



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
Volume 59, Issue 19 September 15, 2020



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of **Shirley Cobb**, who passed away on Wednesday, September 2, 2020.



To my Central family, Thank you so much for your prayers, cards and thoughts during my surgery. I know the power of all your prayers helped me get through this time.

*In Christian Love,
Debra Gleghorn*

Culture Club adapts to Covid

We will begin our 21st year of Culture Club on Sept. 28, though this year will surely look different from any other year. For everyone's safety, we will not be hosting students in the building this fall; we hope there is good reason to reevaluate that for the spring semester. We will, however, continue to feed K-5 students from Boyd Elementary, thanks to waivers from USDA and Ozarks Food Harvest.

These waivers make it possible for us to offer grab-and-go meals and activities for the students. Boyd has one of the highest free and reduced lunch rates in Springfield, so we know there is a need. While we are not able to provide in-person care this semester, we do have an opportunity to provide five meals a week—up from three—to some of our youngest neighbors, and to stem the hunger of their older siblings at the middle and high schools, as needed.

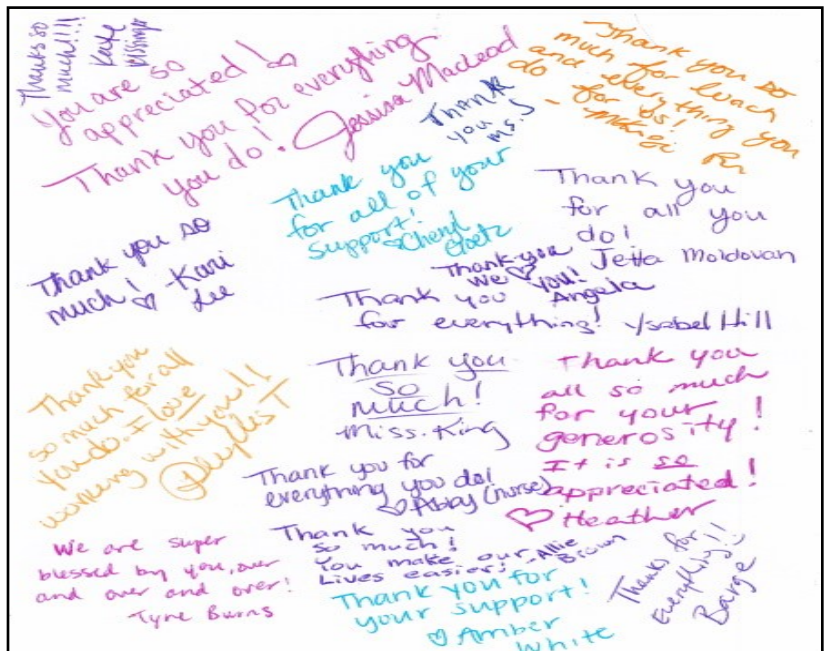
If you are interested in volunteering to help prepare the meal and activity kits, please call or email the church office (contact info on page 4).

—Alyssa

Central Christian Family, Thank you so much for willingness to partner with The Connecting Grounds in so many amazing ways! We are grateful that you are willing to host outreach and to take up love offerings to support our relocation costs! You are a BIG blessing to us!

Christie Love

From the faculty and staff of Boyd Elementary, following our delivery of school supplies, lunch, and gift cards for teaching supplies:



Please wear a mask any time you are in the building, for the health and safety of everyone around you.

Congregational Concerns

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

(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**

Commitment to Christ is like a Marathon

As some of you know I am a runner. Some would say more of a jogger; however, I compete in races throughout Springfield and at times in surrounding towns.

The Apostle Paul in his farewell to the Elders of Ephesus in the book of Acts as he was departing for Jerusalem said; ***“And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to be there. I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the gospel of God’s grace.”*** (Acts, 20:22-24, NIV) As we can see from this quote, the Apostle Paul was well aware of the dangers he could, and did, encounter on his journeys. Despite knowledge of those dangers, he prevailed. ***“...if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me...”***

Continued on page 3

FINANCIALS

9/6/2020

General Fund
Contributions: \$9,991.09
In-person attendance: 69
Online service views: 45*

9/13/2020

General Fund
Contributions: \$3,942
In-person attendance: 55
Online service views: 26*

*At the time of publication

Continued from page 2

As a runner our goal is to “complete the task” at hand. Mainly to finish the race. To that end we train for the distance we are going to compete in whether it be a 5K (3.1 miles), 10K (6.2 miles), 15K (9.3 miles), half-marathon (13.1 miles), or marathon (26.2 miles) or longer. Often runners discover the amount of training was not sufficient to allow them to finish their goal without struggling. You can train for a marathon, but when you encounter the Boston Marathon you soon realize how inadequate your training back home was. Twenty-six point two miles is 26.2 miles, right? Not necessarily. True the distance from start to finish is the same; however, it is what you experience in between those two points that makes all the difference. Running 26.2 miles, 13.1 out and back, on the Frisco Highline Trail will not compare to running the streets of Boston nor the bridges of the New York Marathon.

Similarly we can study the Scriptures for our Sunday Class and be fully prepared to participate actively in the discussion, but that same preparation will not equip you to present the message to the congregation on Sunday morning. Likewise delivering 20-minute sermons at your local church will not adequately prepare you for missionary work in an inner-city environment or in a third-world country. But in all cases the Holy Spirit will equip you to “finish the race and complete the task.”

From what we can gather the Apostle Paul was approximately 33 years old when he encountered Christ Jesus on the road to Damascus. He died, probably in Rome, at the approximate age of 64. During those intervening 31 years we know Paul made at least three missionary journeys covering many miles from Jerusalem throughout the Roman Empire. One could say Apostle Paul completed several marathons completing his task of delivering the news of salvation throughout the first-century world.

Life as a Christian, as a believer and follower of Christ Jesus, is not a sprint. It is not even a 5K. Commitment to a life with Christ, as a disciple of Christ, is a marathon of spreading the Gospel, witnessing to all we encounter with more than mere words. Our lives should be so as we approach the “finish line” we can say as Paul did in 2 Timothy verses 7 and 8, “***I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.***” (NIV)

Luther Young

**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

Office Phone: 417-869-7241

E-mail: office@centralchristianspringfield.org

Website: www.centralchristianspringfield.org

