# Central Christian Church Disciples of Christ September 2025



Pastor's Pondering

September 2025

Many of you may know the hymn "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Here is the first verse.

"Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light."

September is a beautiful month of changing colors and cooler temps. The crops are being harvested and God is preparing us for the winter months. Change is happening around us all the time. Sometimes it is difficult to manage change. The song words above express very deeply how we feel sometimes. But read the words carefully, God is there and he has taken your hand. He will not let go, we have his eternal promise. Let Jesus lead you, through the Holy Spirit. Feel His presence. Take a time to sit back in the cooler month of September and refresh yourself. God still has your hand.

Keep your lamp full of oil and ready to be lit, let God be with you and know that he will never let go of your hand.

Blessings and Shalom

Pastor Mike

PS Behold I stand at the door and knock, if anyone will open the door, I will come in to him and eat with him and he with me. Revelation 3:20

# Central Christian Church Board Meeting Tidbits August 20, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Sommerlot, Board chair. 7 members and Pastor Mike were present.

Carolyn Thompson gave the opening prayer.

July minutes were approved and September calendar events were reviewed.

Property- there is a plaster problem in the handbell room. The 2 N. ramp windows have lost their seal.

Personnel –(Beth Campbell -absent.) Jim Gossett reported that Jessica Vasquez has been hired for the custodian position. Board approved her hiring.

Congregational Rep – Carolyn Thompson – there have been some requests to only sing 3 verses on longer hymns. Another suggestion is to only have 3 hymns in the service.

Finance – Pat Sommerlot- no report

Treasurer- Mary Hazelwood – worked on Mike's contract. Bill from Kapaun & Brown for the AC work is \$29,000. Vernon West left the church \$1,000 in his will. There was a discussion to re-establish the Pastoral Relations Committee. An ad hoc PRC committee for the remainder of 2025 is Jim Gossett, Beth Campbell, and Pat Sommerlot.

Deacons- Carolyn Thompson – new way for communion is going well.

Elders- going well

Missions- Judy Osgood – the cart was full of food collected for the Food Box every Sunday in July. Collecting items for the HOC continues through all of August. September mission will be school supplies. Total for the Rummage Sale - \$1,750.10.

DWF - Sarah Sade – absent

Worship Team – no special activities in August. The choirs and Bible study will start on Sept. 3. The Holiday Stroll is in November.

Pastor's report – Studied and prepared 5 Sunday services. Attended: Worship Team, Elders, and Board meetings. Made phone calls and visited with congregants. Made hospital visits. Attended Gatherers. Worked with Music Team. Continued "Moment with God" morning meditation live on FB. Facilitated Grief Group. Prepared for September Bible Study – Revelation.

New Business – Jim Gossett shared cost information for a new computer for the Office Manager. He will recycle the old computers. He ordered an

improved mic for Pastor Mike.

Pastor Mike gave the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Benge, Board Secretary





#### **Church Board and Committee members**

Board Chair: Jeff Sommerlot Vice Board Chair: Jim Gossett Board Secretary: Colette Benge Treasurer: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Property: Jeff Sommerlot, Allen Miller, Steve Huse-

boe, 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





2 Sharon Huseboe

8 Jeff Sommerlot

13 Sharon Swope

18 Melissa Osgood

19 Sherry Eggers

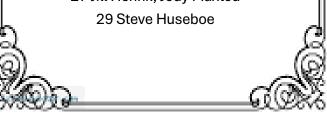
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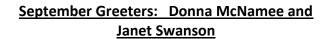
21 Autumn Thompson

22 Peyton Levis, Bev Swearingen

24 Ed Phillips, Wade Muir

27 Jill Herink, Jody Maxted





September Deacon: Rhonda Spence

#### September 7

Elder: Andy Burt

Worship Leader: Andy Burt

Scripture: Jeremiah 18:1-11, Luke 14:25-33

Sermon: "Formed From Clay"

#### Hymns:

#6 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

#588 "Have Thine Own Way, Lord!"

#99CP "Make Me a Servant"

#344 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

#### September 14

Elder: Beth Campbell

Worship Leader: Beth Campbell

Scripture: Psalm 14, Luke 15:1-10

Sermon: "Where Are the Sheep"

#### Hymns:

#86 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

#558 "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

#340 "Softly and Tenderly"

#352 "Spirit Song"

#### September 21

Elder: Mary Jane Hazelwood

Worship Leader: Ruth Pearson

Scripture: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1, Luke 16:1-13

Sermon: "Trouble On the Horizon"

Hymns:

#461 "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

#579 "It's Me, It's Me, O Lord"

#259 "Spirit of the Living God"

#35CP "Shout to the Lord"

#### September 28

Elder: Mary Abens

Worship Leader: Mary Abens

Scripture: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16, Luke 16:19-31

Sermon: "Honest of Dishonest"

Hymn:

#76CP "Wellspring"

#630 "We Shall Overcome" v.(1, 2, 6)

#528 "Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart"

#77 "On Eagles Wings"

# **Elders Meditation**



Elder's Meditation- By Mary Jane Hazelwood

September (..." Try to remember....") isn't like spring. But to me it is very much a time of new beginnings. Since I was raised in a family of teachers (at one time both parents and my sister were all teaching) the beginning of the school year was an eventful time of year. OK, I'm stretching to include the end of August, but indulge me! As a student and then teacher myself, except for a few post college years working at Younkers, I was in school one way or another for over 35 years of my life.

Starting in elementary school, in a former creamery building in Stuart, moving to Murray, Brighton and then Prairie City for high school, the beginning of the school year many times also meant a new home, new friends, new activities and a new church. I remember when I went away to college quickly making friends who still are part of my life.

Our church year is similar. Some of our activities begin anew in September. Bell choir and vocal choir start, Pastor Mike's Bible study resumes, and Lydia Circle joins together for study and trouble making!

For some churches, particularly in Orthodox traditions, September 1st has spiritual significance, marking the Feast of the Indiction and the beginning of the civil and liturgical year, reflecting an agricultural cycle of harvest and preparation for a new cycle of planting and ministry.

In many cultures and Biblical times, September marked the end of the summer harvest and the beginning of preparations for the next agricultural cycle, fostering a sense of a new beginning.

September 1st is a significant date in Orthodox Christianity, known as the Feast of the Indiction and the Day of Creation. It marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical year, representing a new spiritual cycle, and often includes themes of renewal and new beginnings in services and prayers.

The concept of new beginnings is a recurring theme in Christian theology, and September provides a natural point to connect with these themes, encouraging reflection, faith, and a fresh perspective on life, as seen in sermons and blog posts.

During the month of September, the Hebrews entered the promised land. And the custom of beginning a new year with autumn.

As we gather each Sunday, we have the same chance for a new beginning. Communion time is an opportunity to refresh our relationship with God (and remember the sacrifices of Jesus) every week, not just in September or spring. May your new beginning bring peace and blessings!



# PRAYER CONCERNS

<u>Please be in prayer for the following:</u>

Please pray for our members and families. Hold in prayer the following: **David and Linda Halvorsen, Peggy White.** 

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



# **Triple Summer Berry Fluff**

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Triple Summer Berry Fluff Salad, is basically a fluffy fruit salad, with a creamy strawberry b loaded up with plenty of raspberries, strawberries, blueberries and of course marshmallows

Course

Salad

Cuisine

American

Keyword

easy salad recipes, easy side dishes

**Prep Time** 

5 minutes

Refrigerate

4 hours

**Total Time** 

4 hours 5 minutes

Servings

1824

Calories

228kcal

Author

Nicole Cook

# **Ingredients**

- · 2 cups sour cream
- 6 ounces strawberry jello
- 3 cups sliced strawberries
- 2 cups raspberries
- 2 cups blueberries
- 16 ounces whipped topping
- 4 cups mini marshmallows

# Instructions

- 1. In a large bowl, combine the sour cream and strawberry jello together until well blended.
- 2. Gently fold in the fresh berries.
- 3. Add the marshmallows.
- 4. Fold in the whipped cream until well combined.
- 5. Refrigerate at least 4-6 hours (overnight is best!)
- 6. Serve chilled.

# Important Updates-You need to know!

### LIVESTREAMING NOW ON YOUTUBE

We are now livestreaming our Central Christian Church services on YouTube. This has solved several problems we were having with Facebook. We are still providing a link on Facebook with takes you directly to YouTube and the Central Christian Church Marshalltown page. Not only can you see the most recent services but also many from 2021 and 2022. I promise this will be easy for you! We also have a link on the church website.

We had to upgrade the church wifi. Now we no longer have the restriction of running the copier and Sunday morning! It is now plugged in and ready to go at all times! There is a new member wifi user name and password. It is; user name - cccmember

Password - Welcome2u

# Finance Report July 2025

Total Revenues: \$14,162.00 Total Expenditures: \$22,810.00 Net loss for July: (\$8648.00)

Year-to-date Revenues: \$64920.00 Year-to-date Expenditures: \$101,185.00 Net Loss for Year to date: (\$36,265.00)

Concerns:

Building maintenance Air conditioner unit replacement Insurance

Finance Chair- Mary Jane Hazelwood

# Announcements

# Church Attendance

8/3- 34

8/10- 29

8/17- 33

8/24- 34

## Gatherer's

Friday September 12th

5:30pm at Pizza Ranch

Hosted by Jim and Carolyn Thompson

Please let Carolyn or Peggy know by Wednesday September 10th if you would like to be added to the reservation.

# September Mission

Our mission for September will be collecting school supplies for our local schools. A list of most needed supplies will be on the Mission shelves. Let's be generous for our Marshalltown kiddos!

### Successful Sale!

We had another successful sale on August 8 and 9! We had a great group who worked hard to get the sale ready to go. We had so much fun and laughed so hard! Thank you to everyone who helped in any way from donations, to picking up donations, moving tables, putting up curtains in the ramp, pricing, organizing and arranging, donating food and fixing us lunch! Also for working the days of the sale taking money, sacking and/or helping carry out, and keeping the sale items straight and organized and fixing us lunch! Lastly, thank you to the guys who put out the signs and endured the heat and humidity while greeting our shoppers.

Thank you for your help cleaning up after the sale. Items were donated to the Caring Center, 2nd Chance on 3rd and Thrifty Relief. There are still boxes of things to be donated. I'm working on that! (3)

Our deposit for the sale was \$1750.10!!! Well done, good and faithful servants! O

# September 2025

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			1:15 Bible Study 4:00 Wor- ship/Mission Mtg 5:00 Vocal Choir 6:00 Bell Choir	1:30pm Grief Support		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:00 Church Service In-person/online			1:15 Bible Study 5:00 Vocal Choir 6:00 Bell Choir		Gatherer's 5:30pm Pizza Ranch Jim and Carolyn Thompson	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:00 Church Service in-person/online Refreshments		5:30 Group Rebecca	1:15 Bible Study 3:00 Elders Mtg 4:00 Board Mtg 5:00 Vocal Choir 6:00 Bell Choir	1:30pm Grief Support		9:30 Group Lydia Judy O's house
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00 am Church Service in- person/online			1:15 Bible Study 5:00 Vocal Choir 6:00 Bell Choir			
28 10:00am Church Service in-person/ online	29	30				

# **CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



Disciples of Christ

300 West Main Street Marshalltown IA 50158

Phone: (641) 753-3129

Website: www.centraldoc.org Email: Chalice@centraldoc.org

Facebook: Central Christian Church (Disciples of

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 Benge

Choir Director: Valerie Sondag

Office Hours: 9am-1pm, Tue-Fri



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.