



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

December, 2020



Zoom into Christmas with MCC! Advent and Christmas Plans



During Advent we encourage you to join Sunday worship via Zoom wearing green or red, and maybe set up your background so your camera shows Christmas lights, a nativity set, greenery, etc..

Communion during Advent

How about a Christmas cookie for your communion bread? Sadly, with Covid-19 issues, we won't be able to hold our annual Christmas cookie exchange. So bake cookies for communion instead!

Childhood Christmases

Please find a few pictures of you celebrating Christmas as a child. If you can scan the pictures, send the digital files **by Dec. 4, or as soon as you can**, to Rev. Patricia, either by email or with a text. Rev. Patricia will share them during worship services in December, starting Dec. 6. You can also share your pictures by holding them up to your computer camera. If you have no pictures, maybe share a favorite memory or story from a Christmas during your childhood.

Hanging of the Greens – November 29

Join us as we remember and share the many different decorating traditions at Millersburg Christian Church via Zoom on November 29.

Advent Meditations

Each Sunday during Advent we will have a special meditation at the start of worship – Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love.

Christmas Program – December 20

Our Christmas Program will be during Zoom worship on Dec. 20. Please note that the program portion of the service (after communion) will be recorded (lipstick optional, but you may want to brush your hair). The program ends with a candlelight service, so **please bring a candle or flashlight** so you can participate! If you want to participate in the Christmas Program, please contact Barbara Moran as soon as possible.

Christmas Eve – December 24 at 7 pm - Virtual Christmas Caroling

Join us from the warmth of your living room, via Zoom, to sing Christmas carols. We encourage you to bring some hot chocolate, and any leftover Christmas cookies.



Gratitude

Thanksgiving will look very different this year for most of us but the pandemic cannot take our ability to practice gratitude. Make a gratitude list. Practice joy by doing something joyful (dancing, singing, walking, reading, cooking). Light a candle and pray prayers of gratitude. Practice random acts of kindness:

- Send a card, note or letter to people for whom you are thankful.
- Send flowers or fruit to someone who is alone.
- Take a food basket to someone who could use some TLC.
- Record a funny video on your phone and surprise someone who needs a laugh.
- Give a copy of one of your favorite books to a reader friend.
- Invite someone to a socially distanced walk or apple picking or bike ride or porch sit.



Patricia's Ponderings

"In November, the trees are standing all sticks and bones. Without their leaves, how lovely they are, spreading their arms like dancers. They know it is time to be still." —
Cynthia Rylant

The end of November leaves behind tall yard bags bulging with dry, brittle leaves. They are picked up by big trucks in the early morning, and that's that. It's over. The brilliant colors and crisp outdoor promises of fall are behind us. Nature now transitions—with an edge of melancholy—to ever-colder, darker days, culminating in the Winter Solstice.

The attenuated sun seems to mirror our declining hopes for holidays-as-usual. In fact, this year will be quite different.

What can do when we desperately need our family and friends around us to deal with a frightening virus—and yet, to have them around us would be to perpetuate the virus? Our pandemic fatigue gets no sympathy from COVID-19.

Yet, if we listen to the wisdom of trees of November--spreading our arms to embrace the stillness of winter, we might discover the hidden gifts of this unique holiday season. "Be still and know that I am God," says the Psalmist. Perhaps this is our calling during this holiday season. Instead of the bustle of shopping and endless parties and hugs and travels and song, we can find within the quiet darkness the star in the sky that often alludes us in the hectic holiday season. Perhaps, in the stillness, we can hear the babe's first cry in the manger-- and even make out the lowing of the cattle and the bleating of sheep. If we tread lightly, breathe deeply, and turn off our phones and televisions for five minutes, we might even catch the faint sounds of chorusing angels. Embrace the stillness and let the encroaching darkness speak to you of deeper things. Let your spirit soar, even if you are grounded. Reach out to someone this year by phone or letter or online. We might be alone, but we do not have to be lonely. And be sure to join us for own online Advent Season on Zoom this year!

Shalom,
Rev. Patricia

Winter is approaching—and so it the darkness of the Winter Solstice.





Congratulations to Paige Bedsworth and the Father Tolton High School softball team who won the Missouri Class 2 softball championship. Paige also broke the MSHAA strikeout record, notching 1,131 strikeouts during her high school career. Paige is the daughter of Jason and Shelley Bedsworth and will attend Drake University next year.



Many on the prayer request list! Including:

Larry Strawhorn - COVID diagnosis, but doing better
Peggy Strawhorn – dealing with continued COVID symptoms
Larry Baumgartner—had cataract surgery on Nov. 12 and is doing well
Larry's two grandsons have COVID. Prayers for Jacob, Jarin, and their mom, Sheila Kern
Anna Sue Harmon was back in the ER with severe back pain but is doing well now.
Robert Green was also in the ER with severe back pain (but not on the same day!)
Family of Darrell Harris who passed away (Millersburg resident)
Marsha Loyd, who was ill
Shelby Roberts and Neal Roberts--recuperating from COVID
Prayers for Manchu Jerry Powles who had more of his leg amputated above the knee cap due to infection and not healing.
Margaret Blattner's cousin, Bonnie Oney, fell and has several broken bones
Sympathy to Brenda Rose whose cousin passed away recently
Danny Rose had shoulder surgery November 6 and is doing better
Prayers of joy for Brenda Rose's friend, Judy Nosek, who received a good report recently
Prayers for the roommate of Bob Green's son, Austin, who was diagnosed with COVID-19 and was placed in the intensive care unit.
Prayers of joy for Stan and Rita's friend, Freddie Copeland, who is cancer free
Prayers for Kamden Nolte who is having bunion surgery on December 18
Prayers for Savannah Bethell who is recuperating from mono
Prayers for Larry Brown's brother, Norman, and sister, Jackie, who are dealing with serious illnesses
Prayers for Bill Hudson and family who is facing more testing and uncertainty
Prayers for John and Barbara Gulick – John is back in the hospital after suffering a mini-stroke and will have surgery November 25
Sympathy to the family of John and Karen Fox – John passed away last week, and Karen remains in the hospital – all due to COVID-19. They are the grandparents of Amiria Harper-Rose.
Congratulations to Jenny McCarty on the successful presentation of her Master's project!
Sincere sympathy to Cindy Baumgartner and family on the death of her mother, Mary Belle Streit.
Prayers for safety for Angie Crane as she continues her work as a health care worker.
Sincere sympathy to Marilyn Thomas on the death of her granddaughter, Audrey, daughter of Jim Cupp, who lost his wife, Debbie in August.
Prayers of healing for Alex Mielke, who has COVID-19.
Prayers for Margaret's stepbrother, whose son was killed in a car accident

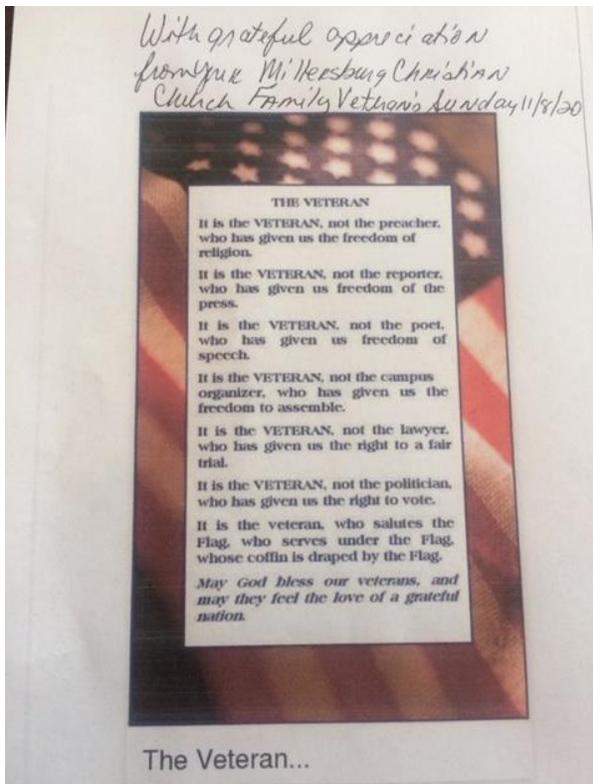
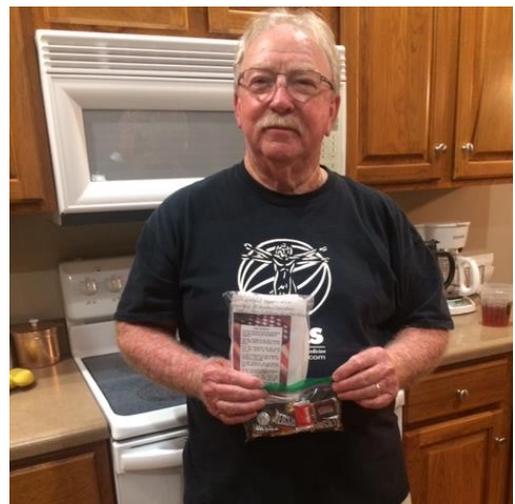
The Millersburg Christian Church family extends deepest sympathy to the family of Dave Tucker who passed away Monday, November 16. He is survived by his wife Mary of 44 years, his daughter Jenny Cummings (Travis Slaughter) son DJ (Ashley) Tucker ; grandchildren Tucker and Allie Cummings, Annie and Eleanor (Ellie) Tucker. Dave and Mary were past members of our church and served in many capacities. A celebration of life services will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions are suggested to Millersburg Christian Church, Mobility Worldwide of MO or Southern Boone County Boosters Club.



A **Gold Star Families Memorial** is being planned and built in Jefferson City. Fundraising has begun to raise \$125,000, scheduled to be completed by Aug. 10, 2021. Donations can be made at www.hwwmohf.org and specify the Jefferson City monument or mail a donation to Legends Bank, c/o Rose Verslues, 130 E. McCarty Street, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

As part of Exercise Tiger Foundation 's **Mask A Vet**, Rita drove packages of masks to many of our veterans or their family members in Millersburg as a Thank You for their service. Attached on each package was a copy of the reading "THE VETERAN", along with a note of grateful appreciation from the church for their military service, along with a small bag of chocolate candy. One very special veteran included this year was Robert McGrath who served with the Marines in WWII, he will be 98 in December. Robert's daughter and son-in-law are Cathy and John McCray. Over 25 packages of masks (3 in a package) have been distributed to help stop the spread of Covid-19 among veterans and their families. Masks are still available for veterans and their families, please contact Rita at 642-5250 to request

Update: **Honoring veterans with new life:** Thanks to a \$1,485 grant from the Trees Forever Granting a Better Tomorrow Program, The City of Fulton recently planted 11 new trees in Memorial Park. Of the 11 trees, 10 honor local men who fell in action during the Vietnam War. The VFW chose the veterans, Truescape Landscaping picked the trees and Boy Scouts from Fulton's Troop 50 and 250 helped plant them. Those recognized include: Thomas Baker, Terry Craighead, Bill Poff, Elwood Hendrix, Orville "Allen" Sheets, Lewis McDermott, Henry Evans, Vernon Todd, Frank Johnson and John Taylor Jr. Their trees line the sidewalk near the Memorial Park pavilion and will be marked with small placards on posts. Ultimately, there will be 33 new trees planted along Stinson Creek near Business 54.



Missions Chair, Randy Loyd, reported the CROP WALK raised \$6,800 for the walkers last month. The Thanksgiving and Christmas basket funds raised \$350. A local family connected with the Short Stop convenience store was chosen as well as the recipient for the food basket. The remainder of the funds will be used to support a McIntire student through the SERVE Adopt-a-child program for Christmas.



Larry and I wish to thank everyone for their Get-Well cards and prayers while we battled Covid-19 and, also, while I recovered from my surgery weeks ago. And thank you to Vickie and Brenda for the awesome meals prepared for us! We knew from the first time we moved here that this is a community of loving, giving, kind people, and we feel very blessed to be part of it. Thank you for being so caring, not only when there is sickness, but every day of the year.

Love,
Peggy and Larry

Dan and Brenda Rose would also like to thank everyone for their concern, prayers, and cards while Danny is on the mend from recent shoulder surgery. Therapy starts next week.

Though not an “official” project of the mission committee, if you and your family would like to participate in some way in this “Reverse Advent Calendar” – SERVE is always in need of help.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans



Balances for Millersburg Christian Church accounts at Callaway Bank:

	<u>6/22/20</u>	<u>7/19/20</u>	<u>8/20/20</u>	<u>9/17/20</u>	<u>10/19/20</u>	<u>11/16/20</u>
Checking -	\$9,121	8,647	7,491	7,770	9,987	8,653
Savings -	\$3,499	3,500	3,501	3,503	3,504	3,505
Special -	\$1,335	2,270	4,525	4,710	4,845	2,654
PayPal	\$1,895	549	1,083	1,858	488	1,046



Flex Fund (account with Disciples of Christ Board of Church Extension) 4,939

In general, our church finances still look fairly good despite the extended effects of the corona virus pandemic. People have generally remained faithful to their financial commitments to the church, and we have received some donations and grant funding, including a recent expenses reimbursement grant from the Callaway Commissioners for the recently installed air ionizers. Some people are taking advantage of the secure PayPal online method of donating/pledging to the church. However, 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!

At the annual congregational meeting, the following budget was approved by the congregation. Many thanks to Jeff Moran and his work in preparing this budget. During this pandemic, it is important that we all remain faithful to our pledges so that the work of the church can go on.

Also the following board of directors was approved by the congregation for the coming year. Thanks to those for their willingness to serve.

2021 Board of Directors

Elder	Barbara Moran	2021				
	Vacancy	2021				
	Bob Green	2022				
	Randy Loyd	2022				
	Carolyn Anderson	2023				
Diaconate	Brenda Rose	2021	Patty Eggleston	2022	Vicki Fritz	2023
	Bill Anderson	2021	Bernie Roberts	2022	Rita Adams	2023
	Larry Strawhorn	2021	Vickie Roberts	2022	Jeff Moran	2023
			Kathy Craighead	2022		

Board President		
Vice-President		
Board Secretary		
Bookkeeper	Brenda Williamson	573-544-3360
Treasurer		
Minister	Rev. Patricia Farmer	505-900-1553
Admin. Asst.	Brenda Williamson	573-544-3360
Church Office		642-2939

Millersburg Christian Church - Proposed Operational Budget: Summary of Askings for 2021

Administration (see below)	\$27,660
Christian Education (Sunday School curriculum, VBS)	\$ 200
Membership and Evangelism (funeral memorials, fellowship, miscellaneous)	\$ 300
Missions (emergency discretionary fund, mission work)	\$ 200
Property (see below)	\$17,365
Stewardship and Finance	\$ 0
Worship (supply ministers, child care, musicians, supplies, miscellaneous)	\$ 1,500
	Subtotal:
	\$47,225
Missions (10% of total estimated income)	estimated:
	\$ 5,000
	Grand Total:
	\$52,225

Administration: Askings for 2021

Pastoral Compensation	\$22,340
Secretarial Services	\$ 2160
Bookkeeper	\$ 2160
Office Supplies	\$ 500
Postage	\$ 500
Total:	\$27,660

2021 Property Committee Budget Askings:

1. Electricity (Callaway Electric Cooperative, Fulton)	\$3,500
2. Water (Public Water District #9, Columbia)	240 (about \$20 monthly)
3. Trash pick-up (Republic Services)	240 (about \$20 monthly)
4. Telephone (Socket)	480 (about \$40 monthly)
5. Insurance (Brotherhood Mutual)	3,800
6. Copier (DaCom)	1,000 (about \$85 monthly)
7. Mowing (Warren Gilbert)	2,500
8. Janitorial service (David Thomas)	1,820
9. Cleaning supplies for janitor	200
10. Piano tuning	100
11. Safe Deposit box (Callaway Bank)	35
12. HVAC Spring and Fall Service (Reed)	900
13. Pest Management (Atkins)	450
14. Annual termite inspection (Atkins)	100
15. Snow removal	200
16. Fire extinguisher inspection/recharging (Cintas)	300
17. Miscellaneous supplies/unexpected expenses	1,500
TOTAL PROPERTY ASKINGS:	\$17,365

2021 Estimated Income:

Pledges (16)-	\$35,140	Donations:	7,500
Use of church -	3,600	Offerings:	1,000
TOTAL:	\$38,740	Fundraisers:	5,000
		TOTAL:	\$13,500

GRAND TOTAL: \$52,240



DECEMBER



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		MPS 8-12	Terri & Vicki Fritz	MPS 8-12 4-7 <i>Barbara Moran</i> <i>Jerry Landrum</i>		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<i>John Gulick</i>	<i>Jo Ed McCray</i>	MPS 8-12 New Board of Director Caucus – 6:30 <i>Larry Brown</i>	<i>Todd Guse'</i> <i>Carol Cox</i>	MPS 8-12 4-7		Bill & Carolyn Anderson
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<i>Melanie Czeschin</i> <i>Michael Smith</i>	<i>Vicki Fritz</i>	MPS 8-12 <i>Jon Bright</i> Jason & Shelly Bedsworth	<i>Nicholas Forsee</i> <i>John Reynolds</i>	MPS 8-12 4-7 <i>Randy Loyd</i>		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<i>Zach Gamet</i>	Newsletter deadline	MPS 8-12 <i>Tina Arnold</i> <i>Alexander Mielke</i>	<i>Cheryl Pardue</i>	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day! <i>Rhad Baker</i>	
27	28	29	30	31		
			Newsletter assembly	New Year's Eve		

Millersburg Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

4527 State Road J
Fulton, MO 65251

Return Service Requested



Please join Lisa and I in welcoming Brenda Williamson who was hired as our new church secretary/bookkeeper at the November board meeting. Brenda is a resident of the Central community and the mom of Leah Beth Baker and we are thrilled to have her join us! Lisa and I will be helping her for the next several months as we transition these two positions.

Morning Worship starts at 10:30 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!

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.

**The Church is not a building;
The Church is not a steeple;
The Church is not a resting place;
The Church Is Its People!!**

**Join the people of
Millersburg Christian Church
For worship services via Zoom App
at 10:00 am on Sundays**

Send an email to MCC1836@socket.net,
Put "Zoom Church" in the Subject line.
You will be sent an email the Saturday
before the service with a link
by which you can connect by Zoom App on
your laptop, tablet, or smartphone.
You will be able to see video and hear audio
of others at the worship service.
You can also join to just listen to the service
by non-smartphone.
Join at 10 am to visit with others. Service
starts at 10:30 am.
Previous sermons are posted at our website:
www.millersburgchristianchurch.org