



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 59, Issue 1, January 7, 2020

Sermon Title and Scriptures

January 12, 2020

“After Baptism”

Acts 10:34-43 & Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon Title and Scriptures

January 19, 2020

“Manifest”

1 Corinthians 1:4-9 & John 1:29-42

Defending our Food Fight record

Central Christian Church will again partner with Springfield Public Schools and Ozarks Food Harvest for the ninth annual Food Fight, January 12-24. All food donations collected during Food Fight will directly impact local agencies and SPS school pantries. All funds will support SPS students through Ozarks Food Harvest’s Weekend Backpack Program. In the past Central has partnered with Boyd Elementary School or Pipkin Middle School, with each school outpacing their peers thanks to Central’s support and generosity. The most needed food items are tuna or other canned meat, peanut butter, beans, soups, stews, boxed meals, rice, pasta, canned fruit, canned vegetables, and cereal. Please designate any financial contributions “Food Fight,” or something similar.



Thank You!

To the congregation of Central Christian,

We are so very grateful for your generosity to partner with us to bless so many of our neighbors on the street this Christmas! Your gifts brought so many smiles and joy to those who you blessed. Thank you so much for your heart and partnership!

The Connecting Ground

Looking Ahead

- Jan. 12—Elders Meeting, 11:45 am
- Jan. 13—First Day of Culture Club, 3-5 pm
- Jan. 13—Executive Committee Meeting, 5:30 pm
- Jan. 14—CWF Assembly, 10:30 am
- Jan. 20—MLK Day, Church office closed/NO Culture Club
- Jan. 20—Men’s Breakfast—Biscuits and Gravy, 9:30am
- Jan. 28—Seeking Knowledge/Gaining Fellowship, 5:30 pm
- Feb. 26—Ash Wednesday
- April 5—Palm Sunday
- April 9—Maundy Thursday
- April 10—Good Friday, combined service at Central
- April 12—EASTER

Congregational Concerns

Vicky Tucker, Ken Hillen's sister **Vicky Claborn** Barb Rossetter Bob Thurman Dan Hicks
 Jaden Willingham Barbara Gard, daughter-in-law of Lorene Murray Evelyn Looney Retha McDowell
 Lisa Lynch Hattie Penland Greg & Paula Walton Herb & Norma Knight
 Judy Gibson, friend of Maryann Wakefield Ann Simon Vicky Turner Chrystal Melton Barbara Presley
 Traci Vargas & children Phil Groner, nephew of Gary and Nancy Morris Mary, friend of Robert and Beth Taylor
 Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier Rex Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs Paul Martin
 Barbara Richardson, mother of Vicky Claborn Isaac Ferguson, friend of Karen Sunderwirth James Willingham
 Mary Pering Lynda McCoy Rosa Lee Butts Victoria McIlwain Beth Taylor John Thurman
 Janice McGee Marilyn Elsass Karen Sunderwirth Shirley Cobb Debra Gleghorn

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



If you would like to take home any poinsettias that were used in the sanctuary for the Advent season, please do so this Sunday, January 12th. After this Sunday the poinsettias will be taken out of the church.. If you cannot make it this Sunday and would like a poinsettia, please call the church office and we will hold one for you. Thank you.

	<u>January 12</u>	<u>January 19</u>	<u>FINANCIALS</u>
Elders	Sharon Martin Gary Morris	Greg Walton Michael Olmsted	<u>12/29/19</u> General Fund Contributions: \$6,051.75 Attendance: 100
Deacons	Patsy Tipton – Jim Criger Kylie Criger Jack Edel Pat Edel David Edel Geoff French Susan Haynes David Lane Charlie Mabry John Manary Don Nix Faye Nix Dana Powell Larry Wakefield Jan Richerson	Bill Fischer – Karen Fischer Don Horton Paula Letterman Bob Lynch Tiffany Lynch Sean McGinnis Nan Olmsted Barb Rossetter Josh Thomas Larry Thomas Lynette Thomas Carma Weinman Darrel Zweerink	<u>1/5/2020</u> General Fund Contributions: \$7,537.00 Attendance: 141
Invocation and Offering	Kaylee and Carolyn Deeds	Carol Pyles	
Communion & Fellowship Prep.	Don & Faye Nix Bill & Karen Fischer	Jim & Marilyn Ferguson Darrell & Linda Zweerink	
Usher	Everett & Carolyn Deeds	Bev Vestal & Dana Powell	
Greeter	Bill & Rita St. Gemme	Rhonda Stewart	
Fellowship Pianist	Pat Pennel	Dorothy Thurman	

On the front page of this issue of The Call, you'll notice a thank you note from The Connecting Grounds, the storefront church on Commercial Street focused on meeting the physical and spiritual needs of our un-homed friends. We've partnered with TCG to collect sweatshirts, hoodies, winter coats, hats, gloves, and Hot Hands. Our Reaching Out committee has voted to give \$500 a quarter to TCG to help with their food pantry and hot meal outreach—things Central is not set up to administer. This is what it means to be part of the body of Christ, to work together in the name of the Holy to bring about God's kingdom, "on earth as it is in Heaven."

In November, with your pledges of support, I committed Central to sponsoring Christmas gifts for 20 homeless or low-income individuals. We didn't quite have enough pledged to cover the estimated \$50/person, but I've seen how generous this congregation can be and I took a chance. Central! You do not disappoint! With a need of \$1,000 in financial contributions or individual gift purchases, I was fairly bowled over to **total up receipts of over \$1,300**. We were able to commit to sponsoring Christmas for a child whose mother is just getting back and her feet, who had fallen through the cracks of other programs. And we were able to donate eight cases of HotHands (40 packs per case) to TCG on one of the coldest nights we had in December. The balance will be delivered to help cover the cost of coffee and hot chocolate for the evenings TCG serves as a warming center and gathering point for cold weather overnight shelters. Let me add my own thanks for your generosity; you are doing holy work and it is my privilege to facilitate.

Looking ahead to plans for youth group in 2020, I want to put a few things on your radar. I'm working on a trip to a Missouri State **Ice Bears** hockey game for the end of the month. Please let me know if the 7th-12th graders in your life (and their friends) would like to join us.

We will again be collecting hygiene supplies to make kits for Crosslines as the youth group's **Lenten service project**, February 26 (Ash Wednesday) through April 12 (Easter). Last year we donated almost 60 kits with the help of contributions from the congregation through financial contributions and kit items. We will publish the list of needs again soon.

Disciples Summer Missions is heading to Memphis, June 29 through July 3. This will be a time for our young people—anyone who has finished 6th through 12th grades—to do service projects alongside hundreds of Disciples teens from across the country. There will also be times of worship and reflection; Central hosted evening worship for DSM when they came to Springfield in 2019. And, there will be time for a little bit of silliness and relationship-building just for our own young people. I'll need to register our group by the end of March, so please make sure your middle and high schoolers know about this fantastic opportunity to grow in faith and understanding of the world, to building relationships, and to have a little fun.

By the time this issue of The Call arrives in your mailbox or your Inbox, I will have been in the **Holy Lands** for a few days. This will fulfill the immersion course requirement for my Master of Divinity program at Phillips Theological Seminary. Beyond class credit, though, I'm looking forward to a chance to experience the geography of Scripture; to visiting some of the Global Missions projects supported by Week of Compassion; and to observing first-hand what life is like in conflict. Every safeguard has been taken to ensure our safety, those efforts redoubled in light of current events. I'll be back in worship with you on January 19. I look forward to sharing my stories and pictures with you at an upcoming Seeking Knowledge/Gaining Fellowship.

*Grateful,
Alyssa*

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

1475 N. Washington Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802

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Return Service Requested

Specially prepared for:

**Sunday Mornings
9:30 am Worship
10:45 am Fellowship
11 am Sunday School**

Ministry Team

**Bill Fischer, Board Moderator
Rev. Geoff Weinman, Senior Minister
Rev. Alyssa Spradlin, Associate Minister
Dr. Mark Bowdidge, Music Director
Vicky Claborn, Organist
Shirley Musser, Visitation Director
Joyce Thomas, Children's Director
Krista Watkins, Office Administrator
Ken Hillen, Church Caretaker**

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