

MILLERSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ESTABLISHED 1858



DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

MILLERSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

"In the heart of the community, with the community at heart."

December, 2016

Christmas in Millersburg

Advent – the Season of Growing Light

As the light of the candles on the Advent Wreath increases week after week, we grow in our knowledge and understanding of God's glorious plan of salvation.

The Advent Wreath helps "shed some light" on this Good News of Jesus, who is the Light of the World and the baby born for us on Christmas.



Each family is encouraged to pick up an Advent devotion booklet from the table in the Narthex. Special booklets are available for children.

November 27 - Advent begins. We light the candle of **Hope** during worship. – Brenda Rose and Jeanette Hudson, readers

December 4 - We light the candle of **Peace** during the special **Hanging of the Greens** service. Please volunteer to participate in decorating the sanctuary. – Jeff and Barbara Moran, readers

December 11 – We light the candle of **Love** during worship. – Ralph Rowlett, reader

December 18 – We light the candle of **Joy**. During worship, the children will present a special **Christmas Program, Let's Go See the Savior**. The **All Church Pot-Luck Luncheon** follows. Meat provided. Please bring 2 dishes to share: salad, vegetable, or dessert. – Sandi Bernard and Braxton O'Bryan, readers

December 25 - Christmas Sunday! Happy Birthday, Jesus!
We light the **Christ Candle** during Worship.

If you would like to remember a loved one with a poinsettia, please bring to the church before December 11th and be sure to give Carolyn the name so that she may publish it in the worship bulletin December 11th – December 25th. Thanks!



Annual Christmas Program – Let's Go See the Savior! **Sunday, December 18 during worship.** **Attention all Youth and Their Parents!**

Practices for the Annual Christmas Program will be
7:00 – 8:00 PM on Wednesday, December 7,
9:30-11:00 AM Saturday, Dec. 10, and
dress rehearsal 9:30-11:00 AM Sat. Dec. 17.

We need readers, singers, and help with costumes. If your child wants to participate in the program, or if you want to help with costumes, please contact Barbara Moran, phone 573-220-9112. The program will be performed during worship on Sunday, December 18.

Those who Serve in December



- ELDER:** Carolyn Anderson
DIACONATE: Rita Adams
 Karen Ackley
BREAD LIST:
 December 4 Anna Sue Harmon
 December 11 Marsha Loyd
 December 18 Rita Adams
 December 25 Patty Eggleston

SERVE Food Pantry item for the month of December: Support our families adopted for Christmas



Millersburg Christian Church friends,
 Thank you so much for throwing me such a wonderful shower. It was amazing to be surrounded by so many family members and friends. Schuyler and I had the most beautiful day and we appreciate the love and support we received from MCC.

Best wishes,
 Schuyler and Kristen Blevins

Dear Friends of MCC,
 Thank you so very much for your recent donation of food to SERVE's Food Pantry. Your contribution and support make it possible for us to serve our community! You are appreciated!

Thank you!
 Brittany and the SERVE team



- *Sincere sympathy extended to Elaine, Wayne and Bruce Long on the passing of their husband and father, Gary, November 7, 2016. Prayers of comfort for all.
- *Sympathy is also extended to Rev. Fred Erickson on the tragic death of his wife, Sally, November 2, 2016. Rev. Erickson is a former pastor of MCC.
- *Sympathy to the family of JoAnne Racinowski, who passed away recently.
- *Prayers for Marika Tarver
- *Continued prayers of healing for Stan Adams
- *Prayers of healing for Shirley Bethell-Reynolds
- *Prayers for Alice Gamet who is recovering from a partial knee replacement

The Nominating Committee (Barbara Moran, Chair, Rita Adams, Bill Anderson, Karen Ackley, and Robert Thomas) presented the following slate. **Those in bold type accepted nomination to the Board.** Those underlined have accepted nomination for another term, an extension, of their current service on the Board. On Nov. 8, the Board approved exception to the term limit described in the By-Laws. MCC members voted on the Nominating Committee's slate, and motion carried.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Class</u>
	Elder	
	Carolyn Anderson	2017
	Barbara Moran	2017
	Robert Thomas	2017
	Elaine Long	2018
	<u>Ralph Rowlett</u>	2019
	Diaconate	
	Rita Adams	2017
	Vicki Fritz	2017
	Bill Anderson	2017
	Jeff Moran	2018
	Brenda Rose	2018
	Randy Loyd	2019
	<u>Gary Eggleston</u>	<u>2019</u>
	<u>Patty Eggleston</u>	<u>2019</u>

Search Committee

The Search Committee consisting of Jeff Moran and Carolyn Anderson (Co-Chairs), Ralph Rowlett, Rita Adams, Vicki Fritz, and Randy Loyd, with President Brenda Rose as ex officio, presented Rev. Mike Brown at the annual congregational meeting for their approval. Rev. Brown explained the terms *Interim*, *Transitional*, and *Bridge* ministers. A Bridge Minister serves with no expectations as to length of service. Rev. Brown expressed his concern with his family's current financial stresses. This week another church is considering him for a leadership position offering a higher salary, and he cannot commit to MCC at this time. The Search Committee presented Rev. Mike Brown to serve MCC as a Bridge Minister, starting November 14 at \$400/week. His duties would include leading Sunday worship (including Advent/Seasonal services), retooling Sunday School, providing a presence in Millersburg one day per week, interfacing with Millersburg Preschool, attending Board and Cabinet meetings, holding office hours at church, and conducting home visits. Rev. Brown clarified he would start Nov. 21 if he didn't receive an offer from the other church. Unfortunately, Rev. Brown has started serving Centralia Christian Church and so the committee is back at work. They will meet again November 29th. Also at the meeting the Elders and Diaconate present split into their respective groups to choose representatives to form a committee to nominate Board officers. Ralph Rowlett volunteered to be the Elder's representative and Patty Eggleston and Rita Adams volunteered to be the Diaconate representatives. The three will meet and contact board members about service as a Board officer for 2017 (president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer).

Christmas All Church Pot-Luck Luncheon Sunday, December 18 following worship.

Meat provided by Worship Committee members. Please bring 2 dishes to share: salad, vegetable, or dessert.

Our Committees At Work!

In November MCC collected food for two Thanksgiving baskets plus a \$40.00 gift certificate with each to Moser's for perishable items. One was a surprise gift to Warren Gilbert, who takes care of the MCC lawn. The other went to a family in Callaway County through CMCA. It was a family of four away from other family members. The father works. The mother began a new job but will not receive a check for two weeks. The family receives food stamps, but there was not enough food for Thanksgiving or to the end of the month.

We have adopted a family of three through the SERVE Adopt-a-Family program. There is a seven-year-old boy, five-year-old girl and one-year-old girl. There are changes this year in the program, including no gifts for adults and items based on categories. The gifts needed are on the Mission's window. They need to be at the church, unwrapped, by December 11th.



Upcoming Events at the Preschool!!

Dec 4, 2016 (Sun) 1:00pm	Creek Club	Miss Sherri's House
Dec 5, 2016 (Mon) 6:30pm	Parent Meeting	MPS
Dec 9, 2016 (Fri) 6:00pm	Holiday Party	MPS
Dec 12, 2016 (Mon) 8:30am	Creek Visit This Week!	Miss Sherri's House

Stewardship and Finance

As of November 11, 2016, Millersburg Christian Church balances at Callaway Bank were: Checking = \$7,484.89; Savings = \$4, 259.67. While this is more money than we have had in our accounts for quite awhile (and may seem like "a lot of money" to some of you), please keep in mind a couple of things: During a pastoral transition period, we typically increase our accounts some since we pay supply pastors \$400 to \$500 a month rather than \$400 a week that we have budgeted in 2017 for a permanent pastor. Also, \$2,653 of the savings account amount is the remainder of the Bridgeton Grant that we received earlier this year, and is already earmarked for repair/painting work at the church; subtracting that from the savings account leaves \$1,606 savings. This really isn't much if we should need to replace the remainder of the roof, have another flood event in our basement, or any of a variety of other unplanned and unbudgeted events. The budget that the congregation approved at the annual meeting on November 13 (see below) has a deficit of about \$1000, which we think we can make up through savings on some expenses. But we still need to be faithful to our financial pledges to the church and work at church fundraisers. Thank you for your support of MCC ministries in the community.

Millersburg Christian Church Operational Budget for 2017

Administration (see below)	\$26,980
Christian Education (Sunday School curriculum, Vacation Bible School, Special Bible Studies)	\$ 300
Membership and Evangelism (funeral flowers, fellowship events, miscellaneous)	\$ 200
Missions (emergency discretionary fund, mission work)	\$ 200
Property	\$14,000
Stewardship and Finance	\$ 0
Worship (5 supply ministers, child care, communion supplies, music, banners, gifts, altar candles and misc.)	\$ 1,520
Subtotal:	\$43,200
Missions 10% of Estimated Income	\$ 4,500
Grand Total:	\$47,700

Administration for 2017

Pastoral Compensation (Salary, Housing, Professional Meetings, Social Security (church's half), Withholding)	\$20,800
Secretarial Services	\$ 2,650
Treasurer	\$ 1,530
Office Supplies	\$ 500
Postage	\$ 1,000
Miscellaneous	\$ 500
Grand Total Administration:	\$26,980

As of November 13, we had 14 pledges in hand for a total of \$29,404. Other expected income is from fundraisers, donations, offerings, etc. **IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO OFFER A PLEDGE TO OUR CHURCH!** Please give prayerful consideration to doing so if you have not already. Thank you! – The Stewardship and Finance Committee

2017 Estimate of Giving

\$ _____ per week, or \$ _____ per month, or \$ _____ per year, or a one-time donation of \$ _____ .

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

A Word from Our Board Chair...

Well, it is beginning. I am hearing carols on TV, seeing the many beautiful trees and decorations on Facebook, and the bombardment of ads and enticements to participate in cyber Monday, black Friday, etc. the list goes on and on. The Rose Thanksgiving tradition includes all the grands dragging the decorations out of our attic (after their collective groan). It is good to be in the midst of all the "fuss", but the importance is in doing it together.

The meditation for Advent yesterday was for the HOPE the season brings. In lighting the first candle, we have the reminder of the season and what it actually offers. The anticipation of the birth brings a new sense of joy all over again and again for two thousand years. Come join us as we celebrate the season. We have our tinsel and glitter, our devotional booklets, our favorite Christmas hymns, the tree and the "fuss" of doing it together. You are welcome and needed and appreciated as we welcome Jesus into our lives once again.....together.

Have a wonderful Christmas season
Brenda



You are cordially invited to join Bill and Carolyn Anderson at the annual MCCF Christmas cookie exchange at their home December 12 at 6:00 p.m. Carolyn will provide soup and you are asked to bring 3 dozen of your favorite holiday cookies to share. You will go home with an amazing assortment of cookies as we enjoy this special holiday tradition. See you then!

Veteran's Recognized at MCC

The following veterans and/or their family members were thanked or remembered for their service and were presented a roll of candy "Lifesavers" for serving in the military: Stan Adams, Larry Baumgartner, Terry Craighead (Kathy Craighead's brother), Terry Fritz, Gary Eggleston, Bill Hudson, Jay Harmon, Mike Martin, John McCray, Danny Rose, Ralph Rowlett, Victor Tarver (Marika's husband), Robert Thomas, John Tutt and Patrick Harris (Robin Mealy Hudson's son) who is actively serving. Thank you, Rita Adams, for your work on this!

Mary Alice McCray Bowser Memorial Garden Spring 2017

After the tragic loss of Mary Alice Bowser this past summer, friends of Mary Alice have been working closely with her family and friends to coordinate an appropriate tribute to her life, her spirit and the service she did for this community.

It has been agreed that there will be a Monarch Habitat Garden built in her honor next spring. Monarchs are endangered and need very specific plants, environment and designs to attract and allow them to thrive. It is felt that this is a fitting living tribute for her, given her love of nature and gentle loving spirit. So far, more than one hundred plants have been donated and milkweed plants will be germinated in the early spring. Several trees will also be planted to add to the garden, including dogwood, redbud and ginkgo. These trees have also been given or will be purchased with donated funds.

It is the hope that this will be a beautiful small garden and park with an outdoor bench, pavers and more. Plenty of volunteers will be needed to make this happen and donations are still gratefully accepted. Contact the SERVE office if you are interested in helping or donating



Christmas Happenings!

CrossWind Ranch Interactive Nativity in the Barn December 10 and 11

Please join Sue Crane and the folks of CrossWind Ranch for their annual Christmas interactive nativity with live animals Saturday, December 10 4:40-8:00 p.m. or Sunday, December 11 2:00-6:00 p.m. They live close by in Millersburg at 3788 County Road 237. There will be story time, crafts, interactive area and live characters! Dress warm if it's cold and outdoors attire. If you've never attended, bring your family to share in this wonderful event.

National Churchill Museum at Westminster College Veteran's Day to Christmas Activities

For the past few years, the museum puts up 3 white trees and adorns them with pictures of soldiers, living and dead, remembered by loved ones daily. They ask people to send in pictures of veterans and they hang them on the trees. We can hand-deliver or mail their photos. On December 10, several activities are planned, for the Churchill Christmas Tea 1:00-3:00 including children's activities ages 3 through 5th grade. Entertainment begins at 1:40 and Storyteller Larry Brown will appear at 2:00! Silent and live auctions are planned and a Victorian Santa will be on hand. The museum store will be open for a variety of unique gifts. At 4:00 pm, the Fulton High School Chamber Singers will give a concert at the Church of St. Mary Aldermanbury.



Stan and I sincerely appreciate the calls, cards, food, prayers and visit at the hospital from Pastor Mike Brown (who filled our pulpit a few times) following Stan's total knee replacement Nov. 2. The road's been a bit bumpier with this knee, but we think he's turned the corner; he's to begin outpatient physical therapy Wednesday, Nov. 30. We also appreciate our daughter Nichole who is an Athletic Trainer Certified and who works at Columbia Orthopedic Group for helping us maneuver the bumps as they came up. Thank you so much for your friendship, Rita Adams



Merry Christmas



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 MPS 8-12 5-8	2	3 <i>Barbara Moran Jerry Landrum</i>
4 1 st Sunday Social – 10:00 Hanging of the Greens	5 MPS 6-8	6 MPS 8-12 <i>John Gulick</i>	7 Christmas Play Practice – 7:00 <i>Joe Ed McCray</i>	8 MPS 8-12 5-8 <i>Larry Brown</i>	9 MPS Christmas Program 5-9 <i>Todd Guse’ Carol Cox</i>	10 Christmas Program Rehearsal – 9:30 – 11:00 <i>Elaine Long</i>
11	12 Christmas Cookie Exchange – 6:00 p.m. at Bill & Carolyn’s Bill & Carolyn Anderson	13 MPS 8-12 New Board Caucus – 7:00 <i>Melanie Czeschin Michael Smith</i>	14 <i>Vicki Fritz</i>	15 MPS 8-12 5-8 <i>Jon Bright Jason & Shelly Bedsworth</i>	16 <i>Nicholas Forsee John Reynolds</i>	17 Christmas Program Dress Rehearsals – 9:30 a.m. <i>Randy Loyd</i>
18 Christmas Program & Potluck	19 Newsletter Deadline	20 MPS 8-12 5-8 <i>Zach Gamet</i>	21	22 <i>Alex Mielke</i>	23 <i>Cheryl Pardue</i>	24
25 <i>Lexi Begemann</i>	26	27	28 Newsletter Assembly	29	30 <i>Tom Haas</i>	31

Millersburg Christian Church

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www.millersburgchristianchurch.org

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**Please join us at Millersburg Christian Church
every Sunday!**

Morning Worship starts at 10:30 a.m.

**1st Sunday Social is the first Sunday of every
month at 10:00 a.m.**

Our telephone number is 573-642-2939

Our email address is: mcc1859@socket.net

Find us on the web at
www.millersburgchristianchurch.org

"Like" us on Facebook!

Don't Forget!!

Sunday, December 4 - Hanging of the
Greens Service

Sunday, December 18 - Annual
Christmas Program followed by Potluck
Dinner

Sunday, December 25 - Eric Holmes
will be our minister

Sunday, January 8 - Ed Varnum will be
our minister