

PRAYER REQUEST

Members & Faithful Attendees

Pat Abbitt, Frances Butler, Kenneth Carwile, Maxine Clements, David Dudley, Helen Dudley, Linnie Dudley, Wyndol Ewers, Jack Hamilton, Vivian Hamilton, Brenda Harris, Gayle Lauenders, Becky McFall, Dewey McIvor, Phyllis Minnick, Lewis Noel, Doris Sechrest, Patsy Smith.

Friends, Relatives & Community Concerns

Hannah Boni (Phyllis Minnick), Betty Craft (Leila Paulette), Joe DeCeasar (Kristen Tatlock), John Davis (George Harris), JoAnne Doyle (Pat Abbitt), Tristan Dunning (George Harris), Peg Ferry (Joy Flowers), Kay Crist Gravely (Brenda Harris), E.W. Grubbs (Joe Hedges), Stephanie Grubbs (Joe Hedges), Tracey Hamilton (Vivian Hamilton), Charles Hubbard (Rick Hubbard), Ednee Irving (Lewis Noel), Jessica Kraus (Carla Reichard), Monty Keigley (Eddie Wieringo), Larry Lawhorne (Eddie Wieringo), Avis Lovell (Pam Hubbard), Betty Mann (Sue Christian), Marvin Manning (Pat Abbitt), Janet Marling (Sue Christian), Andy Mays (Jana Terrell), Mary Murphy (Joy Flowers), George Murray (Paul Stober), Martha Noel (Lewis Noel), Anita Price (Jana Terrell), Larry Short (Eddie Wieringo), Sandy Thornsbury (Jan Hawkins), Robert Thornton (Paul Stober), Frank Tomlin, Jr. (Marie Murphy), John Ward (Sue Christian), Jennifer Webb (Gayle Lauenders), Latisha White (Paul Stober), Leonard Willis (Pam Hubbard), Patricia Young (Allena Tarvin).

Military & Support Personnel

Sarah Harrell, Sarah Sullivan (deployed), Michael Grubbs, Jr.
Matthew Minnick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Harris' sermons can be read or seen on madisonheightschristian.com or on the Madison Heights Christian Facebook page.

Our Easter offering will be received March 28th and April 4th. If you are unable to attend in person please mail your offerings to the church.

Palm Sunday	March 28 th
Maundy Thursday	April 1 st
Good Friday	April 2 nd
Easter	April 4 th

Lenten services may be viewed on the Madison Heights Christian Facebook page and the Madison Heights Christian website. On March 31st there will be an outside drive in service at Amelon United Methodist Church at noon.

There will not be an in person Maundy Thursday service but Rev. will be posting a online message on our church web page and Facebook.

A Message From Our General Minister

March 12, 2021 Hello, Disciples. A year ago, we heard the words "global pandemic" from our world public health officials and our lives and the world literally changed forever. A year ago, we were pivoting from worship in our beloved physical spaces to learning how to worship together in digital space. A year ago, those of you who work in front line, essential jobs such as nurses and first responders had to strap on protective gear to ensure that you would be safe as you cared for the sick and the dying. Many of us had to leave our homes to go to work to provide essential services or we had jobs that weren't conducive to working at home – you, too, put your bodies and your lives on the line so that we would have what we needed to live. So many have lost loved ones over the past year. Over 530,000 lost to COVID alone in the United States, and over 22,000 lost to COVID in Canada. We've struggled to mourn without the community rituals that give us comfort. Many of us have also lost loved ones to reasons other than COVID. Some have been infected by the virus, and so many of you have recovered. Thank God! Some have lost jobs, homes, and savings. We have been on lockdown and in quarantine, too many of us without human interaction, living in social isolation for far too long. We have learned that the Lord's Supper can be holy with hot chocolate and graham crackers. Because as long as we can remember Jesus' broken body and shed blood, those elements are holy. We've learned to safely serve our communities, caring for those who have gone without during the pandemic, to make sure people can eat and have shelter. We are grateful to see the distribution of vaccines but we want to see that those vaccines are distributed with equity. And while we know we are not out of this wilderness moment just yet, as we continue on our Lenten journey, let us embrace this time that we have for prayerful and scriptural reflection. Time that allows us to commune with God. In these moments, may you be reminded in the midst of these unprecedented times, as Paul famously preached, in Acts 17, "The God who made the world and everything in it, the God who is lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands." Nor is God served by human beings as though he needed anything. Since God God's self gives to all mortals life, breath and all things. From one ancestor, God made all nations to inhabit the whole earth. And God allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they live so that they would search for God. And perhaps grope for God and find God, although, indeed, God is not far from each one of us. Disciples, this year we had hoped to gather physically for General Assembly 2021, and we had claimed a theme text, Romans 8:38-39. God knew we would need this text, and I leave it with you now. "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels or rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, nothing in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, our lord." God is with us, Disciples. God is all around. And so as you continue on your Lenten journey, take time to be still. Take time to think and meditate on that sacred text, the Word of God. Allow God's Spirit and God's Word to infuse your very being, and strengthen your soul. Remember that God loves you so very much, and so do I.

Rev. Terri Hord Owens