



# *The Call*

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 64, Issue 4

March 11, 2025



## The Significance of Lent

The season of Lent has its deep, abiding roots in the early Christian church, where it was established as a time of preparation for Easter. Initially, it was a period for new converts to prepare for baptism, but it evolved into a time for all Christians to reflect on their faith. The length of Lent, traditionally 40 days (not including Sundays as feast days), corresponds to the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert, tempted by Satan.

Lent is a profound season in the Christian calendar that invites believers to embark on a journey of spiritual renewal. It combines themes of preparation, repentance, fasting, prayer, and service, creating a rich tapestry of faith that culminates in the celebration of Easter. For many Christians, Lent serves as an opportunity to deepen our relationship with God, reflect on our faith, and engage more fully in the life of the church and our communities.

From a worship perspective at Central Christian Church during Lent, you'll notice distinct differences in our sanctuary and service. To underscore Lent's austere and penitential nature, typical decorations, like banners and flowers, are removed, and our crosses are shrouded. The joyous music that fills our sanctuary most Sundays throughout the year is tempered, softened—you won't hear any "Alleluias," the "Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)" is replaced with the "Kyrie Eleison (Lord, Have Mercy)." The triumphant organ Postlude is replaced with a reverent choral "Amen."

All these elements work together to remind us that we are in a unique time of self-reflection and prayer as we are collectively led into Passiontide and, finally, to the most solemn day of our Christian year, Good Friday.

Then, and ONLY then—Easter!

Let us never forget that the Resurrection on Easter, the most joyous celebration of our Christian year, is made possible only through the ultimate sacrifice of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Good Friday.

As we embark on this Lenten season together, may we all find new opportunities for spiritual growth and renewal. Let us encourage one another in our commitments and support each other in our journeys of faith.

Wishing each of you a reflective and meaningful Lent.

\_\_\_\_\_*Ryan Musser, Worship Committee Chair*

### **Congregational Concerns**

Lucas Lynch Wilma Frazier Frank Dodd Kay Corder Doris Thornton Cal Wise  
Everett Deeds Maryann Wakefield Gary Morris Jimmy Carson, Ken Hillen's Uncle Sharon Martin  
Fred & Norma Spence Darrell Copeland Larry Graham Greg Walton Richard Lee  
Joyce Moots Winnie Young Howard & Lynda McCoy Patty Thurman Rhonda Stewart Lisa Lynch  
Charles Marshall Jim & Elaine Spradlin Kitty Manary Gary Wright Dan Hicks Pat Dodd  
Patty Soukup Steve Vestal Jean Hagerman Don Nix Annie Anderson, Daughter of Charlie & Carol Mabry  
Robert & Beth Taylor William Francis Shirley Potter Rebecca & Justin Ebert, Daughter of Ray & Sharon Lowry  
Evelyn Looney Paul Martin James Willingham Barb Rossetter Karen Hahn Karen Sunderwirth  
Zach D., Friend of Jayden W. Gloria Brown and family  
Tammy Larimore, friend of Carol Pyles Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier

*(Please notify the office when a concern can be removed)*

**Livestream our Sunday morning  
service—starting at 9:30—at  
[www.centralchristianspringfield.org](http://www.centralchristianspringfield.org).  
Connect with us on social media:**



SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube channel at  
Central Christian, Springfield, MO



LIKE us on Facebook at  
Central Christian Church DOC - Springfield, MO

### **FINANCIALS & ATTENDANCE**

**3/2/2025**

General Fund  
Contributions: \$3,906.00  
Attendance: 80  
Online service views: 108\*

**3/9/2025**

General Fund  
Contributions: \$5,189.00  
Attendance: 92  
Online service views: 39\*

\*As of 3/11/2025

	<u><b>March 16</b></u>	<u><b>March 23</b></u>	<u><b>March 30</b></u>
<b>Elders</b>	Jan Richerson Carolyn Deeds	Ryan Musser Greg Walton	Jim Ferguson Dorothy Thurman
<b>Deacon Team Leader</b>	Bill Fischer	Everett French	Patsy Tipton
<b>Invocation and Offering</b>	Sharon Lowry		
<b>Communion &amp; Fellowship Prep.</b>	Darrell & Linda Zweerink	Bob & Dorothy Thurman	
<b>Usher</b>	Kay Corder		Ginger Williamson
<b>Greeter</b>	Ginger Williamson		

# Thoughts from the congregation

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Each Sunday and on frequent other occasions we as disciples celebrate the “Lord’s Supper,” or more commonly referred to as Communion. Many of us can almost repeat the “words of institution” by heart. These come from the Apostle Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 11, verses 23-25. But did you know that the “bread” and “cup” we acknowledge in observing this part of our worship service were actually at the very end of the meal?

Jesus and his disciples are in Jerusalem. From the Gospel of Luke we have this account of this meal. *“Then came the first day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. And Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, ‘Go and prepare the Passover for us, so that we may eat it.’ When the hour had come, He reclined at the table, and the apostles with Him. And He said to them, ‘I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God. And when He had taken a cup and given thanks; He said, ‘Take this and share it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes.’”* (Luke 22:7-8, 14-18, NASB)

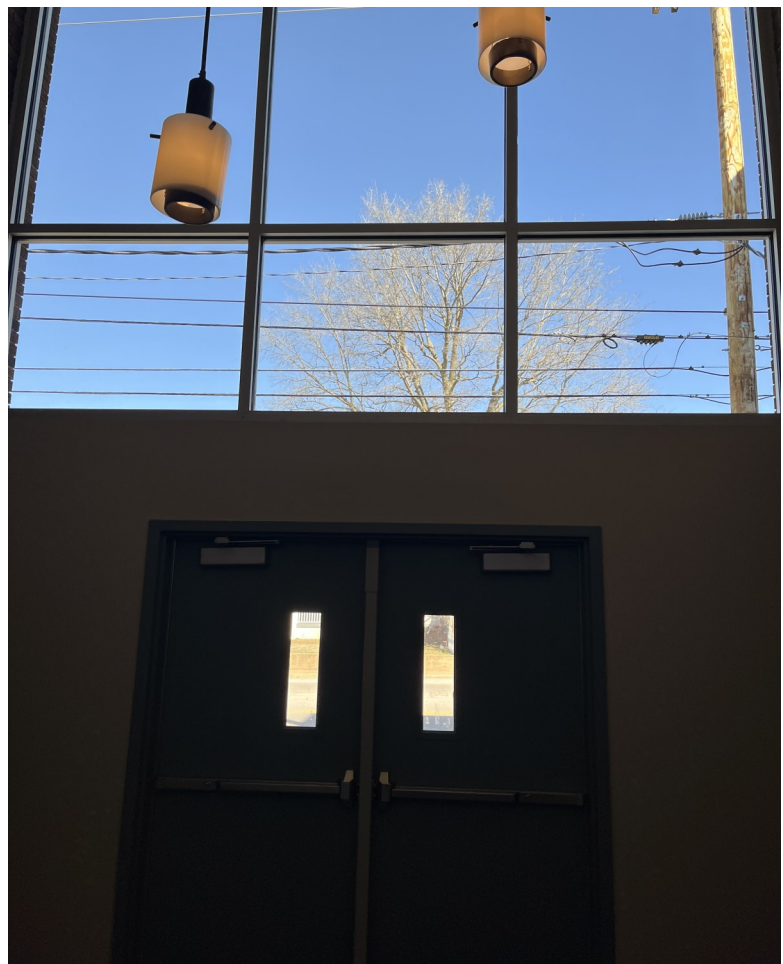
The Seder is a ritual involving the retelling of the story of the liberation of the Israelites for slavery in Egypt, taken from the Book of Exodus. It is based on the verse commanding Jews to retell the story of the exodus from Egypt: *“You shall tell your son on that day, saying, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’”* (Exodus 13:8, NASB) Seder customs include telling the story, discussing the story, drinking four cups of wine, eating matzah, partaking of symbolic foods, and reclining in celebration of freedom. It is among the most commonly celebrated Jewish rituals, performed by Jews all over the world. There is an obligation to drink four cups of wine during the Seder. Each cup is drank at a specific point in the meal. The cups represent the four expressions of deliverance promised by God, (*“I will bring out,” “I will deliver,” “I will redeem,” and “I will take.”*). *“Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, ‘I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. Then I will take you for My people and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.’”* (Exodus 6:6-7, NASB)

Afterwards, at the conclusion of the Seder, Luke continues, *“And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’ And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, ‘This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.’”* (Luke 22:19-20, NASB)



# Around the Building

The door on the north side of the building is now complete. Here are some photos of the work and the completion. Thank you for your patience and for your unwavering support of Central Christian.





# FOR SUNDAY MORNING

*Sermon Title and Scriptures*

*March 16, 2025*

*Philippians 3:17-4:1 & Luke 13:31-35*  
*"Stand Firm"*

*Sermon Title and Scripture*

*March 23, 2025*

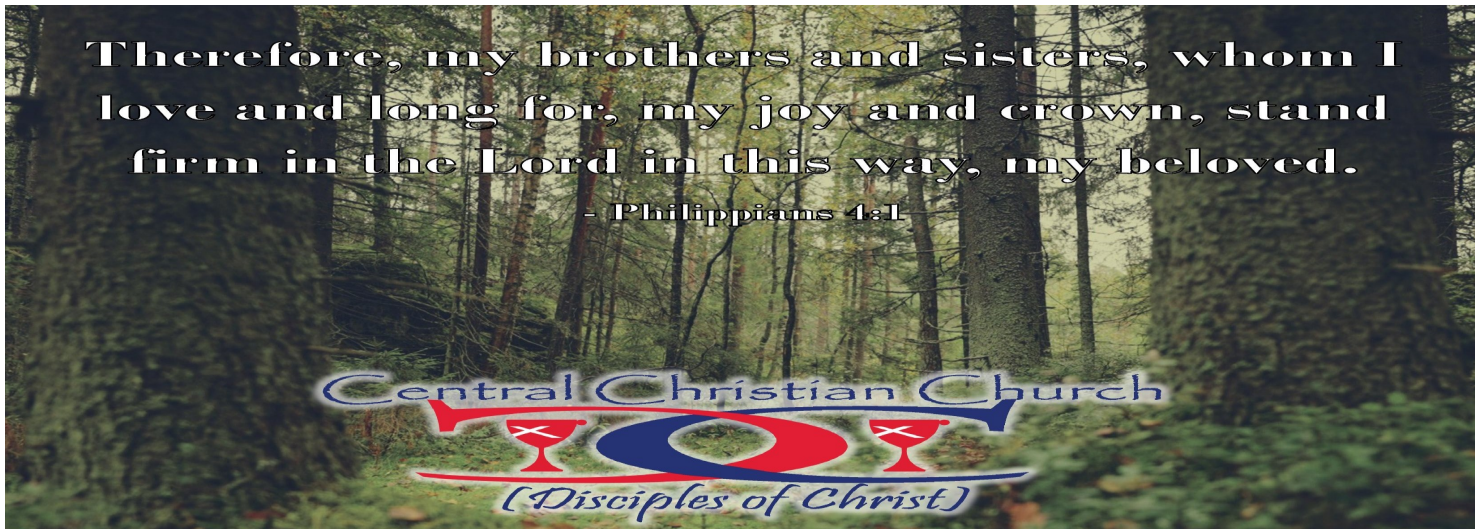
*Psalms 61:1-4 & Isaiah 55:3-9*  
*"Seek the LORD"*

## Help Us On Sunday Morning

If you would like to help on Sunday morning there are many opportunities for you to be a part of our community. We are looking for those who would like to greet people as they come in, hand out bulletins, help prepare the communion for our service and everything for our fellowship following service. You can also be a reader during our service. The sign-up sheet to help out on Sunday is on the desk outside of the church office with many opportunities to be a part of our Sunday mornings.

Thank you and God Bless

### MARCH 16



### MARCH 23



# Celebrations!!!



## March

3/3 – Vicki Nelson

3/4 – Scott Roan

3/12 – Kim Eoff

3/14 – Greg Walton

3/15 – Deyoveion  
Vargas

3/16 – Carla Frazier,  
Jody Hahn,  
Charles Marshall

3/20 – Kristine Roan

3/21 – Diane Miller

3/22 – Dennis Hahn,  
Karen Hahn

3/23 – Kentraya Vargas

3/27 – Debra Gleghorn

3/29 – Jon Thomas



## April

4/1 – Macy Lynch

4/2 – Patricia Peebles

4/4 – William Koo,  
Tiffany Lynch

4/5 – Jill Slack

4/6 – Jordan Edel

4/7 – Josh Thomas

4/8 – Wilma Frazier,  
Kevin Ritter

4/11 – Jim Ferguson

4/12 – John Deeds,  
Jean Hagerman

4/14 – Gavvy Eoff,  
Belina Njuki

4/15 – Bill Grier

4/16 – Shirley Potter

4/19 – David Frazier

4/20 – Teresa Allen

4/21 – John Ferguson

4/22 – Phil Brown,  
Howard McCoy,  
Traci Vargas

4/25 – Bill Fischer

4/26 – JC Hicks

4/27 – Peggy Patton

4/28 – Jo Gardner,  
Julie West



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*This is who Central Christian is and this is who we all strive to be.*





**Central Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)**

1475 N. Washington Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65802

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Specially prepared for:

*God's Beloved Child*



**Ministry Team**

**Bill Fischer, Board Moderator**  
**Rev. Geoff Weinman, Minister**  
**Marvin Murphree, Music Director**  
**Hayden Vaughn, Organist/Pianist**  
**Shirley Musser, Visitation Director**  
**Ken Hillen, Church Caretaker**

**Office Phone:** 417-869-7241

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**Website:** [www.centralchristianspringfield.org](http://www.centralchristianspringfield.org)

**Sunday Mornings**

**9:30 am Worship,**  
in person and via our  
Livestream

**10:45 am Fellowship**

**11:00 am Sunday  
School**