



Midway Presbyterian Church

The Newsletter

Midway Presbyterian Church | PO Box 343 | Midway, KY 40347 | 859.846.4571 | www.midwaypresbyterian.org

October 2016

The Newsletter is a publication of Midway Presbyterian Church

Church Staff

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Open
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Dana Edmonds
Mary Edwards
Nursery

Elders

John Davis, Clerk
Ellen Costigan
Sara Hicks
Janice Holland
Kristine McNiel
Lori Meadows
Leslie Penn
Lewis Prewitt
Bud Ratliff
David Shaw

Sunday School

10 a.m. for adults

Worship

11 a.m.

Pastor's Notes

"I don't know how to pray." It's a statement I hear sometimes. Maybe people say it because they think prayer is complicated or difficult or should be done by people who are at least 'just a bit' more religious. Even I struggle with the idea of being 'good' at prayer when I think of my gramma sitting down with her Bible to do her daily devotions. Somehow I know I could never be her. But of course, I can't be her. I can only be me. And that's really what prayer is all about. Being ourselves with God. Here is some advice to encourage even the most prayerfully challenged.



"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving."
Colossians 4:2

Pray what Jesus taught. When the disciples asked Jesus how to pray, he taught them the Lord's Prayer. "Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed by thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen." If you don't know it, learn it. If you do know it, slow it down. Pray over each phrase carefully. Expand on a phrase if it feels like you should. This

is a prayer that Christians all over the world have prayed for thousands of years. You will be in good company.

Pray honestly. Jesus tells the story of a Pharisee and a tax collector who are praying (Luke 18:9-14). The Pharisee prays what he THINKS God wants to hear, that he is righteous and law-abiding and quite generous. But the tax collector prays what he knows, that he needs God's mercy to get through the day. Honestly, I think all of us do.

Pray persistently. Jesus tells another story of a widow who keeps bothering a judge for a fair settlement in her case (Luke 18:1-8). The judge ignores her, but when she wears him out asking for justice, he finally grants it so that she will leave him alone! How much MORE will God, who loves you, grant you justice?, says Jesus. Keep asking. Keep praying. Don't give up. Your prayers may be answered. They may be answered in a way you don't expect. They WILL deepen your relationship with a God who loves you.

Prayer isn't a performance or a magic potion. The goal of prayer is to be ourselves and to let God be God's self. We pray to open ourselves to God, to tune ourselves in to God, and to commune with God. So let us pray!

Questions to ponder: *How do you pray? When do you pray? What prayers have been answered and what have not yet been answered?*

Worship With Us!

Welcome to our new Organist/Director of Music, Tyler Wilson! Tyler was the unanimous choice of our search committee and we are excited to share his love for church music and his joy for worship in small church settings. We look forward to growing in our music ministry together!

Guest Preacher, October 9—We welcome Rev. Melissa Sevier back to the pulpit!

Congregation Giving

September 2016

| | |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Giving Goal | \$5,768 |
| General Offering (Actual) | \$6,002.40 |
| Backpack Ministry | \$1,290 |
| Building Fund | \$2,600 |

Fall Festival Donations For Backpack Ministry

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Booth Bean Bag Toss | \$ 69.01 |
| Booth Face Painting | \$175 |
| Grounds Clean-Up | \$520 |

Fellowship

World Communion Sunday potluck!—Sunday, October 2. Bring in your favorite side dish or dessert to share. We celebrate our unity together and our new organist, Tyler Wilson!

Carved Pumpkin Contest, Monday October 31

Scary, silly, artistic, it's up to you! Carve a pumpkin for our front porch display. Prizes for youth and adult entries! Drop off your pumpkin on Monday, Oct 31, between 5-6pm. Display will be from 6-8pm!



FEED THE HUNGRY

October -- Crackers

Food Bank Collection

The food bank can always use the following items:
canned vegetables and beans
dry pasta | cereal | rice
canned meats and pastas
baby food | toiletries

YOGA!

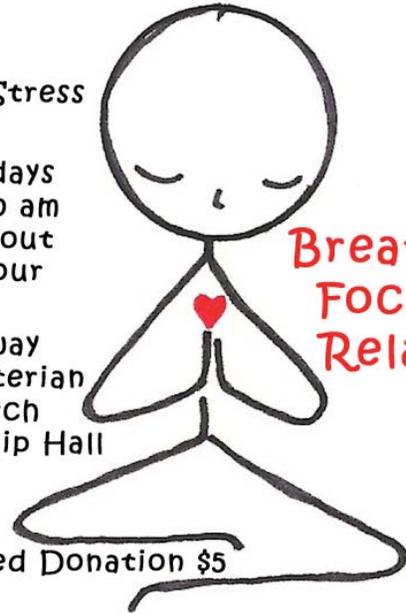
For All Abilities

Relieve Stress

Saturdays
@ 8:30 am
for about
an hour

Midway
Presbyterian
Church
Fellowship Hall

Suggested Donation \$5



Financial Report

Highlights for the period ending July 31, 2016:

- o For Budget comparison purposes, we were 58.3% through 2016
- o Regular Offerings for the first seven months were 50.9% of budget.
- o Building Fund gifts were 8.3% of budget
- o Foundation transfers were at 79.3% of budget for the first seven months.
- o Property expenses were 62.9% of budget for the period.
- o Total expenses were 55.1% of budget for the period.

Committee Meeting Schedule

October 16, Noon: Christian Ed
October 23, Noon: Fellowship
October 23, Noon: Mission
November 13 , Noon: Worship

Mission Notes

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Sandwich Ministry and with the Fall Festival booth and clean up!

COMMUNITY GARDEN CLEAN UP DAY, October 15, 9am

It's been a great year for the garden. So many of our neighbors are coming to enjoy fresh veggies that we can hardly keep up! Help us put the Garden to bed for the year. We need all the help we can get!

Weekend Backpack Ministry, Wednesdays, 4pm

Every week, we pack 15 bags for kids at Northside Elementary who don't have enough to eat on the weekend. Sponsorship for one child for one year is \$400 a year or \$40 a month. Come fill a bag! If you'd like to get involved, email Fran Stadelman, fhstadelman@ballhomes.com

Buckhorn Mission Gently Used Toy Drive—Nov 1-20. Bring in your gently used toys for the Mission Store at Buckhorn Homes for Children. Your donations will allow local families to purchase their own Christmas gifts at very reasonable prices and support Buckhorn!

Watch for These Upcoming Events:

- Girl Scouts' Waterstep shoe donation
- Giving tree during Advent
- Hot cocoa when Santa arrive

Locally Grown Youth Group

2016 Locally Grown Fall Retreat

October 21-23,

Camp Cardinal & Carter Caves State Park

This fall, Locally Grown will head to the hills for the program's first-ever fall retreat! We have rented a camp next to Carter Caves State Park, and we are preparing for an amazing time of spiritual growth, community building, and fun! Our goal as a community-wide youth ministry is to provide high-quality opportunities that ALL students can afford to attend. For that reason, this year's retreat will be provided at no cost to the youth participants. If you are interested in sponsoring a camper, please see Lee or Sara Busick.

Locally Grown: Weekly Wellness Program

(Basketball & More!)

Thursdays, 7-8:30pm, Northside Elementary School

Since the end of July, the Locally Grown program has organized a Thursday night wellness program at Northside Elementary. This has been a wonderful complement to the Wednesday night meetings. This program is rapidly growing (we are averaging 15-18 youth per week) and we are looking for more adults that are interested in playing basketball (and developing relationships with young people)! Please see Lee or Sara Busick for more information.

Golf Scramble Success!

Winners at the Golf Scramble at the Moss Hill Golf Course in Versailles, held in support of Locally Grown on September 9, 2016 were as follows:

1st Place

Gary Bush
Greg Bush
James Hicks
Danny Murphy

2nd Place

TJ Brown
Tom Brown
Terry Land
Grayson Vandegrift

3rd Place

Ray Blease
Brent Guiliani
Tim Fisher
David Shaw

Twenty-four players participated in golfing and a barbecue supper in the Club House following the event. Every player was recognized for their participation to the Locally Grown Youth Group.

A special *Thank You* goes to Lewis Prewitt for organizing the entire event, as well as Sara and Lee Busick, Grayson Vandegrift, Mike Meadows, David Shaw, Mary Weese and Sarah Wilson for taking care of so many aspects of this very successful fund raising activity.

Dear Friends:

It is hard to believe it has been three years since we had a Capital Campaign to make our new building a reality. I believe it is fair to say that this has been such *a great addition for our church and community*, to be enjoyed for many generations to come.

When the Capital Campaign was completed in 2013, we received pledges of \$181,360 which reflects the *strength* of our congregation. Most of the pledges were to be paid within a three year period, while a few were for five years, which would be completed in 2017. To date, we have received \$150,010 and I am confident that *we will meet this goal in 2017 or before!*

The reason for this letter is to continue this capital campaign for the future as we work to retire the debt associated with the building. I have included a few facts and figures below related to the Capital Campaign, building costs and loan.

- Total Cost of Building – \$570,537.17
- Initial Loan amount - \$450,000
- Term of Loan – 20 Years
- Loan Maturity Date – February 25, 2034
- Current Loan Balance – \$406,835.79 (8/31/16)
- Monthly Loan Payment - \$2,609.82 (3.5% rate, reviewed every five years)
- Capital Campaign Results to date:

| <i>Year</i> | <i>Pledges</i> | <i>Received</i> |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 2013 | \$46,720 | \$27,840 |
| 2014 | \$38,120 | \$79,010 |
| 2015 | \$38,120 | \$31,030 |
| 2016 | \$10,400 | \$12,130 (8/31/16) |
| 2017 | \$8,000 | \$0 |
| 2013-17 | \$40,000* | |
| Total | \$181,360 | \$150,010 |

When we receive pledge payments, they have been used to fund the monthly payments for the loan, and the balance used to help meet our operating expenses. We have taken this approach to minimize withdrawals from the Foundation as we continue to rely on this significantly to meet our expenses.

We are seeking your support through another pledge to help with the costs associated with the new building. As you see, we have made some progress in reducing the debt, but *we will have loan payments until 2034*. We are seeking another commitment from you to continue the strong financial support we received three years ago. This has been such a great addition to our church and the community, and *we will need a sustained effort to retire the debt*. I understand that this pledge is in addition to our regular offering pledge and this can be challenging to a congregation our size. I do feel that we are growing because of the many programs we offer and the building does provide a good venue for not only our direct mission efforts, but for community events as well.

Please consider a pledge for the continuation of our Capital Campaign. If you prefer that your pledge be applied directly to the principal balance, please indicate this on your pledge. Please submit your pledge by October 23, 2016, so this can be incorporated in our annual budget process.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Lewis Prewitt

* *pledges made for the period with no specific date referenced for payment*

OCTOBER 2016

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 8:30am Yoga 9am Garden Work Day |
| 2 10am Sunday School 11am Worship Noon POTLUCK 6pm AA | 3 Pastor Mary Vacation ----- | 4 6pm Girl Scouts | 5 7-8:30pm Locally Grown Youth Group 7pm AA | 6 | 7 | 8 8:30am Yoga 9am Garden Work Day ----- |
| 9 10am Sunday School 11am Worship 1pm Homeplace Visit ----- 6pm AA | 10 Meals on Wheels | 11 Meals on Wheels 6pm Girl Scouts 7pm Session 7pm Spirit, Mind, and Heart--Writers' Group | 12 Meals on Wheels 7-8:30pm Locally Grown Youth Group 7pm AA | 13 Meals on Wheels | 14 Meals on Wheels | 15 8:30am Yoga 9am Garden CLEAN UP DAY |
| 16 10am Sunday School 11am Worship Noon Christian Ed 6pm AA | 17 | 18 6pm Girl Scouts 6pm Finance | 19 7-8:30pm Locally Grown Youth Group 7pm AA | 20 9am Ministerial | 21 Locally Grown Youth Retreat _____ | 22 8:30am Yoga |
| 23 10am Sunday School 11am Worship Noon Mission and Fellowship ----- 6pm AA | 24 Meals on Wheels | 25 Meals on Wheels 6pm Girl Scouts | 26 Meals on Wheels 7-8:30pm Locally Grown Youth Group 7pm AA | 27 Meals on Wheels | 28 Meals on Wheels | 29 8:30am Yoga |
| 30 10am Sunday School 11am Worship 6pm AA | 31 6-8pm Carved Pumpkin Display | | | | | |

Spirit, Mind, and Heart

Have you ever thought about “spiritual writing,” using different literary forms to express your spiritual longings and experiences? Or would you like to hear or share the reflections of others, including significant spiritual writers? Come to a newly forming group in the upstairs classroom at Midway Presbyterian Church to explore spiritual memoir, essays, journals, reflections, and prayers. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 11, 7:00—8:00 PM. (We’ve changed to Tuesdays to meet more people’s scheduling needs.)

For that meeting, please feel free to bring something you’ve written, or a piece by someone else, and be prepared to read it aloud if you wish (let’s make a 5 minute limit to start). If nothing comes to mind, you may want to just talk (or write) about why you’re interested in a group like this.

We’ll be informal, with a purpose of listening and supporting, not offering critique. All are welcome.

More information? Contact Melissa Bane Sevier at (859) 321-3568 or melissa@mbswriting.com.



*Witnessing to the Love of God in Jesus Christ,
By Feeding the Hungry and Hungry of Heart*

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