

Barry Good News!

Carol Studebaker, Editor

March 1, 2021

Church Office: 816.436.0462

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Join us for Sunday Worship!

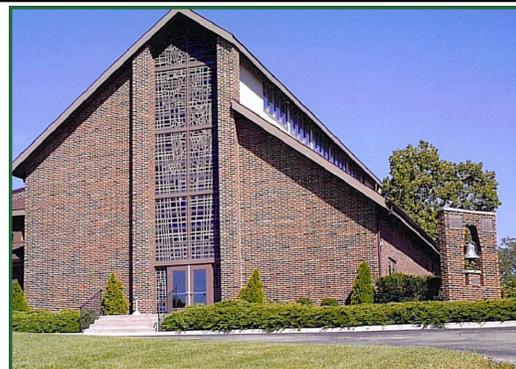
8:30 - First Worship Service

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 - klnremmert@yahoo.com **Administrative Secretary:** Carol Studebaker - office@barrychristianchurch.com

Ponderings of Patience

Blessings Through Our Lord Jesus Christ

There are fourteen weeks between Christmas and Easter. Six of those weeks are the Season of Lent. This year, Lent began with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, the 17th of February. The English word Lent is a shortened form of an Old English word, “lencten” which simply means “spring season.” Consisting of forty days, the Lenten Season observes the fact that Jesus withdrew to the desert for 40 days. For many, Lent is a time to fast from various foods and festivities, while seeking repentance from sin. It is a time of preparation as we approach our observance of Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, his death for our sin, and his resurrection on Easter Sunday morning.

As I mentioned in last Sunday’s message, we all realize that over the past eleven months, we’ve endured an extraordinary number of “unprecedented” circumstances. Chief among them has been the Coronavirus Pandemic that has taken over five-hundred thousand of our citizens here in the United States and nearly two and a half million people world-wide. Additionally, we’ve dealt with a downturn in the economy, riots in the streets, fires in our western states, the questioning of election results, and losses caused by an extreme dip in cold temperatures of the jet stream. As troubles have become exhausting, it seems like a good time to move away from tragedy and instead, focus on blessings we have as God chose to send his son, Jesus, to dwell among us in this human predicament.

So as the Lenten Season of 2021 is upon us, may we ask the question: “What Blessings from God do we experience through the life of our Lord Jesus?” As Jesus was concluding the Last Supper, we remember that Philip said in John 14:8, “Lord, show us the Father; that is all we need.” To this Jesus responded in the next verse, “For a long time I have been with you all; yet you do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” Then in the 11th and 12th verses, Jesus goes on to say, “Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. If not, believe because of the things I do.”

There is certainly much that we learn of God’s great compassion, love, hope and justice through the words and actions of our Lord Jesus as we explore the gospels. So during these six weeks of the Lenten Season, even as we plod ever onward through the ongoing threat of the Coronavirus and possibly even other “unprecedented” circumstances; may we garner a great measure of assurance this Lenten Season as we explore specific stories of Jesus’ interactions with humanity as Easter approaches. For as Jesus continued in that conversation with Philip and the other apostles, he said in John 14:27, “Peace is what I leave with you; it is my own peace that I give you. I do not give it as the world does. Do not be worried and upset; do not be afraid.”

Pastor Dennis

Welcome Doug Wiedemann

On Sunday, January 31, 2021, during the 11:00 a.m. worship service, it was our joy to welcome Doug Wiedemann into our fellowship at Barry Christian Church through a re-affirmation of his faith. Doug has been faithfully attending our fellowship for the last several months, and it is our joy to welcome him into our fellowship as we also look forward to when more of you may be able to meet him personally, once we are freed from the Coronavirus restrictions.

Doug's contact information is: Doug Wiedemann 5316 NE 45th Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64117 Telephone: 913-302-5060 and his email address is: dwiedemann6@gmail.com.



GROWING DISCIPLES

When the first coronavirus restrictions were implemented in Kansas City on March 12, 2020 how could we even imagine that a year later we would still be wearing masks, employing social distancing and avoiding most social activities.

It is Lenten Season again, did you even notice the passing of Ash Wednesday? Somehow the whole notion of giving up something for Lent seems rather redundant this year. We have been forced to give up so much in the last year and we long to get some of these things back, not take more away. Our arms long for hugs, our eyes long to see smiles on the faces of others, our faces long to be free of masks, we long to be free to participate in all the activities that defined our normal lives. This year I believe I will add to my life instead of giving something up. I will add more Bible study time, I will add more of others into my prayer time and add more prayer time into my days.

We at Barry have been fortunate enough to continue having Sunday worship services even if they do not look the same as they used to. Although we cannot offer them a welcoming handshake, we are fortunate to continue to have visitors here at Barry. We are blessed that so many of you continue to support the Youth and Children's Ministry program here at church. I am very grateful for all the encouragement and support I have received from you in the last few months. I believe God is blessing this ministry because of the love and prayers from this congregation and our dedication to our children. I know that I do not do this on my own, He is with me every step of the way. I am truly blessed to be given this opportunity to serve. Thank you and God bless you all during this Lenten season.



Kathie Connell



Welcome Luna Isabel

Hello church family!

We are excited to announce the newest addition to the Aller Turner family- Luna Isabel. She was born the evening of January 29th at 6 lbs 11 oz and 19.25 inches long. She's perfectly healthy and doing great. She is the sweetest little girl and big brother Mateo absolutely adores her. We appreciate all the thoughts and prayers from everyone and are looking forward to the day we can introduce her in person. We wish health, safety, blessings, and love to all!

Love,
Katie, Ren, Mateo, and Luna



HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS!!

Dennis Davidson - 01	Angela Ralston - 17
Jennifer Songer - 04	Faith Ralston - 19
Michelle Jacobo - 05	Carolyn Phipps - 19
Mike Berry - 06	Carol Studebaker - 19
Rosalina Eacret - 07	Tom Bosworth - 20
Sue Effie - 07	Skylar Roberts - 20
Leonard Rogers - 07	Saily Eacret - 25
Dave Dyer - 14	Wyatt Eacret - 26
Alec Shelby - 14	Dennis Patience - 27
Saralyn McFarland - 16	Gavin Eacret - 30
Jordan Sexton - 16	Katie Schaer - 31
Josh Sexton - 16	Carol Koch - 31

If you have a **March** 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

Journey Through Unprecedented Times

We often hear about living in unprecedented times. Pastor Dennis talked about this during the Sunday message February 21st. The pandemic; the cold-spell that caused the necessity of rolling blackouts in the Kansas City area; the snow and cold that shut-down many areas of Texas (ironically, a place where many people go to ESCAPE winter). The political climate, where disagreements have turned deadly during the January 6 attack on our nation's capital, the first such attack since 1812.

Any one of these things would cause most of us to feel some level of stress. But when they all occur at the same time, our stress becomes more than a temporary annoyance. It can become debilitating, as it leads to anxiety and depression. For some, it has led to loss of a job, or a relationship. And for those who work in the field of trauma, we have seen significant increases in substance abuse, child abuse, and domestic violence.

When the Coronavirus pandemic began about a year ago, many folks were instructed to work from home. While working from home seems attractive on occasion, after a whole year of it, many folks have experienced social isolation that is...well...unprecedented.

School children also struggle with social isolation. Because many schools are fully or partially "virtual", their parents are forced to weigh the options of leaving their children at home, unsupervised, so they can go about their tasks as "essential workers". Those who are not deemed "essential workers" suffer job loss, not knowing if/when they will be re-hired. Rent and mortgages go unpaid. Even those parents who are able to stay home with their children are not skilled nor trained as teachers.

Life is far from normal right now. Some days we don't want to get out of bed. And when we do, we are un-motivated to do much else. So how do we cope?

First coping skill: Every morning, make your bed. I cannot claim credit for writing this piece of advice, as the author is Navy Admiral William H. McRaven, who delivered a college commencement speech at UT Austin, and from whom I quote:

"If you make your bed every morning you will have accomplished the first task of the day. It will give you a small sense of pride, and it will encourage you to do another task and another and another. By the end of the day, that one task completed will have turned into many tasks completed. Making your bed will also reinforce the fact that little things in life matter. If you can't do the little things right, you will never do the big things right.

"And, if by chance you have a miserable day, you will come home to a bed that is made — that you made — and a made bed gives you encouragement that tomorrow will be better."

So folks—one foot in front of the other, and one day at a time. I am reminded of the text of Matthew 6:34--*Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.*

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Second coping skill: Be thankful for what you DO have. As bad as you might feel about your situation when you wake up in the morning, consider:

Did you wake up in a warm bed, in a house with electricity and running water?

Did you receive a smile, or a hug, or a kind word from a child, a spouse or partner, or maybe a tail-wagging or cuddling pet? Maybe a friendly wave from a neighbor when you went to your mailbox? Or did you have a friend or parent you were able to talk to on the phone?

Is there food in your fridge, at least enough to provide a meal for you and your children/pets for the day?

If your answer to any of the above is yes, then you are blessed!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 tells us: *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

Third coping skill: If you are able, please help someone who is in need. Consider:

Matthew 25: 31-40: (Summarized: *For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, "I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.*)

2 Corinthians 9:6-7: *Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

Volunteer at a local charity, or donate to one you believe to be a good cause. There are plenty of needs out there, I'll encourage y'all to look them up and consider how you might help.

Fourth coping skill: Reach out to someone if you have unmet needs. It's no shame to ask for help if you lose a job, and need food or financial support. Or if you feel isolated and need emotional support, or just need someone to talk to. There are many Christians who are ready, eager, and willing to help you! If you need help, but don't ask for it...you will deprive them of the privilege of helping a neighbor in need.

Consider:

Philippians 4:6-7: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

I hope that, no matter what you are going through in these unprecedented times, you are able to take care of yourselves. And if you are, I hope that you are able to offer help to those who struggle. And if not, I hope that you are able to reach out for help.

May you each feel peace and love during this journey through unprecedented times.

Jim



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Return Service Requested



In our thoughts and prayers

Reyana Ralston
Joan Casebolt
Jerry Treece
Betty Foster
Naomi Segovia
Carolyn Comfort
Pat Reece
Betty Donahue

THANKS TO ALL!

Thank you all for your prayers & messages of kindness upon the passing of both my mother, Annilou Spencer and my mother-in-law, Ineta Studebaker in the past few weeks. Both of these ladies loved the Lord and their families. Both were married for over 50 years and both had seen much change in the world throughout their 85 and 100 years, respectively. I am grateful for their lives and legacies.

Blessings,
Carol Studebaker



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



The month of Feb had 4 Sundays.

Financial Update

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

Funds received Feb 7: \$5,743

Funds received Feb 14: \$4,594

Funds received Feb 21: \$4,491

Funds received Feb 28: \$_____

February Total so far: \$14,828

Youth Ministry Fund Balance in Reserve: \$37,677