, May 11th. Don't miss out on these opportunities!



Christ Church Council Meeting March 2025

Call to Order: 6:57 pm

Roll Call:

Judy Rosedale, Mandy O'Donnell, Holly Schmidt, Steve Bay, George Bielat, Bob Niel, Laura Hallberg, Pastor Gilbert

Prayer: Bob

Review of February 2025 Council Minutes:

Motion and second to approve the January 8, 2025, minutes as sent out. The motion passed.

Review of the January Financial Report

Motion to approve the February 2025 Financial report as presented. The motion passed.

Officer Reports – none

Pastor's Report

Worship & Arts

Regular Worship services – Four (4), one (1) with communion

Faith Forward Commission / Christian Education

- Confirmation: 1 class
- One Lenten Book Study session

Pastoral Care

- Pastoral contact (pastoral care-related calls / texts, emails, in person visits, greeting cards) = 41+
- Four (4) home visits with Communion
- One funeral service

Administrative / Personnel

- Staff Meeting – seven (7)– (includes with maintenance technician on Sundays)
- Continued to co-manage social media
- Updated website
- Three (3) committee meetings

Wider UCC & DP Community Meetings / Presentations / Events

- DP Alliance Clergy Meeting
- Ordination service for Pastor Mollie, Park Ridge UCC
- Speak DP Meeting (1)
- District 207 Board Meeting
- Two (2) IL Conference of the UCC level meetings

Other

- Received Personnel's approval to change the direction under worship and arts. Propose to hire a music director (5 hrs. / week) to select music, practice with soloists. This will be a reduction to the budget. A motion was made to approve the change in direction, and it was seconded. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

- none

Outreach Committee:

- The Outreach Committee just completed our first of 4 Sunrise Sharing breakfasts. Eleven people attended with about 22 bags of breakfast handed out. Most of the individuals stayed and chatted while enjoying their breakfast. A couple came on their way to work and took their breakfast with them. We had guests who heard of the breakfast from flyers at the library, at Heinrich House, at Bessie's Table, and at the food pantry.

- All seemed to enjoy the breakfast and the company. All said they would be back. Hopefully, the weather will be better next week and the word will spread. We'd like to thank our donors: Olson's Ace Hardware, Jarosch Bakery, Jake Collins, and LSG Sky Chefs for their contributions.

Building Committee:

- No report

Faith Forward Commission:

- We are planning for our spring scholarship fundraiser. We will be seeking feedback from families on what they are looking for in terms of summer Sunday school programming.
- Lenten book study will be Tuesdays at 11:30 am.

Personnel Committee:

- No report

ONA Wise Committee:

- Group had a meeting yesterday to discuss the Community Pride Celebration. The next meeting is on April 3, 2025. The event will be at Christ Church on June 7 from 1 pm – 5 pm.

Missions:

- No report

Unfinished Business

- Building Improvements: the bathroom project is stalled because the city inspector had some questions. The inspector will provide information on the ADA requirements for compliance. Waiting for a response from the city. The pumps in the basement were repaired, the dishwasher disconnected and removed. The kitchen cabinets are on hold
- QuickBooks transition to the cloud is in progress. There is a meeting tomorrow with the consultant to review the agreed upon format and provide an update on the migration. A training session will be scheduled and recorded.

New Business:

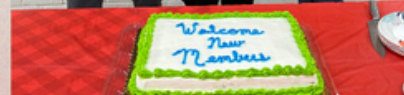
- We are moving in a new direction with the music ministry. Our pianist has indicated that she will not continue beyond May. It allows us an opportunity to re-envision. Pastor requires approval to hire a music director, it has been approved by Personnel. The director position would call for a single person to play the organ, piano, and lead choir rehearsal. Additionally, it would eliminate the music coordinator position. The pay will range based on experience and for up to five hours a week.
- Review of Church Council Covenant of Expectations – council members signed and handed in
- Annual Meeting Results –
 - Clarification on officer terms for 2025 – with the change of the fiscal year, the current term year will end in December 2025 instead of February 2026.
 - Immigrant Welcoming Top 5:
 - Option 3. Support the passage by the U.S. Congress of legislation to protect DACA recipients from deportation and to secure
 - Option 5. Provide Know Your Rights and Active Bystander Trainings to educate members of the congregation and the broader community about the rights of undocumented immigrants and their families and strategies for defending their legal rights.
 - Option 7. Assist undocumented immigrants and their families, with appropriate consultation from legal counsel as needed, to secure access to the essentials of life, including housing, health care, mental health services, housing, food, clothing, and education.
 - Option 10. Partner with schools to support students and their families under threat of deportation.
 - Option 11. Provide resources to legal and other assistance to lawful permanent residents seeking to become naturalized U.S. citizens.
- Clarification on the Budget presented at the annual meeting. This budget was for the time period of March 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025, to align with our updated fiscal year.

Motion to adjourn at 7:51pm passed.

Welcome New Members!



John LaMarche,
Maggie LaMarche,
& Jennifer Ventrella



Chocolate- dipped *Pretzels!*

The Faith Forward Commission made these delicious chocolate-dipped pretzels! They'll be selling them during fellowship this May, with all proceeds benefiting the HUG Camp and George Goebel Scholarship Funds.

*Buy yours for
only*

\$1

**\$1 EACH – A SWEET WAY TO
SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!**





Gospel Extravaganza!

Enjoy a \$5 discount by purchasing tickets in advance (prior to day of concert) at <https://luxcantorum.org/upcoming> for tickets.

Friday, May 2, 2025

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Fourth Presbyterian Church | Buchanan Chapel

Sunday, May 4, 2025

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn

Saturday, May 10, 2025

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Pilgrim Congregational Church

Virtual Performance Option

Can't join in person? When you purchase a virtual access ticket, you will have viewing access to our recorded May 10 concert starting at noon (CDT) on Wednesday, May 14 through 11:59 pm (CDT) on Saturday, May 24—from anywhere, on any device.

Des Plaines Scout Troop 6

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

SUNDAY, MAY 4TH, 2025

DINNER INCLUDES:
Spaghetti in Red Sauce
with Meatballs, Garlic
Bread, & Salad



COST PER DINNER:

\$10

**Split the Pot Grand
Prize Raffle:**
\$5 per chance



**The troop will be
hosting a Bake
Sale during the
event.**

Frisbie Senior Center
52 E Northwest Highway, Des Plaines
5:00PM-7:30PM



CHRIST CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1492 Henry Avenue - Des Plaines, IL 60016

christchurchuccdesplaines.org

An open & affirming and WISE for mental health congregation.

COMPANIONSHIP TRAINING

Tues., May 20 & Wed., May 21

6 pm - 8pm.

Must attend both days to receive certificate.



Companionship is a practice of presence rooted in our natural capacities as humans to act on our concern for another person.

Companionship is a relational response to isolation and distress, supportive of healing and recovery.

Companionship is not about "fixing" but instead welcomes the stranger, building a circle of care with individuals facing emotional and mental health challenges.

Registration is \$20.

The reduced fee is made possible by the ONA/WISE Committee covering 50% of the cost.

**Limited scholarships are available.*

Training instructor: Rev. Gilbert Martinez, Pastor
Christ Church United Church of Christ of Des Plaines



Class size is limited, so sign up today!

<https://bit.ly/CompanionshipWISE>

Sponsored by Christ Church UCC Open & Affirming and WISE for mental health awareness committee.

For questions or assistance with registration,
please call 847-297-4230 (T-F, 9-3)

Mental Health Awareness Month: Sermon Series Featuring Imagine Dragons



This May, we're exploring faith and mental health through Scripture and the music of Imagine Dragons. Their lyrics—featured in songs like "Demons," "Thunder," and "Whatever It Takes"—give honest voice to struggles with identity, pain, and resilience.

Lead singer Dan Reynolds has spoken openly about living with depression, anxiety, and chronic illness, saying:

***"There's nothing weak about struggling with mental health.
The strongest thing you can do is keep going."***

Each Sunday, we'll reflect on these themes through a spiritual lens, discovering how God meets us in our fear, fuels our healing, and calls us beloved—exactly as we are.

- **May 4: "What We Carry: Grace for the Haunted"** – We reflect on the internal "demons" we carry — shame, regret, or fear — and the God who feeds us anyway. Inspired by John 21 and Imagine Dragons' "Demons," we affirm: healing begins when we are honest about what hurts.
- **May 11: "Held in the Noise: Whatever It Takes to Keep Going"** – When the world is too loud and our minds are full, the Shepherd calls us by name. Drawing from John 10 and "Whatever It Takes" by Imagine Dragons, we reflect on resilience, survival, and divine care.
- **May 18: Lay Reflection - Karen Harkovich, "Instruction Booklet Not Included"**
- **May 25: "Born for More: Thunder and the Promise of Peace"** – Christ offers a peace the world cannot give—peace rooted in presence, resilience, and Spirit. With John 14 and Imagine Dragons' "Thunder," we claim our identity as beloved, bold, and born for more.

✿ **Thank you for spreading Easter joy to the children of the Backpack Project with your thoughtful gifts of socks and candies. Your kindness truly made their holiday brighter.**



**Mission Committee
Rita, Donna, Laura, & Holly**

Thank You



THE YTHELY CHURCH APP
Christ Church United
Church of Christ

Download Our New Church App!

Stay connected with our church family anytime, anywhere. Access sermons, events, updates, and so much more—all right at your fingertips. Don't miss out on this convenient way to stay in the loop! Download it today!

<https://bit.ly/CCUCCAPP>

Scan to download
the app



OR



A CELEBRATION OF AFFIRMATION

**SATURDAY
JUNE 7th**

**1 - 5 PM
FREE**



**Christ Church UCC
1492 Henry Ave
Des Plaines, IL**

**All Are Welcome
Children Through Adults**

**Free Food | Performances | Family-Friendly Drag Show
LGBTQIA+ Support Organizations | Activities, Games & More!**

tinyurl.com/CommunityPrideCelebration

A Community Partnership Between



Memorials/Honors for April

In memory of my brother, Alan, *by Linda Steckel*

In memory of Kathy Shafel, *by Rina Dimaso and Sue Goosz*

In memory of our son Mike, parents, & grandparents at Easter, *by Bud & Elaine Hudson*

In memory of Roy Sove, a very special man and long time friend, *by Bud & Elaine Hudson*

In memory of John Nix, *by Barbara Nix*

In memory of Roy Sove, *by Charlene Dohse*

In memory of Roy Sove's life and service to Christ Church, *by Don & Judy Rosedale*

In memory of Roy Sove, *by Robin Schmidt Shore*

In memory of my husband, Don, on our anniversary, May 3, *by Charlene Dohse*

In memory of Dolores Tomscheck, *by Charlene Dohse*



ALTAR FLOWERS



In memory of Don Meseth, *by Pam Fack & Marion Meseth*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

3 - Janet Blume

6 - Judy Rosedale

7 - Peter Rosedale

10 - Carole McConnell

16 - Joann Schindler

20 - Bud Hudson

21 - Barbara Dopp

24 - Jean Amick

24 - Lucille Kelso

29 - Richard Hagedorn

30 - Alexa Vasquez

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

2 - Rev. Dr. William and Ann Grice (49)

17 - John and Maggie LaMarche (50)

26 - Jim and Debra Lynn Spetich Van Antwerp (40)

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

for providing so many beautiful flowers for our Easter Cross this year. Our Easter tradition continues to grow

Thanks to all of you.



COMING UP IN MAY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Time</u>
2	Lux Cantorum: Gospel Extravaganza	Fourth Presbyterian Church	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
4	Faith Forward Adventures (<i>Sunday School</i>)	Sanctuary/Rm 1	9:30 am
	Confirmation Class	TBD	10:30 am
	Finance Committee Meeting	Lounge	11:15 am
	Lux Cantorum: Gospel Extravaganza	1st Cong Church-Glen Ellyn	4 pm - 6 pm
	Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser	Frisbie Senior Center	5 pm - 7:30 pm
8	Bobby Jo Valentine Concert	Sanctuary	7 pm
10	Lux Cantorum: Gospel Extravaganza	Pilgrim Cong. Church	7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
11	Mother's Day	-	-
	Scholarship Applications Due	-	-
12	Men's Lunch	Sunrise Grill	11:45 am
13	Women's Breakfast	Sunrise Grill	9 am
	Vision Task Force Meeting	Lounge	1:30 pm
14	Potluck	Wobbe Hall	6 pm
	Council Meeting	Lounge	7 pm
18	Mental Health Sunday	Sanctuary	9:30 am
	Leslie's Final Sunday	Sanctuary	9:30 am
	Faith Forward Adventures (<i>Sunday School</i>)	Sanctuary/Rm 1	9:30 am
	Confirmation Class	Lounge	11 am
20	Companionship Training	Zoom	6 pm - 8pm
21	Get It Together	Lounge	10 am - 12 pm
	Companionship Training	Zoom	6 pm - 8 pm
25	Hana's Final Sunday	Sanctuary	9:30 am
	Immigrant-Welcoming Committee Meeting	Lounge	11 am
26	Memorial Day	-	-
27	Vision Task Force Meeting	Lounge	1:30 pm
June 7	Community Pride Celebration	Wobbe Hall	1 pm - 5 pm

"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul." - 3 John 1:2

*Please keep the church office informed when you hear of someone needing prayers. During the months of **April**, our thoughts and prayers were with:*

Marion Meseth*
Dawn Mashek
Linda Steckel*
Jack Storm
Sue Prunty
Marilyn Hoover*

Marilyn McCown
Dorothy Zemke*
Kelly Roberts
Helen Harney
Jean Henschke*
Hope & Bruce Tschappat*

Our Country
Ukraine, Lebanon, Palestinian,
and Israeli citizens

Homebound*



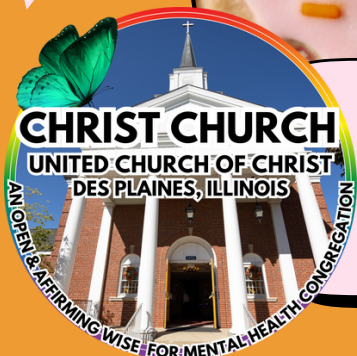
For the Backpack Project

TARTS & BARS FOR STARS!

Help Us Collect Pop-Tarts and Granola Bars (No Peanuts please)

Sunday, May 12th

Let's fill backpacks with delicious, peanut-free snacks to support the Backpack Project—helping young stars shine bright!



Mission Committee:
Rita, Donna, Laura, & Holly

**Christ Church
United Church of Christ**

1492 Henry Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60016
847-297-4230

christchurchuccdesplaines.org

Facebook & Instagram:

@christchurchuccdesplaines

Rev. Gilbert Martinez, Pastor

gilbert@christchurchuccdesplaines.org

**Jezze Patterson, Administrative Assistant &
Digital Outreach Coordinator**

jezze@christchurchuccdesplaines.org

Kyle Speer, Finance Manager & Music Coordinator

kyle@christchurchuccdesplaines.org

Hana Fujisaki, Church Organist

Leslie Thomas, Church Pianist

Tommie Jordan, Custodian

Emanuel Alvarez, Maintenance Technician

The Beacon is the official newsletter of Christ Church United Church of Christ. Edited by church staff. Published monthly, August through June.

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988

Suicide and Crisis

Lifeline

Call or Text

