

# The Central Visitor

*A weekly visitor to your home bringing  
you news from Central Christian Church  
Our mission ... Sharing Christ,  
Changing Lives, Delivering Hope*

Vol. XCII

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## **Church Picnic This Sunday**

This Sunday, October 18, after 10:30 worship (approximately 11:45 a.m.) we will gather on the west and southwest lawns for a church picnic. We are asking everyone to bring their own lawn chair. We will be sitting in distanced family groupings. The fellowship committee will be bringing the food to us. Even though we are outside, we ask you to wear a mask when visiting with those outside your family grouping. We will have some musical entertainment, and Pastor Tina will be presenting all children and youth with Fall Harvest Activity Bags. Hope you can make it.

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020**

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LIVE

STREAMED ON

WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG

AND IN-PERSON - SANCTUARY

**AT 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP ON

FACEBOOK LIVE

AND IN-PERSON - GREAT HALL

**AT 9:15 a.m.**

## ***Un-Changed: One Hope***

Text: Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13

Scott Woolridge

## **All Women are invited to join an in-person Advent Discussion.**

We will discuss the book, ***The Wonder of Christmas*** by Ed Robb and Rob Renfro. I have a few copies of the book or you can order your own. See dates and times below. I hope to see you there.

~ Tina Miller

**The Wonder of Christmas** is an Advent experience that explores the wonder of Christmas through the lens of four elements from the Christmas story: a star, a name, a manger, and a promise. Each chapter contains the reading, reflection questions, Scriptures for meditation, and a prayer.

*Disciples Room, 5:00—6:30 PM*

*10.20.20, 11.3.20, 11.17.20,*

*12.1.20, & 12.15.20*

## **All Church Picnic 10.18.20**

**ALL CHILDREN AND YOUTH**  
Pick up your harvest bags  
filled with goodies!

**West Parking Lot  
after 10:30 service!**

**RSVP  
TIME!**



### From our youth...

Please help Central's youth group reach our goal of collecting 200 pounds of plastic caps and lids to be recycled into a bench. To help with your collections at home, here is a list of acceptable and nonacceptable caps/lids. You can bring in your lids any day of the week during office hours, or bring them with you Sunday if you are joining us for in person worship. If there are any questions, you can email David Martin at:

[demartin@cccdisciples.org](mailto:demartin@cccdisciples.org).

### Acceptable caps/lids:

Medicine bottle, milk jug, creamer, detergent, hair spray, toothpaste, deodorant, applesauce pouch, drink bottles, flip-tops, spout caps, spray paint, ointment, baby food, shampoo, conditioner, cottage cheese, yogurt, mayo, peanut butter, ice cream (smaller than 8"), whipped topping, Pringles, coffee, butter, cream cheese, spice

### Not acceptable:

Metal, trash, prescription bottles, Ziplock type bags, trigger sprayers, fast food drink lids, paper, human or animal medical supplies, food containers, cardboard liners, soap pumps, lotion pumps, grocery bags, K-cups, straws, plastic that is NOT a cap or lid, plastic pieces or parts, caps or lids with (1), (3), (6), or (7).

You can also find the list at this link:  
[https://8c6f1b612bd0893e691f-e9940cd234110c8e8c38ba4b215c37c8.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/uploaded/b/0e10995309\\_1601501842\\_bottle-cap-acceptable-list.pdf](https://8c6f1b612bd0893e691f-e9940cd234110c8e8c38ba4b215c37c8.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/uploaded/b/0e10995309_1601501842_bottle-cap-acceptable-list.pdf)



### The How and the What...

This past Sunday our focus was "One Mission." Though much has changed in this pandemic year of 2020, what remains un-changed for us as a congregation is that we are *one* family, proclaiming *one* faith and called to *one* mission. I spent the sermon portion of Sunday's worship talking how this is about creating space where we – as a community – can see together that vision that God has for us, and that this vision is based on finding the place where our gifts meet the needs of the wider world around us. This intersection of gift and need is, according to Frederick Buechner, where the Kingdom of God resides.

Any mission two components. The first involves the what. What are we going to do? As people of faith, we prefer to think in terms of calling and so the question can then be phrased: what is it that we are *called* to do? This is where our minds first go when the question involves mission. *What* will we do? But the second component is every bit as important, and that involves *how*. *How* will we do whatever it is that we are called to do.



In a few weeks, we will have a presidential election. We will go to the polls and make our selection (if we haven't already done so by mail). This is *what* we will do, but far more important to me is *how* we decide to live in the world we create by *what*-ever decision is made in this, or any other election, because we are in danger of losing a sense of civility that is so necessary for healthy and vital societies.

Civility comes from the Latin *civitas*, meaning "relating to the citizens." Going back to ancient Rome, it has further implied how citizens *should* relate to one another. Civility is, in this way, about extending dignity and respect to one another; courtesy, kindness and decency. It is about demanding these things *of* ourselves just as much as we demand them *for* ourselves, but we seem to have lost that. We instead demand what we are unwilling to extend. We act as though empathy and compassion are bad words, and that things like courtesy and kindness are signs of weakness. Far more important to me than *what* the outcome of the presidential election is, *how* are we going to change the way we relate to each other? Because it must be changed. Jesus said (in speaking to his disciples), "You know that among the gentiles, those whom they recognize as their leaders lord it over them. And that their great ones are tyrants over them. But it must not be so with you" (Mark 10:42-43). In other words, you are called to offer an alternative to the world by *how* you live in the world.

(continued on page 3...)



It is unfortunate to me that our world is becoming increasingly binary. There is “this” or there is “that.” There is either “right” or “wrong,” “good” or “bad,” black or white (literally and figuratively). You’re with me or against me. This is a zero-sum world of our own creation in which you either “win” or you “lose.” Our national leaders don’t seem inclined to change this trend. Neither news outlets nor social media platforms do either. And yet, the most meaningful things in life – the ones that are truly life-giving, and which bring peace and reconciliation, are rarely so rigidly binary. People, circumstances, events, relationships cannot be so easily compartmentalized into one of a two options. We are far more complex than that.

And so is God. God’s presence is forever found in the area between life and death, saint and sinner, cross and empty tomb, human and divine, body and spirit. God is never afraid to dwell in the midst of our complexities, and so regardless of what the outcome of the upcoming election is, I hope that we – as a church – are not afraid to dwell there either. This is how I hope we choose to live... after we make our choice on November third.

Blessings... Michael

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Did you know... that MAX (Macon County Assistance Exchange) changed its name to DFA (Dove Financial Assistance)? And that funds from the operations budget help support local organizations like DFA, along with DOVE, Good Samaritan Inn, Oasis Day Center, Webster Cantrell Hall, and others?

### Virtual Small Group (*Sharing the Journey*) to begin October 25

*“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”*  
Matthew 18:20

We are called by Jesus to gather in his name. As we live in these days of being separated for the sake of physical safety, we are challenged to find creative ways to gather. Here’s an invitation. On Sunday, October 25, we will offer our first gathering of *Sharing the Journey*, a small group focused on spiritual growth. This ministry is about creating community and offering opportunities for people to offer care and concern for one another. It’s about living a fuller life of faith. This small group will meet virtually, on the Zoom platform, on Sunday evenings from 6:30-7:30, starting on October 25, and going through November 22. It will be led by Scott and Vicky Woolridge. Each session will follow this format:

- Open with prayer.
- Read the scripture from the morning’s worship service
- Reflect and discuss the scripture and sermon
- Share prayer concerns and joys, and close with prayer.

The focus and the goal is for spiritual growth, spiritual deepening, learning how to live in community, one with another, to be more vulnerable in our faith, more intimate with what we share and what we hear from one another, and ultimately to say, “To what degree does this look like the realm of God?” To join the small group discussion for any of the Sundays, simply contact the church office for the Zoom link the week prior. Please let us know if you would like to join this journey or have questions.



### **Sunday (18)**

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 11:30-Church Picnic & Youth Harvest Bag distribution
- 4:00-Youth Group

### **Monday (19)**

- 10:00-Operations, Connection Café
- 4:00-Trustees, Connection Café

### **Tuesday (20)**

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, Disciples Room
- 10:30-Support Staff Meeting, C. Café
- 5:00-Women’s Group, Disciples Room

### **Wednesday (21)**

- 10:30-Ministers’ Meeting
- 5:30-Koinonia, Connection Café
- 5:30-Church Council Business Meeting, Zoom

### **Thursday (22)**

- 10:00-Alanon, Disciples Room
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 5:15-Brass Choir, Disciples Room

### **Friday (23)**

### **Saturday (24)**

### **Sunday (25)**

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 12:00-Praise Team rehearsal, G. Hall



### **Counting On You**

**Sunday, October 11, 2020**

Total worshipping online = 219

Total worshipping in-person = 127



### **October 18th Volunteer schedule**

**7:45 – 9:30**

Front table – Sandy Garver, George & Pearl Jones

Ushers – David Martin, Mike Munos

**9:00 - 10:00 Usher**

Cheryl Zollinger

**9:30 – 11:30**

Front table – Jane Hickman, Brian & Kim Maple

Ushers – David Martin, Doug Soebbing

Elder - Connie Bordner, Gerri Munos

PA - 8:00 - Jim Hinze; 10:30 - Mike Kirby



**Happy Birthday!!**

**Birthdays this coming week (10/18-10/24)!**

Pat Ash, Shirley Brooks, Azalee Berner, Derald Hartley,

John McClarey, Shirley McKnelly, Kinley Neumann,

Dennis Spencer, Max Sperry

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Michael E. Karunas.....Senior Minister  
 Don Martin.....Minister of Music  
 Tina Miller..... Associate Minister of CE & Family Life  
 David Martin.....Youth Director  
 Cordelia "Dee Dee" Gain .....Organist  
 David Williams.....Organist  
 Kathleen Dudley.....Administrative Assistant  
 Yvonne Boyd.....Administrative Assistant  
 Hannah Brimmer.....Social Media Coordinator  
 Gabrielle Coulthard.....Nursery Attendant  
 Maddie Genz.....Nursery Attendant  
 Cheryl Williams .....Nursery Attendant  
 Kattina Williams .....Nursery Attendant  
 Paula Partain.....Preschool Staff  
 Lora Wright .....Lead Caretaker  
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker  
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker  
 Toby Jones.....Caretaker

### **Temporary Church Office Hours as of**

**July 20th, 2020:**

**Monday through Friday**

**8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

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