



THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March , 2007

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl

Minister

Amanda Hatfield

Student Associate

Melissa Langley

Music Director

Ainsley Wagoner

Pianist

Rhonda Rankin

Secretary

Jestine Johnson

Custodian

2007 Lenten Breakfast Series

Theme: Journey through Faith

Saturday, March 10—9 am: Journey through Lectio Divina

Led by Dr. Sharon Warner, Professor of Educational Ministry at LTS, Lexington

Breakfast provided by: Flock 4

Music by: Jan Nance

Saturday, March 17—9 am: Journey through Labyrinth

Led by Rev. Kris Bentley, Minister of Arlington Christian Church, Lexington

Breakfast provided by: Flock 3

Music by: John Askew

Saturday, March 24—9 am: Journey through Reiki and Healing Prayer

Led by Christian St. Clair, Minister and Reiki master, Wurtland United Methodist Church, Ashland

Breakfast provided by: Flock 1

Music: by Phil Burchell and McKenna Helfinberger

(This session will last until 10:30 am.)

Saturday, March 31—9 am: Journey through Visioning

Led by Dr. Wayne Bell, Minister, Lexington

Breakfast provided by: Flock 2

Music by: Women's Ensemble

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM: Sunday School

10:55 AM: Worship

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Visit us on the web:

www.midwaychristian.org

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, February 25 Tom Arehart and Gretchen Portwood Arehart joined our congregation. Tom transferred his membership and Gretchen reaffirmed her faith. Notes may be sent to 239 Victoria Way, Georgetown, KY 40324. Their phone number is 502-868-9925. Please welcome them to the Midway Christian Church Family!

Budget Update

Budgeted to date: \$95,405.89

Received to date: \$89,704.94

A Pastoral Word

Life Changes! This is a well known fact. Life is full of change and new experiences. Life is full of new cities, new friends, and new opportunities. Our lives are filled with little life changes. Each year, we get one year older. Each year, families change with the birth of a new baby or with the loss of a loved one. Life changes!

It seems like I have been experiencing quite a few life changes recently and they have made me start to wonder about the journey that we are on.

In February, Mike and I drove up to Grand Rapids, Michigan and helped his parents begin the process of packing up thirty years in one house to prepare for a new house in a new town. Both of Mike's parents will be retired by the beginning of March and then they will move to Indianapolis, to a new house, a new town, and a new football team, much to the disappointment of my husband who was raised on Detroit Lions' football and who is still an avid fan.

On the drive up to Michigan, Mike began to reflect on his childhood, and started telling all those stories that I had heard before and I just nodded along. We stayed the week, packing up photos, and reminiscing over family occasions. On the way back to Kentucky, Mike looked at me and said, "I no longer have my childhood home to go back to." I just nodded along because this is something that I couldn't understand. My childhood home is still there for me in North Carolina, as a special retreat and a sense of security. I still feel connected to my roots in North Carolina which gives me the wings to experience new opportunities in life.

I told Mike, "Well, you still have our home to come home to. You still have me and our animals to welcome you home." I could tell this was not what he wanted to hear and so we drove for a while in silence.

Life Changes! Why are we so uncomfortable with these life changes? What makes us dread them so much? Life Changes.

Even as I write this, I am looking at my calendar and looking at a red letter day for me. I will turn a decade older this year! No longer will I be able to circle the 20-29 spot on forms. I have to move up a spot!

And I know that as I share this life change with you, many of you are just chuckling at me and are probably saying, Heather, that's nothing. Wait until you turn ____? (I'll let you fill in the blank.) Thirty was easy. It's when you turn ____ you should start to worry. Once again, I'll let you fill in the blank.

Life changes with all different life changes. It seems as if the year goes by faster every year. February is finished and now we begin March. And soon

March will be finished and then we start April. If you are not careful, I might just start singing, "The Circle of Life", which would not be pleasant for anyone.

Life changes! Or as the author of Ecclesiastes said much more eloquently and poetically than me:

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to tear; and a time to sew; a time to keep silence and a time to speak; a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace."

Life changes! There is an order to the things that happen in our lives and to world around us. There is order as the seasons changes, and the months go by. And here is the Good News! The order of the world was determined by God. The same God who watches over us each and every day. As life changes, we begin to understand that God made everything and will make everything right in God's time. We may not exactly understand our life changes or why they are happening around us. But we know that God is with us in each and every one of these life changes.

So we can stop worrying about what is going to happen tomorrow and we can stop worrying about turning another decade older. (Or at least I promise to try to stop worrying at this big red letter day!) And we can enjoy life with all of its changes! We can enjoy these new experiences without apprehension and know that that God is watching over us and guiding us on our journey, that God has put certain people in our lives at certain times to help us work through and work with these many life changes.

God wants us to enjoy the ride of life with all of its hills, twists and turns, and tunnels. God wants us to live our lives to the fullest. And as we get to the top of the hill on this rollercoaster we call life, God wants us to raise our hands, to laugh, and enjoy!

Life Changes! May we always live our life to the fullest with all its ups and downs, twist and turns.

Heather

Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

You are encouraged to read the text for the day in advance



March 4

Second Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Luke 13:31-35

Sermon: "The Fox and the Hen"

March 11

Third Sunday of Lent

Amanda Hatfield Preaching

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

Sermon: "Beyond Strength"

March 18

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Luke 15; 1-3, 11-32

Sermon: "The Lost Ones"

March 25

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Scripture: John 12: 1-18

Sermon: "An Act of Love and Grace"

Serving This Month

Elders

Anne Burford

William Drake

Deacons

Cindy Batts, Sandy Gruzsky, Dottie Pollard, Etta Manor, Pat Wilson, Teresa Hoppin, Virginia Ballenger, Bob Settlemire, Nancy Lu Prewitt

Worship Leaders:

March 4: Amy Perry

March 11: Gloria Batts

March 18: Jordan Batts

March 25: Steele Rouse

Sunday School Classes

March 4—No Sunday School, Pancake breakfast - 9 am in FH

March 11—Practicing Lectio Divina

March 18—Practicing Reiki, led by John Batts

March 25—Christ and the Crucifixion, led by Jeannie Hill

Daylight Savings Time Begins March 11



Remember to set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday, March 10. We "spring" forward one hour for Daylight Savings Time.

Weekly Bible Study

During the season of Lent, Midway Christian Church is offering a Bible Study on the Book of Genesis. We will be using the Interpretation Bible Studies Series. We will meet on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am and on Thursday nights at 6:30 pm. Please choose the time that works best for you. There are also extra copies in the church office if you are interested but are unable to make it to the sessions. The cost is \$8. Please see Heather if you need more information.

Church Service to be held at Midway College on March 4

We will be holding our Sunday morning worship service at Midway College in the Starks Chapel on Sunday, March 4. Service will be at 10:55 am. We will be commissioning a group of college students, and adults associated with the college for their mission trip to Beaumont, Texas. They will be traveling on an Alternative Spring Break Trip to do Hurricane Relief. We are also invited to stay for lunch at Midway College at no charge. Please join us as we send off this group with God's blessings of safe travel.

Children's Ministry

Dear Church Family,

It has certainly been a busy few weeks for the youth of Midway CC! On January 27th we went ice skating, and in February we saw *Anansi the Spider* performed at the Lexington Children's Theater, went to see the movie *Bridge to Terabithia* the night it opened, and got involved in church outreach by participating in the Valentine's Day party for the Hope Center. Thanks to all the parents and others who made these events such a success. Children's Worship and Wonder has moved to a great new location and the youth have also enjoyed participating in church events such as the chili cook-off and Mardi Gras party.

Some reminders for the youth:

- Beware of deep sea monsters, especially after a few rounds of Twister
- The next time you see rain, listen to the wind and think of the lesson Anansi learned
- "Close your eyes and keep your mind wide open."

Thank you all for the work that went into my Installation—for the kind words, the refreshments, and the gifts. I am so happy to have found this place.

Peace,

Amanda



Pizza and Movie Night



So far there is one item on the youth calendar for March. We will have pizza and watch Tuck Everlasting at the church on Saturday, March 24 at 5:30 pm. Just think, all you tired chaperones and carpoolers—no departure time, no caravan into Lexington, no risk of losing each other, no rush to get everyone fed beforehand—we're cutting straight to the chase of relaxation and fellowship.

Parent Meeting

There will be a parents meeting with Amanda on March 4 at the Midway College cafeteria immediately following the lunch. Please bring your thoughts, concerns or ideas for improving children's ministry for discussion.

Children Worship & Wonder

I would like to say "Thank You" to everyone for all of their support of the Children's Worship and Wonder program. We only have three stories left, and to get everything we need right now, is about \$300! The kids are putting their change in the CW & W collection plate every week to get a story of their very own. The only thing we will need after this is storage boxes and eventually we will need art supplies. Thank you for everything!!!!!!

Cindy Batts

Acolyte Schedule



- March 4—Betsy & Jordan
- March 11—Noelle & Faith
- March 18—J.T. & Will
- March 25—Gregory & Clay

Children Worship & Wonder Greeter Schedule

- March 4 & 11—Pat Settlemire
- March 18 & 25—Amanda Hatfield

Mission News and Notes

Mission Night

Wednesday, March 21

The next mission night will be Wednesday, March 21, 2007. The Cabinet will meet at 5:45 pm and the Committee's will meet at 6:30 pm. Childcare is provided.

Everyone is encouraged to attend!

Meals On Wheels

Many thanks to the Meals on Wheels team that served the week of February 5:

Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, Gloria Batts, Pat & Charles Wilson, Pat Settlemire



The next Meal on Wheels delivery will be the week of March 5, 2007.

Food Pantry

The Hope Ministries Food Pantry is in need of several items: laundry detergent, canned fruit, corn, ravioli, spaghetti o's, and cereal. Please remember those in our community who are in need by donating one or more of these items.



Also, the local food pantry, located in Midway Baptist Church, is trying to restock after Christmas. They are in need of everything. This food pantry serves our community and is used very often.

Week of Compassion Update



In offerings that were given February 18 & 25, we gave \$965 for this year's Week of Compassion. By contributing to this fund, Disciples around the country have responded to a disaster once every 1.7 days—both here in the United States and abroad. Thanks to everyone for giving so generously!

Men's Hope Center

The Men's Hope Center is in need of all sizes of underwear, t-shirts and socks. The Mission's Committee will be collecting these items through the month of March. Items should be placed in the collection basket in the narthex. Phil Burchell has volunteered to take the items to the Hope Center each week.

Women's Hope Center

The Valentine's Party at the Women's Hope Center was a huge success. This was the first time any outside organization celebrated Valentine's Day with the residents at the Center. For two hours the residents made Valentines for their children, played games with each other and our youth and munched on home-made brownies, cookies, cheese, veggie's, etc. The residents were very appreciative of the craft time, games, food, and fellowship. The committee provided "goodie" bags for the residents to give to their children. The bags included various chocolate candies, stickers, coloring books, crayons, and a bible story book. The church collected enough personal hygiene products, hats, scarves, gloves, and socks to fill thirteen "Safe Off Streets" shoeboxes.

Thanks to those who donated their time, baked and/or provided food: Betty Ann Voigt, Pat Wilson, Sharon Burchell, Etta Manor, Teresa Hoppin, June Mitchell, Pat Settlemire, Wilda and Rick Caudle, Amanda Hatfield, John, Cindy, Jordan, and J.T. Batts, Sandy, Faith, and Noel Gruzsky, Rick and Will Schein. Special thanks to all MCC members who also made monetary donations and provided items for the shoeboxes. This project was truly a group effort and God richly blessed our efforts.

Fellowship News and Notes

Board Meeting

There will be a Board Meeting on Sunday, March 4 at 5 pm.

Elders

There will be an Elders Retreat March 2 & 3.

The Elders will meet on Sunday, March 25 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Women's Luncheon

Sunday, March 18 in Fellowship Hall

All women of Midway Christian Church, regardless of age, are invited to a luncheon on Sunday, March 18 immediately following the service. We will be taking a look at "The Cup of our Life: A Guide for Spiritual Growth." **Everyone is asked to bring a cup that "fits" your personality or faith journey.** We will be sharing our stories by experiencing the cup of life in all its emptiness, fullness, brokenness, flaws, and blessings. **Please also bring \$5 to cover the cost of the lunch.**

Disciple Women's Spring Conference

March 24, 2007—9:30 a.m.

The Disciple Women's Spring Conference Remix will be held March 24, 2007 at the Holiday Inn North, Lexington. The keynote speaker will be Verity Jones, Disciples World Editor and Publisher. Registration form and \$20 fee is due by March 9. You can get a registration form the bulleting board outside the church office or on the regional website www.ccinky.net.

Keenagers

Monday, March 19 at 11:30 am

The Keenagers will meet Monday, March 19 at 11:30 am at the church to carpool to Louisville. We will visit C.P. Williams at his new home. We will also stop and have lunch in Louisville. Please see Heather McColl for more details.

Hand Bell Retreat

Saturday, March 17 from 1—3 pm

If you are interested in playing the Hand Bells, please join us Saturday, March 17 from 1 to 3 pm for a Hand Bell Retreat. We will be working on music for Easter.



Summer Experiences for Children, Youth & Families

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Cost (if postmarked by 5/1)</u>
Chi-Rho <i>6-8th grade</i>	July 9-14	WKDH	\$180
Junior 1 <i>4 & 5th grade</i>	June 11-15	WKDH	\$150
Mini <i>3rd grade only</i>	June 8-10	WKDH	\$90
Camp 101 <i>1 & 2nd grades plus a parent or guardian</i>	June 2-3	WKDH	\$40
Ya'll Camp <i>Family Camp</i>	Aug. 31-Sept. 2	WKDH	\$40
C.O.W. (College Outreach Week) <i>For Young Adults 19-25</i>	Aug. 9-11	WKDH	?

Registration is available online at www.ccinky.net/camps or contact the church office.

Community News and Notes

Women's Retreat at Catherine Spalding in Nazareth, KY

The women of Midway Christian Church are invited to a retreat for the weekend of April 13-15. We will be traveling to the Catherine Spalding Retreat Center in Nazareth, KY. The cost is \$120 which includes your lodging, meals, and the conference center for our retreat. This is a time to share in the support of our sisters in faith, a time to relax, and to grow in our relationship with God.

We will meet at the church to carpool on Friday, April 13 at 5 pm. There is also a group leaving at 8 am Saturday morning for those who need to come later. Please come when you are able and stay for as long as you are able. Make your checks out to Midway Christian Church and send them to the church office no later than Sunday, March 18.

Training Session for Children Worship and Wonder

Please mark your calendars! Lexington Theological Seminary is hosting another Children Worship and Wonder Story Teller training session in April. This is a growing ministry for MCC. Our children are really enjoying this experience of worship! The dates are April 21-22 and the cost is \$120 if received by April 6. Please let Amanda know if you are interested in attending this training.

Schedule for Holy Week

Sunday, April 1

Palm Sunday



Thursday, April 5—7:00 pm

Maundy Thursday Service

Midway Christian Church



Friday, April 6—7:00 pm

Good Friday Service

Midway Baptist Church



Sunday, April 8—7:00 am

Easter Sunrise Service

Walter Bradley Park

Breakfast to follow at Midway Women's Club, hosted by Second Christian Church

10:55 am Easter Sunday Service at Midway Christian Church



Randy Johnson from Christian Church Foundation to Visit

Monday, March 26 at 7:30 pm

The Trustees will meet on Monday, March 26 at 7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall with Randy Johnson from the Christian Church Foundation to discuss the policies and investment options concerning the endowment fund.

Hear and Meet Jim Wallis

March 28—7:30 p.m.

Haggin Auditorium, Transylvania University

Jim Wallis is an author, public theologian, preacher, activist, and international commentator on ethics and public life. Wallis is editor of *Sojourners* magazine, which reaches more than 250,000 people, and his latest book, *God's Politics* was on The New York Times bestseller list for four months.

Wallis is a frequent guest on television and radio programs including *Meet the Press*, Public Broadcasting's *Frontline*, and National Public Radio's *Talk of the Nation*.

He teaches the course Faith, Politics, and Society at Harvard University and is the author of eight books.

Midway Christian Church

Nonprofit Organization

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Return Service Requested

Easter Lily Order Form

Return this order form and your check to the church by Sunday, March 18, 2007

Name: _____

I would like to order _____ lily(ies) at \$11.50 each. Total \$ _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

