



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
Volume 62, Issue 5
March 7, 2023

Sermon Title and Scriptures

March 12, 2023

John 4:4-42

"To Know... And Still"

Sermon Title and Scripture

March 19, 2023

John 9:1-17 & John 9:35-41

"How Do We See?"



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of

Ed Howard

who passed away on February 17, 2023.

A Graveside service will be held on March 16th at 2:00pm at Evergreen Cemetery in Republic, MO



We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of

Larry Wakefield

who passed away on February 24, 2023

A Celebration of Life was held on March 4th at Central Christian Church



Easter will soon be upon us!

In order to save on paper if you would like to purchase a lily for Easter Sunday, please pick up a form on Sunday mornings at the table outside the office. If you are unable to attend on a Sunday morning, please contact the church office and we can send you a form or take your order by phone or email.

All flowers are \$10 again this year or you can donate money to our music program in honor or in memory of your loved ones.



Congregational Concerns

Family of Larry Wakefield, upon his passing

Jim & Elaine Spradlin

Annie Anderson, Daughter of Charlie & Carol Mabry

Rebecca Ebert, Daughter of Ray & Sharon Lowry

Lisa Lynch Patty Soukup Arlene Spangler Gary Wright Rex Biggs Frank & Pat Dodd

Larry Graham Betty Jo Gardner Duane & Dana Powell Howard & Lynda McCoy Greg & Paula Walton

Gloria Brown and family Steve Vestal Wilma Frazier Dan Hicks Ginger Williamson

Fred & Norma Spence John & Kitty Manary Winnie Young Greg & Teresa Turso Robert & Beth Taylor

William Francis Shirley Potter Don Nix Evelyn Looney Nan Olmsted Paul Martin Glendon Walker

James Willingham Barb Rossetter Vicky Claborn Karen Hahn Karen Sunderwirth Diana Criger

Traci Vargas & children Victoria McIlwain Tammy Larimore, friend of Carol Pyles

Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier Barbara Richardson & Leslie Clements, mother & sister of Vicky Claborn

Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs *(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:**



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



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

**FINANCIALS &
ATTENDANCE**

2/26/2023

General Fund

Contributions: \$8,965

Attendance: 82

Online service views: 35*

3/5/2023

General Fund

Contributions: \$5,492

Attendance: 76

Online service views: 13*

*As of 3/6/2023

	<u>March 12</u>	<u>March 19</u>	<u>March 26</u>
Elders	Dorothy Thurman Marilynn West	Gary Morris Cal Wise	Karen Hicks Larry Graham
Deacon Team Leader	Patsy Tipton	Bill Fischer	Everett French
Invocation and Offering	Luther Young	Joe Parrish	Luther Young
Communion & Fellowship Prep.	Everett & Carolyn Deeds	Joe & Kay Parrish	Darrell & Linda Zweerink
Usher	Kay Corder		Bill & Rita St. Gemme
Greeter			

Thoughts from the congregation

I'm sure a good number, if not all, of you have heard the song "*I'll Be There*" by The Jackson 5. It was recorded in June 1970 and released August 28, 1970. Though some of you may also remember Bobby Darin's version recorded in 1960. It was the B-side to his single "*Bill Bailey*." To tell you the truth, I remember "*Bill Baily*," but not Bobby's version of "*I'll Be There*." Listening to this song the other day made me think of the following two Scriptures.

The Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 28, verses 18b- 20, "*I have been given complete authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*" (NLT)

Matthew, Chapter 14, verses 26-31, "*When the disciples saw him, they screamed in terror, thinking he was a ghost. But Jesus spoke to them at once. 'It's all right,' he said. 'I am here! Don't be afraid.' Then Peter called to him, 'Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you by walking on water.' 'All right, come.' Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. But when he looked around at the high waves, he was terrified and began to sink. 'Save me Lord!' he shouted. Instantly Jesus reached out his hand and grabbed him. 'You don't have much faith,' Jesus said. 'Why did you doubt me?'*"

Here's the first verse of the song. "*You and I must make a pact. We must bring salvation back. Where there is love, I'll be there.*" Can you hear Jesus? Later in the song are these words, "*Whenever you need me, I'll be there. I'll be there to protect you. With an unselfish love I respect you. Just call my name and I'll be there. And oh, I'll be there to comfort you.*" Do you hear Him or the Holy Spirit in those words?

One of my former pastors would frequently tell us from the pulpit not to take what he said for granted. "Open up your Bible and read the Scriptures yourself and hear the words being spoken to you." The first time I heard that, I was a bit shocked. A preacher telling his congregation to not take his word as Gospel? I was brought up "respecting, accepting" the preacher's word as Gospel. As the final Word. Wow! But think about that for a minute though. Why are we reading the Scriptures? Is it not to try to understand what God wants of us? How else are we going to know what specifically God intends for us unless we listen to Him?

Are the Scriptures the only way God speaks to us? How many times have we awoke from a dream and knew you had received an answer to a prayer? Have you during the course of a day suddenly had an "ah ha" moment and knew immediately God or the Holy Spirit had spoken to you? How many times have you been singing, just listening to the choir, or someone offering special music and the "words spoke" to you, or touched your heart?

I've told you before I get the inspiration for my articles from the words of songs. I believe this is God directing me to a message He wishes us to hear. No, I'm not professing to be a prophet or a seer, or anything of the kind. I just know I feel moved to find a message in the words of a song other than the popular one.

Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 18, verse 20 it is recorded Jesus saying, "*For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.*" (NASB) In the Gospel of John, Chapter 14, verses 13-14 it is written. "*You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, because the work of the Son brings glory to the Father. Yes, ask anything in my name and I will do it!*"

These two Scriptures remind me of a James Taylor hit song, "*You've Got a Friend*." The chorus goes like this, "*You just call out my name, and you know wherever I am I'll come running, to see you again.*"

There is another song I just remembered, "*Call Me*" by the American new wave band Blondie. Jesus repeated tells us through the Scriptures to simply call Him. When you go to Him in prayer, He is always there. He is always listening. He will always be there.

—————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, in person
and via our Livestream**

10:45 am Fellowship

11:00 am Sunday School

Ministry Team

**Bill Fischer, Board Moderator
Rev. Geoff Weinman, Minister
Marvin Murphree, Music Director
Vicky Claborn, Organist/Pianist
Shirley Musser, Visitation Director
Joyce Thomas, Children & Youth Director
Curtis Thomas, JYF/Chi Rho Shepherd
Hunter Mayo, Worship & Wonder Shepherd
Ken Hillen, Church Caretaker**

Office Phone: 417-869-7241

E-mail: office@centralchristianspringfield.org

Website: www.centralchristianspringfield.org

