



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 60, Issue 2

January 19, 2021



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of **Betty Bowsher**, who passed away on Thursday, January 7, 2021.

Stay tuned for worship update

The Executive Committee is expected to make a decision about resuming hybrid-worship a few hours after *The Call* is mailed. By now, that decision might have reached you via VoiceShot, email, and/or the Facebook. We have/will send out an update through those channels as well as the church website, www.centralchristianspringfield.org.

MTCS for February, postponed

The Mid-Town Concert Series presentation of Drs. Kristine Harris and Benjamin Harlan has been postponed due to an injury by one of the performers. The concert will be rescheduled for Sunday, Oct. 3, at 3 p.m. We invite you to join us for our next offering in the season on Sunday, March 7, when we present the annual Candace L. French Memorial Piano Concert, featuring Washington, D.C. based pianist Haskell Small.

End-of-Year Giving Statements

End-of-Year giving statements will be emailed. Please make sure the office has a correct email address on file. If you need a printed copy of your statement, please contact the office.



Our hearts are full of gratitude to our many friends at Central. During Nan's stay at a care facility and my quarantine for Covid, your prayers and gifts of food over the past two weeks have been a lifeline. We have felt the presence of Christ in all of your kindness and compassion.

*God bless you all,
Michael Olmsted*

We would like to thank everybody for their prayers with the loss of our brothers Jerry and Mac McCoy. We greatly appreciate all the prayers and love sent out to us and our families. We love you guys.

*Thank you so very much,
Lisa Lynch*

Crosslines update

Thank you, thank you for Central's generous members to Crosslines! The staff at Crosslines was overjoyed to see the mound of hygiene items brought in by our church. One member of our Tues. partner church, St. John's Chapel UCC said, "You must have a large church!" Not a large church but large hearts. It was the first time in my memory that we did not run out of shampoo or deodorant or toothpaste. These as well as soap, toothbrushes, and other hygiene items are given out when requested. Each client family can request one item. Body wash is not included in their list of options, so it is not often given out. We had a very busy Tues. this month, and didn't even take time out for lunch. (Carry-out from Taylor's.) This is the first time we have been this busy. If you would ever be interested in joining Central's group of five volunteers at Crosslines, please let the office know. It's one day a month of satisfying activity. Oh, and **hygiene items are still the things with which to fill our basket!**

Your Crosslines Team

Congregational Concerns

The family of Betty Bowsher, on her passing **The family of Lucy Evans, sister of Sharon Martin, on her passing**
Howard McCoy **Linda McCoy** **Marjorie Ray** The family of Colleen Stockton, on her passing
Dana Powell The family of Cheryl Gayles, on her passing Karen Hahn Joyce Mallard Lisa Lynch
Diana Criger James Willingham Greg & Paula Walton Hattie Penland Lorene Murray
Vicky Claborn Evelyn Looney Debra Gleghorn Anna Marie Walker Mary Pering Virginia Thomas
Traci Vargas & children Victoria McIlwain Jaden Willingham Ginger Williamson John Thurman
Barbara Richardson, mother of Vicky Claborn Rosa Lee Butts Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs
Karen Sunderwirth Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier Barb Rossetter Beth Taylor Dan Hicks
Barbara Gard, daughter-in-law of Lorene Murray Ann Simon Isaac Ferguson, friend of Karen Sunderwirth

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

**Livestream our Sunday morning service—starting at 9:30—at www.centralchristianspringfield.org.
Connect with us on social media:**



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



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

In Case You Missed It: EC announces roof repair plans

(Excerpt from an article published in the Jan. 5 issue of The Call by Board Moderator Bill Fischer on behalf of the Executive Committee.)

One of the major Operational items yet to get fixed is the leaking roof over McGinnis Fellowship Hall, the rest rooms, and the office suite. Property Chair Ray West provided his engineering expertise in determining what needs to be done, gathering bids for the work, and consulting on how best to proceed.

The Executive Committee is asking the Endowment Committee for \$105,000, slightly higher than the proposed bid, to allow for anything unexpected that would require a change order. The pandemic has created a situation of attendance both in church and on-line which has affected our ability to launch a Capital Campaign. The Executive Committee has made this request pending approval of the congregation. With the stock market rebounding as it has since the early part of 2020, we have been so blessed to have the availability to access a cash reserve that was set aside early on without affecting the Endowment to any large degree.

We still have a designated fund for the various building projects that was opened during the last Capital Campaign to which we encourage our congregation to contribute. Remember we have a 130+ year-old church that still has items needing to be fixed and updated so all the contributions we can get will be appreciated. Any questions you have can be directed to Bill Fischer or the church office. We ask for your prayers in moving forward with this project.

FINANCIALS & ATTENDANCE

1/4/2021

General Fund
Contributions: N/A
Online service views: 100*

1/10/2021

General Fund
Contributions: N/A
Online service views: 81*

1/17/2021

General Fund
Contributions: N/A
Online service views: 31*

*At the time of publication

“MINISTER’S”
Message”

We are now about three weeks into the new year. 2021 has come and 2020 has left us... even though it might not feel like it. Every new year, many people talk about starting over, about a new beginning, and this year should be no different. But the start of this new year still feels like we are in the old year. COVID is still going through the country, hurting us and all of God’s children around the world. Our worship services continue to be online only, and we are not able to meet in person to give thanks to God. It seems that, still, we are divided amongst one another, that we cannot get along or even speak to one another with civility and love. And though we might think that nothing new has come into our world the first chapter of Gospel of John tells us differently. *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” “He was in the world...”* He, of course, represents Jesus Christ, God’s Word made flesh. In the beginning. While we might see this as the beginning of creation, it also means that in the beginning of this year, God’s Word is in the world and with it comes the hope that only Christ can bring. The word “beginning” brings about many different ways of understanding. It can mean the beginning of time, the beginning of the new year, the beginning of the week, or the beginning of each day of our lives. No matter how you look at this start to the Gospel, you can see that hope that has come to the world. Hope, that, in all things Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, the life, has come into the world for us and for all of God’s children. This is a notion that we need to hear each and every day. There is hope for us in all things that are to come because God’s hope is with us, walking with us, teaching us, loving us. Hope is there for all of creation and we, the followers of Christ, are a part of that hope in the world. It is now our turn, our responsibility to make sure that we keep hope in order to bring hope to all people, and when all people have hope, we begin to have hope. It is a beautiful cycle that never ends but should always contain hope. No matter what this world can put on our shoulders, what it can throw at us, we must hold on to hope. Hope that comes to us each and every time we begin something new, especially a new day. Each time you wake up in the morning remind yourself that this is yet another beginning for Christ to be in our world and to bring hope to us and to all God’s children. So today, I wish you a Happy New Year, a new beginning for ourselves and for the world, and I wish you, each day, a Happy New Hope!

In Christ’s Love for All,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "GEOFF". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style with a long horizontal underline.

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

1475 N. Washington Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI
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Return Service Requested

Specially prepared for:

Sunday Mornings

**9:30 am Worship Livestream
on the church website**

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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