

Barry Good News!

Carol Studebaker, Editor

January 1, 2021

Church Office: 816.436.0462

Email: office@barrychristianchurch.com

Join us for Sunday Worship!

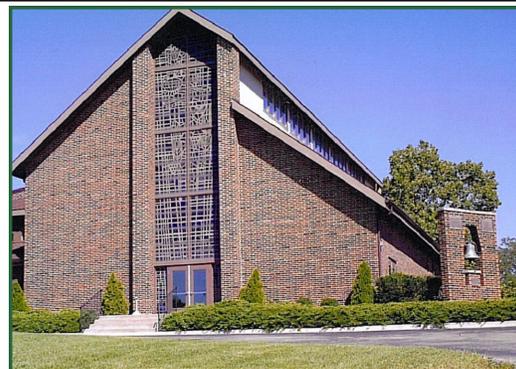
8:30 - First Worship Service

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

Family Life Director: Jim Frentrop - Jim.frentrop@gmail.com

Director of Music: Andrew Schmidt - andrewpauls@gmail.com

Youth Director: Kathie Connell - kidsatbarry@gmail.com

Custodian: Cathy Gorman - cattedkc@gmail.com

Organist: Lenora Remmert - klremmert@yahoo.com **Administrative Secretary:** Carol Studebaker - office@barrychristianchurch.com

Ponderings of Patience

All Things Have Become New!

Our loving God chose to make his presence known to us in the most intimate of ways, the birth of a new-born child. This great joy, we certainly celebrate as we have entered the season after Advent known as Christmastide. The presence of a new-born child brings smiles to our faces, laughter to our voices and an upbeat pace to our conversations and communion with others. The presence of young babies and children helps us anticipate bright and encouraging futures, for we place our hopes in the vitality and possibilities we believe are possible through each child's future!

The Old Testament prophecy of Isaiah 9:6-7 is the singular text that encompasses this great hope as the verses declare the hope of the Messiah:

A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler.
He will be called, "Wonderful counselor," "Mighty God," "Eternal Father," "Prince of Peace." His royal power will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace." He will rule as King David's successor, basing his power on right and justice, from now until the end of time. The LORD Almighty is determined to do all this.

As the last several months have transpired, many have commented that they are looking for the day in which 2020 will be done and over with. Yet, we all know too well that the turning of the year on the calendar will not magically cleanse away the many challenges the world has experienced in the first year of this second decade of the 21st Century of this third millennium. The pandemic, the consequential economic down turn and other challenges will still be with us well into the new year of 2021.

Yet, as we turn the calendar to a new year, even as vaccines are being distributed and innovations are happening on many fronts, possibly it is a time for us to mentally envision a new future. For it is often in the vision that reality has its

(continued on page 2)

(Continued from Ponderings on page 1)

best opportunity to be transformed by the positive incremental actions and attitudes that we bring into each new day. After all, even while the Hebrew people experienced exile, God offered his people a new forward vision as Isaiah 43:18-19 declares:

Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.
Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not
perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Certainly, its difficult to perceive clear pathways in a wilderness or mighty flowing rivers in deserts, yet the message from God is asking people to envision the impossible so that renewal can truly take place.

So as 2021 begins to unfold before us, possibly the greatest challenge is to not be mired up in the drudgery of our troubles, but to truly strive to envision new possibilities for the minds, hearts and souls of all God's children! For surely, our walk with Jesus Christ as our lord and savior, emboldens all of us to believe that in Christ, all things have really become new! As the Apostle Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV) *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things have become new.* And certainly we must remind ourselves that no matter what challenges we may face in this earthly realm, God has already assured us of "a new heaven and a new earth" (Revelation 21:1) as we become a part of God's glorious realm in the hereafter.

Yes, the calendar is changing to 2021, and much will be the same. Yet, as we embrace our faith in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, we are rest assured in the truth that all things have really become new in our hearts, minds and souls. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Dennis

Many Thanks for Your Many Expressions of Kindness and Love!

Carrie and I wish to thank everyone at Barry for the kindness of your Christmas gifts presented in worship on Sunday, December 20th and also for the many thoughtful cards sent through the mail and many genuine expressions of love in word and deed!

Although we have all missed many of the experiences of fellowship and ministry that we usually enjoy through the Fall and Advent Seasons, we still celebrate the truth that God has shown his great love for all of us through the presence of the Christ child!

Blessings to each of you as we rejoice in Christ's presence among us this Christmastide!

Pastor Dennis and Carrie Patience

THANKS TO ALL!

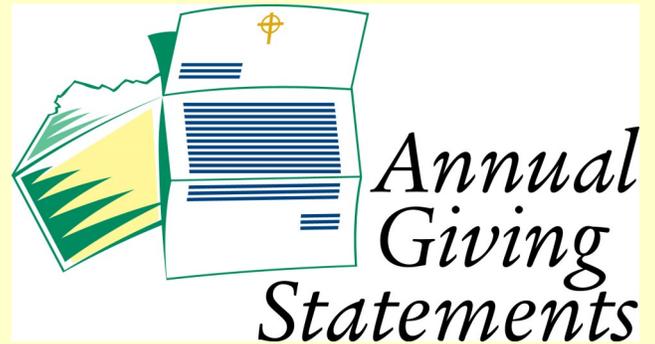
Thank you all for your kindness during this Christmas season with your gifts of love and thoughtfulness. I especially appreciate your prayers of concern since my mother has been in hospice care. Please keep my sister, Lynne and her son Cody in your prayers as they provide daily care for my mother, Annilou. Blessings, Carol Studebaker

Please Welcome Mike Ransdell



During the 9:45am Worship Service on Sunday, December 6, 2020, it was our privilege to welcome Mike Ransdell into the fellowship of our congregation through a transfer of his membership from the First Christian Church of Trenton, MO. Please put the following contact information for Mike in your church directory: 5701 NW 110th Court Kansas City, MO 64154. Mike's mobile number: 660-654-0830.

GIVING STATEMENTS will be printed during the first couple of weeks of the New Year and will be distributed before the end of January.



HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!!

Diana Stone - 01
 Kim Simpson - 03
 Tyler Rodick - 03
 Grace Miller - 06
 Anna Eacret - 06
 Robert Eacret - 07
 Abby Weekley - 07
 Noah Eacret - 10
 Kenneth Weaver - 11
 Kim Songer - 11
 Loren Kerby - 16

Sarah Grigsby - 19
 Jeremy Lawson - 19
 Nathan Ralston - 19
 Jill Counts - 21
 Susan Cox - 21
 Bob Knopf - 21
 Charis Clark - 22
 Nikolis Clark - 24
 Alexis Eiken - 26
 Erica Miller - 27

Happy Birthday to you!

If you have a **January** 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 the Carol in the church office at 436-0462 or email her at office@barrychristianchurch.com

A MESSAGE from OUR FAMILY LIFE DIRECTOR

The Trying Times of year 2020

This year 2020 has been full of changes. We began the year with a Chiefs Super Bowl win! I remember that day very well, as my wife and I were on a cruise ship in the Panama Canal. We watched the game from the ship's main theater, as they streamed the game live. We met some really great friends on that trip, some of which were Chief's fans, and some of which were 49'ers fans.

We all rooted for our local teams, and we all got along together. After all, we had a common cause...to enjoy good food, good friends, and good times aboard a cruise ship where our life stressors were to be left behind while we were at sea.

Before our cruise ended, we learned there was another cruise ship somewhere else in the world, that had many cases of this new COVID-19 virus, before the world really understood the COVID-19 virus. We heard this other cruise ship was quarantined in a port somewhere in Japan. We felt sorry for the passengers. We began to realize the magnitude of the situation.

Shortly after my wife and I arrived back in Kansas City following our wonderful cruise experience, in mid-February 2020, the world began to shut-down. Beginning with non-essential businesses. Continuing on to other businesses, then schools. We could no longer go to restaurants. And then, we could no longer attend church. We missed Easter Sunday. We witnessed a number of our friends and loved ones lose their jobs. Some of them became ill with COVID. And a few of them became ill, and some died.

COVID19 knows no boundaries. I am reminded of the scripture of the Apostle Paul, from Galatians 3:28: "So there is no difference between Jews and Gentiles, between slaves and free people, between men and women; you are all one in union with Christ Jesus." I will add that the COVID19 virus doesn't differentiate between these things either...nor does it differentiate between Kansans vs. Missourians, Republicans vs. Democrats, or Americans vs. Europeans.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, may we put aside our differences in allegiance to a particular sports team...or political party...or ideological philosophy...and focus instead on what we have in common. May I propose that what we have in common might include:

A desire to live a fulfilled life.

A desire to remain healthy, physically and mentally.

A desire to give back to the next generation,

A desire that all those who follow us into this world can remain safe, and healthy, and feel loved, by other humans and by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Feel free to add to this list, as you contemplate how you might find fulfillment during these trying times.

And most of all...please take care of yourselves. And call somebody if you are struggling.

Peace and Blessings to you all...

Jim



GROWING DISCIPLES

First, I would like to thank the Schaer family for the suggestion of “Growing Disciples” as the header for the Youth and Children’s articles. I think this is a wonderful title for our column.

So now your Christmas is over and a new year is upon us. I hope that everyone had a beautiful Christmas and that you all remembered to include Jesus in your celebrations. Thank you for sharing your pictures with us. Mr. Jim put together a slide show using all your pictures. We ran the show the last couple of Sundays between services and also on Christmas Eve. Everyone was so excited to see all of your beautiful faces and see how much you are growing.

God has been giving me so many fabulous ideas for the youth and children that I can hardly wait to be able to get going with some of them. Please share your thoughts and ideas with us, email them, share them on Facebook, shoot us a text, we would love to hear from you.

As we continue to face these uncertain and confusing times, I hope that each of you remains healthy and that you remember all the people who love you, miss you and are praying for you and your family.

We pray that sometime soon we will be able to be together again.

God bless each of you.

Love,

Miss Kathie



The church office will be **CLOSED** on Friday, January 1st for the **New Year’s** holiday.



THANKS!!!

Thanks so much to EVERYONE in the congregation for your generous support for our Advent Outreach opportunities! Your Warmth Tree donations and Food Pantry donations helped replenish needed items for the Clay County Clothes Closet and our own Barry Church Food Pantry! You also gave \$1,655 toward the Pastor’s Emergency Fund through your Christmas Eve donations and an additional \$380 towards other Christmas outreach. Thanks again for being such a loving, giving congregation!

Barry Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
1500 NW Barry Rd, Kansas City MO 64155
Phone: 816-436-0462
website: BarryChristianChurch.com

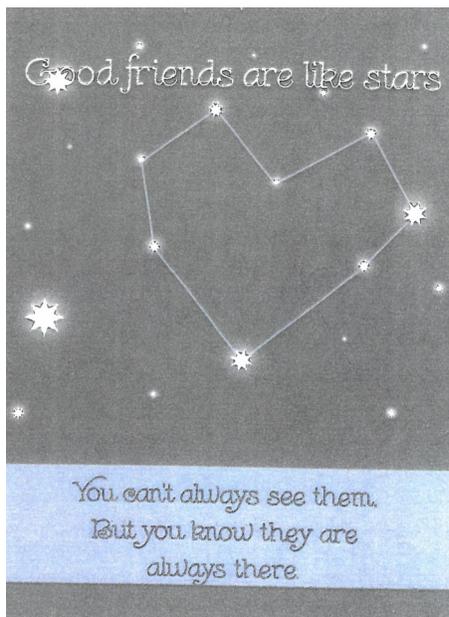


Return Service Requested



In our thoughts and prayers

- Jon Frentrop
- Zoey Eacret
- Reyana Ralston
- Ren Aller
- Doris O'Neal
- Glen Bartley
- Michael Wall
- John Adams
- Marian Poston
- Annilou Spencer
- Carolyn Comfort
- Pat Reece
- Sonja Roeder
- Betty Donahue



Barry Friends
Thank you
for The Big
Bell and
Treats
Love
Brayden



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



The month of Dec. had 4 Sundays.

Financial Update

Expected Expenses for January
General Fund: \$25,000

- Funds received Dec. 6: \$7,917
- Funds received Dec. 13: \$7,540
- Funds received Dec. 20: \$6,740
- Funds received Dec. 27: \$5,246
- December Total so far: \$27,443

Youth Ministry Fund Balance so far in December : \$38,157