

Central Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

May 2024



Pastors' Ponderings April 24, 2024

My name is Micheal (Mike) Carlson. I was born and raised in Stratford, Iowa 72 years ago. I grew up on a farm. I'm married to Konnie. We have three grown children, Stacey and her husband John live in Brunswick, Georgia, Katie, who lives in Valdosta, Georgia and our son Bradley, who lives in Boone. Konnie and I have been married for 48 years.

Konnie is a retired RN. She worked in OB, Surgery, and Hospice. She enjoys sewing, quilting and gardening.

I am a retired RN having worked in Emergency/Trauma for over 35 years. I am also a retired Pastor, I do however continue to do pulpit supply and interim ministry. I am very excited for this opportunity to be called as your interim minister. I am a Commissioned Minister, with standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

I will be in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:00 am to 1 pm and may also be here at other times. You can contact me on my cell 515-230-0246 or by email mkc6051@gmail.com.

I would love to visit with you all and also get to know those who are unable to come to church. I am truly excited to be on this spiritual journey with you all here at Central Christian Church.

If you have any questions about me please don't hesitate to call or email me. Stop in to see me at the office. If you would like a home, hospital visit please let the church office know or call me directly. Blessings Pastor Mike Carlson

From the Board Chair:

“But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.” John 17:3

Last month, at our Group Lydia meeting, we read about Lydia, the seller of purple who followed Jesus and who wholeheartedly served others. The lesson prompted us to talk about our own attitude toward service in the church. I noticed that we really didn’t talk about the jobs we had or the tasks we performed here at CCC. Instead, we expressed the joy we feel when we can use our gifts and talents to do the things we enjoy here in this space. We talked about how the church is our home and our family.

On April 21st, many of us in the congregation gathered to celebrate Earth Day by sharing a meal together before heading outdoors to tidy up the flower beds around the building. It was a beautiful sunny day. We raked, pruned, dug and planted. We got muddy and dirty, and we had fun.

But that’s not all. This month, as we always do, we met for our monthly board meeting where we talked about finances and the business of the church, as well as listening to reports from the various groups who work to plan meaningful worship and ministries, and other aspects of church life. I’ve sat on a lot of church boards, but none like this one! Board meetings tend to be serious affairs, rather dull, and sometimes even a little tense. But not our board. Even it becomes an opportunity to gather with one another and share our gifts, our talents, our opinions, and our joys. Sometimes the board chair (me) must redirect the group because we can get easily sidetracked and begin sharing stories and laughing instead of sticking to the business side of things. And it’s the best church board ever!

What does it take to have God’s joy complete within us (John 17:3) -- especially when life is not always joyful, when we face challenges, illness, conflict, and loss? I believe it begins with a church community that works and worships together, that cares for one another, and inspires others to use their personal experiences and gifts to serve. It’s not about what we do, but who we are. And we are brothers and sisters in Christ. That doesn’t mean we will always agree on everything, and we may even annoy each other from time to time, but we will always remain “church”. May we aspire to live in Christ’s joy- completely.



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



May Birthdays

10 Judy Osgood

18 Sarah Sade

19 Merry Newton

22 Vicki Judkins-Mickolas

24 Colette Benge

25 Tammy Losing

26 Scott Losing

30 Mary Horn

31 Dean Mitchell

31 Jackie Fiscus

May Greeters: Carolyn Thompson and Sarah Sade

May Deacon: Carolyn Thompson

May Pastor Mike Carlson

May 5

Elder: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Worship Leader: Ruth Pearson

Scripture: John 15:9-17

Hymns: #90 "Come Christians Join to Sing"

#99 "O How I Love Jesus"

#44CP "Open Our Eyes, Lord"

#113 "Jesus Loves Me"

May 12

Elder: Glenda Hughes

Worship Leader: Allen Miller

Scripture: 1 John 5:9-13

Hymns: #618 "How Firm a Foundation" 1,2, 5

#557 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

#585 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

#537 "My Hope is Built"

May 19-Pentecost

Elder: Mary Abens

Worship Leader: Sarah Sade

Scripture: Act 2:1-21

Hymns: #39CP "Shine, Jesus, Shine!"

#27 "Come Thou Almighty King"

#352 "Spirit Song"

Insert "We Are The Church"

May 26

Elder: Marla Cook

Worship Leader: Marla Cook

Scripture: John 3:1-17

Hymns: #72 "To God Be Glory"

576 "My Faith Looks Up To Thee"

#108CP "As the Deer"

Insert "This Little Light of Mine"

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:

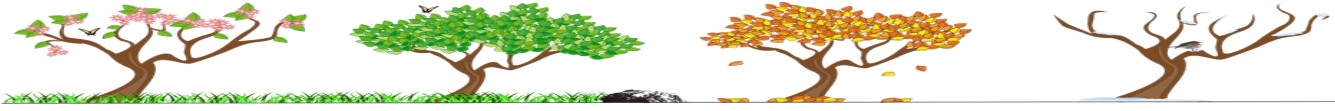
- Prayers for those affected by acts of violence.
- ◆ Prayers for our nation that we may come together as one.
- ◆ Prayer for all of those affected by war around our world.

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



Elders Meditation



“Turn! Turn! Turn!” was a timeless song written by Pete Seeger in 1959. Its lyrics, except for the title and the final two lines, were drawn directly from the bible in the Book of Ecclesiastes, specifically the first eight verses of the third chapter. The song was originally released in 1962, it gained international fame when the American folk-rock group “The Byrd’s” adapted it in late 1965.

When we read the lyrics from the song, the words present a profound message that there is a time and purpose for everything under heaven. The verses cover a wide range of human experiences, from birth and death to planting and harvesting, from sorrow and mourning to dancing and laughter. The song encapsulates the cyclical nature of life, emphasizing that each phase has its place and significance. The closing line, “a time for peace, I swear it’s not too late,” serves as a plea for world peace.

In Ecclesiastes 3, Solomon reminds us that there is a season for everything; we will experience both good and bad. In verses 2-8, he lists things that contrast each other-

a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; 3 a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; 4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; 5 a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; 6 a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; 7 a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; 8 a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

Solomon’s point in this section is that God has a plan for all people. God provides cycles of life, each with its work for us to do. Although we may face problems that seem to contradict God’s plan, these should not be barriers to believing in God, instead they should be viewed as opportunities to discover that, without God, life’s problems have no lasting solutions.

The secret to peace with God is to discover, accept, and appreciate God’s perfect timing. The danger is to doubt or resent. This can lead to despair, rebellion, or moving ahead without his advice. It is no wonder that we see so much despair and unsettledness in our world today. We need to preach the good news that God is here to help us get through the good times, the tough times and all the stuff in the middle. God really loves each of us and wants us to look to him daily for instruction on how to walk with him.

I pray that when you go through the seasons of life, you will look to God and look for God’s direction. It is in being still that we hear God. It is through walking in our own joy and pain that we discover that only God can give each one of us a roadmap for going through these challenges that are present in our lives.

Vickie Judkins-Mickolas
Visiting Elder



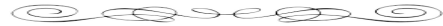
If you would like to donate flowers for the service, there is a sign-up sheet in the gathering room.



The financial reports for March haven't come yet, because Bowman Miller are overwhelmed with tax work. Happens every year.

We will include this information in a Wednesday communication when we get it.

Mary Jane Hazelwood



May Mission

In May, our mission project will be YSS/IMPACT. They help with young people and people with mental health issues. They are always in need of funding but also the following supplies:

Diapers--all sizes; feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, cleaning supplies. Also snacks for the school groups. Grocery gift cards and gas only gift cards from Kwik Star are always appreciated.

This organization has been a great addition to our community.

The Mission Team!!

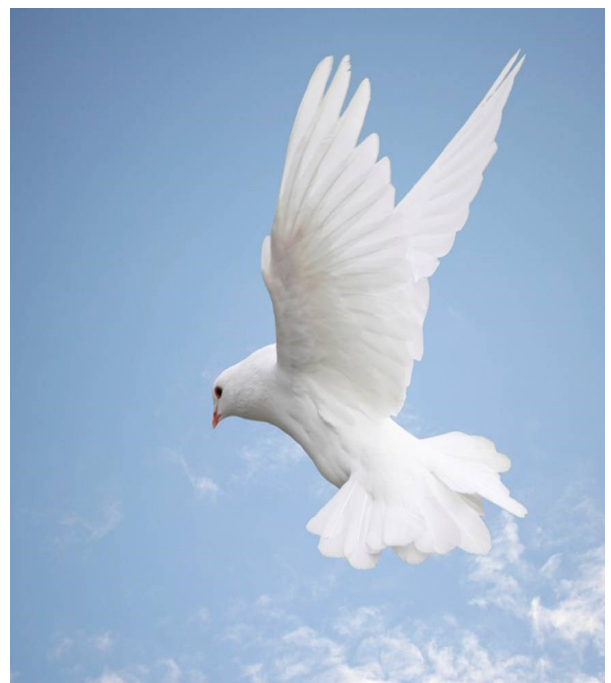


Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Matthew 28:19-20

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



Announcements



Thank you all who helped with our Earth Day Spring Fling clean-up. A great time was had by all working together to make our Church grounds look nice!

Friends,

Thanks much for the supply closet supplies. We're serving more people now than at any time in history, so your partnership is crucial. House of Compassion.

To the ladies of the Disciple Women's Fellowship

Thank you for the thoughtful donation of school supplies at Fisher Elementary. With Appreciation, Mrs. Tullis, School Resource specialist.

Central Christian Church

Thank you so much for all you do!

Staff and Members of Mid-Iowa
Triumph Recovery Center



May 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	4
			4:15pm Worship Team No Choir			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10:00 Church Service In-person/online		6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus	4:15pm Elders Mtg 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	1:00pm Group DEMF-Last Mtg		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10:00am Church Service in-person/online Refreshment Sunday/Food Box Senior Recognition Mothers Day		6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus	4:00 Board Mtg Last Choir Practice 5:00pm Vocal Choir 6:00pm Bell Choir	9:15 Quilters 1:00pm Group DEMF		9:30 am Group Lydia -Last Mtg (Judy's House)
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10:00 am Church Service in-person/online		5:00 Group Rebecca 6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus				
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10:00am Church Service in-person/online		6:30pm Heart of Iowa Chorus New Articles due		News letter published		

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Disciples of Christ

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50158**

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Facebook: Central Christian Church (Disciples of
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.