



# The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 59, Issue 13

June 23, 2020



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of **Lucille Sachs**, who passed away on Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

*Thank You!*

Thank you, everyone, for all the prayers and the cards in our time of needing it most from our family here at the church. It is very important to us. And all of the support is greatly appreciated.

*Howard & Lynda McCoy and King*

## Live-streaming Sunday morning worship; Sunday school to resume

We have started holding in-person worship on Sunday mornings again, utilizing an abundance of caution to create a safe space in which we can gather. We recognize that it is best for many of our members to continue to worship with us online, and have worked to make that possible. As of June 21, **our worship services can be viewed on the church website, [www.centralchristianspringfield.org](http://www.centralchristianspringfield.org), live at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday.** We hope this will contribute to a shared sense of community and communal worship for everyone, whether they are participating in person or online. We are still fine-tuning our online service offerings and would love your feedback. Please let us know if there are ways we can enhance the online service experience. Videos of the live stream will be archived and should be immediately available for playback.

**One combined Sunday school class** will begin meeting after morning worship on Sunday, June 28. Teachers of the adult classes will rotate leading the class in McGinnis Fellowship Hall, tables have been placed at safe distances, and a limited number of chairs located at each table. Childcare will be available.

## Welcome to the DOC, TCG

The Connecting Ground, a church with which we have regularly partnered to address the needs of unsheltered and working poor people in our community, started the process of joining the Disciples of Christ denomination, earlier this month. TCG announced in late May that they would be leaving their location on Commercial Street. Last week, the congregation announced that they would be moving in to the former Gateway Christian Church (DOC) property on West Chestnut Expressway in the next few months.

TCG has purchased a wheel-chair accessible bus to transport their congregants to the new location for church, as well as for other services. Their new model also includes a mobile kitchen, a food truck, a box truck outfitted with high-need items like hygiene supplies and shoes, and a former flea market space which they will use as a resource center in which to store and sort donations.

The box truck will be stationed in our parking lot for 90 minutes on Tuesday evenings in the months of July and August. TCG volunteers will be handing out dinner and addressing other regular needs of health and hygiene. Other churches and partner organizations will host the other nights of the week; the arrangement will be evaluated at the end of the summer.

## Congregational Concerns

### **The family of Lucille Sachs**

**Gary Wright**

**Janice McGee**

Vicky Claborn

Dan Hicks

Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs

Barbara Richardson, mother of Vicky Claborn

Judy Gibson, friend of Maryann Wakefield

Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier

Isaac Ferguson, friend of Karen Sunderwirth

Barbara Gard, daughter-in-law of Lorene Murray

### **Howard and Lynda McCoy, on the loss of their daughter Rosann Gordon**

Chrystal Melton

Paul Martin

Regina Maness, mother of Marilyn Ferguson

Beth Taylor

Ginger Williamson

Linda McCoy

Lisa Lynch

Retha McDowell

Ann Simon

James Willingham

Greg & Paula Walton

Marilyn Elsass

Vicky Turner

Jaden Willingham

Karen Sunderwirth

Traci Vargas & children

Shirley Cobb

Mary Pering

Evelyn Looney

Debra Gleghorn

John Thurman

Victoria McIlwain

Rosa Lee Butts

Barb Rossetter

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



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



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

## **Boyd School Supply Drive**

We are working with Central Assembly of God to meet the school supply needs of students at Boyd Elementary. Due to restrictions, there is some concern about purchasing the needed number of hand sanitizers easily. Please consider picking up some of these items (especially large bottles of hand sanitizer) as you are able, or contributing financially to their purchase.

**230** black/white composition notebooks

**220** packages of pencils

**55** pencil boxes

**75** fisca scissors

**280** glue sticks

**70** packages of washable markers

**80** packages of crayons

**80** large erasers

**280** pronged folders

**200** boxes of Kleenex

**50** rolls of paper towels

**85** bottles of disinfectant wipes

**85** hand sanitizers

**75** spiral notebooks

**38** packages of skinny, black whiteboard markers

**128** packages of multicolored expo markers

**13** packs of gallon-size Ziploc bags

**13** packs of sandwich-size Ziploc bags

**30** packages of colored pencils

**60** tubs of play doh

**45** ink pens

**30** packs of baby wipes

**30** packs of wide-ruled notebook paper

**30** plastic rulers

### FINANCIALS

6/14/2020

General Fund

Contributions: \$5,374

In-person attendance: 73

Online service views: 38\*

6/21/2020

General Fund

Contributions: \$3,000.50

In-person attendance: 61

Online service views: 72\*\*

\*Affected by technical issues

\*\*At the time of publication

# Central Christian Church, through the years: A brief history, part 1

*Garner Phillips, who put together the Forward Through the Ages history of this church for its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, quoted Paul Tournier from his book Learn to Grow Old. "A sense of history is needed if one is to make sense of life; for if we look only at the point where we are, we will see neither where we came from nor where we are going." Present and future generations need to see where Central, as a congregation, came from and how to proceed. We need to understand the good times and the difficult times through the years from 1889 to 2020. With this understanding, we will find the hope during these difficult times that Central will have good times together again.*

----- Diane Phillips Bailey

Central, originally called the Washington Avenue Church, came together in 1888. The first minister was H.J. Underwood but he was also the briefest minister. The congregation didn't really know why. They were meeting at nearby buildings but working on the new church building—the church building prior to our present building. Shortly after moving into the church building, he continued to hold services in those same locations with most of the congregation. This was a very difficult time for the church as their membership had been reduced from 100 to 25, mostly women. He continued to minister at the other church but by 1892 it was gone.

Thankfully, the first full minister, Samuel Fullen, volunteered to build up the church without financial assistance except for the very little the 25 members who remained could give him. Several members returned after the Underwood church failed; Rev. Fullen would not discuss the past, focusing instead on helping the little church succeed. He was gone by 1895.

There were several ministers after that but William Harlow, who came to serve in 1902, was an amazing evangelist and they quickly gained 223 new members. He became nationally known and left in 1903. During his time it was decided to allow musical instruments, a separation from the Church of Christ congregations with which Christian churches had been affiliated.

While in Springfield the horrific lynching of three Black men took place on the Square. Harlow denounced the mob. He believed it was flamed by the showing of an anti-Black play shown a few weeks before. He was the only minister in town who stood up and also assailed the mayor and police force for their lack of action.

Central Christian has not traditionally been politically active preferring to let members follow their own beliefs. However, on racism the church has a definite stance, stating, "This church believes that discrimination on basis of race is contrary to the principles of life laid down by Jesus Christ." This church has always welcomed people of all races to participate in church activities.

Rev. Harlow returned as minister from 1915 to 1916. There were many Harlow family members in the church over the years.

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

1475 N. Washington Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65802

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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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