

SOUTH ELKHORN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
4343 Harrodsburg Road
Lexington, KY 40513
southelkhorncc.org
859.223.1433

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Lexington, KY
Permit No. 931

Our Staff

Michael Swartzentruber
Senior Minister

Holly Fugua
Associate Minister

Sara Don Bailey
Ministry Intern

Chris Weiss
Music Minister

Diana Vetter
Music Associate

Stephen Daming
Pianist

Kim Skidmore
Little Elks Director

Stasia Kruse
Administrator

A family of faith united in service

New Sermon Series

DISCIPLE SHIFT

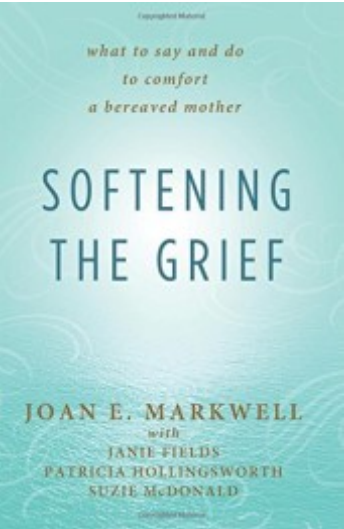
August 13 **Pass the Salt** Matthew 5:13-16
August 20 **No More Volunteers, Please** Romans 12:1-8
August 27 **Meeker Minds** Ephesians 4:1-6

I MY CHURCH

Sept 10 **A Bigger Embrace**
Sept 17 **BYOB (Bring Your Own Brain)**

Sept 24 **Leaving Hurry**
Oct 1 **Altared State**

In our culture “church” has grown to be synonymous with boring, judgmental, anti-intellectual, tribal, and empty. But that is not the vision of God or the message of Jesus. What if it were possible to fall in love with Christ’s church?



South Elkhorn Author, Janie Fields

A companion for grieving mothers and a resource for people who want to be caring but are afraid they will say the wrong thing.



SOUTH ELKHORN Quarterly Current

SUMMER 2017

A Deeper Listen

Michael Swartzentruber, Senior Minister

Maybe you know the look. A curious child strains to pop open a box of their favorite snack while a voice warns “No! Do not open that....” Then the inevitable spill all over the floor. There’s that look staring back: innocent, surprised confusion.

Hearing is not listening.

We can know *that* someone is speaking and still miss *what* they are saying. Maybe we aren’t paying attention. Maybe we just don’t understand. Listening is what happens when hearing meets attention and yields an understanding.

If you’re like me then you might feel pretty confident that you listen, most of the time. Sure, you might, on rare occasions, nod and grunt as if you’re paying attention. But that’s only when the Ducks are playing and they rarely get TV time in Kentucky.

Even so, while we might listen to others most of the time, what if that is *still* not the same thing as *deep listening*? What if listening might still missing something?

Deep listening is what happens when we pay attention to someone else by *first* letting go of our inner clamoring and our usual assumptions. It is what happens when we intentionally create an “inner clearing”. It is listening from within ourselves--with an open heart and receptive, patient spirit--not just leaning in closer with our ears. Too often our understanding is clouded by our own chaos, minimized by our assumptions, and projected through our own past experiences. We don’t see how those things are actually coloring our understanding. We think we are listening to someone else, but there is so much in us that is getting in the way.

Listening deeply enables us to hear what is there but is *not* being said, what is churning beneath the surface. When we listen deeply, we hear not just the content of person’s speech or the sense of their sentence. We hear a person.

Hearing is passive, listening is active, deep listening is personal.

Jesus often said, “If anyone has ears to hear, let them hear!” This was more than a subtle reminder to pay attention. Jesus requires us to make an “inner clearing” so we can hear and receive *his very being, his whole person*. Perhaps this deeper listen is how transformation takes root.

I’m grateful for our upcoming Church Retreat in a few weekends (details inside), where people of all ages will take some time to practice “a deeper listen.” This is a spiritual practice that requires intentionality, repetition, and dedication. And it helps to learn with and from others in community.

I’m also glad that we are doing the hard work of listening deeply *as a church*. The Visioning survey you have been invited to complete is only the first phase in a process of listening deeply to who we are as a church. It involves clearing what we think we know about ourselves and getting feedback from members and attendees, from our neighbors, and from the wider community.

May we each and all have ears to hear... and listen... and listen *deeply*.



“Hearing is passive.
Listening is active.
Deep listening is personal.”

At A Glance

Church Retreat
August 18-20

New Member Dinner
Sunday, August 27

Kickoff Sunday
Sunday, September 10

Consignment Sale
September 14-15

Disciples Women's Gathering
Sunday, September 17

Celebration Sunday
Sunday, October 1

Fall Festival
Saturday, October 14

Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 29

All Saints Sunday
Sunday, November 5

All Church Drive In
Sunday, November 19

Drive Through Bethlehem
Saturday, December 10

Chili Cook Off & Talent Show
Sunday, January 21

This Summer & Fall

CHURCH RETREAT
August 18-20
Theme: A Deeper Listen

It's not too late. Share in a weekend of rest, spirituality, and friendships. Let Holly know by Sunday, August 13 if you would like to attend.

Go online for more info or to register:

www.southelkhorncc.org/events/church-retreat



CONSIGNMENT SALE
September 15, 9:00 AM-8:00 PM
September 16, 8:00 AM-Noon

Quality, name brand clothing at affordable prices. Seasonal Clothing for newborns to juniors.

Fall sale has fall and winter clothes. The proceeds from the sale go half to Little Elks Preschool and half to South Elkhorn. For more information email: kidsconsignmentsale@gmail.com. Watch bulletin for details on signing up to volunteer.

FALL FESTIVAL
Saturday, October 14
9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Shop for handmade crafts, eat delicious food and listen to great music. Volunteer information is on the white board in the foyer of the Christian Ministry Center. For more info or to volunteer, email Peter Woollam at: woollam@aol.com.



EMPOWER GUATEMALAN WOMEN
Sunday, November 12

Finding Freedom Through Friendship supports Guatemalan widows and their children with their critical needs. This includes economic support, empowering women to make and sell items. These items will be available for purchase in the foyer on Sunday, November 12 and make for meaningful "alternative Christmas" gifts.



Children & Youth

ALL CHURCH KICKOFF SUNDAY
Sunday, September 10, 5:00 PM
Back Field

A fun afternoon of fellowship with games, inflatables, Kona ice, a magician, and the music of Triage. Bring a picnic dinner, lawn chairs, money for Kona ice, and canopies if you have one for shade.

TRUNK OR TREAT
Sunday, October 29, 5:00 PM

Everyone is invited to meet in the backfield of the church for a fun evening of trunks and treats!

Bring:

- Your costume
- Car decorations
- Nut-free candy
- Picnic dinner



REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE RESUMES September 10

9:00 AM	Sunday School	Room
	Nursery ages 6 weeks—2 years	214
	Age 3 - Kindergarten	125
	Grades 1 & 2	123
	Grades 3 - 5	121
	Grades 6 - 8	208
	Grades 9 - 12	207
10:30 AM	Worship & Wonder	203 & 209
	Kids begin with adults in worship service. After Children's Moment dismissed to Worship & Wonder rooms.	
4:40 PM	Children's Choir	204
	Ages 5—5th Grade	
5:00 PM	Open Gym & Snack	
5:30 PM	Activities	
	Tiny Tots, Ages 3 - Pre School	
	Children, Grades K - 5	
	Youth, Grades 6 - 12	

At A Glance

Children and Youth

Sunday School Kickoff
Sunday, September 10

Children's Sabbath
Sunday, October 22

Trunk or Treat
Sunday, October 29

Program guides with detailed information are available online at:

southelkhorncc.org/children
southelkhorncc.org/youth

Save the Dates 2018

Drive In Movie Theater, Feb. 25

Baptism Sunday, April, 22

Graduation Sunday, May 6

Vacation Bible School,
May 29-June 1

2018 Summer Camp Dates

June 1-3	Mini Camp
June 4-9	CYF 1
June 10-16	Eighter's Camp
June 18-22	Junior 1
June 22-24	Camp 101A
June 25-30	CYF 2
July 2-7	Chi Rho 1
July 9-14	Chi Rho 2
July 16-20	Junior 2
July 20-22	Camp 101B



Children & Youth

Holly Fuqua, Associate Minister

I love the summer. I love the sunshine.
I love staying up late on a warm summer night.
There is just something special about summer.
But sadly, the summer is almost over. Why can't summer just stay.
No School. Lots of ice cream. Children with sun kissed cheeks.
I just love it.
But now it is time for a change. A new routine. A new beginning.
And I just love that too.
I love the first day of school. New backpacks. Sharpened pencils. Excited kids.
I love how the weather gets cooler. Football games. Windows open. Leaves changing colors.
And I love the season at church. Kids running to Sunday School. Trunk or Treat. Fall Festival Bean Soup.
But perhaps what I love the most is looking out from the pulpit and seeing all of **YOU** at Church.
I love a big wave from a child. A smile from an adult.
It warms my heart. It feeds my spirit. YOU make a difference.
I just love it.
Getting back into routine this fall can be challenging, but it is worth it.
When we make Church a priority the routine becomes a part of who we are.
It is like breathing. We need the Church. We need God. We need each other.
A few weeks ago, at church, a little girl ran over to me and gave me a warm hug. She had a beautiful red cape on and wanted me to see her outfit. She said, "Do you know what I am today?" And I responded with a big smile on my face, "Well of course I know what you are. You are a beautiful Super Hero!" She looked me directly in the eyes and responded seriously, "No. I am a vampire."
I sure love our kids and I love our Church. We can come just as we are. Some days, we may feel like Superheroes and other days, Vampires, but no matter how we feel, we are called to still come. To come to worship and glorify a God who loves us more than we can ever know or imagine.
The seasons are a changing. Come experience change in your Spirit through the Spirit at South Elkhorn Christian Church.
And you know what? I cannot wait to see YOU.
I love our Church.



Me et Our New Nursery At tendant!



We are so excited to have Jennai Mitchell join the staff as a nursery attendant. Take an opportunity to meet her soon and welcome her to South Elkhorn!

Jennai Mitchell is South Elkhorn's new nursery attendant. Jennai is from Paducah, Kentucky and is a sophomore at Transylvania University majoring in accounting and minoring in Spanish. Her hobbies include running, lifting weights, writing and drawing. She is excited to be working at South Elkhorn.



SERMON SERIES

September 10 - October 1

In our culture "church" has grown to be synonymous with boring, judgmental, anti-intellectual, tribal and empty. But that is not the vision of God or the message of Jesus. What if it were possible to fall in love with church? Explore the shocking beauty of grace, the contours of intelligent faith, the patient power of spiritual rest, and a world-changing joy. Experience and celebrate church as a vehicle of God's healing and hope in a fragmented world.

- September 10

A Bigger Embrace
- Seotember 17

BYOB (Bring Your Own Brain)
- September 24

Leaving Hurry
- October 1

Altared State

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

September 17 - October 1

Each year individuals and families prayerfully estimate future giving, share those figures with the church, and empower South Elkhorn to build a budget that resources a vital mission and vibrant ministry. This process enables the church to be responsible, intentional, and strategic. Most importantly, it fuels us to grow as *a family of faith united in service*.



God is calling us to deeper insight into who we are as a growing, vibrant church with a bold and important mission.

Learn more about how you can contribute to the conversation:

southelkhorncc.org/vision

Life Together



DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY GATHERING Sunday, September 17, 5:00 PM

We will meet in McMahan Hall from 5-6:30 PM while kids have youth group in the Christian Ministry Center, so all child care will be provided. Since McMahan Hall offers a more intimate setting, we will mingle and socialize as we all arrive, and then can sit down to eat or continue to visit with other women.

We will have a short program to honor those whom have passed this year, and any announcements relevant to our gathering. We are offering a light dinner followed by dessert and coffee, and look forward to all women of the church coming together to meet new faces or spend time reconnecting with old friends. Donations will be collected to support Jody Greenlee's Finding Freedom through Friendship program.

finding-freedom-through-friendship.org/

RSVP to Jane Estepp at janeestepp@gmail.com or 859-221-0127.

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Martha Circle, Meet first Monday of each month
Becky Burklow, 494-7577

Marys' Circle, Meet first Tuesday of each month
Phyllis Rohlf, 223-8989

Priscilla Circle, Meet first Wednesday of each month,
Nancy Smith, 223-7246

HOPE Group, Meet every Thursday
Holly Fuqua, 223-1433

Asher Group, Meet various dates
Laura Walsh, 537-4211

4 Week Adult Sunday School Class
Led by Lisa Gammel Maas
October 1, 8, 15, and 22, 9:00 AM, Room 111

Lectio Divina is a slow, contemplative praying of the scriptures. It is an ancient art of engaging scripture with an open heart. Through the repeated reading of a short passage of scripture, each of us invites a personal and intimate message from God, relevant to this moment in our lives. No advance preparation is needed and all are welcome. Please reserve your spot by signing up on the white board in the foyer or contact Associate Minister, Holly Fuqua. Limited space is available.

Choir



Chris Weiss
Minister of Music

CHOIR KICKOFF SOCIAL

August 27

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Home of Chris Weiss , 3892 Scarlet Oak, Lexington

You are invited to get acquainted with this awesome group of voices and musicians in a relaxed and fun setting. Contact Chris, chris@southelkhorncc.org to **RSVP and directions**.

CHOIR BEGINS SUNDAY, September 17

Sunday Practices: 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Choir Room (204)

Child care available



Dr. Diana Vetter, Music Associate

Diana has served as Music Intern at South Elkhorn since 2012. In July, Diana's contract was renewed with some changes, including a new title that reflects the completion of her doctorate in musical arts from the University of Kentucky. Diana will also build the worship slides for our Sunday morning projection, continue directing our Children's Choir, anchor the adult choir, provide musical accompaniment and special music, and lead worship on select occasions.

You can contact Diana by email at diana@southelkhorncc.org



Diana Vetter
Music Associate

CHILDREN'S CHOIR BEGINS September 17

Join us Sunday afternoons, 4:40 PM
Choir Room (204)

Practices:
September 17- October 1
October 15 - December 3

Singing in Worship:
October 22 & December 10

A Family of Faith United in Service



SouthElkhornCC.org

Worship & Wonder

During 10:30 AM worship, children age 3 to grade 3 are dismissed to nearby classrooms (rooms 203 & 209) for a calming, creative, story-rich worship experience.

Storytellers and Greeters help lead young people in the amazing adventure of discovery, faith, and formation.

Be a Storyteller

Lead children in discovering by narrating a sacred story.

Be a Greeter

Help the children with the rich rituals of gathering, preparing, listening, and wondering.

Contact Holly Fuqua at holly@southelkhorncc.org to learn more or signup on white board.



Sunday Evening Snacks

Snacks are served prior to Tiny Tots, Children and Youth Groups on Sunday evenings. A sign up sheet is located on white board for help with snacks on Sunday nights. All snacks will be reimbursed. You can also email

holly@southelkhorncc.org



CONSIGNMENT SALE

September 15-16

Volunteers needed to set up, work consignment and tear down. Contact Debbie Parrett at 859-533-2015 or jdklafarm@aol.com.

FALL FESTIVAL

October 13-14

There are many ways to volunteer at our annual Fall Festival; parking set-up, parking assistants, concessions, bake sale and dismantling of event. Contact Peter Woollam 859-489-7507 or woollam@aol.com.



SERVE DAY Saturday, October 21 9:00 AM

Share your love, energy, and skills. Live out your faith in "a family of faith united in service."

The Lady Veterans Connect seeks to provide hope, homes and healing. They provide a transitional living home for homeless female vets--the only one in KY.

The organization is in the process of converting an old grade school with a gym, cafeteria, library, and classrooms into bedrooms. Everyone (ages 12 and up) will have something important to do.

Together we can tackle any or all of the following projects:

Paint
Fold clothes

General cleaning
Move furniture

Sort clothes
Set up furniture

Sort furniture

It will take about 45 minutes to get to the location in Trapp, Kentucky. Directions will be printed and handed out.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Dale Warren at dale.warren@uky.edu or 859-401-2789.

Service & Outreach Ministry Team

Have a heart for reaching out with Christ's love in tangible ways to meet real human needs? Learn more about how you can

- be part of selecting and planning congregational service projects
- help South Elkhorn partner with agencies and ministries locally and globally

Contact Team Leader Dale Warren at dale.warren@uky.edu or 859-401-2789

Stay Connected



TEXT MESSAGING

Do you want to receive text alerts, information, birthday wishes, and encouragements?

Using your phone text **"SECC"** to **40650** and follow the prompts.

Cabinet Highlights



By John Johnson, Cabinet Moderator

The times, they are a changing.

That's what Bob Dylan sang in 1964, and it's true today. I am excited to announce the launch of our new online church directory! It will also be available in print form for those who haven't yet taken the paperless plunge.

Here are a few things you might want to know. All church members, staff, and regular attendees are automatically included. If you would choose not to be listed, just let the church office know. The information in the directory includes name, address, phone number and email address. One of the unique features is that you are able to upload photos and also edit your information. Several of us have already done so. Check it out at:

<https://servantkeeper.com/directory/SouthElkhornChristianChurch>

The universal password is "Family of Faith."

Once you click on your name, scroll all the way to the bottom of the page and select "Manage my family info" and follow the instructions to be able to upload photos and manage your information. The directory is available now. There will be some help sessions after church and more detailed written instructions available soon.

Vision Update



By Peter Brackney, Vice Moderator

The Vision Team began in January includes myself as Vice Moderator, as well as the two at-large cabinet members Scott Brown and Sarah Goad. Michael serves as our resource pastor. We have been charged by the Cabinet with examining (or starting the process of examining) the mission of our church by exploring our community (our local predicament), our unique resources and capabilities (our collective potential), and what particular focus most energizes our leadership (our apostolic esprit). By examining these three overlapping concepts, the Vision Team seeks to understand South Elkhorn's Kingdom

Concept to discern our greatest opportunity to impact God's Kingdom.

The goal of this journey is not to create a visioning document to sit on a shelf, but to capture our collective vision which can then guide decision-making by church leadership in the years to come.

From the congregation and the community, we've collected thoughts, ideas, and impressions about how South Elkhorn is perceived and how we can better serve God in our unique location in Lexington, Kentucky. We've seen some consistent themes and words that reflect our potential and esprit. Welcoming. Intelligence. Community. Family.

These words reach into our existing mission and vision language, but a lot of churches describe themselves as welcoming. *What is unique about South Elkhorn - how do we differ from 10,000 other churches?* And how can we grow as a vibrant family of faith united in service to God? If you have feedback to offer, we welcome it. Learn more at southelkhornmcc.org/vision. We will soon be holding some listening sessions where we can dig a little deeper into understanding our Kingdom Concept.

Financial Overview

By Aden Randles, Treasurer



Thank you for your generous gifts to South Elkhorn. Please look for your year-to-date giving statement in the mail, which is being sent soon.

We have some members who gift stocks/mutual funds to the church. For those that do, I want to call your attention to a change - our bank, Traditional Bank, no longer offers this service, and we are setting up a new account elsewhere to handle this. For those that are not aware, gifting a security can provide some significant tax savings. When an appreciated stock or mutual fund is gifted, South Elkhorn receives the full market value of the securities, and the donor receives a tax deduction for that market value

amount without paying any capital gains. If you are interested in getting more information about how to handle this, please contact me.

The financials for the first 6 months of 2017 are shown in the chart. While our giving and expenses have come in better than budgeted, it is important to understand that we are still operating on a deficit - our giving does not fully cover all of our ministry expenses. However, we have noticed that giving is much more consistent than in years past, which can be attributed the growth in online giving at South Elkhorn. If you are interested in finding out more, please visit:

<http://www.southelkhornmcc.org/give/>

For more information or questions please feel free to contact me: arandles@commerceprop.com or call at 859-536-4241.

2017 Financial Results

	Actual thru June	Expected thru June
Pledged Ministry	\$153,881	\$142,650
All Other Revenues	\$ 43,455	\$ 47,934
Total Revenues	\$197,336	\$190,584
Operating Expenses	\$207,043	\$224,514
Total Over/(Under)	(\$ 9,707)	(\$33,930)

Little Elks Preschool

WOW summer has flown by!! I hope you have had a wonderful one!

We are starting to prepare Little Elks for our 47th back to school day!! This year we will be welcoming 130 students who range in age from 2-5. We are starting with full classes and a waiting list. Our passion to pass along the lifelong love of learning is what keeps Little Elks growing year after year. It is so exciting to see what God has in store for everyone involved in the children of South Elkhorn. We will be back to school on August 29. If you ever want more information or would like to learn more about this program, contact me at kim@southelkhornmcc.org.



Kim Skidmore
Little Elks Director