



THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

November, 2007

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl

Minister

Amanda Hatfield

Student Associate

Melissa Askew

Music Director

Ainsley Wagoner

Pianist

Rhonda Rankin

Secretary

Jestine Johnson

Custodian

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:

www.midwaychristian.org

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, November 15 @ 6:30 pm

We will have our Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 15 at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. This is an opportunity for our church to give back by inviting our community to come and join us for a meal and some entertainment. We are asking everyone to help out by bringing a dish to serve your family and four others. We really need veggie dishes. They are always a big hit! We ran low last year. We have turkeys, gravy, and mashed potatoes donated. We are asking for:



Last Names A-J: Salads

Last Names K-P: Sides

Last Names Q-Z: Desserts

Community Thanksgiving Service

Monday, November 19 @ 7:00 pm

Everyone is invited to the Midway Community Thanksgiving Service on Monday, November 19 at 7:00 pm at the Midway United Methodist Church. The Midway College Chorale will be singing as part of the service and Mary Seeger, the Presbyterian minister, will be preaching that night. Come and join us as we say "Thanks be to God for all of our blessings" as the community of Midway.



All Day Pancakes on Election Day!

The Disciples Men group will host an All Day Pancake Breakfast on Tuesday, November 6 from 7 am to 7 pm. The Election Day Pancake Breakfast is a long standing tradition in our community. The Pancake Day will be a fund-raiser for our men's fellowship group to support local missions and church projects. Please come and support our men's group that day!



Budget Update

Budgeted to date: \$49,780.51
Received to date: \$50,470.03

A Pastoral Word

For the last few months, the journey that Moses took as a leader has been laying heavy on my heart and has given me strength for the upcoming journey of transformation that awaits our church family. The part of his story that has become part of my prayer life is that moment right after they crossed the Red Sea. Before that moment, all the people of Israel could think of was death and destruction. They just knew that the Pharaoh's army would capture them and send them back to slavery or worse, kill them. In that moment, death seemed to loom large for the Israelite people. And then a miracle happened. Moses parted the Red Sea under the guiding arm of God. The people made it safely across and there was celebration. No more Pharaoh's army. No more worry about dying. No more worries about what would prevent them from crossing into the Promised Land, at least at that moment.

There was joy and happiness after crossing the Red Sea for the Israelite people but there were also questions. Where was Moses leading them? Where would their next meal come from? Who was in charge? Did anyone know what was going on? Everything was new and everything was in limbo.

For the next forty years, Moses, along with other leaders, figured out how to be the Israelite people. They came up with structures for worship. They developed laws that would guide their lives. They came up with structures that would eventually define who they were as a nation.

It took them forty years but they figured it out!

It is this moment that resonates with me at this point in our faith journey together. I think this is where we are right now as a church. We have crossed the Red Sea and now we have to go about the business of figuring out how to be the Church in today's society. We as a church have been given and have embraced a vision and mission that was laid upon our hearts by God. And now we have to figure out how we are going to live out that vision and mission: how are we going to incorporate WELCOME into everything that we do as a church.

We are going to have to come up with policies that protect us, that lead us, that guide us as we live out this mission. We are going to have to come up with structures that will help define who we are as MIDWAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

I told the elders a few weeks ago that when I first heard the financial numbers of our first few months

of our yearly budget, I was a little freaked out. But then I realized that my prayer each and every night for the last year has been, "God, help me guide your church. God, show me how to lead your church." And God answered.

If we are going to be a transforming and transformed church, we must do a little housecleaning first. We must reinforce our foundation, financially and spiritually. If we had surged ahead in the process of transformation without making sure our "t's" were crossed and our "I's" dotted, then we would have been building our house upon the sand and in a few years in the future, we would have watch all of our hard work washed away by the sea.

We must remember that Israel didn't reach the Promise Land quickly. It took them forty years of wondering before they made it. And I am sure that on their journey, they did a lot of self-reflection, a lot of learning about who they were, and who they wanted to be as God's people. We also must remember that they had some rocky points along the journey. (Did someone say Golden Calf?!)

We must also remember that God was there to guide them as a cloud by day and as a pillar of fire by night. God provided food for them along their journey. God send manna from heaven each morning and meat each night. God watched over them on their journey. God provided for them on their journey. And God lead them to the Promise Land.

And that is what we hold to as we begin our journey of transformation. We may wander a bit, hopefully not for forty years. And we may hit some rocky points along the way. But we must always remember that God is providing for us and guiding us along our journey as people of God.

So I leave you with the final words of Moses to the Israelite people:

"Then you shall again obey the Lord, observing all his commandments that I am commanding you today, and the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, ...Surely this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, ...Choose life so that you and your descendants my live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days..."

Heather

Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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



November 4

All Saints Day

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Ephesians 1: 11-23

Sermon: "The Pledge of Our Inheritance"

November 11

Higher Education Sunday

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 20: 27-38

Sermon: "Children of the Resurrection"

November 18

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Children's Sabbath

Scripture: Luke 21: 5-19

Sermon: "Gaining Souls"

November 25

Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Luke 1: 68-79

Sermon: "Serving Without Fear"

Church Office Closed

The Church office will be closed on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Serving This Month

Elders

Anne Burford

Phil Burchell

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:

November 4—TBA

November 11—Nate Hill

November 18—TBA

November 25—TBA

Higher Education Sunday

On Sunday, November 11, we will be celebrating Higher Education Sunday. The women from Midway College will be joining us for worship that day. There will be a lunch following the service. We are asking everyone to bring a side dish or dessert. The meat will be provided by the church.

Acolyte Schedule

November 4—Sam & J.T.

November 11—Noelle & Faith

November 18—Will & Preston

November 25—Gregory & Clay

December 2—Nate & Jack

December 9—Betsy & Jordan

December 16—Sam & Preston

December 23—Noelle & Faith

December 30—Will & Marcus



Children's Ministry

Notes from Amanda...

Attention Chi-Rho Families: We have been invited to spend an evening with the Chi-Rho of Crestwood CC in Lexington on Friday, November 2nd! The fun begins with dinner at Crestwood at 6:00, and will be followed by an evening activity. We will probably finish around 10:30. Please talk to Amanda if you are interested and we can arrange to carpool from Midway.

There will be a training for Children's Worship & Wonder Storytellers November 3-4 at Lexington Theological Seminary. The training will be conducted by Kaye Edwards, Director of Family and Children's Ministries for Disciples Home Missions. The sessions will be from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Saturday and Sunday. The registration fee is \$140 and participants are also required to purchase the book *Young Children and Worship* by Sonja M. Stewart. Online registration is being accepted through the Disciples Home Missions website, and questions may be sent to Connie Metts at cmetts@dhm.disciples.org or (888)346-2631. You are also welcome to call Amanda for more information.

The Children's Worship & Wonder training IS NOT required for those who wish to be Greeters, though it may be helpful. We are always looking for new Greeters for our program! Look for Cindy Batts or Amanda if you are interested.

Youth of any age have a standing invitation to attend the youth Sunday School class on Sunday mornings. We begin in the Fellowship Hall for the sharing of Blessings and Concerns and then go to the attic over the Sanctuary to work on our own curriculum. In the weeks ahead we will be studying the life of David. Please come and join us!

There will be a Family Game Night at the church December 8th. Bring some board games, movies, or whatever else you think would be fun and come spend a relaxing evening at the church amid the chaos of Advent. We will eat supper at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall.



Worship & Wonder Greeter Schedule

November 4—Margaret Easton

November 18—Adele Dickerson

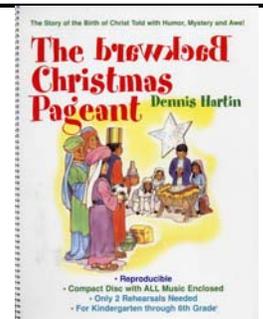
November 11—Virginia Ballenger

November 25—Gretchen Arehart

The Backward Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 16 @ 6:00 pm

Speaking of Advent, it's time to start thinking about the Christmas Pageant! Casting is in progress for this year's production of *The Backwards Christmas Pageant* by Dennis Hartin. We will practice on November 25th, December 2nd, and December 9th at 2:00, and the performance will be December 16th at 6:00 with a reception to follow.



Fellowship News and Notes

Elders

The Elders will meet on Sunday, November 25 at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Board Meeting

The Board will meet Sunday, November 4 at Noon, immediately following the worship service. Lunch will be provided.

Keenagers

Wednesday, November 14 @ 11:30 am

Keenagers will travel to Woodford Inn on Wednesday, November 14 at 11:30 am. Please call the church office by Wednesday, November 7 to RSVP. You can check out a menu at www.woodfordinn.com.

Clean Up Day

On Saturday, November 3, we are asking all church members to join us as we prepare the church for the Thanksgiving Community Dinner. We need make sure the Fellowship Hall is ready to go!! We will work from 9 am until noon. We need your help!

Thank You...

We wish to express to your our deep gratitude and thankfulness for the many "niceites" you have bestowed upon us, before and especially after the onset of Mayme's illness. We do not have any other appropriate words expect to say "thank you". May each of you have a joyous holiday season and may God bless and award you I his own intimate way.

Lovingly, Burnie & Mayme Wall

Disciples Women

Sunday, November 18 @ Noon

The Disciples Women will meet on Sunday, November 18 immediately following the service. Lunch will be provided. The cost is \$5. We will continue our study of Women in the Old Testament. If you still need a book, please call the church office.

Disciples Men

Disciples Men will meet on Saturday, November 10 at 8:30 am at our "store" in Georgetown so that we can start preparing it for business with our items from Ten Thousand Villages. Phil will be cooking breakfast at 8:00 a.m. at the church for all those who will be helping out with this. Please RSVP to the church for breakfast.

Dinners for Eight!

We are still having our "Dinners for Eight" and there are still opportunities to sign up for a chance for a great meal and fellowship. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please pick a date that works best for you. This is a great way to get to know your church family!

We are Open for Business!

The Men's Group is hosting a booth in Georgetown for the Christmas Season that will sell items from Ten Thousand Villages. The "booth" will be located at 151 East Main Street. This is a great opportunity to support our church and support third world artisans. It is also a great time to find Christmas gifts for those people who are hard to shop for!

We will need everyone in the church to help with this project. There will be a sign up sheet for a time to work the booth. We are asking for two hour shifts. This is a way to help your church give back to the community.

These are a Few of My Favorite...Hymns!

We want to know what your favorite hymns are! Melissa and Heather have been collecting our favorite hymns and have been incorporating them into our worship services. Please let the church office know what your favorite hymns are so that we can sing them in worship.

Mission News and Notes

Mission Night

The next mission night will be Wednesday, November 14, 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 October 15:

Pat Settlemire, Pat Wilson, Priscilla Crutcher, Gretchen Arehart, Buddy & Gertrude Johnson

The next Meal on Wheels delivery will be the week of November 12, 2007.



Food Pantry

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



Home Bound Communion

Each month, the serving elders will take communion to our members who are not able to be with us on Sundays. If you would like communion brought to you by our elders, please call the church office and let us know.

2007 Thanksgiving Special Offering

Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering supports the Disciples colleges, universities, and institutions that educate students and create spirited leaders for our church. Just think: Midway College! We will be collecting this special offering on November 11 and 18.



Hope to the Homeless!

THE HOPE CENTER is giving you the opportunity to DELIVER HOPE TO THE HOMELESS!



Fill a bag with personal needs items for either a man or a woman, i.e. bar soap, stick deodorant, disposable razors, towels, men's socks, feminine products, over-the-counter cold medicines, alcohol free and a message of encouragement. Drop the bag off at any Lexington or Winchester UPS Store (Hamburg, Tates Creek, Beaumont Center, Chevy Chase, Richmond Rd., Zandale, or bypass Rd. in Winchester) between November 11-17 for National Hunger & Homeless Awareness Week!

Kroger Gift Cards

Midway Christian Church is beginning a new fundraising event. This one is very simple. Many of us shop, fill prescriptions and buy gasoline at various Kroger stores. You can purchase a \$5 Kroger gift card and add whatever dollar amount you want onto your card and each time you make a purchase at Kroger, Midway Christian Church will earn money. When the cards are recharged at the store, we will earn a 4% rebate from Kroger. Do not throw away your card after each purchase, you simply recharge it anytime you need to. Gift cards may be recharged up to \$100 at the register, however if you want to add more than that you must do so at the service desk before you begin shopping. It is important to keep activity on gift cards for us to earn money because a gift card with a zero balance for 90 days will be voided out of the system. If you are using Kroger gift cards for other organizations you should label each card because there is no way of determining each card. If you lose your card you can purchase another one from the church only. We will be using the money initially to help pay for the historical marker, which is about \$1400. After that, we will use it for various projects. Please stop by the church office to purchase your gift card.

Community Notes

Bringing the “Green House” to the Bluegrass

By Keith Knapp, Ph.D., C.N.H.A., Chief Operating Officer, Christian Care Communities

Let’s say that you have reached a point in life when it makes sense to consider moving to a long term care facility...maybe for your own safety and comfort; perhaps to lighten the load on a family caregiver; possibly to regain your strength or mobility following a stroke, surgery or other hospital stay; or for any of a variety of reasons that could cause you to start shopping for the place that best fits your needs.

Then imagine that there is a new alternative—which meets all of the regulatory requirements for providing the same long term care services as a traditional nursing home or assisted living facility—but an alternative designed as a place that focuses on *life*, and its heart is found in the relationships that flourish there. Its operational premise places the highest priority on creating a small, “intentional community” where a group of older adults live—and their caregivers work—in harmony and to the benefit of all.

Welcome to the hottest new idea in the realm of elder care—the *Green House* model. No, it’s not a place to grow flowers in the winter...but a place where otherwise frail elders do flourish. It represents a radical departure from traditional skilled nursing homes and assisted living facilities by reducing facility size, using modern interior design, and redistributing staffing patterns and work assignments. Its primary purpose is to serve as a place where older adults can receive assistance and support with their activities of daily living (eating, dressing, bathing, toileting and mobility) and clinical care (treatments, therapies and medications) without that assistance and care becoming the focus of their very *existence*.

Members of Christian Care’s staff and board of directors have been exploring how to bring this concept to Kentucky, including recent site visits to two of the idea’s early developers. Mississippi Methodist Senior Services of Tupelo, MS, first introduced its Green House patio homes as a small neighborhood, replacing 50 licensed nursing care beds in a 40-year-old health center. St. John’s Lutheran Ministries of Billings, MT, followed suit, making some modest changes to the Mississippi floor plans while remaining true to the overall concept. These visits simply convinced everyone on the tour teams that this is the wave of the future—and that Christian Care Communities should lead the way for older Kentuckians to have access to this style of long term care. Here’s a glimpse of what we witness on tour...

The Green House Concept is built around these features:

- ◆ The homes are designed for six to ten older adults...not a “wing” or a “unit” of a larger facility.
- ◆ The design blends architecturally with neighboring homes, includes vibrant outdoor space.
- ◆ Each person has a private room with a private bathroom.
- ◆ There is easy access to all areas of the house, including the kitchen, laundry, outdoor garden & patio.
- ◆ Safety features are built into the house to minimize risk of injury.

Residents’ rooms receive high levels of sunlight by design, and are situated around “the hearth” - an open kitchen and dining area.

Beyond the unique design, however, elders are also free from the limitations of a regulated schedule, and they experience comfortable, self-directed daily lives—sleeping, eating, and engaging in activities as they choose. Meals are prepared in the open kitchen, and then served at a large dining table where staff, elders and visitors enjoy family-style dining together...allowing for the wonderful combination of good fresh food and good conversation with people who care about one another.

Christian Care Communities is committed to bringing innovations to the Commonwealth—and the Green House approach to long term care certainly deserves to be at the top of the list.

Added note: this is what the “Homeplace” Nursing Home will be when it is here in Midway.

Midway Christian Church

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

Nonprofit Organization

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