

JANUARY 2019

the HeartBeat



MCFARLAND UCC - MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY SUNDAYS

Celebrate 2019!,
Annual Meeting,
& Special Music

FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

Confirmation,
Messy Church, &
Bible Studies



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UPCOMING SUNDAYS

JANUARY 6 **Worship (10 am)** You are invited to stick around after worship for coffee and conversation as we take down Christmas decorations to prepare for the next season of the Christian calendar.

JANUARY 13 **Choir Rehearsal (9 am)** No experience required!
Worship (10 am) Bible Discussion (11 am) Messy Church (4:30 pm) There's something for everyone! Biblical storytelling, hands on activities, and dinner. More info on page 3.

JANUARY 20 **Choir Rehearsal (9 am)** See you at the piano.
Worship (10 am) We will host our Annual Meeting during worship. Info on page 5.

JANUARY 27 **Choir Rehearsal (9 am)** See you at the piano.
Worship (10 am) Bible Discussion (11 am)



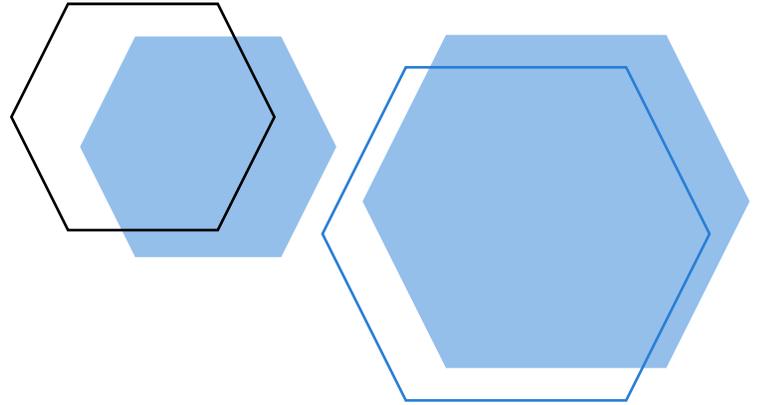
FAITH FORMATION

LEARN – STUDY – GROW – TOGETHER

MESSY CHURCH (4:30 – 6:00 pm)

Sunday, January 13

Messy Church is a monthly cross+generational event for learning our most important faith stories. Held on the second Sunday of each month, it begins with Biblical storytelling, continues with hands-on learning through arts and crafts (for teens and adults too!), and includes a simple dinner. We wrap up with a brief informal worship recapping the story of the day, group prayer, and song. *This month the Youth group and Confirmation class will also join in.*



CONFIRMATION GROUP (4:30 – 6:00 pm)

Sunday, January 13

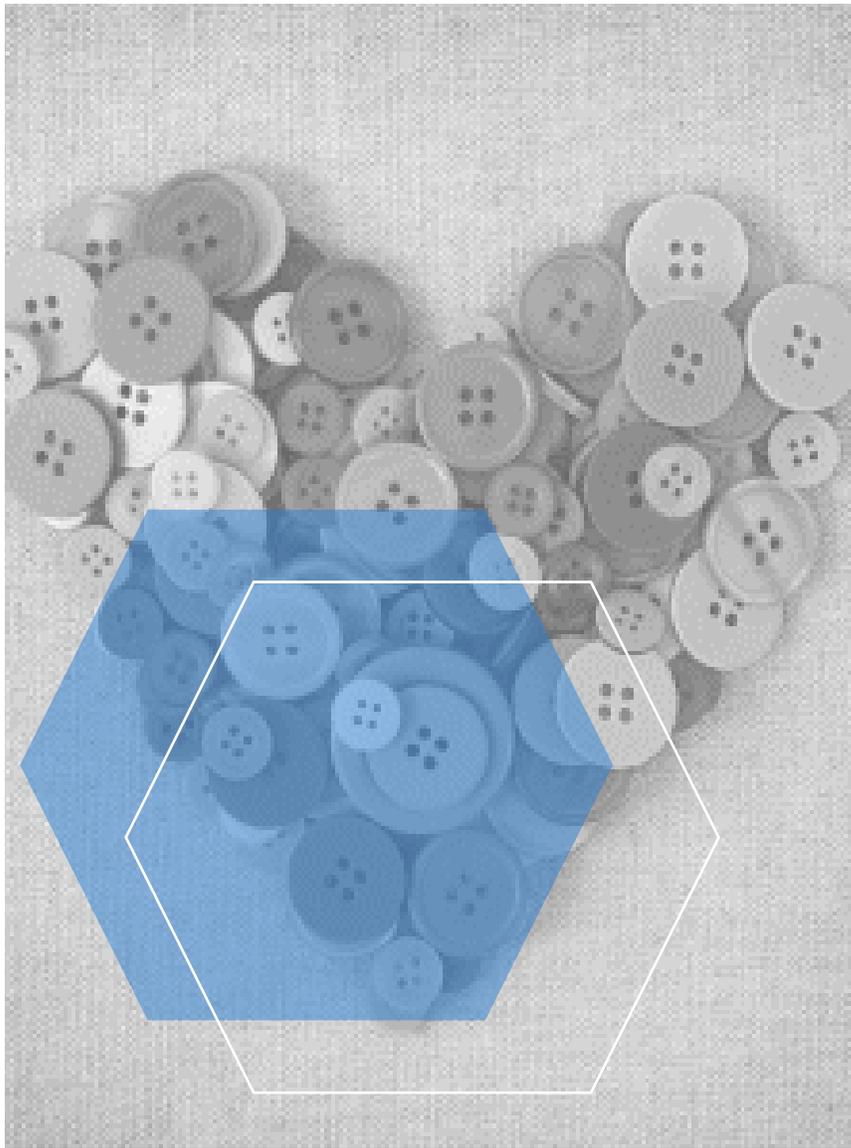
We will meet during Messy Church on January 13. Pastor Bryan would like for parents to attend this meeting also to discuss the schedule, focus, goals, hopes, and expectations regarding the confirmation program from this point forward. Bryan will give you a more specific time during Messy Church for this meeting in the next week or so to honor your time and be as succinct as possible.

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP (11 am/after worship)

Sunday Mornings

Following worship each Sunday, you are invited to join Pastor Bryan for a small group discussion and Bible study.





2019 ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

During **10 AM worship** we will host the Annual Meeting where we will discuss and celebrate 2018 ministries and look forward to the future of MUCC. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear and talk about the life of our church and how we hope to continue opening our doors and serving our McFarland community.

You are invited and encouraged to check out the Annual Meeting materials beforehand on the MUCC website:

www.mcfarlanducc.org/reports

We will be voting on several topics and all Covenant Partners in attendance January 20, are eligible to vote. Email or call Melissa in the office with questions: office@mcfarlanducc.org or 838-9322



How can I be a part of my church's ministry?

WE BELIEVE THAT ANYONE CAN DO MINISTRY!

You don't have to be a specific age, become a member, or meet any special qualifications to get involved in the mission of this church. We encourage people to become active in our ministry as soon as it feels right to them. Some people have leaped in on the day of their first visit...and others have waited a while to ease in. At McFarland UCC, the work of the church gets done through ministry teams and committees. For more information, talk with Pastor Bryan or get in touch with Melissa in the church office (office@mcfarlanducc.org 838-9322). We believe in finding ways to say "yes."

What is a Covenant Partner & How do I become one?

When you reach the point in your involvement with us that you'd like to make a public commitment to the life and ministry of the congregation, we invite you to join a 'More than Membership' conversation, where we get to know one another better and discuss what it means to be a Covenant Partner with us.

Covenant Partners are called to make a good faith effort to attend regular worship; celebrate the Lord's Supper; to live the Christian life; to share in the life and work of the church; to contribute to its support; and to live in accordance with the Statement of Faith and Covenant of the McFarland United Church of Christ. Covenant Partners are eligible to vote during official congregation meetings and other decision-making events. People who do not yet feel ready to make a commitment as a covenant partner are also welcome and encouraged to take part in the church's ministry. Connect with Pastor Bryan if you are interested: pastor@mcfarlanducc.org



GET INVOLVED WITH HAITI ALLIES!

During the search process with Bryan there was lots of enthusiasm for potential ways in which MUCC might make some of Bryan's work with Haitian partners part of the ongoing life and mission of our congregation. Among other things, Bryan typically leads 2 group trips to Haiti each year. If you would like to learn more about these trips and possibly travel to Haiti with Bryan please speak with him about it. The next trip will likely be around the second week of August.

But beyond going to Haiti, Haiti Allies needs help right here. If you are interested in learning more about this work and how you as an individual or we as a congregation can get more involved, please feel free to attend the next Haiti Allies monthly meeting with Bryan and the rest of the local Haiti Allies leadership circle. These meetings take place on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Madison Christian Community (7118 Old Sauk Rd. in Madison). Please contact Bryan if you would like to attend. Haiti Allies particularly needs people who would like to help with social media and also with the marketing of the products made at the Cite Soleil Art Center in Haiti www.csartcenter.com

Pastor Bryan's Music & Items from Haiti are For Sale!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT HAITIAN ALLIES

You will see a table in the narthex of the church on which you'll find Bryan's CDs and books for sale. Sales are all on the honor system and there is a sign on the table listing prices. If you would like to use a credit card that is possible but Bryan will have to help you with that.

You will also see hand carved wooden bells, beaded bracelets made from cereal boxes, and shopping bags and yoga mat bags that are made from recycled rice and flour bags in Haiti. These items are part of the non-profit work Pastor Bryan has been doing for years with grass roots organizations in Haiti with an organization Bryan helped found called Haiti Allies (www.haitiallies.org).

10% of sales of Bryan's music will be given to our church, and the profits from the Haitian made goods all go to support education, job creation, and meal programs in one of Haiti's most materially impoverished neighborhoods. The Haitian items can also be purchased online at www.csartcenter.com.





THANK YOU!

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRYAN

Greetings members and friends of McFarland UCC!

I just want to let you all know how much I love being pastor of this congregation! As I have said to many of you, I really cannot think of a more perfectly fitting community for me to step into in this capacity. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of those of you who ARE this congregation, and thanks to the excellent leadership of Pastor Kerri and Interim Pastor Mike, I am being invited into a vital, healthy, mature, and eager bunch of folks! Thank you!!

Thanks for your patience with me as I learn your names and get familiar with things here at MUCC. And thanks for all the kindness and encouragement I have already received. I am thrilled to be here and excited to grow with you into the next stage of this congregation's ministry.

As I have announced a couple of times on Sunday mornings, I want to encourage you all to let me know if there are topics, issues, Scriptures, questions, or concerns you would like for me to address in my weekly messages. We will get some kind of "suggestion box" in the sanctuary or narthex in which you can anonymously (if you prefer) place requests along these lines. But in the meantime please feel free to just email or call or meet with me in person to share your thoughts and ideas. I'll look forward to hearing from you. We are also going to be putting together some surveys using an internet based platform to get some feedback that will help me better understand some of your hopes, dreams, goals, and priorities are at this point.

Thanks so much for calling me to be with you and giving me this opportunity to serve this community. I can't wait to see what God has in store for us as we lean into the next stage of MUCC's life together.

Thanks again, God bless, and I hope to see you at worship!

Pastor Bryan

CONTACT & CONNECT

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office hours are **9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays**. Administrative Assistant Melissa Mendl sets appointments with the pastor, maintains the church event calendar, coordinates building use, posts information and highlights to our church's social media such as Facebook and Twitter, publishes the weekly worship bulletins, produces the weekly emailed information through our Pulse, produces the monthly newsletter (The HeartBeat), creates the worship slides for the sanctuary screens, and handles any drop-in or telephone inquiries. She will work four days a week, with the office closed on Mondays. Melissa coordinates her work with Pastor Bryan and members of SaLT, and church members in charge of various tasks. Pastor Bryan is in the office most of those days plus Sundays and occasional Saturdays, but it's best to make an appointment.

Church Staff

Pastor Bryan Sirchio
pastor@mcfarlanducc.org

Office Administrator: Melissa Mendl
office@mcfarlanducc.org

Custodial: Samantha Johnson

Worship Keyboards: Diane Smeaton

SaLT

Moderator: Carolyn Bell

Vice Moderator: Helene Benink

Treasurer: Joan Jacobsen

Clerk: Anne Gerke

Jason Chapman

Lisa Fernan

Bruce Fischer

Financial Secretaries

Jeanne Benink & Tracy Donohue

Messy Church

Nikkole Chapman

Jason Chapman

Rita Treece

Diane Mikelbank

Lydia Mikelbank

Lisa Ludwig

Mel Thompson

Youth Leaders

Dana Crumpton

Mel Thompson

Social Media Corner

facebook.com/mcfarlanducc

*Raise prayer requests and find
support at*

facebook.com/groups/achurchwiththeheart

Instagram & Twitter:

[@mcfarlanducc](https://twitter.com/mcfarlanducc)

CHURCH CALENDAR!

Check out the full and always up to date

MUCC calendar at:

mcfarlanducc.org/calendar

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund Summary Jan-Dec 2018

SaLT review 01/02/19

Month	Average Weekly Revenue	Monthly Revenue	Monthly Obligations	Variance (between rev/obligations)
Jan	\$ 2,406	\$ 9,623	\$ 15,210	\$ (5,587)
Feb	\$ 2,913	\$ 11,654	\$ 8,914	\$ 2,740
Mar	\$ 3,518	\$ 14,072	\$ 13,722	\$ 350
Apr	\$ 2,599	\$ 12,993	\$ 13,117	\$ (124)
May	\$ 2,971	\$ 11,884	\$ 9,512	\$ 2,372
Jun	\$ 2,996	\$ 11,983	\$ 13,923	\$ (1,940)
Jul	\$ 2,726	\$ 13,630	\$ 8,035	\$ 5,595
Aug	\$ 3,320	\$ 13,281	\$ 7,444	\$ 5,837
Sept	\$ 2,991	\$ 14,957	\$ 13,654	\$ 1,303
Oct	\$ 3,619	\$ 14,475	\$ 18,144	\$ (3,669)
Nov	\$ 3,137	\$ 12,550	\$ 9,958	\$ 2,592
Dec	\$ 3,821	\$ 19,103	\$ 18,455	\$ 648
Totals		\$ 160,204	\$ 150,088	\$ 10,117

2018 Budget	\$162,736
Weekly Average Revenue Needed to Meet Budget	\$3,130
Actual Average Weekly Revenue Jan-Dec 2018	\$3,081

