



 **MILLERSBURG**
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ESTABLISHED
1836

MILLERSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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

REV. PATRICIA A. FARMER, MINISTER
pafarmerecuador@gmail.com 505-900-1553

April, 2020



Isn't our church beautiful? And then you see the ugly sign in the forefront – a reminder of what we are facing right now. We will survive this bump but please read the following note from our church treasurer – it is so very, very important in the life of our church.

"Our world has been considerably disrupted. Among other things, we are having church services via a Zoom video communications platform. This makes passing the plate to receive offerings impossible. Unfortunately, we still must pay bills, employee salaries, etc. And we have a \$4500 infrastructure improvement that will begin as soon as weather allows: adding a paved handicap parking pad to the back parking lot and replacing/repairing the cracked, sloping sidewalk to the back door of the church. This means that we must urge you to remain faithful to your financial commitment to MCC. This can be done by mailing a check to the church or by going to the church website (<http://millersburgchristianchurch.org/>) and clicking on the "Donate" tab at the top of the page. This will take you to a secure, PayPal page where you can donate by either a deduction from your PayPal account or by using a credit card. Thank You!" – Jeff Moran

Since activities at the church have been postponed for the next few weeks, we are trying to adapt to new situations. Sunday, March 22, we had our first on-line worship service, and it seemed to work out well. 23 people gathered via a Zoom video communications platform, and we could see and hear Rev Patricia's sermon, as well as the joys and concerns, music, sharing of communion, and benediction. We expect to be doing this for a while.

So, for those of you who did not participate in this first service, here is the procedure for joining us in other services or accessing the recorded service on line:

1) Prior to the Sunday worship service, Bob Green will send an email to members and friends of the church with a link to the Zoom meeting (church service); click on that link and follow the instructions; it is OK if you forward Bob Green's email to other friends and family that might be interested; you will be able to sign in to the meeting 30 minutes or so before the 10:30am meeting "start" time.

2) Listen to and participate in the worship experience until the end of the session, about 11:30.

3) The worship service will be recorded. If you, or someone you have invited, or someone else who just wants to see/hear the service but has missed it, Jeff Moran will convert the Zoom recording into a YouTube video and upload it. He will make it a "private" video, meaning that someone will have to have the link to that particular video in order to access it. He will create a Facebook post on the MCC Facebook page that contains that link, and all you have to do is click on that link in order to view the entire worship service.

4) The YouTube video link will also be published on the church website (<http://millersburgchristianchurch.org/>); just go to that page and click on the "Sermons" tab at the top of the page; this will take you to a new page that will have all of the Zoom meetings listed by date.

If you have questions about any of this, call Jeff Moran at 573-642-9749 or email him at scimusic@tranquility.net.

Patricia's Ponderings



Fear. If you're feeling it, you're normal. You're paying attention. The coronavirus is an invader that has come upon us with great speed and virulence, and not to fear would be a grave mistake. We must protect ourselves and others by practicing social isolation. These are the facts. As with an invader during wartime, fear can be a help. Yes, fear – that bugaboo that normally creates all kinds of mischief - has an upside. There are times when fear serves as a protector, and this is one of those times.

But we need to keep our fears in check so that panic does not set in. When fear loses its rational, factual moorings, we start doing irrational things like buying up all the toilet paper in the known universe, which of course makes no sense in the case of a respiratory illness. We forget to share, to make sure our neighbor has enough. Panic turns healthy fear into an ugly contagion - and we have enough of that for the moment, thank you very much.

It's okay to be afraid, but we need to balance our fears with faith, hope, and love—especially love. (1 Corinthians 13). During this time, we will suffer from the lack of social interaction and from the deprivations of simple touch, hand shaking, and hugging. But we can also find ways to transform this temporary time of isolation. As for me, I'm taking time to learn a new instrument. When I'm practicing and learning new fingerings on my guitar, the world and all its troubles disappears. What is your hobby? This is a good time to throw yourself into it.

We can also explore novel ways of interacting. One of the ways we are doing this at MCC is by practicing online church. We are meeting on Sunday mornings at our regular time through ZOOM. A new door of connection and community has opened for us - a fresh adventure amid a crisis. (I hope you will join us!)

Fear is not my favorite spiritual companion, but it has its place. We can keep fear in its place - avoiding the contagion of panic - by discovering new adventures over the next few weeks: a new hobby, a new technology, and the simple old-fashioned gift of talking on the phone. Texting is good, but there's nothing like the human voice when life gets scary.

God is with us, sharing our anxieties and offering our fears a pathway lined with all the things we need to survive this crisis: compassion, caring for the most vulnerable, novel ways to connect, solitude for prayer, and, maybe even some new adventures along the way.

May you be healthy. May you be safe. Peace be with you.

Rev. Patricia



Margaret Blattner, being safe from COVID-19 – wearing her gloves to church on the last Sunday we worshipped together! Nothing can stop this lady!

**Those who Serve in April
(I'm trying to be optimistic)**



ELDER: Carolyn Anderson

DIACONATE: Patty Eggleston
Larry Strawhorn

SERVE Food Pantry item for the month of April: Tuna



- *Prayers for Eric Green, Bob Green's son, and his wife Dana who is exhibiting symptoms of the virus but Canada, like the U. S., does not have enough tests available to test her.
- *Good news for Marshal Loyd – prayers answered!
- *Good news for Patty Eggleston – prayers answered!
- *Prayers answered for Terry Fritz, who had the tubes removed from his knee!
- *Sending happy thoughts to Anna Sue Harmon, in her new residence in Columbia! Any mail you would like to send her though should still be sent to her Fulton address. And she loves phone calls.
- *Joy to the friends of Jeff and Barbara Moran on the birth of their new daughter, Josephine June!
- *Our hearts go out to Brent Moran and his fiancée, Crystal Lai who have had to postpone their marriage until this pandemic is under control
- *Such a joy yesterday to have Courtney Moran join us for worship via Zoom!!
- *Prayers for Jerry Dinunzio, who is battling cancer
- *Prayers for Sara Downard, who is battling cancer
- *Prayers for Charlene "Charlie" Figueroa, who is undergoing dialysis and is on a transplant list
- *Prayers for Jerry Powles, who had an amputation in January, fell in late February, had surgery again and is still in the hospital
- * Prayers to the Kristina and John Bright family on the passing of Kristina's mother Laura Scott on February 5.

Balances for Millersburg Christian Church accounts at Callaway Bank:

	<u>9/16/19</u>	<u>10/21/19</u>	<u>11/17/19</u>	<u>1/17/19</u>	<u>2/17/20</u>	<u>3/16/20</u>
Checking -	\$10,753	11,177	10,972	10,631	11,605	11,603
Savings -	\$3,488	3,489	3,490	3,493	3,494	3,495
Special -	\$3,450	3,515	3,515	3,710	3,590	4,004
PayPal	\$1,506	1,506	1,593	689	737	786



Flex Fund (account with Disciples of Christ Board of Church Extension) 4,837

In general, our church finances look good. However, we do have a \$4,500 infrastructure project coming up as soon as the weather allows. Since we did not have our March fundraising event, that money will probably come from our special and savings accounts. We do need about a thousand dollars a month in fund-raiser income and/or unscheduled donations in order to meet our general operating budget, and in the absence of the March fundraiser, we need people to remain faithful to their financial commitments to the church, and perhaps give a little extra to help with the project. Thanks!



Randy Loyd, Rev. Patricia, Wyatt and Grayson Wilfley sharing a Minute for Mission recently. Our mission dollars this quarter will be divided between Our House and SERVE, to help with the coronavirus crisis.



I want to thank everyone from Millersburg Christian Church for the prayers, calls and cards during Dick's hospitalization and ultimate passing on Feb. 3rd. Being surrounded by your care, made this difficult time easier. I especially want to thank Rev. Patricia and Rev. Bob Green for coming to the University Hospital to be with me and for their prayers for Dick and our family. On March 13 the Fulton State Hospital held a lovely memorial service for Dick because we have worked there for many years. I was hoping family and friends could attend, but due to the Coronavirus, the outside public wasn't able to attend.

With friendship and love, Alice Gamet
(20-year partner of Dick Hansen)

New LED Chandelier Sanctuary Lights

MCC would like to thank Bill and John Bright (Bright Electric) for the upgrades made to the 4 sanctuary chandelier lights. The lights have been in the church for many years and the sockets had become brittle and were breaking. For this electrical upgrade, each chandelier had to be taken down to install the new sockets, so it was quite a job and required a 16-foot ladder! At the same time, it was decided to switch the chandelier bulbs to LED lights which are much brighter and will last substantially longer than the incandescent bulbs we'd been using and which required Bill Anderson to climb up on a high ladder which was dangerous. Bill Anderson, Danny Rose and Stan Adams changed out the old light switches for the new upgrade. The new LED lights are a huge improvement, adding much needed brighter/white light to an aging congregation or those with vision problems.

Years ago, to save on energy, the Property Committee installed CFL bulbs, but they take a while to "warm up" and unfortunately are a more yellow low light too. To help light the pulpit area more, a single soft white LED bulb was bought and exchanged with the CFL. This helped Rev. Patricia and we were able to remove the piano light that had been providing extra light for her. Perhaps in the future we can replace the other 10-14 spiral CFL bulbs with the LED but they are a little over \$8/each. The Property Committee would like to thank Millersburg's **Jones Farm, Home and Auto Store** for carrying an extensive line of products to help our church on a moment's notice. It's great not having to drive to Columbia or Fulton!

On a "Green" side note regarding recycling of light bulbs, Batteries Plus on Grindstone in Columbia recycles light bulbs and batteries. Depending upon the bulb, some are free, others a small fee but such a good thing for our environment. Rita & Stan recycle the church bulbs there.

April – I have not put activities on calendar due to the uncertainty of when public gatherings will be held again. I will be sure to notify all when that happens!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
						<i>Violet Woods</i>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>John & Barbara Gulick</i> <i>Allison Milner</i> <i>Michelle Hans</i>	<i>Miles Bethell</i> <i>Jack Hatchett</i>	<i>Brad & Jennifer Weiss</i>		<i>Eddie Forsee</i>		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	<i>Brent Long</i>		<i>Amanda Loyd</i>	<i>Bailey Baumgartner</i>		<i>Eva Landrum</i>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<i>Terry Fritz</i> <i>Kristen Torres</i>	<i>Nicole Hatchett</i> <i>Rileigh Huffman</i>				<i>Joyce Schermerhorn</i>	
26	27	28	29	30		
	<i>Charlotte Bethell</i>			<i>Blake Latty</i>		

Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group

3rd Tuesday of Each Month

11:00 a.m. to 12 Noon

First Presbyterian Church Library

Facilitators: Rhonda Cundiff and Lois Long

An Alzheimer's caregiver support group is an opportunity to find comfort and reassurance about feelings of guilt, frustration and fear. Learn more about Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Make new friends. Join us!

Millersburg Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

4527 State Road J
Fulton, MO 65251

Return Service Requested

Socket

Callaway County Celebrates 200 Years! Sweet 'n' Soulful Sunday May 31, 2020

On Nov. 25, 1820 Callaway County was organized, and named for Captain James Callaway, grandson of Daniel Boone. The county has already begun celebrating its 200th birthday with many special events. Mark your calendars for Sweet 'n' Soulful Sunday May 31, 2020, beginning at 2:00 pm at 54 Country.

Inspired by a history of Sunday basket dinners and worship events, we'll gather to celebrate what unites us through the gifts of music and food. It will be an afternoon pick-me-up geared to renew your spirit.

On May 31, Millersburg Christian Church members plan to join other churches to celebrate our faith heritage. Starting at 2:00 pm on May 31, you are invited to join us as we gather to share songs of praise and delicious desserts. Jeff Moran will share a brief history of MCC in Callaway County. The JOY Choir will share old time music, and some members have already volunteered to bring desserts. Let Barbara Moran know if you would also like to provide a dessert and/or help serve at the Sweet 'n' Soulful Sunday May 31!

Morning Worship starts at 10:30 a.m.

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

Rev. Patricia Farmer, Minister

Our telephone number is 573-642-2939

Our email address is: mcc1836@socket.net

Find us on the web at www.millersburgchristianchurch.org

"Like" us on Facebook!

Rev. Patricia's normal office hours at MCC are the 1st, 3rd and 4th Thursdays from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. On Thursday afternoons, she is available for pastoral visits (home or office) by appointment. You can contact her at pafarmerecuador@gmail.com or by phone/text (505-900-1553). The best times to reach her are Monday-Thursday during regular business hours. Fridays and Saturdays are her days off.