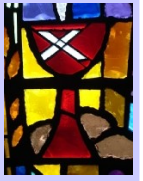


MERRIAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



Dear Friends,

In I Kings 19, Elijah wants to hear a good word from God. It says: "Elijah went out and stood on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

Elijah was in a pretty noisy place in his life and he was having trouble hearing God's voice. He strained to hear God in the wind, in the earthquake, and in the fire. But it was in the sheer silence that Elijah finally heard God in a whisper.

What noise is stopping you from hearing God in your everyday? What commotion and confusion is cutting you off from God's good word for today? Take five minutes and turn off the noisemakers in your life and just sit and listen for God's voice. When you cut out the distractions, see if you can't hear God in a whisper. See what God might be saying to your heart.

God Bless,
Mark

Minister
Rev. Mark Willis
markswillis@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.
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(913) 432-5676

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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.



Board Meeting

Present: Mark Willis, Jackie Watts, Allen Watts, Joel Beaver, Donna Rankin, Pat Reed, Anita Collins, Dave Roebuck, Barry Davis, Joan Tarwater, Dixie Wheaton, Bob Pape, Carole Prentice, Michelle Land, Jim Owens & Pam Boyd

Devotions, Allen W.- Beneficial Words—Eph 4:20
Jackie announced that Donna Rankin is our board secretary for the balance of this year. The next board meeting, in September, will be in person at the church, barring any unforeseen issues.

Mark reported on those needing prayers.

Barry D. took COVID test, awaiting results, self-quarantining until result come back, Maria, nursery attendant, has COVID but is slightly improved this week. Jackie and Allen's daughter in law's daughter had a baby last week who will be having heart surgery soon.

Committee Chair Reports:

CDW/DWM: No Report

Clerk: total membership on 153. Leaving the congregation, Wendy Shafer and Mel Cunningham.

Elders: Bob Pape – LeRoy and Mary have moved to the first floor, RM 102 and have new phone number, 913-248-7232.

Treasurer:

Balance of \$1,940 needed at this time for the new sign. Dealing with Commerce bank on PP loan, nothing to report yet. Still trying to deal with Rubican (trash bin) and get them to pick up dumpster.

H&G: Bob fixed the hot water heater line in kitchen by dishwasher. Evergreen tree was removed from the Roebuck property to provide better visual for drivers leaving the church to Johnson Drive. AED battery has been ordered until received, the battery has been disconnected to save power. If AED is need it can be reconnected easily. Currently requesting bids for siding work needed which will be reviewed by the committee before presenting to the board. Dixie was advised to continue to not pay any bill received from the former trash service. New sign is 6 weeks out. Coffee Pot gfci outlet fixed.

Outreach

Carole reported **Meals on Wheels** has started back with weekday deliveries. Schedule is located on the bulletin board outside of church office and has been sent to the drivers.

Tuesday, August 11, 2020



Minutes recorded by Donna Rankin
Board Secretary with additional
notes taken by Pam Boyd

Mark & Carole cooked and packaged 150 take-out meals for **JoCo Food Ministry** last week. Thanks to members who provided the homemade cookies for this event. MCC will serve next of October 29th (Halloween).

Hygiene package will be added to the school supplies for the children returning to **Merriam Park Elementary**.

This week's newsletter will include information on the **KC for Refugees**. Outreach will provide \$200 worth of hygiene & cleaning materials. Approximately \$15 per family. Barry Davis asked if we could provide more than \$200. It was agreed to wait and see if additional contributions are needed.

Memorial – Jim continues to make calls and has been successful in receiving additional funds for the new church sign. Jim requests that a sign dedication be planned when project is complete. Invitations should be sent to all donors.

Membership – Allen reminded everyone that the Newsletter will be published this week.

Membership continues to load Sunday Services on 2 laptops for homebound members which are delivered and pick-up weekly. It was mentioned that this was the month that the annual Shrimp Boil takes place...a number of people expressed an interest in having it again this year, it will be considered. Video of Sunday services will be recorded from the choir loft with an improvement in sound which will also allow Mark to not have to handle recording and preaching!

Personnel: Maria has COVID. PPE supplies from Jo. Co. will be received and distributed to the congregation on Sunday Aug. 16th.

Trustees—No report

Worship: No report—Blood Drive participation was successful with 23 people with 20 donations.

Pastor's report: PRC will not meet this month, Most DOC churches in Jo Co are NOT having in-church services, Countryside and MCC are only 2 that are.

Jackie reported the nominating committee will meet at 11:30 Aug 16th. Members are: Jim Owens—Chairman, Pam Boyd, Anita Minshew, Susan Neil, Dixie Wheaton, Pastor Mark & Jackie Watts—ex officio

Meeting adjourned with prayer by Mark Willis

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!

Aug. 2, 2020 "A Hip-Toss Body-Slam Kind of Faith"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LnPUFmZCb6o>

Aug. 9, 2020 "God in the Whisper "

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZGVy9b7m-o&t=944s>

Children's Worship and Wonder by Christina Stokes



Aug. 2, 2020 "The Ark of the Covenant and the Holy of Holies "

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8fn2AHkgFKA>

Aug. 9, 2020 "The Temple"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxISrMbFKyM&t=3s>

Watch for our next Newsletter on August 29, 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

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



DON'T FORGET TO SHARE study sessions and Sunday Services with someone. Forward this email, share our Facebook message on your Facebook page, like our YouTube page.

If you have a Facebook page, please like the one for Merriam Christian Church.

Click on the Facebook logo to be taken to the church's FB page.



Connect

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

Monument Sign Replacement Fund Drive

As of August 14th, \$9,669 of the \$11,609 needed has been received!!
THANK YOU for your donations! \$1,940 to go!!!!

Please prayerfully consider donating to this project. Simply put "Sign" in the memo line of your check, or on the envelope of cash donations. You can also give through easytithe, go to <http://www.easytithe.com/merriamcc>, there is a drop down list you can choose from, select "other" for this donation. You can also text your donation at 913-444-6397. Please make sure to notify Dixie Wheaton, Church Treasurer if you text the donation so the money is applied correctly.



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.

This week we are in need of

- ◆ Spaghetti and sauce
- ◆ Canned fruit
- ◆ Canned vegetables
- ◆ 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!

BLOOD DRIVE RECAP

As always, **many thanks to all who donated blood** Monday, August 10.

Our goal was 20;23 registered; and 20 units were collected. Two people were registered to donate doubles. Thank you, Rick and David.

I am more than grateful to all who came, considering our Covid crisis. I was told that the Community Blood Center covers 99% of hospital needs.

Again, thank you and God Bless!

Pat Reed
Blood Drive Chair

Serve



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

2020 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The committee is comprised of 2 members of the church board & 3 individuals not on the church board.

This year's members are:

Jim Owens—Chairman

Pam Boyd

Anita Minshew

Susan Neil

Dixie Wheaton

Pastor Mark—ex officio

Jackie Watts—ex officio

We ask that all members of the congregation be in prayerful consideration as you may be called to serve as a trustee, elder or deacon, assistant deacon and other officers of the church.

Our teams are delivering Meals On Wheels again!

“THANK YOU” to all of our dedicated drivers!

Carole Prentice



PPE SUPPLIES

This Sunday Pam Boyd will have a table setup in the downstairs hallway with masks for the congregation to pickup.

These will be handed out on a first come, first serve basis.

She has been able to secure a limited number of these boxes and packages through Johnson County.

THANK YOU PAM!



Merriam Community Center now open!

The new Merriam Community Center is open! Merriam Community Center is a one-of-a-kind, year-round destination for fitness, aquatics, classes and events. Not all of the amenities are available (the pools are still closed at this time). Come check out the great new facility and what it might have for you and your family. **Click the picture below for more information!**



Pastor Mark's
Prayerful Meditation
mid-week video (8/12)

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 74



GROW

Leroy and Mary Wisner moved to a new room at Brookedale, rm# 102. You can not visit inside, BUT they have put the room numbers on the outside windows (Leroy and Mary are on the first floor) so you can go up and knock on the window and see them! Their phone number is 913-248-7232



Betty Cline is in Lakeview Rehab recovering from her broken leg. No visitors are allowed at this time. Please call her, she would love to hear from you, 913-951-3620 Her address is: 9000 Park Ave, Room 215 Lenexa, KS, 66215

KC for Refugees Hygiene Kits



KC for Refugees works with new refugee families as they are re-settled to the Kansas City area. These families went through an arduous process to apply for and be approved for refugee status. They are fleeing persecution, violence, and poverty. They are coming for a fresh start, but often come with nothing but the clothes on their back. KC for Refugees works with churches (and our Region) to provide help and support as these families are arriving and trying to get on their feet.

They need help with hygiene kits to provide to families when they arrive. They try to have 55 bags of supplies available each month. Here's what they should contain:

- 1 large shampoo
- 1 large dish washing liquid
- 1 large liquid cleaner (like Mr Clean or Spic'n'Span)
- 1 large bottle/tube lotion
- 1-2 large toothpastes
- 4 toothbrushes
- 2-3 disposable razors
- 2 rags or wash cloths
- 3-4 large garbage bags (30 gal)
- 7-8 kitchen garbage bags (13 gal)
- 6-8 rolls of decent toilet tissue
- 1 64 ounce bottle liquid clothes washing detergent

We are committing \$200 from Make-a-Difference to put together some kits. If you would like to help you can put a kit together and bring it to church (put it in the grocery carts) or you can donate money to purchase more supplies.

July FINACIAL Summary

Revenues:

Deposits	\$ 17,578.87
Less SIGN donations	\$ <u>(6,025.53)</u>
Revenue for church	\$ 11,553.34

Expenses:

Paid out	\$ 31,297.15
Less SIGN Down payment	\$ <u>(16,320.00)</u>
Expenses for church	\$ 14,977.15

Operating Deficit for July = \$3,423.81

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



Write a check. You can mail your check to the church or DROP-BY the church and place it in the 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> 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- August 16th

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 3
Liturgist Anita Collins

Sunday - August 23nd

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 4
Liturgist Bob Pape

Friday- August 28th

12:00 noon Newsletter Deadline

Sunday - August 30th

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 3
Liturgist Jackie Watts

Sunday - September 6

10:00 Worship, Serving Team 1
Liturgist Pat Reed

Directory Update

Ryan Mercia
Jessie Thompson
Jessiet_123@yahoo.com
1201 NE 114th St
Kansas City, MO 64155



We are pleased to announce that David Roebuck has agreed to be an ELDER. He will be fulfilling the balance of Nanette Ferguson's term as Elder.



We are also pleased to announce that Greg Spiegel has agreed to be a Deacon filling the opening created by David moving into his role as Elder.



Back by Popular
Demand,
MCC
ANNUAL
SHRIMP BOIL
hosted by your
MEMBERSHIP

SEPTEMBER 12th @

5:30pm

CURBSIDE or

TABLE SERVICE (in the
church parking lot with appro-
priate social distancing)

\$15 per person

**RESERVATIONS ARE
REQUIRED by 9/5/20**

Signup sheet is on credenza
outside the church office

[Or signup by clicking here!](#)

September Regional Evening DWM Meeting

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
200 E. Loula, Olathe, KS 66061

Thursday, September 24, 2020
NO MEAL—MASKS REQUIRED

Registration and Meeting 6:30 PM
Reservations 913-764-3555 or by email to
pastorsherryfcc@gmail.com
By Monday September 21



Program

Speaker Alicia Dwyer Cianciolo
NASA Aerospace Engineer



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

- **Betty Cline** fell at her home and broke her leg. She is at Lakeview Rehab.
- **Barry Davis** has had a resurgence of COVID19 symptoms from his bout with it in March. He is in self-quarantine at home
- **Heather Waite** was told she may have to be laid off at the end of August. Her company is going Month-to-month and this is obviously a stressful time. Please keep Heather in your prayers.

Requests for Family and Friends:

- **Thel Maize passed away.** Please keep Dave and Eric and their family in your prayers
- **Alpha Wickham's daughter Linda's** surgery has been delayed. Please keep Linda and Alpha in your prayers.
- **Anita Minshew's son Todd** is having severe back issues. Please keep Todd in your prayers.
- **Joyce Luke's sister, Linda,** passed away. Please keep Joyce and her family in your prayers.
- **Joyce Luke's daughter, Barb,** has been diagnosed with COVID but is improving
- **Maria Vega, our nursery attendant,** and has been diagnosed with COVID. Maria has been in & out of the hospital but has improved slightly this week. Please keep her and her children in your prayers.
- **Pat Reed's friend's one year old granddaughter** was diagnosed with liver cancer. **Wendy Manthe's nephew Joshua** has been diagnosed with cancer. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

- **Jackie and Allen are new great-grandparents.** The baby had heart surgery to correct a heart valve and is still in the hospital recovering.
- **Zach and Tyler Huggins** couples for whom I performed weddings this past weekend, as they begin their life together as husband and wife.
- **We pray for all of our brothers and sisters afflicted by the sin of racism.** We pray for justice and peace, for the true Christian spirit to come to our cities and conversation. Racism and prejudice, injustice and oppression have no place in the church, nor in this world. Pray that we all work for a better path forward for all of God's children.
- **For all those who are returning to work, WE GIVE THANKS** and PRAY for their protection and for all those still working from home. And for all those who have lost work, lost jobs, and are struggling, we pray God will guide them during this difficult time.
- **For churches, including Merriam Christian Church,** as we strive to faithfully navigate re-opening during these trying times. Our goal is to gather together again, in the best, safest way we can. There are no perfect steps and no easy answers, but together we will figure out what works for us, faithfully, theologically, and logistically. Please be in prayer as we re-open this summer.

++++

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

