

# First Christian Church Newsletter

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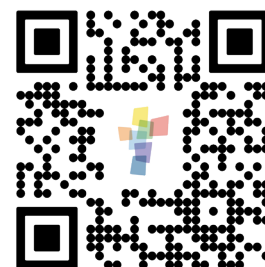
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Welcome wholly.  
Love authentically.  
Share God's grace abundantly.

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## Upcoming Events

- **Sun, May 10—Happy Mother's Day!**  
**Worship Service** at 10:00 am  
Join us each Sunday, in person or online, via Facebook and YouTube!
- **Tues, May 12—Women's Bible Study** at 2:00 pm  
Open to anyone non-binary or fem-identifying who is looking for a safe, feminine space for Bible study. A link for the Zoom meeting will be sent to everyone on the Bible Study list serv prior to the call. To be added to the Bible Study list serv, [email the church office](#).
- **Wed, May 13—Leadership Council Meeting** at 7:00 pm  
Open to all members! An email with the link will be sent prior to the call.

## Letter from Pastor Dan

Greetings from your new pastor!

I want to start by saying what an honor it is to be called as your senior minister! I want to thank the search and call team who put in countless hours to make this happen. As many of you know I will be splitting my time between FCC, Covington and Bullittsville Christian church. This arrangement is often called "yoking" congregations. It has been common place in the Methodist tradition for over 100 years but we are one of the FIRST Disciples congregation to explore this ministerial option (as far as I know). I honestly believe this arrangement will become the norm in church life in the coming years. I applauded Covington's bravery, creativity, and willingness to couple with Bullittsville in breaking new ground in our faith traditions.

Our first order of business is to get to know one another. I am slowly working my way through our directory calling each of you and introducing myself. I love visiting, if you're interested in setting up a time to meet please reach out to me!

A little background info about me: I grew up in Houston, TX. I graduated from the University of Houston with a bachelor's degree in music composition. I received my master's degree (along with my wife) from

Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, OK. I am currently writing my doctoral project and hope to have this degree finished in a year (give or take).

I am fanatical about music! Listening, playing, talking about it...whatever! I look forward to working up special music with the musicians in our congregation. I love gardening, cooking, eating, dogs, cats, disc golf, reading, movies among other things. I play with a little R&B band from time to time. I am the drum captain for the Cincinnati Emerald Society - Police and Fire dept. pipes and drums. I am also a volunteer fire chaplain with the Hebron FD. Rev. Karakay and I have 2 kids Johnnie (17) and Jada (20). They both have jobs but will be in service when they are available.

It's going to take a lot of lunches, meetings, coffee and conversation to get to know everyone but I truly look forward to it!

The congregation at Bullittsville CC is very excited to be in ministry together with Covington. They want to let FCC know that if you we need classroom space, a kitchen, fellowship hall, baptistry, whatever the building is ours to share. (Bullittsville Christian Church 3094 Petersburg Rd. Burlington, KY 41005) BCC wants to

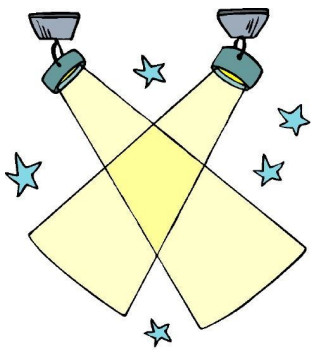
extend an invitation to the weekly bible study/discussion group Thursday's at 11 am. It lasts about an hour and sometimes we all go to lunch afterwards. I can't wait for our first combined pot luck! (TBA) The choir director at BCC personally invites any and all to come sing. They meet Wednesday nights at 6:00. BCC does a lot with a very small group...a little birdie told be there might be a few at FCC who are interested in starting a small singing group? We are trying to drum up some interest from the men of both churches to attend the annual Disciples men's retreat. Want more info? Contact me or Sterling.

I will continue to covet your grace with me as we settle into the rhythm of ministry. The next few weeks/months will be an adjustment period for all of us. I pray we all practice the lost spiritual disciplines of kindness and patience as we grow together. If you have any questions, comments, observations, or if you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Peace Be Unto Y'all

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## **Spotlight: Rev. Daniel Kovaly**



Welcome to the Spot-light,  
Pastor Dan!

As you read you may recognize some of these questions... we are using the Proust Questionnaire as used in Vanity Fair. It is said that in answering these questions, an individual will reveal their true self! Read along and decide for yourself.)

**What is your idea of perfect happiness?**

Is happiness supposed to be perfect? ;)

**What is your greatest fear?**

Clowns

**What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?**

I often procrastinate, if I get around to it.

**What is the trait you most deplore in others?**

Standing around when everyone else is working.

**Which living person do you most admire?**

At the moment I'm a big fan of Sterling Staggs.

**What is your greatest extravagance?**

I have over 100 disc golf discs. (I know I'm a nerd)

**What is your current state of mind?**

I'm very excited to begin our work together!

**What do you consider the most overrated virtue?**

Seriousness.

**On what occasion do you lie?**

When playing poker.

**What do you most dislike about your appearance?**

Could use more hair (on my head).

**Which living person do you most despise?**

All the tech/crypto bros (Thiel, Musk, ect)

**What is the quality you most like in a person?**

Authenticity.

**Which words or phrases do you most overuse?**

Let me think on that.

**What or who is the greatest love of your life?**

My amazing, talented, creative, tough, lovely wife, Rev. Karakay S. Kovaly.

**When and where were you happiest?**

I'm happy right now, kids are healthy and thriving, my wife is awesome at her work and is passionate, and I am working with the two best churches in the world!

**Which talent would you most like to have?**

To be really good/quick with numbers.

**If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?**

It would be awesome not to be colorblind for a day or two?

**What do you consider your greatest achievement?**

Will be married 20 years in September!

**If you were to die and come back as a person or a thing, what would it be?**

One of our two cats, they have the good life, food, constant loving, lots of naps...

**Where would you most like to live?**

In one of those historic brick homes in Covington, doesn't have to be a river mansion. Someday!

**What is your most treasured possession?**

My late 60's Gretsch drum set. (actually all my instruments)

**What do you regard as the lowest depth of misery?**

Bad Wi-Fi.

**What is your favorite occupation?**

I'm living it!

**What is your most marked characteristic?**

Humor :)

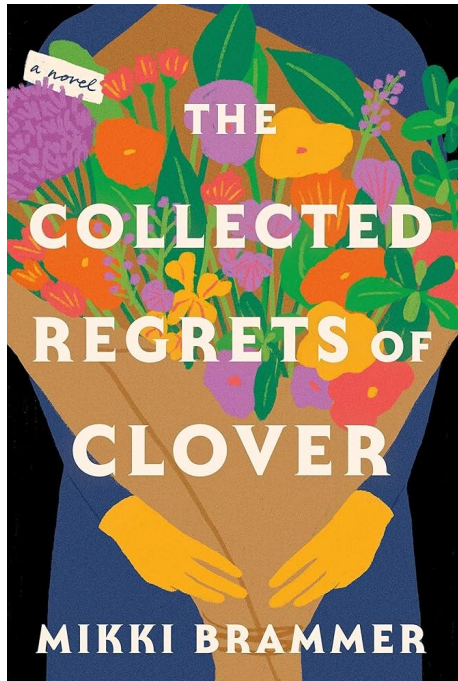
**What do you most value in your friends?**

Cultivating our friendship, growing old together.

(cont'd on next page)

Thank you to everyone who attended the April session of our First Christian Church Book Club! Your attendance and participation always make it a special time.

The next book voted to be our focus is "The Collected Regrets of Clover" by Mikki Brammer.



The next meeting will be via Zoom on Sunday, June 7th at 2:00 pm. The Book Club is open to all and we would love to see you join us! If you have not attended before and would like to be added to our Book Club Email List, please contact the church office via email at [firstonfifthcc@gmail.com](mailto:firstonfifthcc@gmail.com) and let me know!

### **Who are your favorite writers?**

Wendell Berry!!! Larry McMurtry, Maya Angelou.

### **Who is your hero of fiction?**

Jayber Crow from from the Berry book Jayber Crow.

### **Which historical figure do you most identify with?**

The first person who put chili and cheese on a hotdog...I too excel at snacking.

### **Who are your heroes in real life?**

Anyone brave enough to speak truth to power or stand up for the little guy!

### **What are your favorite names?**

Barton Boone (our dog's name) Zelda and Rotini (our cats)

### **What is it that you most dislike?**

Bullies.

### **What is your greatest regret?**

I should've had more coffee before answering these questions.

### **What is your motto?**

Even Jesus' church was dysfunctional, it's okay.

## **Prayer Requests**

If there is a name that needs to be removed or added to the prayer list, please contact the church office via email at [firstonfifthcc@gmail.com](mailto:firstonfifthcc@gmail.com). Prayer request details are kept private and only first names will be published publicly for prayer. Prayer Requests will remain on the list for one month, and then will automatically be removed unless we have been asked to keep it on.

- family and friends of Katie M.
- Liz
- Nicholas
- Scott
- Sterling Staggs and family