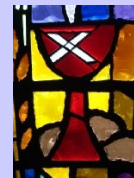


MERRIAM CHRISTIAN CHURCH

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST



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.

IN-PERSON & ONLINE
10:45 a.m. Suspended

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Hall
In-person & On-Line

9401 Johnson Dr.
Merriam, KS 66203

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

E-mail

merriamchristian@gmail.com
www.merriamcc.org

Newsletters

jnethowe@gmail.com



Dear Friends,
On Facebook yesterday, Rev. Lara Blackwood-Pickrel, from Smithville Christian Church, shared a memory from 2014 when I keynoted at our High School church camp at Tall Oaks. I brought a message about "BE"ing the church to a new generation. In it I quote a fantastic poem by an author that has escaped my recollection. It was a poem that encouraged people to strive to BE what they were passionate about being: "I don't want to be the fireman, I want to be the fire! Full of passion and heat!"

In the sermon, I moved from quoting his poem to encouraging these young people to BE more than we, the previous generation had been. We had sought to be Christians, to be Disciples, to be the church, but I called them to BE more. As the sermon came to an end, I implored them:

"I don't want you to be Christians. I want you to be grace. I want you to be forgiveness. I want you to be redemption.

I don't want you to be Disciples. I want you to be love. I want you to be compassion. I want you to be justice.

I don't want you to be Church. I want you to be praise. I want you to be prayer. I want you to be communion, broken and shared.

If you can figure out how to be these things, we'll all be one step closer to being the Body of Christ." Seven years later, as Rev. Lara posted this memory, I went back and re-read that sermon. It is one that I love dearly, and in retrospect I humbly offer, it will still preach.

God Bless-

Mark

Pastor Mark's
Prayerful Meditation
mid-week video (6/2)

Use this short meditation to bring a moment of God's Word to your journey. Use this time to remind yourself of God's presence and love.

This week's meditation comes from [Psalms 52](#)
If this meditation is a blessing to you, consider sharing the link or posting the video to your social media, inviting others to pause their day and spend five minutes in God's Word for their life.
God Bless and Stay Safe
Pastor Mark



Multiple options of how you may give your tithes and offerings

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

Summer Snackpacks are back!



This summer Merriam Christian Church will be providing food families again at Merriam Park Elementary School. We start delivering food in June. We need your assistance!

We need donations to make this ministry work. You can buy and donate the following food items:

- Cereal
- Canned fruit
- Canned veggies
- Drink Boxes
- Granola Bars
- Canned pasta
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Snack Crackers
- Cheese and Crackers
- Spaghetti
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned Tuna
- Soups



OR, you make a donation to the church, label it for "Make-a-Difference" and we will use those funds to purchase what is needed. We also need volunteers to deliver the boxes of food each weekend.

Talk to Carole Prentice if you have any questions!

We're Hiring!

Nursery Worker Needed



We are in a need of a church nursery attendant! Please contact Mike Nichols at 785-760-1796 for more information about the pay and hours!

DWM NEWS

Hi Ladies, it's me again, reporting in. Seven of us enjoyed our meeting on May 25th. Maybe more can join us next time. We did decide to change our meeting day to the third Thursday of the month. So, our next meeting will be Thursday, June 17th, at 1:00 pm. Hopefully this will be convenient to more ladies of the Church.

If you have any empty pill bottles, info removed or blacked out, bring to the church and we will have a box for collection. These used, empty pill bottles will go to an animal rescue (Great Plains) for pills, I assume. LOL Also, we support "Least Coin" and are currently gathering all pennies weighing heavy in your purse. I will have a container for collection, not sure where yet, but look for it. Thanks.

Our current balance as of 5/31/21 is \$2,627.65. This includes \$51.00 received at our May 25 meeting, and \$50.00 paid to Disciples Mission Fund, which we support with 5 payments of \$50.00 each. Three down and two to go. Anyone wishing to may see the checkbook and journal or come to our meeting and hear my report.

Again, all ladies of the Church are members of DWM and are invited to our meetings. It's a good reason to get out of the house at least once a month.

Joyce Luke, Treasurer



DWM Meeting

Please plan to join us for the Evening DWM meeting, Thursday, June 24th at 6:30 p.m. The First Christian Church of Independence will be our host. They are located at 125 S Pleasant St. Independence, MO. Please contact Connie Hennigh 816-589-2005 to make your reservation by June 21st. We will carpool from the church. No meal will be provided. Everyone is welcome, including men.



Thank You Connie!

Connie Hennigh maintains our Facebook presence on social media. Connie makes regular posts, shares information about upcoming church events, and makes sure our Facebook page is updated every-day. Thank you Connie! Her service here allows us to reach out to more people and share good news. We appreciate all that she does in this ministry for the church. You can show your appreciation by liking the page/posts and sharing them on your social media pages. Help spread the good news with a few clicks.



In-Person Worship is Sundays at 10AM. Online worship WILL continue for those who wish to stay home and participate. Masks are required while inside the building. Please be in prayer that all who attend are safe.

Those Needing Prayer:

- **Jim Owens** fell, injuring his hand and needing 38 stitches to his fingers. He will need to meet with a plastic surgeon.
- **Anita Minshew** has a bi-lateral tear in her meniscus in her knee. It is sore, but she can't get in to see her doctor until June 21.
- **Harold Leakey** fell at home and had to go to the hospital. He is home recovering now.

Requests for Family and Friends:

- **Bev McDonald's best friend, Jeanie McCrowsky** fell and hurt her face, and **Bev's cousin LouAnn** has been diagnosed with leukemia and has decided to not take treatments.
- Please keep the families of **Tony Vielhauer and Don Uthe** in your prayers. Pastor Mark performed their funeral services this past week. Don's mother attended church here before her passing in 1992.
- **Barry Davis has offered** to help folks get registered over the internet for their vaccinations if anyone needs assistance. Call or email him for help on this if you want your shot but haven't been able to get it yet.
- **Happy Birthday to Irene Heavin**, who turned 90!
- Prayers for **Keith and Marie White and Dillon and Autumn Palmer** as they begin their lives together as husband and wife. Pastor Mark performed their ceremonies.
- **Rev. Donna Rose-Heim**, pastor of Longview Chapel and wife of our Regional Minister, had surgery this week.
- **Happy Birthday to Jim Walker**, who turned 90!
- **Prayers for Justin and Erin Jones**, a couple Pastor Mark did a wedding ceremony with, as they begin their life as husband and wife.
- **The family of Zona Woods on her passing.** Pastor Mark performed the funeral service for the family.

- **Jim Owens' nephew Tom Witt**, passed from Covid. Please keep Jim and his family in your prayers as they grieve.
- **Anita Minshew's neighbor Monte** had to go to the hospital with diabetic health issues.
- **Irene Heavin's sister and brother-in-law**, Jean and Keith could use prayer.
- **Rev. Donna Rose-Heim**, pastor of Longview Chapel and wife of our Regional Minister, had surgery and is recovering, but still needs prayer as she works with her doctors.
- **The family of Idamae Gillmore** on her passing. Pastor Mark performed the funeral service for the family.
- **Casey Meyer's mom Linda** has been diagnosed with lung cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.
- **Pray that we find a church nursery attendant! It is vitally important we find that special person who can take care of our little ones for those parents wanting to attend Sunday Service.**

PRAISE:

Carol and Heather Vann have moved to Phoenix, Arizona, to be closer to family (and warmer winters!) They left today to drive down. Please pray for them on their new journey.

We pray for all those who have received the vaccine, and for all those who want to get it but haven't yet. We especially pray for those who could get it but are hesitant or resistant. May their hearts be softened with grace and inspired by Christ to serve one another. May we come together to get vaccinated, and begin healing from this long struggle.

For our church, as we hopefully begin to gather again, may we always respond first with grace and love and hope. May we be a light in dark times, bread and cup to hungry people. May we outdo one another in serving others as we strive to do more together as able.

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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.



Children's Message



The Butterfly

Pentecost



New Addresses

New Address for Betty Cline

Betty Cline
Bickford at Mission Springs
5300 W. 61st Place, Room #202 N
Mission, KS 66205
Phone: (913) 262-2757

Allen and Jackie Watts have a forwarding mail service until they get settled in NC or TN. Phone and email are the same.

Allen & Jackie Watts
11750 W 135th St. Suite 305,
Overland Park, KS 66221

Jo and Don Rudkin are both now at:

Anthology of Olathe
101 West 151st St
Olathe, KS, 66061.

Their phone number is 913-738-7015

Mary Wisner has a new address:
Brookdale College Square
11000 Oakmont St
Overland Park, KS 66210

She does not have a phone in her room. To get a message to her, call the front desk: 913-491-1144
Consider sending her a card, she would love to hear from her church family.



Pastor Mark's Message

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



May 23rd, ["These Dry Bones"](#)

May 30th, ["Born Again...and Again...And Again"](#)

Children's Worship and Wonder by Christina Stokes



May 23rd ["Pentecost"](#)

May 30th ["Baptism"](#)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

This would be a great time to become involved as we are starting our summer series which focuses on CONFIDENT HOPE.

Beginning in June we will move from the Fellowship to the classroom above the library. We have three teachers (Anita Collins, Linda Railsback and Jim Owens) who are sharing the lessons.

Jim will be guiding the lessons during Unit 1 which begins June 6th from 9:00 - 9:45 a.m.

Unit 1: "Jesus Teaches About Faith"

June 6: Freed from Worry

Matthew 6: 25-34

June 13 Delivered from Fear

Matthew 8: 23-27

June 20 Healed by Faith

Matthew 9 18-26

June 27 Rescued from Doubt

Matthew 14: 22-33

July 4 Attitude of Gratitude

Leviticus 13: 45-46 &

Luke 17: 11-19

The titles alone appear to be topics that will be of interest during our current times. Come join us as we study and discuss each of these areas.

We welcome anyone from High School to "Jim's" age" and beyond.

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



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