

THE CONTACT

Midway Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

April, 2008

Church Staff:

Rev. Heather McColl
Minister

Amanda Hatfield
Student Associate

Melissa Askew
Music Director

Ainsley Wagoner
Pianist

Rhonda Rankin
Secretary

Jestine Johnson
Custodian

New Communion Ware and Offering Plates!

On Sunday, April 6th, during the worship service, we will dedicate our new communion ware and offering plates. The new ware is made from a lightweight aluminum material and has a tarnish-free, permanently polished finish. The new set is given to the church by the Wilson Family in memory of Charles S. Wilson.

The Worship Committee is planning on displaying our silver set in our church and it will be used for special occasions like Easter and Christmas.

The church would like to say "Thank You" the Wilson family for this generous and wonderful gift.

New Addition

Congratulations to Karoline Munson and Greg Isaacs on the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth Elaine Isaacs. "Laney Beth" was born March 7. She weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. If you would like to see more photos, Grandma Carole Munson would be happy to show you .



Laney Beth Isaacs

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM: Sunday School

10:55 AM: Worship

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Visit us on the web:

www.midwaychristian.org



Mary May Sayre

Member Spotlight

I LOVE LIVING IN MIDWAY!

Lexington was our address for years and years, but now we adore calling Midway "home". My husband Tom and I were fortunate enough to buy Gladys Rouse's house five years ago when she decided to move to be closer to family. We still have a tendency to pinch ourselves and marvel at our good fortune! Tom is in the horse business

and requires little more than access to an airport, Keeneland, and high speed internet service. I retired after 30 years in Fayette County and try to keep myself out of trouble with a small antique and consignment shop on Railroad Street named May & Co.. Midway couldn't be a better fit for us!

Budget Update

Budget to date: \$111,274.10
Received to date: \$116,673.35

A Pastoral Word

2008 Stewardship Focus: Let God Lead

Visioning and preparations are already being made for the upcoming church year and the ministries that we hope to be able to be a part of in our community, in our church, and in our world. Committees have been asked to formulate a budget for their upcoming church year and to start thinking about how much money will be needed to live out their mission and their ministries. And the Finance Committee is working to try to come up with a way to track and formulate an accurate budget. So for example, if someone wanted to know exactly what we spent on electricity, we would be able to use our handy-dandy computer system, and give this person an accurate amount for KU.

For years, the church has sort of “guess-timated” our budget. Many committees have said, “Well, use the numbers that we had last year and maybe bump our bottom line up a little bit.” And Jack in his dedication to the church and through hard work, has made it all work, figuring out a formula for income and helping the Finance Committee come up with a balanced budget.

As we continue to live out our vision of becoming a more Christ Centered, welcoming community of faith, we realized that part of achieving this vision is becoming better stewards of the generous and plentiful gifts and resources that God blesses us with as people of faith. I heard someone say one time that God has given us all the means that we need to do our ministries and that there is no shortages of resources or lack of talents. The problem is that we are just not good stewards of our blessings.

As part of this process, we are seeking God's blessing and God's guidance for our ministries and seeking God's help in preparing our budget. This year, we are asking each person or family to prayerfully seek God's blessings and guidance for their own financial giving as they make a pledge for the coming fiscal year (July 2008-June 2009).

Our hope in doing this process is that we can have a budget that reflects a faithful and accurate picture of the ministries of Midway Christian Church. When the time comes, the Finance Committee is asking that you please make an estimate for your yearly giving so that we can faithfully celebrate God's blessings upon our church.

Please do not put your name on this pledge. We will not be tracking the pledges. We understand that circumstances in life can change and that you may give more or less than you anticipated. The Finance Committee wants to be faithful to God and to Midway Christian Church with our resources of time, talents, and money.

We are also trying something a little different this year. We are asking that all the members of our church consider where God is leading you in ministry at Midway Christian. What ministries are your passion and what are your spiritual gifts? Is it gardening? Is it hospitality? Is it organizing? Is it working with our children and youth?

As part of us being good stewards, we are called to use our God-given gifts to support and nurture our church family and all of God's children. So as part of our stewardship focus, we are asking our members to think about where God is leading you in ministry and how the church can support your calling as people of faith. And then turn in a “talent card” so that we can help connect your gifts in ministry to the groups that coordinate with those gifts.

The Finance Committee is asking that you place your pledge and your talent card in the offering plate on Consecration Day, May 18th, as a sign of your commitment and your response to God's grace that has been shown to you as a child of God.

Our God is a generous God. Our God is a loving God. Our God has filled our lives with many blessings. And in return, we are called to be good stewards of God's creation, of God's people, and to grow in relationship with God and with each other.

“We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee.”

Heather

MIDWAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



Worship News and Notes

Worship Themes

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



April 6

Third Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Luke 24: 13-35

Sermon: "Continuing the Journey"

April 13

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 10: 1-10

Sermon: "The Voice of the Shepherd"

April 20

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: John 13: 1-14

Sermon: "The Way and the Truth"

April 27

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Scripture: Psalm 104: 1-24

Sermon: "The Earth is Full of God's Creatures"

Acolyte Schedule

April 6— Noelle & Faith

April 13— J.T. & Marcus

April 20— Sam & Will

April 27— Gregory & Clay

May 4— Betsy & Jordan

May 11— Nate & Jack

May 18— J.T. & Preston

May 25— Noelle & Faith

Serving This Month

Elders

Etta Manor

Shirley Eckels

Deacons

Jim Nance, Kit Walden, Jeanne Sturgill, Virginia Ballenger, Ouita Michel, Bob Rouse, Mary Beth Rouse, Bob Settlemire, Sue Roberts

Junior Deacon

Steele Rouse

Worship Leaders:

April 6—Marvin Glover

April 13—Dick Murphy

April 20—Margie Evans

April 27—Nancy Dare

Sunday School



April 6—Video: Walking the Bible: A Journey by Land through the Five Books of Moses

April 13—"What is sin?" led by Dr. Jerry Sumney

April 20—Video: America's Houses of Worship

April 27—Video: America's Houses of Worship

Worship & Wonder Greeter Schedule

April 6—Nancy Dare

April 13—Jordan Batts & Nate Hill

April 20—Margaret Easton

April 27—Ouita Michel

Children's Ministry

Youth Events

- ◆ We're going to the zoo! On Saturday, April 19th we will gather at the church at 10:00. Everyone needs to bring money for admission and lunch. Admission is \$11.95 for ages 12-59, \$8.50 for ages 3-11, \$9.95 for 60+, and free for 2 and under. Also it is \$2.50 to ride the train and \$1.50 to ride the carousel. We will need plenty of drivers and chaperones, so please talk to Amanda if you would like to come along.



- ◆ May 17th will be a return of last year's popular Games in the Park. Come to Walter Bradley Park at 3:00 for baseball, football, sidewalk chalk, jump rope, kickball, bubbles, visits with the Midway College horses, and anything else we can think of. Who knows, we may actually figure out what alligator tag is this year! The day will end with a picnic supper.

Chi Rho

- ◆ The April Chi Rho meetings will be April 6th and 20th. We meet at the church at 6:00.
- ◆ For the April 6th meeting we will have supper before the meeting at 5:30. This is for parents and other family members as well as Chi-Rho members. This will be a 'brown bag' supper—bring your own main course, drinks and dessert will be provided.
- ◆ The Regional Chi Rho retreat is here at last! The weekend of April 25-27 Chi Rho from across Kentucky will gather at Wakon' Da-Ho. The theme is "Light the Fire: Tell the Story" and the Keynoter will be Rev. Micki McHugh, Associate Minister at First Christian Church in Hopkinsville, KY. Youth will "rekindle the gift of God that is within them and tell their own story of faith." They will also be helping get WKDH ready for the summer camping season. We need our registration in by April 18th.
- ◆ Also, Crestwood CC has invited us to participate in a mission trip they are taking to Bethany, WV June 9-13. Mark your calendars!

Vacation Bible School

Planning for VBS 2008 is moving forward. This year our theme is "Beach Party: Surfin' Through the Scriptures." We want to have most of our volunteers together by the end of this month. We need:

- kitchen crew
- registration
- decorating committee
- snacks
- Mission leader
- Craft leaders
- Bible Storyteller (with helpers)
- Assembly leaders
- Individual group leaders

It takes a cast of thousands to make VBS a success. Talk to Amanda to get involved.

Fellowship News and Notes

Keenagers Are Off To The Races

Friday, April 18

Keenagers will go to Keeneland on Friday, April 18. We will meet for lunch at 11:00 am in downtown Midway and then we're off to the races!! Cost for the tickets \$6. Please RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, April 9.



Disciples Men

Disciples men will meet on Sunday, April 20, immediately following the service. Location to be announced later. All men of Midway Christian Church are invited and encouraged to attend!



Disciples Women

Sunday, April 20

Disciples Women will meet on Sunday, April 20 at noon. Lunch will be provided for \$5. We will be discussing future plans for Disciples Women.



Elder's Workshop at LTS

The Elders of Midway Christian Church will attend a workshop at LTS on Saturday, May 3rd, 2008. The workshop begins at 8:30 a.m. with breakfast and will end by 12:30 p.m. The speaker will be [Dr. Jerry Sumney](#), LTS Professor of Biblical Studies.

The workshop will focus on the role of elders. Sumney notes, "Disciples today are uncertain about what roles elders have in our churches. It often seems that they do little more than pray at the Lord's Table, but that seems unsatisfactory. While we often hear they are to be spiritual leaders, most of us remain unclear about what that means".

The workshops will survey the historical role of elders, discuss eldership as a form of ministry, and see how elders can truly become spiritual leaders in their churches.

Registration is \$15.

Disciples Women Retreat!!

The Disciples Women will travel to Christmount the weekend of June 6-8, 2008 for Discovery Weekend. Discovery Weekend Women's Retreat is an annual event co-sponsored with Women for Christmount. It is a weekend of relaxation, spiritual renewal, fellowship, worship, and recreation.

Rev. Amy Gopp will lead this year's retreat. Her theme will discuss ways to put life back into individual and church efforts in helping people, from mission projects in other places to working in local mission through the Church and other agencies. Participants will be challenged to find their place in the work of Christ for "the least of these."

The weekend includes keynotes, discussion, lively music and meaningful worship. In addition to times of sharing, there will be free time for shopping and sightseeing on Saturday afternoon. From rocking on the deck to hiking and swimming, and especially being with friends from other places, there is plenty to experience deeply for every person at Discovery Weekend.

Cost - Early Bird Special: includes lodging, conference fee, & meals (Friday dinner -Sunday breakfast):

Single occupancy \$229.00, Double occupancy (per person) \$169.00, Triple occupancy (per person) \$149.00, Quad occupancy (per person) \$139.00

Please RSVP to the church office by Sunday, May 4th.

Mission News and Notes

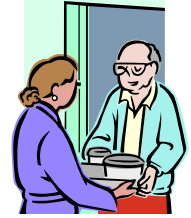
Mission Night

The next mission night will be Wednesday, April 16, 2008. The Cabinet will meet at 5:45 pm and the Committee's will meet at 6:30 pm.

Meals on Wheels

Many thanks to the Meals on Wheels team that served the week of March 3: Charlann Wombles, Buddy & Gertrude Johnson, Priscilla Crutcher, Pat Wilson, Pat Settlemire

The next Meal on Wheels delivery will be the week of March 31, 2008.



Kroger Gift Cards

Don't forget to keep using your visit Kroger whether it is for groceries, prescriptions or gas. To date we have received over \$600 in rebates. Way to go!



Food Pantry



The Hope Ministries Food Pantry is in need of the following items: canned tomatoes, potatoes, mixed vegetables and pork and beans.

Deacons' Meeting

There will be a deacons' meeting on Sunday, April 13th following the church service. Lunch will be provided. We will be discussing the upcoming year and our role and responsibilities as deacons at Midway Christian Church.

Elders' Meeting

The Elders will meet on Sunday April 27th at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Our guests will be the UK Disciples on Campus group who will be sharing their experience on their Alternative Spring Break.

DiscipleU Registration Open Until April 11

DiscipleU is an online learning experience for adults of all ages. Courses are created for an online environment, so computer proficiency is needed to get the most out of a course. This spring the Region offers four courses. Two are instructor led and two are self study courses. Registration is open until April 11. Courses begin on April 14 and last six weeks.

Disciple U Instructor Led Courses are \$30 each.

Our Story: The History and Polity of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Dr. Ron Buck, Instructor

Celtic Spirituality: Touchstone to the Divine

Dr. Barbara Murray, Instructor

DiscipleU Self Study Courses are \$20 each.

How Do I Begin to Understand the Bible?

Rev. Diane Zehr, Co-Pastor, Florence Christian church, author

Beginnings, Generations, Identity: The Book of Genesis

Rev. Dr. Rodney Werline, Associate Professor of Religion, Barton College, author

Nominating Committee Update

Please keep the nominating committee in your thoughts and your prayers as they come together to plan out the slate of officers for the upcoming church year. They will be filling positions such as deacons, elders, and board leadership. The nominating committee is made up by Shirley Eckels, Wanda Alford, Tom Arehart, Etta Manor, and Jim Nance. Phil Burchell and Heather McColl serve as ex-officio members.

Community Notes

Cane Ridge Day: June 28, 2008

Please mark your calendars to attend Cane Ridge Day! An exciting program of worship, keynote speakers and music is being planned. Midway College President Dr. William B. Drake, guest speaker, is scheduled to give an address on education. A bell choir from Raytown, MO is slated to perform.

KY Disciples Women's Spring Conference

April 12, 2008—9:30 am

The Kentucky Disciples Women's Spring "Remix" Conference will be held April 12 at the Holiday Inn North in Lexington. The keynote speakers will be Cynthia Hale, pastor of Ray of Hope Christian Church in Atlanta and Dr. Lisa Davison of Lexington Theological Seminary. Registration for and \$25 fee are due by March 28, 2008. You can get a registration form from the bulletin board outside the church office or on the regional website www.ccinky.net.

Make-Up Lenten Breakfast

Sunday, April 13

We have invited Dr. Jerry Sumney to come and teach Sunday School on **Sunday, April 13** on "What is sin?" This is the Lenten Breakfast topic that we missed due to weather. Please come and join us!

Thank You

Thank you so much for your support, cards, flowers and prayers during my surgery and after. I am really blessed to have a caring and loving church family. God bless you!

Love,

Myra Mitchell

Children's Worship & Wonder

April will be a special month in the Worship & Wonder room. We are inviting anyone who is interested in the roles of Greeter and Storyteller to come be an observer during our regular worship time. This is especially for everyone who wants to explore becoming part of the program but is not ready to make a commitment to the official rotation. W&W is a vital part of our youth program and the more people involved in it the better. Our goal is to have 1-2 people who have never participated in W&W before visit each Sunday in April. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex; interested people may also talk to Cindy or Amanda.

Midway Christian Church as a potential Storm Shelter

Tom Bozarth, mayor of Midway, approached Midway Christian Church in becoming a possible storm shelter for the community of Midway following the tornado warnings that happened two months ago. The idea started when it came to Tom's attention that many of the homes in our community do not have a basement or space large enough for cover during a storm. Dan Roller has met with Keith Slugantz, the EM and County Safety Director, to discuss what exactly will be needed if MCC decides to become a short term storm shelter. The elders have met with Keith Slugantz, and have received permission from the board to further research this idea. They will bring to the board a proposal in a few months addressing the board's concerns and questions. The main idea behind MCC becoming a storm shelter is that anytime that there is a watch or a warning, we would open the basement of the fellowship hall to the community of Midway for cover. If you have any questions, please see the elders or Heather McColl.

Midway Christian Church

PO Box 4548

Midway, KY 40347

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