



THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

September, 2007

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl

Minister

Amanda Hatfield

Student Associate

Melissa Askew

Music Director

Ainsley Wagoner

Pianist

Rhonda Rankin

Secretary

Jestine Johnson

Custodian

Disciples Women Prepare for Annual Rummage Sale

September 15 & 16

Work is under way by the Disciples Women for their annual rummage sale, September 14 & 15 from 8 am to 6 pm and September 16 from Noon to 6 pm.

You may bring your items to the church during office hours or call Etta to set up a time. Items should be placed in the middle room in the basement of Fellowship Hall.

Help will be needed for set-up and pricing on September 11-13 at 6 pm each night. *Anyone* interested in helping, please see Etta.

If you have any questions, or need someone to pick up your items for the sale, please call Etta Manor at 502-863-6460 or 859-229-8628.



Sunday Worship

9:30 AM: Sunday School

10:55 AM: Worship

123 East Bruen Street

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

859-846-4102

Fax: 859-846-9542

office@midwaychristian.org

Visit us on the web:

Fall Festival

It's that time again! Midway Christian Church will be hosting a booth at the Midway Fall Festival

on Saturday, September 15 and Sunday, September 16. We will again be selling items from Ten Thousand Villages. The church will keep 10% of profits from the sell which will go towards our Future of the Faith Campaign.

Ten Thousand Villages is a not for profit organization that enables third world artisans to sell their arts and crafts for a fair price. Each of these artisans receive part of the profit from the sale of their items. This is a great time to pick up unique Christmas items.

If you would like to sign up for a two hour shift either on Saturday or Sunday, please contact the church office for a date and time.



Budget Update

Budgeted to date: \$23,426.12
Received to date: \$22,902.67

A Pastoral Word

Blessings in Disguise...

It has been an interesting past week for me and I am learning the true meaning of the phrase "Blessings in Disguise." Last Thursday, Phil Burchell, Jim Leer, and I traveled to visit a church member. We were hoping to rebuild some bridges that had been burnt with this church member and to also thank this church member for his kindness towards the church. Since both Jim and Phil drive trucks, it was decided that I would drive my car. We loaded up and started our journey.

I pulled up to this member's house, thinking that this spot was as good as any around. We got out of the car and walked into the house. We had been there about 10 minutes when we heard a big crash! We all sort of looked at each other and Phil, jokingly said, "Heather, I bet that was a tree hitting your car." I got up and looked out the window and sure enough, the tree had fallen on my car.

For the first few minutes, I could not think at all. Both Jim and Phil went out to check on the car and to see if maybe they could push what we thought was a branch off of my car. They got out the door, get about two feet, and turn around and walk into the house. "Heather, that branch is bigger than it looks. And your car is really damaged."

After my brain started working again, my first thought was "I had just paid that off two months ago." I heard someone say, "It was lucky you weren't in the car. Ten minutes earlier, and you would have been in that car."

Although this was true, it was not what I wanted to hear. I wanted to know "Why, God? Why my car?!" "God, couldn't you have made the tree fall in the other direction? What did I do to deserve the tree falling on my car?"

Rationally, I knew God was not angry at me or punishing me for visiting that church member, but I was not in a rational sort of mood.

The next morning, I called the insurance company and let them know the "good news". I told the lady a tree fell on my car and I needed to file a claim. And her response: "It was a good think that you were not in it. And don't worry, insurance will cover it." That was the best news I had heard in two days! **INSURANCE WAS GOING TO COVER IT!**

A few days after my car made friends with the tree, I

started thinking about what actually happened. Someone was watching out for us that night. Someone had kept us safe. And I could let go of the stress and worry. Things were covered. I just had to be patient.

A few days later we got the final word from the insurance company, the car was totaled. They would cut me a check and I needed to start looking for a new car. Even though my car was only 6 years old, for four years I had commuted from Grant County to Lexington. Mike and I had taken long trips in this car. Although it was in good condition, my car had a lot of mileage on it. I realized that I had just experienced one of life's greatest gifts: A Blessing in Disguise. We were all safe. I had paid off my car, which meant I didn't have to pay the bank before looking for a new car. And I had a down payment for a new car. Now please hear that I am not saying that God decided last Thursday night that the best thing for me at the time would be a new car. And that God was going to "give me a new car" and proceeded to "drop" the tree on my car. What I am saying is that sometimes when all we see are the negative aspects of a situation, we must remember that someone is watching out for us. We may not understand the reason why certain things happen to us but we know that things are covered. We can let go of the stress and worry. We can turn our problems over to God and all we have to do is be patient. Our God is an awesome God whose love and protection knows no end.

This month, as you go through life, be on the lookout for life's greatest gifts: blessings in disguise. And I leave you with a word of advice: "Watch where you park! You never know in what form your blessings in disguise will come to you."

Heather

Vacation Time

Rev. Heather McColl will be on vacation
September 1-8. If any needs arise, please
call Phil Burchell or Dan Roller.

Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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



September 2

Amanda Hatfield Preaching

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Sermon: "When You Give A Banquet"

September 9

Amanda Hatfield Preaching

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Philemon 1-21

Sermon: "Postmark: Paul"

September 16

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Sabbath

Scripture: Luke 15: 1-10

Sermon: "Leaving the Ninety-Nine"

September 23

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 16: 1-13

Sermon: "Serving Two Masters"

September 30

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 17: 5-10

Sermon: "Faith"

Serving This Month

Elders

Jan Nance

Jim Hoppin

Deacons

John Batts, Gloria Batts, Sharon Burchell, Scott Congleton, Ella Drake, Teresa Hoppin, Jim McDaniel, Nancy Lu Prewitt, Pat Wilson

Junior Deacon

Franklin Watson

Worship Leaders: TBA

Worship & Wonder Greeter Schedule

September 2—Sandy Gruzesky

September 9—Adele Dickerson

September 16—Amanda Hatfield

September 23—Virginia Ballenger

September 30—Margaret Easton

Acolyte Schedule

September 2—Gregory & Clay

September 9—Nate & Jack

September 16—Betsy & Jordan

September 23—J.T. & Sam

September 30—Noelle & Faith

October 7—Will & Marcus

October 14—Gregory & Clay

October 21—Nate & Jack

October 28—Betsy & Jordan



Children's Ministry

Dates to Remember

- ◆ The youth will travel to Lexington to play **Bible-themed miniature golf** on Saturday, September 8. We will meet at the church at 1 pm and return by 5 pm. The cost is \$4.25 for children under 10 and \$6.25 – over 10. The cost for adults is \$7.25.
- ◆ **Promotion Sunday** will be celebrated on September 9. We will recognize all the youth and kids during worship and celebrate their “promotions” in school. We will also lift up the beginnings of our new Middle School Youth Ministry and celebrate our Sunday school program for adults and youth. Please join us for this very special day in our church life.
- ◆ On Friday, September 28 we will set out on the voyage of a **progressive dinner**—eating different parts of the meal at different homes of people in our church family. We will meet at the church at 4:45 pm.
- ◆ **Children's Sabbath** is scheduled for September 23. As part of worship that day the youth will be singing the introit. Melissa will be having practices in the fifteen minutes before worship beginning September 2.
- ◆ **Sunday School** for the youth continues in the youth room over the sanctuary—please come and join us!



Children's Sabbath

Sunday, September 23

On Sunday, September 23, we will be celebrating Children's Sabbath in worship. Our youth and children will give leadership to our worship that day as we explore ways the church can become and advocate for children. The theme for Children's Sabbath this year is: “My Boat Is So Small: Creating a Harbor of Hope and Health Care for All Children.” This theme for Children's Sabbath is a wonderful tie in our denomination because at the General Assembly in July, a resolution was passed that encourages local congregations to educate themselves, their communities and their elected officials on children's health care nationally and locally; and advocate for immediate action to ensure health and mental health care for every child in America in 2007 as a first step to adequate health care for all. Please join us for this very special worship service.

Worship and Wonder is Starting Back Up!

School is back in session and things are starting up again at church. It is time for Worship and Wonder to start on Sunday, September 2. Children from age 3 thru 5th grade are invited to participate in Worship & Wonder. Following “Children's Moment”, children will be guided from the sanctuary to the Worship & Wonder Room where they will have their own worship experience. It is an exciting, innovative approach to teaching Bible stories to children based on the Montessori Method. If you have any questions, please see Cindy Batts or Amanda Hatfield.

Fellowship News and Notes

Elders

The Elders will meet on Sunday, September 30 at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Board Meeting

There will be **no** Board meeting in September.

Keenagers

The Keenagers will meet at the church on Monday, September 17 at 11:30 for lunch. We will be traveling to Frankfort to eat at The Historic Glen Willis Restaurant. Please call the church office to RSVP by Wednesday, September 12.

Women's Retreat

All women of Midway Christian Church are invited to a retreat at the Catherine Spalding Retreat Center in Nazareth, KY on Thursday, October 11 thru Sunday, October 14. Please feel free to come for the whole weekend or just part. The cost is \$60 a night which covers lodging, meals, and our conference room. This is a great time to rest, relax, and renew your spirits. Please RSVP to the church office by Sunday, September 16. Checks can be made out to Midway Christian Church.



Church Picnic

Saturday, September 22 @ 3pm

Everyone is invited to a Church Picnic on Saturday, September 22 at 3 pm at Jim and Jan Nance's house. Their address is 1010 Galloway Rd., Stamping Ground. The church will provide meat and drinks. You are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. There will be plenty of games for everyone! So come join us for some food, fellowship, and fun!

Disciples Women

Sunday, September 30 @ Noon



On Sunday, September 30, Disciples Women will hold their monthly meeting immediately following the service that day. Lunch will be provided. The cost of the lunch is \$5. We will continue with our study by learning more about Deborah. If you have not received a participant's book and would like one, copies are available in the church office for \$7. Please call the church office to RSVP by Sunday, September 9. All women of the church are invited to attend !

Disciples Men

Saturday, September 22 @ 8:30 am



Disciples Men will hold their monthly meeting on Saturday, September 22 at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Please see Dan Roller or Phil Burchell for more information.

Pictorial Directories

The new Pictorial Directories are here! You may pick one up in the Narthex beginning Sunday, September 2. If you are unable to pick one up and would like to have it mailed to you, please call the church office.

Thank You...

On behalf of the Woodford County Extension Homemakers and the Woodford County 4-H Council, we want to thank you for your continued support. The generosity of the community and surrounding area businesses is very much appreciated. We were able to provide school supplies for 300 students in the county. The children's school year is off to a great start because of your help.

Again, thank you for your service to the community.
June Mitchell,

Mission News and Notes

Mission Night

The next mission night will be Wednesday, September 19, 2007. The Cabinet will meet at 5:45 pm and the Committee's will meet at 6:30 pm.

Meals on Wheels

Many thanks to the Meals on Wheels team that served the week of August 20:

Charlann Wombles, Pat Wilson, buddy & Gertrude Johnson, Priscilla Crutcher, Pat Settlemire

The next Meal on Wheels delivery will be the week of September 17, 2007.



Food Pantry

The Hope Center Food Pantry is in need of the following canned items: carrots, mixed vegetables, spaghetti, tomato soup and chicken noodle soup.



Thank You

Many thanks to Tom & Gretchen Arehart and June Mitchell for helping in the Food Pantry in Versailles in August.

Planning for the Future: Giving with Your IRA

Have you ever wished you could stretch your dollars a little farther, or find a way to do more for the people and causes you love? If you are fortunate enough to be over 70 1/2 and have an IRA, our government has opened a window of opportunity for 2007 to allow you to easily make your wish happen.

This new law allows senior citizens, who are at least 70 1/2 on the day the distribution is made, to request their IRA administrators make distributions directly to their favorite charities, including our congregation. This distribution can be counted against your required minimum distribution if you choose; *it will not be counted as a taxable distribution to you*; and you are allowed to make distributions to charity of up to \$100,000 in any given year. In some states, making your charitable gifts through your IRA will save you state taxes, since this income will not be included in your Adjusted Gross Income. The combined impact of saving state, local and federal taxes is most dramatic for non-itemizers, who are now able to give tax-free dollars to charity—stretching their dollars by 25, 30, or even 35 percent! This window of opportunity can allow people to give more to our congregation at the same or reduced “out-of-pocket cost” to them. You might consider fulfilling your 2007 pledge with a gift from your IRA, or use this opportunity to stretch your gift to a capital campaign.

This charitable provision expires December 31, 2007. To learn more, contact the Christian Church Foundation at 800-668-8016.

Continuing Education

Christian Church in Kentucky Disciple U

Being, or becoming, a life learner is the responsibility of anyone who claims faith, and the region is pleased to offer an online setting to encourage individual education. Register for DiscipleU Courses online at www.ccinky.net or by calling 233-1391 by September 21. Courses run September 24-November 4.

DiscipleU Courses: Cost is \$30 each

- ◆ *In One Accord—Corporate Spirituality and Congregational Prayer, led by Rev. Lisa Caldwell-Reiss*
- ◆ *Amos and Isaiah—Eighth Century Prophets, led by Rev. Dr. John Hull*
- ◆ *What to Do with My Stuff? - led by Rev. Randy Johnson*
- ◆ *Searching for Peace in the Holy Land –Rev. David Brown*

Church Vision

Follow Up From Congregational Meeting

Sunday, August 26, Midway Christian Church met to vote on the vision and mission statements that were presented by the Visioning Team. The congregation voted to accept these new statements that will act as stepping stones for our future.

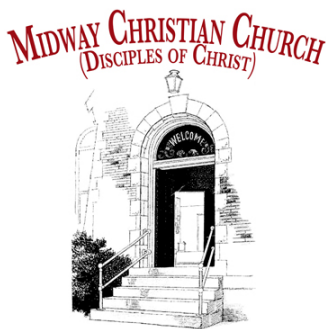
Midway Christian Church's Vision Statement:

The vision of Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is to be a Christ-centered, welcoming community of faith, building on its historical mission of loving God and one another, in an atmosphere of spiritual growth, worship, and witness.

Midway Christian Church T-Shirts for Sale!

They are here! New t-shirts for Midway Christian! They are on sale for \$8. You can pick one up in the church office. Please wear the new shirts at the Fall Festival and Rummage Sale in September as a way to "advertise" our church. Here is the design:

Front:



Back:

Midway Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Worship
Education
Love
Community
Open Table
Mission
Evangelism

Midway Christian Church's Mission Statement:

The mission of Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is to serve God and to welcome all through:

Worship

Education

Love

Community

Open Table

Mission

Evangelism

Endowment Fund

The trustees invested \$103,772.46 into a money market account that will continue to gain interest and provide for the future for the church. The trustees will have a report on the Endowment Fund at the beginning of the year. The purpose and hope of the Endowment Fund is to provide a stable future for Midway Christian Church while enabling its members to participate in new creative ministries for the church.

Midway Christian Church

Nonprofit Organization

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Return Service Requested

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the September newsletter is
Noon, Friday, September 21.

