

Murray Christian Church
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Murray, NE 68409-0194

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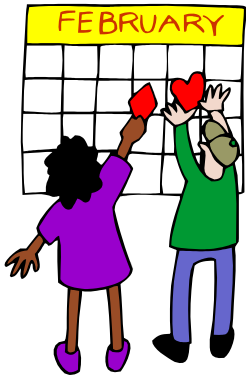
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor Larry & Norma Hammons
Home 267.7465, Cell 297.0999
mcc.larry@windstream.net

Church service Sundays at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Youth Group 3p (2 & 4 Sun. of month)

Church Secretary, Stacey
Church Office 235.2527
mcc.stacey@windstream.net

<http://home.windstream.net/church2527/MCC.htm>



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FORERUNNER

FEBRUARY, 2011 V. 38, No. 2

From the Pastor

I sit here in late January preparing to write an article for the February newsletter, waiting for yet another snow, considering that soon I will experience another birthday and remembering a balloon I saw the other day which said “too many candles, too little cake”. I can’t help but notice that here in the middle of winter it seems as though everyone wants to try to convince us that it is spring! There are the spring flower shows, the Royals spring road show and the spring auto show; just to name a few. I’m not quite convinced that spring is here, or that it will be anytime soon. I am not convinced that by attending any of these spring time events that it will come any sooner. But I do appreciate, as I receive my spring seed catalog in the mail, all of the efforts to encourage me in thinking about warmer, greener days which we know lie ahead.

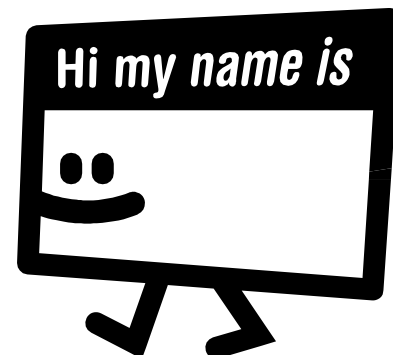
And then I fall into one of my favorite time-passing activities – and that is considering what we name things, what we call them. Sometimes a name seems appropriate and fitting and other times far-fetched and disingenuous. I am reminded of a saying, “Don’t be misled by what it is named”.

Acts 11 tells us it was at Antioch that they were first called Christians. James DeForest Murich, in his book, Christians Only, about the Restoration

Movement of the Christian Church wrote the entire book about how we were to be called Christians and Christians only. The dictionary defines a Christian as one who follows Christ. And I am back to thinking about what we name things and why we name things and, when we do name things, what that means. The text in Acts also talks about assembling as a church, as teaching people and it says of Paul that “He was glad and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart, they should continue with the Lord”.

Yes, we are called Christians. Our building bears the name. We bear the responsibility and the privilege, no matter what the time of year.

Until next month,
Pastor Larry





Please keep in your prayers...

† Barb & Bob Embury †

† Rob & Diane Ross † Theresa Stanley †



Thanks for all the prayers. We are both some better. One day at a time! Prayers do wonders.

Love,
Bob & Barb Embury

Dear Murray Christian Church,
Thank you for including me on your prayer chain. Your love and encouragement through prayers is so greatly appreciated.

I am presently undergoing chemo and am praying medications and prayers are working to solve the health.

Please continue to keep me in your prayers. Thank you to **Darlene Brown** for her caring thoughts to include me on your prayer chain.

Thank you,
Jane Howe

Dear Church Family,
Thank you to everyone for the prayers, calls, cards and gifts since Emery's birth. You are all such a blessing.

Also, thank you for the prayers and support these past years that Max has lived out of town. We are so thankful that he is now living and working at home.

~**Max & Sandy Thomas**

Murray Christian Church,
Thank you. You can't imagine the blessing you have brought our family. May God bless you on this holiday season and always. Love, **Family #7**

Murray Christian Church,
Thank you for all that you have done. You made their Christmas brighter. **Family #3**

Christian Women's Fellowship,
Thank you so much for your hard work at my grandpa's funeral. The food was outstanding!! It's great to know there are so many caring people in Murray, NE. Have a happy New Year and again thank you!
Becky Brown

Church

Church people have a way of getting all mixed up about the reason for the Church. This usually happens because the central theme of the Church's message becomes lost among the various ideas of what is important to various groups. The Church of our day seems to have lost the central reason for its being. More energy, resources and time are spent trying to turn the Church and its ministries into what we want them to be than is spent in the central focus of the Church, which is the cross. In recent times, I have heard more and more people asking in some form or fashion, "What can the Church do for me?" Wrong question! The real question is, "What can I do for the Church to help it proclaim the world the unsearchable riches of Christ and the power of his cross for every person?" ~Henry Fields

VBS Volunteer Needed! If you would like to attend the 2011 VBS Curriculum Fair, please contact Pastor Larry or the church office. It will be sometime in the month of February. More information will be available as we receive it.

PLEASE SIGN UP AS A HOST/HOESSTESS and/or GREETER for

2011. We need 4 people to sign up as host & hostess each month. They will be responsible for setting up the fellowship dinners on the first Sunday of the month, fixing coffee and drinks and cleaning up the kitchen afterward. We also need 2 greeters each month. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board outside of the office.



ARE YOU UNABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH ON A REGULAR BASIS & WOULD LIKE COMMUNION BROUGHT TO

YOU? Please notify the church office and we will make arrangements to accommodate you!



2011 offering envelopes are available in the fellowship hall under the nametag board. Please take your number and sign your name next to it on the sign out sheet. If you did not have a number last year, please feel free to take one this year. Thank you!