



MILLERSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

"In the heart of the community, with the community at heart."

John DeLaporte, Pastor

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312-752-0766

AUGUST 2025

Stewardship that Aspires!

It is August which means that MCC's annual stewardship appeal is right around the corner. Next month we'll begin talking "time, talent, and treasure," and reflecting on the dollars and cents of being church. Throughout August, our committees will assemble budgets that reflect the resources they anticipate needing for the year ahead. Those budgets will be submitted to our Stewardship and Finance Committee for review, and inform our stewardship goals for the upcoming year.

At the July board meeting it was suggested that committees consider creating two budgets. One that reflects their actual needs and costs, and a second that is more *aspirational* expressing what could be possible if those resources were available. This strikes me as not only a great fiscal exercise, but a great spiritual exercise for all of us as we consider our own stewardship commitment for the year ahead.

What might be possible...if...?!

To aspire means to strive for, to seek eagerly after, to reach and attain. Etymologically, *aspire* comes from the Latin word meaning "to breathe." The root, *spirare*, is the same root for the word "spirit" or "breath of God". Thus, in a spiritual sense, *to aspire* means to strive for or seek after the things of the Spirit. We reach for and endeavor to attain that which God desires for us.

An aspirational budget reaches and seeks. It strives for what's possible instead of settling for what already is. An aspirational budget responsibly wonders, "*What if?*" It gives permission to dream a little and get excited about the possibilities and potential that the Spirit has in store. *What causes could we support if...? What upgrades to our facilities could we make if...? How might we elevate our experience of worship if...? What technology might help us reach more people if....? What could we do to support our young families or nurture growing leaders if...?*

This month you are encouraged to wonder, "*What if?*" Give yourself permission to dream a little and reflect on what a spiritually aspirational stewardship might look like for you and your household. After all, an aspirational budget will only remain a hypothetical "*What if?*" unless it is enlivened by an aspirational congregation. You don't make it 189 years as a congregation without a little aspiration! It will take all of us to breathe life into the dollars and cents of being church as we reach and seek after the Spirit together.

What if, MCC?

I can't wait to find out!

Prayer Requests

- For Randy Loyd recovering from knee replacement surgery
- For Amanda Nolte's best friend's father, Dutch, as he navigates cancer treatment
- For Ryan Link, friend and neighbor of MCC, as he heals from a surgery
- For Patty Eggleston's cousin who passed away suddenly from heatstroke
- For Wayne Gilden, friend and neighbor of MCC, healing from a kidney transplant
- For the Daily Family, mourning the passing of Patrick's cousin, Donnie.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING:

- 2 Ashley Hackmann
John Tutt
- 3 Brent Moran
Hayden Long
Hollis Long
- 7 Linda Reed Brown
- 8 David Rose
- 12 Bill Bright
- 14 John McCray
Brianna Force
- 15 Nathan Roberts
- 17 Lysandra Moran
- 18 Josephine Harris
J. H. Long
Brock Simmons
- 25 Riley Simmons
- 29 Junior McCray
- 30 Ava Bush



Prayers of Joy for Brenda and Danny Rose whose 1st great-grandchild, Rose Wilhelmina Mayne, was born on July 15 at 10:50 a.m. Rose weighed in at 7 lbs. 1 oz and is 19 inches long. Congratulations great-grandma and grandpa!



Connie Cheren, Pastor John wearing a clean water backpack, and Sammy from Partners for Care. PFC works to partner with those who can improve the lives of people in Kenya. They distribute water backpacks and Mobility carts built at Mobility Worldwide in Columbia MO.

This is the blanket workshop held at MCC on June 30 for Humanity for Children. We accomplished sewing 50 or so blankets to go in the birthing kits. Great lunch served by David Humphrey. Thanks to Maurine Long, Robbie Humphrey, Brenda Rose, Vickie Roberts, Barbara Moran for sharing their sewing skills.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Dollar Balances for Millersburg Christian Church (MCC) accounts:

	2/21/2025	3/17/2025	4/20/2025	5/19/2025	6/16/2025	7/24/2025
Checking	27,379	27,337	39,665	38,843	28,544	23,088
Savings	249	250	251	252	253	254
Special	14,704	15,159	15,078	15,436	15,408	16,213
CD 7-mo. at 3.30% interest, expires 12/28/2025.						10,000
PayPal Including payments made via PayPal during the garage sale.						417
Flex Fund (Disciples Church Extension Fund): This fund pays 3.32 % interest.						5,484.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Guess, logic, intuition, common sense, these terms all involve assumptions. However, after the facts are known, such reasoning can be akin to stating $1+1=3$. Proverbs Chapter 18, verse 2 indicates that "A fool does not delight in understanding, but only in airing his own opinion." This is illustrated by airplane passengers' concerns when the pilot announced an engine failure, resulting in an increased flight time. Not too much later the pilot revealed a second engine went down, again reducing the aircraft's speed. Then, when the pilot proclaimed both a third engine was lost and a further speed reduction, one of the passengers loudly proclaimed, "If that last engine fails, we'll be up here all night."

So, how does this impact Stewardship? The budget for FY 2026 is now being prepared and, while economists have predicted inflation will remain steady during the new year, the committee chairs are left to guess what new needs their committee will face and, equally important, the church's income. A crucial fact here is how much pledged support the church can expect. Pledges serve a dual purpose; they cause each of us to consider what our financial commitment to the MCC will be and they also help the planners create a realistic budget. Budgets and pledges are an indicator of our desires but unexpected events can seriously modify both. Just like MCC's budget, pledges can be changed in the face of new facts. However, without a logical starting place neither committee chairs nor church members can develop a meaningful plan. This being so, all of us are asked to make our best guess on our financial support for MCC in 2026 and pledge this on Commitment Sunday, October 5.

On July 6, the MCC family enjoyed homemade ice cream and a Game of BUNCO!!





AUGUST



					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1st Sunday Social – 9 :45		Adam & Michelle Hans				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Pastor's cabinet after worship	Rodney & Janet Latty	Randy & Marsha Loyd		Food Market 1:45-4:30		
17	18 Newsletter deadline	19	20 Serve at Open Table	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Newsletter assembly	28	29	30
31						

Millersburg Christian Church
4527 State Road J
Fulton, MO 65251

Return Service Requested



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
**ORDINATION OF
JOHN
DELAPORTE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
MILLERSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH
4527 STATE ROAD J
ORDINATION SERVICE AT 11:00AM
LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW

Monetary donations to benefit The Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri will be collected. Visit www.sharefoodbringhope.org/give. Write "Delaporte Ordination" in the Food and Fund Drive line to designate your gift.



THOSE WHO SERVE:

Elder: Bob Green

Diaconate: Rita Adams

Larry Strawhorn



SERVE pantry for August: canned fruits

9:45-10:15 Adult Discussion Group

10:30 a.m. Worship Begins

John Delaporte, Pastor

**Brenda Williamson, Administrative
Assistant and Bookkeeper**

Church telephone number is 573-642-2939

Church email address is: mcc1836@socket.net

Brenda's email is: blouwilliamson@yahoo.com

Find us on the web at

www.millersburgchristian.church.org

You are welcome to join us in person to worship in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. To join our worship service by ZOOM, send an email to MCC1836@socket.net, and put "ZOOM Church" in the subject line.

The link and password for our weekly ZOOM worship will be emailed every Thursday. You can connect by ZOOM on your laptop, tablet, or smartphone. You can also join to just listen to the service by non-smartphone. Join by 10:20 a.m. Services start at 10:30 a.m. Previous sermons are posted at our website:
www.millersburgchristian.church.org.