



Vol. LV
No. 8 2020
April 11, 2020

Minister
Rev. Mark Willis
markswillis@gmail.com Office
(816) 616-9746

Organist and Pianist
Emily Yeh

Secretary
Open

SERVICES:

SUNDAYS:

8:30 a.m.

10:45 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

9:30 a.m.

9401 Johnson Dr.
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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

CHURCH CANCELLED

Due to the stay-at-home order from Johnson County, we have extended our cancellation of all services and Sunday school until Sunday, April 26th.



Dear Friends,
As I write this, it is Thursday, April 9th. It has been one month since we started

practicing physical distancing, including avoiding gatherings and isolating in our homes. For all of us, the world has changed in great and small ways. From restaurants not being open, to one way aisles at the grocery store, a limit of one person per household allowed in stores, masks and gloves being worn in public, and a general ban on all gatherings greater than ten people. It is awe-inspiring how different the world is in one month.

Things no longer feel the same, and they are not. Yesterday, Allen Watts and Emily Yeh and I met to record an Easter service to put on the church YouTube and Facebook pages. There will be no Easter worship in-person Sunday. From the safety of our homes we will watch and join in worship on our screens. Many will say, "it doesn't feel like Easter". And they are right, it

doesn't. But that doesn't change the fact that it IS Easter.

Our current dilemma, this current crisis, can not stop Easter from coming. No more than the Roman soldiers stationed to guard the tomb 2000 years ago could stop Easter from coming. No more than the disciples fear-filled huddles behind closed doors scared for their lives could stop Easter from coming. No, this Sunday, Easter comes to us wherever we find ourselves. This Sunday the dawn breaks, no matter how dark the night might seem. This Sunday the sun rises no matter how many clouds might be in the sky. This Sunday IS Easter - the tomb is empty, the cross is powerless, and Jesus has risen.

This Sunday, awaken with a smile, with your heart full of joy and hope.

This Sunday gather with your loved ones - if not in person, than through the phone or video-chat, and celebrate the Easter arrival. If able, make time, Easter morning to watch and engage in the Easter service online. Make this Sunday feel like Easter, because it is Easter. Jesus has risen! He has risen indeed!

God Bless and Stay Safe,
Mark

MID-WEEK WORSHIP

Here is the week of April 6th mid-week moment of worship with thanksgiving and communion.

Holy Week—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdYmthlqrx0>

Our organist/pianist
Emily Yeh recorded
some special music to
share:



“Were You There” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kIfZFK-KyPw>

Palm Sunday "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2rv05fbtA8&feature=youtu.be>

March 30th—"When I Survey the Wondrous"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yhRIG1fn4M8>

Easter reminds us that hope should never be lost for as dark the road may seem, there always lies light at the end of it. May all your prayers be fulfilled and may wonderful blessings be upon you and all your loved ones on this very special day. Happy Easter.



Submitted by Pam Boyd



**Please share MCC
videos with family and
friends, and ask them to
share with their friends!**

Easter Worship Service On-Line

To join in worship, click here  or go to your internet browser

Enter YouTube, search for Merriam Christian Church – go to our page
and click on the Easter video

Or, go to merriamcc.org and click on the YouTube button and it will take
you to our page

OR, click on the link in the email sent Friday with this service information

OR, click on the link on our Facebook page

He is risen!
Easter
He is risen indeed.

LENTEN STUDY **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor Mark's video links for his Lenten Study class on The Lord's Prayer:

"Our Father"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BMuQMkUEeGA>

"Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYYP-f1xNm0&t=4s>

"Give us this day our daily bread"

<https://youtu.be/0PAUB3IOmWs>

"Forgive us our trespasses"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdrfHzyCHHI>

"Deliver us from Evil"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERK8vzXY55I>

"Thine is the kingdom and the glory and the power"

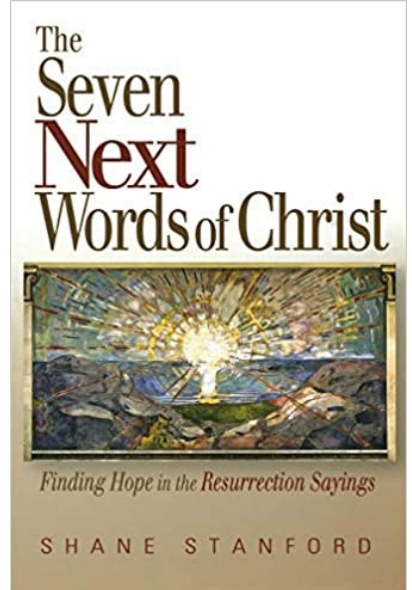
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bqSL4ZQ3ZXk>

Amen

Weekly Study Group with Pastor Mark

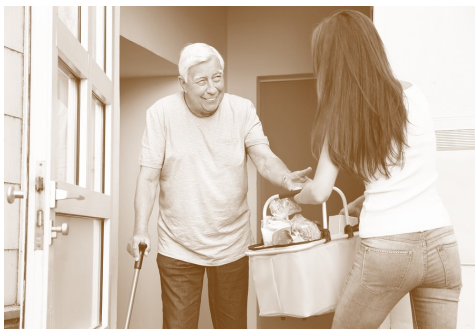
We will start a new study next week on the "Next" sev-

en words of Christ, a look at the first seven things Jesus said after the resurrection. We will be using Shane Stanford's book, "The Seven Next Words of Christ: Finding Hope in the Resurrection Sayings".



**NEED AN ERRAND RUN to
the Grocery Store, Pharmacy,
Post Office, Hardware Store**

**We have volunteers ready to
give a HELPING HAND
Call Mark—816-616-9746
Allen—913-634-8437**



DWM NEWS

ATTENTION SHOPPERS

As you know, we all are to stay home, so you are "off the hook" for shopping for our current service. I am sure we can catch up later. Your safety is more important and the Church is closed so you can't drop off your bargains.

I have not sent the Blessing Boxes money in yet, so you can give me the money at a later date if you still have yours.

Miss you all and stay safe.

Joyce Luke
Treasurer/Service



Sunday Message Library

In case you missed any of Pastor Mark's Sunday messages sent by email, here they are!

March 15th—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y19hsCTajrg>

March 18th—<https://youtu.be/0PAUB3lOmWs>

March 22nd— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zYUxNIOZLys>

March 25th— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0mIDbG1X8A&t=11s>

March 30th -<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6de8K5zFFE>

April 5th— <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nAlZDdWrj90>

Children's Message from Pastor Mark

March 22nd—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI-ILMtKuGU>

March 29th—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQVRcAYzch4>

April 5th—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MsfCZZqsDHk>

Special Maundy-Thursday Message

We have a special message from Chris and our Children's Worship and Wonder lesson. It is a great lesson for children and adults. Enjoy it with your whole family!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqfYROJvqpw>



Children's Worship and Wonder by Christina Stokes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0GQtZIFXMg>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7GWvfZWtTyE&t=112s>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_k0atVH0NuQ&t=2s

****We are canceling the April Regional DWM Dinner to follow the guidelines for Covid19.****



*****Please stay tuned on future important notifications or updates*****

June Regional DWM Dinner
Thursday, June 25
Registration 6:00 PM \$6.00
Olathe First Christian Church
200 E. Loula St.

Olathe, Kansas 66061
Speaker Rev. Dr. Roger Beason

Watch for the next Newsletter the week of April 25, 2020. Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone.





Those Needing Prayers:

Barry Davis, Flo Biehl, Susan Neill, Dorothy Kroh (she fell and broke 3 ribs but is now back at Sunrise rehab in quarantine)

Requests for Family and Friends:

- * Anita Minshew's friend's son, Tom Gryska is in ICU for COVID19. Anita has 5 family members who must keep going into work during this time.
- * Wayne and Emily Hooker's daughter Monica, is a nurse at Children's Mercy downtown. Also their granddaughter's friend Ali, isn't doing well.
- * Joyce Luke's daughter Barbara, is a nurse at St. Luke's South.
- * Connie Hennigh's son-in-law Garland Johnson had to go in for surgery in Newton, Kansas and his wife and kids could not be with him. Also Connie's adopted granddaughter, Nikki Miller is an RN at Ascension Via Christi in Wichita.
- * Connie Hennigh's friend, Sheila Blume has cancer.
- * Mullis "Mo" Denton and his wife Pegi, Jim Owens' close friends at Lakeview, died this week from the coronavirus. There are four more cases at Lakeview of covid-19. Please keep the whole Lakeview community in your prayers.
- * Patti and Joel Beaver have a family member Morgan, who works in health care. She has been diagnosed with Covid-19 symptoms and is in hospital.
- * Bev McDonald's son-in-law's brother tested positive for COVID 19 in Spain.
- * Ruth Capp's son David Marsh
- * Susie Arnold's friend, Chris Pieschl
- * Marge Willard's son, Jewell
- * Lucy & Jim Walker's daughter, Lucy Cox
- * Donna McEndree's granddaughter, Jessica Grote

Those in Grief:

Family of Opal Seals on her passing
 John Smrtic and family on the passing of Ginney (Bethel) Smrtic
 Marge Willard and her family on the passing of her son-in-law Ed Rockers
 Family of Charles Delgado on his passing

- * Nick Hennigh, Scott Stokes, Jon Beaver, Joel Beaver, Bonnie Bohn, Ya Larson, and all the others still going in to work during this time, considered essential, we give thanks and pray for their protection and for all who are still working outside of their home.
- * School bus workers off work, teacher aides/staff off work
- * Medical Professionals, doctors, nurses, nurses aides, ambulance drivers, hospital janitors on the front lines of this pandemic.
- * Grocery store clerks, fast food drive-thru workers, gas station attendants, delivery drivers, pharmacy workers - all going to work and keeping open essential businesses for all of us.
- * Carpenters, car mechanics, plumbers, construction workers, electricians, and all skilled craftsmen going in to work during this time.

Praise:

Caiden Stokes is home from Ecuador! He still has two weeks of quarantine here at home

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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.



Our hearts are deeply touched from all the phone calls, cards, food and visits from our church family for the passing of our grandson Adam. We truly appreciate Mark and all his caring for us during this time.
 God bless,
 Paul & Alice Goff
 Lyn Howe and family

Deuteronomy 31:8

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

No matter what lies ahead, we can rest assured that the Lord Himself will go before us. For some, they will have to deal with the fallout of daily family tension from everyone cooped up together. For others, they face job loss and immense financial stress. And others will have to face loss of family members and dear ones.

Through every trial we face, we can *know* that God walks with us.

Directory Update

Susan Bonjour

7150 Lackman Rd
Apt. 1301
Shawnee, KS 66217
Cell: 913-588-5461

Jo Rudkin

15055 W. 87th St. Pkwy.
Room 218
Lenexa, KS 66215



MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels service has been reduced to Monday delivery only. We will let everyone know when regular service has been restarted



OUR GANG

Next Meeting:
**To be
determined**



Calendar

Sunday - April 12 - Services Cancelled

8:30 Early Service
9:30 Sunday School & Lenten Class
10:45 Worship

Sunday - April 19 Services Cancelled

8:30 Early Service
9:30 Sunday School & Lenten Class
10:45 Worship

Friday - April 24

12:00 Newsletter Deadline

ONE WORSHIP SERVICES FOR 2020

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

If you have a Facebook page, please like the one for Merriam Christian Church. We are trying to keep you updated and share words of faith, inspiration and encouragement. Invite your friends and family to join us. God bless!! Connie Hennigh



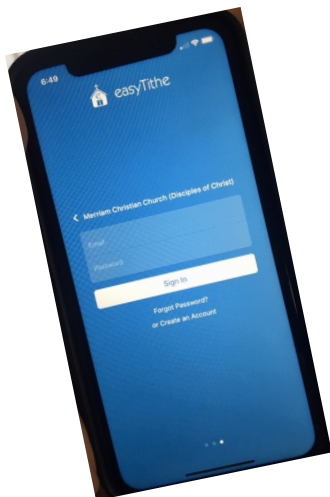
**Opportunities to find deeper powers
within ourselves come when life seems
most challenging.**
Joseph Campbell

Your options of how you may give your tithes and offerings during the “Stay-at-Home” Order.

Merriam Christian Church now provides a number of ways to give.

Write a check. Since we are not able to place CHECKS in the offering plate during worship at this time you can still mail it the church or DROP-BY the church and place it in the mail box.

Have funds **automatically withdrawn** from your bank check or savings account or one-time special donations can be made. Go to: <http://www.easytithe.com/merriamcc> to set up your account. Or go to the church website and click on the new giving buttons: With the “auto giving” option you will be able to designate the amount and the timing of your giving – a specific date each month, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, twice a month, quarterly and annually. You can also designate a credit or debit card versus a checking or savings account.



Text giving: 913-444-6397 through your smart phones

Merriam Christian Church's (SMS) Text Giving Account has been set up. Our account Number is: 913-444-6397. Members of the congregation or visitors can simply text an amount to that number to get started. The first time you give by this method there is a quick form to fill out on line. Any subsequent giving actions will not require the form to be filled out again.

Download the easyTithe app on your smart phone and make a donation, using your debit or credit card, by selecting **Merriam Christian Church** from the drop down list.



Call or EMAIL Allen by 5pm TUESDAY, April 14th and let him know you'd like to participate and how many in your household will be playing.

Once we have that information we will email you a link to your BINGO CARDS—you'll be able to play online with the cards or if you prefer you can print them off and go "old school" with your markers or blotter!!!

At 6:25pm Wednesday everyone will need to call in or connect with our online bingo fellowship hall! Allen will review the games and all the details. He will be calling the numbers.

HOW TO JOIN THE GAME

For those who would like to visit with everyone on line LIVE, click on the link here:



Or paste the link in your browser—

<https://zoom.us/j/576719186?pwd=RUFrZE5jRFFUOTIKMU0zUW1UaDdzZz09>

Meeting ID: 576 719 186

Password: 853332

You can also play by calling on your phone using one of the numbers listed below:

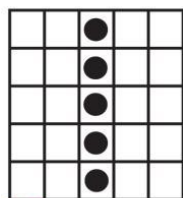
(253) 215-8782

(301) 715-8592

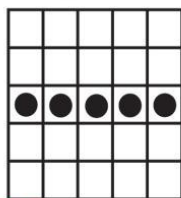
Meeting ID: 576 719 186

Password: 853332

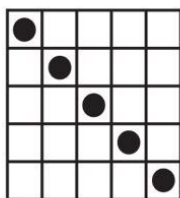
Play 6 ways!



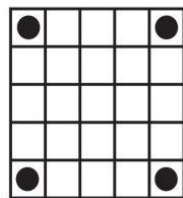
1 VERTICAL BINGO



2 HORIZONTAL BINGO



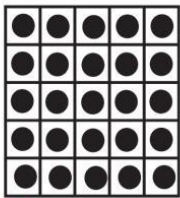
3 DIAGONAL ROW BINGO



4 4 CORNERS BINGO



ANY-WHICH-WAY BINGO



6 WHOLE CARD BINGO