

# Barry Good News!

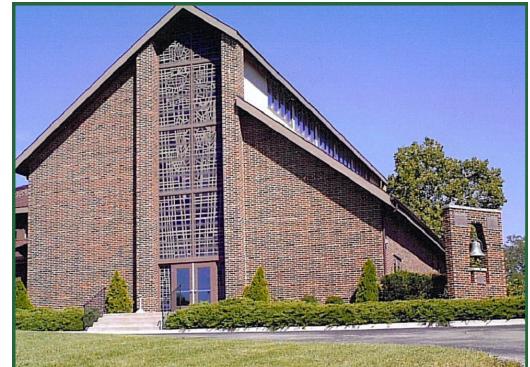
Carol Studebaker, Editor

May 1, 2020

**Church Office:** 816.436.0462

Email: [office@barrychristianchurch.com](mailto:office@barrychristianchurch.com)

**Join us for Sunday Worship!**  
8:30 - First Worship Service  
9:45 am - Sundays School classes for children and adults  
11:00 - Second Worship Service  
**Wednesday Bible Study**  
6:00 pm



*Barry Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
since 1840*



## Honor God, Seek Christ, Serve Others Together

### Staff

**Senior Minister:** Rev. Dr. Dennis Patience – [dennispatience@gmail.com](mailto:dennispatience@gmail.com)

**Family Life Director:** Jim Frentrop - [jim.frentrop@gmail.com](mailto:jim.frentrop@gmail.com)

**Director of Music:** Andrew Schmidt - [andrewpauls@gmail.com](mailto:andrewpauls@gmail.com)

**Organist:** Lenora Remmert - [klnremmert@yahoo.com](mailto:klnremmert@yahoo.com) **Administrative Secretary:** Carol Studebaker - [office@barrychristianchurch.com](mailto:office@barrychristianchurch.com)

### Ponderings of Patience

#### *Spring is Springing Forth. Yet, a Cloud Still Looms Over Us*

Given his brighter colors, a daddy robin appears to be gathering nesting materials outside my church office window today. Both daddy and momma robins gather materials, but dad's – don't be disappointed to hear that it's the mama robin that actually builds the nest! Knowing nothing of coronavirus, the robins are busy with their nesting activities during this pleasantly cool and refreshing Spring Season while the flowering crabapple trees, and multicolored tulips and daffodils are blooming profusely!

For people of the world, however; the Spring of 2020 continues to be darkened by the ever-widening storm of coronavirus. We feel deep sorrow and shed quiet tears for the precious souls lost to this world and others suffering illness at the hand of an unseen and silent culprit. We pray for the fierce, yet small army of medical personnel and first response personnel fighting the front-line battle of this pandemic. We pray for those who have lost loved ones and for those fighting a personal battle against this illness. We rejoice with those who've made a recovery. We pray for the millions facing grave uncertainty as more than 26.5 Million jobs, or 20% of the nation's employment, has ceased in this country alone.

#### *Return to Worship Still Uncertain as Stay-at-Home Order Extended until May 15<sup>th</sup>*

There are still many unknowns for us as Mayor Quinton Lucas has extended the stay-at-home order until May 15<sup>th</sup> for Kansas City, Missouri. At present, we are still wondering what worship may look like in an era of "social distancing." We wonder if it will be plausible for us to conduct Sunday School classes for adults and children. Presently we are simply awaiting further instructions from medical and governmental officials as we recognize the importance of health and safety for everyone. As soon as we know what may be plausible and safe for us, in a return to assembled worship or other activities, we will inform our congregation by e-mails for those who have e-mail addresses and by telephone calls for those among us who do not have email addresses.

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***The Church's Food Pantry is Available!***

Please help us get the word out that food is most certainly available for families in need! With the significant loss of employment for so many, we are seeing an increase in the number of new families requesting assistance from the church's food pantry. Further details are described in a separate article in this newsletter.

***2020 Vacation Bible School and Tall Oaks Camps are Canceled***

After considerable deliberation we need to communicate that this year's Vacation Bible School is canceled for July 2020. With the on-going uncertainties regarding assemblies, the length of time it takes to organize this event and the fact that young children would have difficulty understanding social distance protocols, it seems best to simply wait until the summer of 2021. Many thanks to Kathie Connell for the planning she had already done and for contacting the leaders involved. All camps and conferences at the Tall Oaks Camps and Conference Center have also been canceled through August of this year.

***Upper Room Devotional Available***

The May-June *Upper Room Devotional* is available! We have 15 large print copies and 20 of the smaller print pocket size copies. Please call Carol in the church office and we will be happy to mail a copy to you.

***Thank You for Your Generous Contributions!***

For April, which included Easter Sunday we have been blessed with general offerings of \$23,687.32 for anticipated monthly expenses of: \$24,063. We are also in receipt of \$1,940 in cash to purchase more goods for the church's Food Pantry; and we have also received a total of \$2,045 for the Youngest Among Us Youth Director's Fund. For helping us sustain the church's regular commitments of salaries, insurance and utilities we are grateful as we are also reaching out to meet the needs of others.

***Thanks for Keeping in Touch!***

It has been heartwarming to experience the many ways our people are keeping in touch with one another: telephone conversations, notes, a car parade for the birthday of one of the youngest among us, and brief videos on Facebook, to name a few. Please remember that the weekly sermons are available on the church's web site: **BarryChristianChurch.com**. On the green bar, click on the word "Sermons" and the most recent message will appear first with subsequent Sunday messages following below. If you have a smart phone, tapping on the three bars for Menu will access the same green section with the word, "Sermons."

***Our Lord God is with Us!***

As we pray for and support in any ways possible, the many so severely affected by the coronavirus, may we also know that there is always hope in the Lord's presence. As Zephaniah 3:17a tells us: "The LORD your God is with you; his power gives you victory. The LORD will take delight in you, and in his love he will give you new life."

## ***The Church's Food Pantry is Available!***

Please help us get the word out that hearty food staples are presently available for families in need! With the significant loss of employment for so many, we are hearing stories of job losses from recipients, as we have most definitely seen an increase in the number of new families requesting assistance from the church's food pantry. Presently, there are about 50 families coming each month to the pantry.

We are grateful for generous contributions in recent weeks, as more than \$3,000 worth of canned and dried goods, ground beef, hot dogs and other essentials have been contributed by members of our church family and also given by people outside the congregation wishing to help with this need.

Recipients of the Food Pantry can simply call the church office at: 816-436-0462 and set up an appointment with Carol. Appointments for pickup are usually made on Tuesdays and Thursdays. In compliance with the Mayor's "essential business protocol" Carol is typically in the church office on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We have always operated a "no questions asked" Food Pantry, as we wish to help meet people's need for food in a most expedient way.

The Food Pantry is listed on a number of sites people use to seek assistance in the North Land, but word of mouth is also a most expedient way to let people know we have food available.

Contributions can be made to the Barry Christian Church Food Pantry by bringing available goods to Carol in the church office, or simply by mailing a check to Barry Christian Church with "Food Pantry" mentioned on the memo line. Your contributions are making a difference for families in need.

*Thank you!*

Carol Studebaker, Administrative Assistant and Pastor Dennis



**Vacation Bible School** has been cancelled for this summer due to the uncertainty of what social distancing will look like by July. We will plan to resume VBS during the summer of 2021.

**"Helping our families, kids, and neighbors during COVID-19 restrictions"**

Our lives seem different these past few months. Our routines have been disrupted. Schools have closed to let the exposure period for COVID19 pass by. So are our favorite restaurants, local parks, and those business deemed by those in charge as "non-essential". We can't even get haircuts these days, or workout in our favorite health clubs!

All that we have typically taken for granted has become limited, taken away, closed down, and we don't know when or if some of these things will come back. Our stores are running out of much-needed items. Toilet paper, and some meats, are not easy to find. And we wonder what might be next to become scarce. Folks are hoarding whatever they believe might be the next item of scarcity, causing prices to do crazy things due to supply-and-demand economics. Worst of all, many of us have lost part or all of a livelihood, as so many jobs have been put on hold due to being deemed "non-essential", and we fear some may be ended permanently.

This is all hard to understand, and it's easy to feel confused by what is happening, how to handle our anxieties, and how to adapt to the changes that seem to be happening daily, or often hourly. If it's so difficult for us adults to understand, how might this feel to our children? During such intense times, focusing on how to not only keep our families healthy and safe, but also discovering ways to focus on building emotional resiliency, can be quite the challenge.

It is important to remember that our kids process things differently than we adults do. Finding ways to reassure them is essential to helping them not worry too much, or become fearful of what's going on. Here are some pointers that I compiled from a number of resources, to help us communicate with and reassure our children during these times of uncertainty:

1. Avoid oversharing and flooding with facts. Unless your child is a little scientist in the making, he/she is probably not ready to process the raw details of the situation;
2. Be brief and specific, honest and reassuring. Let your kids ask questions, and then answer their questions in the same way, meeting them at their level of understanding and functioning;
3. Help our kids understand that our schools and communities are making choices to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and that we should all act together to help protect each other, especially those who are at higher risk. This is a great opportunity to help them understand the "common good";
4. Remember that our children tend to mirror our emotions and attitudes about our current situation. It's important for you to take time to manage your own emotions, and have age-appropriate, specific and honest statements about what your family is experiencing and feeling.

Our mental health relies on so many aspects of our wellbeing--nutrition, sleep, exercise, and our human relationships--all play a huge role in developing resiliency and maintaining strength!

Eat as healthy as you are able. Try to avoid using food as a reward/consequence or bargaining tool with children. As we are at home more often than before, plan a family cook night, and engage your children in the process. Let them help you make decisions as to what to cook, and invite them to provide input and help in the process. Also invite them to help you clean up. Encourage them to join you in putting

their hands in a sink of warm soapy water, feeling the softness of the soap and warmth of the water. Help them see how dirty dishes can become clean again.

Pay attention to sleep patterns. Stress often affects a person's ability to fall asleep or stay asleep, and to awaken refreshed. This is important for both adults and children. Maintain a consistent bedtime, and a structured bedtime routine. This will bring comfort and reassurance to your children, as well as maintain some sanity for you!

Limit screen time if at all possible. Try new ideas, like family book clubs, game nights, doing a puzzle together, or simply coloring together (see Google Images for an unlimited set of coloring pages). Research has shown that kids with open-ended screen time and schedules are more agitated, argumentative, and edgy. They tend to procrastinate more often and are more oppositional about helping with daily tasks.

Parents--take time away from social media, the 24x7 news cycle, and other sources that are causing feelings of worry, panic, or helplessness. Set and maintain good limits now, to avoid having to "undo" limits that may become a problem later. Set aside times to exercise, practice yoga or meditation, or simply go for a walk or bike ride. Build mindfulness activities and times into your day. This will help you, and your children, focus on staying settled and living with uncertainty. Schedule chores to keep your physical environment comfortable and healthy. Try to complete larger tasks together, such as purging old toys or clothing to donate.

Many of us have become de-facto school-teachers during this pandemic. Try to maintain a structured daily schedule, that includes dedicated time for school-work, while turning off television or music, to more closely resemble the classroom environment. Also, allow for ample breaks to take a brief walk outdoors, play with family pets, or participate in a brief art/craft project, between school assignments. Avoid using screen-time between school assignments, also try to limit sugary snacks. Try to provide more healthy snacks throughout the day (things like fruits, nuts, veggies can be made into tasty snacks too)! Ice-water with a few slices of orange, apple, lime, or another of your favorite flavors, can create a tasty and healthy way to keep your children (and yourself) hydrated.

Reach out to someone who may be feeling isolated during shelter-in-place orders, and invite your children to join you. Have them telephone their grandparents, or great-grandparents, or aunts/uncles. Check on your neighbors who live alone, who may be elderly or disabled, and invite your children to help you check on them. Offer to mow a neighbor's lawn, or clean their yard, or perhaps pick up groceries or pharmacy scripts for them (of course, with appropriate social distancing). Invite your children to join you as you experience the joy of helping others. Your children will learn from you.

But mostly...*Do unto others as you would have them do unto you* (Leviticus 19:18, and quoted by Jesus in Matthew 7:12 and Luke 6:31). And, as you do all these things, don't forget to take good care of yourselves, so you can be strong enough to take care of your children and for others in your immediate community.

Let's all stay in touch, however we are able, during these crazy times.  
Jim



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**Return Service Requested**



In our thoughts and prayers

Jon Frentrop  
Michelle Jacobo  
Reyana Ralston  
Cindy Berry  
Sheryl Theiss  
Pam Matus  
Dave Haynes  
Jill Gregory  
Perla Mora  
Kay Yocum

Barbara Holiman  
Mary Triplett  
Marian Poston  
Palmer Maples  
Rusty Daniels



#### Happy Birthday to you!

If you have a **May** birthday or know of someone from Barry who does and is not on this list, please let me know so I can be sure to include them. Call Carol in the church office at 436-0462 or email her at [office@barrychristianchurch.com](mailto:office@barrychristianchurch.com)

## HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS!!

<b>Leta Pukay - 04</b>	<b>Taryn Clark - 16</b>
<b>Jake Dyer - 05</b>	<b>Curt Roller - 16</b>
<b>Joe Dyer - 05</b>	<b>Joe Weekley - 18</b>
<b>Dave Haynes - 05</b>	<b>Alex Sawyer - 19</b>
<b>Don Scott - 08</b>	<b>Becky Brown - 21</b>
<b>Andy Sawyer - 09</b>	<b>Grace Kemerling - 22</b>
<b>Margaret Fletcher - 11</b>	<b>Phyllis Frentrop - 24</b>
<b>Bonnie Wisdom - 13</b>	<b>Georgia Butler - 28</b>



Is your giving to the support of Barry Christian Church up to date?



The month of April had 4 Sundays.

## Financial Update

Expected Expenses for May  
General Fund: \$24,063

Funds received April 5: \$9,442

Funds received April 12: \$5,623

Funds received April 19: \$6,777

Funds received April 26: \$1,845

April Total so far : \$23,687

Youth Ministry Fund Balance as of April: \$23,965