

THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

August, 2008

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl
Minister

Amanda Hatfield
Student Associate

Melissa Askew
Music Director

Ainsley Wagoner
Pianist/Organist

Rhonda Rankin
Secretary

Jestine Johnson
Custodian

Worship in the Park with Second Christian Church



On Sunday, August 31st, we will be worshipping with Second Christian Church at Walter Bradley Park during our regularly scheduled worship time. Rev. Heather McColl will be preaching that day.

There will also be a potluck lunch following the service. We are asking everyone to please bring a food item to share.



Member Spotlight

Tom Arehart and Gretchen Portwood have been married for 16 years and moved to Kentucky two years ago.

Gretchen is a Midway native; Tom grew up in Alexandria, Virginia near Washington DC. Both Tom and Gretchen were just installed as deacons and Gretchen is into her second year as secretary to the board. Both are very happy to be in Kentucky!



Gretchen Portwood & Tom Arehart

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

Tom went to the University of Tennessee on a football and baseball scholarship and was honored as an All-American baseball player. (We will overlook the Tennessee thing....) For 35 years he worked as a high school athletic director, football and baseball coach, and physical education teacher in Fairfax County schools (VA), where Gretchen also worked for 30 years as a secondary English and journalism teacher, administrator, and leadership trainer after graduating from the University of Kentucky (BA) and George Mason (MEd).

Tom and Gretchen live in Victoria Estates in Scott County, but spend a lot of time in Midway visiting with Gretchen's mother, Dixie Portwood, who is a neighbor of Pat Wilson and the Burchells. Tom spends a lot of time taking care of the lawn, woodworking, and staying in contact with his two grown children, Tom and Wendy. Gretchen is a quilter and scrapbooker, and also teaches online graduate courses in education leadership for Casenex, and independent contractor associated with the University of Virginia. Both Tom and Gretchen enjoy walking their dogs, Dimaggio and Monroe, and keeping up with their neighbors, church friends, and life-long friends from Midway and Woodford County High School.

Budget Update

Budgeted to date: \$12,922.36
Received to date: \$11,820.60

A Pastoral Word

“Change has a considerable psychological impact on the human mind. To the fearful it is threatening because it means that things may get worse. To the hopeful it is encouraging because things may get better. To the confident it is inspiring because the challenge exists to make things better.”

King Whitney Jr.

I came across this quote the other day and it stayed with me. Partly because it reminds me that there are different ways to deal with change. Partly because it reminds me that I don't like change but I have come to accept that change is a part of life. Partly because it fits our situation as a church.

As you may know by now, Amanda has decided to resign from her position as Student Associate Minister and her last day will be Sunday August 17th. I know that we have all been glad that Amanda has been a part of our church. Her prayers, communion meditations and sermons have been thought-provoking and spirit-filled. We will miss her but we also know that this is part of our ministry as a teaching church. We are privileged to be a part of a student's ministry for a while, to help them grow in their ministry, and to be a part of their faith story. We send Amanda off with our blessings and will continue to be thankful to be a part of her ministry formation.

Many of you have asked what does this mean for the church and our current situation. What is going to happen now? What is going to happen after December? What is going to happen when I go on maternity leave?

Once again, I am thankful to have such amazing leadership in this church to help answer some of these questions. Since we had already discussed the possibility of hiring additional student associate in the fall, we are in a sense ahead of the game. I had already talked to Steve Monhollen, the Field Education Director at LTS about our possible situation. Steve has already done some ground work for our church and has a list of names ready for us. Sue Roberts has agreed to chair the search committee for the next Student Associate. And Phil, Sue, and I will be putting together a committee so that we can start this process

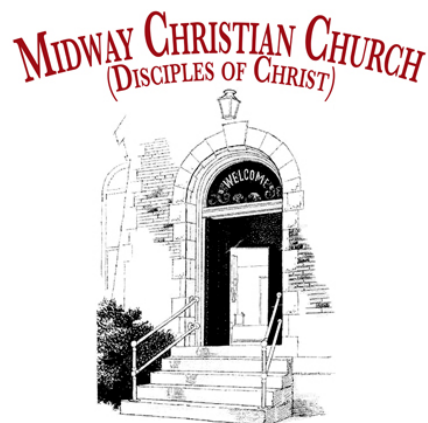
of hiring a new student associate fairly soon. Our goal and our hope is that we will have a new student associate by the beginning of September.

At our elders' meeting in July, the elders and I discussed possible plans while I am on maternity leave for church leadership and support. One of the possible plans is that each of the elders would take a week and be “on call”. If there was an emergency, concern, etc, then the “on call” elder would be contacted to deal with the situation if needed.

Also more than likely, we would have supply preachers during the time that I am on maternity leave which might be an interesting change of pace. One of the best things about guest preachers is that they bring a “new” voice. I always find it fascinating to talk to my colleagues and hear about the many different ways we interpret a text and preach a sermon.

One of the life lessons that I have learned when dealing with change is that it is best to take it one day at a time. Which I admit is hard for me because I am a planner! But the thing that I try to remember is that we are all in this together and that God is guiding us on our journeys, walking beside us, supporting us and leading us.

Heather



Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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



August 3

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 14: 13-21

Sermon: "Five Loaves and Two Fish"

August 10

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 14: 22-33

Sermon: "Come Out On the Water"

August 17

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Matthew 15: 21-28

Sermon: "Lord, Help Me"

August 24

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Worship at Midway College

Scripture: Matthew 16: 13-20

Sermon: "Crumbs from the Table"

August 31

Worship in the Park with Second Christian

Scripture: Exodus 3: 1-15

Sermon: "Who Am I?"

Serving This Month

Elders

Jim Hoppin

Etta Manor

Deacons

Jim Nance, Kit Walden, Jeanne Clark, Mary Beth Rouse, Ouita Michel, Bob Rouse, Sue Roberts, Bob Settlemire, John Askew

Junior Deacon

Franklin Watson

Worship Leaders:

August 3—Phil Dare

August 10—Margie Evans

August 17—Carole Munson

August 24—Marvin Glover

Sunday School

In August we will be concluding our study on Exodus and answering questions about the Bible using "Six Hundred Questions about the Bible".



Deacon & Elder Training

The deacon and elder training has been rescheduled for Sunday, August 10, immediately following the worship service. Lunch will be provided. We will review responsibilities and expectations of our deacons and elders. Please make every effort to attend!

Out of Office

Rev. Heather McColl will be at Christmount in North Carolina August 10 thru 13. During her absence you may contact Phil Burchell or Jim Leer if any needs arise.

Missions News & Notes

August Missions: Midway Ministerial Association

During the month of August, Midway Christian Church supports the Midway Ministerial Association as our missions of the month. The MMA is a local organization supported by the area churches and offers the opportunity for our local congregations to give back to our community. The MMA supports a fund that is made available to those in our community who are in need of rent assistance, help with utilities, and other types of assistance. The MMA also supports the local food pantry that is housed at Midway Baptist Church.

Food Pantry

The Hope Ministries Food Pantry is in need of the following canned items: canned mixed vegetables, potatoes, carrots, fruit, spaghetti sauce, and juices.



Mission Night

The next mission night will be Wednesday, August 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 July 21: Pat Wilson, Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, Phil & Sharon Burchell, Nancy Dare, Priscilla Crutcher



The next Meal on Wheels delivery will be the week of August 18.

Choir News and Notes

Handbell Choir

It is hard to believe but it is already that time of the year to start thinking about Christmas! From a music director's point of view that is. Towards the middle to end of August the Handbell choir will resume practice to work on Advent/Christmas music. Anyone who is interested in playing please let me know! The more players we have means the fewer songs everyone has to play, so even if you will be out of town on Christmas Eve you could still play for Advent. The music is not difficult, and I will work with anyone who feels uncomfortable reading music. Practices are on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 except on Mission/Committee night. Please feel free to contact me if you have interest in playing or any questions!

Melissa



Thank You

Thank you to the Memorial Committee for generously agreeing to have the Handbells refurbished and also for purchasing the remaining bells giving us a complete 3 octave set! The Handbells add so much to the Christmas and Easter seasons and having bells that are in good condition will allow many more years of playing as well as a much better sound as the choir offers its worship to God!

Melissa and the Handbell Choir



Youth Choir

The Youth Choir will resume practice starting on September 7th from 5:00-5:45, and we will continue to practice the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. This year in addition to singing, the youth will be learning to play the Handchimes, so the more we have involved the better! Please contact Melissa if you have any questions.

Fellowship News and Notes

Keenagers

Wednesday, August 20 @ 11 am

Keenagers will travel to Cleveland's in Versailles for lunch on Wednesday, August 20 at 11:30 am. Please RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, August 13 if you would like to go. Keenagers is a small group ministry for people who are retired or are practicing for retirement.

Board Meeting

The Board will meet Sunday, August 3, immediately following the worship service.

Elders' Meeting

Elders will meet Sunday, August 31 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

2008 Regional Assembly

September 4-6

The Kentucky Disciples of Christ will gather for the 2008 Regional Assembly on September 4-6 in Owensboro, Ky. The theme for this year is *Living Into the Vision: Reaching Our Full Kingdom Potential—Through Prayer, Compassion, Hospitality and Servant Leadership*. Regional Assembly is a wonderful opportunity to see the wider church at work.

Breakfast for Amanda

Sunday, August 17 @ 9:30 am

As part of our celebration of Amanda's ministry at Midway Christian Church, we are hosting a breakfast on Sunday August 17th during the Sunday school hour.

We are asking everyone to bring a food item to share with the congregation. The church will provide the drinks. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

Disciples Women

Sunday, August 17

Disciples Women will begin their new year with a meeting on Sunday, August 17 immediately following the service. *Please bring your own sack lunch and drink.*

We will make final plans for the annual rummage sale in September and plan for the coming year! All women of the church are invited to attend!!



Disciples Men

Sunday, August 17

Disciples Men will meet on Sunday August 17th immediately after the church service for their monthly meeting. They will discuss preparing for Fall Festival and future projects such as the Election Day Pancake Breakfast. Please call Dan Roller or Phil Burchell if you have any questions.



All Church Retreat

October 3-4

Mark your calendars! Midway Christian Church is hosting an All-Church Retreat for the weekend of October 3-4 at Camp Wakon Da Ho. We will spend the night on Friday night and do some mission work around the camp on Saturday. If you do not feel like sleeping in cabins, you are invited to join us just for Saturday activities. The cost is \$20. And yes, there is indoor plumbing! Please RSVP to the church office by Sunday, September 14th.

Children's Ministry

Children's Worship & Wonder

Children's Worship and Wonder will resume on Sunday, August 17. If you are interested in being a greeter or storyteller, please see Cindy or Heather.

Acolyte Schedule

August 3—Sam Hatfield & Gregory Watson

August 10—Noelle & Faith Gruzesky

August 17—Betsy Schein & Jordan Batts

August 24—Nate & Jack Hill

September 7—Clay Rouse & Will Schein

September 14—J.T. Batts & Preston Lutter

September 21—Sam Hatfield & Marcus Watson

September 28—Noelle & Faith Gruzesky

Dear Church Family,

What a blessing it has been to serve as your student associate minister for the past year and a half. It has been a time of growth and many exciting changes for our congregation. I am filled with gratefulness, sadness and excitement as I write this letter to let you know that certain changes and challenges in my own personal life have led me, after much consideration, to decide to resign from my position at Midway Christian Church. My intent will be to continue my ministry through Sunday, August 17th. While I am sad to be leaving Midway, I also sincerely believe that this will enable us all to move confidently into the future.

Since I moved to Kentucky three years ago, Midway is the closest I have come to feeling at home. From the very beginning, I have felt unreservedly accepted and embraced. You all comprise one of the most vibrant congregations I have ever encountered, and I am so glad I had the chance to work alongside you.

And this is something you will hear me say over and over these next few weeks, but I'll say it for the first time now: THANK YOU! Thank you for being on the search committee that brought me here in the first place, for serving on my pastoral relations committee, for conversations before worship and during church dinners, for encouraging me in my preaching, for helping with Vacation Bible School and the Christmas pageant, for walks around town, for chasing squirrels out of the fellowship hall, for putting air in my flat tire, for quilting advice, for teaching me to play Romans & Christians and Territories, and for saying 'welcome home' every time I went away and came back again.

I wish you all the best on your journeys and I will count myself blessed to be a part of the Midway congregation.

Peace,

Amanda

Community News and Notes

Thank You

To My Church Family,

My heartfelt thanks to each of you for the concern you have shown for me during the past month. Your calls and cards were very much appreciated.

I feel very fortunate to be a part of MCC where I have so many caring friends. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. They mean a lot to me.

Adelaine McDaniel

Disciples Women Prepare for Rummage Sale

The annual Rummage Sale, sponsored by Disciples Women, will take place during this year's Fall Festival, September 19-21.



Now is the time to clean out those closets, attics, and garages. All donations are greatly appreciated. Items may be dropped off in the basement of fellowship hall.

More details to come!

Fall Festival

Midway Christian Church will be hosting at booth at the annual Midway Fall Festival for the weekend of September 20-21. We will once again be selling items for Ten Thousand Villages. The church will also keep 10% of profits from the sell which will go towards our Future of the Faith Campaign. This is a great time to pick up unique Christmas items or a present for that hard to shop for person. Ten Thousand Villages is a not for profit organization that enables third world artisans to sell their arts and crafts for a fair price.



We will also need help "manning" the booth downtown. If you are interested in signing up for a two hour shift either on Saturday or Sunday, please call the church office.

Midway College Move In Day

Saturday, August 23



On Saturday, August 23rd from 9-noon, Midway Christian will be helping move in freshmen at Midway College. This is yearly tradition for our church and a way to support our connection with the college. Even if you are not able to lift items, you can come and support fellow church members.

Midway College Sunday



On Sunday, August 24th, we will be worshipping at the Anne Hart Raymond Center at Midway College. Each year, at the beginning of the school year, Midway Christian Church and Midway College worship together to celebrate our shared stories through L. L. Pinkerton.



J.T., Cindy and Jordan Batts selling refreshments at Cane Ridge Day



Vacation Bible School

Midway Christian Church

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

Nonprofit Organization

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