

Central Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
February 2025



Pastor's Pondering

February 2025

Psalm 85:10-13

Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other. Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven. The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

Righteousness is God's way of showing favor toward his people. Righteousness embraces peace: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1)

As a people of God we should try to understand that God is not going to throw us away because we make mistakes. He is righteous and will forgive us our mistakes and sins. We need to do our best as we follow Jesus to become more righteous in our actions and deeds.

We are entering the month of February the month of love. We have all had the opportunity to show our love to others. Over Valentines Day we can send cards and candy but more importantly we have the ability to say thank you and to smile, shake hands and show our forgiveness to others. This is what God does righteously, he forgives and then give to us what we need to make the world go forward.

Only God can be both just in his judgment of sin and bring about peace through the forgiveness of sin. Bu we as humans can also fear God by being more forgiving and loving. Follow Jesus' example and become more like him, let the holy spirit lead you to a more righteous future.

Blessing

Pastor Mike

Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you with me. Revelation 3:20

Central Christian Church Board Meeting Tidbits January 15, 2025

Jeff Sommerlot, Board Chair, called the meeting to order. 8 members & Pastor Mike, who gave the opening prayer, were present.

December minutes were approved & February calendar events were reviewed

Property- No report

Personnel/ Congregational Rep – Beth Campbell & Carolyn Thompson – No report

Finance – Pat Sommerlot – No report

Treasurer- Mary Hazelwood – one insurance company gave her a quote of \$12,000.- \$13,000. For a year. She will make more contacts.

Deacons- Carolyn Thompson – everything is still good

Elders- most of the Poinsettias have been delivered. We need more Elders.

Missions- Judy Osgood – delivered all the items to the ARL. Collecting \$20 gift cards from Kwik Star, Casey's or Hy-Vee for gas to help people who need assistance. Cash donations are also accepted. Please put your donation in the wood box (made by Jim Gossett) on the Mission shelves in the gathering area. February mission – collecting items for Guiding Star which helps young mothers in need. Biggest need is new warm baby clothes size 3 months- 2 years.

DWF - Sarah Sade – 5 cards were mailed, 9 quilts were shared with city nursing homes. Will begin monthly study when subscription of Just Women arrives. Served Carl Osgood's funeral lunch. DWF continues to supply the plates, cups, napkins, etc. for the congregation.

Worship Team – No report

Pastor's report – studied & prepared 4 Sunday services, Bible Study on Wednesdays @ 1:15, attended Worship Team, Elders, & general Board meetings, made phone calls & visited with congregants, attended Gatherers, worked with Music Team, continued "Moment with God" morning meditation live on Facebook, began preparation for Ash Wednesday service, March 5, 2025, working on a proposal for an evening grief group.

Old Business

Nominating Committee report was shared.

New Business

*Sign-up sheet for opening prayer was passed around.

*We will invite the UCC church to our Ash Wednesday service.

Pastor Mike gave the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Bengé, Board Secretary





2025

Church Board and Committee members

Board Chair: Jeff Sommerlot

Vice Board Chair: Jim Gossett

Board Secretary: Colette Bengé

Treasurer: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Property: Jeff Sommerlot, Allen Miller, Steve Huseboe, Bob Cook

Personnel/Congregational Rep: Beth Campbell, Carolyn Thompson, Peggy White..

Finance Chair: Pat Sommerlot

Missions: Judy Osgood, Beth Campbell, Marla Cook

Deacon Chair: Carolyn Thompson

Deacons: Carolyn Thompson, Ed Phillips, Rhonda Spence

DWF: Sarah Sade

Elders Chair: Mary Abens

Elders: Beth Campbell, Jan Bringman, Jim Gossett, Glenda Hughes, Mary Jane Hazelwood, Andy Burt, Marla Cook

Honorary Elder: Sara Sade



February Birthdays

4 Ashley Ferguson

11 Joyce Grogan

11 Rhonda Spence

14 Barbara Zednichek

18 Cathy Wetherbee

24 Alex Thompson

29 Izaak Smith

29 Jaqueline Steveson

February Greeters: Carolyn Thompson and Sarah Sade

February Deacon: Carolyn Thompson

February Pastor Mike Carlson

February 2

Elder: Marla Cook

Worship Leader: Marla Cook

Scripture: Psalm 71:1-6, Luke 4:21-30

Hymns:

#49 "From All that Dwell Below the Skies"

#540 "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

#49CP "Sanctuary" (sing twice)

#2 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

February 9

Elder: Andy Burt

Worship Leader: Ruth Pearson

Scripture: Psalm 138, Luke 5:1-11

Hymns:

#15CP "Great Is the Lord"

#546 "Amazing Grace!"

#452 "Here I Am, Lord"

#344 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

February 16

Elder: Beth Campbell

Worship Leader: Beth Campbell

Scripture: Psalm 1, Luke 6:17-26

Hymns:

#50CP "Majesty"

#611 "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"

#638 "In the Bulb There is a Flower"

#528 "Give Thanks"

February 23

Elder: Mary Abens

Worship Leader: Mary Abens

Scripture: Psalm 37: 1-11, Luke 6:27-38

Hymn:

#618 "How Firm a Foundation" v. 1.2,&5

#526 "The Gift of Love"

#44CP "Open Our Eyes, Lord" (sing twice)

#477 "Pass It On"



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please be in prayer for the following:



Please pray for our members and families. Hold in prayer the following:
Richard Nicholson, the family of Lois Brown, Larry Erion, Beverly Craig, Riley Pearson, Seth Eggelston.

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

John Pavlovitz is a former youth pastor who has written several books and a regular column. His writing strongly reflects his political views, so I have tried to cut out those references and share some of his writing. Times are confusing and difficult no matter where one fits on the political spectrum. Here are a few things we can't forget to do right now:

Be relentlessly present. Your story is currently in progress... staying informed and engaged in the world is critical, but there is life happening across the table or on the couch or playing in the backyard—and we can't afford to miss it, or this once-in-a-lifetime, never-to-be-repeated second. Cease doom-scrolling about what is in the distance and in the future and see the small world within arm's reach right now.

Cultivate nourishing relationships. As you pour energy into the pushing back against hatred and the opposing of inequity, people around you are experiencing a deficit; of your attention, your availability, your patience—the best version of you that you can give them.

Lavishly care for yourself. Most of the people I know are neglecting the elemental, sustaining practices right now in some way: eating well, sleeping, resting, praying, meditating, exercising, finding silence. These things may seem less urgent than the headlines and new alerts but they aren't. They help recalibrate your brain, replenish your body, and they allow you to do the work you do better and be better as you do that work.

Fall in love again. I don't know what activities give you joy or make you feel alive—but carve out time to do them, because they too are therapeutic and sustaining, and they make these days more than the angst and urgency of the moment.

Have a belly laugh. Not long ago I spent time with my mother and siblings. It was a reminder to me that joy is an elixir and laughter is medicinal, and they are critically important to helping us sustain sanity in decidedly insane circumstances. It is not ignoring the dire things in this life or disrespecting hurting people to spend time experiencing joy. Laughter is an offensive weapon against hopelessness.

Clarify your why. Don't lose your purpose.

Through these crazy times, we need to make sure that we don't miss life happening right in front of us.

Some things you may want to stop doing in order to survive the live shit show we're immersed in: pleasing people, procrastinating away a dream, compromising your convictions, wasting time, getting angry at stuff you can't control.

In days like this, living well isn't just the best revenge—it's also the greatest resistance.

Take care of yourselves and those around you.

Be encouraged.

Thanks again to John Pavlovitz for these thoughts...

Mary Jane



Dear Central Christian Church,

Our family would like to thank you for your kindness, presence, and generous gifts you sent in memory of our dad. Thank you quilting ladies for the quilt. I visited him often and if he was sitting in his chair he would have the quilt on his lap for warmth. Life certainly will be different with out him, and we will miss him dearly. We appreciate your love, support, and friendship over the years. With great gratitude!

Allen Miller and the family
of Jerry Miller.

Thank you!

Our family would like to thank everyone at Central for the support we have received all through Carl's struggles and finally in his death. Thank you Pastor Mike for Carl's Celebration of Life along with Pastor Loren. We appreciated the music of Colette and Jim giving us a flash drive of the service. Thank you to Sarah Sade and all who helped with the luncheon. Thank you for all of your kind words, cards and memorials. We appreciate all of you so much.

My church family is the best!

Judy and family

Thank you to everyone for the cards and prayers! Also, I would like to thank the DWF for the rose.

Jan Bringman

Dear Friends,

Thanks very much for your generous partnership in 2023. It is donors like you that we are able to help those in need. Below is a list of your 2024 gifts to us.

12/12 \$100

12/18 \$ 50

We look forward to your continued support and sharing our organization's success!

House of Compassion!



On January 7th I delivered your donations to the Animal Rescue League. They were delighted to receive them! Thank you for your generosity!

Missions

Dear Church Friends,

The Emergency Food Box in Marshalltown would like to express our sincere appreciation to your congregation for their many donations of food during the year 2024. Your generous donations make it possible for us to help meet the emergency food needs of people throughout Marshall County.

On behalf of those persons who benefit from the generosity of your congregation, we again say, "Many thanks for your help!"

Sincerely,
Emergency Food Box Staff

In 2024 you donated 410 Pounds of Food.

January's mission has been for the Friends of Central. Often people come to our church office in need of some help for gas or other immediate necessity. We have been collecting gift cards for HyVee, Kwik Star, Casey's for gas. Walmart could be used for food or perhaps a medication be it RX or OTC. We have asked for \$20 gift cards or a monetary donation so these cards can be purchased. Any monetary donation you can give is appreciated and will be used to purchase the cards. These cards will be kept in the office for availability for Pastor Mike to have for those who come in with a need. Please put your donations in the wood box on the Mission shelves. We will continue this through the month of January.

Announcements

Church Attendance

1/5- 27

1/12- 26

1/19- 29

1/2- 31

Gatherer's will meet on Tuesday February 11 at 11:30AM at Tremont on Main.

Please let Carolyn Thompson or Peggy White by Friday February 7th, if you plan to attend. All are welcome for a fun gathering!

February Mission

Our February mission will be Aggie's Closet in the Guiding Star. Guiding Star is a not for profit organization here in Marshalltown. It is a branch of the national organization. Aggie's Closet offers free essential supplies for mothers and babies in need. They do have to have a photo ID and be on the WIC program or Medicaid. Their needs at this time are: Boy and Girl clothing size 6 months to 2, sippy cups, snack cups, baby nail clippers, no contact thermometers, cabinet safety locks, baby wash, Size 2 diapers.

Their larger needs are baby swing, pack n play, stroller, baby monitor and Diaper Genie. Monetary donations may be given to help them purchase the larger items. Clothing at this time needs to be warm seasonal wear (no summer clothing). Also very gently used clothing is accepted but must be clean with no stains.

Finance report

Nothing to report yet, will put this out in the weekly communication when it is available.

Mary Jane Hazelwood, Board Treasurer

February 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
						9am-1pm Cartwright Makers Market
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:50 Hymn Sing 10:00 Church Service In-person/online			1:00pm Prayer and Meditation 1:15pm Bible Study 3:45pm Worship Team 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:00am Church Service in-person/online Refreshments Food Box		11:30am Tremont on Main Gatherer's	1:00pm Prayer and Meditation 1:15pm Bible Study 4:00pm Elders Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			Cartwright Makers Market 10am-1pm 9:30am Group Lydia At Judy O's house.
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:00 am Church Service in-person/online		5:00pm Group Rebecca	1:00pm Prayer and Meditation 1:15pm Bible Study 4:00pm Board Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	9:15am Quilters		
23	24	25	26	27	28	
10:00am Church Service in-person/online						

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Disciples of Christ

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Christ) Marshalltown

and
Marshalltown Central
Christian Church

Interim Pastor Mike Carlson

Board Chair: Jeff Sommerlot

Elders Chair: Mary Abens

Deacon Chair: Carolyn Thompson

Office Administrator: Becky Neiman

Custodian: Mary Koshak

Organist: Colette Bengé

Choir Director: Valerie Sondag

Office Hours: 9am-1pm , Tue-Fri

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.