



THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

February, 2008

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl

Minister

Amanda Hatfield

Student Associate

Melissa Askew

Music Director

Ainsley Wagoner

Pianist

Rhonda Rankin

Secretary

Jestine Johnson

Custodian

Lenten Breakfast Series

Many of us have shared that we don't feel comfortable sharing our faith because we believe that we don't have the "right" language or terms to talk about our faith. It is hard to talk about God's goodness and God's love when words fail to come to us. It is hard to prepare our signature dish of "Welcome" without the right tools in our faith kitchen. So this year for our Lenten Breakfast Series, we have invited Emily Askew, Assistant Professor of Systematic Theology, to come and lead us through Theology 101 sessions. The series will consist of some lecture by Emily which will serve as background for us as people of faith, followed by small group discussion. Please call Heather if you have any questions or would like more information.

February 23 - 9:00 am: Who is God?

Breakfast provided by: Flock 4

March 1 - 9:00 am : Who is Jesus Christ?

Breakfast provided by: Flock 3

March 8 - 9:00 am: What is sin?

Breakfast provided by: Flock 2

March 15 - 9:00 am: What does the cross mean for me as a Christian?

Breakfast provided by: Flock 1

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM: Sunday School

10:55 AM: Worship

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Visit us on the web:

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Fat Tuesday Pancake Breakfast

& No Talent Show

Tuesday, February 5

6:30 pm

Fellowship Hall



Please contact Heather if you would like to participate in the no talent show. If anyone would like to help decorate and set up, please be at the church at 5:30 pm.

Budget Update

Budget to date: \$87,847.95
Received to date: \$94,467.15

A Pastoral Word

A few Sundays ago, the Visioning Team met and really got down to work on our current structure for our church. We decided to take a look at what was working in our church and what was not working in our church, letting our new Mission Statement be our guide. And I think it is safe to say that the group sitting around the library table that day were all a little surprised by our responses and results.

Some things were small such as making sure that every section of the pews have a Blue Hymnal and a Red Hymnal. It is hard to feel welcomed in a church and be a part of the worship service when you can't sing along with the congregation because the hymnals are not there. Sure, we have enough hymnals but they are scattered around the sanctuary and stacked up in the back.

Some things were pretty big such as the congregation not knowing exactly what missions the church supports: Not knowing the purpose of the organization and not knowing what organizations we support. We see these organizations and the amounts once a year when we put together the budget but then what?

How can our church live out welcome through missions when we aren't sure what we support? How well do we communicate our calling of welcome through mission when we aren't sure what these organizations actually do?

This was an eye-opening experience for the Visioning Team. We realized that we do some things really well like choir, the order of service for worship, the website, meals on wheels, just to name a few. And we also realized that there are some areas that we need to work on like evangelism. Many of us don't like that word! It scares us!

It was also interesting to note that the two words that kept coming up during the process were: Communication and Committee. And they were usually under the "Not Working" Heading.

After that meeting, it was pretty clear that we are doing ministry as Midway Christian Church but we are doing it outside of our current structure outlined in our Constitution.

So after the meeting, I gave the Visioning Team homework! I asked them to brainstorm a structure that will work for our church. I asked them to think about how we use people's gifts for ministry or not use them. I asked them to think about the essential ministry components of Midway Christian Church.

And now I am giving everyone in Midway Christian Church homework! Please keep the church in your prayers. Please keep the Visioning Team in your prayers. We have a wonderful opportunity for our church now and with God's guidance and wisdom, we can reach our full Kingdom potential as servants of God.

And now you have the perfect opportunity to do your "homework". We are asking everyone to join in prayer as a congregation on Wednesday mornings at 10 am to seek God's guidance, to seek God's wisdom in this process, and to simply renew and refresh our souls as people of faith. You can join us in the sanctuary for prayer group or simply take 5 minutes at your desk for prayer. We are all committed to Midway Christian Church and now we can live out this commitment by preparing and opening our hearts and minds to where God is leading us. Our church is on the verge of something GREAT and I know that with God's guidance and wisdom, we will truly live out our calling and mission of WELCOME!

So please do your homework!

Heather

P. S.

I am sure you are all thinking, "Well, what exactly do we support through missions?" Below is a list of the organizations that we support. If you want more information about what an organization is and what they do, please let me know!

1. Woodford County Senior Citizens
2. Cane Ridge
3. Midway Library
4. Woodford County Food Pantry
5. Camp Wakon Da Ho
6. Christian Care Communities
7. Midway Nursing Home
8. Midway College
9. Lexington Theological Seminary
10. Transylvania University
11. Scout Troop 40
12. Midway Ministerial Association

Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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



February 3

Last Sunday after Epiphany

Boy Scout Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 17: 1-9

Sermon: "Coming Down the Mountain"

February 10

First Sunday in Lent

Begin Sermon Series on WELCOME

Scripture: Psalm 100

Sermon: WELCOME: Worship

February 17

Second Sunday in Lent

Scripture: Psalm 78: 1-8

Sermon: WELCOME: Education

February 24

Third Sunday in Lent

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

Sermon: WELCOME: Love

Serving This Month

Elders

Wilda Caudle

Jan Nance

Deacons

Jim Nance, Kit Walden, Jeanne Sturgill, Mary Beth Rouse, Virginia Ballenger, Ouita Michel, Bob Rouse, Bob Settlemire, Sue Roberts

Junior Deacon

Steele Rouse

Worship Leaders:

February 3—Gregory Watson

February 10—Bob Rouse

February 17—Carole Munson

February 24—Marjorie Evans

Sunday School



February 3—Cindy Batts will lead a Worship & Wonder story

February 10—MCC's vision: What does it mean for us?

February 17—MCC's mission: What's working, what's not

February 24—Continue conversation from Lenten Breakfast: Who is God?

Boy Scout Sunday

Sunday, February 3

On Sunday, February 3rd, we will be celebrating Boy Scout Sunday. The young men from Scout Troop 40 will lead us in worship and serve as deacons that Sunday. Midway Christian Church's connection to Troop 40 began in the summer of 1994 when MCC became the charter institution for the troop. MCC deeply appreciates its continued connection to the Scouting tradition through Troop 40.



Children's Ministry

Upcoming Youth Events:

We will be going to the movies on Saturday, February 9th. What movie we will see will be announced a little closer to the 9th. We will meet at the church at 5:00 for a 'sack supper.' Drinks and dessert will be provided. Please bring money for tickets and snacks.

Once again the youth will be traveling to the Women's Center in Lexington to take part in the Valentine's Day party sponsored by the Midway CC Outreach committee. The party will be Saturday, February 16th. Please bring any games you have at home to the party. We will also be making Valentines with the residents.

Chi Rho:

Chi Rho Families: Remember the upcoming regional Chi-Rho retreat April 25-27 at Camp Wakon' Da-Ho. See Amanda for more information.

Reminders:

2008 camp dates have been posted! It's not too soon to think about making camp a part of your summer this year.

Youth Sunday school continues to meet in Amanda's office following the opening prayer of adult Sunday school. We are currently looking at differences between the gospel stories. Come and join us!

Worship & Wonder Greeter Schedule

February 3—Margaret Easton

February 10—Amanda Hatfield

February 17—Ouita Michel

February 24—Adele Dickerson

Acolyte Schedule

February 3— Noelle & Faith

February 10— Will & Marcus

February 17— Gregory & Clay

February 24— Nate & Jack

Fellowship News and Notes

Women's Choral Retreat

The Women's Choral Retreat will be held February 22-24 at Beargrass Christian Church in Louisville, Ky. Registration will begin Friday at 7 pm. The retreat will conclude Sunday with a choral performance during morning worship at the church. All women are asked to wear black for the performance.



Men's Chorus Retreat

The Kentucky Regional Men's Chorus Annual Retreat will be February 15-17 at Crestwood Christian Church, Lexington, Ky. This year, the men will be recording their second CD and will conclude the retreat with a Sunday afternoon concert.

Fellowship News and Notes

Board / Congregational Information Session

There will be a Board/Congregational Information Session on Sunday, February 3 immediately following the Souper Bowl lunch. We are trying to better communicate what is going on at Midway Christian Church.

Keenagers

Monday, February 18 @ 11:30 am

Keenagers will meet on Monday, February 18th at 11:30 a.m. at Wallace Station for lunch. Please call the church office by Wednesday, February 13th to RSVP. All people who are practicing retirement are invited to join us!

Disciples Women

Sunday, February 17 @ noon

Disciples Women will meet on Sunday, February 17th at noon. Lunch will be provided for \$5. We will be continuing our study of A Mile in Her Shoes.



Faith Class

Midway Christian Church will be starting a faith class for children in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades through the season of Lent. Our first class will be **Monday, February 11th at 7:00 p.m.** This is an opportunity for the children of our church to learn more about being a member of MCC, to ask their questions about their faith, and to have fun!! Please call Heather if your child would be interested in this opportunity.

Disciples Men

Due to the Kentucky Regional Men's Choral Retreat and the earlier date of the Lenten Breakfast series, the Disciples Men will not meet this month.

HandBells

There will be handbell practice on Saturday, February 9 at 10 am.



Chili Cook-off Winners

We had a great turn out for our second annual chili cook-off. Congratulations to our winners!

1st—Sue Roberts, 2nd—Wilda Caudle, 3rd—Nancy Dare.

A big thank you to our judges: Betsy Schein, Keith Manor, John McDaniel, Phil Dare, Pat Wilson & Nikki Hill



Prayer Group

Our lives are so busy and our church calendar is so full that sometimes we forget to listen for God's small still voice that guides our lives.

We tend to rush, rush, rush while feeling drained and dry like a dessert. So we are inviting everyone to engage in a chance to renew and refresh through prayer. On Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m., we are asking everyone to come together in prayer. You can meet at the church in the sanctuary or simply take 5 minutes at your desk to pray and ask for God's guidance in our lives and for our church. Our church is on the verge of something GREAT and with God's guidance and wisdom, we will live up to our true Kingdom Potential.



Mission News and Notes

Mission Night

The next mission night will be Wednesday, February 20, 2008. 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 January 7: Priscilla Crutcher, Pat Wilson, Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, Jack Morgan & Gretchen Arehart

The next Meal on Wheels delivery will be the week of February 4, 2008.



Women's Hope Center Valentine Party

Missions Committee is planning a Valentine's Party at the Women's Hope Center on Saturday February 16, 2007 at 11:30 am. We are serving pizza from Papa Johns & would like to invite everyone to join us. Finger foods, brownies, cookies etc .are needed. If you can donate anything but can't go just leave in Fellowship Hall. The Youth Group will be participating & helping us to entertain the guests. Anyone having games they would like to bring please do so. The ladies really enjoyed playing games last year. The Women's Hope Center is located at 1524 Versailles Road in Lexington. Any questions, please call Etta.

Souper Bowl of Caring



Midway Christian Church has registered to be a part of the national Souper Bowl of Caring. The Souper Bowl of Caring is an effort to touch lives and teach youth to fight hunger and poverty in their local communities.

So after church on **Sunday, February 3rd**, we will host a soup luncheon to help the children and youth of Midway Christian Church collect an offering for Week of Compassion. **We will also be collecting cans of soup to donate to the local food pantry.** Please invite your friends and family to be a part of the Souper Bowl of Caring!

Week of Compassion

Midway Christian Church will be collecting a special offering for Week of Compassion on **Sunday February 17th and Sunday, February 24th**. Since 1946, the Week of Compassion offering has provide an opportunity for each of us to become participants in humanitarian work that expresses God's love to our neighbors far and wide-not just to victims of the major disasters that saturate the media, but to victims of the disasters that repeat themselves each and every day. Gifts to Week of Compassion support programs that help our neighbors around the world build lives and communities that are healthy, safe, and sustainable, making a huge difference in the lives of millions of families by creating sustainable sources of food for rural villages, providing women micro-credit to start poverty-escaping businesses, teaching trades and job skills to people maimed by land-mines and offering children a chance to survive past the age of five and go to school. By participating in Week of Compassion, we can experience the joy of showing and sharing God's love-offering a hand to the stranger in need and making a difference in the lives of our neighbors around the world.

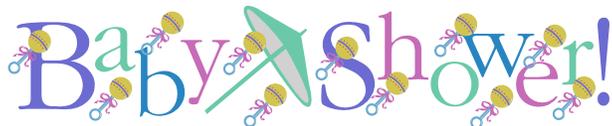
Elders and Deacons Workshop

There will be an Elders and Deacons workshop on March 7 and 8 at Christmount. Dr. Lisa Davison, Assistant Professor of First Testament at Lexington Theological Seminary will be the guest speaker.

This workshop gives veteran and new church leaders inspiration and renewed commitment to the to main lay ministries in the Christian Church. There will be two skillshops for elders and two for deacons. The skillshops are especially helpful to new leaders who are seeking to understand the ministry which they are undertaking.

Registration deadline is February 27. A deposit of \$34 is required. Please see Rhonda for registration forms.

Community Notes



Everyone is invited to a baby shower for

Karoline Munson

Sunday, February 24, 2008

12:30 pm in Fellowship Hall

Please bring a finger-food luncheon item (veggies, dip, sandwiches, chips, brownies, etc.), drinks will be provided.

Karoline is registered at Target and Babies R Us.

THANK YOU!

The Worship Committee would like to extend a warm thank you to all who helped make our Advent and Christmas Season a success! Everyone who helped out with the planning, the decorating, the worship services, the clean-up, and all the other million tasks that go into our Advent season, your service to the church is greatly appreciated.

Community Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 6 @ 7 pm

There will be a Community Ash Wednesday Service on Wednesday, February 6 at 7 pm at Midway Presbyterian Church. Sherry Miller, pastor of St. Matthew's A.M.E. Church will be the preaching.

New Chairs for the Fellowship Hall

75 New **PADDED** chairs have been ordered for the fellowship hall. They should be arriving in about 4 to 6 weeks. Thanks so much to the generosity of the Memorials Committee and the Disciples Women for their donations! We would also like to say thank you to Mike Rankin (Rhonda's husband) who was able to get us a great deal on the chairs. Our goal is to have at least 100 padded chairs for the fellowship hall. If you would like to donate towards this project, please contact the church office. Each chair is about \$25 a piece. We will still have some of our folding chairs to use during outdoor activities and to be used as "overflow" chairs.

Sermon Series

Last fall, Midway Christian Church adopted a new vision and mission statement of WELCOME and many of us have wondered what this exactly means for us as people of faith. So during the Lenten Season, Heather will do a sermon series on our Mission Statement. We will take a look at where God is calling all of us through Worship, Education, Love, Community, Open Table, Missions and Evangelism and how do we live out this mission of WELCOME in our lives, as Midway Christian Church.

WELCOME

Automatic Deposit of Funds

Midway Christian Church is moving into the 21st Century!! We are now offering automatic deposit for your offering. Many of you have expressed that you would like the church to explore if this was possible. And the answer is yes! Simply fill out a form from your bank, attach a voided bank deposit slip and turn it into your bank. MCC will be notified that you have added us as an automatic deposit. This is good way to keep up on contributions and pledges when we cannot be at the church for various reasons. It also helps the church's income avoid the summer "slumps". Please take the time to seriously consider this option of stewardship.

Midway Christian Church

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Nonprofit Organization

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