



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 59, Issue 4 February 18, 2020

Sermon Title and Scriptures

February 23, 2020 Transfiguration Sunday

“Later Epiphanies”

2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Sermon Title and Scriptures

March 1, 2020

“The Gap”

Isaiah 58:1-9a

The Mid-Town Concert Series

a ministry of Central Christian Church

presents

CARLY WINGFIELD

Soprano

Sunday, March 1, 2020 • 3:00 p.m.



CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH 1475 N. Washington Ave. at Division St. • Springfield, Missouri
CentralChristianSpringfield.org • (417) 869-7241

**Seeking Knowledge/
Gaining Fellowship**

Rev. Geoff Weinman will continue the conversation on the Hebrew Bible book of Amos on Tuesday, February 25. Dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the presentation to follow. Please sign up on Lisa Lynch’s desk in the front lobby so we will have enough food for everyone.

Youth hygiene drive

The youth group will be observing Lent, February 26 through April 9, by focusing on giving instead of giving up. We will be gathering supplies for hygiene kits to be donated to Crosslines after Easter. Adapting the guidelines provided by Church Women United, we will be collecting the items from the Dollar Tree stores. We will avoid buying items that contain alcohol (toothpaste, deodorant), or have strong fragrances (shampoo, soap, deodorant). We will also avoid buying items in aerosol form or in metal cans. Based on provided estimates, we should be able to create each kit for around \$10. If you are interested in contributing to the youth hygiene kit drive, please purchase items based on the first letter of your last name as designated in the parentheses. Financial contributions will also be appreciated to supplement any incomplete kits. Please designate Youth/Lent on your checks or giving envelopes. Last year the youth group collected and compiled over 60 kits.

Shampoo (A-C)

Toothpaste (D-F)

Soft bristle tooth brush with cover (G-I)

Hairbrushes/combs (J-L)

Bar soap (M-N)

Two washcloths in two different colors (O-Q)

Deodorant (R-S)

Emory board (T-V)

Plain petroleum jelly/hand cream (W-Z)

Feminine hygiene products (anyone)

Scholarship Time

It’s time once again to invite applications for the annual scholarship awards. Any student who has finished high school, or is a senior in high school who will graduate in the spring of 2020, and is planning to continue their education may apply. Two letters of recommendation are required, as well as proof of enrollment or acceptance in a college/ university, or trade school. If you have received one scholarship, you may apply one additional year. We are proud of our students and wish to encourage them in their educational pursuits. A student need not be a member of Central, but should have close ties to the church.

Deadline: March 29 – All applications due to the church office.

Come in to the church office soon and pick up your scholarship applications!

—Dorothy Thurman and Memorial Fund Scholarship Committee

Congregational Concerns

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

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



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Central Christian Church DOC - Springfield, MO

	<u>February 23</u>	<u>March 1</u>
Elders	Patty Thurman Dorothy Thurman	Bill Fischer Carol Pyles
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 Jan Richerson Larry Wakefield	Bill Fischer – Michelle Brown Karen Fischer Don Horton Paula Letterman Sean McGinnis Nan Olmsted John Rickman Traci Rickman Barb Rossetter Josh Thomas Larry Thomas Lynette Thomas Carma Weinman Darrel Zweerink
Invocation and Offering	Sharon Martin	Mike Weinman
Communion & Fellowship Prep.	Bill & Karen Fischer Jim & Marilyn Ferguson	Darrell & Linda Zweerink Joe & Kay Parrish
Usher	Patty Soukup	Glendon & Anna Marie Walker
Greeter	Dave & Joyce Moots	Becky & Karen Ballinger
Fellowship Pianist	Vicky Claborn	Pat Pannel

FINANCIALS

2/9/2020

General Fund
 Contributions: \$5,725
 Attendance: 132

2/16/2020

General Fund
 Contributions: \$ 3,659
 Attendance: 128

Spiritual or Faithful

I once overheard a conversation in which an individual said, and I'm paraphrasing, "I wouldn't say I'm religious, but I am spiritual." Have you ever been part of a similar conversation? If so, have you ever asked the person what they meant? Did you get a satisfactory answer? What is a person really saying when they say they are spiritual? What does being spiritual mean to you? Is there a difference between being spiritual and being a faithful believer and follower of Christ? Without delving too deeply into the theological aspect of such questions I will try to answer these questions. If only to do nothing else than to give you food for thought and incentive to further investigate the meaning for yourself.

First, let's start with the standard dictionary definition of the word spiritual. Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language defines spiritual as, "1) *of the spirit or the soul, often in a religious or moral aspect, as distinguished from the body.* 2) *of, from, or concerned with the intellect, or what is often thought of as the better or higher part of the mind.*" In my New International Version Study Bible, spiritual is defined as, "*having to do with God, the human spirit, or other supernatural spirits.*"

As the above conversation continued the "spiritual" individual went on to say, again paraphrasing as best as I can recall, "I'm not sure I buy into all the religious stuff about there being a God, heaven and hell. I believe we have a moral compass to help us know right from wrong, etc." From this I would deduce this individual's definition of "spiritual" would be most closely aligned with Webster's second, "*...concerned with the intellect, or what is often thought of as a better or higher part of the mind.*"

In the first century believers in the teachings of the Apostles dealt with Gnostics. These individuals believed the key to eternal life involved obtaining superior knowledge, greater intellect. They disputed Christ was a deity. That He was simply a human of supreme intelligence. They also disputed Christ's resurrection. In his first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 15, verses 1-5 and 12-17 the Apostle Paul reinforces the teachings of Christ's resurrection. "***Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.***" (NIV)

To me, this individual who believes a superior intellect and a "moral compass" are enough, that being "spiritual" is all that is required, sounds a lot like the Gnostics the Apostle Paul and others were dealing with in the first century. There's an old saying, "A rose by any other name is still a rose." Spiritualism is still Gnosticism.

Faithful believers and followers of the teachings of Christ, the Apostles, and the Scriptures know their "moral compass" does not come from superior intellect, but from the Word of God. The faithful know they cannot do it themselves. They accept "***...all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.***" (Romans, 3:23, 24, NIV)

As a faithful believer how do you, or would you, respond to someone who confesses to being "spiritual?" Would you seek clarification as to just what that individual meant? Would you as a loving follower of Jesus Christ explain the difference between faithfulness and spiritualism? We, as believers, are challenged to "***...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...***" (Matthew, 28:19-20a, NIV)

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

1475 N. Washington Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI
PERMIT NO. 1332

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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