



# The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

Volume 61, Issue 4

February 15, 2022

*Sermon Title and Scriptures*

*February 20, 2022*

*“Blessed and Woe”*

*Psalm 37:1-9; Luke 6:17-26*

*Sermon Title and Scriptures*

*February 27, 2022*

*“What Do You See?”*

*Luke 6:1-11*

**Scholarship Time**

It's time once again to invite applications for the annual scholarship awards. Any student who has finished high school, or is a senior in high school who will graduate in the spring of 2022, and is planning to continue their education may apply. Two letters of recommendation are required, as well as proof of enrollment or acceptance in a college/ university, or trade school. If you have received one scholarship, you may apply one additional year. We are proud of our students and wish to encourage them in their educational pursuits. A student need not be a member of Central, but should have close ties to the church. Applications are available through the church office. **The deadline is April 1.**



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of **Nathaniel Hopkins**, who passed away on Wednesday, February 9, 2022.

**February Mission Spotlight**

Week of Compassion is the ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that responds to disasters, supports sustainable development, and assists refugees. While the official “week” for which is Week of Compassion is named is February 20-27, additional offerings can be given any time. Please designate “WoC” on your checks or envelopes.



**OFH Food Fight 2022/Lent Fish Drive**

Ozarks Food Harvest will be our Mission Spotlight organization for March. We will be participating the OFH Food Fight, February 28-March 11, and the Lent Fish Drive, March 13-April 24. The **Food Fight**, in partnership with Springfield Public Schools, raises awareness about the issue of hunger and helps provide meals for the 1 in 5 children and 1 in 6 adults in southwest Missouri who face food-insecurity. Funds raised will provide weekend meals for at-risk children through Ozarks Food Harvest's Weekend Backpack Program. The **Lent Fish Drive** emphasizes the need for shelf-stable, high-protein food items among people who are food insecure. If you would like to donate, you can do so on our website under the Online Giving tab or you may donate through the church office. Thank you for your generous support in the past and the support you will be giving this year. Collection barrels for shelf-stable foods will be in the church lobby.

**You are invited**

Associate minister Alyssa Spradlin will be ordained on Sunday, February 27, at 3 p.m., in the Central Christian Church sanctuary. Rev. Spradlin, commissioned since October 2018, was approved for ordination by the Regional Commission on the Order of Ministry in January. Appropriate Covid-related protocols will be observed. The service will be live-streamed.

**Congregational Concerns**

**Bill & Ellen Grier and family, on the loss of Ellen's son Nathaniel Hopkins**      Wilma Frazier      Pat Pannel

Fred & Norma Spence      Rex Biggs      John & Kitty Manary      Winnie Young      Greg & Teresa Turso

Gary Wright      Ginger Williams      Greg & Paula Walton      Lisa Lynch      Dan Hicks

Norma Knight      Rhonda Stewart      Linda McCoy      Robert & Beth Taylor      William Francis

Shirley Potter      Betty Jo Gardner      Evelyn Looney      Don Nix      Frank & Pat Dodd

Nan Olmsted      Paul & Sharon Martin      Hattie Penland      Glendon Walker      John Thurman

Dana Powell      Karen Hahn      James Willingham      Diana Criger      Lorene Murray

Vicky Claborn      Debra Gleghorn      Jaden Willingham      Victoria McIlwain      Karen Sunderwirth

Traci Vargas & children      Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier      Barbara Gard, daughter-in-law of Lorene Murray

Barb Rossetter      Barbara Richardson, mother of Vicky Claborn      Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs

Elaine Spradlin, mother of Alyssa Spradlin      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](http://www.centralchristianspringfield.org).  
Connect with us on social media:**



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



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

**FINANCIALS &  
ATTENDANCE**

**2/ 6/2022**

General Fund  
Contributions: \$7,663  
Attendance: 58  
Online service views: 44\*

**2/13/2022**

General Fund  
Contributions: \$3991.69  
Attendance: 69  
Online service views: 25\*

\*At the time of publication

**Serving Schedule**

	<i>Offering</i>	<i>Communion</i>	<i>Worship Leader</i>	<i>Fellowship Prep</i>
<b>February 20</b>	Luther Young	Carol Pyles		Craig Miller & Yvonne Erwin
<b>February 27</b>	Carolyn Deeds	Joe Pyles	Mike Weinman	Mike & Carma Weinman
<b>March 6</b>	Kay Parrish	Everett Deeds		
<b>March 13</b>	Dorothy Thurman	Linda Zweerink	Carolyn Deeds	Joe & Kay Parrish
<b>March 20</b>	Marilyn West	Gal Wise	Kay Parrish	Joe & Carol Pyles
<b>March 27</b>	Gary Morris	Larry Graham		Everett & Carolyn Deeds
<b>April 3</b>	Gwen Thomas	Cheryl Horton		

MINISTER'S  
*Message*

*“Dear Abba, Rather than a life of faith I seem to be living a life of contingencies. Rather than an open-armed yes! I’ve got an anxious brow and nervous hands and a mouthful of what ifs? I truly am a prodigal, demanding my cake and eating it too when all I really want to do is go home to that safe place where I don’t have to be afraid, where everything is freedom and light and love. I want to experience the glorious liberty of a child of God. And so this day I will not ask what if? but rather why not? Yes, why not!”*

So wrote Brennan Manning in “Dear Abba: Morning and Evening Prayer,” a book of prayers and reflection published after his death. “Abba” is an Aramaic word for “father” that conveys a sense of close relationship, and we see it used by Paul to convey the intimacy we are afforded with God.

Manning’s prayer speaks to the frequent human conditions of wanting it all and being afraid of it all, of reward without risk, of treading lightly and hoping for outsized results. He acknowledged that we betray our own deepest desires when we trade them in for short-lived gratification.

What does it mean to “experience the glorious liberty of a child of God?” Manning suggests it means moving forward with boldness, banishing our fears of “what if” in favor of the confidence that comes from living in communion with the Holy. Since November, we have provided (and served!) 668 meals to our unsheltered neighbors at the Veterans Welcome Home Center, including 154 last week—all because many members of this congregation have said, “why not,” instead of worrying about “what if.”

Sometimes we do ill-defined calculus in our heads, weighing different factors instead of choosing to proceed down an unfamiliar path simply because it is the right one. What would happen if we just said, “Yes,” to the call of the Holy? What would happen if our focus shifted from cake-right-now to “freedom and light and love” forever?

*With prayers that our what-ifs become Holy why-nots,*

*Alyssa*

**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, in person  
and via our Livestream**

**10:45 am Fellowship**

**11:00 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](mailto:office@centralchristianspringfield.org)

**Website:** [www.centralchristianspringfield.org](http://www.centralchristianspringfield.org)

