



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 59, Issue 15

July 21, 2020



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of **Janice McGee**, who passed away on Friday, July 17, 2020.

Support Central while you shop

The church is now an authorized beneficiary of Amazon's charitable giving program. **For every dollar spent through AmazonSmile —on almost anything—the church will receive half a percent.** When we purchased hand sanitizer last week for Boyd School, we used our new AmazonSmile account, netting the congregation \$7. We're a little difficult to find through searching; there are a LOT of congregations that share our name. By using this link (you can type it in your browser), you will automatically be asked if you want to support this congregation. Our unique charity link is <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/44-0548740>. AmazonSmile is now available through the Amazon app; please contact Alyssa if you need assistance with set-up.

Music: Not the only means of worship

We're well into our new "abnormal" worship experience. And we're all missing our active participation in worship through vocal music. But we're still offering God our worship, albeit in a frustratingly different mode. This season can teach us a tremendous amount if we're willing to overlook the disappointments. One of the many fallacies of the contemporary church (and there are **many**) is the idea that music **IS** worship. There is absolutely no truth in that statement! Our music should always have been, should be now, and should be in the future, a tool of our worship – a vehicle for us to offer worship to God. Too often we see examples of music being the focus of worship. During this time I hope we can be reminded that music is not the object of worship. God is. And while we're worshipping with limited music, maybe we can find new ways, good ways, to worship God, to offer Him our praise, and in so doing leave worship changed.

— Dr. Mark Bowdidge, Director of Music

Special offering for TCG

We will take up a special offering for The Connecting Grounds on **August 9**, to assist our new sibling Disciples congregation with expenses related to their move and remodel. TCG, as a congregation, is moving into the former Gateway Christian Church space on West Chestnut Expressway. Their new outreach center—also on Chestnut, east of West Bypass—will eventually serve as a resource for other area nonprofits. Please make checks out to the church, and mark TCG in the memo line.

CWF outreach update

CWF has collected enough items for 75 school kits and 20 Missouri Family Food Boxes. They are still collecting money for **Missouri Women's Prison Packs** and **blankets for Church World Services**; each pack or blanket is \$10 each. Checks can be written to Christian Women's Fellowship or CWF.

Congregational Concerns

The family of Janice McGee	Debra Gleghorn	John & Kitty Mannary	Dana Powell	Marilyn Elsass	
Hattie Penland	Gary Wright	Regina Maness, mother of Marilyn Ferguson	Chrystal Melton	Paul Martin	
Vicky Claborn	Dan Hicks	Beth Taylor	Linda McCoy	Retha McDowell	Ann Simon
Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs	Greg & Paula Walton	Vicky Turner	James Willingham		
Barbara Richardson, mother of Vicky Claborn	Karen Sunderwirth	Traci Vargas & children	Shirley Cobb		
Judy Gibson, friend of Maryann Wakefield	Mary Pering	Evelyn Looney	Ginger Williamson	Lisa Lynch	
Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier	John Thurman	Victoria McIlwain	Rosa Lee Butts	Barb Rossetter	
Barbara Gard, daughter-in-law of Lorene Murray	Jaden Willingham	Isaac Ferguson, friend of Karen Sunderwirth			

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

If you can't join us in person, please remember that we are livestreaming our Sunday morning service—starting at 9:30—at www.centralchristianspringfield.org

Boyd School Supply Drive—UPDATE**

We have had a tremendous amount of support for our neighborhood school children. Thank you. I've been able to order some items on AmazonSmile—with the church as the recipient— thanks to your generosity. If you are interested in purchasing items, please consider items that hard to buy in bulk right now—hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, facial tissue like Kleenex, and paper towels.

<p>230 black/white composition notebooks</p> <p>188 packages of pencils</p> <p>43 pencil boxes</p> <p>73 fiscar scissors</p> <p>246 glue sticks</p> <p>58 packages of washable markers</p> <p>47 packages of crayons</p> <p>60 large erasers</p> <p>280 pronged folders</p> <p>200 boxes of Kleenex</p> <p>50 rolls of paper towels</p> <p>85 containers of disinfectant wipes</p> <p>13 hand sanitizers</p>	<p>55 spiral notebooks</p> <p>38 packages of skinny black whiteboard markers</p> <p>126 packages of multicolored expo markers</p> <p>13 packs of gallon-size Ziploc bags</p> <p>13 packs of sandwich-size Ziploc bags</p> <p>22 packages of colored pencils</p> <p>60 tubs of play doh</p> <p>0 ink pens (need met)</p> <p>22 packs of baby wipes</p> <p>22 packs of wide-ruled notebook paper</p> <p>17 plastic rulers</p>
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FINANCIALS

7/12/2020

General Fund
Contributions: \$5,587
In-person attendance: 66
Online service views: 45*

7/19/2020

General Fund
Contributions: \$3,505
In-person attendance: 59
Online service views: 38*

*At the time of publication

****Updates reflect items still needed after an inventory of supplies already donated/purchased.**

Central Christian Church, through the years: A brief history, part 3

Garner Phillips, who put together the Forward Through the Ages history of this church for its 100th 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

The next full-time minister George Bassett was at Central for four years and the focus was on growth, which Rev. Bassett was credited with providing due to his dynamic speaking. He performed weddings and funerals and was part of the church family. The whole Bagot family including Wes and Enid Bagot's parents joined at that time. He then married Wes and Enid Bagot who are the parents of Shirley Bagot Musser. Her family has had active members since about 1928.

After a few years of relative quiet, war was once again on the forefront. Even though the United States wasn't yet involved, the Missionary Fund was in trouble and they requested members donate one day's pay. When the country became involved after Pearl Harbor the people turned to the church for strength, and members worked to write to and support the individuals and families from Central. There were 206 Blue Stars placed on the Service Flag representing those from Central, and if a man lost his life it was changed to gold. During this time Rev. James Michael led the congregation, from 1936-1945.

At the end of the war in 1945, Rev. Roy Fields became the minister. He remained for 13 years as the church grew in size and numbers. The budget doubled and there were 1,155 members. He reorganized many things in the church and was in demand for his speaking. He was known for his humor as well as his writings in the church paper. It was during this time that the Parsonage was built and more land acquired. It was not always easy during that time as Rev. Fields had some health crises—he was in a car wreck and broke his back and later also suffered from a heart attack. The Church was always supportive and managed to maintain their usual programs. In the midst of his service, the Korean Conflict again affected some church members. One of those young men was so touched by the 3,000 orphans he saw there, that he asked for Central's help and was soon flooded with support. Central was sharing its abundance. Rev. Fields contributed to the membership growth as well as upgrading of the building and a new organ. It was also during this time that a new Disciples Church was established in the south part of town, Brentwood, which was supported by Central. His long period of 13 years allowed much to be accomplished. He went on to another church before retiring. Central dedicated a Memorial Chapel to him and was to present the Retired Ministers Pen in the fall of 1968 but he had a fatal heart attack shortly before that time.

**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

10:30 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
Ken Hillen, Church Caretaker

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