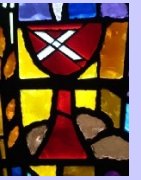


MERRIAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



Merriam Christian Church

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

(913) 432-2390

Minister

Rev. Robin Colerick-Shinkle
Pastorrobin.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

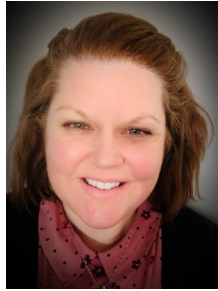
[ONLINE](#)

E-mail

merriamchristian@gmail.com
www.merriamcc.org

Newsletters

jnethowe@gmail.com
913-558-6459



A few weeks ago at the women's retreat, one of the ice beaker questions was for us to pick which season energizes us the most and share why. We had to choose one of four tables to sit at, each with a sign: Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall. There were two people that went to the Winter table; the cold wasn't the popular choice! There were four people who went to the Fall table, who talked about the colors of the leaves changing. The majority of the women chose the Summer table- about twenty-five women who shared their love of the warm summer sun, swimming, bbqs and just being outside. I picked the Spring table, along with about ten other women. Almost everyone at the table talked about the New Life that Spring offers to us- from the cold and death of winter, to the new blossoms and buds, baby birds, longer days, and brightening sunshine. One woman shared that she loves the rains of Spring because it reminds her how God fills us with the Living Water, so that we can grow and be rejuvenated, just like the flowers of the field. Another woman talked about all the newness of Spring time.

Her words reminded me of the scripture in Isaiah 53:18-19. "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." I love this idea because so often we do need to let go of the past, let go of the old, so that something new can grow. It can be very hard to let go of past hurts and pains, challenges, and patterns of behavior. It can even be hard to let go of past successes and victories. Sometimes letting go means grieving or working through layers of feelings, that we carry deep within us. But when we do, we create new space for God to work!

I think this passage from Isaiah tells us that God wants to do a new thing-- Spring up new life within us, but we must be ready for it! We must prepare space in our hearts to receive the seeds God wants to plant. Just like the earth goes through very purposeful seasons and winter paves the way for Spring, we must be purposeful in preparing our hearts, minds and spirits, so that we can receive what God wants to do in us.

The Lenten season is about preparation- we are preparing to receive New Life in the Resurrection! What do you need to let go of? What past hurts are holding you back? Where is the space for God to plant seeds in you?
Are you ready to embrace the new?





Those Needing Prayer:

Continued prayers for **Joyce Campbell, Anita Collins and Marilyn Near.**

Anita Minshew's daughter-in-law, Geralyn Minshew, needs our prayers, has had surgery and is recuperating.

Anita Minshew's neighbor and friend, Patty Sheely, very ill with cancer.

Harriet, another neighbor of Anita Minshew, asks for prayers, ill with cancer.

Ann Dickerson is in rehab.

The Family of **Dorothy Kroh**

Caroline & Bryan Young on the happy news of expecting their first child

Pray for peace everywhere. Please pray for our Nation.

Prayer Requests

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

Multiple options of how you may give your tithes and offerings

- **Write a check.**
- <http://www.easytithes.com/merriamcc>



Video Library

Worship Sermons

March 12th

["Unlocking the Door to Christ: Messianic Prophecies Part 3"](#)

March 19th

["Unlocking the Door to Christ: Messianic Prophecies Part 4"](#)

Children's Worship and Wonder
by Christina Stokes

March 12th

[Jesus and the Children](#)

March 19th

[Jesus and Bartimeus](#)



Easter Lilies

Please have your orders in for easter lilies by March 26th. Each lily is \$12 can be placed by check or Easy Tithe. Please designate if they memory and their name.



The Outreach Committee has decided the best way to support this organization is with a monetary donation. With every \$20 donation they are able to provide \$40 worth of diapers to a family in need. Unfortunately, WIC, Food Stamps nor Medicaid cover diapers. You can donate using easyTithe or with a personal check noting "Happy Bottoms" on the memo line. You can also use this link to donate directly <https://happybottoms-101520.square.site/>



Knitters Needed!

If you can knit hats for babies born at our local hospitals, please contact Carole Prentice. Yard & patterns are supplied.

thank you!

Humble and grateful thanks for the calls and concern shown during my bout with Covid. Many, many thanks to Robin, and to Betty Bohn for her daily

calls; and special thanks to Bob Pape, Elena (Babe), and Alena, for their special attention.

Each and every call meant a lot to me. God Bless!

Pat Reed

Johnson County Food Ministry

We will be preparing 150 meals on Thursday, March 30. There is a sign-up sheet outside the church office for those of you who are able to provide cookies for this event. (homemade or store bought). We would ask that you deliver them to the church by noon on Thursday, March 30. There is an additional sign-up sheet for any of you who are willing and able to help cook and package these meals for the drive up service. I can pick you up at the church at 2pm or meet you at Center of Grace in Olathe. We should be finished by 5pm

Thanks in advance for your help and consideration.

Pam Boyd

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

March, April, May & June 2023

March 26th	†	Caroline Young
April 2nd	†	Michelle Land
April 9th	†	Carole Prentice
April 16th	†	Wayne Hooker
April 23rd	†	Bryan Young
April 30th	†	Betty Bohn
May 7th	†	Jim Walker
May 14th	†	Pat Reed
May 21th	†	Connie Hennigh
May 28th	†	Wayne Hooker
June 4th	†	Joyce Luke
June 11th	†	Betty Bohn
June 18th	†	Heather Waite
June 25th	†	Katie Schwenk

ELDERS SCHEDULE

March, April, May & June 2023

March 26th	†	Bob Pape
April 2th	†	Betty Bohn
April 9th	†	Pat Reed
April 16th	†	Jon Beaver
April 23rd	†	Mike Nichols
April 30th	†	Anita Collins
May 7th	†	Bob Pape
May 14th	†	Betty Bohn
May 21st	†	Pat Reed
May 28th	†	Jon Beaver
June 4th	†	Mike Nichols
June 11th	†	Anita Collins
June 18th	†	Bob Pape
June 25th	†	Betty Bohn

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.

DWM NEWS

Hi Ladies,

Five members plus Pastor Robin met this month. We had a good lesson and a very nice blessing from Robin. Sorry about the four regulars who could not make it for various reasons. We missed you. Our next meeting is the Third Thursday on April 20th. Hope to see all of you.

This Sunday is the absolute last chance to buy a blanket for only \$10.00. This is a good cause we have supported for decades, usually in February. The least coin jar is almost full. This is also a good cause we have supported for many years.

Continue to save the empty pill bottles, can tabs, and old eyeglasses. Very easy things to do for our service projects. We have outlets for all three.

We started February with \$1,870.08 but had no income because we had no meeting. We did have an expense of our first of 5 payments to the Disciples Mission Fund of \$50.00. March started with \$1,820.08 adding income of \$47.00 plus \$10.00 for blankets. We will make payments to the DMF every other month for a total of 5 payments. I will report the amount for blankets when we are all finished collecting.

Thanks to all who support the DWM {CWF}.

Joyce Luke
Treasurer/Service



I WASN'T CHICKEN! ARE YOU?

JOIN THE CHICKEN CHALLENGE

Harvesters egg-straordinary Chicken Challenge!

Harvesters is on a mission to repack an amazing 56,000 pound donation by April 28! Do you want to help too? Round up a flock of friends and sign up to volunteer at www.harvesters.org/chickenchallenge! Repackaging is done in a USDA certified repackaging room. You must be able to wear all appropriate safety clothing and work in a 60° room for the 2 1/2 hour shift. Shifts are scheduled Tuesday through Friday 8:30 AM - 11 AM and 12:30 PM - 3 PM. It takes 6 or more to make a "flock". If you're interested in participating, contact Pam Boyd, she will be making necessary reservations with a qualifying number of people interested.





Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Minutes recorded by
Donna Rankin, Board Secretary

Present in Person: Pastor Robin Colerick-Shinkle, Greg Spiegel, Jeannette Howe, Donna Rankin, Carole Prentice, Pam Boyd, Rick Ferguson, Joyce Luke, Joan Tarwater, Irene Heavin, Anita Collins, Emily Hooker, Michelle Land, Walt Bohn, Bob Pape

Greg called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Jeannette-Bless the Lord at all times

Prayer was offered by Pastor Robin.

Minutes of 02/07/23 Board Meeting: Greg asked the board to review the minutes; Motion to accept report by Bob Pape; seconded by Michelle Land; board vote, approved.

Current Financial Report: Greg asked the board to review the current financial report; Motion to accept report by Carole Prentice; seconded by Rick Ferguson; board vote, approved.

Committee Chair Reports:

Clerk: Donna on behalf of Betty-No change, total membership 137.

DWM: Pam-Due to weather, we were not able to meet in February. We will meet 3/16 at 1 pm. All women welcome. Blanket Sunday is 3/19. This project supports Church World Services. Any donation welcome; \$10 provides a blanket for someone in need. Our “least coin” jar is located outside the church office where coins are collected and forwarded to Church Women United national offices. We continue to collect empty pill bottles (pet rescue organization), old eyeglasses and can tabs.

Elders: Bob-Pastor Robin will choose a date and send notice by email.

H&G: Bob-Air conditioners-McCarty Mechanical completed spring tune-up; replaced a contact in one of the units. Video/Sound system-Kyle, with Bluefox Production, found a bad connection with our left speaker, ordered a part to correct the problem. He will also get the necessary equipment to hook up a DVD player to our system. Parking lot light-waiting on a breakout of prices of installation and parts.

Outreach: Pam-Harvesters-conducted a site visit on 3/10 and informed that we need to have all boxes 3” off the floor. Suggested using their pallets from their deliveries (cut in half). Merriam Park Elementary-They have reduced the number of backsnacks to 40 per week; Harvesters will discuss with them what factors they are using to determine those children in need and report back to us. I attended Caring for Kids meeting in February; nothing new to report. Committee met and discussed the following: A local non-profit Happy Bottoms who supplies diapers to help families. Programs like food stamps, Medicaid and WIC do not cover diapers. Harvesters Chicken Challenge-they received 56K pounds of poultry from Tyson and need help in sorting and packaging this product in their USDA certified repacking room to prepare the chicken for distribution to families in our community. Individuals can register themselves; however, groups of 6 or more can sign up to meet at their facility for 2.5 hour shifts Tuesday-Friday 8:30-11am, 12-30-3pm. JoCo Food Ministry-Thursday, 3/30, cooking and packing meals for 150. Need 25 dozen cookies.

Membership: No report.

Memorial: No report.

Pastoral Relations: Carole-PRC will start meeting, Pastor Robin will provide dates; Pastor Robin

would like to attend monthly committee meetings to familiarize herself with what is going on with each committee.

Worship: No report.

Media: Jeannette on behalf of Bruce-YouTube updates-views from this time last year up by 100 views than normal. Watch time is up 56 hours more than usual. Gained three subscribers last month. Children's Moment views are up 50%. Last month we started posting them on our FB page. February 19th was one of our highest viewed videos next to our Christmas service. More people accessing on mobile phones; possibly indicating a younger demographic viewing but number of desktops/laptops watching remains steady.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Robin-this first month has been a whirlwind of activity! We celebrated Super Bowl Sunday, MCC's 110th Anniversary and my Installation. We also observed Ash Wednesday with a special service, and we are now in the midst of our Lenten Series: Unlocking the Doors of Christ: Messianic Prophecies. This month, I have had the opportunity to begin getting to know members of the congregation and learn more about MCC. Several people have stopped by the office or called me to visit. I have also made several pastoral care calls. I had the honor of attending and co-keynoting (with my mother) the Disciples Women's Retreat weekend 3/10-11. We did the main program for Saturday, talking about Light and Recharging. I also completed the first half of the Interim Minister's Training through IMN, which I had registered for several months ago. It has offered a lot of opportunities for reflection and insight into congregational life. We are planning a Maundy Thursday Service on 4/6 at 7pm. I am sending out Camp Registration to our youth for the summer season. I especially want to THANK EVERYONE for making me feel so welcome and for helping me learn more about MCC! It's been a great month and I am excited for many more months!

Personnel: Jeannette-Caleigh, nursery attendant, will be absent 4/2. Emily and Joe will be attending a music conference and has arranged a replacement for 3/26.

Trustees: Michelle-Walt has been helping with insurance certificates.

Old Business:

Greg-Spoke with Regina Caeli Academy regarding their request to use space for classrooms and informed them it will not work out.

New Business:

Greg-The 2023 General Assembly in Kentucky is 7/29-8/01. Pastor Robin would like to attend. Two representatives are welcome to also attend. Motion to approve representatives' attendance by Rick Ferguson; seconded by Michelle Land; board vote, approved.

Open Forum:

Carole-Outreach Committee also had discussion on providing a helping hand to MCC members, such as lawn work, install light bulbs, etc.

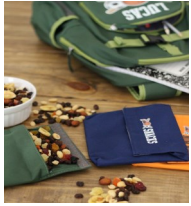
Bob-City of Merriam will be partnering with SevenDays from 4/5-4/16 to make an impact in the community with random acts of kindness. More details can be found at Merriam.org.

Pastor Robin closed with prayer.

Motion to adjourn by Emily Hooker; seconded by Joyce Luke.

Fellowship Coffee Hour

APRIL 2ND	OUTREACH
MAY 7TH	HOUSE & GROUNDS
JUNE 5TH	PASTORIAL RELATIONS
JULY 2ND	MEMBERSHIP
AUGUST 6TH	OUTREACH
SEPTEMBER 3RD	HOUSE & GROUNDS



BackSnacks Program

The BackSnacks program Packers schedule is posted in the food room and on the bulletin board outside of the sanctuary.

April 2 week. Pam Boyd (no school 4/7)
April 9 week. Pat Reed & Linda Railsback
April 16 week. Rick Ferguson

Bags are to be packed during the week and ready for delivery on Thursday mornings

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.



March 28th - Pat Reed & Christina Stokes
April 4th - Carole Prentice
April 11th - Walt & Betty Bohn

Pick up meals at 10:30 am at the Merriam Community Center, 6040 Slater



Thanks MCC for their continued contributions of bottled water which are distributed to our local un-housed community.



Church!

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



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

