



Disciples Care Newsletter

September 2021

Rev. Dr. Collen Carroll, Senior Minister

Rev. Kathryn Wilson, Minister of Mission and Outreach



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.

What Shall We Bring?



Our fall financial stewardship emphasis is centered around a question: *What Shall We Bring?* In the weeks ahead we'll explore what it means to be intentional in our sharing of gifts. On Oct. 31, you will be encouraged to bring your Estimate of Giving for 2022 as part of our worship.

“What Shall We Bring” is asked by the people of God and follows a moment when God, through the voice of the prophet Micah, has rejected their offerings and worship as meaningless and hollow. They have not followed in the way of God with mercy and justice, but instead have “trampled the poor and perverted all equity”.

God has been faithful, but the people have not been. In response to their fickle nature, God has now threatened Divine retribution and judgment. God wants their hearts, not thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of oil as empty sacrifice to cover their mis-deeds. The message is that a life of relationship with God inevitably results in constant and intentional (not random) acts of justice and love of mercy.

Acting justly means actively working to rectify that which favors some and crushes others. Loving mercy includes giving one's self as offering over and over. Loving mercy means offering generosity and forgiveness out of a love that transcends our prejudice, because God has, does, and will continue to do the same for us.

A humble walk with God implies that we recognize justice and mercy aren't dependent on our standards or abilities. Humility keeps our egos in check so that we don't think of ourselves as “magnanimous vigilantes” but rather as humble followers responding to the call from a faithful Judge and Savior.

The invitation is to come in response to the faithfulness and goodness of God. To give gifts not as bribe or atonement, but out of a singular love for one who has made us and loved us first. And such a love will lead to action that reflects real relationships with God and with the whole of creation.

The question of what to bring is answered when hearts are committed to a life of generosity that spans from our actions and gestures to our very personality and lifestyle. We look forward to this journey together.

Jim Cullumber

Stewardship chair



Consultation with Church Extension

Pastors and church leaders met via Zoom on Tuesday, August 24 with Church Extension consultant Rosario Ibarra to discuss evaluation of our facility and barriers to our ministries due to our inoperable elevator. Inaccessibility is obviously our main deterrent, but before we invest in repairs which may be cost-prohibitive, we wanted help considering all the options.

Rosario recommended that we investigate the estimated value of our property with real estate agents familiar with commercial properties, and consider various options and contingencies including sale as-is (with no repairs to the elevator or non-electrical access), cost of demolition if required, and potential of parceling part of the property for sale since we currently own three-quarters of the block. Obtaining estimates for repairs and updates were also recommended.

A facilities task force will be named following our next church board meeting on September 14. Your continued prayers for guidance and discernment are deeply appreciated.



Rosario Ibarra



REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBORS WITH REV. KATHRYN WILSON

MINISTER OF MISSION & OUTREACH



We can best serve others when we serve with hearts of compassion and love and with an open mind and listening ears as we walk alongside and stand with them in their time of need.

Outreach Words of Thanks

The Outreach Ministry extends words of “thank you” to all of our congregation members who volunteered their time to staff our ministry tent at Emancipation Park Days and JOMO Pridefest. Although we battled extreme heat at both events, you enabled SJCC to have a visible presence at both events. Again we say thank you.

It's Not Too Late!

The 2021 Festival of Sharing is fast approaching but it's not too late for you to drop off your backpack items at the church. Remember we are asking that you donate complete packs and not just items that go into the packs. The deadline to bring your complete packs to fill our “Backpacks of Love” is **September 12**. A complete pack contains: 1 child soft toothbrush (in original package); 1 tube child flavored toothpaste (4-6 oz.); 1 small stuffed animal; 1 T-shirt child medium, child large or adult small; 1 pkg. with 3 pair underpants and 1 pair of child socks. (No toddler sizes.) Consider teaming up with another family/individual and sharing the cost. Outreach will be purchasing the backpacks. Don't want to fill a pack? Outreach will gladly receive your financial donations as well. You will find totes for collection of completed packs in the Narthex and also in the hallway by the church office. Please indicate Festival of Sharing on donations made by check or Givelify. It appears that the number of volunteers for the Sharefest held in Republic is being limited and therefore we will not be attending the event as a group as previously planned on September 18. However, our “Backpacks of Love” will still be dropped off at Hood United Methodist Church that morning.

Mission and Service and Our Christian Identity

Mission and service evolve out of our **COMPASSION** for others. In his book, *A Fearless Heart: How the Courage to Be Compassionate Can Transform Our Lives*, Dr. Thupten Jinpa states, “Compassion is a sense of concern that arises when we are confronted with another's suffering and feel motivated to see that suffering relieved.”

“Compassion is what connects the feeling of empathy to acts of kindness, generosity, and other expressions of altruistic tendencies.” How is the service or the outreach provided by SJCC impacting or transforming lives? Where and how are you willing to serve as we continue to push ourselves out of our comfort zone and heed God's calling to serve others and bring wholeness to others in this fragmented world? Mission is not about what makes us feel good, but more about making a positive difference in the lives of others.



CROSSLINES

In August Crosslines hosted it's end of the summer “Free Week” when was shopping area is open to the public. During those five days they were able to help 222 men, women and children with necessary clothing items. What a blessing. The next “Free Week” is scheduled in March 2022. Although Crosslines does much to address food insecurity in our community, it is sad to say that like SJCC they also recently experienced the theft of the catalytic converters from their delivery truck. However, they rejoice that this did not hamper the ministry's ability to continue its six food pickups per day.



SJCC's Volunteer Team serves the 4th Thursday of each month.

SJCC's next work day is Thursday, September 23, 2021.

Many thanks to the members of our Volunteer Team who serve faithfully each month.

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> or contact Crosslines Operations Manager, Carrie Pence, at (417-782-8384).

Hours of Operation

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.

Your financial donations for Crosslines are very much appreciated. If you would like to make a contribution through the church, you can mail it directly to the church, **1901 S Pearl Ave, Joplin, MO 64804** or place in the offering plate. Please specify **CROSSLINES** or go to the South Joplin website (www.southjoplin.org) and donate through Givelify. Choose Mission and Outreach or Other, then type **CROSSLINES** in the memo section.

Prayer Requests

Medical: Betty Adams (Wilson); John Asher; Elizabeth Buxton (Carroll); Becci Godsey; Alpha “Fern” Jensen; Jace Goodwin (Fitterling); Jewell Holland (Millard); baby Max Poteet (Kemp); Baby Cory (Randall); George Randall; Jared Peterson (Cleaver/Smith); Carolyn Theil

Sympathy: Nancy Jackson (Gandy); DeGee Brown (Coit/Fitterling); Mark Miller (Wheeler)

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

Other: Evan Davis (Wilson)

Ongoing: John Asher; Judy Ballard; Beth Bethards; Dani Bowen (Meadows); Janet Burns; Veronica Carnahan; Nic Castlebury; Samantha Catey; Betty Coan; Rylee Davis (Gagle); Lois Demaree; Rebecca Doerflinger (Hall); Amy (Stiles) Duell; Kyle Ford (Wolfenbarger); Carolyn & Tom Fortson; Ray Gall; Mary Gilmore; Alyxis Hefty; Sue Hess; Jewell Holland; Jim Holland; Darius Hughlett (Wilson); Daryl Hughlett; Roland Hughlett; Bethany James; Fern Jensen; Betty Kemp; Sam Knudtson; Lamley Family; Shirley Martin; Virgil McCoy; Betty McKelvey; Tom Meadows; Sara Metts; Missionary families (Huff, Reaves, Wilson); Easton Murdock; Bethany Newman; Larry Nauser (Fitterling); Nicodemus Family; Jim Owen; Diana Parker (Coit); Matthew Paulda; Josh Petty; Alexis Prater; Reese Prater; Todd Prater; Cameron Ransom; Sharon Reeve; Raquel Sapien; Kimmy Smith; Sue Smith; Lou Starks; Mike Tesh; Michelle Vorhees; Tova Wallace-Lee; Karen Patchin Watson; Will Wilkerson; Sherry Willerton; Charles Wilson; Birdie Woods; Mary Lou York, and all unspoken requests.

Global Ministry Partners:
September 5: Rachel Pellett, Jamaica
September 12: RJ Howard, Fiji
September 19: Mark Knowles, Lesotho
September 26: Raul Santiago-Rivera, Puerto Rico



Groups

August Board Meeting

The church board met on August 10 to receive reports and conduct business. July was the lowest month so far in general giving since the start of COVID. Darryl Coit estimated repairs to the church break-in on July 18 to be \$9881. Pastor Colleen will serve as the contact person with Church Extension while we engage their services to help us examine our facility and ministry needs. Full reports and meeting minutes are available in the church office for those with interest. The next meeting of the board will be Tuesday, September 14 at 6:30 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Adult Faith Formation

Will resume on September 12 along with our children and youth classes at 9:30 AM. Our topic the first seven weeks is “My Neighbor Is Muslim – Exploring the Muslim Faith,” published by Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. With the sudden influx of attention on Afghan refugees as well as our commitment as a congregation to interfaith dialogue and relations, it could prove to be very timely. The material is available in PDF format for those who wish to read in advance or cannot participate in person. Contact Pastor Colleen to request a copy.

Pie Making

The pie making is a CWF fund raiser, anyone from the congregation is welcome to help. The pies are made by hand and then are frozen to be sold later to the public. Pie making will **start Saturday Sept 11**, when the pie dough is made. Then Tuesday Sept 14 and Wed Sept 15 actual pie making begins. Work is from **9 am until 2 pm**, with a lunch break, and a mid morning coffee break. Everyone brings a sack lunch, dessert is provided. Approximately 150 pies will be made, including sugar free pies made by order only. Price will be \$15.00 each. Please call Ellen Traver 417-659-9080 or 417-439-3274 if you have any questions.

EVENTS/OTHER

September Scriptures

September 5 – Mark 7:1-9, 24-30
“Breaking Tradition”
September 12 – Mark 8:22-26
“Look Again”
September 19 – 1 Samuel 3:1-10
Youth Mission Worship
September 26 – Isaiah 56:1
Reconciliation Sunday.
“Revealing God’s Justice”

Power of Prayer

“Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” Matthew 18:20.
In difficult times when we struggle to know how to make a positive difference, FIRST we pray. You are invited to join in a time of silent prayer in the Chapel beginning September 1st at 9:00 AM and each Wednesday following. If you are unable to pray in person, please add your prayers from your home. Betsy Wheeler 434-0318.

LIFT YOUR VOICE AND SING

“Singing is the sound of the soul.”
James Runcie
Choir practice will resume on September 8th at 6:00 PM followed by handbell practice. It will be good to praise God with our voices again. Concerns due to COVID are recognized and respected. Please call Betsy Wheeler 434-0318 if you have questions.

Eight Pillars of Joy

We are pleased with the response to the sermon series on *The Book of Joy*, and the eight pillars of joy. As we face the challenges of limited gathering due to the ongoing pandemic as well as the lingering concerns of our inoperable elevator, we urge you to keep these practices in mind and heart and bind them together with constant prayer. As a reminder, the first four pillars of the *mind* are Perspective, Humility, Humor, and Acceptance, and the remaining four pillars of the *heart* are Forgiveness, Gratitude, Compassion, and Generosity.

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!



SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9AM Prayer Partners 9:30AM CWF 6:30PM Adult Bells	2 Cluster 3 Ministers on Zoom	3	4
5 9:15AM Elders 10:45AM Worship	6 6:30PM NA Meeting	7 6:30PM Committee Meetings	8 9AM Prayer Partners 6PM Choir/Bells	9	10	11
12 8AM Elders 9:30AM Faith Formation 10:45AM Worship/CW&W	13 6:30PM NA Meeting	14 Apple Pie Making 6:30PM Board Meeting	15 9AM Prayer Partners Apple Pie Making 6PM Choir/Bells	16	17	18
19 8AM Elders 9:30AM Faith Formation, 10:45AM Worship/CW&W Youth Mission Sunday, 12PM Fellowship Dinner	20 6:30PM NA Meeting	21 6:30PM Pastor Colleen's PRC	22 9AM Prayer Partners 6PM Choir/Bells	23 9:45AM-2PM Crosslines	24	25
26 8AM Elders 9:30AM Faith Formation, 10:45AM Worship/CW&W Reconciliation Ministries Sunday	27 6:30PM NA Meeting	28	29 9AM Prayer Partners 6PM Choir/Bells	30		

RESPONSIBILITIES

Elders

Sept 5: Mike Fitterling

Sept 12: Darlene Coit

Sept 19: Jim Cullumber

Sept 26: Mark Millard

Camera & Sound

Sept 5: Judy Schneider/Darryl Coit

Sept 12: Jenn Reaves/Ray Reaves

Sept 19: Sandy Meadows/Don Smith

Sept 26: Jenn Reaves/Ken Moser

Diaconate

September 5: Communion- usher Connie Abraham, K C Brockman
Homebound- Tom Hamm

September 12: Communion- usher Amanda Hall, Lisa Wilcox
Homebound- Don Smith

September 19: Communion- usher Megan Bever, Sherry Crumbliss
Homebound- Susan Wolfenbarger

September 26: Communion- usher James Roof, Raquel Sapien
Homebound- Patt Hinds

Children's Worship & Wonder

September 5: No Worship & Wonder

September 12: Storyteller - KC Brockman, Greeter - Jessica Fletcher-Fiero

September 19: Storyteller - Karen Fitterling, Greeter- Leanna Carrol

September 26: Storyteller - Karen Kemp, Greeter - Laney Reaves

Sunday School (K thru 5)

September 12: Teacher - Jessica Faucett, Helper - Carla Arnall

September 19: Teacher - Darlene Coit, Helper - K C Brockman

September 26: Teacher - Leanna Carrol, Helper - Karen Kemp

September Birthdays



3 Chance Bailey

3 Tom Wheeler

9 Marea Gagle

12 Raymond Reaves

14 Mary Lou York

16 Benjamin Cullumber

18 Susie Moser

20 Tom Meadows

22 Rocky Eckhardt

22 Ellen Traver

23 Shawna Eckhardt

25 Samantha Catey

29 Cooper Bailey

September Anniversaries

4 Timicia Curtis & Malik Taylor

12 Roger & Ellen Traver

14 Donna Fuller & Shirley Martin

22 George & Willa Randall

24 Sean & Kathy Nicodemus

25 Mike & Judy Schneider