



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 505-900-155

### APRIL 2022



## PATRICIA'S PONDERINGS

### "Sunflowers for Distressed Hearts"

One year before his death, Vincent Van Gogh wrote to a friend that he yearned "to make of painting what the music of Berlioz and Wagner has been before us. . . a consolatory art for distressed hearts." This was the purpose behind his art—to console the distressed and comfort the brokenhearted. Perhaps this is why we feel comforted by his loving brushstrokes of variegated hues. With his palette knife, he tenderly worked the fragments of light into textured waves of consoling colors and forms. He gave us what he had hoped to give: a "consolatory art for distressed hearts."

As the darkness of war rises in the East, we admit our need for consolation in art and in life. We long for Lenten light -- lengthening light to combat the darkness within and without. And yes, after a long winter, we long for flowers! We can, in any season, turn to Van Gogh's flowers, especially his favorite, the sunflower—a flower he associated with both light and gratitude.

Because the sunflower is the national flower of Ukraine, we have been wearing and posting these "little suns" as they represent solidarity with Ukraine, hope for the future of democracy, and resistance against Russian aggression. But these luminous beauties represent even more for the people of Ukraine, and the world, too.

A peaceful democracy, Ukraine once possessed the third largest nuclear arsenal in the world. But on June 4, 1996, Ukraine gave up its last nuclear warhead on a former Ukrainian missile base. On this celebratory occasion of becoming nuclear free, the then US Secretary of Defense William Perry said to a crowd that included dignitaries from the US, Russia, and Ukraine, "Sunflowers instead of missiles in the soil will ensure peace for future generations." Then, they scattered and planted sunflower seeds on the site.

Sunflowers then became more than a national flower. They gave us a symbol of peace worldwide, an icon of sun-drenched beauty to free the world of nuclear weapons. Van Gogh would have loved this. In 1888, in a letter to his sister, he wrote that he wanted to decorate his studio with nothing but sunflowers. Nothing but sunflowers! Is it any wonder that he filled no less than twelve canvases with sunflowers? The sunflower became his own personal artistic signature, telling his brother Theo in a letter in 1889, "the sunflower is mine."

What if we all claimed the sunflower "as mine" in the sense of all it stands for. Could we then become like these little suns, reflecting light to the world? What if we scattered sunflower seeds all over our neighborhoods and communities? And especially in places where tragedies have left a dark void. Would this not offer comfort, consolation, and beauty to our brokenhearted world?

Peace,  
Rev. Patricia

## Prayers for:

**Kamden Nolte** who is suffering from a concussion that resulted from a recent fall.

The numerous **war victims** and **Ukraine refugees**

**Robert Ackley** who is dealing with cancer issues

**Alexzander Mielke** who is undergoing medical tests

Members & friends who are recovering from Covid

**Will Haferbier** who is dealing with heart issues

You are in my thoughts  
and prayers.



## Do you know what the colors are for the Christian year?

March and April are the months of Lent and Easter so the church uses purple and black and white.

Purple is a color of both penitence and royalty used during the preparatory season of Advent and Lent

Black is a color of death used on Good Friday and Holy Saturday and for funerals.

White and Gold are used during the Christmas and Easter seasons (except on the Day of Pentecost) and in other seasons on festive days such as at Baptism of the Lord, Transfiguration, Trinity, All saints, and Christ the King. White may also be used at weddings.

## FROM YOUR WORSHIP COMMITTEE:

For **Palm Sunday on April 10**, you are welcomed to bring a potted plant or any flowers you would like to place in the front of our sanctuary. **After the service we will be having a luncheon.** The worship committee will be providing the meat dish and the congregation is asked to provide a large salad, vegetable, or dessert dish. The **worship committee** will meet on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. to set up the tables.

**Good Friday/Tenebrae services** will be held by zoom at 7:00 p.m. **April 15.** Rev. Patricia will send out an invitation to join the service.

**April 17<sup>th</sup> is Easter Sunday.** Please join us for an **Easter Sunday Social at 9:30 a.m.** followed by our regular worship service. We look forward to the special music Barbara is planning for our Easter worship.

Please join us for worship in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. To join our worship by zoom, send an email to [MCC1836@socket.net](mailto:MCC1836@socket.net) and 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.

## Treasurer's Report

Balances for Millersburg Christian Church (MCC) accounts :						
	10/17/21	11/22/21	12/20/21	1/17/22	2/19/22	3/21/22
Checking	11,462	12,846	12,217	13,220	11,489	13,060
Savings	205	206	207	208	209	210
Special	14,416	14,491	14,651	14,801	15,256	15,471
PayPal	455	455	551	551	602	652
Flex Fund (Disciples Church Extension Fund)					\$5,090	

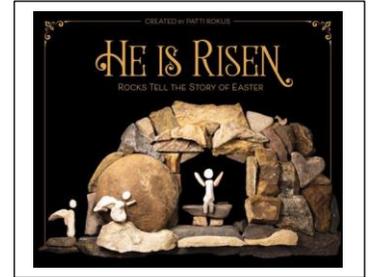
Daylight Savings time is here, consequently clocks now showing it will have the correct time for, at most, 238 days until November 6, when 127 days of standard time begins. Having some clocks correct only part of the year is a bad policy and having the church in poor repair at any time is even worse.

Most of you may know that recently a portion of the church's water supply line failed. Those with good memories will recall that this is the second such failure. Unfortunately, as our church ages the need for more expensive repairs will arise. Last year a special call, to pay for roof and heating and air conditioning system repairs, was made. The response for funding these unexpected repairs was wonderful but didn't cover the total cost. The church's Savings account was tapped to cover the difference.

Unexpected building, system and equipment failures will occur at any time, standard or daylight saving. The Board of directors is grappling with how to ensure that sufficient funds are on hand to cover essential repairs without the need to call for special help. Decisions will be reported.



# APRIL



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<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Social – 9:45</b> Barb McGrath/Joyce Schermerhorn	<i>Violet Elizabeth Woods</i>	MPS 8-1  <i>Allison Milner Michelle Hans</i>	<i>Miles Bethell Jack Patrick Hatchett</i>	MPS 8-1 4-7  <b>Brad &amp; Jennifer Weiss</b>		<i>Eddie Forsee</i>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Palm Sunday Fellowship dinner after worship</b>		<i>MPS 8-1</i>	<i>Brent Long</i>	MPS 8-1 4-7	<b>Good Friday Service – 7:00 zoom</b>  <i>Amanda Loyd</i>	<i>Bailey Baumgartner</i>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Easter Sunday Social – 9:30 a.m.</b>	<i>Eva Landrum</i>  <b>Newsletter deadline</b>	MPS 8-1  <i>Terry Fritz Kristen Bright</i>	<i>Nicole Latty Hatchett Rileigh Huffman</i>	MPS 8-1 4-7		
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Pastor’s Cabinet following worship</b>  <i>Joyce Schermerhorn</i>		<b>MPS 8-1</b>	<b>Newsletter assembly</b>  <i>Charlotte Rose Bethell</i>	MPS 8-1 4-7		<i>Blake Latty</i>

**Millersburg Christian Church**  
**4527 State Road J**  
**Fulton, MO 65251**

**Return Service Requested**



**Thank you for the prayers of concern over my fall and resulting broken ankle and surgery. I am doing better and know the prayers resulted in my recovery.**

**Paul Koch**

**THOSE WHO SERVE:**

**ELDER: Carolyn Anderson**

**DIACONATE: Patty Eggleston**

**Larry Strawhorn**

**SERVE Food Pantry item for April:**

**Tuna**

**10:00 a.m. Visiting**

**10:30 a.m. Worship Begins**

**Rev. Patricia Farmer, Minister**

**Brenda Williamson, Administrative Assistant and  
Bookkeeper**

Church telephone number is 573-642-2939

Church email address is: [mcc1836@socket.net](mailto:mcc1836@socket.net)

Brenda telephone number: 573-544-3360

Brenda email: [blouwilliamson@yahoo.com](mailto:blouwilliamson@yahoo.com)

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. Friday is her day off.

You are welcome to join us in person to worship in the sanctuary at 10:30 am on Sundays. To join our worship service by zoom, send an email to [MCC1836@socket.net](mailto:MCC1836@socket.net), and 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 on your laptop, tablet, or smartphone. You can also join to just listen to the service by non-smartphone. Join by 10:20 am. Service starts at 10:30 am. Previous sermons are posted at our website:

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