



Vol. LV
No. 3 2020
February 1, 2020

Minister
Rev. Mark Willis
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(816) 616-9746

Organist and Pianist
Emily Yeh

Secretary
Patty Harper

SERVICES:
SUNDAYS:
8:30 a.m.
10:45 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL:
9:30 a.m.
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Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone. We reserve the right to reject submissions deemed incompatible with the mission of this church.

Merriam Christian Church Disciples of Christ

Dear Friends,

The BIG day is almost here. The Kansas City Chiefs are playing in Super Bowl LIV this Sunday in Miami. What a fantastic day! The team has worked hard, and they are about to step on the field for the biggest game of their lives. This moment has come because individual players came together and worked as a team. Each one brought their strengths and did their job to get here.

As we get ready to celebrate a Chiefs victory, we also celebrate Scouting Sunday this Sunday. The scouts, boy, girl, and cub, are organizations that also bring people and their strengths and talents together to do great things. Scouting groups serve our community and our world through projects and volunteering. We are proud to sponsor two Cub Scout packs and our Boy Scout Pack here at Merriam.

Both of these groups remind me of church; this wonderful place where we bring ourselves, just as we are - with our peccadilloes as well as our gifts - and put them together to do the work of God's kingdom.

Church is a place where we are most certainly better together, supporting one another, leaning on one another, helping one another, to be more than our individual pieces. Church is a gath-

ering of people, who having walked in darkness, have seen a great light - and they want to keep following that light.

This Sunday, come join your team, Merriam Christian Church, as we gather with our Scouts, and get ready to cheer on our Chiefs. GO CHIEFS!!

In Christ,
Mark

HISTORY OF CHURCH

Pastor Mark is offering a 5-week class on Sundays during the Sunday School hour at 9:30AM on the history of church - including the history of Merriam Christian Church, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and where we fit in the denominational/ecclesiastical history of the Church as a whole.

This class is to help you get a better understanding of who this church is, and what our journey has been.

The class is open to anyone. Child care is available.



Watch for the next Newsletter the week of February 15, 2020. *Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone.*



“THE BREAD OF LIFE”

This article is taken from the book, “God’s Love for You;” by Billy Graham.

The Forward:

The more I read the Bible, the more I realize that love is God’s supreme attribute. Behind of every dealing God has with us, His perfect love. It was love that caused Him to send His Son to redeem us. His love pursues and draws us to Himself, and His love will some day take His children into His presence forever.

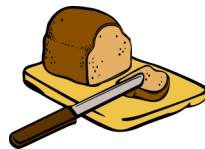
As with other aspects of His nature, we have a difficult time fully understanding God’s love. For one thing, the world “Love” has come to mean almost anything today. We say we “Love” an entertainer or celebrity (although we have never met them, and never will). But God’s love is far deeper than this. His love is not a fancy passing or superficial emotion; it is a profound and unshakable commitment that seeks what is best for us. Human love may change or fade; God’s love never will. He says to us, “I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.” (Jeremiah 31:3 NIV)

Don’t sentimentalize God’s love; however, God’s love isn’t a warm, fuzzy, feeling that ignores sin or shuns judgement. God’s holiness demands that sin be punished--But God’s love has provided the way of redemption through Christ. If it weren’t for God’s love we would have no hope, either in this life or the life to come.

But there is hope, because He loves us! In the following words of God who had reminded the ancient Israelites, (and to you and me):

“I am God, and not man -- the Holy One among you (and you and I)” Hosea 11:9 NIV

Love you all!
Rex & Irene



MEALS ON WHEELS

Feb 4: Joan Tarwater &
Linda Railsback

Feb 11: Rick Ferguson & Susal Neill



SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY

In celebration of our hometown Chiefs playing in the Super Bowl, bring a can of soup to church this Sunday, February 2nd for our Snack-pack program for hungry kids at Merriam Park Elementary.

Wear Red February 2nd in Worship, Wear your Chiefs **RED** this Sunday as we cheer our Chiefs onto victory.!



PANCAKE DINNER

Boy Scout Pancake Supper and Silent Auction Friday, February 7th from 5-8 PM in the fellowship hall . Come get a good plate of pancakes and support our Boy Scout Troop. All are welcome - bring your appetite - \$5 donation at door.



FINANCIAL REPORT DECEMBER 2019

Revenues - \$15,930.00

Expenses - \$16,233.00

YEAR END 2019

Revenues - \$15,930.00

Expenses - \$16,233.00

*However, Taxes and Outreach payments came out of 2020.
So we probably came out even.*

SEND A CARD!

Opal Wylie is celebrating her birthday February 9th. Take a moment to send her a card! She would love to hear from you.

Her address is:
7541 Switzer
Shawnee, KS 66203



DWM NEWS

ATTENTION EVERYONE

Don't forget that Blanket Sunday is coming up soon. Feb. 16th to be exact. LOL Watch for special envelopes for your \$10.00 (or more) blanket purchase. People all over the world will benefit from your compassionate response to this need. Your check should be made out to "Merriam CC" with "blankets" in the memo line. Green paper bills also accepted. We did extremely well last year, and hopefully we will do equally well this year.

Thanks to you all for your support of our programs.

Joyce Luke
Treasurer/Service



OUR GANG CLUB

Next Meeting
February 20th
1:00-3:00



GOD'S CHILDREN RING!

Got a young heart? Come to join God's Children Ring bell choir. No age limit. No musical note reading is required. You only need to be able to read numbers 1 to 7, and alphabet A to G. Rehearsal will be on Sunday from 10:00-10:30 am. The first rehearsal is on February 16.

If you are interested in coming to ring the bells, please contact Emily Yeh. Emily's email is musicblossom@yahoo.com and phone number 816-392-8667.



THE BOARD REPORT

HOUSE & GROUNDS

Chair Joel Beaver reports: Joyce, Michelle, Ricky, and myself met on December 3, 2019.

Moffett house - water heater is out of service/broken. Bob said he would replace it and use one of the two we have down in the basement that are extras (in stock). Will not cost us anything that way. Light that was broken there in kitchen, Bob fixed it.

Sidewalk not level as you walk out past the big Oak tree. Need to get a safety cone or two set out there so people know it is not level. This area of sidewalk will need to be addressed next spring, as well as, the sidewalk with the drain in in coming down the parking lot by the AC units.

Organ broke and we needed to hire a professional to get it repaired. Repair was completed and it is working well. It's pretty loud right now as well. \$575.00 repair with new amplifier installed.

We need to find out where we are with the outside music. Jon B was going to have one of his guys come down, and look at it and give him a report.

Repaired toilet in Fellowship Hall. Bob fixed it.

Kitchen sink garbage disposal was making some loud noise. Bob looked at it Sunday, and it appeared something got down inside of it. He felt all around down inside of and whatever it was is now gone, as it is running normal.

Thanks to Bob for all his efforts, as well as, everyone else who works to keep our facility safe and functioning! It takes all of us.

ONE WORSHIP SERVICES FOR 2020

April 12 – Easter (with Sunrise Service early)

May 25 – Memorial Day Weekend

July 5 – Independence day weekend

September 6 – Labor day Weekend

October 18 or 25 for Congregational Meeting

November 29 – Thanksgiving Weekend/

Hanging of the Greens

December 27 – Christmas weekend



Prayer List



Those Needing Prayers: Opal Seals, Leroy & Mary Wisner, Rex Heavin, Flo Biehl, Heather Waite, Wheaton family, Connie Hennigh

Requests for Family and Friends:

Susie Arnold's friend, Chris Pieschl
Marge Willard's son, Jewell
Pat Reed's neighbor, Charles Delgado
Flo Biehls' brother, Lowell Larsen
Joyce Campbell's cousin, Linda Nichols
Joyce Campbell's brother, Louis Schibel
Jessica Lopez, regional secretary, new house & starting school
Marilyn Near's great-granddaughter
Bob Pape's friend, Jane Lang
Anita Minshew's friend, Daniel Kushman
Wayne & Emily Hooker's granddaughters friend, Ali
Terrence & TyShawn Bryant's mother
Jeanne Bryant's mother
Steve Studyvin's friend, Peter Thies
Alice & Paul Goff's grandson, Adam
Katie Schwenck's friend, Becky - new baby Greta

Praises:

Derek & Cassie Higgins on their marriage
Carol Vann - new great-niece, Lilly Lowery
Heather Waite - new great-nephew, Wesley James
Echo Reinhard - doing well with move to Arizona
Rev. George Campbell - 90th Birthday

Those in Grief:

Family of Evelyn Levens on her passing
Family of Eunice Brown on her passing
Jim Owens & family in the passing of his brother-in-Law, Charles Deane
Family of Vicki Dreutzer on her passing
Family of Shirley Weaver on her passing
Jeanne Bryant's sister-in-law's father on his passing
Alice Goff's sister, Margaret Allen, on her passing
Family of Anna Erisen on her passing
Family of Peggy Layson on her passing

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Names added to the prayer list will remain on the prayer list for one month. Let the office know if a prayer request needs to stay on the list for longer or shorter than one month.

Calendar

Sunday - February 2
8:30 Early Service
9:30 Sunday School &
History of Church Class
10:45 Worship
Monday - February 3
9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB
Tuesday - February 4
7:00 Committee Meetings
Wednesday - February 5
6:30 Regional Cohort-LIB
7:00 Regional CMC Meet-LIB
Thursday - February 6
9:30 DWM-CH
Friday - February 7
5:00-8:00 Boy Scout Pancake Dinner-CH
Saturday - February 8
5:00-8:00 Game Night/Chili-CH
Sunday - February 9
8:30 Early Service
9:30 Sunday School &
History of Church Class
10:45 Worship
Monday - February 10
9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB
Tuesday - February 11
7:00 Board Meeting
Thursday - February 13
4:45-5:45 DS Bus Lines-CH
Friday - February 14 - Valentine's Day
9:15-10:15 DS Bus Lines-CH
12:00 Newsletter Deadline
Saturday - February 15
12:00-3:00 Regional Cons LDRS Camp
12:00 Deadline for March Calendar

90th BIRTHDAY CARD SHOWER

For those of you who remember a previous interim pastor at MCC, George Campbell. His family has requested a "Birthday Card Shower" to help him celebrate his 90th birthday on February 9th.

Please send your cards to the address below.

George Campbell
2901 NE 72nd St., #217
Gladstone, MO 64119





CONNECT THROUGH CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Events:

| Month | Special Event | Game Night | Potluck |
|-----------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| January | | | |
| February | | Feb 8th 5pm to 8pm - BEST Chili Contest | |
| March | | March 7th 5pm to 8pm Snack Food | March 15th after late service |
| April | Easter Egg Hunt 4/4 10am to Noon | No Game Night this month | |
| May | Mother's Day Recognition 5/10 | May 2nd 5pm to 8pm | |
| June | Father's Day Recognition 6/21 | June 13th "Picnic in the Park" 5pm to 8pm | |
| July | Outside Service Merriam Farmers Mkt Date TBD | No Game Night this month | Food Truck after Service |
| August | | August 8th SHRIMP BOIL | |
| September | | Sept. 12th "50's Sock Hop" with surprise event 5pm to 8pm | |
| October | | October 3rd 5pm to 8pm | |
| November | | No Game Night this month | |
| December | Home Bound Tins Prepared 12/19 | No Game Night this month | |