

If the trees can do it, then so can I,  
At least that's what I tell myself.  
For if year after year the trees can let go  
Of their brightest leaves and that warm autumn glow,  
Then maybe in time, like trees with their leaves,  
I can release  
That which keeps me from you.  
Maybe in time, I can let go  
Of my need for certainty  
And my need to look good,  
My need for busyness,  
And my need to numb pain;  
The trivial ways I measure my self-worth,  
Or the hurtful ways I measure yours.  
For if year after year the trees let go,  
Then maybe, in time, I can too.  
Maybe,  
In time,  
My heart will know spring.



SARAH ARE | SANCTIFIED ART

**THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 23, 2025**



**Crescent Hill**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

MARCH 23, 2025

THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

10:45 AM

*We gather to worship the Living God. In order to focus our hearts on this purpose, we ask that you silence all cell phones, alarm watches, and other electronic devices.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

*Seek Ye First the Kin-dom of God*

LAFFERTY  
arr. Louie Bailey  
Jordan Conley

GREETING

THE WORK & WITNESS OF OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

ENTRANCE INTO WORSHIP

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Anyone who thirsts, come and drink!

If you have no money but you're hungry,  
Come and receive wine and milk without a price tag.

**All: Why do you spend money on what does not nourish you?**

**Why do you work for what does not nurture you?**

One: Listen, come and eat healthy food that delights.

Come and partake in the Spirit that gives life.

**All: Become a witness of God's free gift of grace to all people!**

One: They will come running to you because of our God,

**All: Who raises up, who transforms, who makes us shine!**

**Come, Let us worship.**

*Adapted from Isaiah 55:1-5*

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 45

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy praise;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise his name – I'm fixed upon it,  
name of God's redeeming love.

O to grace how great a debtor daily  
I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

*Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.*

Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope. by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the throne of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
bought me with his precious love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jordan Conley

One: God, we are thirsty and you call us to your waters. But sometimes we try to slake our thirst from other sources.

**All: Forgive us when we turn away from the living water that you offer.**

One: God, we are hungry and you offer us bread without cost. But sometimes we pay too much for food that does not nourish.

**All: Forgive us when we do not accept your gracious provision.**

One: Forgive us, God, for the ways we fail to trust you:

**All: When we spend our money for that which is not bread and our labor for that which does not satisfy.**

## EXTINGUISHING THE THIRD LENTEN CANDLE

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Family of Faith, hear the good news and believe: Our God is a God of grace and transformation. May the God of mercy, who forgives all sin, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### \*HYMN OF PARDON 451

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

ARISE

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,  
weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you,  
full of pity, love, and power.

Let not conscience make you linger,  
nor of fitness fondly dream;  
all the fitness he requireth  
is to feel your need of him. *Refrain*

*Refrain:* I will arise and go to Jesus; he will  
embrace me in his arms; in the arms of my dear  
Savior, O, there are ten thousand charms.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden,  
lost and ruined by the fall;  
if you tarry till you're better,  
you will never come at all. *Refrain*

Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome, God's free  
bounty glorify; true belief and true repentance,  
every grace that brings you nigh. *Refrain*

*Helen H. Lemmel, 1922*

### LESSON FROM THE HEBREW BIBLE: PEW BIBLE, 685

Isaiah 55:1-9

David Graves

Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### DEDICATION OF EMMETT ATTICUS BENSON SPARKS

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE FAMILY – DON & CHRISTIE O'BRIEN SPARKS

#### COVENANT OF DEDICATION

Minister: By God's love we are given children through the miracle of birth.

**Congregation: We give God thanks.**

Minister: May we greet each new child with joy, and surround them all with faith so they may know and follow Christ.

**Congregation: Never let us neglect children, but help us to delight in them, showing them the welcome God has shown us all.**

Minister: Don and Christie, as Emmett's parents, will you accept Emmett as a gift from God? Will you commit yourselves to raise your Emmett in an atmosphere of love and follow Christ as a model? Will you seek God's wisdom, patience, and spirit for your journey as parents? Will you dedicate yourselves and Emmett to the care and direction of God?

Parents: We will.

Minister: Family of faith, as the people brought little children to Jesus for him to bless, Don and Christie have brought Emmett for us to bless.

**Congregation: Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, for the kin-dom of God belongs to such as these." Then he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on each of them, and blessed them. As Jesus blessed the little children who came to him, we bless Emmett Atticus Benson Sparks. May he be nurtured in the faith and led to walk in the way of Jesus.**

WORDS OF BLESSING

THE PRESENTATION OF BIBLE, CERTIFICATE & BLANKET

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Corrie Hammons

MUSICAL REFLECTION

*For God So Loved*

American Folk Hymn

Chancel Ensemble; Louie Bailey, conductor & piano

arr. Joseph Martin

WORDS FOR THE JOURNEY

*Cultivating Agility & Discovering Renewal*

Jordan Conley

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Anna Bowden

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OF OURSELVES, OUR TITHES, & OUR GIFTS

*Our regular tithes and offerings support the budgeted ministries of Crescent Hill Baptist Church.*

MUSICAL OFFERING

*Seek Ye the Lord*

J. Varley Roberts

arr. Louie Bailey

\*LENTEN DOXOLOGY

*Beautiful Savior*

CRUSADER'S HYMN

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine! Amen.

*Joseph A. Seiss, 1873*

\*LENTEN PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jordan S. Conley

One: Gracious God, You speak of a promised day where swords will be beaten into plowshares and justice will roll down like a mighty stream. So we offer you these gifts in hopes that they might help bring about that day.

**All: Use us and use these gifts for your good. Cultivate in us more generous hearts. Amen.**

\*INVITATION TO RESPOND

Crescent Hill is a welcoming community of faith. We invite those seeking baptism for the first time, or those seeking to join our fellowship from another faith community to come forward during the Hymn of Response. Rather than a place of guilt, we invite you to come forward to claim your identity as the beloved of God united in beloved community. Welcome home.

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 618

*Give to the Winds Your Fears*

DIADEMATA

Give to the winds your fears,  
in hope be undismayed;  
God hears your sighs and counts your tears;  
God shall lift up your head;  
through waves and clouds and storms  
God gently clears the way;  
wait for God's time,  
so shall this night  
soon end in joyous day.

Far, far above your thought  
God's counsel shall appear,  
when fully God the work has wrought  
that caused your needless fear.  
Leave to God's sovereign will  
to choose and to command:  
with wonder filled  
you then shall own how wise,  
how strong God's hand.

*Paul Gerhardt, 1653; para. Of Psalm 37; tr. John Wesley, 1739, alt.*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Morning Reflections*

Louie Bailey

\*Worshippers are invited to rise, in body or spirit.

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- We invite those who wish to be baptized or join the church to share that decision with the church near the conclusion of worship. If you prefer to explore baptism or church membership privately, the ministers would be glad to discuss those decisions with you after worship.

# Today's Worship Leaders

**Anna Bowden** believes that the questions people ask of life and in faith shape the way they view and treat others. She has put this abiding conviction to action as Assistant Professor in New Testament at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary. From this position she is helping the church at large and those who are pursuing a call to ministry hone their curiosities to facilitate a more generous view of faith, a more inclusive church, and a more just and equitable world. When not in the classroom, Anna will likely be spending time with her adoring dog, Shiner, and her spouse, Rev. Brent Bowden.

**David Graves** first joined Crescent Hill Baptist Church in 1956, and served as our Minister to Youth while in graduate school. During his career, he was the Executive Director of the Home of the Innocents, Brooklawn, and then interim director of numerous non profit human services agencies.



As winter comes to a close and we celebrate the arrival of spring, we are reminded to embrace new beginnings and release anything that may be hindering our connection with ourselves and with God. Join us this Lenten season as we nurture and grow together.

## Staff Contacts

**Rev. Jordan Conley**

Pastor  
jordan@chbcky.org

**Ann Cottone**

Building Administrator  
ann@chbcky.org

**Rev. Dr. Louie Bailey**

Minister of Music/Organist  
louie@chbcky.org

**Corrie Hammons**

Children's Ministry Coordinator  
corriehammons@chbcky.org

**Bobbe Crouch**

Financial Secretary  
bobbe@chbcky.org

**Lillian Gordon**

Communications Specialist  
lillian@chbcky.org

*Crescent Hill is an inclusive community of faith rooted in the Baptist tradition. We're a little different than other churches. We welcome all, regardless of race, age, creed, physical abilities, marital or economic status, gender identity, or sexual orientation. No matter where this day finds you, know that you are the beloved of God & there is space for you here...welcome home.*



Find our live-stream online at *Crescent Hill Baptist Church*.



At most gatherings, an American Sign Language interpreter is at the front of the Sanctuary.

### Our Partners in Ministry:



# WEEKLY CALENDAR

## SUNDAY, MARCH 23

- 9:15 Coffee (Birchwood Lobby)
- 9:30 Sunday School
- Harbor Class (Second Floor)
  - Unlikely Saints Class (Room 211)
  - Agape Harmony Class (Parlor)
  - Barnabas Class (Library)
  - Inspire Class (4:30pm, homes of class members)
- 10:45 Worship (Sanctuary)
- 2:00 Moms Demand Action Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:00 Divorce Recovery Pickleball (Gym)

## MONDAY, MARCH 24

- 5:00 Pickleball (Gym)

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

- 5:00 Fellowship Meal (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 Ministry Forum  
Frankfort Avenue Group (Heritage Hall)
- 7:00 Missions Response Team Meeting (Library)
- 7:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

## THURSDAY, MARCH 27

- 5:00 Pickleball (Gym)
- 5:45 Change of Heart (Heritage Hall)
- 7:00 Reading Group (Parlor)

## FRIDAY, MARCH 28

- 5:00 Pickleball (Gym)

# Thank you for Giving

Your gifts are making a difference in our church and our world. Below are several methods you can use to contribute financially to Crescent Hill. We appreciate your generosity. Get started or manage your giving at [chbcky.org/give](http://chbcky.org/give).



### EASY. QUICK. SECURE.

Scan the QR Code with your smartphone camera to make an electronic contribution now.

### ONLINE.



Schedule a recurring or one time gift charged to your debit or credit card. Get started at [chhcky.org/give](http://chhcky.org/give).

### DONATE STOCKS.



Contact Bobbe Crouch in the church office to explore these options confidentially.

### AUTOMATIC BANK PAY.



Log in at your bank's website and follow instructions to set up Crescent Hill Baptist Church as a new payee. The financial institution will send the church a check.

### MAIL.



Send to Financial Secretary, Bobbe Crouch. Be sure to specify if your check is intended for the Unified Budget or another purpose.

### TEXT.



Text "GIVE" to 502.237.7312 and follow the prompts.

### FROM YOUR IRA.



For those over 70.5 years old, tax-free IRA gifts offer a huge financial benefit. Reach out to Bobbe Crouch to learn how this could reduce your future tax burden and fulfill your Required Minimum Distribution.



BWIM | MONTH OF  
**ADVOCACY**

**March is Baptist Women in Ministry Advocacy Month!** Throughout this month, BWIM invites us all to affirm, value and elevate Baptist women in ministry.

Crescent Hill Baptist Church has been a proud supporter of women in ministry for over 50 years. In fact, our church was the birthplace of Baptist Women in Ministry! In January of 1973, Betty Cook, Jane Kent, and Gaga Woodward were ordained as deacons at Crescent Hill. At the time, they were the first women to hold this position at CHBC and were only three of a handful of women deacons nationwide among Southern Baptists. This month we celebrate the past, present, and future of women thriving in any and all denominations.

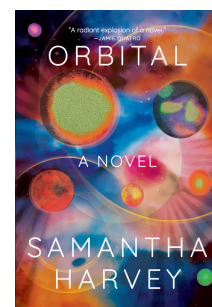
## Reading Group

March

**27**

7:00 PM

In March, the Reading Group will be reading the 2024 winner of the Booker Prize, *Orbital*, by British writer Samantha Harvey. The novel gives an account of one day in the lives of six international astronauts and cosmonauts on a space mission. The book is described as a moving elegy to our environment and planet. “A wondrous and timely hymn to life on earth.” Join us on **March 27, at 7:00 in the parlor.** Contact Bobbie Thomason for any questions.



## Order Your Easter Lilies!

It's time to place orders for Easter lilies to adorn the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday! Order forms may be submitted in the offering plate or in the designated box in the church office. Checks can be made out to Crescent Hill Baptist Church with, “Easter Lily” in the memo line. Please submit payments in the offering plate on Sunday OR to Bobbe Crouch. You may purchase flowers in honor, in memory or, in gratitude of a loved one or a friend. **Cost is \$23.00 each.** Flowers may be taken home following the Easter service. **All orders are due by Sunday, April 13.**



## Eggstravaganza Volunteers Needed!



April

**19**

9:30 AM

Bring the kids for some free family fun before the Frankfort Avenue Easter parade on **April 19, from 9:30am-11:30am!** Enjoy crafts, cookie decorating, face painting, a bounce house and other activities and games. Volunteers will need to arrive at 9 AM. Contact Melanie Bunger ([melanie.bunger@twc.com](mailto:melanie.bunger@twc.com), 435-6189) or Corrie Hammons ([corriehammons@chbcky.org](mailto:corriehammons@chbcky.org)) if you are able to volunteer during this egg-stra special event! And stick around for the Easter parade on Frankfort Avenue!

## Volunteers Needed for Upcoming Donation

While doing some ‘spring cleaning’ in the children’s ministry closet, we stumbled upon dozens of sleeping bags! We plan to keep some for future use and will donate the surplus to organizations in need. **If you are able to assist in this effort by machine washing the extra sleeping bags before we donate them, that would be greatly appreciated!** All sleeping bags are located in the Youth Room. There will be signs in the Youth Room indicating which sleeping bags are clean and which sleeping bags still need to be washed. Please contact Corrie Hammons ([corriehammons@chbcky.org](mailto:corriehammons@chbcky.org)) for more information!



# WEDNESDAYS AT CRESCENT HILL

**March 26**

**Menu (5 PM):** Spaghetti and meatballs, Garlic Bread, Salad and a Dessert!

**Program (6 PM):** Ministry Forum

***Choir Rehearsal is at 7:15pm in the Choir Room***



Thank you for Adopting the Little Free Pantry!



**March**  
**Choir**

**April**  
**Missions Response Team**

**May**  
**Solidarity Class/ John Annett**

While the sponsoring groups take the responsibility for stocking the pantry twice a week, the food collections every third Sunday help supplement their efforts! **If you have a group or team that is interested in adopting and stocking the Little Free Pantry for a month, please contact a member of the Missions Response Team!**

## *Weekly Prayer Concerns*

We pray for Rickey Geary-Bayman; Eugina Robertson; Margot McCall Lehocky; Jose Chipe; CJ Phipps; Betty Schnur; Judy Hodge; and, Lolly Tucker. Also, Phyllis Skonicki's son, Jim Mahanes; Kerri Cheng's husband, Eric; Rickey Geary-Bayman's friend, Monnie Farmer; Lisa Howser and Patti Speck's stepfather, Merrill Smith; Ann Cottone's father, John Revel; Annie Hammon's niece; Nancy; and Annie's brother, James Bellinger; Adrienne Eisenmenger's grandmother, Betty Gorham; Kat Goodman's friend, Danny Campbell; Kay Sanders' friend, Sharon Wilson; and Joyce Deboe's friend, Phyllis. For those affected by the conflict in Palestine & Israel. We pray for our CBF Field Personnel: Rick & Ellen Burnette, Steve Clark & Annette Ellard and Scarlette Jasper. We pray for healthcare workers, as well as school personnel and students. We pray for those affected by gun violence in our city and nation.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

March 2025 Projected Budget Offerings: **\$38,333**

Total March Budget Offerings (through 03-11-25): **\$11,261.00**

Budgeted 2025 YTD Offerings: **\$460,000** (Still need: **\$396,609**)

Total March 2025 Revenue: **\$27,070**

### For Comparison:

March 2024 Projected Budget Offerings: **\$38,333**

Total Revenue for March 2024: **\$61,310**

**We're glad  
you're here**

If you are a guest with us today and would like to let us know a little more about yourself, please take a moment to scan the QR Code.

