



THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March 2015

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl

Minister

Joni Angus

Secretary

Melissa Askew

Music Director

Holly Coffey

Accompanist

Jestine Johnson

Custodian



Growing the Fruit of the Spirit on the Tree of Life

According to Christian tradition, the Tree of Life is symbolic of God's love and its fruit is described as the most desirable and most precious above all fruits. This Lenten Season, everyone is invited to help us create our Tree of Life by sharing your stories of the times when you experienced Radical Hospitality, Passionate Worship, Intentional Faith Development, Risk-Taking Mission and Service, and Extravagant Generosity. **Please write your story on a piece of fruit and hang it on our Tree of Life** so that by Easter we will have a visual reminder of God's love and the sweet fruit it brings into our lives as people of faith.

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM: Sunday School

10:55 AM: Worship



From the Trustees: Use of Endowment Fund - Proposal Deadline

Midway Christian is very fortunate to have a Mission Endowment Fund which was established in August of 2007 through the generous gift from Dorothy Gordon. As stated in the Mission

Endowment Fund Policy, the primary purpose of the Fund is "to expand the witness and mission of Jesus Christ, serving human needs in our community and around the world." In keeping with this purpose, the policy allows an annual withdrawal for outreach-related improvements, equipment or programs. **Written requests from the congregation** (for outreach projects which are not already included in the church annual budget) for the Mission Endowment Fund **need to be submitted by April 1, 2015**. The requests will be reviewed by the Trustees who will make recommendations to the Midway Christian Church Board, which will have the final approval of the projects funded.

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

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

TIME BEGINS SUNDAY,

MARCH 8TH



Budget Update

Budgeted to date: \$102,749.20

Received to date: \$98,490.10



Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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

March 1

Second Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Psalm 85

Title: "Fruit of the Spirit: Passionate Worship"

March 8

Third Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Hebrews 10: 1-10, 14-17, 22-25

Title: "Fruit of the Spirit: Intentional Faith Development"

March 15

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Luke 6: 1-11, 31-36

Title: "Fruit of the Spirit: Risk-Taking Mission and Service"

March 22

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Scripture: 1 Timothy 6: 2-10, 17-19

Title: "Fruit of the Spirit: Extravagant Generosity"

March 29

Palm Sunday

Scripture: Mark 1: 1-11

Title: "Fruit of the Spirit: Cultivating the Spirit"

Serving This Month

Elders: Sandy Gruzesky & John Batts

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:

March 1 Sheri Adkins

March 8 Alex Woodruff

March 15 Beth Thompson

March 22 Isaac Batts

March 29 Sue Roberts



ALL
ARE
WELCOME!

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

In March, Heather will continue the "Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation" study:

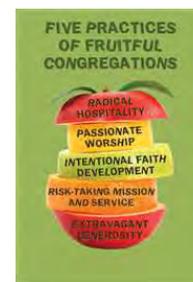
3/1: Passionate Worship

3/8: Intentional Faith Development

3/15: Risk-Taking Mission and Service

3/22: Extravagant Generosity

3/29: Sherry Maddock (friend of Ouita Michel) will present the Generosity Project - "Giving Circles" - she is working on.



Please see Insert Page 2 for the Lenten Breakfast Series!



Acolyte Schedule

March 1 Alex Adkins & Jack Hill

March 8 Joe Campbell & Luke Hill

March 15 Willa Michel & Bailey Spicer

March 22 Alex Woodruff & Alex Adkins

March 29 Joe Campbell & Jack Hill

Pastoral Word

Presenting a “Narrative Budget” in June

For a while now, the leadership of Midway Christian Church has been hearing everyone say that we need a new story, that the story that we have been telling doesn't quite fit who we are as a congregation, especially when it comes to financial matters. It is easy to get caught up in the black and white figures that are listed in our bulletin and miss the wider picture of what Midway Christian Church is actually doing to live out our mission of WELCOME.

That's why this year, the Admin Team is working on and will be presenting a narrative budget at our June Board meeting and congregational meeting.

“Rather than simply presenting a spreadsheet style budget that lists columns and columns of numbers under the heading of different departments such as “Property”, “Personnel”, “Evangelism”, and “Education”; the narrative budget (as the name implies) tells a story. The story is the congregation's story of mission and service and how the varying components of the budget contribute to our faith being lived out into our God given vision. It connects every aspect of the budget to ministry. It links every dollar to mission and every gift to faithful expression of the joy of giving and generosity of our God. Narrative budgets inspire, interpret, encourage, challenge, and inform donors about why their gift matters.

A few simple examples might include tying the area of the budget we associate with “property” (buildings and grounds) to the way in which our facilities serve as a platform for mission. Link the building to the ministries you provide that utilize that space. If you host an AA group – tell the story of transformation that accompanies such a powerful ministry – healing people and repairing families. If you have a Boy Scout Troop, tie the space they employ to the mission of building character, citizenship, and reverence. Having heat and lights on and a custodian present enable these ministries to take place. Show how a portion of the funds in this budget area are used in this way and why it matters.

When it comes to personnel, especially the minister, we are talking about more than an “office” and one line item, but worship leadership, care for the sick, visiting the bereaved, representing the church in the community, teaching the Gospel, and administrative support for the whole congregation. That salary and benefit package extends across a whole range of ministry and activity from which the church and community benefit. A narrative budget helps to explain and tell that story.” (Center for Faith and Giving)

Don't worry. The narrative budget is not going to replace the financial statement. It will simply build upon it and reshape the same information within a story, a narrative.

And yes, the narrative budget will include all parts of the cost for ministry programming. Our budget will still reflect the calculated income coming into the church and the calculated expenses for operating Midway Christian Church. The Admin Team also knows that as part of the narrative budget process, many of us would still need to see a breakdown of categories. This breakdown will be included in the narrative budget handouts as well but will not be the traditional headings we are used to seeing when we review the budget.

I know this will take some getting used to for us. It will be different from the way we have always done it. But Midway Christian Church has a responsibility to share the story of our mission of WELCOME and how we live out our life together as a church. We have an exciting faith story to tell and a narrative budget can be one central piece in this process, reshaping what seems to be simply an administrative task – the understanding of our money – into an integrated story of our congregational life.

If you would like more information or more examples of a narrative budget, please go to www.centerforfaithandgiving.org

Fellowship News and Notes

Board Meeting:

*Sunday, March 1st
12:30 p.m.*

Worship Meeting:

*Monday, March 9th
6:30 p.m.*

Cabinet Meeting:

*Wednesday, March 18th
6 p.m.*

Elders Meeting:

*Monday, March 16th
6:30 p.m.*

Disciples Women Luncheon

Sunday, March 15th, 12:30 p.m.

ALL women of MCC are invited to **bring a dish to share**, and enjoy fellowship with each other. A possible speaker is in the works, to be announced soon.


Keenagers Luncheon

Thursday, March 26th

11:30 a.m.

On Thursday March 26th, the Keenagers will travel to Lexington to Ramsey's Diner for lunch on Thursday, March 26th at 11:30. The address is 151 W. Zandale. We will leave the church at 11 a.m. that morning if you wish to carpool.

Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, March 23rd if you plan to come.


Seder Meal - Sunday, March 22nd, 6:30 p.m.

A Seder plate contains the ceremonial items of Passover: bitter herbs, a roasted egg, a sweet apple mixture, parsley, and a bone. Come participate in the ancient tradition of Seder and hear the story of Passover in which God's love for his people brings them out of darkness into light.



Youth News

Youth Group

MCC Youth will meet on

Mondays at 5:30.

The first Monday of each month will include a dinner catered by Chef Ouita! They will not officially meet on the last Monday of each month, when Community Dinner prep is going on.


Winter Jam 2015 @ Rupp

Saturday, March 28th

Jam Zone (FREE) at Rupp Arena is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for games, music, food, and more.

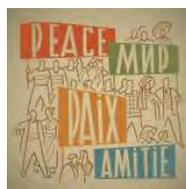
The Winter Jam concert (10 Christian artists) is \$10 cash at the door, first-come, first-seated. Contact Cindy Batts at 846-5644 if you are interested in going.


CYF Seminar:

"Face to Face with other Faiths"

June 16-23, Washington DC & NYC

Visit ccinky.net for more information.


Lumber Jack & Jane Weekend

March 20-22 @ Camp Wakon'Da-Ho

This is a working weekend for grades 6-12 that includes games, worship, and food! Cost is \$20, deadline is March 13th. See Mike McColl or ccinky.net


Camp Wakon'Da-Ho 2015

Visit CCinKY.net and click on Outdoor Ministries to find information about this year's camp dates, or visit the MCC office bulleting board (or call Joni).



Community News & Notes

Free Community Dinner

Monday, March 30th, 6:30 p.m.

Our monthly dinner, held on the last Monday of each month (except October), is free and open to the public!

Helpers are needed before and after the dinner.

Donations to this ongoing mission are appreciated!



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!!!*

Enter through the Gratz Street basement door.

Beaten Biscuit Workshop

Saturday, April 11th

2-4 p.m.

MCC Fellowship Hall



Back by popular demand! This fundraiser for the Homeplace at Midway (a Christian Care Communities senior facility) was a huge hit last year, with 82 attendees. Master Beaten Biscuit Maker Charles Logan will instruct you in the nearly-lost art of homemade beaten biscuits. A \$5 donation to the Homeplace at Midway is required to attend. Sign up at 846-4102.

Holy Week Worship



Palm Sunday Service

Sunday, March 29th, 10:55 a.m. at Midway Christian Church

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 2nd, 7:00 p.m. at Midway Christian Church

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 3rd, 7:00 p.m. at Midway Baptist Church

Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday, April 5th, 7:00 a.m. at Walter Bradley Park

(Breakfast to follow at 8:30 a.m. at 2nd Christian Church)

Easter Sunday Service

Sunday, April 5th, 10:55 a.m. at Midway Christian Church

Food for the Soul - "Dinner Church"

Join us for open discussion, a light dinner, and a simple communion service on the first and third Sunday of each month.

- **Sunday, March 1st @ 6:30**
Topic: "Women of the Bible: Seeking Justice"
- **Sunday, March 15th @ 6:30**
Topic: "What is Human Trafficking?"

Suggestions for future topics are welcome!



The community
is invited!

See the back
cover for your

**EASTER
FLOWER
ORDER
FORM!**



Due March 24th.

Nominating Time



It is that time again to nominate elders, deacons, and church leaders for Midway Christian Church. The positions of elders, deacons, and church officers are very important roles of leadership in our church, so if you have any suggestions or ideas for who would be good in these positions, please see Shirley Eckels or Heather McColl.

Assemblies, Workshops, Seminars

LTS Lay School of Theology

"Wisdom to Feed Your Soul"

by Dr. Margaret Ralph

Saturdays, March 14, 21, & 28

8:30 a.m. breakfast, 9 a.m. class

This 3-week class will examine the books of Job, Psalms, and Proverbs in order to discover how God's beloved people had the courage to ask hard questions and, through faith and reason, find wise answers. **Registration deadline is March 11th. Fee is \$60.**

For more information or to register, contact Dr. Bill Turner at 859-280-1253, bturner@lextheo.edu, or visit www.lextheo.edu



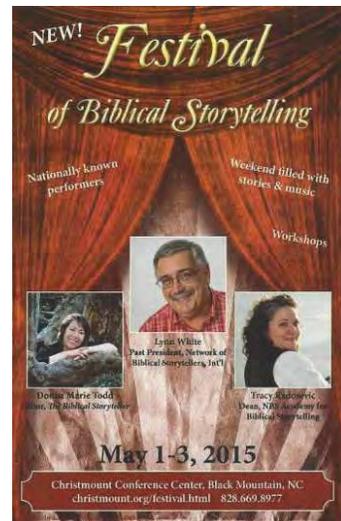
Christmount Festival of Biblical Storytelling

Black Mountain, NC

May 1-3, 2015

Immerse yourself in biblical stories and take storytelling workshops from three of the finest biblical storytellers in the country!

Visit christmount.org for more information.



Christmount Week of Wonder

May 24-29 (Adult Work Camp)

This is a mission opportunity for adults to come and help spruce up the buildings and grounds for another season of worshippers and campers. Cost is \$165 per person. Register at www.christmount.org or call 828-669-8977.



Christmount Discovery Weekend for Women - June 5-7

Discovery Weekend Women's Retreat is a time of spiritual renewal, relaxation, fellowship, worship and recreation. The weekend includes keynotes, discussion, lively music and meaningful worship.

The theme will address how we live *whole lives* in the midst of breaking news and broken times, places, communities, and words. And how can we live our lives *whole*?

Register by May 12th (or pay \$20 extra) at www.christmount.org or call 828-669-8977.

"Grow It, Cook It, Eat It" Series

Woodford County Extension Office

184 Beasley Drive, Versailles

4th Wednesday of Each Month

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25th: "Easy Mushrooms"

There is no cost, but you must register by calling 873-4601 or emailing elizabeth.creed@uky.edu



General Assembly - July 2015 - Columbus, Ohio

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 a 20% discount. Visit www.disciples.org

Green Chalice News

We Are a Certified Green Chalice Congregation!

"On behalf of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), I extend congratulations to your congregation for becoming the fifth Certified Green Chalice Congregation. Green Chalice celebrates the fact that you are living out your faith by caring for God's creation and leading the denomination and your community in authentic ways.



Green Chalice is a partnership ministry between Disciples Home Missions and Christian Church (DOC) in Kentucky that aims to build bridges between churches, regions, and the denomination to care for creation. Through congregations like Midway Christian Church, the Holy Spirit works to repair damage and bring all of creation into Holy Communion with God. We give thanks to God for your ministry and your leadership in the faith.

We look forward to hearing about the new ways that MCC leads Christians, people of faith, and all people to save our sacred planet. May your journey be blessed by God.

In Christ,
 Rev. Carol L. Devine - Minister Green Chalice

Midway Green Chalice Meeting

Tuesday, March 10th @ 7 p.m.
Midway Christian Church

Caring for God's Creation



Here is the agenda for the meeting so you can be thinking of ideas to share. Please share your ideas by email before we meet so we will have them for the meeting.

- 1. Signs for Rain Garden:** We need to design signs to communicate the development and purpose of the rain gardens. What information should we include?
- 2. Landscape Plan for the Church Campus:** Some of us have discussed informally the idea of getting estimates from some landscape architects for a master plan for our grounds. We have a great start with the work that Chuck Logan did last year.
- 3. Earth Sunday Observance:** Since we have had to cut so many trees the last few years, it seems we should plant some. Would we want to plant at least one tree in observance of Earth Day?

The theme suggested from our General Green Chalice is "**Sustainable Food in a Changing Climate.**" We will be receiving some information from them soon. Do you have any ideas?

Thank you again for your support.
 Adele (dadickerson07@aol.com)



MCC is a Certified Green Chalice
 Congregation - since January, 2012

Find us on:
facebook



Lenten Breakfast Series

Lenten Breakfast Series

Saturdays in March
MCC's Fellowship Hall

Theme: "Fruit of the Spirit"

Breakfast at 9:00

Music at 9:15

Program at 9:30



Lenten Breakfasts

- **March 7th**
 Topic: Fruit of the Spirit: Passionate Worship
 Speaker: Dr. Wes Allen, Professor of Homiletics and Worship,
 Lexington Theological Seminary
 Music Provided by: Jane Bennett on Harp
 Food Provided by: Flock #1
- **March 14th**
 Topic: Fruit of the Spirit: Intentional Faith Development
 Speaker: Rev. Tracy Parker, Associate Minister,
 First Christian Church (DOC), Paris, KY
 Music Provided by: Blake Jones on Guitar
 Food Provided by: Flock #4
- **March 21st**
 Topic: Fruit of the Spirit: Risk-Taking Mission and Service
 Speaker: Rev. Stephanie Moon, Minister,
 North Middletown Christian Church (DOC)
 Music Provided by: To be announced
 Food Provided by: Flock #3
- **March 28th**
 Topic: Fruit of the Spirit: Extravagant Generosity
 Speaker: Rev. David Shirey, Minister
 Central Christian Church (DOC), Lexington, KY
 Music Provided by: Dayton Harris on piano
 Food Provided by: Flock #2

Joni-Noble Wedding

For those of you who don't do email, you may not have heard that Joni Angus (church secretary) and Noble Burchett are tying the knot at Midway Christian Church (Heather officiating) on Saturday, April 4th at 11:00 a.m. (the day before Easter). It will be a simple, casual ceremony, and you are invited! They are requesting NO GIFTS, but if you wish to bring a dish to share at a luncheon to follow, please do! Joni will be out of the office on April 6 & 7 for a short honeymoon.



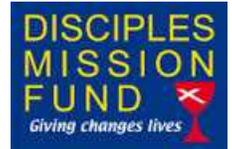
*There will be
 cake!*

Mission News and Notes



Many thanks to the Meals on Wheels teams that served during the week of February 23rd: Etta Manor, Phil Burchell, Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, and the Dares. **Our next scheduled delivery is the week of March 23rd.**

March Mission Payments



Disciples Mission Fund

The Disciples Mission Fund builds a foundation enabling Disciples to globally share the good news of Jesus Christ. This common fund allows the Disciples to pool their resources, accomplishing a greater ministry. One congregation could not achieve this alone. Disciples Mission Fund allows a process of whole church stewardship supporting God-given missions at home and world-wide. They live their theological understanding of Christ's prayer "that they all may be one." As a faithful growing church, Disciples demonstrate true sense of community, deep Christian spirituality, and a passion for justice. *(from DMF website)*

March Mission Project

During March, we will collect items for Birthday Boxes for the Hope Ministries Food Pantry in Versailles:

- Cake Mixes
- Frosting
- Birthday Candles
- Birthday Napkins
- Small Toy



Eternal Threads Thanks You

As a thanks for raising money for Eternal Threads, they sent us a \$25 gift card. We used this card to purchase ten lunches for women in tailoring school in Afghanistan. These women will be able to use these new skills to earn money for their families. If you shopped Eternal Threads at last year's Fall Festival, THANK YOU!



Thank You from Regional Green Chalice



"Please express my thanks to your congregation for the gift of \$100 to the CCinKY Green Chalice Ministry. The gift will help us strengthen and expand the GC's important work! God Bless,"

- J. Gregory Alexander

5th Sunday Offering



Sunday, March 29th

Per our tradition, we will be taking up a special offering on Sunday, March 29th to go to Christian Care Communities, Kentucky's largest faith inspired, non-profit provider of senior living communities and long-term care. Thank you!

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 Co. Food Pantry Ongoing Needs:

- Dried spaghetti
- Crackers
- Pork-n-beans
- Other

Drop box
in the
narthex



Midway Christian Church

123 East Bruen Street

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

Return Service Requested

Easter Flowers Order Form

Name: _____

I would like to order

_____ Lily(s)

_____ Tulip(s)

_____ Azalea(s)

*Cost is
\$10 each*

In HONOR of: _____

In MEMORY of: _____

*Please make checks payable to Midway Christian Church,
with "Easter Flowers" in the memo line.*

Deadline to order: Tuesday, March 24, 2015



OFFERING A CHOICE OF THREE FLOWERS THIS YEAR!