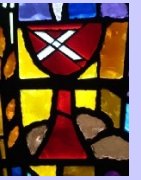


# MERRIAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



**Merriam Christian Church**

**9401 Johnson Dr.  
Merriam, KS 66203**

**(913) 432-2390**

**Minister**

**Rev. Robin Colerick-Shinkle**  
Pastor  
[robin.merriamchristian@gmail.com](mailto:robin.merriamchristian@gmail.com)  
(316) 312-4809 Call or text

**Organist and Pianist**  
*Emily Yeh*

**Secretary**  
*Open*

### **SERVICES: SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**10:00 a.m.  
IN-PERSON**

[ONLINE](#)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:  
9:00 a.m.  
IN-PERSON**

[ONLINE](#)

**E-mail**

[merriamchristian@gmail.com](mailto:merriamchristian@gmail.com)  
[www.merriamcc.org](http://www.merriamcc.org)

**Monthly Newsletters**  
[jnethowe@gmail.com](mailto:jnethowe@gmail.com)  
913-558-6459



'Tis the season for lots of things: Cookie Baking, Family and Friends, Parties, Christmas Music and Caroling, Christmas Movies, Traditions, Hot Chocolate, Sleigh Rides, Silver Bells, Christmas Trees, Twinkling Lights, Fun and...Gifts! Most of us have probably already begun our Christmas shopping, looking to purchase the exact gifts that we want to give. Perhaps you've purchased a new coffee pot or outdoor grill, a Barbie or even some new clothes? Even if we don't have very many on our Christmas lists, we are inundated by stores, advertising, Markdowns, Coupons, Specials, Sales, Deals, Discounts, and all kinds of things we "need." While it feels amazing to purchase the exact gift that we know someone we love wants, we must always remember: this is just stuff. Material gifts are often treasures today and trash tomorrow.

I always remember the scene from the movie Polar Express where the little boy finds himself in the "abandoned toy car" of the train. The little boy learns about the broken, discarded, thrown away toys and how they are unwanted and useless now. He learns that Santa is developing a plan to restore these broken toys to their full glory, so the children will play with them again. While there are several faith lessons we could take away from this, I usually think most about the broken, discarded and unwanted toys- toys that were beloved presents just a short time before. It's a reminder that this is all just stuff. Even the Grinch makes a comment about all the Who's presents ending up in his garbage.

Perhaps this Christmas, you might think about gifts that don't break- gifts that aren't ever thrown away or discarded- gifts that are always in style, fashionable, relevant, unbreakable, and never abandoned. The gifts that don't break are the gifts of Love, Patience, Kindness, Peace, Joy, Hope, Faith, Care, Gentleness and Goodness. When we choose to give these gifts, they are always the exact gift to give and they are never thrown away, broken, or tossed aside. It can be hard to wrap these kinds of gifts and put them under the tree, but these gifts will be the most beloved treasures to those who receive them. Gifts that don't break last forever and bless our lives for years and years to come. I invite you, this Christmas season, in the midst of tinsel, candy canes and ribbon, to pause for a moment and think about the gifts that will last a lifetime. And, while you may still want to purchase that perfect material item for someone, perhaps you can wrap it with a gift that will never break.



*Merry Christmas!*



## Those Needing Prayer:

### Prayer Concerns:

- ◇ Please keep Morgan (friend of Jeanne Brandmeyers) in prayer. She was in a very serious car accident
- ◇ The Bryans- we give thanks for the birth of their sweet girl: Rua
- ◇ Heather Waite- we are thankful for a positive report and pray for continued healing.
- ◇ Joe Myers
- ◇ Nanette Ferguson
- ◇ Sara and her family
- ◇ Eric
- ◇ Susan Bonjour

Pray for peace everywhere. Please pray for our Nation.

Pray for peace and safety in Israel

### **Prayer Requests**

Please contact Pastor Robin at (316) 312-4809 or [Pastorrobin.merriamchristian@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorrobin.merriamchristian@gmail.com) with prayer requests.



## **Worship Sermons**

MCC Sermon [library](#) on YouTube



Children's Worship and Wonder [Library](#)



**Board Meeting**

Board meeting minutes are available on the table outside the sanctuary or by email. Please email the church at [merriam-christian@gmail.com](mailto:merriam-christian@gmail.com) to receive a copy.

### **Sunday Funday Membership Events!!**

The Membership Committee will begin hosting a fun fellowship time after worship on the 3rd Sunday of each month in Campbell Hall. Mark your calendars and signup today!

January 21st—Appetizer social

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

- Write a check.
- <http://www.easytithe.com/merriamc>
- Text giving: 913-444-6397

## Helping Hands

Your Outreach Committee is pursuing an opportunity for MCC's own little free pantry "Helping Hands". Until such time, we would ask for donations of:

Men and women's body wash  
 Men and women's deodorant  
 Toothpaste and toothbrushes  
 Shampoo  
 Pancake mix and syrup  
 Pasta and pasta sauce  
 Peanut butter and jelly  
 Tuna  
 Canned fruits & vegetables  
 Boxed cereals  
 Rice

The grocery cart outside the church office can be used to drop off needed items. Donated items will be delivered to local JoCo Food Pantries.

## Help Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help with:

- creation of the weekly service scripts
- creation of sermon power points
- service bulletin

# DWM NEWS

Hi Ladies,

If you have not yet signed up to go out to lunch on the 21st, it is not too late. The sign-up sheet is on the table as you enter the building. We must give the Thai Orchid in Mission our number meeting for lunch at 11:30 by the 18th. Everyone will pay for their own lunch and I hope for a big turnout. If you need a ride to the Thai Orchid, give me a call.

Another large bag of empty pill bottles was delivered to our pet rescue and they are always very appreciative. This service is the easiest thing we have ever done. Thanks Ladies.

We ended November with \$1,775.66 in our treasury. There have been no expenses so far this month. We will start the new year with a new budget and a new study. Every lady of the Church is welcome to join us.

Season's Greetings.

Joyce Luke  
 Treasurer/Service

## ELDERS SCHEDULE

December 17th	†	Pat Reed
December 24th	†	Jon Beaver
December 31st	†	Mike Nichols
January 7th	†	Pam Boyd
January 14th	†	Bob Pape
January 21st	†	Betty Bohn
January 28th	†	Pat Reed
February 4th	†	Jon Beaver
February 11th	†	Mike Nichols
February 18th	†	Pam Boyd
February 25th	†	Bob Pape
March 3rd	†	Betty Bohn
March 10th	†	Pat Reed
March 17th	†	Jon Beaver
March 24th	†	Mike Nichols
March 31st	†	Pam Boyd

## DECON SCHEDULE

December 17th	†	Walt Bohn
December 24th	†	Rick Ferguson
December 24th 6:00pm		Christmas Eve
December 24th 11:00pm		Christmas Eve
December 31st	†	Joan Tarwater

## LITURGIST SCHEDULE

December 17th	†	Bryan Young
December 24th	†	Michelle Land
December 31st	†	Pat Reed
January 7th	†	Heather Waite
January 14th	†	Jim Walker
January 21st	†	Bryan Young
January 28th	†	Jan Pankey



This holiday season, Merriam Christian Church is helping 3 families, whose children attend Hocker Grove Middle School, provide gifts for their children and gas cards for the families. Additionally, we have

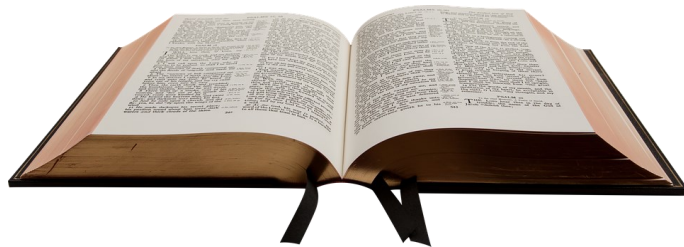
reached out to two local nursing homes and are providing for several residents who need some extra love and support this Christmas.



### Fellowship Coffee Hour

The Fellowship Hour signup sheet is located on the credenza outside the office. Join in sharing this special time

- Dec 17—Sunday Funday (Cookie Exchange)
- Dec 24—The Yeager's
- Dec 31—The Ogden's
- Jan 7—Available
- Jan 14—Available
- Jan 21—Sunday Funday



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Our Sunday School class meets from 9:00 - 9:45 each Sunday. Following our class time we have a 15 minute break to prepare for Morning Worship at 10:00.

We have a nice group and if you haven't started back now would be a good time. Hopefully you will also find this a good support group in many areas.



- December 19th Carole Prentice & sub
- December 26th Walt & Betty Bohn
- January 2nd Pam Boyd & Jan Pankey
- January 9th Joan Tarwater & Linda Railsback

Pick up meals at 10:30 a.m. at the Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater

We are looking for one or two individuals who are interested in helping next year to deliver meals. If you'd like to know more, please talk to Pam Boyd.



We need bottled water to help support this organization who provide meals to those who are unhoused within our community. Bring to the church & we will make arrangements for delivery. Thanks, Church !

Join us in worship on [Youtube](#).



**DON'T FORGET TO SHARE** services & study sessions with family, friends and neighbors

