



Vol. LV
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January 4, 2020

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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,

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." - John 1:1-5

We made it. The long night of waiting and anticipation has ended. The sun has risen. The new day has dawned upon us. Christ has come! We gather this Sunday with the magi from afar to seek this new child, this new king who has come to save his people.

As we step into this new year God has blessed us with, let us fully embrace our journey to find the new king. Wherever this year might take us, whatever moments we might go through together, whatever may come - this is a new chance to BE church to our community and world. As I write this, this is January 2nd - meaning we have 364 more opportunities to touch someone with God's grace. Go out

today, tomorrow, this week and BE the church - do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

Happy New Year!

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 Great 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.



MEALS ON WHEELS

Jan 7: Rick Ferguson

Jan 14: Glen & Dixie Wheaton

Watch for the next Newsletter the week of January 18, 2020. Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone.



“THE BREAD OF LIFE”

Every good Christian loves good bread, “The Bread of Life.” It’s because this kind of Bread is “The Word of God,” and all of us sincerely needs the “Word of God, now and always.” The article below is taken from “THE APPLICATION BIBLE COMMENTARY,” and from the Gospel of “John.”

INTRODUCTION

“He spoke, and galaxies whirled into place, stars burned the heavens, and planets began orbiting their suns--words of awesome, unlimited, unleashing power.

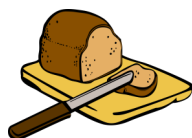
Again He spoke, and man and woman were formed, thinking, speaking, and loving words of personal and creative glory. Eternal, infinite, unlimited--He was, is, and always will be the Maker and Lord of all the exists.

And then He came in the flesh to a tiny spot in the universe called planet Earth--the mighty Creator becoming part of His creation, limited by time and space & susceptible to age, sickness, and death. Propelled by love, He came to rescue and save, offering forgiveness and life.

He is the Word: He is Jesus Christ. It is this truth that the apostle John presents in this book. John’s Gospel is not a life of Christ; it is a powerful argument for the Incarnation, a conclusive demonstration that Jesus was, and is, the very Heavensent Son of God and the only source of ETERNAL LIFE.”

MAY JESUS CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH HAVE A MORE COMPELLING CLAIM UPON OUR LIVES THAN EVER BEFORE. AFTER ALL, EVERY TRUE CHRISTIAN IS ONE BEGGAR TELLING ANOTHER BEGGAR HOW AND WHERE TO GET BREAD!

Love to all...Amen
Rex & Irene



Thank You!

Thank you for the wonderful container of Christmas cookies. I am still enjoying them.

Dorothy Kroh

HELP WANTED

If you know of anyone interested in being a substitute nursery attendant, please contact Pam Boyd.

Their services would only be needed when Maria is not available on a Sunday morning.



WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Worship Committee will meet Tuesday night at 7:00 in the Library.

We will take down our Christmas decorations around 10:00 Wednesday morning.

Worship Committee

MICAH MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT

Our children’s clothing volunteers are in need of the following for our Micah kiddos.

Boys: sizes 3-18 long sleeve winter shirts & T’s

Girls: sizes 24 months -2 (all types of warm, winter clothing & size 7 underwear.

We appreciate the help!!

Tashina Schimming
Ministry Assistant
816-231-0016 (office)



Prayer List



Those Needing Prayers: Joe Myers, Opal Seals, Leroy Wisner, Rex Heavin, Rick Ferguson

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
Pat Reed's nephew, Maverick
Owner of Pegah's, Moe
Irene & Rex Heavin's niece, Kim Gibbons
Emily Hooker's granddaughter's friend, Ally
Marge Willard's son, Jule

Praises:

Tyson & Kailey Brehm on her wedding
Carol Vann's niece, Beatrice Patterson, performing
in Nutcracker

Those in Grief:

Family of Gilda Cauley on her passing
Cara Lee Dickerson's family on her passing
Family of Irvin Clevenger on his passing
Allen & Jackie Watt's son's friend, Joe Hostig, on his
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 - January 5
8:30 Early Service
9:30 Sunday School & History of Church
10:45 Worship
Monday - January 6
9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB
Tuesday - January 7
7:00 Committee Meetings
Wednesday - January 8
10:00 Worship Committee-Take down
decorations
6:30 Regional Cohort
Saturday - January 11
10:00 Regional DWM Cabinet-Upstairs
Sunday - January 12
8:30 Early Service
9:30 Sunday School & History of Church
10:45 Worship
Monday - January 13
9:00-12:00 Finance-LIB
Tuesday - January 14
7:00 Board Meeting
Wednesday - January 15
12:00 February Calendar Deadline
Thursday - January 16
1:00-3:00 Our Gang
4:45-5:45 DS Bus Lines-Ch
Friday - January 17
9:15-10:15 DS Bus Lines-CH
12:00 Newsletter Deadline

A PEARL FOR PEACE

This is the time of year we honor the Prince of Peace. Jesus is also called the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. But as a baby, He begins as a Prince and He brings to the world the hope for peace.

On December 7, 1941, hope for peace was shattered on US Territory. Pearl Harbor became a story that would live in Infamy. Seventy-eight years have healed the hostilities between the U.S. & Japan. But back then, just eighteen days before Christmas, the lives of thousands were shattered. But we have moved on and can put that tragic chapter of horror behind us. People the world over still hope for world peace.

Christmas is a time for peace. Not only among family members. We must teach our children that peace begins in the family we grow up in. We must appreciate harmony and not take love for granted among the people closest to us.

When life is good, we say "The world is our oyster." Likewise, we can say to our children: The world is your oyster, in your oyster a pearl. Be a boy or a girl bringing peace to the world. Jesus Christ, our Prince of Peace, our Pearl.

Peace to the world and joy to the world, and Merry Christmas, Friends.
Bev McDonald



*Author and lecturer Leo Buscaglia once talked about a contest he was asked to judge.
The purpose of the contest was to find the most caring child.*

The winner was:

1. A four-year-old child, whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman, who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his mother asked him what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy just said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry.'
2. Teacher Debbie Moon's first graders were discussing a picture of a family. One little boy in the picture had a different hair color than the other members. One of her students suggested that he was adopted. A little girl said, 'I know all about adoption, I was adopted.' 'What does it mean to be adopted?', asked another child. 'It means', said the girl, 'that you grew in your mommy's heart instead of her tummy!'
3. On my way home one day, I stopped to watch a Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first base line, I asked one of the boys what the score was 'We're behind 14 to nothing,' he answered with a smile. 'Really,' I said. 'I have to say you don't look very discouraged. "Discouraged?', the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face. 'Why should we be discouraged? We haven't been up to bat yet.'
4. Whenever I'm disappointed with my spot in life, I stop and think about little Jamie Scott. Jamie was trying out for a part in the school play. His mother told me that he'd set his heart on being in it, though she feared he would not be chosen. On the day the parts were awarded, I went with her to collect him after school. Jamie rushed up to her, eyes shining with pride and excitement. 'Guess what, Mom,' he shouted, and then said those words that will remain a lesson to me....'I've been chosen to clap and cheer.'
5. An eyewitness account from New York City on a cold day in December, some years ago: A little boy, about 10-years-old, was standing before a shoe store on the roadway, barefooted, peering through the window, and shivering with cold. A lady approached the young boy and said, 'My, but you're in such deep thought staring in that window!' 'I was asking God to give me a pair of shoes,' was the boy's reply. The lady took him by the hand, went into the store, and asked the clerk to get half a dozen pairs of socks for the boy. She then asked if he could give her a basin of water and a towel. He quickly brought them to her. She took the little fellow to the back part of the store and, removing her gloves, knelt down, washed his little feet, and dried them with the towel. By this time, the clerk had returned with the socks. Placing a pair upon the boy's feet, she purchased him a pair of shoes. She tied up the remaining pairs of socks and gave them to him. She patted him on the head and said, 'No doubt, you will be more comfortable now.' As she turned to go, the astonished kid caught her by the hand, and looking up into her face, with tears in his eyes, asked her: 'Are you God's wife?'

Hope this put a smile on your face. It Sure did mine!

Thank you Margaret Andrews for sharing this with us!

