



Vol. LV  
No. 2 2020  
January 18, 2020

Minister  
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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,

What a wild football game this past Sunday afternoon! Our hometown Chiefs dug a pretty deep hole early in the first quarter, but pulled themselves together and came roaring back to win the game handily. And now they go on to face the Titans in the AFC Championship game for a chance to play in the Super Bowl.

An acquaintance posted on social media, they were "glad all those second quarter prayers worked". I am sure they were simply expressing their relief at the outcome of the game and that their team won. But it did get me to thinking about how we pray in regards to sports and teams and events like this. I'm sure we can agree the creator of the universe, the alpha and Omega, probably has no interest whatsoever in who wins a football game. I would hope that as his disciples, our prayers would be centered on the health and safety of our players, on everyone having a fun, safe time at the game, on everyone getting home safely afterwards as the crowd spills out of the stadium, and perhaps most importantly prayers that our players know that we love and support them regard-

less of the final score.

I hope everyone gets the opportunity to watch the game this Sunday. I hope that our hometown Chiefs go out and win. And I hope that all of the prayers offered up are centered on the people God has created, their health and safety and happiness. 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 1, 2020. *Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone.*



## **“THE BREAD OF LIFE”**

Some young person, I know not his or her name, wrote to Max Lucado, as to whether there really is a God. How can we know He truly exists? “Can I know He’s not just A Product of my imagination?”

Max Lucado’s answer:

BELIEF MEANS HAVING A FIRM CONVICTION (“I BELIEVE THE THE CUBS WILL WIN THE WORLD SERIES.”) IT’S THE KIND OF ASSURANCE YOU GET ON A STANDING ROCK. SO HOW CAN PEOPLE GET TO THAT PLACE IN THEIR BELIEF IN GOD?

SPACE: LOOK TO THE SKIES. TWO BILLION STARS JUST IN THE MILKY WAY GALAXY. BILLIONS OF GALAXIES AND EXPANDING. WHERE DOES IT END? HOW DID IT ALL BEGIN?

EARTH: LOOK TO CREATION. SO MANY VARIETIES. SO MUCH BEAUTY. A CIRCLE OF LIFE. HOW DID IT ALL COME TO BE? WHY DOES IT WORK IN PERFECT SYNCHRONICITY?

ETHICS: LOOK TO OUR MORALS. A COMMON SENSE OF RIGHT AND WRONG SHARED BY PEOPLES IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND DIFFERENT TIMES IN HISTORY. MURDER IS ALWAYS BAD. COURAGE IS ALWAYS GOOD. WHO PROGRAMMED US?

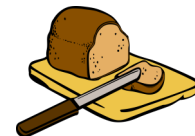
BIBLE: LOOK TO GOD’S WORLD. EXAMINE THE WISDOM. EXPERIENCE THE STORIES. TRACE IT’S PRESERVATION THROUGHOUT TIME. HOW DID IT REMAIN SO WELL INTACT DESPITE WARS AND OPPOSITION?

EMPTY TOMB: LOOK TO THE RESURRECTION. SO MANY OF THOSE WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN THE RISEN LORD DIED WITH THAT TESTIMONY ON THEIR LIPS. WOULD THEY DIE FOR A LIE? OR DID THEY BELIEVE THEY, TOO WOULD RISE?

JESUS: LOOK TO HIM. NO OTHER MAN IN HISTORY HAS CAUSED SO MANY QUESTIONS, STIRRED SO MANY HEARTS GIVEN SO MANY ANSWERS. COULD HE BE WHO HE SAID HE WAS?

GOD IS NOT A PRODUCT OF YOUR IMAGINATION. HE’S FAR MORE THAN ANY ONE OF US COULD IMAGINE AND HE IS TRUTH?” GOD DENIED HIMSELF TO LOVE ALL THAT YOU AND I MIGHT BE SAVED FOREVER!”

Love ya!  
Rex & Irene



# Thank You!

I would like to thank everyone at Merriam Christian Church for the Christmas bonus. I appreciate all the kind words and support you give me.

Sincerely,  
Emily Yeh



### **MEALS ON WHEELS**

Jan 21: Linda & Gary Ruffin

Jan 28: Walt & Betty Bohn

### **SEND A CARD!**

Take a moment during these cold days of winter, and send a card to Roger Hawk. Roger is a long time attendee of our early service, and he used to lead a Bible Study here every week. His health has declined in recent years, and he isn't able to get out and come to church. Send him a card this week and say "Hello!" and let Roger know we love and miss him.

Roger's address is:  
5926 Hadley  
Merriam, KS 66202.



# DWM NEWS

Attention all Ladies and Gentlemen of the Church; our DWM service for Jan/Feb. is "Blankets for Church World Service". Feb. 16th will be the official Blanket day and Mark will do a special message. There will be envelopes in the bulletins for your convenience. A mere ten dollars will purchase one blanket which will give comfort to one, maybe two, people in need. If you can't wait for the envelope, be sure your check is marked for "Blankets".

Also Ladies, I want to invite you to join one of our study groups. We have a night meeting (Sarah) on the third Monday at 6:30 pm and a day meeting (Esther) on the third Tuesday at 12:30 pm. Both groups will gladly welcome new members. These groups participate in the Blessing Box program as well as the Least Coin charity. We have a good lesson and great fellowship. Visit one or both and check us out.

Joyce Luke  
Treasurer/Service

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## GOD'S CHILDREN RING!

Got a young heart? Come to join God's Children Ring bell choir. 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](mailto:musicblossom@yahoo.com).



# THE BOARD REPORT

## MERRIAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH OUTREACH TEAM

Our team for 2020 is Carole Prentice, Chair, Pam Boyd, Jan Pankey, Irene Heavin, Jackie Watts and Maggie Howard.

Yearly totals for outreach have been completed. Many years ago our church board determined the outreach giving at 10% of received income. This is divided by percentages between world and local outreach. The budget for local outreach agencies was \$2,850, our actual giving was \$3,908.58 as the income received made it possible. Local agencies receiving funding from our church are Salvation Army, Hospice, Crosslines, City Union Mission, Community and Family Services, Shawnee Community Services, Cancer Action and Safehome.

Our Cornucopia each Thanksgiving season, with the help of contributions by the congregation, provides food boxes for 25 families from Crestview Elementary school and 25 families from Merriam Park Elementary.

Projects like this are funded solely by the Make A Difference fund and our congregations generous support and we want to say thank you to all.

Meals on Wheels deliveries on Tuesdays is another community service we participate in and have been doing about 15 years.

If you would like to be part of our team of volunteers, see one of our team members or Pastor Mark.

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## 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, Rick Ferguson, Flo Biehl, Heather Waite

## Requests for Family and Friends:

Susie Arnold's friend, Chris Pieschl  
Pat Reed's neighbor, Charles Delgado  
Irene & Rex Heavin's granddaughter, Amanda Hamm  
Lucy & Jim Walker's daughter's father-in-law,  
Ron Stewart  
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

## Praises:

Derek & Cassie Higgins on their marriage

## Those in Grief:

Family of Gilda Cauley on her passing  
Cara Lee Dickerson's family on her passing  
Family of Evelyn Levens on her passing  
Family of Eunice Brown 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.

**GOD'S WORDS ARE NOT  
FOR ME TO EDIT AND TINKER WITH,  
BUT TO BELIEVE AND OBEY.**

**A.W. TOZER  
A MAN OF GOD**



## Calendar

Sunday - January 19

8:30 Early Service

9:30 Sunday School &

History of Church Class

10:45 Worship

Monday - January 20

9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB

2:30 Regional Immunity to Change-LIB

6:30 Sarah

Tuesday - January 21

12:30 Esther

Thursday - January 23

4:30 Regional Interim Minister Mtg-LIB

Friday - January 24

9:15-10:15 DS Bus Lines-CH

12:30-1:30 DS Bus Lines-Ch

Sunday - January 26

8:30 Early Service

9:30 Sunday School &

History of Church Class

10:45 Worship

Monday - January 27

9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB

I have decided  
to stick with

love.

Hate is too big  
a burden to bear.

*Martin Luther King Jr.*





## 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	