



MILLERSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

REV. BARBARA GULICK, MINISTER
“In the heart of the community, with the community at heart.”

www.millersburgchristianchurch.org

DECEMBER, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

Millersburg Christian Church
Is Blessed to Announce
A Service of Installation
For The Reverend Barbara K. Gulick
As Our New Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ
Sunday, December 7, 2008
during the 10:30 Worship Service
The Reverend Doctor Kris Tenny-Brittian, Officiating
The Reverend Doctor John Bennett, preaching
Reception to Follow
All are welcome to celebrate with us!
Members of the Worship, Pastoral Search, and Pastoral
Relations Committees are providing cookies!



Christmas Caroling on Sunday December 14
We will meet at the church at 3:30 PM to assemble baskets of fruit for those to whom we visit. We'll leave the church at 4:00 PM to carol in the Millersburg area and return to the church for hot chocolate at about 5:30 PM. All ages invited!

From the Christmas Program Committee:
The annual Christmas program this year, on Dec. 20, will be an inter-generational talent show, with a Nativity Song as the grand finale. If you would like to read a sappy (or funny) Christmas story, sing a song, or perform some Christmas magic, please contact either Allison Hutchinson or Jeff Moran. Rehearsals will be on Saturday mornings, Dec. 13 and 20, from 9 to 11 am. The program is the evening of Saturday, Dec. 20. We may ask some of you to play a character in the Nativity (no speaking roles). Thanks.



**Christmas Dinner,
Saturday, Dec. 20**
There will be a fellowship dinner preceding the annual Christmas program on Saturday, December 20, beginning at 5:30 PM. Everyone is asked to bring a large dish to share.

Join us for a very special “Hanging of the Greens” Service at 10:30 am on November 30th!

REFLECTIONS
BY
REV. BARBARA GULICK, MINISTER

Life in the church is usually lived forward. That is, we plan Advent and Christmas long before Thanksgiving, even Halloween. Prudent church planning calendars even suggest planning Lent and Easter during Advent/Christmas. I've personally never been able to stretch my mind quite that far. Even so, some weeks it is a bit unsettling to spend the bulk of the week living in future events and then come back to preparing a sermon in the present tense. But in a very real sense, life in Christ is lived with our eyes to the future while living with our feet planted firmly in the present. That is, setting our vision on the coming of the future Kingdom of God, while living in the midst of the Kingdom of God on earth. After all, much of life is spent waiting—waiting for the game to start, waiting for the baby to come, waiting for the kids to come home for the holidays, waiting for the other shoe to drop, waiting... Some have suggested that when the Bible speaks of “waiting on God,” it is meant more in the sense of “waiting on tables” than waiting quietly with hands folded.

And so while we wait for the coming of the Christ child during these days of Advent, there is much to do. There are trees to put up, cookies to bake, the sanctuary to decorate, carols to practice, shopping to be done, Christmas programs to rehearse, babies to hug, and friends to greet. And the prophets remind us that even as we wait on the coming of the Lord, we too, are called to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and to comfort all who mourn. May this holiday bring hope, peace, love, and joy to each of us as we wait and as we seek the glory of the Lord in both the present and future tense.

Volunteers needed—see sign up sheets or call Rev. Gulick:

- Readers for the Hanging of the Greens on November 30th and for the Candlelight evening service on December 21st.
- People to help “hang the greens” on November 30th.
- Families and groups to light the Advent wreath each Sunday until Christmas.
- Servers for Rev. Gulick’s reception.
- Talented, as well as talent-challenged, persons of all ages for the Christmas Program on December 20th—See Jeff Moran or Allison Hutchison
- Carolers for caroling on December 14th

Worshiping During Advent and Christmas At Millersburg Christian Church

Discovering the Glory of Christmas:

An Exploration of the Surprising and Wondrous Ways that the Glory of the Lord is Revealed to Us

November 30th: In the Trappings and Traditions of the Season...Hope

Join Us for the Hanging of the Greens as We Decorate our Sanctuary

December 7th: In the Call to Serve...Peace

Rev. Gulick’s Service of Installation--

Reception in Fellowship Hall to Follow

December 14th: In the Good News...Love

December 21st: In the Baptism of the Holy Spirit...Joy

Includes a Service of Holy Baptism

December 21st @ 7:00 in the Sanctuary: In the Coming of a Baby...

Joy to the World! The Lord is Come!

Come Celebrate Our Candlelight Communion Service

BARBARA MORAN

Happy New Year! The new year of the church calendar starts November 30 with Advent, the celebration of the coming of Christ. It's an opportunity for new beginnings in our lives, for our church, and in the world. I hope each of you will join as you can in the special events planned for the Christmas season so you may enjoy the fellowship and blessings of participating in these special times.

Celebrate the coming of Christ! And God bless you, Barbara Moran

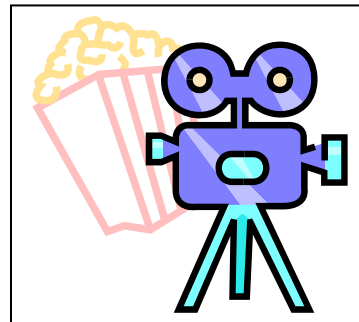
Missions

Just a reminder that all food items for our two Thanksgiving baskets need to be at the church on Sunday, November 23rd.

November 16th and 23rd will be the Thanksgiving Special Offering. The money received is used for leadership training programs and scholarships for undergraduate and seminary students. Members of our congregation have received college scholarships from this fund.

We have received our family for Christmas. It is a grandmother with a 17-year-old daughter, 12-year-old granddaughter, and 7-year-old grandson. Items they would like will be on the tree November 23rd. All items need to be at the church Sunday, December 14th, to be taken to the Mueller Center on Monday, December 15th.

Elaine Long



Christmas at the Movies

Looking for Christmas in "A Christmas Story."

Take a little time out from the Christmas rush and join your church family on Wednesdays, (December 3rd, 10th, and 17th), from 6:30 to 7:30, for family fun and discussion as we watch the classic Christmas movie, "A Christmas Story." *All that stands between Ralphie and happiness is a Genuine Red Ryder Carbine Action Two Hundred Shot Lightning Loader Range Model Air Rifle. Unfortunately, standing between Ralphie and his dream Christmas gift are his parents, who keep screaming, "No, you'll shoot your eye out!"* All ages are encouraged to join us as we seek to find Christmas meaning lurking in the laughter and reminiscences. Popcorn will be served. Floor pillows and beanbags are welcome for those who can get back up off the floor!



4, when we all gather at the home of Carolyn Bethell for an old fashioned cookie exchange. Please bring 3 dozen of your favorite cookies, which is enough to eat and share also. I promise you will leave with as many or more that you bring. I will provide everything else, you just bring cookies!

The fun starts at 6:30 - if you need directions to my house, please call 642-2948 or 220-6769. Hope to see you there. Everyone is welcome - it is a

Prayer Requests

You are invited to pray for these requests because prayer transforms life, supports healing, and helps us through difficult times. Please call Rev. Gulick with your prayer requests at 573-556-8280 or e-mail her at bgulick@embarqmail.com .

Francis Bittle

Marsha Loyd

Art Smith

Elaine Long

John Gulick

Ken Bright

Bess Reisch

Jim Baumgartner

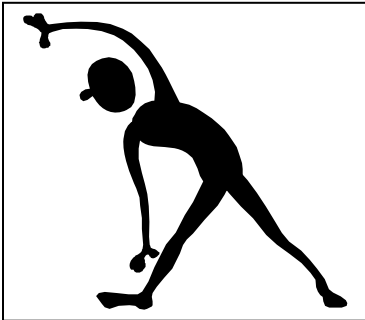
Jay Harmon

Carol Cox's father & mother

Randy Loyd's mother

Those affected by the economy & financial downturn

Prayers for those serving in the Armed Forces & in Law Enforcement



Exercise Group Forms

Interested in getting your blood moving?
Come stretch, bounce, jog, and just move!
An informal group has formed that will meet to exercise at **5:45 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays** in the mezzanine area. Wear comfortable clothing and supportive shoes. Bring an exercise video if you have one to share, and we'll rotate through them.

Joys

Kerry and Jana Fritz Bush are the proud parents of daughter Hayden Lee, who was born Sunday, Nov. 9th. She was six weeks early, but is doing fine. She weighed 5 lbs.11 oz. and was 18 inches long. Hayden joins big sister Ava. She is the granddaughter of Vicki and Terry Fritz.

Corey and Jenny Tucker Cummings are the proud parents of a daughter, Allie Louise, born on Tuesday, November 11th at 2:39 pm. She weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. and was 20 3/4 inches long. Allie joins big brother Tucker and siblings Stormy & Braden. Allie is the granddaughter of Dave and Mary Tucker.

Allison and Jesse Hutchison and daughter, Maddie, are looking forward to a new addition in April. Congratulations and God bless!

Visitors

This month we welcomed visitors Jerry & Eva Landrum. Great to have you – please come again!

DECEMBER, 2008

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p><i>*Birthdays in Italics</i></p> <p><i>*Anniversaries in Bold</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">1</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Exercise 5:45-6:30 pm JOY Choir 6:30-7:30 pm</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">2</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS 8-12</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Terry & Vicki Fritz</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">3</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Exercise 5:45-6:30 pm Christmas at the Movies 6:30 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Barbara Moran</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">4</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS 8-12 Alumni Sch 5-8 CWF Cookie Exchange 6:30 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Richard Shores</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">5</h1>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">6</h1> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>John Gulick</i></p>
<h1 style="margin: 0;">7</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Rev. Gulick's Installation 5:00 Lessons & Carols Community Service at Westminster Chapel</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Joe Ed McCray</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">8</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Exercise 5:45-6:30 pm JOY Choir 6:30-7:30 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Larry Brown</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">9</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS 8-12 6:15 Elders 7:00 Board Caucus</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Todd Guse Carol Cox</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">10</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Exercise 5:45-6:30 pm Christmas at the Movies 6:30 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Elaine Long</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">11</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS 8-12 Alumni Sch 5-8</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Amy Golub</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">12</h1>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">13</h1> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Melania Ceschin Michael Smith</i></p>
<h1 style="margin: 0;">14</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Christmas Gifts Due All-Church Caroling 4:00 – Meet at Church</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Vicki Fritz</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">15</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">9:00-1:00 NE Area Cluster Mtg. Exercise 5:45-6:30 pm JOY Choir 6:30-7:30 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Jon Bright Jason & Shelly Bedsworth</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">16</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS 8-12</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Nicholas Forsee John Reynolds Pam & Walter Garrett</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">17</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Exercise 5:45-6:30 pm Christmas at the Movies 6:30 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Randy Loyd</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">18</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS 8-12 Alumni Sch 5-8</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">19</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS Christmas Party 4:00-10:00 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Fred & Sally Erickson</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">20</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Christmas Dinner & Program 5:30 pm</p>
<h1 style="margin: 0;">21</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">7:00 Candlelight Service</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">22</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">JOY Choir 6:30-7:30 pm</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Tina Arnold</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">23</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">MPS 8-12</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Cheryl Pardue</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">24</h1> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Gary & Elaine Long</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">25</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">Christmas Day</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Nadine Gentzsch Jimmy Bittle</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">26</h1>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">27</h1>
<h1 style="margin: 0;">28</h1>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">29</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">JOY Choir 6:30-7:30 pm Newsletter Deadline by Noon</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">30</h1> <p style="font-size: small;">No MPS</p> <p style="font-size: small;"><i>Tom Haas</i></p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">31</h1>			

Board Caucus December 9

There will be an important meeting of the entire Board, including all those newly elected to the Board, for the purpose of training, orientation, and discussion of any new procedures. The meeting will be **Tuesday, December 9, starting at 7:00 PM.**

The Board will also be electing the new officers of the Board and congregation at this meeting. The nominating committee will propose a slate of officers at that meeting. This will give time for the new officers to organize the committee chairs and begin the work of the church as the new calendar year begins.

Annual Reports Preparation

Committee chairs, please complete a report of your committee's work this past year and submit it to our church secretary, Shirley Dixon, for inclusion in our Annual Report. Please send your report to Shirley no later than January 11.

Stewardship and Finance Committee:

Budget askings for 2009 from the various functional church committees came to \$54,114. Lisa's best estimate of 2009 income (including 25 pledges totaling \$33,640) is \$54,117. Note that this includes an estimated \$9,100 in carryover from 2008; that is, if everything on paper comes to pass, we will have roughly \$3 to carry over to 2010. At the congregational meeting on Nov 16, the congregation approved this budget presentation, and we will try to do the best we can with what we have. Jeff Moran, Lisa Bright, Carol Cox, Stewardship and Finance Committee

Membership Committee "MCC Welcome Mugs"

The Membership Committee recently gave MCC Welcome Mugs filled with goodies to recent visitors who have joined us in worship 3 times: Doug & Sarah Gehring and Zach Gamet & Abby Wasem. Previously the committee gave a loaf of warm friendship bread wrapped in a MCC chalice T-towel to visitors, but at the suggestion of previous Membership Chair Lynn Reynolds, we've adopted her idea of a MCC mug. With the 150th Anniversary Celebration, Lynn's husband John graciously donated 200 cups, so that got us jump-started in making the transition from bread to mugs. We are looking back over the past year and including others who have become a part of our church family. Those who have received their mugs a bit late are: Aimee Landrum (Pat & Larry Baumgartner's granddaughter), Revs. Barb & John Gulick, and Shirley Dixon, church secretary.

Christian Women's Fellowship 2008-2009 Schedule

We usually share a salad supper each time beginning at 6:30.

- Sept. 22 - Vicki Fritz, Hostess, at her home. Yearly Planning Meeting
- Oct. 20 - Carol Cox, Hostess, at her home. Lynn Reynolds Program: Cake Decorating
- Nov. 18 (Tues) - Rita Adams, Hostess, at MCC. Program: Cleaning & Organizing Church
- Dec. 4 (Thurs) - Carolyn Bethell, Hostess, at her home. Program: Cookie Exchange
- Jan. 26th - Karen Ackley, Hostess
- Feb. 23rd - Maurine Long, Hostess
- March 16 - Lynn Reynolds, Hostess
- April ? - Barb Moran, Hostess
- May 18 - Rev. Barb Gulick, Hostess, at her home in Jefferson City.

From the Board Nominating Committee:

We had several elder and diaconate position openings, and these people have agreed to fill some of those positions:

Elder, Class of 2010 - Elaine Long and Lynn Reynolds

Elder, Class of 2011 - John Gulick and Barbara Moran

Diaconate, Class of 2009 - Casey Baumgartner

Diaconate, Class of 2010 - Linda Stiers, Vicki Fritz, and Carolyn Bethel

Diaconate, Class of 2011 - Karen Ackley, Anna Sue Harmon, and Jesse

Hutchinson

We thank these people for their willingness to serve in these positions and remind them that the "new" board of directors, including these new elders and diaconate, will meet at 7 pm on December 9 to review the duties of the elders and diaconate, briefly discuss plans for the coming year, and select officers of the board (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer).

Jeff Moran, Lynn Reynolds, Patty Eggleston, Pat Baumgartner, Robert Thomas, and Aimee Landrum, Nominating Committee

IN APPRECIATION

During the worship service on Sunday, November 16, Rev. Gulick was presented with appreciation coupons for dinner in various members' homes. November marks the 1- year anniversary of Rev. Gulick's compassionate, caring, spiritual leadership at MCC! We hope you know how much we appreciate you, Rev. Gulick!

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you, MCC!

What a delightful surprise to receive the very generous gift of "appreciation coupons" for monthly dinners in your gracious homes. John and I are blessed beyond words to be serving in your midst. "In our prayers for you, we always thank God."

Love to each of you,
Barb and John

THOSE WHO SERVE IN DECEMBER

Elders: Carol Cox & Lynn Reynolds

Ushers: Kristen Bright

Preparation: Lisa Bright

Bread: December 7, 2008 Vicki Fritz

December 14, 2008 Karen Ackley

December 21, 2008 Lynn Reynolds

December 28, 2008 Rita Adams

SERVE Food Pantry for the month of December: Support our Christmas Families!

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Thanks to Jeff and Barb Moran for their generous donation of a new printer for the church office!
- Thanks to the youth group for using some of their funds to purchase a new DVD/VCR player for the church!
- A newly updated phone tree is available for use during inclement weather, serious illness, or death within our church family.
- Please e-mail Shirley with your updated information for our Members and Friends Directory! (mcc1859@socket.net)
- Please sign up for one of the months (November - March) to help with snow removal at the church. We need at least two people each month!
- Two new card tables were recently purchased for the church. Thanks to Patty & Gary Eggleston for donating one of the tables!

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR DECEMBER

December 7, 2008

Isaiah 40: 1-11
Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3: 8-15a
Mark 1: 1-8

December 14, 2008

Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126 or Luke 1: 47-55
1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24
John 1: 6-8, 19-28

December 21, 2008

2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16
Luke 1: 47-55 or Psalm 89: 1-4, 19-26
Romans 16: 25-27
Luke 1: 26-38

December 24, 2008

Isaiah 9: 2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2: 11-14
Luke 2: 1-14, (15-20)

December 25, 2008 (Day)

Isaiah 62: 6-12
Psalm 97
Titus 3: 4-7
Luke 2: (1-7), 8-20

December 25, 2008 (Evening)

Isaiah 52: 7-10
Psalm 98
Hebrews 1: 1-4, (5-12)
John 1: 1-14

December 28, 2008

Isaiah 61: 10-62: 3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4: 4-7
Luke 2: 22-40

Numbers 6: 22-27
Psalm 8
Galatians 4:4-7 or
Philippians 2: 5-11
Luke 2: 15-21

Millersburg Christian Church

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