



The Call

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
Volume 63, Issue 1 January 9, 2024



On Tuesday, January 16th we will have the opportunity to serve food to those who are in need, once again. If you can help in any way, from donating food items that is needed for the meal, to helping prepare the meal, to transporting the meal to Grace United, to serving the meal, anything that you can help with, we will gladly accept.

There is a sign up sheet on the desk outside of the church office with a list of food needed for the meal and a place to sign up to volunteer for the meal. It is always a joy to help God's children in any capacity that we can and it reaffirms our commitment to God's call upon our lives. We hope to see you on Tuesday, December 19th



It is that time of year again, Where we transform our sanctuary from the Advent Season and ready the space for the coming year. We will be “undecorating” our sanctuary this Sunday, after service and Sunday Bible Study and you are invited to help. If you are available to help us out this Sunday we would greatly appreciate it. It is never easy to put away our Advent decorations, but conversation, laughter, and fellowship always make it a little bit easier.

We look forward to having you be a part of the fellowship and will see you on Sunday.

Congregational Concerns

Michael Olmsted and Family of Nan Olmsted **Helen Gunther** **Howard & Lynda McCoy** **Joyce Mallard**
Richard Lee **John & Patty Thurman** Lisa Lynch Rhonda Stewart Sharon Lowry
Charles Marshall Greg Walton Jim & Elaine Spradlin Kitty Manary Wilma Frazier Gary Wright
Mike & Robin Shirley, Friends of Ray & Sharon Lowry Vicky Claborn Paula Walton Frank & Pat Dodd
Annie Anderson, Daughter of Charlie & Carol Mabry Betty Jo Gardner Patty Soukup Duane & Dana Powell
Rebecca Ebert, Daughter of Ray & Sharon Lowry Gloria Brown and family Steve Vestal Victoria McIlwain
Dan Hicks Jean Hagerman Winnie Young Don Nix Robert & Beth Taylor William Francis
Shirley Potter Evelyn Looney Paul Martin James Willingham Barb Rossetter Karen Hahn
Karen Sunderwirth Diana Criger Zach D., Friend of Jayden W. Tammy Larimore, friend of Carol Pyles
Joyce Prince, sister of Wilma Frazier Barbara Richardson & Leslie Clements, mother & sister of Vicky Claborn
Scott Biggs, son of Marilyn (Starnes) & Rex Biggs *(Please notify the office when a concern can be removed)*

**Livestream our Sunday morning
service—starting at 9:30—at
www.centralchristianspringfield.org.
Connect with us on social media:**



SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube channel at
Central Christian, Springfield, MO



LIKE us on Facebook at
Central Christian Church DOC - Springfield, MO

FINANCIALS & ATTENDANCE

12/31/2023

General Fund
Contributions: \$2,464.40
Attendance: 62
Online service views: N/A*

1/7/2024

General Fund
Contributions: \$9,852.08
Attendance: 75
Online service views: 31*

*As of 1/8/2024

	<u>January 14</u>	<u>January 21</u>	<u>January 28</u>
Elders	Cal Wise Larry Graham	Ray Lowry Marilynn West	Karen Hicks Shirley Musser
Deacon Team Leader	Patsy Tipton	Bill Fischer	Everett French
Invocation and Offering	Ray Lowry	Kay Parrish	Carolyn Deeds
Communion & Fellowship Prep.	Joe & Kay Parrish	Darrell & Linda Zweerink	Joe & Carol Pyles
Usher	Christine Peter	Kay Corder	
Greeter	Jan Peter		

In our Prayers

We embrace in Christian sympathy the family of

Nan Olmsted

who passed away on January 2, 2024

*Services will be held on Thursday, January
11th beginning at 1:00pm at
University Heights Baptist Church,
which is located at
1010 S. National Avenue, 65804.*



Please keep Michael Olmsted and all of Nan's family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through this time of loss and sadness in their lives.

Praise List

It was so nice to see **Pat Chapman** in our sanctuary this past Sunday morning. Pat had knee surgery and took the needed time to recovery and get herself ready to get back to her routine.

We also celebrate with the Spradlin family on the latest news about the health of **Elaine Spradlin**. The spot on her leg is gone and there is no cancer below her diaphragm. This is all good news and the best report "we might have reasonably expected," according to Alyssa.

Thoughts from the congregation

Peace, Perfect Peace

Let There Be Peace on Earth, is the title of a song written by Jill Jackson-Miller and Sy Miller in 1955. It was initially written for and sung by the International Children's Choir. Jackson-Miller, who had been suicidal after the failure of her marriage to screenwriter Felix Jackson, said she wrote the song after what she called the, "Life-saving joy of God's peace and unconditional love." The song begins, "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me."

During the season on the church calendar called Advent a candle on the Advent Wreath is lit each Sunday representing hope, peace, joy, and love. All in preparation for the celebration of the birth of the Christ child, the Prince of Peace. So, with all of Christendom praying for peace, what has happened? Our world is in turmoil. In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus is recorded as telling his disciples, "**See to it that no one misleads you. For many will come in My name saying 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes. But all these things are merely the beginning of birth pangs.**" (Matt. 24:4b-8, NASB)

Now, am I saying we are in the "end times?" Hardly! For that has been done over and over, and over by those more scholarly than I. Then just what am I saying? I'm simply expressing my disgust in we human's failure to live up the call of Christ to, "**If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you.**" (John 14:15 and 15:12, NASB)

Maybe we ought to earnestly take the lyrics of this song to heart and live these words. "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on earth. The peace that was meant to be. With God as our Father Brothers (and Sisters) all are we. Let me walk with my brother (and sister) in perfect harmony."

1 John 2:8-10, "**...I am writing a new commandment to you, which is true in Him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true Light is already shining. The one who says he is in the Light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness until now. The one who loves his brother abides in the Light and there is no cause for stumbling in him.**" (NASB)

As we have now entered the new calendar year many of us will resume our day-to-day routines without another thought to the Advent wreath, its candles and their meanings. Even in church we "move on." We enter the period on the church calendar call epiphany. We're done with Advent for another year. But, quite possibly we should never move beyond Advent. Maybe we should be witnesses to the masses about the Prince of Peace. Maybe we should be a voice calling in today's wilderness. We should be providing our witness to "Good News." Christ, the Prince of Peace, is here. And praying, "Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me."

—————Luther Young

FOR SUNDAY MORNING

Sermon Title and Scriptures

January 14, 2024

Mark 1:4-11 & Acts 19:1-7

"Have You Heard?"

Sermon Title and Scripture

January 21, 2024

Mark 1:14-20

"Immediately"

If you are interested in being a part of our Sunday Morning worship service, there are many places you can help. Even if you are uneasy about reading or speaking in public there are other places where you can help on Sunday Mornings. There are opportunities for everyone, from greeting people as they enter the building, to handing out bulletins as they enter the sanctuary, to preparing communion and helping with the fellowship time. And, of course there is being a worship reader during our service.

If you would like to help, there is a sign up sheet outside the office.

JANUARY 14



JANUARY 21



Celebrations!!!



January

1/1 – John Andrews

1/2 – Geoff French

1/8 – Wanda Jackson,
Gary Morris,
John Thurman

1/11 – Sandra Graham

1/13 – Paul Martin

1/25 – Dan Hicks,
Ryan Musser

1/28 – Kay Parrish

1/29 – John Bermond,
Fred Spence



February

2/1 – John Letterman

2/2 – Elizabeth Aull

2/3 – Don Nix

2/4 – Darrell Copeland,
Amanda Horton,
Grady Musser

2/5 – Gloria Brown,
Gary Wingo

2/9 – Marilynn West

2/10 – Betty Jo Gardner

2/11 – Carl Potter

2/12 – Joe Reichard

2/15 – Nancy Browning

2/16 – Faye Nix

2/22 – Clio Lynch

2/23 – Casey
Vandeventer

2/24 – Sharon Martin,
Donna Williams

2/25 – Patty Thurman

2/27 – Angela Miller

2/28 – David Ferguson,
Patty Soukup

**Central Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

1475 N. Washington Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802

Specially prepared for:

God's Beloved Child



Ministry Team

Bill Fischer, Board Moderator
Rev. Geoff Weinman, Minister
Marvin Murphree, Music Director
Vicky Claborn, Organist/Pianist
Shirley Musser, Visitation Director
Joyce Thomas, Children & Youth Director
Curtis Thomas, JYF/Chi Rho Shepherd
Ken Hillen, Church Caretaker

Office Phone: 417-869-7241

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Website: www.centralchristianspringfield.org

Sunday Mornings

9:30 am Worship,
in person and via our
Livestream

10:45 am Fellowship

**11:00 am Sunday
School**