



THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

November, 2011

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl

Minister

Joni Angus

Secretary

Melissa Askew

Interim Music Director

Dayton Harris

Interim Accompanist

Jestine Johnson

Custodian

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM: Sunday School

10:55 AM: Worship

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The "Four Walls" Fund



The Trustees would like to thank Burnie Wall for his very generous contributions to the Capital Fund. Most of you know that Burnie spent many years caring for everything within the "four walls" of our building, so it was especially fitting to rename the Capital Fund for four members of the Wall family: Burnie Wall, Mayme Wall, Spencer Wall, and Ashley Wall DeFavero. The Four Walls Fund was dedicated on October 23rd on Heritage Sunday.

November 5th

Remember to set your clocks back Saturday night!



Thanksgiving Offering

Midway Christian Church will be collecting a Thanksgiving offering for the Disciples Mission Fund, to benefit colleges, universities, seminaries, and divinity houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your support of this offering will help raise up "servant leaders!" For more information, visit www.disciplesmissionfund.org and click on the link for Thanksgiving Special Offering.

"Introducing God's Power" Class

"Introducing God's Power" is a class for people interested in increasing the power of God in their lives. The class will be held at the home of Jake and Susan Norris in Lexington on Friday, November 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, November 12 from 10 a.m. to noon. There is also a 30-minute introduction on November 2 at 7 p.m. for those who want more information before signing up. November 2 is the registration deadline, and a \$30 donation is requested. Jeanne Hill has taken the class and recommends it to teens and adults "of any age" who are interested in knowing more about the Bible, how it fits together, the holy spirit field, and the harmony of the gospels. Call Jeanne - 402-7632, or Jake & Susan Norris - 264-9631 for more information.



Kroger Fundraiser Gift Cards are available in the office

Budget Update

Budgeted to date: \$51,357.28
Received to date: \$47,956.95

Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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



November 6

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

All Saints' Sunday

Scripture: 1 John 3: 1-3

Sermon: "What We Will Be Has Not Yet Been Revealed"

November 13

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

Baby Dedication of Kaylee Elizabeth Askew

Scripture: Matthew 25: 14-30

Sermon: "The Parable of the Talents"

November 20

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

Sermon: "Thanks Be to God for God's Indescribable Gift"

November 27

First Sunday of Advent

Hanging of the Greens Service

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2

Isaiah 2: 1-4

Sermon: "Light for Our Darkness: Hope"



Serving This Month

Elders: Shirley Eckels and Jack Morgan

Deacons: Tom Arehart, Dottie Pollard, Gretchen Portwood, Charlann Wombles, Carole Munson, Jim Nance, Margaret Easton, Ouita Michel, Beth Thompson, & Sandy Gruzsky

Junior Deacons: Franklin Watson, Jordan Batts, & Nate Hill

Worship Leaders:

November 6 Dan Roller

November 13 Phil Burchell

November 20 Dee Dee Roach

November 27 Phil Dare

Sunday School

During November, we will continue taking a look at Reggie McNeal's book: The Present Future.

This book will continue the conversation we started as part of the Surfing the Edge process and will help give us some more language to use when we are discussing the Missional Church.



All Saint's Day is November 6th



On Sunday, November 6, we will have a special time in our worship service when we will remember and honor those in our church and our families who have passed away since this time last year. Everyone who would like to add a loved one's name to our list of saints, please share the name or names with the church office by Wednesday, November 2nd.

Hanging of the Greens

On Sunday, November 27, we will celebrate the first Sunday of Advent with our Hanging of the Greens during our morning worship service. This is our opportunity to prepare the sanctuary for the Advent season and to hear the story of why we use the decorations we do.



A Pastoral Word

"The darkness of the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle" (Saint Francis of Assisi)

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined." Isaiah 9:2

This Advent Season, the prophet Isaiah and the beloved church father, St. Francis of Assisi will be our guides for our journey to Bethlehem. Why these two people? Well, each one, in their own unique way, trusted in God's promises given to God's people in the past, while living hopefully in their present time, and faithfully awaited a future time when God would come and restore God's people once more. Exactly what we do as people of faith each and every Advent!

So here is a little bit of background on our two guides so that we get to know their stories and feel more comfortable with them as they journey with us, inviting us to open our eyes to the light of God that is shining in our midst.

The prophet Isaiah lived in uncertain times. King Uzziah had just died which meant an end to an era of relative peace and good times in Judah. Once the king died, it left the door open for the nation of Judah to join the conversation with other world powers on just exactly how to prevent a takeover by the Assyrians, who were conquering and plundering all the countries along their way as they became THE world power at the time. And it wasn't just outside forces that had the nation of Judah living in fear. Internally, leadership among the nation of Judah was lacking in all aspects of community life. The new king was not faithful to God. The temple only cared about rules and regulations. And the people were scared. The people were in a great darkness. So for Isaiah, his job as a prophet of the Lord was to remind the people that God had given them a promise for a Messiah that would come from the line of David, and that God had not abandoned God's people. Isaiah was lifted up as a prophet to proclaim to the people of God that the "Lord will act to save, to redeem, and to transform" (The New Interpreter's Bible Commentary), the same themes that we are reminded of on our Advent journeys.

As for our other guide, St. Francis of Assisi, he started out life as the son of an Italian merchant, living very comfortably and enjoying all the "perks." The story goes that St. Francis received a vision from God to build up the church and from that moment on, Francis embraced a life of radical discipleship. "Christ's birth greatly influenced Francis' understanding of what it meant to be a follower of Christ. For Francis, to live the life of a disciple of Christ meant that one had to embrace the poverty and humility of Christ as made manifest in Christ's own birth." (Advent devotional).

St. Francis is also credited for creating the first known nativity scene. "He desired to enter into the sights, smells, and sounds of the scene so that he could gain a more accurate sense of the real significance of the birth of Christ. In this "new Bethlehem," Francis could grapple with how the infinite God, in an unfathomable act of love, had taken on our human condition as a vulnerable baby born amidst animals and laid in a manger" (Advent devotional), the very same thing we grapple with as we make our way to Bethlehem each Advent season

Two guides, from very different time periods, both people of faith. Each one of our guides during the Advent Season will remind us that there is a Light for Our Darkness!

So we invite everyone to join us on Sunday, November 27th, as we begin our journey to Bethlehem with Isaiah and St. Francis of Assisi as our guides.



Fellowship News and Notes

Board Retreat - November 5th @ Midway College @ 9 a.m.

We will be having a Board Retreat at Midway College on Saturday, November 5th from 9 a.m. until noon. All Board officers, deacons, elders, and committee team leaders are encouraged to attend. As part of the retreat we will be discussing the book, "In the Name of Jesus: Reflections on Christian Leadership" by Henri Nouwen. Copies of the book are available in the office for \$10 each.

Congregational Meeting with Pot-Luck Lunch

Sunday, November 6th @ 12:30 p.m.

Please bring a dish to share at this meeting for all the MCC congregation in the Fellowship Hall.

Choir Retreat

Saturday, November 12th

The choir will have a retreat at the church on Saturday, November 12th at 9:00 a.m.



Elders/Deacons Meet Together

Tuesday, November 29th

The Elders and Deacons will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Disciples Women Gatherings

- Sunday, November 20th @ 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

A Power Point presentation on the "Woman to Women" trip to Turkey will be shown, followed by discussion. Please bring soup or sandwiches to share.

- Saturday, December 10th @ 12:00 p.m. at Holly Hill Inn**

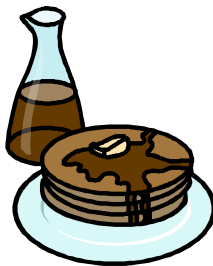
Disciples Women will meet for lunch at Holly Hill Inn. Please make **reservations** by calling Sharon Burchell at (859) 846-4153 **no later** than Wednesday, December 7th!



Election Day Pancake Breakfast

Tuesday, November 8th

The Disciples Men will host a Pancake Breakfast on Tuesday, November 8, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Donations are accepted for the Midway Ministerial Association. Please come and support our men's group that day!



Keenagers Lunch Trip

Thursday, November 10th

(Earlier in the month due to Thanksgiving)

The Keenagers and friends will meet for lunch at the Grey Goose in Midway at 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, November 7th.

MCC Caps Available



Midway Christian Church caps (red with white lettering) are available for purchase in the office for only \$6.

Fall Retreats for KY Women

Don't forget these retreats, if you're registered (the deadline is past):

November 5-6 at General Butler State Resort Park

November 11-13 at Knobs Haven Retreat House (silent)

Youth News and Notes

Children/Youth Calendar:

- Tuesday, November 1st:** JYF meets at 6 p.m. - All Saints' Day Celebration
- Tuesday, November 8th:** Children/Youth help out with **Election Day Pancakes** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- November 11th - 13th:** **CYF-X in Bowling Green** (high school students)
- Tuesday, November 15th:** JYF meets at 6 p.m. - What is Prayer?
- Thursday, November 17th:** Children/Youth help out with **Community Thanksgiving Dinner** ~ 4 p.m.
- Sunday, November 20th:** **Kids in the Kitchen** at 3:30; Dinner at 6:00
- Tuesday, November 22nd:** JYF meets at 6 p.m. - Game Night
- Monday, November 28th:** **Community Dinner** at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 29th:** JYF meets at 6 p.m. - Making wreaths

CYF-X (High School Regional Youth Event)

Mark your calendars! All high school youth are invited the weekend of November 11-13 to CYF-X. This event will be held in Bowling Green and is a great opportunity to meet youth from all over KY!



Acolyte Schedule

- November 6** - James Batts & Luke Hill
- November 13** - Jordan Batts & Jack Hill
- November 20** - Betsy Schein & Willa Michel
- November 27** - Will Schein & Marcus Watson



Baby Dedication



Kaylee Elizabeth Askew

Daughter of John and Melissa Askew
to be dedicated on Sunday, November 13th



Green Chalice

Kentucky Disciples Green Retreat

Cumberland Falls State Resort Park

November 18-19

Don't forget to attend this Green Chalice 24-hour worship and education retreat, if you're registered. The deadline to register was Monday, October 17th.



For Midway Recycling/Leaf Pick-up Info: visit www.meetmeinmidway.com, click the Community tab, then on the menu on the left, click Waste Management. Lots of good information there!

Mission News and Notes

Meals on Wheels

Many thanks to the Meals on Wheels team that served the week of October 10th: Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, Phil Burchell, Charlanne Wombles, Pat Wilson and Pat Settlemire. The next delivery will be the week of November 7th -11th.

November Mission: Collecting Items To Fill Christmas Stockings

MCC will be collecting items to fill stockings for children of inmates. These stockings will be given to the children as they leave the jail after visiting their family member on the week before Christmas. The chaplaincy office of the division of community corrections hopes to fill 250 stockings with non-gender items because the officers cannot know how many boys or girls will come on any night. Items needed are: small toys, books, coloring books, crayons, mittens, stretch hats, packaged snacks, candy bars and stuffed animals. All items must be in to the church by **Sunday, November 13th**.



Heifer Ark Project



Last year, Midway Christian, as part of our Advent celebration, raised money for a gift ark (livestock to poor villages) through the Heifer Project. We will be collecting money throughout our church year for our ark. This way, if you want to give the ark as part of birthday presents, anniversary presents, or simply just because (special gift cards are available), you can do so by making your checks out to Midway Christian Church with "Heifer Ark" in the memo.

November Mission Payments

Boy Scout Troop 40

Boy Scout Troop 40 was started at Midway Christian Church during the 1990s and has become a wonderful mission of the church. The Boy Scouts have helped the church on many occasions with mission projects, yard work, and outreach in the community.

Girl Scout Troop 1038

Girl Scout Troop 1038 has been in existence since about 1992 and is lead by Elaine Hagen here in Midway. The troop is for all age levels (Daisies, Brownies, Cadets, Juniors, Seniors, and Ambassadors) and has three goals: Community Service, Earning Scout Recognitions, and Outdoor Activities.

Kentucky Refugee Ministries (KRM)

KRM assists refugees who have been legally admitted to the United States as victims of warfare or other forms of persecution because of their religious or political beliefs. Their staff includes caseworkers, job developers, ESL teachers, and interpreters. They speak English, Spanish, Bosnian, French, Nepali, Somali, Arabic, and German, and also work closely with contract interpreters who speak other languages native to the refugees they serve.

National Council of Churches

Since its founding in 1950, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA has been the leading force for ecumenical cooperation among Christians in the United States. The NCC's member faith groups—from a wide spectrum of Protestant, Anglican, Orthodox, Evangelical, historic African American and Living Peace churches—include 45 million persons in more than 100,000 local congregations in communities across the nation.

Heritage Sunday - October 23, 2011

Shared Stories - Shared Lives

"Over the past year, all of the acceptance, kindness, and prayers every Sunday when I came to church... the palpable faith and generous spirit of everyone renews me and reinvigorates my hope and faith. I will be forever thankful that God led me to this church and the family therein."

"When we got married here and were embraced as a couple by the congregation... when Grandmom (Ruth) Roach died and the entire church community was there to show our family love, compassion, and support. Today! When we were blessed to have the church community here to welcome baby Parrish with warm hearts and open arms!"

"My favorite time with this church are when all the kids get together and share good times, and faith, and usually dinner, and we just get to be together and have fun. I love times when we get to just share our lives—our good memories and our bad—and not be judged, and getting help with everything and helping others with everything."



Dedication of Parrish Benjamin Lewis



Dedication of the Four Walls Fund

Special Memories:

- Willa's Dedication
- 1st Baptismal Renewal I attended
- My Baptism
- Worship & Wonder
- Easter
- Christmas Eve—candles
- Phil Singing after Katrina
- 1st Epiphany Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
- Sarah Ann's Funeral
- 9/11 Ceremony
- Shirley Singing
- Amy Singing
- Prayer Group with Pat, Charlann, and Heather

1986 Fall: "I remember when I was a young, single parent with two small boys and Burnie Wall sat on the swing on the porch of my house on Elkhorn Creek. He shared his story of recovery from the loss of his wife, and bringing up his two small children."

1988 April: "I remember being married to Adele by Rev. Roy Robertson on the breezeway of the courtyard. It was 9:00 a.m. Monday morning, with a light rain, and roosters crowed in the distance down the railroad track as the service ended."

Surfing the Edge: Congregational 360

Starting in November, the Guiding Team will have opportunities for all the members of Midway Christian Church to go on line and fill out a survey as part of our Congregational 360.

What is the Congregational 360?

"It's a tool to initiate a process of dialogue across the church about how people see their church in terms of readiness to **create some fresh expressions of mission in their communities and neighbourhoods.**" (www.roxbourghmissional.net) One of the main reasons why the Guiding Team is asking everyone to participate in this is because we believe that the Spirit of God is among the people of God. The Congregation 360 is a tool that will invite everyone to participate in holy conversations about how they view Midway Christian Church's readiness to be a missional church.

The 360 invites people to self identify in a series of five or six different 'rater groups' (for example: Staff, Board, Members of X years, Non-Members, Male-Female etc). What people discover is that different rater groups respond in varying ways to questions about the church's readiness for missional life. This creates a wonderful space for dialogue that always **results in new energy across the church** and becomes the **doorway to talking with one another about fresh experiments** they might develop in their neighborhoods and communities.

Who does the 360?

Everyone is invited to complete it. This creates an environment of interest and ownership across the church. People become invested in wanting to know how others responded and this, in turn, creates a space where people feel free to talk with one another about the church deepening each others awareness and understanding of who they are as a people.

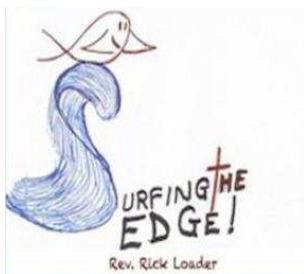
What does the 360 offer a congregation?

A snapshot of the local church showing how different groups are reading its readiness for mission and change.

A way of learning how to listen to the Spirit among the people.

Church-wide conversations about how God is inviting people to imagine missional life in your context.

The basis for discerning the places to initiate "experiments" in missional transformation.



Community News and Notes

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

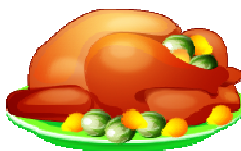
Thursday, November 17th @ 6:30 p.m.

We will have our annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 17 at 6:30 pm in the MCC 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 entertainment. We are asking everyone to help out by bringing a dish to share that would serve your family plus four others.

Last names A—L: Desserts

Last names M—P: Salads

Last names R—Z: Sides



Monthly Community Dinner

Monday, November 28th @ 6:30 p.m.

Our regular, free Community Dinner will be held on the last Monday of the month, November 28th, at 6:30 p.m. in the MCC Fellowship Hall. This dinner will be followed by the Midway Renaissance Annual Meeting and Board Elections.



"NO ONE GOES HUNGRY"

Election Day Pancakes

The community is invited to have pancakes in our Fellowship Hall on Election Day, November 8th, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Donations are accepted.

Community Thanksgiving Service (MMA)

Monday, November 21st @ 7:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the Community Thanksgiving Service on Monday, November 21st at 7:00 pm at St. Matthews A.M.E. on South Winter Street. Rev. Mary Weese will be preaching. A special offering will be collected to benefit the Benevolence Fund of the Midway Ministerial Association. Come and join us as we say "Thanks be to God for all of our blessings" as the community of Midway.

Epiphany Feast

Friday, January 6th, 2012, @ 6:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars for Midway Christian Church's annual Epiphany Feast, which will be held on Friday, January 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the Midway College Piper Dining Hall. A feast of medieval fare will be served, along with entertainment, for \$30 per adult and \$15 per youth ages 11 to 18. Children 10 and under eat free. Reservations must be made no later than Thursday, December 29th, but don't wait that long—the spots fill up fast!

You can call the office or buy tickets online through www.midwaychristian.org. A PayPal button will be set up soon.



Keep Bringing Food Pantry Items!

Until further notice, please keep bringing cans of tomatoes and spaghetti sauce, as well as boxes of crackers and dried pasta, to the narthex at MCC.

Clothing Bank

The Woodford Co. Clothing Bank takes clean, seasonal clothes on Mondays from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. They are located on Hope Lane, off Versailles Road (near the BG Pkwy ramp) behind the Woodford Community Christian Church.

Admission Kits for the Men's Hope Center:

There is a box in the Narthex to collect these items:

Towels	Razors
Washcloths	Shampoo
Lotion	Deodorant

Midway Christian Church

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

Return Service Requested

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

