

A PUBLICATION OF CHURCH ON THE HILL IN BOCA RATON, FLORIDA

VANTAGE



PEACE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 2023

Pastor's Page



With two Sundays of sharing our church with Lifepoint Church under our belt, several things are noticeable. First, your capacity to see the good side of things is amazing and wonderful. When we walked into the sanctuary Sunday, October 15, and saw the dramatic changes to the chancel, all of us had our breaths taken away. The difference is, well, stunning. Some just stopped in their tracks; others kept walking but kept staring, too. Many used the word “energy” or “energetic” when trying to describe the change in terms of how it affected them. Another person, someone not exactly younger, said, “It’s beautiful.” Someone who had a tough time with the change at first sight, ended up going through the exact thing I did earlier that morning when I walked in. While she wasn’t happy with the change at first, minutes later she exclaimed, happily surprised, “It’s amazing how fast you get used to it!” Of course, in general, I’m talking about older folks and their responses. When it came

to younger worshippers, the responses were immediately very positive. We have a long way to go when it comes to making the most of what Lifepoint has given us, but we will put together a plan and work in the improvements and changes one at a time. If you have any suggestions or comments, I’d love to hear them!

Another thing that has become clearer is that Lifepoint is big and noisy! Their first Sunday was loco—that’s Spanish, not Portuguese, for crazy! But that was for the first Sunday at their new church home. They were extremely excited to be at our church, to say the least. Pastors Pedro and Sandra met with Sarah and me the Monday after. We talked things over and worked things out, easily I should add. The next Sunday, October 22, was quite a bit different, better, and impressive as to how much they adapted to what we asked of them. I believe they are folks who want this to work out well both for them and us. Pastor Pedro is truly a good man; he’s always been kind, patient, accommodating, and hopeful. If ever there were a pastor with the right character for putting together a church sharing agreement, then Pastor Pedro has the personality attributes one should look for.

With two Sundays of sharing our church, things are as good as they could be. I’m hopeful for Church on the Hill. I believe in us, and what makes us special still. More importantly, God believes in us! Keep the faith, so we can go where the people are who need the church as we do church.

Peace and joy,

Pastor Tom



If you are interested in participating in worship service by being a lay reader, please speak with Pastor Tom

November Teachings

November 5
Luke 8:42-49

Take It—It's Yours

There's a story that in heaven there's a huge warehouse, and when you get to heaven you will see it because St. Peter will take you there. You will walk in, and you'll see acres and acres of boxes up on shelves. Everywhere you look as far as you can see there are rows and rows of boxes, and on each box there's a name. Out of curiosity you'll ask St Peter what the boxes are filled with. St Peter will tell you the boxes are filled with all the good things, all the healing, all God's blessings that people never claimed for themselves. We ought to take what is ours.

November 12
Matthew 25:31-46

The Power of God

Proverbs 19:17 says, "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord and will be repaid in full." 1 John 3:17-18 "How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?" Can you imagine if God weren't on the side of the poor? Can you imagine this world if God didn't have a moral basis—if God's power didn't include God's goodness? You really don't want to. Fortunately, God's goodness is powerful in us and our world.

November 19
Luke 6:37-38

Glad to Be Grateful I

Many people become experts at something they don't want to be good at—complaining. We forget our blessings, and remember what we don't like. But scripture says this is backward. Psalm 103 tells us "...forget not all (God's) benefits." Take the gratitude path in your life. Find what is good and hold onto it. Run from what's wrong. Look up and see where the light is shining on your path and walk there. Leap frog over dead end people, harsh and negative perceptions, and ungrateful actions. Be grateful, and then be glad to be grateful.

November 26
Luke 17:11-19

Glad to Be Grateful II

When the small moments mean something to us, then the bigger moments bring us even greater joy. Like the holidays. They don't call it "the most wonderful time of the year" for nothing. Or your child's face after she or he opens a present. That's what pure joy looks like.

But a life that recognizes the power of gratitude mustn't wait for the right moment. Gratitude is an attitude bigger than any circumstance or condition in life. It is a cause of joy and a magnifier of blessing. Gratitude is a life-changer that overcomes feelings of being overwhelmed. As 1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Team Updates

News from the Vision Ministry

by Sarah Hugus, Acting Church Moderator
Stewardship Drive - We invite your offer to lead this campaign for 2024 budgeting purposes! Very soon we will launch the giving season to fund our ministries going into 2024. This year's theme is "Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives." We think about the eight recovery meetings that COTH hosts every week in our roomy Fellowship Hall. More would like to come here if there were times available. Keeping our sanctuary in good shape is welcoming to new people and all who worship here. Our special sanctuary serves as a beautiful background for couples wanting a church wedding. During week days a licensed preschool meets in the lower classrooms and is a good use of resources rather than have our building sit empty. Our building's unusual and captivating architecture attracts attention in our neighborhood. Let's all begin thinking about how important our financial contributions are in being able to provide ministries to others. With increased funding we can create additional ways of Being Church in our community and to help around the world.

Lifepoint International Ministries - LifePoint began their worship services and Sunday School on October 15. Their congregants arrive between 10:30-11:00 a.m. to prepare for their service at 11:30. They offer children's worship in the Fellowship Hall before the youth and teens go to their Sunday School classes in the Upper Room and three large classrooms downstairs. Lifepoint changed their service time so that we can keep our 10 a.m. service. There are some changes - we think improvements - in the look of the chancel area - and we are invited to make use of their technology during worship. We look forward to getting to know them as we cross paths and to make them feel at home in our beautiful space. Lifepoint is so grateful to be sharing our spacious facilities - their prayer group came out in large numbers to sing praises for this opportunity a few days before their first service. This arrangement may continue for years. In future months, Lifepoint may request wider access to all of our church spaces throughout the week days and evenings. All COTH members and friends are encouraged to

extend a generous welcome to these new friends in our midst. The fees from LifePoint will certainly be put to good use.

Vision Ministry Meeting Updates - We continue to meet monthly to consider all things related to church life. Meetings are open to all, and usually fall on the first Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m., or November 7 this month, in the lower classroom space. Enter through the blue double doors under the canopy. Suggestions about transparency have been implemented and now digital audio recordings of all meetings are created and kept. They can be referenced for writing minutes, and other purposes. Recently we voted to suspend the COTH by-laws and allow new at-large members to be approved to serve on the Vision Ministry. By doing this, individuals are not required to take on the leadership of a team AND report for monthly COTH business meetings. Vision Ministry members are able to vote on motions. Currently Sarah Hugus is Acting Moderator, we have no Vice Moderator, Thomas Brown is Church Clerk, and we jointly consult on Finances. Many thanks to Bob Murphy who leads Deacons, Jerry Clinton who leads Publicity, and Jeannie Clinton who leads Member Care for the time they devote to following through on their team's goals. Vision Ministry Minutes and monthly Finance Reports are available for your review. Would you like to come into the office to take a look? We have reference binders for those, and you are welcome to look at them. We do not offer copies at this time. Please call first to ensure Sarah or Thomas will be in the office!

Finances Report Each month, in the Vantage, you are updated about church finances. Giving statements were mailed in September to all 120 family units who identify their COTH contributions. Following that mailing, several givers came through with pledges for which we are always grateful. Please email the office if you gave and did not receive a statement.

Team Updates

Publicity and Promotions Update

Jerry Clinton, Team Lead

It's here! What is here, you ask? I'm referring to the new and improved Church website. Andrew Lowe and Thomas Brown have done a great job, and we're live. To make the website come alive, we need your help. We're embarking on the **Church Video Project**, and we need volunteers to record short videos. Let's tell the wonderful story of Church on the Hill in our own words.

*What brought you to Church on the Hill?

*What makes us special?

*What is your favorite thing about Church on the Hill?

*Do you have some good church stories to tell?

The videos will be added to the church web page, and may be shared on our social media channels. If you're interested in joining the effort, please contact Jerry Clinton at jerryclinton1@gmail.com.

Reduce Plastic Waste Means Reduce Use!

Thomas Brown

One of the resolutions captured my interest. I have had a keen interest in the problem of plastic use and recycling. I am listing a few actions that I recommend to reduce your use of plastic. The idea that recycling can solve this problem is a delusion.

1. Use a reusable water bottle daily.
2. Switch to reusable containers and wraps at home.
3. Buy dry goods in bulk.
4. Refuse disposable To-Go items.
5. Use reusable shopping bags.
6. Swap your plastic toothbrush for one made of bamboo.
7. Buy packageless produce.

These ideas are from an app called: One Planet Life. It is just one of several that feature ways to free yourself from plastic. Don't be fooled. Be informed. Recycling cannot solve the plastic problem.

Stay Connected

Did you move? Have you changed your USPS address? Would you prefer to receive our monthly Vantage newsletter via email? If you answered YES to any of these questions, please send your contact information or changes to be placed on our church email list to: office@churchofboca.org. Thank you!

Member Care Update

Jeannie Clinton, Team Lead

The Member Care Committee has been busy calling and sending notes to Church on the Hill members who may be in need of prayers, a visit, a ride to church, or just a friendly check-in. She also writes to our visitors. If you or someone you know needs help from the Member Care Committee, please contact Jeannie Clinton at 561-901-5935 or jeannieclinton1@gmail.com.

Deacon Update

Bob Murphy, Team Lead with Rocky assisting
Don't we love our very own friend-therapy dog? Deacons provide Welcome Bags to our visitors that include some literature like the latest Vantage issues, pens, popcorn, Be The Church magnet and a smile. If you would like to serve on this fun and active team, please talk with Bob or Pastor Tom. murphyrobertf@gmail.com

Mark your calendars - This is an invitation from the Deacon Team for a Progressive Dinner on Sunday, January 28. We'll enjoy appetizers and salad hosted by Lois in Pompano Beach, main courses in COTH's Fellowship Hall, and desserts hosted by Faye at St Andrews Estates in Boca. See sign up sheets in November and December for attendance and food donations.

Bob

Remember Your 2023 Florida Conference UCC Dues!

Church on the Hill is a member of the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ. Yearly dues are \$15.00 per person in your family who is a member of this church through joining or Confirmation. Our church must pay this amount for all members, so your contribution will definitely help keep our budget on track. If you are unsure whether you have paid, contact Sarah at:

office@churchofboca.org. A recent look at this item reveals that we budgeted for \$900 and have received dues amounting to \$495. Please send your dues in before the end of this fiscal year. We'd like this budget item to balance!



Annual Conference News

Florida Conference of the UCC News

Church on the Hill representative Thomas Brown

I recently attended the annual conference for the Florida Conference of the UCC. I will be reporting on various parts of the events in this Vantage and in upcoming bulletins. First, let's look at some of the more relevant resolutions that were passed at the National Biennial Synod of the UCC and affirmed at the annual Florida conference. If any of these resolutions sparks a desire for action, please talk to me and we can begin sharing ideas for actions we can take in our church.

Denouncing the Dobbs Decision and Proclaiming

Abortion as Healthcare In June 2022, the Supreme Court, in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, overturned the fifty-year precedent of *Roe v. Wade*, which established the right to abortion. This resolution denounces the *Dobbs* decision, affirms abortion as healthcare, and calls upon the various settings of the United Church of Christ to nonviolently resist abortion bans, protect legal abortions where they exist, and accompany people seeking abortion care.

Faithful Advocacy for Intersectional and Transformational Healing in Harm Reduction

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in a one-year period ending in April 2021, over 100,000 beloved people died from an entirely preventable cause of death, accidental drug overdose. The national response to the overdose crisis has been largely shaped by the criminalization and dehumanization of people who use drugs, disproportionately impacting Black, Brown, and Indigenous people. In the enduring spirit of Nixon's "all-out offensive against public enemy number one (illegal drugs)," the war on people who use drugs has decimated families, incarcerated millions of mostly Black and Brown people and the communities they live in, enabled the spread of infectious diseases such as HCV and HIV, and failed to prevent problematic substance use or make evidence-based treatment for substance use disorder more widely accessible. There is a more loving and just way, and that way is Harm Reduction. Harm Reduction has been proven to save lives, heal communities, and is positively transforming social narratives and policies on drugs and the people that use them. Harm Reduction finds its roots in the creativity and wisdom of peo-

ple with lived and living experience of substance use. Harm reduction is understood as a set of practices for minimizing drug related harm, a person-centered philosophy for addressing substance use across the spectrum, as well as a movement for social justice which recognizes the multitude of social determinants that impact a person's relationship with substance use and their vulnerability to drug related harm.

Affirming Guns to Gardens and Other Gun Violence Prevention Ministries

This resolution calls on the Thirty-Fourth General Synod of the United Church of Christ to support churches and all other settings of the United Church of Christ in engaging in meaningful action to address the scourge of gun violence in our country. Each church and setting is called to pursue a course of action that best fits their skills, capabilities, and understanding. Actions that seek to end gun violence include but are not limited to organizing Guns to Garden events, organizing events promoting safe storage of firearms, participating in raising awareness and fostering education concerning gun violence, advocating for legislative action concerning gun control, and broader mental health services.

Encouraging a Plant-based Life

Animal consumption damages the earth, fosters violence in families, exploits workers, poisons neighbors, diseases our bodies, misuses land and water. The effects of animal consumption are worse for People of Color and Communities of Color; the work to raise and process animals for consumption is exploitative of the labor of immigrants, people in poverty, and People of Color. Yet our faith begs us to live in harmony, in covenant with the earth and one another.

Free from Plastic Pollution

Plastic pollution has become one of the most pressing environmental issues in the 21st century. The increased production of disposable plastic products and the failure of manufacturers to recycle plastic bottles and single use plastics is overwhelming the waste management and the disposal of plastics into landfills or improper disposal. In developing nations with less efficient waste disposal systems, they are disposed and are breaking down and polluting the environment. Plastics pollution has escalated and have be-

Annual Conference News

come ubiquitous in the soil, water, and the food system. It impacts the health of human and more than human life. It is time that United Church of Christ join environmental organizations, faith communities, and other concerned groups to take action to reduce the plastic pandemic that impacts and threatens life and God's creation.

A Resolution Supporting Public School Educators, Academic Freedom, and Equity Efforts in Schools This resolution is intended to voice support of public-school educators, academic freedom, and equity efforts in schools at a time when public education is threatened through attempts to control curriculum, ban books and media, and restrict strategies to ensure the advancement of equity. The intent of this resolution is to raise awareness and provide members of the United Church of Christ with information that can be used for the development of talking points about these issues.

A Resolution to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans This Resolution calls on the Thirty-Fourth General Synod of the United Church of Christ to publicly proclaim its support of the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act, or like-legislation that establishes a body to study and design Reparations proposals for African Americans. This Resolution also urges partnership between UCC settings where appropriate to organize education, discussion, and direct-action opportunities to further a ministry of Reparatory Justice and Reparations.

A Resolution Condemning Prolonged Solitary Confinement as a Form of Torture This resolution calls on the United Church of Christ to condemn prolonged solitary confinement as a form of torture. The resolution calls on the United Church of Christ to: 1) demand that governments globally end any use of prolonged solitary confinement in their prisons, jails, and detention centers, whether publicly run or contracted with private companies; and 2) raise our voices with human rights groups, survivors of the torture of prolonged isolation, and their loved ones, to replace the practice with humane, rehabilitative alternatives rooted in community and racial justice.

Actively Affirming the Human Dignity of

Transgender and Nonbinary Persons For several decades, political and theological conversations related to LGBTQ+ issues have centered around same-sex relationships for lesbian, gay and bisexual people. Even as those conversations have led to significant gains for human and civil rights for LGBTQ+ people, the volume of faith resources dedicated to LGBTQ+ advocacy often have excluded reflection on the unique considerations related to gender identity. Some people have suggested that taking the Bible seriously requires people of faith to stand in opposition to the existence, health, and humanity of transgender and non-binary people. Consequently, gender-expansive people of all demographics and Christian traditions have been made to feel that they must choose between their faith and living a whole, healthy, and authentic life. The United Church of Christ has staked its claim to be a diverse community of believers and belief. It is our diversity that creates our strength. This diversity calls us to a radical welcome and to widen the table of welcome to our transgender and non-binary siblings. Transgender and non-binary people already are actively preaching, teaching, leading, pastoring, and offering their time, talent, treasure, and a variety of gifts for ministry and service in the United Church of Christ. The question is not if a person can be transgender, or non-binary, and Christian, but how might we as a Christian denomination advocate for and empower those whom God is already working through to enrich the whole life of the body of Christ.

I want to express my sincerely gratitude to the generous donations that helped pay for my expenses for attending this year's annual meeting.
Thomas Brown

Boca Helping Hands receives your donations

Over the past several months, our worshippers have donated 13 pounds of food to help local residents. Thank you to all who regularly help with this ministry and mission work.



Events & Notes

BCEO

All are invited to eat out, dutch treat, almost every Thursday evening. This group has been active, except during the pandemic, for about 20 years. We all make suggestions and decide where we would like to eat. We try to change up the location to suit everyone.

When YOU would like to attend, please RSVP to Bob Murphy: murphyrobertf@gmail.com

Here is the November line-up.

November 2

Santo's Buffet Boca Raton
3400 N Federal Hwy (Boca Plaza)
Boca Raton 33431
561-923-9378
Menu is at santosbuffetbr.com



November 9

Le Val de Loire Restaurant
1576 SE 3rd Ct (The Cove Shopping Center)
Deerfield Beach 33441
954-427-5354
Menu is at le-val-de-loire.com

November 16

Little Havana Restaurant
721 Federal Hwy
Deerfield Beach 33441
954-427-6000
Menu is at littlehavanarestaurant.com

November 23 Happy Thanksgiving!

November 30

Tijuana Taxi Co Mexican Restaurant
1015 South Federal Hwy (Rivertowne Square)
Deerfield Beach 33441
954-708-2775
Menu is at places.singleplatform.com

Bom Apetite!

Book Buzz

Book Buzz participants enjoyed a great discussion of The Wind Knows My Name by Isabel Allende. The topic hits a nerve as our country struggles with immigration. Ms. Allende expressed her passion for this topic in her novel.

The next book that we discuss will be Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver. We will meet on Friday the 3rd of November at 11:00. Dan Smith will convene the group in Thomas' absence. All Church on the Hill congregants are

welcome to join us in reading these books, even if you don't attend the monthly conversations. Enjoy and happy reading! If you have any questions, please contact Thomas at 954-695-7573 or at marrrom33@gmail.com.

Here are other titles mentioned by the Book Buzz group that you might enjoy reading:

The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave

Hang the Moon by Jeannette Walls

Shotgun Lovesongs by Nickolas Butler

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver

The Bird Hotel by Joyce Maynard

The Girl With the Louding Voice by Abi Dare

45 Churches of the Florida Conference have opted to sign on to the Pastoral Letter

Church on the Hill is one of the 45 churches that is speaking out on behalf of Educational Justice in Florida. Contact Sarah Hugus for a copy of this letter.

Want to know what is happening around our Florida Conference and our National UCC? Both have comprehensive web sites, with links to many topics and resources. The "Celebrate Florida" newsletter is very interesting! You can find the link to sign up for the email newsletter on either of the following sites.

uccfla.org and ucc.org.

Our New Website Has Arrived! by Thomas Brown

The old website for Church on the Hill has ceased to exist. It has been replaced by a brand new one with a modern look and some new content. The address has not changed. You can find the COTH site at:

<http://www.churchofboca.org>.

Andrew Lowe spent many hours creating the content and style for our new website. He had help from Christie Barger and I offered lots of moral support and several hours finalizing the site as it currently exists. It is, of course, always going to be a work in progress because we all are! It is my hope and desire that each person who reads this article will go to the site immediately and spend some time appreciating

Events & Notes

the differences. Pass the news that we have a new site to your friends on Facebook and any other social media you use. We will keep working to improve the site and seek to find ways for our ministry to grow through that avenue.

While you are there, write down a few things you like and any suggestions you have for content, photos and subjects that you would like to see there. I will be curating the site in the months ahead and I would love to have it improve and grow in usefulness and accuracy at representing the beautiful and dynamic reality of Church on the Hill.

Please send any suggestions or compliments to: marrom33@gmail.com or text me at: 954-695-7573

Daily Devotional from United Church of Christ

This is a resource that is available to anyone free of charge. You can sign up for the [UCC Daily Devotional](http://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional) on the UCC.org website. Just type <http://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional> into your browser and fill out the form.

Christmas on the Hill 3.0?

For the past 2 Christmas seasons, Church on the Hill provided a free outside event in late November. We invited neighbors and members alike to prepare for Christmas with music, food trucks, crafts and more. If you feel moved to offer your leadership and time, wouldn't it be wonderful to continue this tradition? Planning would need to start NOW! We need a dedicated sub-team and talented leader. Detailed reference materials and lots of supplies are available, with support and planning assistance. Please let Pastor Tom, Thomas or Sarah know if you would be willing to help!

Food For The Poor Mana Pack in October

Many thanks to the dedicated volunteers who gave several hours of their time on a recent Saturday to help pack hundreds of meals. The event was to help the food-insecure people in Honduras. Nancy Clarke-Fenner was the team leader.

Equal Exchange Fund Raiser

Thomas Brown has been selling coffee and chocolate as a fundraiser for the church. Fay F. is selling the chocolate bars in his absence - only \$5. Your purchase supports Fair Trade farming as well as a portion coming back to our church.

BHH Thanksgiving Baskets

Let's continue our COTH tradition and provide Thanksgiving baskets to Boca Helping Hands. We have collected canned goods to fill boxes for at least 6 years, interrupted by COVID, and this year we have filled 3 so far and have 7 to go for our goal of 10. There is a lot of food insecurity in our neighborhoods, so this is an opportunity to love your neighbor with the gifts of food. It's a helpful and fun activity and so rewarding to see those boxes fill up! Watch for those grocery BO-GO's and bring what you can to fill boxes. Find the Rosser Room Turkey to take feathers for the items you will provide. Or take a whole "box" feather and fill it on your own. If shopping is not your "thing," you can donate an additional box yourself for \$29.72 at BHH website: www.bocahelpinghands.org Food list - this is very specific to all fit into boxes, so not the time to get creative!

- (1) 6 oz. stove top stuffing mix
- (1) 10.5 oz. canned gravy (NOT GLASS)
- (1) 1.56 oz. powdered drink mix
- (4) 15 oz. canned vegetables (your choice)
- (2) 15 oz. canned fruit cocktail (or other fruit)
- (2) 4 oz. instant mashed potato mix (pouch)
- (1) 29 oz. canned yams (1) 14 oz. cranberry sauce
- (1) 21 oz. canned fruit pie filling (your choice)
- (1) 9" Ready-made graham cracker pie crust (non-perishable)

Delivery to BHH on Nov. 9th.

After-Worship Events

Each 2nd Sunday of the month, we would like to have a special gathering immediately after worship. Some events have been Father's Day brunch, Sundaes on Grandparents' Sunday, Super Bowl of Caring, Bring Your Own Hero Sandwich Sunday and more. What event would you like to help plan? Please offer your ideas to Bob Murphy, Team Leader of the Deacons, or to anyone else on the Vision Ministry Team. On November 12 we will enjoy a light Publix sub sandwich lunch, with ice cream Sundaes. We will meet in the Rosser Room with table and chair set-up provided by Lifepoint church volunteers. Thank you LifePoint!

Events & Notes

Honoring Volunteers!

We wish to thank the following volunteers. Those serving on the Deacon Team every Sunday morning to prepare, welcome, and oversee the service: Bob, Dan, Thomas, Faye, Sarah, Lois, Victor.

Those who work in Member Care with writing, calling, and praying for our members and friends in need: Jeannie, Bobbie, Mary.

Those who spend their time researching ways to improve our outreach, social media, and other publicity: Jerry, Andrew, Thomas.

Those who give of their time to help with counting and depositing your contributions: Sarah, Donna.

Those who assist in preparation for Sundays by stuffing bulletins, hymn numbers, fill candles, clean pews: Dan, Thomas, Hannah.

Those who come weekly moving trash cans and recyclables to the curb for early Monday pickup: Hinshaw family.

Those who assist in monthly mailings of this Vantage newsletter and seasonal mailings:



COTH hosted a beautiful wedding in mid-October

thanksgiving
gather
thankful family
blessed grateful
together) 
blessings
november) 

Events & Notes



Our new look!



Events & Notes

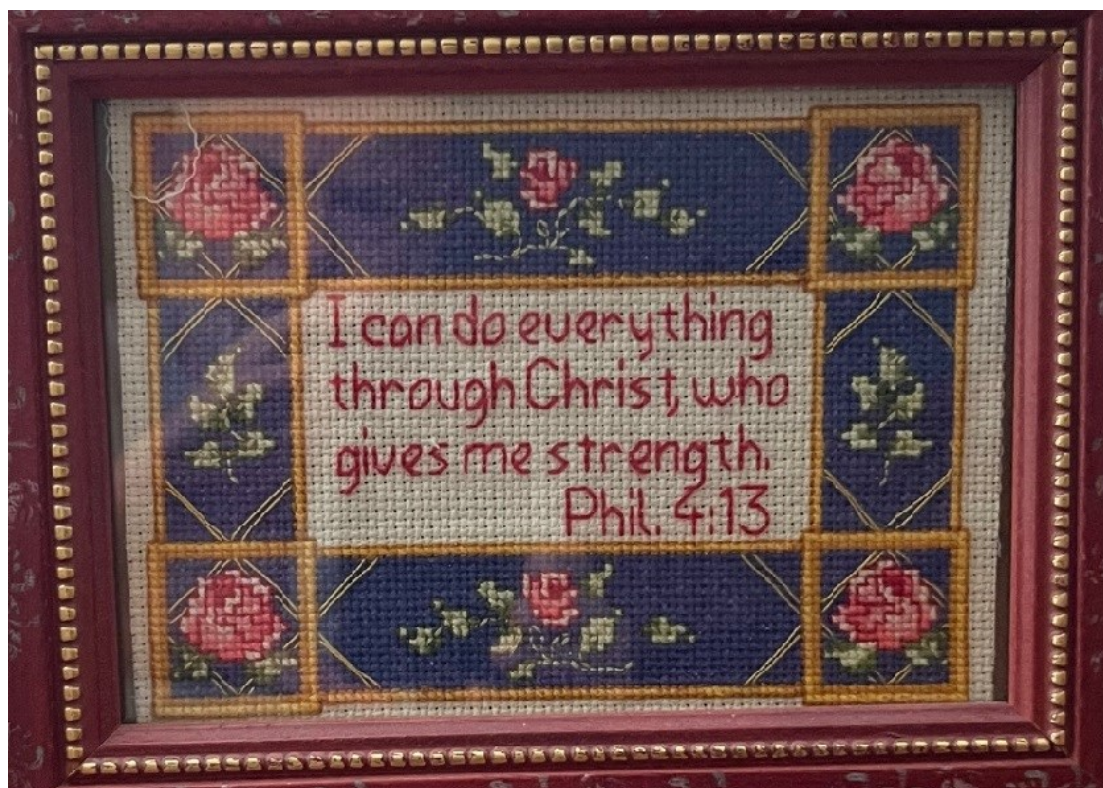


As you can see in these photos, many hands and about a week's time on site was needed to erect the framework, and run wiring that provides the new backdrop for Lifepoint worship services. About 200 attended their first very lively service with praise band, singers, and lots of happy and helpful people. Always willing to lend a hand. We are adjusting to each other and are getting used to sharing! Lifepoint changed their 10 a.m. service time to allow COTH to keep our preferred time. Thank you to Lifepoint, Pastors Sandra and Pedro Corra, and other pastors and volunteers.

Member and Friend Activities



Above, Audrey, Nancy, Lee, Marit, Mary enjoy each others' fellowship on any given Sunday morning after worship.



Information and Reminders

Offering / Donation / Contribution Options

Zelle: mobile pay using our COTH email
No Fee!! address:
office@churchofboca.org

Cash: offering plate on Sundays

Check: offering plate on Sundays
OR send via U.S.Mail

Credit/Debit Card: COTH Website:
churchofboca.org
-under the "Give" tab.
-the "Donate" button allows
you to give using PayPal and/
or Credit/Debit card

PayPal: search for :
Church on the Hill Boca Raton

Bank e-check: send an e-check directly from
your bank

*Special donations/offerings may also be made using all
these methods.*

*Please indicate in the 'note' field if your donation is
for a special offering.*

Upper Room Devotionals

These periodicals are released every other month.
November/December is available now!

<https://www.upperroom.org/devotionals>

Prayer Requests

Please contact Pastor Tom with needed prayers.
Text him at 561-306-5208 or email him at
TOMLACEY@CHURCHOFBOCA.ORG or to
COTHPRAYERS@GMAIL.COM

Email Communications

Please let us know if you would like to receive
electronic copies of the weekly worship bulletin
and Vantage newsletter by sending us a note at
office@churchofboca.org

Stay in touch for the latest news/photos!

- **Facebook:** Church on the Hill - Congregational
Church of Boca Raton
- **Twitter:** @UCCchurchboca
- **Instagram:** @ChurchontheHill_
- **Website:** www.churchofboca.org (*Same
address; new look and content plus many of
the usual items still available.*)

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

11/06 Eric & Melissa Halsey
11/11 John & Nancy Clarke-Fenner
11/11 Lee & Mary Rivollier

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/05 Sarah Hugus
11/11 Nancy Clarke-Fenner
11/22 Lillianna Hymans



Special Events:

- ❖ November 10 - Book Buzz Meets at 11:00 to
discuss "Unsheltered," by Barbara King-
solver
- ❖ November 12 - After church sandwich and
ice cream lunch - Rosser Room
- ❖ November 23 - Thanksgiving Holiday

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Vantage Deadline

Wednesday October 18 at noon

All articles, pictures, or announcements for
the next Vantage are due.

Sunday Bulletin Deadline
Every Wednesday at noon

Sunday Bulletin Announcements are due on
Wednesday each week.

Email items to: marrom33@gmail.com

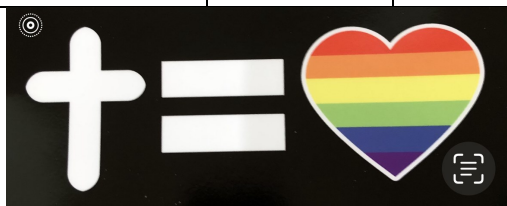


CHURCH ON THE HILL

November 2023

Weekly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10:00 am Worship Service* Communion (1st Sunday of the month) 11:15am Sermon Discussion w Pastor	7:30 pm NA	12:00 noon AA 6:30 pm AA	12:00 noon Lunch Bunch (In-Person & Zoom)	12:00 noon AA 5:30 pm/ B.C.E.O. 7:00 pm NA	11:00am Book Buzz (1st Friday of the month) 12:00 noon AA 7:00 pm NA	



Sunday School Classes

Watch the weekly bulletin for details.



The Moderator is here for YOU!

Any and all questions regarding the church inner workings, services, happenings, volunteering, concerns, praises, etc... can be directed to the Acting Church Moderator at: sarahhugus@aol.com

Neighbors in Need Offering

In 2023, the Neighbors In Need "BEHOLD!" theme continues. This year's focus is on environmental justice. COTH members and friends contributed \$75 to go toward worthy projects.

ONA

Covenant Statement

ONA Covenant adopted January 13, 2019

At Church on the Hill, we affirm that every person has worth as a unique creation made in the image of God. We recognize, value and give thanks for the many diverse gifts of God among us. We believe that through diversity, all can worship together and grow in a faith that transcends our differences.

Accordingly, we declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation, inviting and welcoming lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons into the full life and ministry of Church on the Hill, as well as persons of every race, culture, age, ability, gender and economic status.

Church on the Hill

Address: 251 SW 4th Avenue
Boca Raton, Florida 33432

Office Phone: (561) 395-9255
E-mail: office@churchofboca.org
Web site: www.churchofboca.org

Pastor:

Tom Lacey

Cell/work phone: 561-306-5208 email: tomlaceypastor@gmail.com

Church Moderator:

cothmoderator@gmail.com

Prayer Requests:

cothprayers@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Service

In-Person & on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bocaucc/

Staff

TV Monitor & LiveStream Administrator:

Marit Hasmats-Lacey

Accounting Manager / IT Consultant

Markus Asch

Worship Song Leaders:

Guest Musicians

Accompanist:

Georgene Barger

Sexton:

(Jan-Pro Co.)

Volunteers

Office Helpers:

Sarah H, Kathy B, Bob M, Thomas B, Lois F, Dan S, The
Hinshaws.

Property:

Doug Briggs, Bob Murphy



CHURCH ON THE HILL
251 SW FOURTH AVE
BOCA RATON FL 33432