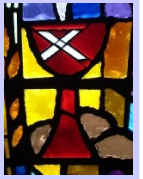


MERRIAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



Dear Friends,
With our first Virtual Regional Assembly fast approaching, I wanted to share Rev. Dr. Bill Rose-Heim's recently received letter with all of you:



*"Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me."*

Psalm 51:10 (NIV)

September 15, 2020

Dear Disciples of Christ.

We are pleased to provide you with additional information about our first ever digital Regional Assembly! By now you have likely seen the emails or visited www.kcdisciples.org and know that this will be like no other gathering of Greater Kansas City Disciples.

This is a pivotal time. We have learned over the past seven months we are able to be the Church outside our church campuses. New visitors—some from across the nation—tune into our live streaming services of worship. Just as we did when our congregations were first forming we are finding ways to work more closely together to assure that Christ still has a healthy Body in the coming decades through whom to love, heal and forgive.

The challenges of our time have much in common with the challenges faithful people faced when Jesus called the first disciples. We do what they did though with different technology. We pause to take an honest look at ourselves, the Church and our communities. We re-engage with the sacred texts like Psalm 51:10 and ask God to renew within us a clean and steadfast spirit.

If you have not already done so, please visit www.disciples.org for information and registration for the many opportunities to engage in that necessary renewal together. Just as with the first disciples of Jesus in their time, God has expressed confidence in our capacities to be just as faithful, loving, and committed to carrying out the Great Commission. Let us honor God's placing us all in positions of influence in this time and place and participate in the work of the Spirit already underway. This could be for all of us a life-giving experience of partnership with God.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

William B. Rose-Heim

William B. Rose-Heim
Regional Minister and President

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

Organist and Pianist
Emily Yeh

Secretary
Open

SERVICES: SUNDAYS:

8:30 a.m. Suspended
10:00 a.m.

10:45 a.m. Suspended
SUNDAY SCHOOL:
9:00 a.m.

9401 Johnson Dr.
Merriam, KS 66203

(913) 432-2390 &
(913) 432-5676

E-mail

merriamchristian@gmail.com
www.merriamcc.org

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.

Calling ALL Members and Friends of the Greater Kansas City Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)! We are so very EXCITED to invite you to participate in the 2020 Virtual Regional Assembly. The theme is RENEW. The theme scripture is: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Though we may not gather in person, we are creating multiple opportunities for us to connect online via Zoom and Facebook LIVE. We are going to have a four part Regional Assembly in order to reach as many people as possible across the life of the region and beyond.

Please register TODAY! There is no registration fee; however, we invite you to make a donation to the region to support the ministry of our region as we support congregations across the region. We also ask you to purchase a RENEW T-Shirt to wear during the Regional Assembly Worship on Saturday, October 3. A portion of the proceeds from your T-Shirt purchase will go to an outreach ministry of the region. **THANK YOU** in advance for your participation, sharing, and gifts!



REGISTRATION SCHEDULE

SAT, SEPT 19TH - RENEW THROUGH FELLOWSHIP

Option 1- Disciple Women- 10AM

Disciple Women from congregations across the region will gather online for fellowship and inspiration

Option 2- Disciple Men-10AM

Disciple Men from congregations across the region will gather online for fellowship and inspiration

Option 3 - YOUTH-10AM

YOUTH from congregations across the region will gather online for fellowship and inspiration

SAT, SEPT 26TH - RENEW THROUGH EQUIPPING

EQUIP- EVANGELISM-10AM

Prepare to be equipped for Evangelism in the 21st Century

EQUIP- Theology of Digital Ministry-11AM

Prepare to be equipped to discuss Theology of Digital Ministry

Community Organization Panel-12PM

We will hear from community organization leaders from across Greater Kansas City

EQUIP-Building an Inclusive Community-1PM

Prepare to engage in conversation about Building an Inclusive Community

EQUIP-The Green Life-2PM

Prepare to learn ways your congregation can live the Green Life

FRIDAY OCT 2 -RENEW THROUGH CREATIVITY

The Authors Round Table-6PM

Come hear the stories of our authors of the Greater Kansas City Region

SATURDAY OCT 3 - REGIONAL ASSEMBLY WORSHIP

WORSHIP CELEBRATION -10:00 AM

Join us for an exciting worshipping experience!

We will also prayerfully discern and vote on the business of the region!

[Virtual Regional Assembly Registration](#)

[Support the GKC Region with your T-Shirt Order](#)

KCDISIPLES.ORG
[WEBSITE](#)

[DONATE](#)

[PRINTABLE FLYER TO SPREAD THE WORD](#)

Important Note:
Link to order T-Shirts will expire on Oct. 5th.

Pastor Mark's
Prayerful Meditation
mid-week video (9/9)

Take a few minutes, place your day on pause and dwell in God's word. Click on the image here.

This week's meditation comes from Psalm 93



Our teams are delivering Meals On Wheels again!

“THANK YOU” to all of our dedicated drivers!

Carole Prentice



Summer Snackpacks

We continue our annual summer program of providing food for 6 families, with 19 children and 34 people overall at Merriam Park Elementary.



◆ Hygiene Kits

You can buy these items and donate them by dropping them in the shopping carts at church or you can donate funds to Make-a-Difference to support this ministry and the purchase of needed food.

THANK YOU for Your Support of this VITAL Ministry!

A PRAYER FOR ALL SCHOOL CHILDREN TEACHERS, STAFF and ADMINISTRATORS

Dear Lord, we pray for the elementary students and teachers going back into schools this year. We pray for their health and safety as classrooms and schools have been modified to allow for proper social distancing and hygiene. We pray for the janitorial staff and cafeteria workers, as well as the office staff; we pray that you would keep them safe and protected from the virus. Please protect the families of the students and teachers as they return home each day; please slow the spread of the virus so that it would not infect these families. Lord, we also pray for energy and rest for the students and teachers so that they would be able to plan their lessons and effectively teach all their students, also that the students would be able to learn and keep up with their lessons.

We also pray for the students who will be doing school virtually from home; we pray that they have the resources they need to do schoolwork at home. And we pray for their parents that they would be able to balance work and watch over their children as they try to be disciplined in live classroom time and the recorded lessons as well as any additional homework. We pray for the teachers who have to switch to online learning formats that they would be able to have the resources and technology training they need. Please give the teachers, students, and parents the patience they need for this new type of schooling that they could all work together to accomplish what needs to be done. We pray for kind reactions and gratitude for the work that is still able to be done.

Thank You that You are sovereign over all things, Lord. May you guide and bless this school year that all touched by it are strengthened, emboldened, and challenged in new way. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ we do pray, amen.



Click the image to learn more on how to get involved in the community

Pastor Mark's Message

In case you missed any of Pastor Mark's messages sent by email, here are the last two weeks!

INCLUDES Children's Message!

Sept. 13, 2020 "How Many Times"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7mABeJN02E&t=1046s>

Sept. 20, 2020 "They Did Not Know What it Was"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9cwydlYGh8>

Children's Worship and Wonder by Christina Stokes

Aug. 30, 2020 "Joseph and His Dreams"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ve1i5fjxtKg&t=2s>



Sept. 6, 2020 "Moses & the Burning Bush"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6meole6d0A&t=2s>



Click the image to get involved in the life of the church

Watch for our next Newsletter on September Oct 9, 2020. *Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone.*

MCC VIDEO LIBRARY

For all of Mark's video sermon messages and children messages & Christina's Worship and Wonder videos please click this button



DON'T FORGET TO SHARE study sessions and Sunday Services with someone.

DWM NEWS

Hi ladies.

It's me again. Checking in. We started Sept. with \$2,794.15, added \$30.00 income, and spent \$50.00, our last installment to Disciples Mission Fund. This currently leaves us with \$2,774.15.

Seven of us from MCC attended the area DWM meeting at First Christian in Olathe. The speaker was a NASA Engineer who lives in Lee Summit and works from home. She gave us a overview of what she works on and it was quite interesting. Hope those who could, watched at home via Live Streaming. Next month, Oct. 22, our evening meeting will be at Countryside CC and that program sounds very interesting too. Hope you can attend.

That's all folks. Stay safe and see you Sunday with masks on. LOL
Joyce Luke
Treas/Serv

August 2020 Finance Report

Revenues \$ 18,865.00
Expenses \$ 14,455.00

THANK YOU ALL
for your continuing generosity
during this difficult time.

Your Treasurer

Committee Budgets for
2021 are DUE to Dixie
Wheaton NO LATER
THAN October 1st.

*Multiple options of
how you may give
your tithes and offerings*

Write a check. You can mail your check to
the church or DROP-IT in our 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.easytithes.com/
merriamcc](http://www.easytithes.com/merriamcc) to set up your account. Or go
to the church website and click on the
new giving buttons

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

Calendar

Sunday - October 4

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 1
Liturgist Connie Hennigh

Sunday- October 11

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 2
Liturgist Joyce Luke

Thursday - October 15

5pm Newsletter Deadline

Sunday - October 18

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 3
Liturgist Bruce Roach

Sunday - October 25

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 4
Liturgist Jim Owens

**Annual
Congregation
Meeting
October 18th
following
OUTDOOR*
10am Service**
* weather permitting

Memorial Committee Minutes

September 8, 2020

A banner depicting the sun burst used at Easter time has been hung over the stairwell to the sanctuary. The sun burst was designed by Jim Owens a number of years ago. The banner is a living memorial from the Jim Owens family.

Monies from the Memorial accounts have been used towards the replacement of the sign in front of church that was damaged by a car in March. Donations from others have been added to these funds to pay for the sign.

The accounts used are:

Charles & Donna Ross	387.59
Rev. Bob Seals	713.32
Opal Seals	165.00
Jane Beaver	1070.00
Cara Lee Dickerson	1025.00
Gene Dickerson	360.00
Sheri Howe	135.00
Myra Jenks	1165.00
Mary Kincaid	225.00
Lee Kroh	25.00
Bob Minshew	500.00
Ed Roebuck	880.00
Jeane Roebuck	1635.00
Ginny Bethel Smrtic	500.00
Betty Thompson	100.00
Arnie Ward	<u>200.00</u>
Total	\$9085.91



***THANK YOU EVERYONE
FOR YOUR GENEROUS
DONATIONS!***

Pages for the Memorial Books will be added for each person when the date of the dedication is known.

This leaves a total of \$1,857.63 in the Memorial account. These monies have been designated for either music or camp use.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Hooker



As Covid numbers rise, we pray for all those who are sick, for their families, and for the healthcare professionals shepherding them through this difficult disease. We pray for healing, for comfort, and for strength as we work together to overcome this moment.

Those Needing Prayers

- **Walt Bohn** had melanoma surgery on his hands and is recovering.
- **Leroy Wisner** had a procedure done on his kidneys and is back at Brookedale recovering.
- **Betty Cline** continues to rehab her broken leg at Lakeview.

Requests for Family and Friends:

- **Rex** and his family on the occasion of his brother's remains being identified and returned from his death at Pearl Harbor 80 years ago. Rex and his family were able to have a funeral service with military honors.
- **Pam Boyd's nephew Jeff Cruce** has contracted Covid-19.
- **Bruce Roach's friend and fellow soldier Nathan Muntz** has contracted Covid-19.
- **Maria Vega, our nursery attendant**, and her children were diagnosed with COVID. Her children are doing better but Maria continues to struggle.
- **Wendy Manthe's daughter Jennifer Florez**, is having some health concerns necessitating her being on oxygen full time. Wendy Manthe's other daughter Tiffany Bush was in the hospital recently and is now working with a pulmonologist and cardiologist on some concerns.
- **Jan Pankey's nephew Alvis Shelton** was diagnosed with lung cancer.
- **Linda Railsback's sister, Ann**, has been suffering with shingles for seven weeks now and is in a lot of pain. Please keep Ann in your prayers.
- Heather Waite asked for prayers for her niece, **Natalie Harmen**.
- **Jessica and Todd Diehl & Brandon and Sandra Jones, 2 couples** for whom I performed a wedding this past weekend, as they begin their life together as husband and wife.
- **Gene Reifirst**, a former member, recently passed away recently. Please keep Penny and the Reifirst family in your prayers.

- **Ruth Capp's daughter Debbie** passed away. Please keep the Capp family in your prayers.
- We pray for all peace, understanding, and compassion in our nation during this election season. May we not see one another as enemies and adversaries, but as brothers and sisters, united in passion to make our country better even as we are separated by ideologies. May we remember to love our neighbor and our enemy alike, and approach these next few weeks with humility, patience, and kindness to serve one another.
- We pray for all those who are sick, or are afraid they will get sick. We pray for all those without adequate health insurance who live in fear of injury or disease. We pray for all those on the front lines, healthcare professionals putting their lives at risk to serve. We pray for all the scientists working to find answers and a vaccine. May God's healing spirit be upon our world during this pandemic.
- For all those whose employment is being affected, changed, and hampered by the current crisis. Let them not walk alone in this scary time, but let them feel the prayers and support of the great cloud of witnesses surrounding them as they traverse this difficult path.
- For our churches as they navigate this new normal. Help us to find our way forward to be the serving living embodiment of the Body of Christ.

PRAISE

- **Congratulations to Jim & Lucy Walker on their 65th Anniversary.**
- **Nick Hennigh** is coming in off the road after twenty+ years of over-the-road truck driving. He has taken a new job which will allow him to be home each night. What a blessing!
- **Beverly McDonald's daughter, Dr. Aubry McDonald** is pregnant with her first child! Congrats to the new grandmother and mother!

++++

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.



hello
October

**Join us on October 18th
following the
Annual Congregational
Meeting
For
Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
Fellowship and Fun!**

CURBSIDE or TABLE SERVICE

(in the church parking lot with appropriate social distancing)

Love Offering will be accepted

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

Call Allen Watts

913-634-8437

It's Time for our Annual Cornucopia!

**We are gathering food for the
children and their families at
Merriam Park and Crestview
Elementary Schools.**

**As in past years you can help
by donating
non-perishable foods or money
for the purchase of food.**

**Watch for more information the
first Sunday in October!**

Did you know that there is a member of the congregation that has a love for butterflies! Look at these amazing pictures she has taken of one of God's most spectacular creations. We'll share more about our resident [Lepidopterist](#) in the next newsletter!








OCTOBER 2019



OCTOBER

Opal

hope

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Room Codes:</i> <i>C-Chapel</i> <i>S-Sanctuary</i> <i>CH-Campbell</i> <i>Hall</i> <i>DP-Disciple</i> <i>Place</i></p>	<p><i>B-Berea</i> <i>R-Roundtable</i> <i>L-Library</i> <i>P-Pioneer</i> <i>YR-Youth Room</i> <i>OB-Out of Building</i></p>			1	2	3
<p>4 <i>10:00 Worship</i></p>	<p>5 <i>9-12 Finance-LIB</i></p>	<p>6 <i>7:00 Committee Meetings</i></p> 	7	8	9	10
<p>11 <i>10:00 Worship</i></p>	<p>12 <i>9-12 Finance-LIB</i></p>	<p>13 <i>7:00 Board Meeting</i></p> 	14	15	16	17
<p>18 <i>10:00 Worship</i> <i>Annual Congregational Meeting</i> <i>Fall Roundup</i></p>	<p>19 <i>9-12 Finance-LIB</i> <i>6:30 Sarah</i></p>	20	21	22	23	24
<p>25 <i>10:00 Worship</i></p>	<p>26 <i>9-12 Finance-LIB</i></p>	27	28	29	30	<p>31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN</p> 

**SERVING TEAM SCHEDULE
FOR OCTOBER 2020**

October 4, 2020 — 10:00 AM

Serving Team —Team 1 Carol Vann
Michelle Land
Emily Hooker
Connie Hennigh

Liturgist

October 11, 2020 — 10:00 AM

Serving Team —Team 2 Carole Prentice
Pam Boyd
Joyce Luke

Liturgist

October 18, 2020 — 10:00 AM

Serving Team —Team 3 Jim Walker
Bob Pape
David Roebuck
Bruce Roach

Liturgist

October 25, 2020 — 10:00 AM

Serving Team —Team 4 Jon Beaver
Pat Reed
Emily Hooker
Jim Owens

Liturgist



Celebrating Birthdays This Month:

Abigayle Willis	Oct 1
Jacque Willis	Oct 5
Michelle Land	Oct 5
Jennifer Abbot	Oct 23
Emily Yeh	Oct 27
Donna Ward	Oct 28



Celebrating Anniversaries This Month:

Ray & Bonnie Bohn	Oct. 4
Mark & Jacque Willis	Oct 10