



Vol. LV
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November 23, 2019

Minister
Rev. Mark Willis
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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,

Ten years? Really? A whole decade? Where has the time gone? It is amazing to think that it has been ten years since I was called as your pastor on November 17, 2009. It has been an amazing ten years. We have done some good things, some God-things. We have touched people with grace and love. We have fed the hungry and given water to the thirsty. We have tried to be the church God is calling us to be today in this place. For ten years we have worshiped together and served together and had fun together and worked together to BE CHURCH.

Thank you. Thank you for your commitment, your passion, your ministry and mission. Thank you for all you do to follow God and be church here. I could not have done ten minutes, let alone ten years without such good, faithful people around me. Your faith, and leadership and desire to be disciples drive me to do my best as your pastor. Thank you.

And now, we turn our gaze to the future. What will the next ten years hold for us? I don't know - but I know God is with us on this path. And we walk forward together as Pastor and Congregation, seeking God's purpose for our lives, loving and supporting one another and our community as we go. Thank you for ten wonderful years. I can't wait to see what comes next.

In Christ,
Mark

HISTORY OF THE DOC

I am considering putting on a class in January on the basics of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This class would explore our history, theology and fundamental pieces of what makes us, us, including local history of this church.

Question #1 - Does this interest you at all?

Question #2 - And IF it interests you - what evening or time would be best to offer it so you could attend?

In the past I have done Sunday mornings at 9:30, or a weekday evening around 6. If you would come, when would make it easiest?

Let Mark know - Thanks!

ADOPT A FAMILY

It's that time of year again! We have 9 families to be adopted for Christmas.

If you and your Sunday School class, or family, would like to help a family this year, please contact Carole Prentice or a member of the Outreach Committee.



ONE WORSHIP SUNDAYS

December 1 - Hanging of the Greens
December 29th - Holidays

NOTE: On December 22nd we will have our regular services at their regular times.



“THE BREAD OF LIFE”

Today, I would like to share with you one of my articles of long ago. It is entitled....

LIFE

By Angel Anonymous

And it was taken from an old album of “Don McNeal’s Breakfast Club of Memories.”

Here’s to you all:

LIFE IS A FUNNY ROAD. Man comes into the world without his permission and leaves against his will. During his stay on earth, his time is spent in one continuous round of contraries and misunderstandings.

IN HIS INFANCY he’s an angel; in his boyhood he’s a devil, and in his manhood he’s everything from a lizard up. In his duties he’s a fool. If he raises a family, he’s a chump; if he raises a check, the law turns around and raises the dickens with him.

IF HE’S A POOR MAN, he’s a poor manager and has no sense; if he’s a rich man, he’s a dishonest man, but considered smart. If he’s in politics, he’s a grafter and a crook; if he’s out of politics, you can’t place him because he’s an undesirable citizen.

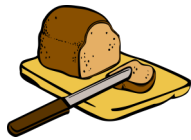
IF HE GOES TO CHURCH, he’s a hypocrite; if he stays away from church, he’s a sinner. If he donates to foreign missions, he does it for show; if he doesn’t he’s stingy and tight-fisted.

WHEN HE FIRST COMES INTO THE WORLD, everybody wants to kiss him; before he goes out everybody wants to kick him! If he dies young, there was a great future before him. But if he lives to a ripe old age, he’s in the way, only living to save funeral expenses.

LIFE IS A FUNNY ROAD, BUT WE ALL LIKE TO TRAVEL IT JUST THE SAME! How true it is.

GOD BLESS YOU ONE AND ALL AND REMEMBER THIS: “THE BREAD OF LIFE IS THE WORD OF GOD, AND TO THE TRUE

CHRISTIAN IT IS NEVER STALE!
AMEN?....We Love you all.



Rex & Irene

Watch for the next Newsletter the week of December 7, 2019. *Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone.*



CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 14
12:30 - 3:00 pm

Children will enjoy hearing Mark tell them the Christmas story and making ornaments to hang on the Church tree, as well as, their home tree.

Christmas cookies and hot chocolate will be served to all the special kiddos. All children of the church or MCC member relatives are welcome to participate. (sign-up sheet is located outside the Church Office). Deadline for sign-up is Sunday, December 1st We’re looking forward to sharing holiday joy with the children.

MCC Elves



DWM NEWS

ATTENTION SHOPPERS

Four bags of hats and gloves, a bag of handmade covers, a bag of books, and a good sized box full of children's books, have been delivered to the JCCB. I always intend to count the hats and gloves, but forget until I have cleared the tree. Thanks to all who brought items for the JCCB. We had a good response, and we are grateful for your participation.

Our service for December is groceries for the Christmas Baskets, but I have been told they think they have enough on hand. However, Outreach gives out food all year, so any donations will be gladly received. Snack items, granola bars, cheese crackers, would be helpful, as we are periodically helping a local Middle School.

Thanks again for your support for our programs. Be sure to sign up for our December 5th party.

Joyce Luke
Treasurer/Service.



ALL LADIES OF MCC

Our holiday potluck luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, December 5th at noon.

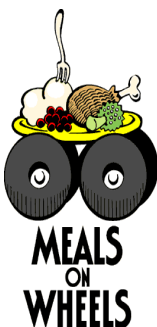
In addition to a delicious lunch, we're planning games, tea towel gift exchange (wrapped with your name on the tag so receiver will know who to thank) and a door prize drawing.

Sign-up sheet is located outside church office.

MEALS ON WHEELS

November 26: Carole Prentice & Anita Collins

December 3: Jim Owens & Pat Reed



Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped provide food and monetary donations for our summer food program, and also for the bountiful food supply for Thanksgiving boxes. It is wonderful!! Fifty Thanksgiving boxes will be delivered to Merriam Park and Crestview Elementary schools for distribution on November 20.

Outreach Committee



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift of \$67.75 to the Annual Fund.

Malisa Pierce
Director of Advancement



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent donation to Cross-Lines! Your gift truly changes the lives of struggling Kansas City individuals & families.

Susila Jones
Executive Director

SAVE THE DATE

December 15th at 5:30 PM
Elder/Deacon Christmas Dinner

More information to follow.....

STAFF CHRISTMAS BONUSES

If you would like to contribute to the Staff bonuses for Christmas this year, gifts should be turned into the Treasurer, through the offering, clearly noted as "Staff Christmas Bonus".

December 1st is the last Sunday to contribute to Christmas Bonuses.
Thank you!

Prayer List



Those Needing Prayers: Joe Myers, Opal Seals, Don & Jo Rudkin, Linda Ruffin, Dorothy Kroh, Francis Shafer, Flo Biehl, Josh Ramsey, Zeke Schwenk, New Song Christian Church

Requests for Family and Friends:

Jeanne Brandmeyer's friend Cory
Donna Rankin's brother, Jerry
The school children hit by the car recently
Bruce Roach's nephew, Ethan Nickel
Susie Arnold's friend, Chris Pieschl
Patti Beaver's brother-in-law, Vinnie Vielia
Bob Pape's sister, Beverly
Marge Willard's son, Jewell
Joyce Campbell's brother, Louis Schiebel
Barry Davis' cousin, Ron Roebuck
Jon Beaver's friend, Robin Gregg
Susie Arnold's & Joan Tarwater's cousin, Joe Washka

Praises:

Terrance Bryant's football team the Outlaws
Beverly McDonald surprise visit & dinner with her best friend
Ryan & Danielle Williamson on their wedding
Donna Ward turned 90, new great-granddaughter, Reese Grace
Donna Rankin has new great-granddaughter, Rose
Nancy Hines granddaughter, Gracie, got married
Taylor & Gabriella McLeland on their marriage
Joyce Luke's daughter, Barbara Kelly, passed Boards for her Master's Degree in Nursing
Lee Kroh inducted into the Santa Fe Trail Hall of Fame, same as President Harry Truman
Jennifer Abbott has a new great-nephew, Landon Dean
Marilyn Near has a new great-grandbaby (3rd one!)
Irene & Rex's son Ernie, new job
Jarrett & Carly Boesche on their marriage

Those in Grief:

Family of Ouida Doss on her passing
Family of Sharon Conley on her passing
Family of Peggy Crawford 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.

Sunday - November 24
8:30 Early Service
9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship
Monday - November 25
9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB
Thursday - November 28 - Thanksgiving
Office Closed
Friday - November 29
Office Closed
Sunday - December 1 - Hanging of the Greens
9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship
Monday - December 2
9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB
11:30 Regional Executive Committee
2:30-4:00 Regional Immunity to Change
Tuesday - December 3
10:00 Regional CMSF-LIB
7:00 Committee Meetings
Thursday - December 5
9:30-2:00 DWM-CH
6:30 Regional Church Planters Cohort-LIB
7:30 Regional-CH
Friday - December 6
12:00 Newsletter Deadline
5:30 Mark-S
Saturday - December 7
2:00 Piano Recital-S

“THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT”

In keeping with my 10 jewels for 10 rules, I've added the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have others do unto you” Eleven perfect words make up this rule. I've chosen the Golden Topaz as the perfect jewel to represent this rule...

“Do unto others as...” begins the rule of the golden topaz “You would have others do unto you” are eleven words tried and true

And appropriately enough, we are now in November, the 11th month of the year. Veterans Day is observed on the 11th day of this month because of President Eisenhower and Rep. Reese who established this day as a way to remember when WWI ended, 11/11/1918. This is the day that we honor all the men and women who have served our country, in time of war and time of peace.

Love & Peace - Beverly McDonald