

Central Christian Church

Disciples of Christ



Mid September 2020



8th Jeff Sommerlot
11th Karen Westphal
13th Sharon Swope
13th Jim Anctil
18th Melissa Osgood
20th Robin Anctil
21st Autumn Thompson
22nd Bev Swearingen
24th Ed Phillips
25th Don Swanson
27th Jody Maxted
29th Steve Huseboe

Elders

As I write this on September 8th, it was in the mid-90s two days ago; today it's 50 degrees and rainy. I'm wearing a sweatshirt and slippers in the house, and my in-laws told Jim this morning that they're considering turning their furnace on. Welcome to Fall 2020!

One of the things I love about Iowa is the change of seasons, and fall is one of my favorites. Apple and pumpkin flavors abound, the leaves turn beautiful colors, and it's invigorating to be outdoors in the crisp air during "sweatshirt" temperatures. It's a time of changes, for sure.

As we experience Fall and all that it brings, there are some changes I look forward to: most especially a cure for the coronavirus bringing an end to our necessary isolationism and finishing repairs and clean-up from the derecho in early August. There are also some changes that concern me, including the outcome of the upcoming elections, the return of students to schools and colleges, and how treasured family time might be negatively impacted by Covid-19 during the holidays.

When I take my eyes and mind off all the good people and blessings in my life, I can become anxious. For me, the solution is to focus on maintaining an attitude of gratitude. Here are a few of my techniques for that:

- If I catch myself complaining (aloud or in my head), I try to re-frame the situation to find the good. For example, this week I was sweeping the porch and the wind was blowing a lot of the debris back where I had just swept. I decided to stop being irritated by the mess and to be grateful for the breeze on a hot day.
- I have learned from being without cable TV and internet for the last month that I'm generally a more positive person without the TV news and commercials in my life. I replaced TV time with walking, cleaning a drawer or closet, and reading both new and old favorite books.
- I decided a couple of weeks ago that every day I would call someone I know just to catch up and stay in touch. Not only has that lifted my spirits, but I believe most people appreciate the call and just knowing that I care.

I'm sure that many of you have other techniques for staying positive and happy in what has been a most challenging year. I invite you to share your ideas with all of us by sending a note for inclusion in the next newsletter to Karen in the church office.

So put on a sweatshirt, take a short walk, sip a pumpkin latte, or call a friend this week. Stay happy and healthy, friends!

Sincerely, Robin Anctil

FEMA Opens a Disaster Recovery Center

A Disaster Recovery Center will open in Marshalltown on **Tuesday, September 15**, to give survivors from the August 10 severe storm options to submit documents for their disaster assistance application. FEMA has adapted to the realities of responding during the COVID-19 pandemic to serve Iowans while protecting their safety and that of FEMA employees.

The DRC will not operate in a traditional fashion. The center will offer drive-through service. Survivors are asked to stay in their vehicles when visiting.

Applicants **do not** have to visit a center to submit documents to FEMA—they can mail, fax or submit them online at DisasterAssistance.gov as well. Information on these options can be found in their FEMA letter. Survivors who have already registered with FEMA and have been asked to provide additional documentation should read their FEMA letter carefully and make sure they have everything they need when they arrive at the DRC.

If you do not understand the letter you received from FEMA, call **800-621-3362** (TTY: **800-462-7585**) between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. Central Time, and ask for assistance.

**The FEMA DRC is located:
Behind the Marshalltown VA Clinic
101 Iowa Ave. W
Marshalltown, IA 50158
(Please enter from W. Berle Rd and proceed south behind the building.)**

DRC hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Central Time Closed Sundays

The DRC will be open for a limited time and is staffed with FEMA personnel who can scan documents and quickly answer questions about disaster assistance programs.

All applicants and FEMA personnel will follow current state and local COVID-19 safety requirements. Applicants must wear face masks and will remain in their cars as they hand their documents to FEMA personnel, who will be wearing face masks (or other appropriate face covering) and protective equipment. FEMA staff will take the documents, scan them and return them to the applicants.

Applicants may register in the following ways:

Go online to DisasterAssistance.gov.

Download the [FEMA Mobile App](#) for smartphones.

- Call **800-621-3362** (TTY: **800-462-7585**) between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. CT, seven days a week. Multilingual operators are available.

If an individual cannot register online or by phone, registration at the DRC will be available.

Documents also may be submitted in any of the following ways:

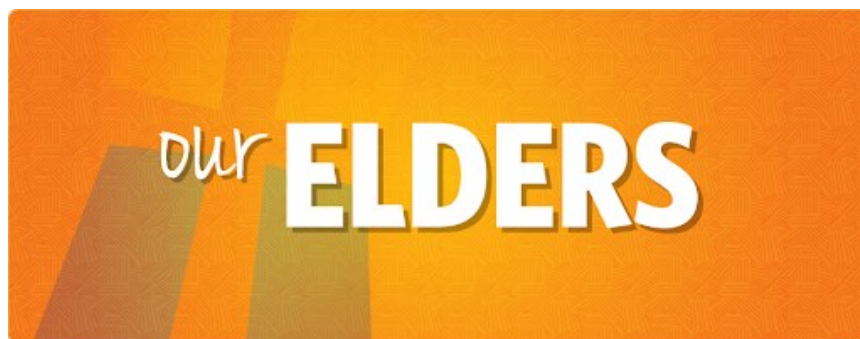
- Mail to: FEMA's Individuals and Households Program, National Processing Service Center, P.O. Box 10055, Hyattsville MD 20782-7055.
- Or fax to 800-827-8112.

Or submit them via a FEMA online account. To set up an online account, visit DisasterAssistance.gov, click on "Check Status" and follow the directions.

For more information on the Iowa disaster and a variety of recovery resources, log on to: iowa.gov/disaster-assistance-programs and www.disasterrecovery.iowa.gov.

FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.

Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has faced discrimination or needs help with accessible communication, call FEMA toll-free at 800-621-3362. Multilingual operators are available.



<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Email</u>
Mary Abens	641-751-9133	mary.abens@emerson.com
Jim Anctil	641-750-0663	jimanctil59@gmail.com
Robin Anctil	641-751-2577	robin.anctil@gmail.com
Ron Benge	641-750-2345	rcbenge@q.com
Jan Bringman	641-753-3025	gnirene@hotmail.com
Beth Campbell	641-751-5292	buffcamel@hotmail.com
Jim Gossett	641-351-5877	jimgossett2@gmail.com
Mary Hazelwood	641-750-0482	mjhaze53@gmail.com
Erin Jacobson	641-750-3654	esjacobson1@gmail.com
Melissa Osgood	641-691-0023	osgoodx3@yahoo.com
Sarah Sade	641-751-9827	
Mark Smith	641-750-9278	msmith1@mchsi.com
Pat Sommerlot	641-330-0512	

Your Elders are keeping in touch with our Homebound members. We can't do in-person visits but we are chatting by telephone. Please keep this list of Elders so that when the Church Office is closed you may contact an Elder with any personal or family urgent matters. Additionally, the Elders will be checking the Church Office voicemail in the evenings and on weekends.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Disciples of Christ

**300 West Main Street
Marshalltown IA 50158**

Phone: 641-753-3129

Email: Chalice@centraldoc.org

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Phone: (641) 753-3129

Website: www.centraldoc.org

Email: Chalice@centraldoc.org

Facebook: Central Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) Marshalltown

Board Chair: Colette Bengé

Elders Chair: Beth Campbell

Deacon Chair: Carolyn Thompson

Organist: Colette Bengé

Choir Director: Valerie Sondag

Office Administrator: Karen Nablo



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