

**Central Christian Church**  
**Disciples of Christ**  
**January 2025**



Pastor's Pondering

January 2025

Happy New Year!!!

Jeremiah 29:11, For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

In the new year most of us want a fresh start, we set goals, we develop new years resolutions, and plan out everything that we are going to do differently throughout the year. But what happens when we hit a snag or fall short of our own expectations. Do we just drop all our plans or forget the resolutions that we made and go back to the same old way of life we were having before, or do we reevaluate and move forward. When our plans seem far-fetched and overwhelming we just give up.

Where have you put God in your resolutions, and your plans, did he sit in on the planning committee, or did you put him on the back burner. In this new year, pause and reflect on what Christ accomplished for you while on the cross. Meditate on the blessings God has bestowed upon you through Jesus. Open the door to new beginnings and rest in the fact that God loves you and want's what is best for you.

As you enter the new year, remember that you are not alone. You have a God who is with you every step of the way, a God who is the God of new beginnings. He has made promises to you, and He is a God who keeps His promises. My prayer for you all is to find joy and hope in the new year, and that you experience the love and grace of God, in new and exciting ways. As the verse in Jeremiah says plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Let's move forward in Christ this new year, let Christ be our companion.

Blessing  
Pastor Mike

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. Revelation 3:20

## Central Christian Church Board Tidbits December 18, 2024

Glenda Hughes, Board Chair, called the meeting to order. 8 members and Pastor Mike were present.

Carolyn Thompson gave the opening prayer.

The November minutes were approved. January calendar events were reviewed.

Property- Jeff Sommerlot – helped move the pews for the Osgood funeral

Personnel – Pat Sommerlot – no report

Finance – Ruth Pearson – no report

Treasurer- Mary Hazelwood – gave the November financial report. The snow removal service sold the business. The new owners are charging \$3500 for the contract for this winter. Mary has made some inquiries for the cost for our church insurance coverage.

Deacons- Carolyn Thompson – all is going well

Elders- they have finished up the year. They are short on visitation Elders.

Congregational Representative – Jan Bringman - absent

Missions- Judy Osgood – (via email) January mission -we will collect money for gas cards & gift cards for the church to have on hand for Friends of Central.

DWF - Sarah Sade – food from “after decorating meal” was shared with 3 shut-in church families. Coffee & cookies were served at Anderson funeral home during a members’ visitation. Christmas gifts were taken to 4 Silver Connections who are also shut-ins and unable to attend DWF meetings any more. The penny collection totals were dispersed as \$50 each to CIR-SI, Salvation Army, Food Box & House of Compassion.

Worship Team – Ugly sweater day is Dec. 22nd. Jan. 5th – take down decorations, Jan. 12th – Annual meeting, Jan. 26th – Josh’s recorded sermon.

Pastor’s report – studied & prepared 5 Sunday services & the Christmas Eve service, Bible Study on Wednesdays @1:15, attended: Worship Team, Elders, & Board meetings, made phone calls & visited with congregants, attended Gatherers, worked with Music Team, continued “Moment with God” morning meditation live on Facebook, celebration of Life for Carl Osgood.

Old Business – may do a church directory of just names & addresses (Phase1)

New Business – board approved waiving the by-laws for the Nominating Committee, if necessary.

Glenda Hughes will take 2 classes & will practice ministry (pastoral care) under supervision of an advisor.

Closing prayer was given by Pastor Mike

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Bengé, Board Secretary





**2024**

### **Church Board and Committee members**

**Board Chair:** Glenda Hughes

**Vice Board Chair:** Jeff Sommerlot

**Board Secretary:** Colette Benge

**Treasurer:** Mary Jane Hazelwood

**Property Chair** Jeff Sommerlot

**Property:** Allen Miller, Steve Huseboe, Bob Cook

**Personnel Chair:** Pat Sommerlot

**Finance Committee:** Pat Sommerlot

**Finance Chair:** Ruth Pearson

**Missions:** Judy Osgood, Beth Campbell, Marla Cook

**Congregational representative:** Carolyn Thompson

**Deacon Chair:** Carolyn Thompson

**Deacons:** Ed Phillips, Rhonda Spence

**DWF:** Sarah Sade

**Elders Chair:** Mary Abens

**Elders:** Beth Campbell, Vickie Judkins-Mickolas,  
Jan Bringman, Jim Gossett, Glenda Hughes,  
Mary Jane Hazelwood, Andy Burt, Marla Cook,  
Beth Judkins-Mickolas

**Honorary Elder:** Dietta Nevins



### **January Birthdays**

3 Mary Mitchell

7 Carolyn Thompson

13 Betty VanWaardhuizen

16 Valerie Sondag

18 Cathy Wetherbee

19 Alyssa Stoneking

22 Marla Cook

27 Melvin VanWaardhuizen

**January Greeters: Jeff and Pat Sommerlot,  
Allen Miller**

**January Deacon: Ed Phillips**

**January Pastor Mike Carlson**

**January 5**

Elder: Beth Campbell

Worship Leader: Beth Campbell

Scripture: John 1:1-18

Hymns:

#164 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

#17 "O Worship the King"

#159 "There's a Song in the Air"

#39CP "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

**January 12**

Elder: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Worship Leader: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Scripture: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Hymns:

#172 "We Three Kings"

#609 "Take My Life and Let it Be"

#259 "Spirit of the Living God"

#352 "Spirit Song"

**January 19**

Elder: Glenda Hughes

Worship Leader: Glenda Hughes

Scripture: John 2:1-17

Hymns:

#56 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

#556 "Trust and Obey"

#108CP "As the Deer"

#35CP "Shout to the Lord"

**January 26**

Elder: Mary Abens

Worship Leader: Mary Abens

Scripture: Luke 4:14-21

Hymn:

#17CP "My Life is in You, Lord"

#167 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

#263 "Surely the Presence of the Lord"

#72 "To God Be the Glory"



## PRAYER CONCERNS

*Please be in prayer for the following:*



Please pray for our members and families. Hold in prayer the following:  
Richard Nicholson, Meleah Frazier, Kris Danner, Mariana Aleman (Julieth's daughter)

Prayers for those affected by acts of violence.

- ♦ Prayers for our nation that we may come together as one.
- ♦ Prayer for all of those affected by war around our world.
- ♦ Pray for those affected by flooding and other natural disasters.
- ♦ Prayers for those affected by the severe weather throughout the country.
- ♦ Pray for World Peace.

### ***Prayer Requests***

There are slips for Prayer Requests by the offering trays, in the Gathering Room and in the note box by the Church Office door. Please write your request, and check which groups you want it to go to. Let us know if it's confidential, and sign your name



# Elders Meditation

Happy New Year to all my Central family!

I hope everyone had a good Christmas. I enjoyed watching Julieth enjoy an American Christmas. We celebrated with her Latino friends on Christmas Eve. They worked together to make a typical Latino meal to share, then exchanged gifts. After you opened a gift you then chose another gift from under the tree, you then shared nice things about the person who the gift was for to see if they could guess who it was for. They shared sincere and wonderful things about each other.

These young people from Honduras, Nicaragua and Columbia have only known each other for months yet they are all here to earn money and have a better life for their families.

They shared prayer for their families far away at midnight and then tried to get the kids to lay down. Just as everyone was in bed we heard HO HO HO and the deck window shut. The children screeched down the hall to the tree to see what Santa had left. Each child had one gift, but they were all filled with joy. I hadn't been blessed to see the joy in kids eyes for several years but it was overwhelming.

We stumbled home at 2am and tried to sleep before we headed for my daughter's home to do it all again. There was food again and football on the TV. But Julieth was shocked at the amount of gifts under the tree, instead of one gift for each person there were multiple gifts for each. Yes I did spoil her a bit since she was away from her family but she said Christmas was a dream. 2 very different celebrations for Christmas but both very special.

I'm sure my family at Central had many other versions of their own Christmases. Some of us are missing loved ones who have left us, some have families far away who they can't be with. Some had houses full of little ones squealing with joy and others were alone. I hope that no matter what your Christmas looked like I hope you remembered the reason for the season and are ready to look forward to a new year filled with hope from God.

Beth Campbell  
Elder



### Emergency Food Box

Thank you for your recent donation Of 83.9 pounds of food to the Emergency Food Box. Your kindness makes it possible for us to help meet the emergency food needs of people in Marshall County.



### Thank you!

I would like to publicly thank Glenda Hughes for all of her help in organizing and communicating to me the events and happenings in the Church. Without her relating to me what is being planned, I would not be able to pass that information on to you.

Also, I appreciate all that have taken the time out of their busy schedules and lives to relay to me items that need to go into the newsletter, the weekly communication, and bulletin. Keep it up as we move into a new year!

# Announcements

## December Church Attendance

12/1- 29

12/08- 34

12/15- 35

12/22- 45

## January Mission

We are taking up a collection to be able to purchase \$20 gas gift cards from Kwik Trip/HyVee, also, \$20 gift cards from Walmart for Friends of Central. Put your cash, gift card, or check donation in the brown box in the gathering space.

**KWIKSTAR**

**HyVee**  
EMPLOYEE OWNED

**Walmart**



## November Finance Report

YTD

Revenues-\$22020.00

Revenues \$118336

Expenses- \$18692.00

Expenses \$129285

Mary Jane Hazelwood, Board Treasurer



# January 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	4
			New Years Day Office Closed		10:30am Worship Committee Mtg	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:50 Hymn Sing 10:00 Church Service In-person/online			1:00pm Prayer and Meditation 1:15pm Bible Study 3:45pm Elders Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:00am Church Ser- vice in-person/online Refreshments Food Box			1:00pm Prayer and Meditation 1:15pm Bible Study 4:00pm Board Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	9:15am Quilters		Farmers Market 10am-1pm  9:30am Group Lydia At Judy O's house.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 am Church Service in- person/online		5:00pm Group Rebecca	1:00pm Prayer and Meditation 1:15pm Bible Study 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10:00am Church Service in-person/ online		News Articles Due	1:00pm Prayer and Meditation 1:15 Bible Study 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	Newsletter Pub- lished		

# CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



*Disciples of Christ*

**300 West Main Street  
Marshalltown IA  
50158**

Phone: (641) 753-3129

Website: [www.centraldoc.org](http://www.centraldoc.org)

Email: [Chalice@centraldoc.org](mailto:Chalice@centraldoc.org)

Facebook: Central Christian Church (Disciples of  
Christ) Marshalltown

and  
Marshalltown Central  
Christian Church

Interim Pastor Mike Carlson

Board Chair: Glenda Hughes

Elders Chair: Mary Abens

Deacon Chair: Carolyn Thompson

Office Administrator: Becky Neiman

Custodian: Mary Koshak

Organist: Colette Bengé

Choir Director: Valerie Sondag

**Office Hours:**

## 2024 News



We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a  
fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we  
welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

*Disciples of Christ Statement of Identity*

**SUNDAY WORSHIP TIME 10:00 A.M.**

**SUNDAY ONLINE SERVICE 10:00 A.M.**