

Central Christian Church Disciples of Christ



May 2020

News from the Congregation

Brandon and I are all moved into our new house and absolutely adore it! We have been busy stripping wall-paper, painting, pulling carpet and pulling out old trees and shrubs. To say we are busy is an understatement. We are also preparing for two new foreign exchange students to arrive in August. Alessandra is from Italy and Yu Jie (May) is from Taiwan, both girls are 18 years old and will be seniors while they are here. We have also started the process of adoption. Our life is crazy but we wouldn't want it any other way! - **Shawn Heizer**

In the past week I have talked to the Coleman's and the Duke's by phone. Mary and John are doing well and in good spirits even though they are confined to their room. Bob Duke has completed his chemo but still doesn't have much energy. Bob and Greg Ellcey had a lengthy conversation a few weeks ago when they were both receiving treatments at Mary Greeley. Please keep them all in your prayers.

Marcia and I are staying at home except for curbside pickup orders for supplies. Marcia has been sewing, working on older sewing projects, reading, scrapbooking and doing some genealogy work. After 7 years I've completed a cherry memory box for my Mother. I have also learned a great deal about my Mother and Father's younger days looking through their old scrapbooks. We are blessed to be able to Zoom with our grandkids and their Mom's and Dad's. That always brightens our day and provides a lot of laughter. We have had enough projects going that time has gone faster than we expected.

We miss you all. God Bless you and be safe.

Marcia and Jim Gossett

Hello everyone. We sure miss our church family. We hope everyone is doing well.

Being retired, nothing is too different for us, except socializing and traveling. Ha ha.

Jim keeps up the yard work. He stopped going to Grinnell to see his dad two weeks ago. He calls him twice a week. The kids and grandkids and granddogs do a drive by once in awhile. We call them curb

visits. We order take out a couple times a week. We took a drive last week to Lake Ponderosa and Rock Creek. Jim plays video games with family over the internet. I have my puzzle books.

Hoping and praying this is over soon and we can all be together again. **Carolyn and Jim Thompson**

It was a big change when we were put on lockdown on March 24th. Harold is the chef and fixes breakfast, and does the grocery shopping. I have put puzzles together and am now sewing a laprobe top. We are looking forward to the time we can go out whenever we want to. **Harold and Beverly Kelling**

Hello everyone! Carl and I miss each and every one of our church family during this Covid-19!

Life hasn't changed much for us except that we aren't running from one doctor appointment to the other and we are not able to come to church! Early on I decided to get to spring cleaning and that is mostly what I have been doing and have a lot more to do. I seem to be leaving bedroom closets to the last! Now that the weather is getting nice, I have been having to do some outdoor work! Lots of people are baking and cooking but that is not my forte and I have tried to stay out of the kitchen so as not to be snacking!

As you know, Carl had Moh's surgery on his nose before we were last in church. Seemed to take forever to heal. He's fallen 3 times since we last were in church and one was pretty nasty. He really looked battered! That also is clearing up well. Sadly, his balance isn't very good so he hasn't been as active as he'd like to be. And he has me nagging him to "go slow"!

Thankfully we have been able to tune in to some live stream church services on Sunday mornings. Mostly we have been worshipping with Suzie Moore at the Stanhope Parish and also with Rev. Tim Murtaugh, a former minister at Central.

We really hope that we will be able to be back to Central before too long even if we have to self distance and wear our masks. We miss everyone so much! Blessings to everyone! **Carl and Judy Osgood**

News from the Congregation Contd.

Sarah Sade shared that the quilting group donated 2 clothesbaskets, one large shopping bag, and 2 boxes full of fabric to Donco. The company will use it to sew face masks which are given to the public. This fabric is about two thirds of what has been donated to the quilters. Thanks to Jim Anctil for delivering the fabric to Donco.



Frank and Dorothy Borton would like to get out of prison! They promise to be on their best behavior.

Jean Whitmore walks around the pond 2 times at Riverside Cemetery every day. She breathes deeply like we're told to do. She finds it very peaceful. Jean misses her church family.

Jim Hemphill has been cleaning up the garden, picking up sticks and large branches after every storm. He has cleaned pine needles from the gutters and cleaned out the flower beds. He has applied crab grass preventer. His rhubarb is about 8" high.

Ron Benge started asparagus, tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, and kohlrabi all from seed. He has planted kohlrabi, corn, and potatoes. He has harvested asparagus and will pull rhubarb when the rain goes away! He has cracked a lot of black walnuts and done some mowing.

Colette Benge has tried several new recipes. (The scales say I've enjoyed them.) Walter Brown always said that only calories taste good. I've also sewn masks for the Vet's Home and several friends. I had all the supplies on hand – nice feeling to help others and reduce the amount of my fabric, elastic, interfacing and cotton covered wire. I am really looking forward to playing for church and having my piano students return! Let's celebrate when are together again as a church family!

Jim and Jody Maxted - We have made our move to the Village Co-op just in time to "social distance" from all the people we looked forward to seeing. We have several old friends living here, and are looking forward to making new ones.

Our family and friends were priceless help in the moving process. A HUGE thank you to Sandy and Al Miller. They took several truck loads of items for the annual thrift sale. I didn't know we had so much "stuff". We are looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

Stu & Dietta Nevins have been cleaning out the kitchen cabinets and throwing away expired food products.

Andy Burt - I got a new puppy on the 20th!! Her name is Popliteal Avon and I'm calling her Poppy!! 2.5#. She is filling our time with love and joy.... not so much for Kwin....but she's slowly warming up!!



Celebration of Life



“John A. Swearingen, age 83, of Marshalltown, passed away suddenly on the night of Monday, April 20th, in the peace of his home with his wife at his side. Due to the state mandates, a private family funeral service was held Friday, April 24th, 2020, at the Mitchell Family Funeral Home. Memorial contributions

may be directed to the Central Christian Church or the Iowa River Hospice in John’s name.

Born on October 9th, 1936, in Marshalltown, he was the son of Cecil and Joyce (Waters) Swearingen. He graduated from the Marshalltown High School in 1954. John served our country honorably in the United States Army from 1959 until 1961.

On November 23rd, 1963, he was united in marriage to Beverly Woodley at the Central Christian Church in Marshalltown. They made Marshalltown their home all of their married lives where he was employed at Iowa Electric for 35 faithful years until retiring in 1998.

John was a devoted member of the Central Christian Church, the American Legion, IBEW Retirees,

and he was the Commissioner of the Marshalltown Football League. He loved attending the Minnesota Vikings games and cheering on the Iowa Hawkeyes. He also enjoyed playing golf and solving the problems of the world over a cup of coffee. Spending time at the family lake home at Lake Cornelia in Clarion was precious and was a family tradition.

Left to cherish his memory is Bev, his loving wife of 56 years, son Brad (Jennifer) of Coralville and daughter Jill (Jeff Turner) of Marshalltown; grandchildren: Katelyn & Miranda Swearingen and Zakary & Alex Herink, as well as many friends.

In death, John rejoined his parents, a sister, and a brother.



Summer Camp 2020 update

The Camp Council for the Upper Midwest camping program held an emergency meeting on March 26th to discuss evolving plans for the 2020 summer camp season. The Camp Council decided we do not have enough information at this time to determine if summer camp will proceed as scheduled. We talked about several scenarios for the summer and are beginning to make contingency plans in case

our calendar is disrupted by the spread of the coronavirus.

The Camp Council has decided that they will wait no longer than Friday, May 8th to decide if some sessions will be canceled, combined, or shortened. For now, camp directors will proceed to plan their events as if they will still occur on their original dates. We believe that by May we should have more guidance from

school districts, state governments, and the CDC about safety and health concerns for overnight camping. We will do everything in our power to hold our summer camps, if we can do so safely and responsibly, because we know that our campers will be craving time in community like never before. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available to us.



From Jim and Robin Ancil:

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who came out in the rain on Easter morning to make donations to Salvation Army (160 food items + \$250), House of Compassion (83 personal care items + \$275) and Emergency Food Box (\$800). We had 24 cars plus 3 additional gifts. You are God's love in action! Donations were delivered the following day to all three grateful organizations.

From Mary Hazelwood, Treasurer: Thank you to those of you who have mailed in or dropped off your offerings. We appreciate this a lot!

Things are not like usual, but, of course we still have some bills to pay. I try to collect offerings, record them and deposit them at least every other week and to limit trips, so this schedule can vary. Please let me know if there are questions. In the meantime, we are looking at the process to give online. More about that later.

From NEI3A Gathering Place:

Sometimes it takes a village to keep frozen food frozen. Thank you Taco Johns of Marshalltown for taking the first leg of freezer space and thank you to Central Christian Church for housing our home delivered meals going forward. Marshalltown is truly a community that cares, we are blessed!



Church Board News

Allen Miller moved that we accept the copier proposal from Premier Office Equipment. Ron Bengé seconded the motion. Via email, the board voted unanimously to accept the proposal. (This new contract saves us \$1,272.00 a year.)

Thanks to Karen for getting and comparing 3 proposals and submitting the best one to Allen.

Colette Bengé, Board Chair



- 9th Zach Shutt
- 10th Judy Osgood
- 18th Sarah Sade
- 22nd Theresa VanWaardhuizen
- 24th Colette Bengé
- 25th Tammy Losing
- 26th Scott Losing
- 30th Mary Horn
- 31st Dean Mitchell

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Disciples of Christ

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Board Chair: Colette Bengé

Elders Chair: Beth Campbell

Deacon Chair: Carolyn Thompson

Organist: Colette Bengé

Choir Director: Valerie Sondag

Office Administrator: Karen Nablo

May 2020 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