

# DISCIPLES CARE NEWSLETTER

## December 2020

Rev. Dr. Colleen Carroll, Senior Minister  
Rev. Kathryn Wilson, Minister of Mission & Outreach



South Joplin  
Christian Church



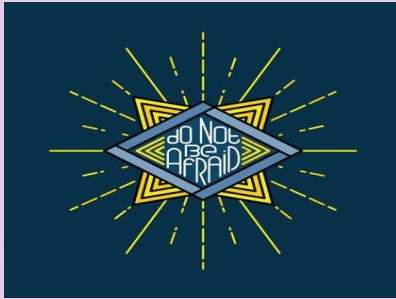
### **WELCOMING AND ACCEPTING ALL PEOPLE ALONG A JOURNEY OF FAITH AND SERVICE.**

"Welcoming and accepting all people" – is a reminder of our Welcome Statement and genuine hospitality, in the present tense so it is always relevant. "*along*" – is an invitation to join together side by side. "*journey of faith*" – implies that arrival is a myth; we are always growing "*service*" – is a natural outcome of faith and inseparable from our commitment to discipleship.



### **Advent Worship—Do Not Be Afraid!**

Our theme and material for Advent worship this year comes from Illustrated Ministry. Each week we will email a small packet of pages which include scriptures and inspirational material, small illustrations, and an additional coloring page which, when colored and pieced together at the end of the fourth week will form a stained-glass mosaic poster. The scripture text and theme for Sunday worship will come from the material, so our worship and your devotions at home will coincide. The weekly themes and scriptures are as follows:



November 29—Do not be afraid to hold HOPE: Luke 1:26-45  
December 6—Do not be afraid to bring PEACE: Luke 1:46-55  
December 13—Do not be afraid to practice JOY: Luke 2:1-14  
December 20—Do not be afraid to choose LOVE: Luke 2:15-20

For those who will be lighting Advent wreaths weekly at home, there are several suggestions:

- \* You might have supplies ready to light your wreath simultaneously with our Sunday morning worship service.
- \* You might choose to watch the Children Worship and Wonder weekly session and light your wreath together with the storyteller.
- \* You might print and use the litany from the weekly bulletin and assign reading parts to your family members.
- \* Of course you are free to use your own devotional material.

This is all very new for us, but we hope there will be something of inspirational value for all ages and stages along the faith journey. Nothing would make us happier than seeing your colorful responses or hearing your thoughtful reflections to the weekly questions, so please feel free to post to your Facebook page and tag South Joplin Christian Church, or email the church so we can share your responses. We look forward to the encouraging messages and creative engagement you will bring to this Advent adventure!

### **Christmas Eve Worship**

We are in the process of designing a meaningful online worship service which will be posted to the church YouTube channel on December 24 in hopes that you will access it at your convenience as you celebrate the observance of Christ's birth anew in your heart. If you would like to contribute a musical selection, poetry reading or scripture reading via video, please email those contributions by Friday, December 18 to Pastor Colleen at: [colleen\\_e\\_c@hotmail.com](mailto:colleen_e_c@hotmail.com)

### **Children's Advent Activities**

Children Worship and Wonder will be on our YouTube channel each Sunday in Advent, with thanks to Kathy Nicodemus. The greeting, story, and reflection time will be uploaded each Sunday for children and families to enjoy together. We suggest timing your viewing when you are also prepared to light your family advent wreath.

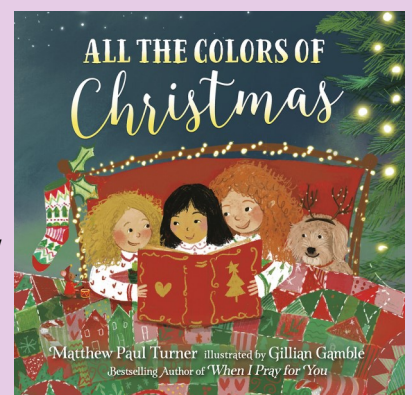
Additionally, Pastor Colleen will host a Weekly Storytime also on our YouTube channel, reading a different Advent children's story on Wednesday evenings beginning December 2. Both video events are appropriate for children, however adults may also find them hopeful and inspirational. Join us!

### **Story Walk coming to SJCC Friendship Park**

The Faith Formation Ministry Team is excited to announce our first Story Walk, to be placed in Friendship Park just in time for the Advent and Christmas season! The pages of Matthew Paul Turner's newest book, *All the Colors of Christmas* will be laminated onto signs placed throughout the park, and readers will be invited to enjoy the story along with some suggested activities or questions as they move from sign to sign.

Funds for the project came from our church library fund, and provided for an additional copy of the book to be placed in the church library for check-out at a future date when it is safe to resume library services.

Look for our announcement on the church Facebook page and share it so your friends can come and enjoy this fun holiday activity.



The church office will have limited hours during December 28-31, so please call ahead if you need assistance.



## REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS WITH REV. KATHRYN WILSON MINISTER OF MISSION & OUTREACH



*Great and Loving God, Thank you for the many opportunities you have provided that give us the chance to be your hands and feet in the world. May the hope, peace, joy and love of this advent season inspire us to be the best witness of your love in all the spaces we land. Amen.*

### Bright Futures Joplin Community Partner

“As part of our celebration of our 10 year anniversary, we want to extend our gratitude for all you do for Joplin students. The work of a Community Partner is an ongoing labor of love, and we want you to know that your partnership and care does not go unnoticed. At the heart of Bright Futures Joplin lies the goal of making connections for success, and you are the embodiment of those connections. We know that in order for a school, its teachers and its students to thrive - especially in times of uncertainty or crisis - community investment is crucial. We thank you again and again for signing on to partner with a school Site Council for the good of all. On behalf of the students, teachers and school staff who’ve been bolstered by your support, myself and the entire Board of Bright Futures Joplin send our thanks.”

Sarah Coyne  
Bright Futures Joplin Coordinator

### IRVING ELEMENTARY BOOK PROJECT/TEACHER RELAXATION ROOM



In support of the Irving Book Project to promote learning centered around cultural diversity and inclusivity SJCC Outreach recently purchased 17 books from the Amazon pre-selected book wish list. To date the school has received 64 of the 356 books on their wish list. So far this is enough to add at least two books to every classroom library. In words of appreciation from Mrs. Voorhees “Thanks so much for your generosity and for blessing us with this gift.” Thank you to members of SJCC who have purchased and donated books as well. It is not too late to support this effort which will be on-going until they have fulfilled the wish list. If you and your family would like to donate a book/s on the wish list here is the link that takes you directly to the Amazon site. The books ordered will be delivered directly to Irving .

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1HTUU1BTR3TU5?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1HTUU1BTR3TU5?ref=wl_share)

Outreach has also purchased and donated items to help furnish the Teacher/Staff Relaxation Room which is near completion. Items donated include a wall art canvas, essential oil diffuser, sound machine and a side table for the teacher/staff relaxation room.

### CHRISTMAS OFFERING

“REJOICE” - “When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.” (Matt. 2:10) This year’s theme is so appropriate as it is with much joy that we celebrate the many ministries provided through our Mid-America Region. We will receive our Christmas Offering on Sunday, December 13 and 20. 100% of the offerings received remain in our region. Your ‘spirit-led’ generosity is always appreciated. Thank you last month for your generous donation of \$470.00 for the Thanksgiving Offering.

### Thank You to Our Partners!

We asked, you delivered and now we simply say, "Thank You." We have reached another milestone in the **U.S. Census Bureau** as our 2020 Decennial count has come to an end, and we want you to know that we could not have made it without you. No words can truly convey what your sacrifices have meant as we, together, worked to achieve a complete and accurate count throughout the country. Partners like you are the true trusted voices in the community, helping to raise awareness and spread the importance of counting everyone once, only once and in the right place.



### CROSSLINES

**SJCC's Volunteer Team will not serve the 4th Thursday of December due to the holidays.**  
**SJCC's next work day is Thursday, January 28, 2021.**



Feel free to serve other days during the month when they are open. Ask for the volunteer coordinator when you arrive. Monday evenings are a great opportunity for families to serve together. You can access/submit the Volunteer Application online at <https://crosslinesjoplin.org/volunteer>.

1st Monday (commodities only) 4pm - 6:30pm. Doors lock at 6:30pm.

All other Mondays 4pm - 6pm. Doors lock at 5:30pm.

Tues - Thurs 10am - 2pm. Doors lock at 1:30pm.

**Wednesdays are commodity only. (Closed on all 5th Wednesdays)**

**Friday - CLOSED to the public.**

NOTE: 4th Wednesday commodities for December will be given out on the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Wed. in Dec.

**CROSSLINES WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 3**

Until we resume onsite food donation collections, if you would like to support Crosslines with a financial donation you may mail your contribution to the church, **1901 S Pearl Ave, Joplin, MO 64804**. Please write **CROSSLINES** on the memo line or go to the South Joplin website ([www.southjoplin-disciples.org](http://www.southjoplin-disciples.org)) and donate through Givelify. Choose Mission and Outreach or Other, then type **CROSSLINES** in the memo section.



## Prayer Requests

**Sympathy:** Ray Battin (Carrol); Lynn Kohl; Carie Gavin (Godsey); Phil Umphenour; Dan Day (Coyne); Evelyn Roy and Margaret Coulter (FCC Neosho); Patrick Peters (Asher)

**Medical:** Jason Yost (Carrol); Terry Monaco; Kathleen Swift (Akeman); Wendy Garrison; Jay White (Wilson); Carla Arnall

**COVID:** Danny Hubbard (Millard); Mary Lou York; Bill Moss; Liz & Mark Millard; Charlie & Karen Kemp; Raiz and Johanna Ali (Godsey); Leona Wilkerson; Bruce Fields (Noll); Ashley Clune; Jeni Brown (regional office manager); Edgar & Joyce Wallace (Wilson); Jason & Cheri Schuler (Cleaver-Smith); Evans' families (Cogbill); Gloria Lemur (Asher); Pryor family (Hamm)

**Other:** Sonya Anderson (Wilcox)

**Military:** Michael Crofford; Corey Irwin; Josh Robb; Dylan Theil; Gary Wald; Lorenzo Woods

**Ongoing:** John Asher; Judy Ballard; Nancy & Chico Bond; Dani Bowen (Meadows); Janet Burns; Veronica Carnahan; Samantha Catey; Betty Coan; Rylee Davis (Gagle); Lois Demaree; Rebecca Doerflinger (Hall); Carolyn & Tom Fortson; Jim Frieze; Marea Gagle; Mike and Candace Gandy (Hall); Mary Gilmore; Elizabeth Hayes; Alyxis Hefty; Sue Hess; Jewell Holland; Jim Holland; Daryl Hughlett; Roland Hughlett; Bethany James; Fern Jensen; Kenneth Johnson; Betty Kemp; Charlie Kemp; Virginia Long; Sam Knudtson; Lamley Family; Shirley Martin; Virgil McCoy; Betty McKelvey; Tom Meadows; Sara Metts; Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson); Loretta Monaco (Kemp); Easton Murdock; Bethany Newman; Larry Nauser (Fitterling); Nicodemus Family; Jim Owen; Diana Parker (Coit); Matthew Paulda; Josh Petty; Alexis Prater; Todd Prater; Cameron Ransom; Sharon Reeve; Raquel Sapien; Amy Schneider; Kimmy Smith; Sue Smith; Lou Starks; Mike Tesh; Michelle Vorhees; Tova Wallace-Lee; Karen Patchin Watson; Mayree West (Carroll/Hamm); Will Wilkerson; Sherry Willerton; Charles Wilson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou York, and all unspoken requests.

**Global Ministry Partners:** Ghana, West Africa (Larry & Debbie Colvin); Koriyama Hosonuma Church, Fukushima, Japan—Rev. Yuzuru Komine (Interim)

Dec. 6 – Danielle Murry-Knowles, Lesotho  
Dec. 13 – Maria Bakalian, Lebanon  
Dec. 20 – Jeffrey Mensendiek, Japan  
Dec. 27 – Ignacio Salinas, Nicaragua

## GROUPS



### GREEN TEAM NEWS



With a new year coming, what will you do for 2021? Lose weight, exercise, save money? How about doing something for the planet, such as recycle, compost, walk or ride your bike, use public transportation, eat less meat and more vegetables, go organic, plant a tree, etc. Challenge yourself on how you can make some changes, and do your part in caring for planet earth; there's no Plan B.

**GREEN TIP:** instead of throwing away your Christmas tree, recycle it. Compost it into mulch for landscaping, replant it and let wildlife use it, or save the pine needles—soak them in water and use them as air freshener for your home.

**Handbell Rehearsal change:** Handbell practice will be on Tuesday, December 1 at 6:30 PM (instead of Wednesday) for this week only.

**NOTE:**  
No Worship service on December 27 to give staff a well-deserved rest.

### YouTube Channel

As we do more activities online, be sure to find and subscribe to the church YouTube channel for greater ease in finding our videos. Go to YouTube and type South Joplin Christian Church. Our church logo should be visible.

## EVENTS/OTHER STUFF

### November Board Action

Meeting via Zoom on November 10, the board approved motions for:

- a revision to the employee job description for church custodian;
- a proposed list of nominations for 2021 leadership
- a proposed 2021 budget from the Budget Committee,
- a suspension of bylaws requiring a congregational meeting to vote on budget and leadership nominations, and substituting a ballot which will be mailed to each household along with a SASE for returning the ballot by November 27. Ballots to be counted by Ray Reaves and Sandy Meadows and an email sent to the church with final results.

### 2021 Leadership Additions

**Chair of the Board:** Margie Fitterling

**Vice Chair of the Board:** Darlene Coit

**Board Secretary:** Anita Frieze

**Financial Treasurer:** Shari Cullumber

**Assistant Financial Treasurer:**

Daniell Sanders

**Financial Secretary:** Leanna Carrol

**Assistant Financial Secretary:** Sue Sterrett

**Elders, Class of 2023:** Mike Fittering, Betsy Wheeler

**Permanent Fund Trustees, Class of 2023:** Jennifer Reaves, Anita Frieze

**Diaconate Class of 2023:** Ray Gall, George Gagle, Patt Hinds, Karen Kemp, Lisa Wilcox, James Roof, Amanda Hall, Alecia Ratliff

PROUD TO BE A



"In appreciation for your heart for kids. Display it proudly for all to see: You are what makes Bright Futures Joplin possible. You are the backbone of our ability

to care for Joplin students. You are proving that while Every Child Needs a Champion, they've found one in your organization."

### Welcome New Member, Cyndi Cogbill

Cyndi expressed a desire to unite with this congregation and was received into membership on November 20, 2020 by Pastor Colleen. At a future date when it is safe to welcome Cyndi in person, we will rejoice to welcome her in worship. You may reach out to Cyndi to welcome her at 417-825-3318 or P.O. Box 3883, Joplin, MO 64803.

## Support SJCC Outreach

When shopping on Amazon, please use the following link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/44-0574395> and all of your eligible shopping will benefit SJCC. No matter how large or small your purchase, 0.5% of the amount spent can add up for us. Thank you in advance for your support!



**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.



# DECEMBER 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1 World AIDS Day</b>  6:30PM Handbell Practice	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Office Closed on Fridays and Saturdays	<b>5</b>
<b>6 Advent #2</b> 915AM Elders 1045AM Worship online	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  630PM Board Meeting on Zoom	<b>9</b>  6:30PM Handbell Practice	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 Advent #3</b> 915AM Elders 1045AM Woship online Christmas Offering	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  6:30PM Handbell Practice	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20 Advent #4</b> 915AM Elders 1045AM Worship online Christmas Offering	<b>21</b>  630PM Kathryn's PRC	<b>22</b>  630PM Colleen's PRC	<b>23</b>	<b>24 Office Closed</b>  Christmas Eve Worship Online	<b>25 Christmas</b>	<b>26 Kwanzaa begins</b>
<b>27</b> No Worship at SJCC	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b>		

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### Elder

- December 6: Mike Fitterling
- December 13: Darlene Coit
- December 20: Jim Cullumber
- December 27: NA

### Sound

- December 6: Ken Moser
- December 13: Don Smith
- December 20: Ray Reaves
- December 27: NA

### Weekly Scripture

- December 6: Luke 1:46-55
- December 13: Luke 2:1-14
- December 20: Luke 2:15-20
- December 27: NO WORSHIP AT SJCC

## December Birthdays

- 1 Samantha Cline
- 2 Spenser Cullumber
- 2 Will Delehanty
- 2 Shirley Martin
- 5 Ray Gall
- 9 Mia Coyne
- 18 Julie Moser
- 20 Alecia Ratliff
- 14 Amanda Hall
- 24 Susan Wolfenbarger
- 25 Vance Halfaker
- 28 George Randall
- 30 Leanna Carrol
- 30 Kayci Evans

## December Anniversaries

- 18 Mike & Margie Fitterling

