



Merriam Christian Church Disciples of Christ

Vol. LV
No. 13 2020
June 20, 2020

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

Organist and Pianist
Emily Yeh

Secretary
Open

SERVICES:

SUNDAYS:
8:30 a.m.
10:45 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

9:30 a.m.

9401 Johnson Dr.
Merriam, KS 66203

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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.



Dear Friends,
I know these past months have been difficult. I know they have been full of hard decisions and stressful situations. I have tried to listen to all of the feedback given through phone calls, emails, and leadership Zoom meetings. I have heard your opinions and perspectives and have tried to be respectful of all views in this matter. I have tried to take into account the guidelines of expert medical and scientific organizations, the advice of our Regional and General Church leadership, and the accounts of other pastors and churches going through this same moment. It has all resulted in the following:

Merriam Christian Church will re-open for in-place worship on Sunday June 21, 2020. We will do one worship service at 10AM. We will continue to stream the worship service and provide an online viewing.

Our primary precaution taken will be physical distance. Everyone not in the same household/family will need to maintain **six-feet of separation, at all times**. One person at a time can use the elevator. We will have a volunteer stationed there to press buttons and send/retrieve the elevator. In the sanctuary, we ask that you **sit with your family at a spot marked by blue tape**.

We strongly encourage everyone over the age of 18 to wear masks, for the protection of others in attendance. This falls in our Christian prerogative to serve one another. We will have masks,

gloves, and hand sanitizer available.

Communion will be set out individually on the table so that at the end of the service as we process out, we can take communion, dispose of the cups and exit. An offering basket will be set up to drop offering/tithes into while entering/exiting.

We will **not** hand out bulletins. Bob Pape and Allen Watts have been working hard to install a projector and screen, so the entire worship service order and selections can be displayed during worship for all to see.

At this time, after reviewing information from studies and the American Choral Directors Association, we will have singing. It is our hope that the physical distancing will be adequate protection.

We will **not** have the nursery or Children's Worship right now. Children that come will sit with their families. Sunday school classes will not meet in June and we will not have Fellowship Cookie Hour at this time. If the next two weeks go well, **we will start our small groups in July**, like Sunday school, DWM, and Our Gang, if these groups want to meet. They will be asked to keep physically distant, and encouraged to wear masks.

I have tried to listen to everyone and incorporate safe, common procedures that can move us to being together again. As you read this over, please be in daily prayer for Merriam Christian Church, our members, and our leadership as we move forward together in this moment.

If you have any questions, let me know. I look forward to being together physically again for worship and continuing to worship online with those who cannot come back at this time. God Bless and Stay Safe.

Pastor Mark Willis

Elders & Deacons Meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2020

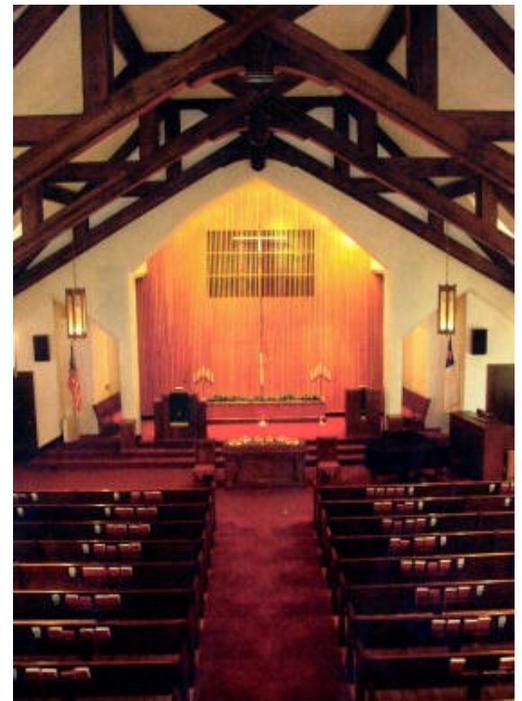


Minutes recorded by Mark Willis

Present: Bob Pape, Alice Goff, Dave Roebuck, Carol Vann, Joel Beaver, Emily Hooker, Anita Minshew, Donna Rankin, Dixie Wheaton, Pat Reed, Mark Willis, Pam Boyd, Allen Watts, Jackie Watts

Jackie opened meeting

Mark described re-opening procedures, most of which were detailed to leadership two weeks ago in email. A letter will be sent to the congregation detailing procedures and processes.



Joel Beaver presented sign replacement details. An email had been sent out prior to the meeting to trustees, elders, deacons and committee chairs with all the details and information on six different options and bids - Joel covered all of them in detail.

House and Grounds recommends option 2 (\$21,000 total, with \$11,751 from insurance, \$5,200 from memorial, and remaining \$4,048 needed from church). We will open up to donations as well.

House and Grounds makes a motion we go with Option #2. Motion passed by those present on call.

Regional DWM has asked to hold a meeting July 11th for 20 people - leadership agreed.

Blood drive moved to August 10, 2020 per Pat Reed

Mark closed meeting with prayer.

Sign Replacement Approved by the Church Board!



House & Grounds evaluated 6 proposals and recommended the sign shown above, option #2. The designs were discussed. Option 2 was approved by the church board which will cost \$21,000 total with \$11,751 covered by the insurance settlement and \$5,200 from memorial funds which will leave a **balance of \$4,048** to come from church funds. If you wish to make a donation to help cover a portion of the remaining amount please see Jackie, Dixie, Joel or Pastor Mark.

Don't forget and share study sessions and Sunday Services with someone - forward this email, share our Facebook message on your Facebook page, like our YouTube page.



NEED AN ERRAND RUN to the Grocery Store, Pharmacy, Post Office, Hardware Store

We have volunteers ready to give a HELPING HAND
Call Mark—816-616-9746
Allen—913-634-8437



MEALS ON WHEELS

Deliveries are currently scheduled for Mon., Wed. & Fri. Substitute drivers will be called on as needed.



OUR GANG

Next Meeting:
TBD



Summer Snackpacks are back!



This summer Merriam Christian Church is providing food for 6 families, with 19 children and 34 people overall. We started delivering food the first weekend in June. And we need your help!

We are in need of Juice Boxes (Like Capri Sun), canned vegetables, peanut butter and jelly, and cereal. 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.



Talk to Carole Prentice if you would like to help!

The Outreach Committee would like to thank all who have given so generously both money and grocery items for our Summer Food Program. We are delivering food boxes each week to families who do not have adequate food. Thank you to the delivery teams who take their time to deliver as well.

Carole Prentice, Outreach Chair



Those Needing Prayers

- **Liz Spiegel** had a TIA, or mini-stroke. She is home from the hospital, staying with Greg and Jennifer, and doing well. While in hospital they did discover something on her thyroid, so they are checking that out as well. Please keep Liz in your prayers.
- **Nancy Hines** fell at her house and broke her right wrist.

Requests for Family and Friends:

- **Joyce Luke's sister**, has been diagnosed with cancer. Please keep Bev and her family in your prayers.
- **Connie Hennigh's son-in-law Garland Johnson** has been admitted to Ascension Via Christi hospital in Wichita and scheduled for another surgery last Saturday.
- **Jackie & Allen Watts' daughter-in-law Jennifer** who suffers from pancreatitis is in the hospital with bilateral pneumonia. She has made some progress this week but will be in the hospital for another week.
- **Tim & Susie Arnold's godson Chris** has had his operation & improving but this will be a lifelong situation he will be dealing with.
- **Marge Willard's son, Jewell**
- **Maria Vega, our nursery attendant**, had an automobile accident this week. She has a head injury and concussion. Maria is home recovering.
- **Heather Waite** was told she may have to be laid off at the end of June. The company she works with works with the federal government's immigration departments. They will know more toward the end of June, but please keep her in your prayers.
- For **all those who are returning to work, WE GIVE THANKS** and PRAY for their protection

and for all those still working from home.

- Medical Professionals, doctors, nurses, nurses aides, ambulance drivers, hospital janitors, fire fighters and police officers on the front lines of this pandemic. Wayne and Emily Hooker's daughter Monica, is a nurse at Children's Mercy downtown, and Joyce Luke's daughter, Barbara, is a nurse at St. Luke's South. Connie Hennigh's adopted granddaughter, Nikki Miller is an RN at Ascension Via Christi in Wichita.

- **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 for worship on June 21st.

Those in Grief

- **Bev McDonald's brother** passed away. Please keep Bev and her family in your prayers.
- **Lois Buchanan's mother** passed away June 16th. Please keep Lois and her family in your prayers.

Praise

- **Alice and Paul Goff's new great-grandson William Thomas Goff**, was released from KUMed and is home. Please keep him you in your prayers that he continues to gain weight!

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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.



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!

June 7, 2020 "I Can't Breathe"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bkjlzF25Y>

June 14, 2020 "All I Did This Week was Save a Turtle from the Highway"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Qo3pl0xvms>

Children's Worship and Wonder by Christina Stokes

June 7, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7Y54cj74Qo>

June 14, 2020

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



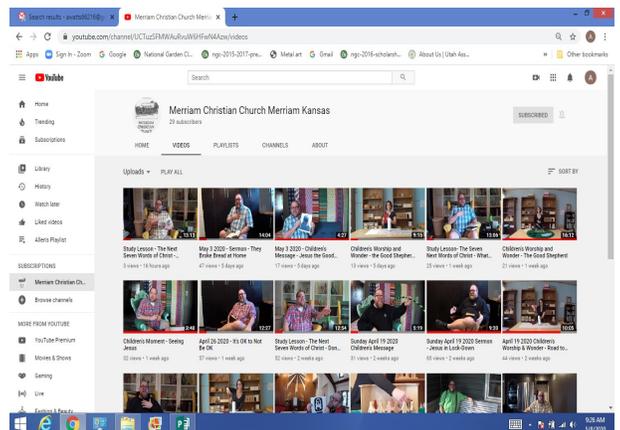
Watch for the next Newsletter on July 4, 2020. *Submissions for publication may be edited for size, clarity, and tone.*



MCC VIDEO LIBRARY

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

please click <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTuzSFMWAuRvuW6HFwN4Azw/videos>



DON'T FORGET TO SHARE WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY



June Regional DWM Dinner
Thursday, June 25
HAS BEEN CANCELLED

May 2020 Finance Report

Revenues \$ 12,280.00
Expenses \$ 9,123.00

THANK YOU ALL

**for your continuing generosity
during this difficult time.**

Your Treasurer

Multiple options of how you may give your tithes and offerings

Write a check. You 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**

If you have a Facebook page, please like the one for Merriam Christian Church. We are trying to keep you updated and share words of faith, inspiration and encouragement. Invite your friends and family to join us. God bless!!
Connie Hennigh



Calendar

Sunday - June 28th -

10:00 Worship

Thursday July 2

DWM CH TBD

Sunday - July 5th

9:00 Sunday School

10:00 Worship

Friday - July 10th

12:00 Newsletter Deadline

ONE WORSHIP SERVICES FOR 2020

June 28- 10:00 am

July 5 – 10:00 am Independence day weekend

July 12 – 10:00 am

July 19 – 10:00 am

July 26 – 10:00 am

September 6 – Labor day Weekend

October 18 or 25 for Congregational Meeting

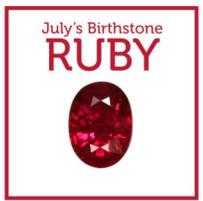
Send a Card
to
Our Nursery
Attendant!

PRAYING
YOU FEEL
BETTER
SOON.

Maria Vega
1023 Shawnee Ave
Kansas City, Kansas 66105



JULY 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Room Codes: C-Chapel S-Sanctuary CH-Campbell Hall DP-Disciple Place	B-Berea R-Roundtable L-Library P-Pioneer YR-Youth Room OB-Out of Building	Committee Mtgs On Line or Phone				
			1	2 DWM TBD	3 Newsletter articles due @ Noon	4 Independence Day 
5 -ONE SERVICE 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	6 9-12 Finance-LIB	7 7:00 Committee Mtgs	8	9	10 Newsletter articles due @ Noon	11 Regional DWM—time to be determined CH
12- ONE SERVICE 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	13 9-12 Finance-LIB	14 7:00 Board Meeting	15 Esther TBD	16 Our Gang TBD	17	18
19- ONE SERVICE 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	20 9-12 Finance-LIB	21 Sarah TBD	22	23	24 Newsletter articles due @ Noon	25
26 -ONE SERVICE 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	27 9-12 Finance-LIB	28	29	30	31	

**SERVING TEAM SCHEDULE
FOR JULY 2020**

July 5, 2020
10:00 AM—TBD

July 12, 2020
10:00 AM —TBD

July 19, 2020
10:00 AM—TBD

July 26, 2020
10:00 AM—TBD



Celebrating Birthdays This Month:

Susie Arnold	July 7
Mike Nichols	July 7
Don Rudkin	July 14
Wayne Hooker	July 20
Glenn Wheaton	July 20
Pam Boyd	July 22



Celebrating Anniversaries This Month: