

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

# THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

January 2015

## Church Staff:

**Rev. Heather McColl**

*Minister*

**Joni Angus**

*Secretary*

**Melissa Askew**

*Music Director*

**Holly Coffey**

*Accompanist*

**Jestine Johnson**

*Custodian*

## Congregational Meeting and Potluck

*Sunday, January 4th, 12:30 p.m.*

*MCC Fellowship Hall*

On Sunday, January 4th, we will have a quarterly congregational meeting and potluck lunch.

Everyone is asked to **bring a dish to share** with the congregation.



Potluck Lunch

## Epiphany Dinner

*Tuesday, January 6, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.*

*Midway College Dining Hall*

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX TO HELP WITH THIS IMPORTANT, POPULAR MCC FUNDRAISER:

**Serving Crew:** Serving drinks, desserts, other as needed

**Kitchen Crew:** Scraping plates and washing dishes

**Break-down Crew:** Packing up and cleaning up

**Decorating Crew:** Setting and decorating tables



## 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

E-mail:

office@midwaychristian.org

Visit us on the web:

www.midwaychristian.org

## Greg Watson Makes Eagle Scout

CONGRATULATIONS, Greg Watson, on making Eagle Scout! That is a huge accomplishment! MCC members are invited to the ceremony in the MCC sanctuary on Sunday, January 4th at 4 p.m., with a reception to follow in fellowship hall. Doug and Julie are very proud, and so are we!



The office will be CLOSED  
January 1 & 19

## Budget Update

**Budgeted to date:** \$72,999.35  
**Received to date:** \$77,061.90

## Worship News and Notes

### Worship Themes

*You are encouraged to read and contemplate the text for the day in advance*



#### January 4

*Second Sunday after Christmas*

Epiphany Sunday

No Sermon

#### January 11

*First Sunday after the Epiphany*

Baptism Sunday

Scripture: Mark 1: 4-11

Title: "Chosen and Marked by Love"

#### January 18

*Second Sunday after the Epiphany*

Scripture: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10

Title: "A True Prophet of God"

#### January 25

*Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

Laity Sunday

Scripture: Jonah 3: 1-10

Title: "Sharing the Gospel Changes Lives"



### Serving This Month

**Elders:** Phil Burchell & Etta Manor

**Deacons:** Sheri Adkins, Jeanne Clark, Ray Clark, Ouita Michel, Susan Mooney, Carole Munson, Dottie Pollard, Beth Thompson, Blake Adkins, Jordan Batts, Jack Hill, Nate Hill, Franklin Watson

#### Worship Leaders:

**January 4** Jordan Batts

**January 11** Bailey Spicer

**January 18** Willa Michel

**January 25** James Batts



**Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. with Joys & Concerns, and light refreshments.**

January 4th Sunday School will be gathering ideas for topics for the rest of the year. January 11, 18, and 25 will feature Ouita Michel on "Radical Hospitality!"

ALL ARE WELCOME!

### Food for the Soul - "Dinner Church"

Join us for open discussion, a light dinner, and a simple communion service twice a month:



There will be no Food for the Soul on January 4th - we hope to see you at the Epiphany Dinner on the 6th!

**Sunday, January 18th @ 6:30**

**Topic: "What is Martin Luther King Jr's Legacy?"**

*Suggestions for future topics are welcome!*



### Acolyte Schedule

**January 4** Luke Hill & Alex Woodruff

**January 11** Alex Adkins & Jack Hill

**January 18** Bailey Spicer & Joe Campbell

**January 25** Willa Michel & Alex Woodruff

## More Worship News

### Epiphany Sunday - January 4th

On Sunday, January 4th, we will be celebrating Epiphany Sunday by telling the story again through Scripture, Drama, Reflection and Song. During the service, there will be a time for everyone to share his or her vision for our world and for our lives in the coming year. This service is an opportunity for our insights and understanding that we gain as people of faith to lead us down new roads to help proclaim the Kingdom of God is near.



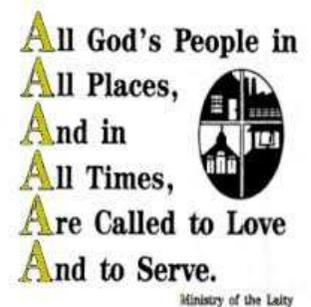
### Baptism Sunday - January 11th



On Sunday, January 11th, we will be celebrating Baptism Sunday. During the service, there will be a chance for all of us to renew our baptisms by dipping our hands in the water and hearing God's promise to us once more. Everyone is invited to come forward whether you have been baptized or not, because it is also an opportunity for us as people of faith to re-commit ourselves to Christ as we begin the new year. Come and join us for this very special Sunday, and remember the moment you were washed clean and renewed as a person of faith.

### Laity Sunday - January 25th

On Sunday, January 25th, we will celebrate Laity Sunday, which is a "great opportunity to help everyone explore and recognize the many types of ministry that members of the congregation have been uniquely gifted to accomplish." During the service, some of our members will be giving testimonies about their faith. They will share with us their faith journeys and who God is for them as people of faith. We are celebrating Laity Sunday because "The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are a people built upon laity and clergy working together in service to Christ. Laity Sunday is a special time to reflect upon, promote, and celebrate the many roles served by [our] congregation's lay ministers, both inside and outside [our] church walls." As we continue to live out our mission of WELCOME, this Sunday gives us an opportunity for all of the ministers of Midway Christian Church to engage in their role as leaders of this church. ([www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org))



### Martin Luther King Jr. Service

**Monday,  
January 19th**



Mark your calendars for January 19th's MLK Service, brought to you by the Midway Ministerial Association. Details will be coming soon.

### MCC Cabinet Retreat

**Saturday, January 10th, 9 a.m. to noon, Fellowship Hall**

The Cabinet, which consists of the Chair of the Board, the Secretary, the Treasurer, an Elder designated by the Elders, a Deacon designated by the Deacons, and the Team Leaders of the standing teams (Worship, Care, Admin) will gather on Saturday January 10th to finish planning our church year. If you have any ideas for special events or projects that you would like included, please share them with Heather or with Mary.

## Pastoral Word

Many of you have asked about my DMin program. It is hard to believe I began this journey a year ago! As of right now, I have completed four of my five core classes and am enrolled in the fifth core class. This class will be for January and February and deals with adaptive change in congregations.

If that language of adaptive change sounds familiar, it is because that is exactly what we talked about during our experience with Surfing the Edge. It is the understanding that what we've been doing isn't working anymore and it is time to adapt to our new environment. It isn't just a matter of tweaking here or there. It is a matter of a different way of thinking, of viewing a solution.

This approach seems pretty appropriate for the new year because we don't know what the new year holds for us. Sometimes we know the best we can do is to take things a step at a time and figure out things as we go.

I also know that when the word "change" gets thrown around, it can be pretty scary. Believe me, I know. There are days that I wish everything would stay the same, stay familiar, stay, dare I say it, comfortable, but I know that is not real life. That type of existence is just something that I have invented or created to fool myself into thinking I have control over the details of my life. Two children have taught me that isn't possible.

As I look forward to my class, I can't help but think that even though the word "change" can be scary it also reminds me that with each change, God is there in the process. God was there in the beginning. God is here now. And God will be there for us no matter what comes our way, just like God has always been for the people of God.

As a congregation, we have done some tweaking to things over the years to help us live out our mission of WELCOME more completely, but now is the time for us to do some adaptive changes as well. We can't just expect people to come through our doors and discover us. We need to figure out how to do things differently. You see the problem isn't that people aren't going to church anymore. And the problem isn't that people have given up on God. The problem is that the Church has not figured how to be the Body of Christ in this changing world beyond its typical structures.

The good news is that the Gospel is still very much alive and still has the power to transform lives. We just need to figure out a way to share the Gospel with the people of God. And it shouldn't be too hard to do, because Jesus already showed us how! All we have to do is follow his example and become the community of faith God created us to be.

## Fellowship News and Notes

### Dinners of Eight *(more or less)*

**Contact the office** to join a small group for dinner in a host's home. You'll enjoy food, fun, and fellowship while getting to know your host and fellow diners a little better. **The next dinner is:**

**Friday, January 16th, 6 p.m.**  
**at Dan & Adele's**  
**129 W Bruen Street**



### Elders Meeting:

**Tuesday, January 20th**  
**6:30 p.m.**

(Date moved due to MLK holiday)



### Keenagers Luncheon

**Thursday, January 22nd,**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
**Wallace Station**



### Disciples Women Luncheon

**Sunday, January 18th, 12:30 p.m.**

Jordan "Isaac" Batts will repeat the discussion from the last Food for the Soul: "LGBTQ - What do all these letters mean?"

**Please bring soup or sandwiches to share!**



The Keenagers will travel to Wallace Station on Thursday January 15th at 11:30 a.m. for lunch. We will leave the church around 11:15 a.m. if you wish to carpool. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, January 12th if you are interested in going.

## Community News & Notes

### Free Community Dinner

*Monday, January 26th, 6:30 p.m.*

#### ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF!

Midway residents, MCC members, and friends are invited to enter your best chili in MCC's Annual Chili Cook-Off to win a prize! If you're not bringing a batch of chili, please come and help eat it! **Please let the office know by Monday, January 19th if you plan to enter a pot of chili.**



### Community Clothes Closet

The Clothes Closet is **OPEN** on **Saturday mornings** from **9 to 11**, as well as during the monthly Community Dinners.

*Volunteers are needed!!!*

*Most items are just 25 cents!*

Enter through the Gratz Street basement door.



### B.A.S.T. (Babysitting Alternatives to Snow Times)

**Who:** School-aged children in and around Midway

**Where:** Midway Christian Church's Fellowship Hall

**When:** 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Woodford County snow days and other planned days off

**Why:** So working parents can know their children will be safe and having fun

**Cost:** \$15 per child, per day (discounts for families with 3+ children; discounts for pre-registered children)

**How:** Contact the church office at 846-4102 or office@midwaychristian.org to pre-register  
(Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., M-F)



### Kroger Community Rewards

At the end of our first quarter under the new Community Rewards Program, we received a check for \$275 from Kroger. That is from only 16 households that are currently signed up (through their Kroger Plus cards), and is a 17% increase from the former gift card fundraiser (per quarter)! Think of what we can raise if everyone signs up! If you don't have a computer, or have trouble signing up online, go to the Customer Service desk at your favorite Kroger. Our church's # is 11541.



## Regional Youth Ski-Thing 2015

**January 30 - February 1**

**Beargrass Christian Church, 4100 Shelbyville Road, Louisville**

MCC Youth (middle and high school)- and an Adult Sponsor - are invited to participate in the Regional Youth Ski-Thing hosted by Beargrass Christian Church in Louisville. Beginning at Beargrass on Friday night, January 30th, with games, snacks, and worship, you will spend all day Saturday at Paoli Peaks having all kinds of winter fun and meeting youth from all over Kentucky! Saturday night will be more games, snacks, and worship, and after Sunday morning's breakfast and worship, you will head back home. Don't miss the fun! More information about registration, fees, etc. is on the MCC office bulletin board, or you may contact Rev. Mike McColl.



## Assemblies, Workshops...

### LTS Elder Workshop (Webinar or on-site)

**Saturday, February 21**

**Cost: On-site or login: \$10 per login** (no limit to # of participants)

**Led by Rev. Bill McDonald**



"A refresher course for old hands and a how-to class for fresh recruits to the Eldership, this practical workshop will give helpful ideas on fulfilling one's role as an Elder. From preparation to prayer, from the Lord's Table to the hospital room, from shepherding to servanthood, from the how and the why, through stories and scripture, this inspiring and entertaining webinar will offer a broad scope and detailed information for Elders in churches large or small."

For more information or to register, contact Dr. Bill Turner at 859-280-1253, bturner@lextheo.edu, or visit [www.lextheo.edu](http://www.lextheo.edu)

### Christmount Elders & Deacons Workshop

**March 6-7 - Christmount** (Black Mountain, NC)



Dr. Richard D. Weis, Professor of Hebrew at LTS, will speak on **Keeping Faith in Times of Change**. "Today the church struggles with powerful tides of change that on some days seem nearly overwhelming. Across the centuries the prophets offer us some **tips on how to keep the faith and find God's way forward through the change.**"

Visit [www.christmount.com](http://www.christmount.com)

Thousands of Disciples - in all phases of their faith journeys - will gather at the General Assembly in Columbus, OH next summer to become equipped to carry God's mission "from your doorsteps to the ends of the Earth." These five "learning communities" will be available to you: Social Justice, Global & Ecumenical, Faith Formation, Innovate, and Administration.

**Register by April 1, 2015 to receive at 20% discount. - visit [www.disciples.org/ga](http://www.disciples.org/ga)**

## Mission News and Notes



**Many thanks** to the Meals on Wheels teams that served during the weeks of December 1 and December 29: Etta Manor, Phil Burchell, Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, the Wombles, and the Dares.

**Our next scheduled deliver is the week of January 26th**

### January Mission Payments



**District 5 (Christian Church in KY)** Each CCK Staff member is assigned districts for which they provide pastoral oversight and care for the ministers in their districts. Staff members (and retired ministers who assist them) work hard to be the "pastors to the pastors" and their families. Each month ministers gather with the ministers in their districts for fellowship and support.

**Regional Green Chalice** Kentucky Disciples frame their ministry with one question, "What must we do to live our faith?" For a growing number of Kentucky Disciples that answer includes care for God's creation through adopting sustainable lifestyles both personally and as a congregation. As a result, Green Chalice was called into being in 2007 to help Kentucky Disciples live sustainable lives in harmony with all creation.

**Cub Scout Pack 41** Pack 41 was started at Midway Christian Church in May of 2014. The need for scouting for this age group was obviously there - there are 12 kids in 3 dens (Tigers, Wolves, and Bears). The many character-building activities have included fundraisers selling popcorn and Christmas wreaths. Thank you for your support!

**Lexington Theological Seminary** The mission of Lexington Theological Seminary is to prepare faithful leaders for the church of Jesus Christ and, thus, to strengthen the church's participation in God's mission for the world. As an integral part of the church, the seminary serves the church as a theological resource and as a center of continuing education for clergy and lay leaders.

### Thank You from Cane Ridge Shrine

"Thank you so much for your generous donation... Gifts such as yours help us to tell the Cane Ridge Story and welcome future generations of visitors as well."

- James H. Trader II, Curator

### Thank You from the NDE Group

"To Rev. McColl and your church family: Thank you for providing the space for our NDE (Near Death Experience) and Spiritual Gifts group to meet monthly. The gathering has produced stimulating discussions, new commitments to spiritual growth, and budding friendships. We all appreciate your generosity."

This group was formed from the Sunday School series "Near Death Experiences: A Window to God" by Dr. Jim Roach

### Weekend Backpack Project

**Help feed kids who might otherwise go hungry over the weekend!**



Midway Presbyterian's ongoing backpack project is always in need of cash and/or food donations.

### Woodford County Food Pantry

MCC is asked to contribute an ongoing supply of **dried spaghetti, crackers, and pork-n-beans.**

**Midway Christian Church**

123 East Bruen Street

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

*Return Service Requested*



January 2015