



Milton-Freewater Christian Church in Milton-Freewater, Oregon is taking applications for pastor as our current pastor is planning for retirement.

History and Organization

Milton-Freewater Christian Church (MFCC) started in the 1880's in Milton (before it was Milton-Freewater). Followers of Christ from other congregations desired to unite together for the purpose of advancing their "Master's cause." The first meeting was on November 23, 1886. The first building was erected in 1887 and in 1898 the church was incorporated as the Christian Church of Milton. The church continued to grow necessitating a new building – "sturdy and large," was needed to house the growing congregation. That building, our "church building" today was built in 1917 and dedicated during church service on January 6, 1918 with a seating capacity of approximately 350; we have been meeting here for 104 years!

We have had approximately 30 pastors and our current pastor, Steve Lyons, has been serving this church and community for over 12 years. Steve has decided it is time to retire and hand the torch, that has been carried by pastors for over 100 years, to the next pastor to lead this wonderful genuine (and humble!) congregation into the future. We are an elder led congregation – spiritually mature members are recognized as shepherds of the flock – with the pastor a part of that leadership team.

We have one church service on Sundays that meets at 10:30. The service typically lasts until 11:45 often with fellowship time after. We have two Sunday school classes and a number of bible studies throughout the week. There are also additional gatherings throughout the month – like a men's breakfast.

Vision Statement

Our Vision Statement: Connecting people to Christ and His community.

Mission Statement

Our Mission Statement: Making disciples of Christ through relationships.

Belief

We believe in the inerrant word of God, where the bible speaks, we listen, where it is silent, we have liberty and in all things charity.

World Missions

Criteria for MFCC (Milton-Freewater Christian Church) missionaries includes 5 points: Gospel must be involved, must have a financial need, have a home base in the Pacific Northwest, agency be non-denominational, regular communication

A dedicated committee meets monthly, news and notes are available at board meetings.

Currently we have five missionary families, working for four agencies, part of God's ministry in Africa, Indonesia, South Asia and Europe. One family is retired, still dear to us.

Visits on home assignment we have church missionaries address the church with photos and sharing. We host them, plan a gathering the whole congregation can participate in, and help pay their travel expenses (a love gift).

When possible, we gather items the missionary has listed useful for their return to their field or for the ministry.

Local Missions

We also have a Local Missions committee. We support Cove Christian Camp and Retreat. There is a full children's summer camp program and men's and women's retreats.

Our other ministries we support are Emmanuel Seminary, Birthright of Walla Walla (a non-denominational alternative to Planned Parenthood) and Boise Bible College in Nampa, Idaho.

Our church as a whole works with Samaritan's Purse Ministries Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, plus a Benevolence Ministry. Currently we are in the middle of the Chosen series as a community evangelistic outreach.

Weekends and Pastor's schedule

We meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15 for Sunday School classes and at 10:30 for an approximate 1 hour 45 minute worship service

Friday and Saturdays are the normal days off for the Pastor.

The pastor is also part of a group of elders who guide the churches spiritual direction.

Minister duties include head of paid staff: secretary, treasurer, pianist, organist, media technician, custodian, and lawn maintenance.

The ministries that the pastor counsels include: Christian Education, Youth, Worship, Evangelism, Benevolence and Local Missions.

Ministries

Our in-church ministries include World Missions, Local Missions, Hospitality, Property, Deacons & Deaconesses & Trustees.

Our current pastor takes part in the Milton-Freewater Ministerial Association that identifies and implements needs in the community.

Music

A strong area we have is the music in our church. We have a choir singing almost every Sunday for many years. In the past we have sung every Sunday as well as singing Cantatas at Christmas and sometimes at Easter. We have an organist, pianist as well as praise teams that lead worship. We welcome all that wish to play an instrument or sing with our praise teams.

Fellowship

We are considered a very friendly church. We reach out to those who are new in our congregation, trying to make them feel welcome on Sunday.

We regularly have potlucks and seasonal dinners the church provides that are also open to community.

We have a heart for those who have lost loved ones and have a committee that provides the funeral dinner for those families of the lost one. We are known for that in our community. The meal train program provides meals for our sick and homebound.

Future

Our future is one of hope for the return of Christ and growth of the church until that day comes. We see the need for growth in our congregation, especially a younger generation, is needed to help usher us into the future.

We are excited about a biblical based minister helping achieve our future goals. One that will call upon us to get into the Bible and follow God's word. We have a creed that we follow: no creed but Christ, no book but the Bible. We have communion every Sunday with members sharing a short meditation before partaking.