



THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

December, 2009

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl

Minister

Jody Heil

Student Associate

Stephanie Brown

Music Director

Jessica Hartman

Accompanist

Rhonda Rankin

Secretary

Jestine Johnson

Custodian

**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service**

Join us for our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on
Thursday, December 24, 2009 at 10 pm.

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM: Sunday School

10:55 AM: Worship

123 East Bruen Street

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Visit us on the web:

www.midwaychristian.org

O COME ALL YOU FAITHFUL
2009 Christmas Offering

"Let's get over to Bethlehem
as fast as we can
and see for ourselves what
God has revealed to us."
(Luke 2:15b The Message)

This offering will be received in most congregations
on December 19th and 20th.

Kids in the Kitchen: Oyster Stew and Chicken Salad

Sunday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m.

On Sunday December 6th, the Thanksgiving Market will come alive once again thanks to the children and youth of Midway Christian Church. They will have their second Kids' in the Kitchen where Chef Ouita will lead them in preparing some of our favorites: oyster stew, chicken salad, country ham biscuits and Christmas cookies!

The congregation is invited back at 6 p.m. to the fellowship hall for a wonderful dinner. Please call the church office to RSVP by December 4.

Church Office Closed

The office will be closed December 24 & 25 and December 31st.

Budget Update

Budgeted to date: \$63,101.28
Received to date: \$69,662.20

A Pastoral Word

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."

Isaiah 40:31

But they that the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Psalms 46:10

"Be still and know that I am God"



I hate waiting! I have always hated waiting. I need to “do” all the time and really don’t sit still very well. Just ask Mike! I have never been able to wait very patiently. Just ask my mom! And every year during Advent, I struggle to wait...wait to celebrate Christmas, wait for the joyous news, wait for the Lord to share the Good News once more. And this Advent is no different except that Mike and I find ourselves in a different kind of waiting...waiting to hear from the Adoption Agency that someone has picked us to be their baby’s parents. I have “controlled” all the details that I can. I have written my birth parents’ letter. I have put together our portfolio. And we have turned it in and now we wait.

And I find myself in new territory: waiting expectantly, waiting hope-filled, waiting in anticipation. I find myself in a continuous season of Advent. One of the lessons that I am trying (let me stress *trying*) to embrace is that there is God’s time and there is my time. I keep these three verses in my office to remind myself that God has plans for me and that what God has planned is so much more than I can imagine.

As I move through this continuous season of Advent, I have come to realize that there are some things that I need to do to prepare for the arrival of this new being that will hopefully soon come into our lives. I need to be in a place where I can fully open my heart and my soul up to this child. Mike and I need to do some work on the parsonage so that we can prepare a healthy happy home for this child. And I need to be at a place where I can recognize and celebrate the miracle that life really is. And to be honest, I am not sure I am there yet. But I know that this season of waiting and preparation will help me get to this point where I will be ready do to all these things and more.

So my challenge this Advent season is to immerse myself in the waiting and simply let God be God. My challenge this Advent season is to be still, and let God work in my life without my interfere or my opinion (which I will probably still give, but I need to learn to accept that God may not take my advice) My challenge this Advent season is to wait upon the Lord, knowing that God has always been there for me and continues to hold me in the palm of God’s hand.

So I invite you to join me in this time of waiting and this time of anticipation because God has amazing things planned for us. And they are so much more than we could ever imagine!

Heather

Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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



December 6

Second Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Luke 3:1-18

Sermon: "The Sounds of Christmas: Cha-ching, Cha-ching"

December 13

Third Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Philippians 4: 4-9

Sermon: "The Tinsel that Ties us Together"

December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Sermon: "What do you want for Christmas?"

December 27

First Sunday after Christmas

Lessons and Carols Service

Lessons and Carols

Service

On Sunday, December 27, during our morning worship service, we will be having a Lessons and Carols Service. We will once again read the Christmas story and sing a few of our favorite Christmas hymns. There will be no choir anthem or sermon on this Sunday.

Serving This Month

Elders

Jim Wombles

Anne Burford

Deacons

Virginia Ballenger, Jeanne Clark, Ray Clark, Bobbie Dare, Phil Dare, Mary Beth Rouse, Mary Sayre, Kit Walden

Junior Deacon

Steele Rouse, Betsy Schein, Will Schein

Worship Leaders:

December 6—Carl Rollins

December 13—Charlann Wombles

December 20—Tom Arehart

December 27—Scott Congleton

Sunday School



Throughout the Advent Season, we will be studying the Advent Conspiracy. We will be taking a look at what it really means to worship fully, spend less, give more, and to love all as people of faith. We will be studying how to substitute compassion for consumerism and how this plays out in our lives as people of faith.

"There is a sense of prophetic mystery surrounding Christ's birth. The story reveals something divine to us; it drives our quest to look more closely at our own stories. Who are we? Why are we? How do we? Where, in the midst of our questions, is this Emmanuel, this God with us?" (Advent Conspiracy)

Acolyte Schedule

December 6—Jordan & J.T. Batts

December 13—Gregory & Marcus Watson

December 20—Betsy Schein & Will Schein

December 27—Nate & Jack Hill

Youth News and Notes

Greetings Youth, Parents and Children!

Wow! November just flew by! We had a wonderful November here at Midway Christian Church! I want to thank everyone who helped out with Trunk or Treat! We had a lot of children and youth and of course trunks! I've never seen such spooky trunks! We've been practicing for our Christmas Program and having SOWERS practice during the youth group time. Please come join us! It should be a great program! On November 15th the youth who went to Heifer Ranch this summer gave a presentation on their experience. Special thanks to the Disciples Women's group for inviting us to share with them!

Here's what's coming up:

On **December 6th** we will have our second Kids in the Kitchen. Ouita Michel will be leading us in preparing a traditional Christmas feast. **Youth and Children meet at the church at 3:00pm. Congregation meet for the meal at 6:00pm.**

On **December 13th** the youth and children will **meet at the church at 6:00pm** and head down to the **Midway Apartments** for caroling.

On **December 27th** there will be no youth group. Enjoy some time with your families.

As always thank you for your ministry and gifts with the MCC youth and children. You are greatly appreciated.

Breathe in Jesus, Breathe out Peace,

Jody



Pictures from Trunk or Treat held Sunday, Nov. 1st.



Mission News and Notes

Meals on Wheels

Many thanks to the Meals on Wheels team that served the week of November 9 : Charlann Wombles, Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, Phil & Nancy Dare, Phil Burchell. Next delivery is December 7.

December Mission Payments

Cane Ridge: Since the late 18th century and now, in the 21st century, worship services, weddings, celebrations, lectures, and other gatherings have taken place in the church and on its grounds. Each year thousands of travelers visiting Cane Ridge receive tours from the curators.

Disciple Mission Fund: The Disciple Mission Fund allows the Disciples to pool their resources accomplishing a greater ministry. The Disciple Mission Fund allows a process of whole church stewardship supporting God-given missions at home and world-wide.

Christmas Shoeboxes for Northside Elementary

Midway Christian Church's Shoebox Christmas for Northside Elementary students has been a huge success. We invite you to take part in this unique outreach project again this year. This mission project provides an opportunity for members of Midway Christian Church of all ages to become involved in a simple hands on mission project based upon the true meaning of Christmas – the greatest gift, the birth of Jesus Christ.



We have been given a list of fifteen (15) children who are in need of assistance. Suggested gift ideas include school supplies, small toys, clothing and personal items. God can use your gift to make a difference in the life of a local child.

Each year people ask us..."My shoebox is too small to hold all of the goodies I want to donate for the child...what do I do now?" Well, we have a solution. This year we are doing things just a little different - - a shopping bag with a gift tag indicating whether the gifts are for a boy or girl; the child's age, grade and suggested gift items.

If you are not a "shopper" one of our MCC Shopping Angels will gladly assist with the purchase of gifts for a child using your financial donation. If you have any questions please contact the church office, Wilda Caudle or June Mitchell.

We ask that you return your gift filled shopping bag to the church anytime before noon, Saturday, December 12, 2009. Each box will be individually wrapped and placed into a holiday shopping bag designated for the child. The gifts will be delivered to Northside Elementary School for distribution before Christmas break.

Christmas Family Adoption

Midway Christian Church is adopting a local family with two small children, so that they may experience the joy of the holidays.

3 year old girl—size 3T, interested in dolls and barbies

7 year old boy—size 7, interested in trucks and games for Play Station 2

Please bring any unwrapped presents to the church office by **Monday, December 14.**



Fellowship News and Notes

Disciple Women

Disciple Women will celebrate Christmas with brunch at Holly Hill Inn on Saturday, December 12 at 12 pm. **Reservations must be called into the church office by Wednesday, December 9.**



We will be putting the "treat bags" for our seniors/shut-ins together, after the brunch in Fellowship Hall.

Amazon.com Gift Wrap

Help raise money for MCC by joining a team of gift wrappers at Amazon.com in Lexington. MCC will receive .60 cents for every package wrapped. Last year we raised \$600.



We will be wrapping on December 7 & 8 from 8 am to noon and December 9 & 10 from 2 pm to 6 pm.

Please contact Nancy Dare at 846-5568 or email nancydare@windstream.net, if you would like to sign up!

Children Christmas Program

Sunday, December 20th

Come and Join us on December 20th for our annual children and youth's Christmas Program. This year the youth and children will be putting on Christmas Hide and Seek". We join two very concerned youngsters in search of Christmas. Join us on our journey through the holiday season to discover the true meaning of Christmas. The program will close with SOWERS singing "All is Christmas".!



Elders' Meeting

There will NOT be an Elders' meeting in December.

Board Meeting

The Board will meet Sunday, Dec. 6 at 12:15pm.

Keenagers



Gloria Batts will be hosting a luncheon for Keenagers at her home on Tuesday, December 8 at 11: 30 am. Please RSVP to the church office by Dec. 4.

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 20

The Choir will present "A Child is Born", a Christmas Cantata by John Purifoy, on Sunday, December 20, immediately following the Children's Christmas Pageant, This work, which takes its text from the prophetic words of Isaiah, celebrates the truth and joy which came to earth at Christmas and lives in our hearts today!



Wellness Cooking Classes

Classes take place from 6 to around 8:30 and vary in cost. Bring an apron, and cutting board and chef's knife, where appropriate. To reserve a spot, please email Honest Farm, then mail a check made out to Susie Quick, PO Box 3937, Midway KY 40347.

Dec. 3rd it's **Trattoria Night** with healthy Italian fare including Caponata with Grilled Garlic Toasts, Chicken Cooked Under Bricks, Sauteed Spinach with Garlic and Lemon, and Hazelnut-Orange Biscotti (great gift idea!). This class is \$35 a person.

We'll have **Holiday Entertaining in Small Bites** on **Dec.10** featuring wonderful small dishes and tasty morsels to liven up your get together. This class is \$30 per person.

And our **Holiday Cookie Swap** is **Dec.17**. Everyone bring their favorite cookie and copies of the recipe to share. I'll be demo-ing and baking several cookies and providing even more favorites. Each student leaves with a box full of new cookies and lots of recipes to try. This class is \$25. per person.

Community News and Notes

Thank You...

Dear Midway Christian Church Family,

The family of Richard Devers would like to thank you for hosting the lunch after his funeral. We appreciate all your cards, flowers, phone calls, visits, donations to ADA and MCC. We are very grateful for the love, prayers, and support we have received from you. This church meant a lot to him.

Welcome New Members



Doug and Janet Mullins joined Midway Christian Church on Sunday, November 29. Notes may be sent to 118 Elkhorn Bend Drive, Midway, Ky 40347

Calendars For Sale

The Midway Nursing Home Task Force has 2010 calendars for sale. They can be purchased at United Bank or City Hall.

Note Cards For Sale

Beth Thompson has taken pictures of the church and the stained glass windows and made beautiful note cards. These are for sale in packages of five cards for \$15. Please contact the church office if you would like to make a purchase.

We Need Your Family Recipes!

Midway Christian Church is putting a cookbook together and not just any cookbook, but a cookbook that tells "our story". It will include our history as a church and a community. Don't worry if you are "new" (25 years or less) to Midway. You are part of the story as well!



We are looking for recipes that share memories. They can be either Midway memories or family memories. So if you have a copy of Momma Wilson's Apple Cake or Francis Leer's Lemon Cake or any of your family recipes, we want to include them in the cookbook. There is a form on our website for recipe collection. You can turn these forms into Sharon Burchell or Mary Sayre or see them for more information.

We are also holding a contest to "name" this cookbook. If you have a title suggestion, please give it to Sharon Burchell or Mary Sayre.

Kroger Cards

Don't forget to keep using those Kroger cards every time you make a purchase! If you need a new card, please see Amy Perry.



Year End Donations

As you are making year-end donations, please remember Midway Christian Church. For your donation to be included on your 2009 contribution statement, we must receive your donation by December 31, 2009.

Boy Scout News

Troop40 spent the night, Friday, November 20 at the church. We woke up Saturday morning, drove down to Yellowwood Trail, set up a base camp and hiked the 11 mile trail. We did some clearing of trails while we there, as a service project. As another service project, our troop put bags on doors in Versailles, asking for donations for stocking fillers for the troops overseas. Thanks to all who ordered wreaths from Boy Scout Troop 40. Happy Holidays from Troop 40. God Bless. ~ Submitted by Gregory Watson

Midway Christian Church

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

Return Service Requested



Poinsettia Order Form

Name: _____

I wish to purchase _____ **Poinsettia(s) @ \$10 each for a total of \$**_____

In HONOR of: _____

In MEMORY of: _____

Order deadline: Sunday, December 6, 2009

Please make checks payable to Midway Christian Church