



# Millersburg Christian Church

## (Disciples of Christ)

“In the heart of the community, with the community at heart”

Serving Christ since 1858 — [www.millersburgchristianchurch.org](http://www.millersburgchristianchurch.org)

October, 2007

Rev. Fred Erickson, Pastor

## What do you say?

What do you say in your last newsletter column? I guess that question follows shortly after “What do you say in your last Board report, your last sermon, your last . . . whatever?”

I have always been an optimist. I am generally always looking ahead with a positive attitude. I try not to live in the past. I want to take the best advantage of the opportunities that are laying ahead of me today.

Yes, I do cherish some very important relationships that I have formed that have been helpful, inspiring, and rewarding—even those that have been challenging, because they have helped me grow. I will, indeed, miss those. I will miss the friendships that I have forged.

I will cherish the successes and the exciting things that have happened over the past five years. I will try not to grieve too much over those areas in which I wish we could have done more.

I will appreciate the growth we’ve made together in Bible study, and in our discovering the Bible’s incredible relevance to our struggles to live faithfully today in difficult times.

I will delight in having served a congregation that takes the mission and outreach obligations of the Church so seriously. I will be grateful for the individual efforts made by so many to respond beyond the hard work of the congregation.

I will miss the joy of the children’s sermon and the delight we all shared in the growth of our children.

But, I look ahead. I really enjoyed writing the stories I shared in special worship services, so I plan to do a lot more writing. I’ll be finishing some of the stories that I’ve started, organizing those that I have finished, and working on some concepts that are floating around in my mind. Although, we have added over 20,000 miles to the Motor Home we were given by my parents a few years ago, we feel we’ve only scratched the

surface of where we’d like to go in the United States.

I appreciated the support of the congregation for my work with the Division of Overseas

**Cont’d page 3, column 1**



**Fred Erickson explains the radio to be used in the Congo project to Luella Randolph.**

## Honoring Fred as he retires October 7

Join us on Sunday, October 7, for worship and a luncheon following. We will honor Reverend Fred Erickson and thank him for the many ways he has provided leadership and support to our congregation during the past five years. His family will be joining us to help honor him as he retires from the ministry on October 9, 2007, Fred’s 65<sup>th</sup> birthday!

Please bring food to share for the carry-in luncheon – something you know Fred likes! The Pastoral Relations Committee will bring meat dishes and there will be a Birthday Cake. We will have special paper to make a book of thank-you notes for Fred.

Lois Long

# October 2007

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6																																																																																																									
	<i>Lori Baumgartner Wayne Latty Marsha Loyd</i>	Preschool 7-12 JOY Choir 6:00-7:00 PM  <i>Walter Garrett</i>		Preschool 7-12 Alumni Sch 5-8	<i>Cody Baumgartner</i>																																																																																																										
7 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship Consecration Sunday Celebration lunch for Fred's retirement <i>Jeff Moran</i>	8	9 Preschool 7-12 Finance 6:00 pm JOY Choir 6:00-7:00 PM Elders 6:15 pm Cabinet 7:00 pm <i>Fred Erickson Kinleigh Rose Mason Rose</i>	10	11 Preschool 7-12 Alumni Sch 5-8  <i>Rodney Latty</i>	12	13     <i>Brandi Garrett Ken &amp; Susan McCarty</i>																																																																																																									
14 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship Missions Comm. 6:00 pm Reconciliation offering <i>Jay Harmon</i>	15	16 Preschool 7-12 Preschool mtg. 7-9 pm JOY Choir 6:00-7:00 PM	17     <i>Jeff &amp; Barbara Moran Matthew Rose</i>	18 Preschool 7-12 Alumni Sch 5-8   <i>Steve &amp; Meghan Whitworth Art Bedsworth</i>	19 5:00p Newsletter deadline Youth Fest, Festival of Sharing, Sedalia <i>Stan Adams Paige Bedsworth Christian Golub</i>	20 Festival of Sharing, Sedalia																																																																																																									
21 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship Reconciliation offering  <i>Laden Force</i>	22	23 Preschool 7-12 JOY Choir 6:00-7:00 PM Preschool Dad's night 6:00-8:30p <i>Susan McCarty Robert Thomas</i>	24 5:30p Newsletter preparation    <i>Alice Gamet</i>	25 Preschool 7-12 Alumni Sch 5-8   <i>Lola Weiss Nichole Adams</i>	26     <i>Grace Loyd</i>	27																																																																																																									
28 9:15 Sun School 10:30 Worship Heritage Sunday	29 6:30p CWF on SERVE, Lois Long is hostess	30 Preschool 7-12 JOY Choir 6:00-7:00 PM   <i>Jessica Kukal</i>	31	<table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="7">September 2007</th> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> <table border="1"> <tr> <th colspan="7">November 2007</th> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td> </tr> </table>		September 2007							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1			2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							November 2007							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
September 2007																																																																																																															
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																									
				1																																																																																																											
2	3	4	5	6	7	8																																																																																																									
9	10	11	12	13	14	15																																																																																																									
16	17	18	19	20	21	22																																																																																																									
23	24	25	26	27	28	29																																																																																																									
30																																																																																																															
November 2007																																																																																																															
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																									
				1	2	3																																																																																																									
4	5	6	7	8	9	10																																																																																																									
11	12	13	14	15	16	17																																																																																																									
18	19	20	21	22	23	24																																																																																																									
25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																																										

*Anniversaries listed in bold  
italics  
Birthdays listed in italics*

## Leaving means separation

There are a few important paragraphs that come to us in this situation from the General Commission on Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The guidelines state that the minister:

“Does not attend or participate with the congregation in any way during the interim period.”

Further, that:

“I will separate myself from participation in the life of the congregation from which I am resigning or retiring during the interim/transitional period and for at least one year after the arrival of the new pastor.

“I will be a true and loyal friend to my former congregation and to its minister by not making pastoral calls, hospital calls, or counseling with members, not presiding at weddings or funerals of former parishioners, and by declining all offices, positions and responsibilities in this, my former congregation, except at the invitation of the current minister.”

Why is this important? The guidelines further state:

“The ability of the congregation to form a trust relationship with the current minister and to move forward in its spiritual journey is of highest concern. Weddings, funerals, visits and communication at times of crisis, illness, or joy are often the most powerful opportunities for

### “What do you say?” from page 1

Ministries and the Disciples Amateur Radio Fellowship that took me to the Congo his past year, and I plan to do even more work with them in producing the promotional materials to help raise the funds necessary to build a communication system for the church in Equator Province.

Another thing I’ll be doing in my retirement is being the pastor’s wife at Dripping Spring Christian Church. It has always been rewarding when Sally and I can work together.

So, it’s not so much “leaving,” as it is moving in other directions that will be equally rewarding, challenging, and fulfilling.

God bless you all.

Fred

forging and nurturing the pastoral trust relationship.”

The old minister needs to keep out of the way so these new relationships can form with the new minister. So, to serve you best, the “old minister” will cease to serve on October 9, 2007, after the Cabinet meeting on that day.

## CWF plans October visit to SERVE

Christian Women’s Fellowship plans to visit SERVE, Inc. on Monday, October 29, at 6:30 p.m. to learn more about the services provided through SERVE. Following a tour of the facility and a program by Pam Phelps, the group will go out for pizza. SERVE has been one of MCC’s mission projects for many years. Join us!

Lois Long

### CWF schedule planned

At a meeting at the home of Terri Collins, the Christian Women’s Fellowship (CWF) planned their meeting schedule for the coming year. Their schedule for 2007-08 is as follows:

Tuesday, **September 18, 2007**

Terri Collins

Planning meeting

Monday, **October 29, 2007**

Lois Long

SERVE

Thursday, **December 6, 2007**

Carolyn Bethell

Christmas, cookie exchange

Thursday, **January 10, 2008**

Maurine Long

TBA

Thursday, **February 7, 2008**

Thursday, **March 6, 2008**

Brenda Rose

CMCA

Thursday, **April 3, 2008**

Vicki Fritz

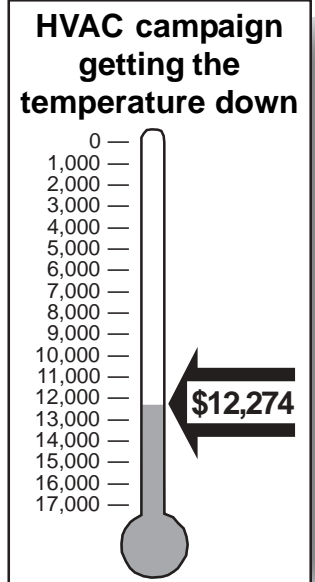
Head Start

Thursday, **May 1, 2008**

Barbara Moran

Arts and Crafts at Barbara’s

Dates and programs subject to change



Visit our web site:  
[millersburgchristianchurch.org](http://millersburgchristianchurch.org)  
Web hosting donated by Socket.



## Joys

Congratulations to all of her family! Ava Marie Bush was born August 30, 2007, to Jana and Kerry Bush. She is the granddaughter of Terry and Vicki Fritz and niece of Dustin Fritz.

Share in the joy and the celebration of Lance Corporal John McClellan's miraculous recovery from wounds received in Iraq through the website: <http://www.mymiraclemarine.com>. The story is soon to be a book by Connie McClellan: *My Miracle Marine*.



## Prayers



### Sympathy

Sympathy for John and Lynn Reynolds. John's mother, Wanda Reynolds, died on August 30.

### Concerns

Prayers for Ken Bright.  
Continued prayers for Barbara Dexter.  
Continued prayers for Cindy Baumgartner.  
Continued prayers for Pat and Richard

Shores.

Continued prayers for Pam Brady and family.  
Continued prayers for Shirley Martin's sister.  
Prayers for service men and women and their families.

Prayers for Peace in our homes, communities, nation and the world.



Four Generations gather at the shower for baby Ava Marie Bush. With her are Grandmother Vicki Fritz, Great Grandmother Jessie Vaughn, and mother Jana Bush.

## Sign up opportunities

There are several "sign up" opportunities on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex of the church.

There is still the opportunity to sign up to work at the Central Missouri Food Bank. You may indicate Mon-Fri, am or pm.

Cookies are needed for the CROP walk on Sunday, September 30.

Bread is needed each week for communion.

## October Communion

### Elders

Carol Cox  
Elaine Long

### Ushers

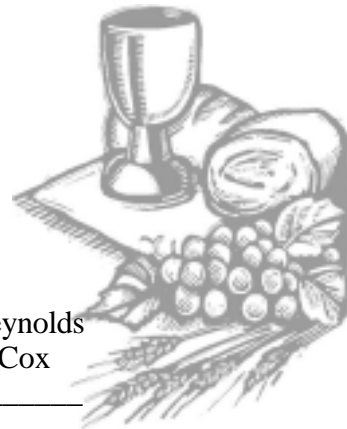
Terri Collins

### Preparation

Tom Haas

### Bread

Oct 7 – Lynn Reynolds  
Oct 14 – Carol Cox  
Oct 21 – \_\_\_\_\_  
Oct 28 – \_\_\_\_\_



## Attendance

September 2 .....	35	September 16 ....	33
September 9 .....	35	September 23 ....	43

## August finance report

We need to receive \$4,824 each month to meet our budget

	Month	Year to date
Beginning Balance	\$3,610.25	\$10,084.43
Income	\$3,602.86	\$30,424.40
Expenses	\$3,851.46	\$37,147.18
Ending Balance	\$3,361.65	\$ 3,361.65

## President's Ponderings

Jeff and I had an eye-opening and wonderful experience on our recent short-term mission trip to Quito, Ecuador. We worked building lagrillo (brick) walls for a church next to a new daycare (Mama Yoli's). We also helped lead Vacation Bible School at a couple of daycare centers in a poor, mountainside community called Atachucho. Thank you for your generous donations of supplies for the daycare centers. The need is great, and your gifts are greatly appreciated by the recipients!

Our work was organized through SIFAT (Servants in Faith and Technology). Acknowledging Christ's concern for the spiritual as well as the physical aspects of His children, SIFAT responds by sharing God's love in practical ways. Faith and technology are merged for the purpose of enabling the poor to develop holistically in Jesus Christ. I was especially impressed by their work to improve the lives of families, especially the children, through their work with improved daycare centers, curriculum development, and training of the staff. Many young children of the slums are locked alone in rooms or tied by the ankle just outside the house. Loving, desperate mothers know it is unsafe to let their children roam the streets and they themselves must work long hours to bring home food. Now SIFAT is helping the local mothers establish safe, nurturing, educational daycares for their children.

SIFAT's goal is empowerment, to break the cycle of poverty through education. Parents who have the resources to feed and clothe their own kids will turn to their neighbors and begin to develop as a community. One program, "Sister to Sister", started in 2004 with 10 women. They received training and materials from SIFAT to make jewelry and gifts out of Ecuadorean nuts, stones, and fabrics. Now with 17 members, each woman contributes her equal share of items



to the cooperative that is now self-sustaining. Monies from the sale of these Ecuadorean hand-crafted items go back to the coop members to improve their families' lives. One mother shared (through our interpreter) that before Sister to Sister, she could only afford the uniform and books to send one of her children to school. Now, all 5 of her children are in school.

Jeff had said that you get so much more than you give on mission trips, and he was right. I was deeply touched by the strong faith and caring nature of the people from SIFAT. And the people we worked with, our team members and Ecuadoreans, were warm and friendly. What a blessing to have the experience!

Lord, thank you for the opportunity to serve,  
Barbara

---

### Committees seek input

The nominating committee has been appointed, and will be seeking candidates to serve as Deacons and Elders. If you have any suggestions to offer, contact a member of the committee: Rita Adams, Kristen Cassidy, Carolyn Bethell, Terri Collins, Carol Cox, Vicki Fritz, and Barbara Moran.

The Pastoral Search Committee has been elected, and has already begun to function. If you have any input you would like to offer, contact a member of the committee: Larry Baumgartner, Pat Baumgartner, Kristen Bright, Elaine Long, Barbara Moran, Jeff Moran, Lynn Reynolds, and Brenda Rose.



**The Sister to Sister program was organized to train and enable women to develop a cooperative to make and sale jewelry which is providing basic sustenance to their village in Quito Ecuador.**

# Deducting Charitable Donations on your Income Tax Return

by Marla Carlson

The following excerpt has been taken directly from an IRS release issued on December 14, 2006 and applies to tax year 2007.

## Guidelines for Monetary Donations

To deduct any charitable donation of money, a taxpayer must have a bank record or a written communication from the charity showing the name of the charity and the date and amount of the contribution. A bank record includes canceled checks, bank or credit union statements and credit card statements. Bank or credit union statements should show the name of the charity and the date and amount paid. Credit card statements should show the name of the charity

and the transaction posting date.

Donations of money include those made in cash or by check, electronic funds transfer, credit card, and payroll deduction. For payroll deductions, the taxpayer should retain a pay stub, Form W-2 wage statement or other document furnished by the employer showing the total amount withheld for charity, along with the pledge card showing the name of the charity.

Prior law allowed taxpayers to back up their donations of money with personal bank registers, diaries or notes made around

the time of the donation. Those types of records are no longer sufficient.

In addition to the above, also keep in mind the following:

An individual is required to get a written acknowledgement from a charity for each deductible donation (either money or property) of \$250 or more.

Contributions are deductible in the year made. Donations charged to a credit card before the end of the year count for 2007. This is true even if the credit-card bill isn't paid until next year. Also, checks count for 2007 as long as they are mailed in 2007.

Make sure that the organization qualifies as a charitable organization. If in question, IRS Publication 78, available online, lists most organizations that are qualified to receive deductible contributions.

Tip: contributions to political organizations are not deductible.

For all donations of non-cash items including clothing and household items (must be in "good" used condition or better), get from the charity, a receipt that includes a description of the donated property. If a donation is left at a charity's unattended drop site, keep a written record of the donation, including a description of the item(s) and the item(s) condition.

This is a greatly simplified overview "in a nutshell" for routine cash & non-cash contributions that we all make. There are many types of donations and many rules that are constantly changing and have changed substantially from 2006 to 2007. Always be sure to consult with a tax preparer to determine the rules as they apply to your own individual situation.



Barbara Moran shows Pat Baumgartner and Carol Cox some of the items she brought back from Ecuador.



## Children's Church

September 30 – Carol Cox  
 October 7 – Marcia Loyd  
 October 14 – Lois Long  
 October 21 – Yolanda S chaffer  
 October 28 – Vicki Fritz

**October  
 food item for SERVE:  
 Soup and crackers**

## Lectionary Scriptures for October

Sun, Oct 7, '07	Sun, Oct 21, '07
Lamentations 1:1-6	Jeremiah 31:27-34
Lamentations 3:19-26	Psalms 119:97-104
or Psalm 137	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 18:1-8
Luke 17:5-10	Sun, Oct 28, '07
Sun, Oct 14, '07	Joel 2:23-32
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7	Psalms 65
Psalms 66:1-12	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
2 Timothy 2:8-15	Luke 18:9-14
Luke 17:11-19	

## Missions Committee reports activities

During June, July, and August we were able to put together seven "Backpacks of Love" which will be taken to the Festival of Sharing on October 20th.

During September we focused on the CROP Walk which will be held September 30th. Our goal was to surpass the 2005 amount of \$418.

On September 22nd the Mission Committee sponsored a carry-in dinner followed by a "Missions Connection" program. Fred shared his experiences during his trip to the Congo in August and September of 2006 as part of a team from the Disciples Amateur Radio Fellowship and United Church Amateur Network (DARF/ U-CAN). Barbara and Jeff Moran shared their experiences of their recent trip to Ecuador.

The Reconciliation offering will be taken October 14th and 21st.

---

### From the Stewardship and Finance Committee

Everyone should have picked up or received their packet of information about the Millersburg Christian Church 2008 budget askings. These askings represent needs of the various church committee to perform their work. The major portion of the budget is for administrative expenses: pastoral compensation and various office expenses. Property maintenance (electricity, water, phone, insurance, and so on) is the next largest category of budget expenses. The other committees (Christian education, worship, membership, and missions) have generally requested only a few hundred dollars each.

The askings packet includes a booklet that details each committee's budget request along with a letter from the treasurer showing your identified givings to the church through Aug. 31 of this year, and a card on which you can record your estimated giving for the year 2008.

We ask that you prayerfully consider these askings and commit to giving to Millersburg Christian Church, both in time and financially, as the spirit moves you. Return these estimates of giving in the enclosed envelope to Lisa Bright (church treasurer) or a member of the Stewardship and Finance Committee by Sunday, Oct. 7, so that we can proceed with preparing budget recommendations for the church board of directors and for the congregational meeting on Nov. 18.

Jeff Moran, Stewardship and Finance Committee Chair

Fifty cents of every dollar from this offering remains in our region to fund local initiatives that assist church-based programs that lift people out of poverty and help combat racism.

The next Mission Committee meeting will be held October 14th at 11:45 to plan for the holidays.

The items for SERVE Food Pantry for October are soup and crackers.

Elaine Long



Jeff Moran talks with Larry Baumgartner and J.H. Long at the "Missions Connection" event which featured slides from Ecuador and Congo.

---

### From the Pastoral Search Committee:

We have begun the process of search for and call of a new pastor.

Part of that process consists of finding an interim pastor to help us through a church self-examination. To begin that congregational self-examination, this issue of the newsletter includes a questionnaire (the colored sheet) that we ask you to fill out and return to the church by Sunday, Oct. 21. (This questionnaire will also be passed out in church Sunday, Oct. 14.) This questionnaire asks for your opinion about various aspects of church life and what you feel Millersburg Christian Church needs in pastoral leadership for the next several years. It should only take about 10-15 minutes to complete this questionnaire, and, of course, we need to have as many as possible returned to the Search Committee by Sunday, Oct. 21.

The Search Committee will study and discuss the results of this survey at their next meeting, Tuesday, Oct. 23.

Barbara Gulick from Jefferson City and Christine Isham-Walsh from Canton will fill the pulpit during the coming few weeks. Please make them feel welcome.

Jeff Moran  
Search Committee Chair

# CROP Walk — September 30

Churchill Memorial — 1:15 PM

## Youth to attend “YouthFest”

Youth: Please contact Barbara or Jeff Moran if you want to take part in YouthFest, a fun, mission-oriented event for youth in grades 6th-12th. YouthFest starts Friday evening and ends Saturday afternoon, October 19-20. It runs concurrently with Festival of Sharing in Sedalia, Missouri.

### Looking Ahead to Advent:

This year’s Christmas program (yes, I know, it’s only October, but we need to get all the ducks lined up) will consist of an original play by Jeff Moran (with parts for 5 older youth, an angel choir, and an adult choir, and maybe a couple of other folks) and a new Christmas song with music by Brent Moran.

Jeff Moran

## Callaway Convention scheduled

The annual Callaway County Convention of Christian Churches will be held Sunday afternoon September 30 at Mokane Christian Church. It will begin with a potluck lunch at 12:45 pm, with the meeting beginning at 2:00 pm.

There will be a special presentation by Amy Kay Pavlovich, Youth Minister at First Christian Church, Columbia, about youth ministry. There will also be reports from the various Disciples Congregations in Callaway County on what they are doing. It should be an interesting, helpful, and practical afternoon.

Lisa Bright has been treasurer for the Callaway County Convention of Christian Churches for many years, and this will be her last year. Barbara Moran is the current President of the Convention. They have both been helping to plan this event.



Address Services Requested



Millersburg Christian Church  
4527 State Road J  
Fulton, MO 65251

Non-profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 138  
Fulton, MO 65251