



# The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 59, Issue 21

October 20, 2020

**INSIDE: State of the Church report. Please see pages 2-3.**



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of **Delilah Krasser**, who passed away on Sunday, October 4, 2020.

*We are entering into yet another Stewardship season. Join us on Nov. 8, 15, 22, as we contemplate what it means to be a church together and good stewards for all God's world. At this time in our world it is never more important to be...*



## ORGANIST VICKY CLABORN IN CONCERT

The Mid-Town Concert Series, a ministry of Central Christian Church, will present organist Vicky Claborn in concert on Sunday, November 1, at 3 p.m. in a program titled *Just for Fun* featuring audience favorites from the organ repertoire. Mrs. Claborn, organist of Central Christian Church, earned her Master of Music degree in Organ Performance in 2011 from Missouri State University. In addition to her duties at Central Christian she is a staff accompanist and adjunct professor of music at College of the Ozarks. The concert is free.

### Two ways to attend the Mid-town Concert Series

#### **In Person**

Join us in person at Central Christian Church's spacious sanctuary for a socially distanced live experience. In accordance with local ordinances face masks will be required but if you forget your mask we'll have disposable masks available.

#### **Online**

Join us online for a live stream broadcast of each of the season's concerts on Central Christian's YouTube channel Central Christian, Springfield MO or on the church website [CentralChristianSpringfield.org](http://CentralChristianSpringfield.org).

### Ushers Needed for MTCS

Three ushers will be needed for each of the upcoming Mid-Town Concert Series performances, on Nov. 1, Dec. 13, Feb. 7, March 7, and April 11. No refreshments will be served. There will be a sign-up sheet on Lisa's desk. Thank you—Carolyn Deeds

### 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.** 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.

# State of the Church report

What an interesting year this has been in the life of Central Christian Church, one, I am sure, none of us wants to relive again. We have only been able to meet as a congregation just a few Sundays since mid-March so we, the Executive Committee, have been working very hard to continue to go forward without missing a step, though I will tell you it has been trying at times. I have listed several of the issues that the Committee has addressed so that everyone in the congregation is on the same page.

With the help and guidance of Mark Bowdidge, we have been able to move forward with a **modified worship service**. We have instituted several protocols such as mandatory masking, social distancing in the pews, limited singing and congregational responses, and disposable communion cups and wafers. The communion supplies we ordered cost us a little more than the normal cups and wafers but they are individually sealed to avoid exposure to more than one person. When the City of Springfield and Greene County instituted the protocols for churches we found that we were about 10 steps ahead of the curve and that is due to the recommendations that Mark, Geoff and Alyssa made for conducting worship services. Additionally, we were able to also **restart Sunday School** though it was one combined class which made for an interesting combination of several different teaching techniques in a rotational basis.

The **sump pump** in the elevator pit needed to be replaced and a new shunt breaker installed. When we get heavy rains Ken will not need to be running a hose across the basement floor to expel the water that accumulates in the pit. This **new pump will automatically pull the water out of the pit**.

We have **purchased a Disinfecting Fogger** to use to disinfect the church after services as well as other events that take place in the church. This piece of equipment is not only applicable for the current virus but also for a normal flu season. Total cost was \$800 including the disinfectant concentrate.

The **replacement of the roof** is still an on-going project. We are hoping to have the bids **completed by mid November** so we can award the project and hopefully have the roof replaced before bad winter arrives. The pandemic has set us back in gaining bids but also **finding the funding** for the roof. We have determined that we will use funds out of the **Endowment cash funds** to pay for the project and then **start a Capital Campaign** when we are able to have the congregation back in the church without limitations. In the meantime, if anyone is interested in contributing to the Capital Building Fund, please let Geoff or Alyssa know as we already have a special Designated Fund set up for the building projects.

Finally, our **weekly giving is down**, of course, due to the virus and limitations placed on the church but the good news is that we have been able to pay the bills. Just a reminder that if anyone can't make it to Sunday church services that **offerings can be mailed to the church** or **giving can be done online** through the Central Christian website. As a committee, we are trying to be good stewards of the resources which we have for maintaining the physical infrastructure of the church but we continue to pray for guidance as we navigate through these uncertain times.

**Stewardship month** is right around the corner in November. This is a time to prayerfully consider the commitment we make to the programs and facilities of Central Christian Church. Geoff has a full month of activities for Stewardship up to and including each of us completing our stewardship cards and depositing them in the Chest of Joash. As I mentioned earlier, 2020 has been such an unpredictable, uncertain year but yet it has been a

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time that has caused each of us to re-evaluate ourselves. Though some of our congregants have not been comfortable in venturing back to church, **we still must keep in mind that the work of the church goes forward.** The virus is a bump in the road, but it does not keep people from being hungry or homeless. As well, the physical structure of the church and our staff continue to operate as we have seen each Sunday on the computer Livestream. As we read in **2 Corinthians 9:7**, **“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”** This is a powerful message that God has sent to us!

Speaking on behalf of the Executive Committee as well as the Staff of Geoff, Alyssa, Shirley, Ken, Joyce, Mark and Vicki, **we miss seeing each and every one of you in church.** We are diligently trying to keep the church as safe as possible, but we **still appreciate those of our congregation that are not comfortable in attending in person.** Hopefully soon we will be back to a full congregation with little or no restrictions on attending church. We miss each and everyone that we have not seen since March. Be safe and stay healthy.

*Yours in Christ,  
The Executive Committee*

**FINANCIALS**

*As we took the extra precaution of not meeting in-person for three weeks, financials are not available for Oct. 1, 8, or 15.*

**10/4/2020**  
Online service views: 68\*

**10/11/2020**  
Online service views: N/A\*\*

**10/18/2020**  
Online service views: 56\*

\*At the time of publication  
\*\* We did not live-stream a service on Oct. 11.

**Congregational Concerns**

<b>Marilyn Ferguson, on the passing of her mother Regina Maness</b>	<b>The family of Delilah Krasser, on her passing</b>
<b>David Claborn, on the passing of his brother Jerrell Claborn</b>	<b>Jerry McCoy, brother of Lisa Lynch and Howard McCoy</b>
<b>Paul Hunt, friend of Diane Bailey</b>	The family of Richard Simpson    The family of Shirley Cobb    Greg & Paula Walton
<b>Chrystal Melton    Paul Martin</b>	Hattie Penland    Diana Criger    Lorene Murray    Evelyn Looney    Darrell Zweerink
Anna Marie Walker    Virginia Thomas    Victoria McIlwain	Debra Gleghorn    John & Kitty Mannary    Vicky Claborn
James Willingham    John Thurman    Beth Taylor	Barbara Richardson, mother of Vicky Claborn    Retha McDowell
Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs	Karen Sunderwirth    Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier    Ann Simon
Barbara Gard, daughter-in-law of Lorene Murray	Traci Vargas & children    Vicky Turner    Linda McCoy    Lisa Lynch
Rosa Lee Butts    Barb Rossetter    Ginger Williamson	Mary Pering    Jaden Willingham    Dan Hicks
Judy Gibson, friend of Maryann Wakefield	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](http://www.centralchristianspringfield.org)**

**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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