



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

September, 2020

### *Patricia's Ponderings*

"All sorrows are less with bread."  
— Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra

It may be the "dog days of summer" with high temps outside, but to cope with this pandemic, I recently decided to do a very wintry thing: bake bread. Oh, I know, "stress baking" doesn't sound particularly original. But who doesn't yearn for the yeasty aroma of freshly baked bread? My grandma Lucy, who grew up on a Kansas farm during the Great Depression, taught me at an early age how to make bread, as if it were a survival skill that every young woman must learn.

Of course, the one problem I had with this brilliant idea is that I don't actually eat bread at this stage in life. That is, it is not on my "low-carb" diet that keeps my blood sugar in check. But then I thought, my husband can eat bread—loves it in fact— so I'll make it for him. Yes, I just want to fill my house with the heavenly smell, and (speaking of heaven) imagine Grandma Lucy smiling down from some heavenly place where everyone can eat all the bread they want with no consequences.

But then, I came across a low-carb yeast bread and bought all the ingredients online and gave it a shot. Who knew? The result: surprisingly good! So now I make one loaf for Ron and one for me—double the intoxicating aroma in my kitchen.

The act of kneading the bread—punching, rolling, pushing with all my strength—oh, that *is* satisfying! Much frustration, anger, and general discontent with the world can be vented to exhaustion by kneading bread.

Then, I cover the dough with a soft clean tea towel, just the way my grandma did, to let it rise. That's the hard part—waiting, waiting, waiting, like I'm waiting for the pandemic to end. But patience is a good thing, something to nurture in the spiritual life. And what better way to practice patience and deferred gratification than to hover watchfully over quiet dough as it leisurely expands under the embrace of a soft, protective cloth.

Finally, it's time to bake, and by the time the egg timer dings, the whole house, nook and cranny, has been infused with olfactory bliss. It's like Easter morning.

Baking bread as a spiritual practice reminds me of the words of institution that I repeat every Sunday: "After supper he took bread, and after he had given thanks, he gave it to them . . ." I give thanks today for the unexpected silver linings during a global catastrophe: memories re-ignited by a particular smell, the working out of frustration, the practice of patience, and the resilient, unmolested joy—in good times and bad— of eating and sharing. Grandma Lucy must have known all this. And I thought she was just teaching me to make bread.



Baking Blessings,  
Rev. Patricia

Balances for Millersburg Christian Church accounts at Callaway Bank:

	<u>3/16/20</u>	<u>4/20/20</u>	<u>5/19/20</u>	<u>6/22/20</u>	<u>7/19/20</u>	<u>8/20/20</u>
Checking -	\$11,603	13,367	9,080	9,121	8,647	7,491
Savings -	\$3,495	3,496	3,497	3,499	3,500	3,501
Special -	\$4,004	4,079	1,260	1,335	2,270	4,525
PayPal	\$786	1,634	1,216	1,895	549	1,083
Flex Fund (account with Disciples of Christ Board of Church Extension)						4,939



In general, our church finances still look fairly good despite not meeting physically during the corona virus pandemic. People have generally remained faithful to their financial commitments to the church, and we have received some donations. However, our checking and special accounts have decreased due to the cost of a couple of infrastructure improvements that were scheduled prior to the pandemic, and we still have some sewage system work needed to be done and we are in the process of purchasing an air purifying system. To address these last two items, we received a grant of \$2000 (hence the increase in the “special” account) and will apply for additional grant money. We need to remain aware of our church financial situation and try to come up with creative ideas for fundraisers, as well as try to attract new people to our Zoom church services. Thanks!

Jeff Moran, Treasurer



- \*Continued prayers for **Bill Hudson**, who is still undergoing tests.
- \*Prayers for **Judy Nosek**, cousin of Marsha Loyd and friend of Brenda Rose, who is continuing her fight against cancer.
- \*Prayers of joy for **Jamie Hudson**, who recovered from Covid-19!
- \*What a joy to have **Naomi Von Gunten**, Barbara Moran’s mother, join us for Zoom worship!
- \*Continued prayers for **Kamden Nolte**!
- \*Prayers for **Cathy Harris**, a friend of Brenda Rose’s, who is recovering from Covid-19.
- \*Prayers for **Kim Force**, who underwent sinus surgery recently.
- \*Sincere sympathy to **Paul Koch**, whose mother passed away recently.
- \*Prayers for the safety of all staff and students as schools begin reopening.
- \*Congratulations to Brianna Force, who is expecting a boy soon. First great grandchild for Stan and Rita Adams!
- \*Sympathy to **Wilda Harrison (Kim Adams Force’s mother-in-law)** and their family on the passing of her brother Dr. Winston Harrison who died June 18 from complications related to ALS.
- \*Prayers of healing to **Robyn Seip Frame** who had surgery August 12 for a torn UCL in her right thumb.
- \*Prayers of comfort for Marilyn Thomas’ daughter-in-law, Debbie, who is in the final stages of life as the result of cancer. Prayers for her husband, Jim and children, Audrey and David.



Please welcome Josephine Jeri Harris, born Augusts 18, 2020. She is the granddaughter of Jamie and Robin Hudson and great granddaughter of Bill and Jeanette Hudson!

**MU engineering faculty and staff are all in on producing face shields**  
**Ron Monson, Director of Facilities**

For almost three months, MU's College of Engineering has been cranking out face shields, testing swabs and ethanol-based hand sanitizer in the university's pandemic-fighting efforts. The lab was asked to produce 2,000-3,000 powered air-purifying respiratory (PAPR) shields, 5,000 headbands for the simple shields and has continually 3D-printed testing swabs for MU Health Care. The shields are made from polyethylene terephthalate glycol, which is made from recycled bottles."

Ron Monson is Beth Hudson Monson's husband and Bill and Jeanette Hudson's son-in-law. Thank you, Ron for your part in this vital work!



One of my chaplain interns, Amanda Suchara, at LSS – Laclede Groves Retirement Community in St. Louis, joined our clinical pastoral education (CPE) program this summer to fill a vacancy. Amanda is a devout Catholic, talented musician, and artist. Because of extra funds that had to be used, we were able to grant her enough money to offset her tuition. She was not paid for her time at LSS, so the grant helped her financially during the summer. The program ended on August 14 and she and her peers celebrated their success with a graduation ceremony in the chapel at LSS on Sunday, August 16. As an expression of gratitude, Amanda sent a thank you card with a \$200 check indicating I could use it for any benevolent or worthy cause of my choosing.

So, I am designating her gift to be used as seed money toward needed improvements at MCC. Further, I will match her gift that will be over and above my usual contribution to the church. I also challenge each member and friend of MCC, if able, to match this gift. My recommendation is that most of the contributions be placed in a special fund to pay for paving the church parking lot. Let's upgrade our curb appeal and make navigating the parking lot in high heels a bit easier.

With gratitude,  
Robert. W. Green, M.Div. ACPE

## Zoom Rocks!

On Zoom worship on August 23, we celebrated rocks as a spiritual companion on our journey through these trying times of COVID-19. Several showed their favorite rocks from their collections and explained the significance. Rev. Patricia's sermon, "Look to the Rock," included excerpts from her essay "The Numinosity of Rocks," an essay she wrote in Ecuador. The entire essay is accessible online at: <https://www.openhorizons.org/the-numinosity-of-rocks.html>. You can see the sermon itself by [clicking here](#) or going to our website [www.millersburgchristianchurch.org](http://www.millersburgchristianchurch.org). If you haven't joined us on Zoom worship, contact Rev. Patricia at [pafarmerecuador@gmail.com](mailto:pafarmerecuador@gmail.com) and let her know you'd like to try it out. Our services rock!



## Festival of Sharing Update!

Each year the Millersburg Christian Church participates in providing "kits" for the Festival of Sharing group. This has in the past been primarily food items or school items. Due to our attending Church through Zoom, keeping our safe distance from one another, and the challenges of shopping, it would be almost impossible to collect specific items to assemble and provide kits this year.

We have made the decision to collect and provide a monetary contribution for 2020. Festival of Sharing has mentioned that money would be appreciated as it would buy gas or pay for other expenses associated with the collection and distribution of items this year.

If you wish to make a contribution to FOS, there are a couple of ways to do that:

1. Send or drop a check to/at the church made payable to Millersburg Christian Church with FOS in the memo line. If you want, you can drop an envelope with cash at the church marked FOS. I would not mail cash.

2. Contact me and I will come to you to collect your contribution. I will of course be masked and will keep my distance.

Take a look at FOS. <http://www.festivalofsharing.org/>

Thank you. Randy Loyd, Missions Chair  
Mail to: MCC, 4527 State Route J, Fulton, MO 65251  
Contact Randy; text or call 573-424-9670

### What an awesome, personable note from the Week of Compassion! We are appreciated!!

Dear friends at Millersburg Christian Church and Rev. Patricia –

Greetings from Week of Compassion! I am writing to bring a word of gratitude for your years of committed contributions to Week of Compassion, including a 2020 May YTD of \$338.18! It is your giving that enabled Week of Compassion to live out its mission to alleviate suffering throughout the world. So – THANK YOU! During this season of pandemic, we've all had to make changes. This has been difficult on congregations as we navigate new ways to engage and remain in community. My prayers are with Millersburg Christian Church – as you continue your Sunday morning Zoom worships and engage with one another on this virtual platform – praying for the ministries of the church and for the continued health and well-being of all the folks at MCC – Gratefully, - Cindy Kim-Hengst



Congratulations to Randy and Marsha Loyd who celebrated their 48<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary August 12!



Congratulations to Gage and Ella Baker! Gage's Limousin steer that he raised was chosen as the Purebred Champion 4-H steer. Then both Gage and Ella's crossbred steers won their classes and were chosen as the 4-H Champion and Reserve Champion Crossbred steers and then later chosen as the overall 4-H Champion and Reserve Champion Steers. Gage's steer then went onto compete against the FFA Champion and he got Overall Reserve Champion Steer. He also placed 4th in showmanship and Ella did a great job showing!

# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		<i>Kenton Kukal</i>	<i>Margaret Blattner</i>	<i>Shayla Rose</i>		<i>Janet Latty Jesse Hutchison</i>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>Ken Owens</i>	<b><i>Dustin &amp; Lauren Fritz</i></b>	MPS 8:30-12  Board of Directors – Zoom at 6:30	<i>Danny Rose</i>	MPS 8:30-12 4:40-6:30 <i>Savannah Bethell Cooper Gehring</i>	<i>Samantha Mielke</i>	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	<i>Bill Gentsch</i>	MPS 8:30-12  <i>John Wilkerson</i>	<i>JoEllen Milner</i>	MPS 8:30-12 4:40-6:30	<i>Leo Crane</i>	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Newsletter Deadline	MPS 8:30-12  <i>Lance Loyd Jamie &amp; Robin Hudson</i>	<i>Patricia Shores</i>	MPS 8:30-12 4:40-6:30 <b><i>Jerry &amp; Eva Landrum</i></b> <i>William Brown</i>	<i>Jeanette Hudson Beth Haas Justin Hatfield Lance &amp; Kim Loyd</i>	<i>Marilyn Thomas</i>
27	28	29	30			
<i>Eric Pahl Danielle Cassidy Jerry Arnold</i>		MPS 8:30-12  <i>Cheryl Rose</i>	Newsletter Assembly			

## Millersburg Christian Church

*(Disciples of Christ)*

4527 State Road J  
Fulton, MO 65251

Return Service Requested

Socket

Much thanks to Callaway County for their approval of the small business grant that Jeff Moran wrote on the church's behalf. The money is part of the CARES act and we received a check in the amount of \$2,000! Hopefully, this money will help us with our ongoing efforts to reopen our church! Thank you to Jeff Moran also!

**ALL SERVICES AND EVENTS ARE  
CANCELLED AT THIS TIME! OUR EMAIL  
AND PHONE MESSAGES ARE STILL BEING  
CHECKED REGULARLY! JOIN US ON  
ZOOM!!**

**Morning Worship starts at 10:30 a.m.**

**1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:mcc1836@socket.net)

Find us on the web at

[www.millersburgchristianchurch.org](http://www.millersburgchristianchurch.org)

"Like" us on Facebook!

You can contact her at

[pafarmerecuador@gmail.com](mailto: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.

### Join the Zoom!

During the time of the covid-19 pandemic, church members and friends have been meeting each Sunday by Zoom to visit and worship. On Father's Day we shared memories of our fathers, including photos and wonderful stories of our dad's and their influence on our lives.

You can join the fun by sending a request to Rev. Patricia so she can add you to the list that receive the Zoom meeting email invitation each week. It is easy to click on the link within the invitation email, and poof! you join the meeting!

Or if you do not have email connection, one of the members can call you on your phone, and you can participate in the visiting and worship by speakerphone! We look forward to zooming to keep us connected and to find those silver linings that always exist with the grace of God.

Listen to and participate in the worship experience until the end of the session, about 11:30. If you have questions about any of this, call Jeff Moran at 573-642-9749 or email him at [scimusic@tranquility.net](mailto:scimusic@tranquility.net).