

Central Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

March 2024



Best Laid Plans

“For I know the plans I have made for you,” declares the Lord. “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Last month, several of you came together to meet with Rev. Josh Patty, Regional Minister and President of the Christian Church in the Upper Midwest. Our meeting was an opportunity for individuals to be heard and receive guidance and encouragement from Rev. Patty. Something he said really caught my attention. He reminded us that God hears us, and God is also listening to others who are searching for their next move in ministry. God sees all the moving pieces, and is nudging someone towards our way.

I’ve always said that we don’t say prayers in order to get God’s attention; instead we pray so God can get ours. I urge each of us to continue to pray as we move forward, and to find comfort and guidance in the things we cannot see. May we rest assured that God is actively drawing us into the journey forward at CCC.

I boldly leapt into the “retirement phase” of my life with two goals in mind: To heal and to make beauty. No more five-year plans, no more graduate classes, no more living within the boundaries of my professional expectations. I set out to be a free spirit, hanging out in my basement making art with fabric, learning to paint, and writing poetry that no one would ever read. It was a perfect plan.

When I returned to Central Christian, I had no intention of taking on any kind of leadership position. I just wanted to worship, make new friends, and participate in the ministries of the church. But here I am, doing my best, with God’s loving grace, to be in service to you and to the church. My biggest concern is that we allow ourselves to become stagnant—to just try to skate along until our next pastor arrives.

But you all have shown me that there is no need to fret. So many have stepped up to make sure we have meaningful worship services and that the ministries at CCC remain active. One of my favorite Old Testament books is Jeremiah. It is difficult to read because throughout the book, it would seem that God had forsaken, judged and condemned the people of Israel. But if you stick with it, you find that God was working on their behalf from the very beginning. In his book, “Run With the Horses” (based on Jeremiah), Eugene Peterson says “...we are living in the middle of a story that was begun and will be concluded by another. And this other is God.” Many of you know the history and story of Central Christian better than I, but all of us are somewhere in the middle of the story, started in faith— And by faith we will move forward in hope. It is a resurrection story, a story of forgiveness, redemption and new life in Christ. I am thankful that you have let me be part of this story at Central Christian Church.

Glenda Hughes, Board Chair



2024

Church Board and Committee members

- Board Chair:** Glenda Hughes
- Vice Board Chair:** Jeff Sommerlot
- Board Secretary:** Colette Benge
- Treasurer:** Mary Jane Hazelwood
- 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
- Honorary Elder:** Dietta Nevins



March Birthdays

- 3 Beth Campbell
- 6 Travis Thompson
- 7 Tanya Hillygus
- 11 Jean Whitmore
- 13 Dennis Paxton
- 19 Allen Miller
- 20 Daniel Abens
- 21 Anthony Levis and Carter Levis
- 28 Karen Dodd



March Greeters: Donna McNamee and Janet Swanson

March Deacon: Rhonda Spence

March 3

Elder: Marla Cook

Worship Leader: Sarah Sade

Scripture: John 2:13-22

Hymns: #618 "How Firm a Foundation

#504 "Heal Me, Hands of Jesus"

#572 "Take Time to be Holy"

#592 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

March 10

Elder: Andy Burt

Worship Leader: Andy Burt

Scripture: John 3:14-21

Hymns: TBD

March 17

Elder: Beth Campbell

Worship Leader: Allen Miller

Scripture: John 12:20-33

Hymns: TBD

March 24 (Palm Sunday)

Elder: Mary Hazelwood

Worship Leader: Ruth Pearson

Scripture: Mark 11:1-11

Hymns: TBD

March 28th (Maundy Thursday)

Scripture: John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

March 31 (Resurrection Day)

Elder: Glenda Hughes

Worship Leader: Glenda Hughes

Scripture: John 20:1-18 or March 16:1-8

Hymns are in the Chalice Hymnal unless otherwise noted.

This information is subject to change after the newsletter is distributed.



PRAYER CONCERNS

Please be in prayer for the following:



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

Carl Osgood; Michelle Gilmore; Dorothy and Frank Borton; Jeff Osgood; Beverly Kelling, Seth Egelston, Tommy Mitchell, Donna McNamee's sister, Kansas Wesleyan University, Sam Wares, Jenny Taylor, Elizabeth Pearson, the family of Dixie Johnson (Judy Osgood's sister) who passed away on March 1st.

- 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.

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, check which groups you want it to go to. Let us know if it's confidential, and sign your name



Elders Meditation



Lent – 40 days to remember the teachings of Jesus. The sacrifices He made to spread the good news of His Father. He knew why He was sent here. He knew that He would be put to death because of who He was and the good things that He was doing. He gave His very life for us so that we can really live. He went into the desert to pray and fast for those 40 days, and Satan tempted Him to turn away from God, but Jesus refused. Lent reminds us of what He gave us and how we should live. So don't only think of what you should "give up" but what could we do to draw closer to Him. If you see someone that needs help – help them. What would Jesus do? He'd help with no thought of what "am I going to get out of this"? Do it without thinking about that too – do it because of Jesus' actions. Trust me, your heart will be filled with joy. And in turn that person you helped will feel the same joy. Stand strong with Christ during this Lenten time and don't give into what tempts you. Remember He died for you so you could be free. May Christ's peace and love reign in your heart.

Beth Judkins-Mickolas





We are currently in need of volunteers for the A/V booth on Sunday mornings.

If you would like to donate flowers for the service, there is a sign-up sheet in the gathering room.

Financial Report for January, 2024

Total Assets: \$276,582.00

Regular income: \$3748.00

Online giving total for January: \$400.00

Other income: \$10375.00

Investment income: \$50.00

Total Expenses: \$8426.00

Mary Jane Hazelwood

March Mission

The Executive Director of the House of Compassion has emailed the churches in Marshalltown regarding the Supply Closet there. They are assisting over 350 households a month and their supplies deplete quickly. They would appreciate it if we would do a supply drive for them. There are a few supplies they would like us to round up for them:

Laundry detergent, dish soap, body wash and toothpaste. Those are their largest needs. They would also like clean, empty, wide mouth sports drink bottles (like Gatorade/Powerade). They use them to divide up large bottles of laundry detergent to supply more households.

We will be collecting these items the entire month of March. Please place your donations on the Mission shelves in the Gathering Area. There will also be a bin to put the empty bottles in there.

Thank you for your generosity.

2023 Financial/2024 Budget

		2023 Annual Budget		2023 Actual		2024 Annual Budget
Revenues:						
Regular Giving		\$90,000.00		\$94,788.00		\$100,000.00
Other, miscellaneous (Friends, General As- sembly, Memorial and Permanent Funds)		\$15,000.00		\$19,081.00		\$15,000.00
DWF income		\$500.00		\$1,205.00		\$500.00
ERC income				\$21,719.00		
Investment income		\$10,000.00		\$3,093.00		\$4,000.00
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments				\$6,931.00		
Total Revenues		\$115,500.00		\$146,817.00		\$119,500.00
Expenses						
Wages - minister		\$22,373.00		\$16,181.00		\$25,000.00
Wages - office manag- er		\$13,000.00		\$11,495.00		\$14,500.00
Wages - custodian		\$8,000.00		\$7,110.00		\$8,200.00
Wages - organist		\$7,000.00		\$7,434.00		\$8,000.00
Wages - choir director		\$5,250.00		\$5,560.00		\$5,750.00
Payroll taxes		\$3,250.00		\$3,210.00		\$3,500.00
Education		\$200.00		\$68.00		\$200.00
Office supplies		\$10,000.00		\$12,310.00		\$15,000.00
DWF		\$500.00		\$1,244.00		\$1,000.00
Property and Mainte- nance		\$35,000.00		\$32,565.00		\$35,000.00
Permanent funds				\$630.00		\$1,500.00
Worship		\$4,000.00		\$3,547.00		\$4,000.00
Misc Pass through				\$4,720.00		
Missions - Basic mis- sion 10%		\$9,000.00		\$6,317.00		\$11,400.00
Total Expenses		\$117,573.00		\$112,391.00		\$133,050.00

THE SEASON OF LENT AND THE RESURRECTION



“Lord, during this Lenten Season, nourish me with Your Word of life and make me one with You in love and prayer. Fill my heart with Your love and keep me faithful to the Gospel of Christ. Give me the grace to rise above my human weakness.”



Announcements

From Courtney Dufford, Lead Organizer for AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy)

Over the past 1.5 years, we've been in conversation to explore interest in building an AMOS organizing group in Marshalltown. The goals of AMOS organizing effort would be to develop citizen and institutional leadership to effectively address pressures impacting Marshalltown families like need for recreational opportunities, housing, etc. I'd like to invite you all to come together to discern as a community if and how you'd like to proceed in building this relationship with AMOS.

AMOS Marshalltown Meeting

Tuesday, March 12

6:00-7:30pm

Central Christian Church 300 W Main St

(If you would like to learn more about AMOS and how CCC has been involved, talk to Glenda Hughes and Mary Abens).

Thank You!

To: Central Christian Church

Thank you for the donation of \$300 to The Caring Center. Your generosity helps pay for rent and utilities as well as other expenses of operation.

The Caring Center provides clothing and household goods at no cost to people who can use them. The center is totally staffed by volunteers.

We appreciate your help in providing this service to the community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Refreshment Sunday this month is March 10. If you would like to share some goodies, there is a sign-up sheet in the gathering room.

Gatherers will be held on Sunday, March 10th, 5:30pm at Zeno's Pizza. Hosting will be Jim and Marcia Gossett. Please join us for a fun evening of great pizza and fellowship. Please let Pat know by Thursday, March 7th, noon, if you plan to attend so arrangements can be made! Thank you! Pat

March 10, Pastor Michael Carlson will be our guest preacher. He is a possible candidate for Interim Pastor at CCC. Those who are interested in being part of the search committee for Interim Pastor can join us and Pastor Carlson for an informal meeting after church. We will also meet on March 3 after church for a pre-planning meeting before his visit. Please continue to pray for our church as we journey forward.

**CARTWRIGHT
WINTER
MARKET**

**At Central Christian Church
300 W Main ST, Marshalltown**

Please use South entrance

**Market is held from 10am - 2pm on the
following Saturdays:
January 27 • February 10 & 24
March 9 & 23 • April 6 & 20**

Our Church will be hosting the Farmers Market, which will be held in our Fellowship Hall on the following Saturday's, March 9 and 23, April 6 and 20. The time will be from 10-2, in Fellowship Hall.



March 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:00 Church Service In-person/online		6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus	1:00pm Worship Team 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	12:15 pm Elders Mtg		10-2 Farmers Mar- ket
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:00am Church Ser- vice in-person/online Refreshment Sun- day/Food Box 5:30pm Gatherers Zeno's Pizza		6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus	5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	1:00pm Group DEMF		9:00 am Group Lydia
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10:00 am Church Ser- vice in-person/online		5:00pm Group Rebecca 6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus	1:30 Board Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	9:15am Quilters		10-2 Farmers Market
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00am Church Service in-person/ online Palm Sunday		6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus	5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday Church Closed	
31						
10:00am Church Service in person/ online Easter Sunday						

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Disciples of Christ

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Christ) Marshalltown

and
Marshalltown Central
Christian Church

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:

**Tuesday - Friday
9 am - 1 pm**

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.