



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 59, Issue 17

August 18, 2020

Successful Boyd school supply drive

For the last two months, we have been collecting supplies for Boyd Elementary School, working with Central Assembly to ensure the students in our neighborhood have everything they need to start the school year on solid footing.

The generosity of this congregation, time and again, never ceases to amaze. The photograph is documentation of your enormous collective heart. Together we are donating everything on this list, and then some: 230 composition books, 220 package of pencils, 55 pencil boxes, 75 Fiskars scissors, 265 glue sticks, 70 packages of washable markers, 80 packages of crayons, 60 large erasers, 280 pronged folders, 85 containers of



disinfectant wipes, 85 hand sanitizers, 38 packages of skinny black whiteboard markers, 128 packages of multicolored Expo markers, 13 packages of Ziploc bags (gallon), 13 packages of Ziploc bags (sandwich), 30 packages of colored pencils, 60 tubs of Play-Doh, 45 ink pens, 30 packs of baby wipes, 60 packs of notebook paper, 30 plastic rulers, and several packages of facial tissue and paper towels.

Memorial scholarships awarded

The Central Christian Church Memorial Scholarship Committee awarded four \$600 scholarships during the spring 2020.

Congratulations to these scholars, and best wishes for your academic success.

Madison Letterman

Daughter of Amy and Lance Letterman, Grandchild of Paula Letterman. She was student body president of Hillcrest High School, and recently began studies at Evangel University, majoring in strategic communication with a career of an advertising executive in mind.

Tatum Manary

Daughter of Matt and Julie Manary, Granddaughter of John and Kitty Manary. She was a nationally ranked speech and debate team member at Marshfield High School, and is attending College of the Ozarks, majoring in public relations. She wants to be

creatively helpful to others.

Brett Letterman

Son of Amy and Lance Letterman, Grandson of Paula Letterman.

He was as on student council at Hillcrest High School, where he maintained his status on the Honor Roll and the Hornets baseball team for four years. He is attending Park University, majoring in business and construction management, with plans to work for a construction company in their management department.

Matt Rush

Son of Lahsha and Wesley Rush, Mentored by Linda and Darrell Zweerink

He was on the Honor Roll, and played football, basketball, and track at Hillcrest High School. He has been attending MSU and will continue there for graduate school in sports management. He plans to stay in college athletics or coach high school football.

Central has received thank you notes from each of these fine young scholars. They will run in the next issue of *The Call*.

Congregational Concerns

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

Week of Compassion responds to COVID-19, disasters in the Midwest & around the world

In conversation with Regional Ministers and church leaders in the Midwest, Week of Compassion has learned of at least five Iowa congregations that sustained significant damage in last week's storms: FCC Newton; Marion Christian Church; Noelridge Christian Church; Central Christian Church, Marshalltown; and Ira United Church. Multiple households experienced losses as well, and we are still getting more information. WoC will continue to work with leaders in these communities in order to offer support. In the meantime, please keep all those affected in your prayers.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold at home and around the world. Many of us have been practicing social distancing in our own homes and neighborhoods, knowing that when we stay home, we can save lives. On a global scale, the pandemic continues to escalate and impact many communities. During this time of uncertainty, the presence and support of our wider Church is more important than ever.

Week of Compassion is coordinating with partners who are working to respond to the needs emerging from the pandemic and who continue to engage in ongoing relief, refugee and development work. WoC continues to **provide assistance to some of the most vulnerable Disciples, who may not qualify for other types of support.** Week of Compassion is also supporting **congregations that are stepping in to fill gaps in their community**, helping vulnerable neighbors weather the challenges of this season.

FINANCIALS

8/9/2020

General Fund
Contributions: \$5,599
In-person attendance: 56
Online service views: 31*

8/16/2020

General Fund
Contributions: 4,977
In-person attendance: 69
Online service views: 27*

*At the time of publication

Central Christian Church, through the years: A brief history, part 5

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

Following the retirement of Rev. Mike McGinnis, Rev. Larry Snow became the Senior Minister. Mike McGinnis was a hard person to follow. He had been the minister for 35 years, the longest of any minister. He was loved by all the people in the congregation and was appreciated by every age group. Rev. Snow was a young man with a great reputation. He was focused on spiritual renewal for the Church and individual members. Camino, a spiritual retreat, was in full thrust during that time and Rev. Snow was zealous in promoting it. This was welcomed by some but not all; this caused some dissension at the time. However, while he was here the McGinnis Fellowship Hall was added, the Boyd after school program was initiated, and the play, *I'll be Home for Christmas* was produced and enjoyed by many. During his tenure, Sarah Stephenson was the associate minister. After Rev. Snow left, Rev. Stephenson was the interim. The Church search committee ran into many obstacles looking for a replacement. The committee then realized that Sarah had the qualities they wanted and offered her the position. She was somewhat reluctant as she felt sermons were not her forte but she did accept. The church grew spiritually with Sarah and she was known for beautiful heartfelt congregational prayers. She started a second service which was music, prayer and silence for contemplation called New Song. This brought in some new members but was not continued after she left. As was predicted, after Mike left some members were not satisfied with those ministers who followed. This is often the case after a long-term and beloved minister leaves a congregation. Some believe it was a rather toxic period with rumors and maybe unfair complaints about an interim as well as longer term ministers. These may have been part of the reason for some ministers serving shorter tenures during those years.

When John Andrews followed Sarah Stephenson, he seemed to have the personality that everyone could like. He was a kind-hearted man who laughed at his own flaws particularly forgetting "stuff" in the service. He had to leave after a few short years due to a heart condition. As well as being appreciated for his personality, he also improved the music in the church by adding college students to the choir. During this same period, the associate minister preparing for full-time ministry was Geoff Weinman. While an associate he earned the appreciation and loyalty that hadn't been there for some 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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