

Central Christian Church
Disciples of Christ
January 2026



Pastor's Pondering

January 2026

Happy New Year!! 2026 is here!! We have a fresh slate to write on, a new year to dream. We have finished one chapter in our book, ready to start the next.

A poem to lighten your heart.

"Now shall I store my soul with silent beauty, Beauty of drifting clouds and mountain heights, Beauty of sun-splashed hills and shadowed forests, Beauty of dawn and dusk and star-swept nights. Now shall I fill my heart with quiet music, Song of the wind across the pine-clad hill, Song of the rain and, fairer than all music, Call of the thrush when twilight woods are still. So shall the days to come be filled with beauty, Bright with the promise caught from eastern skies; So shall I see the stars when night is darkest, Still hear the thrush's song when music dies." "THE DAYS TO COME MEDORA C. ADDISON

God has laid our path for 2026, as the poem states, "Bright with the promise caught from eastern skies." Central Christian Church, Marshalltown is on the way to a new and wonderful future.

Let us work together for the love of God to raise our banner high.

God has a plan for us and we have a dream. Lets preach, sing, and laugh. What do we want to accomplish in the year 2026? How can we make our light shine in church, community and Iowa? Thank you all, for the gifts of sharing here at CCC.

Blessing and Shalom, Pastor Mike



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, Mary Jane Hazelwood, Andy Burt, Marla Cook

Honorary Elder: Sara Sade



January Greeters: Jeff and Pat Sommerlot**January Deacon: Ed Phillips****January 4**

Elder: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Worship Leader: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Scripture: Jeremiah 3:7-14, John 1:10-18

Sermon: "And the Word Became Flesh"

Hymns:

#2 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

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

#420 "I Come With Joy"

#707 "Marching to Zion"

January 11

Elder: Mary Abens

Worship Leader: Mary Abens

Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9 Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon: "My Chosen"

Hymns:

#5 "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

#97 "Fairest Lord Jesust"

#259 "Spirit of the Living God"

#66 "Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise"

January 18

Elder: Marla Cook

Worship Leader: Marla Cook

Scripture: Isaiah 49:1-7, John 1:29-42

Sermon: "Let's Get to Work"

Hymns:

#15(CP) "Great Is the Lord"

#50(CP) "Majesty"

#352 "Spirit Song"

#452 "Here I Am Lord"

January 25

Elder: Beth Campbell

Worship Leader: Beth Campbell

Scripture: Psalm 27:1, 4-9, Matthew 4:12-23

Sermon: "1st Disciples"

Hymns:

#601 "I am Thine, O Lord"

#602 "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

#340 "Softly Tenderly"

#612 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

Elders Meditation



Psalm 74:16-17

The day is yours, and yours also the night;
you established the sun and moon.

It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth;
you made both summer and winter.

December had 31 days like it always does but it seemed like a very short month. My days were filled with preparation for Christmas and time spent with kids and grandkids. Each day ended with about half of my to-do list done. The weather was pretty nice, but even on the grey days, the sparkling Christmas lights made it seem brighter.

The calendar says that January also has 31 days, but it always seems to last so much longer. After New Year's Day, there's just a long stretch of winter. However, every season has possibilities. Any day can be a day to call or write family and friends and share a memory or let them know you love them. A snowstorm can be a chance to snuggle under a blanket with a good book and appreciate NOT being outside. A cold snap can be a chance to enjoy a cup of hot chocolate with an extra dollop of whipped cream on top. As a last resort, there's always that to-do list! And while not as bright as the Christmas lights, I'm still hoping for one of those light, glittery snow globe snows (that melts the next day, of course).

Let us thank God for this time of year, even if we are only thankful for how much we will appreciate spring. Peace and blessings to you and remember - the days are getting longer now!

~ Mary Abens



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please be in prayer for the following:



Please pray for our members and families. Hold in prayer the following:

David and Linda Halvorsen, Peggy White, Derrica Krutsinger, Specialist Tanner Curley (Jim and Marcia Gossett's grandson, stationed in Syria), Lynne DeSotel, Chuck Moore, John Schneiderman, Jeff Mazen.

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



THANKYOU!

Group Lydia,

Thank you so much for thinking about our students. Your donation of underwear and socks will make a real difference for them. We appreciate your thoughtful and generous support. Warm Regards, Nurse Emily.

Group Rebecca,

I wanted to tell your group, thank you for your donations of all the socks to Hoglan. Nurse Megan

Missions,

Thank you so much for your service and donations to our community. From the members and staff of Mid-Iowa Triumph Recovery Center.

To All,

Thank you for the cards and gifts, for my birthday. Also, a special thank you for the Christmas card and gift. I feel honored and blessed to work for a church with so many wonderful people! God Bless! Becky

Finances Ending November 2025

November

Income. \$7328. Expenses \$7343.00

Year to date

Income. \$111,086. Expenses \$161,222.00

Mary Jane Hazelwood-Treasurer



Announcements

Church Attendance

12/7- 19	12/28- 25
12/14- 21	
12/21- 33	
12/24- 57	

Gatherer's

Will be announced soon-Stay Tuned.

Missions

Our January Mission is to collect items for the House of Compassion. There is a list of the items needed on the mission shelf in the gathering space. Toiletries, soaps and detergents, etc.

This is a blank space for you to insert your dreams for 2026!

January 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
				New Years Day		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00 Church Service In-person/online Undecorate after service			1:30pm Bible Study 4:00 pm Wor- ship/Missions Mtg 5:00pmVocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10:00 Church Service in-person/online Refreshments/Foodbox			1:30pm Bible Study 4:00pm Elders Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	9:15am Quilters 1:30pm Grief Support Group		9:30 Group Lydia Judy O's house
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:00 am Church Service in- person/online		5:00pm Group Rebecca	1:30pm Bible Study 4:00pm Board Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
10:00am Church Service in-person/ online			1:30pmBible Study 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir			

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Disciples of Christ

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Christ) Marshalltown

and
Marshalltown Central
Christian Church

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

2026 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.