

Central Christian Church **Banner**



CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN MID-TOWN MEMPHIS

www.ccememphistn.org

January 2014

A Note from Pastor Bill Russell



Do we look back, or do we look forward? Do we remember, or do we anticipate? Do we dwell on what has been, or do we set goals to strive for? This is the New Year conundrum which we all face, individually, as a business, as a family, and yes, even as the body of Christ. To all those who helped to make 2013 a remarkable year in so many ways, I thank God for you. Central Christian, you outdid yourselves, and, a couple of times, I believe you may even have surprised yourselves. The truth is, however, you did not outdo God, nor did you surprise Him. Whatever you did last year was due to His blessing and the talents that He has given to His people. Perhaps the surprises came when you accomplished much more than you anticipated, and that was God's pleasant surprise for you.

But we must not sit and pat ourselves on the back. Now let's look ahead, let's look for new ways to serve. Let's see how we can enhance our worship experience. Can we tweak existing ministries that would make them meaningful to even more folks? What can we do to make our church more inviting so that people would want to be one of us? There are so many possibilities out there, and we must be looking for them.

I sense a genuine feeling of excitement among you, and I know you well enough to believe that that excitement will translate into more meaningful and successful ministry than last year. And that is saying something. God has a mission and a vision for us; all we have to do is listen...and work. Happy New Year to everyone, Bill

Spotlight on Giving

George Goodnight brought us the following message: "We will be addressing our monetary giving on Commitment Sunday in a few weeks but I would like to comment on our spiritual well-being and commitment to each other and to those around us. Positive and loving attitudes are infectious and we must constantly nurture and express those attributes in our individual ways, not only for those around us, but also for ourselves. If you are positive and look for solutions to problems, instead of reciting what is wrong, you will make a difference. A New Year, a new start or a new beginning, gives us the opportunity to nurture old friendships, make new friendships, and to show what we can do, not what we can't. Be open minded about changes. Find something to do differently every day. Challenge yourselves to be more giving and not just write a check and think you are done. A wonderful future is right in front of us if we just reach out and embrace it."

Memorial and Honorarium Gifts

During December we received gifts from Jack and Mary Artman, Shula Shaw-Cangelosi and Sherry Richardson to honor the memories of Dr. Herbert Butts and Dorothy (Dot) Olivi.

We also received gifts from Jim and Ann Forbis to honor Rachel Greer and Marilene Warr to honor Carol Scarberry.

We appreciate your generosity in giving to our Church in honor of friends past and present.

Church Notice Board

Kitchen Notice: Central will be closing down the Fellowship Hall kitchen for cleaning, repairs and painting until the Wednesday night dinner on January 15. There will be no access to the facility during that time.

Serving List: The following is the Serving list up to the end of May 2013. If you are unavailable to carry out your allotted duty please find an alternate and inform the Church secretary.

	Date	Worship Leader	Loaf	Cup
Soup'er Sunday	2-Feb-14	George Goodnight	Linda Johnson	Kathy Young
Valentine's Day	9-Feb-14	John Johnson	Daphne Brown	Debra Goodnight
President's Day	16-Feb-14	John Rainey	Richard Brown	Carol Scarberry
	23-Feb-14	Shula Shaw	George Goodnight	John Bennett
Ash Wed (Mar. 5th)	2-Mar-14	Daphne Brown	Mark Rutledge	Richard Brown
Daylight Savings	9-Mar-14	Mark Rutledge	Kathy Young	George Goodnight
St. Patrick's Day	16-Mar-14	Richard Brown	Linda Johnson	Carol Scarberry
	23-Mar-14	Carol Scarberry	Debra Goodnight	Richard Brown
	30-Mar-14	Debra Goodnight	John Bennett	Daphne Brown
	6-Apr-14	John Bennett	George Goodnight	Linda Johnson
Palm Sun	13-Apr-14	Daphne Brown	Carol Scarberry	John Bennett
Easter	20-Apr-14	Kathy Young	Mark Rutledge	Daphne Brown
	27-Apr-14	John Rainey	Kathy Young	Debra Goodnight
Cinco De Mayo	4-May-14	Mark Rutledge	Richard Brown	Linda Johnson
Mother's Day	11-May-14	John Johnson	John Bennett	Debra Goodnight
	18-May-14	Carol Scarberry	John Johnson	George Goodnight
Memorial Day	25-May-14	Kathy Young	Mark Rutledge	John Johnson

What We Have Achieved in 2013

2013 was an exciting year for Central! God gave us many successes that we want to celebrate and build upon for a very meaningful and spiritual 2014. Here is a list of some of our accomplishments:

- Celebrated our 90th Anniversary with 175 of our members, former members & friends
- Made upgrades & repairs to our church facility; refurbished the Eula Woodall Parlor and the Jo Kate Mitchell Library
- Completed Penny's Chapel Garden, painted the Sanctuary inside walls & doors, upgraded landscaping
- Welcomed a new church start within our walls-St. Francis Old Catholic Church
- Maintained a free clothes closet, helping approximately 200 people in 2013
- Held 4 food pantry drives for Grace St. Luke's food pantry, donating 4 car loads of food
- Installed new signage, both inside and out, including exterior Advent Candles and Lenten Cross
- Held our 1st ever community indoor Easter Egg Hunt and Trunk or Treat.
- Completed a very successful Summer Sale with profit of over \$4,300, assisting about 250 people
- Held An Autumn Evening in Central Gardens with a profit of approximately \$12,500.
- Enjoyed an interesting & informative Lenten Series during the Wednesday Night dinner programs entitled "What Our Neighbors Believe"
- Collected Easter clothes for Church Women United & cold/flu medicines for the Compassion Clinic and Rachel's Kids
- Completed a Wedding Brochure to advertise Central as a beautiful location for weddings
- Complete a Community Resources booklet to assist with providing resources to those in need
- Continued several months of the new program in the Sanctuary, 'Coffee with the Parson'
- Celebrated the 1st year anniversary of Bill Russell's leadership as our Minister
- Held a baby dedication for Minor Salazar
- Housed the Beethoven Club's Young Artists Competition and the Adams Avenue Camerata
- Welcomed 2 new members into our church family
- Completed our Church Mission Statement
- Held a joint Thanksgiving Service and Christmas Service with St. Francis Old Catholic Church
- Provided 13 Thanksgiving Baskets to deserving families
- Hosted Presbyterian Ladies Bible Study.
- Continued to host 12 Step Groups
- Completed a Capital Campaign to pay off the Roof Repairs

Debra Goodnight
Board Chair
2013



Building from the Board

Highlights from the December 19, 2013 General Board Meeting are listed as follows:

Financials:

	<u>November 30, 2013</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Total Income	\$ 5,995	\$ 96,616
Total Expenses	\$ 6,417	\$102,934
Net Income/Expenses	(\$ 422)	(\$ 6,318)

General Maintenance: included small repairs to the faucet in the ladies' restroom and sanctuary. Lights were replaced as needed throughout the church.

Kudos were given to John Rainey for his outstanding efforts to reduce heating costs.

Plans are for the deacons to re-stripe the parking lot in 2014.

Other Business: Wesley Goodnight has been re-elected as Chairman of the Diaconate for 2014.

The DWM collected and delivered gift bags to the women at Carat Place, gifts to the shut-ins, and cold medicine for Rachel's Kids during the month of December.

Kitchen Closing: The kitchen will be closed January 1-15, 2014 for pest control, deep cleaning and general improvements to the kitchen.

An "Un-decorating Party" is scheduled for Saturday, January 4, 2014 at 9:00 AM to remove, pack and store all Christmas decorations.

A 2014 Planning meeting will be scheduled in January to set goals and objectives for the year.

Respectfully submitted,

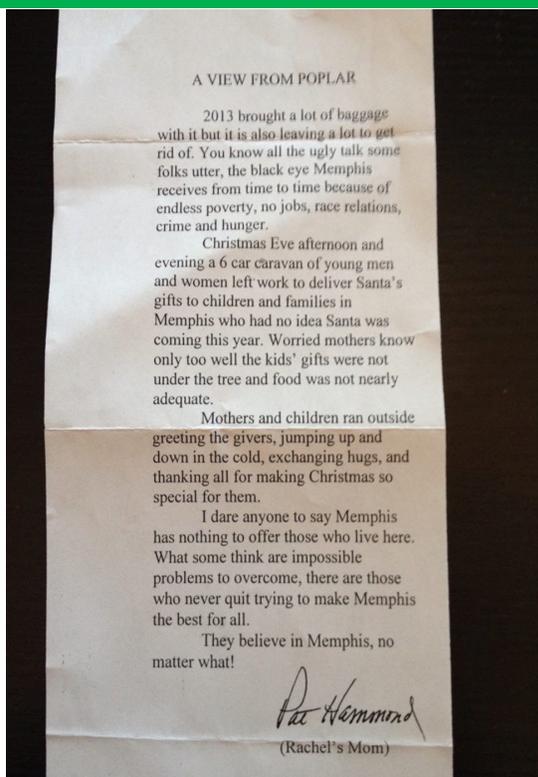
Linda Johnson, Board Secretary

Rachel's Kids

Here is a copy of a letter that Pat Hammond sent out to all her customers and suppliers.

It describes how Rachel and Pat, together with their helpers, distributed food, gifts and other comforts to people in the Binghampton and adjoining areas.

The positive comments, about Memphis, speak for them-



D.W.M.



Pictured are the outgoing Chair of the D.W.M., Mary Artman (right) handing over to the 2014 Chair, Linda Johnson (left)

That Was the Year That Was

January



The Commercial Appeal Newspaper published a list of the twelve people who made the biggest contribution in the past year, of their time and energy, to make the City of Memphis a better place. We were so pleased to see our own Rachel Greer among those honored, for her work with Rachel's Kids.

February



A severe storm came through on the night of January 29th and tore down the guttering on the west side of the old church building. Mark Rutledge was able to effect a temporary repair using the string that Bill Russell used in a Sunday's message: "The string that binds us together". Bill did not mean us to take his message quite so literally.

March



On Sunday, February 17th, we had the joy of Dedicating Minor Salazar to Christ. Pictured are the proud parents, John and Kelly with Bill Russell. Betty Lou Jones, Minor's Great Grandmother, was among those who pledged to assist in Minors development in the Christian faith.

April



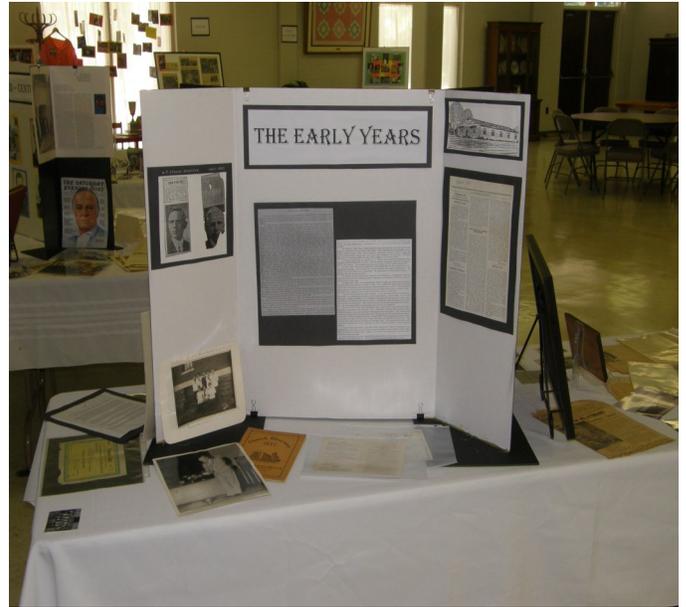
Bill Russell invited a number of guest ministers to lead us in series of discussions based on the book "What Our Neighbors Believe". Pictured is Delesslyn Kennebrew, a Pastor from Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church.

May



The Chapel Garden was Dedicated after the morning service on May 5th. Grateful thanks were given to all who contributed their time and money to this project enabling the completion in time for our 90th Anniversary Celebration.

June



Some of the many Documents and Artifacts, from our Church History, on display in our Fellowship Hall following the celebration of our 90th Anniversary.

July



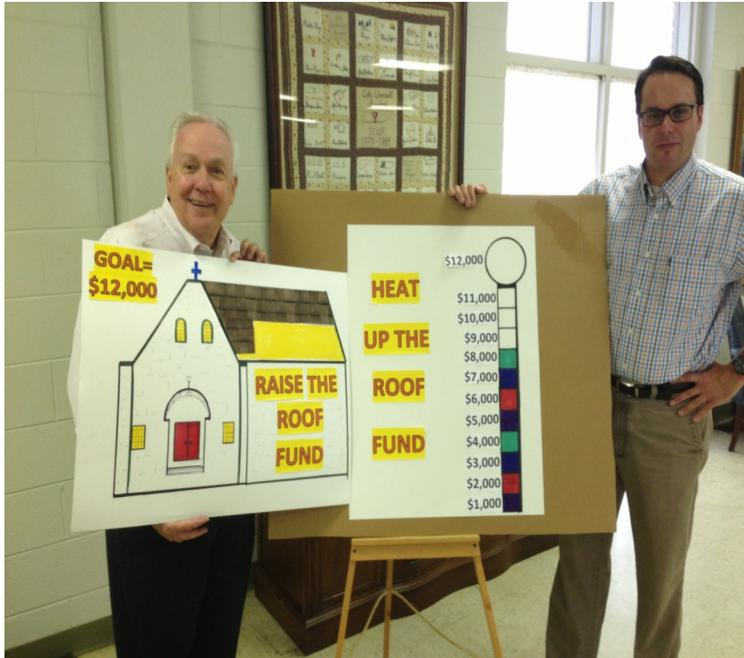
Our July edition carried a report on yet another successful Annual Summer Sale which went off without a hitch thanks to a lot of hard work from so many folks. The first day made about \$3,000 and with the profit from the ½ price a total of over \$4000 was raised. The remainder of the clothes were saved for our Free Clothes Closet and other items were given to Her Faith Ministries.

August



Over 50 patrons visited our clothes closet on July 27 and a huge amount of free goods were given out along with free coffee, sausage biscuits and smiles. Our workers were John Rainey, Quay Butts, Christine Shelton, Mary Artman, Marcus Mitchell, Carol Scarberry, Debra Goodnight and John Bennett.

September



Our Capital Campaign, to pay off the balance of the cost of replacing the roof, got off to a good start. We still had a way to go but within two months we were able to clear the debt incurred for the essential repairs to the fabric of the building. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed, or pledged, a gift toward this campaign.

October



During September we collected food for the Grace Saint Luke's Church food Pantry. The picture is of just some of the food collected. A big thank you went out to those organizations who share our church building, in particular to the African Violets Society for their kind contribution.

November



The Autumn evening was a resounding success as we raised in excess of \$13,500. We had over 200 people attend the event and a great time was had by all. A particular shout out was given to Carol Scarberry without whose superhuman efforts, to obtain silent auction items, this event could not have happened.

December



To end a great year in the life of our Church we had the privilege of welcoming Noah Proderer into our church family. Not only did he commit to membership but on December 22nd he was baptized. It is through the commitment of young people like Noah that we hope to secure the future of "The Church that Love Built"

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF MINISTRY

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This Month at Central

Wednesday 1st

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 5th

9:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service
12:00 noon Fellowship

Worship Leader: George Goodnight
Loaf: Carol Scarberry
Cup: John Johnson

Wednesday 8th

No dinner or Program

Sunday 12th

9:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service
12:00 noon DWM Luncheon

Worship Leader: Shula Shaw
Loaf: Kathy young
Cup: Daphne Brown

Wednesday 15th

6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Bible Study

Dinner Prepared by: Daphne Brown &
Pat Hammond
Bible Study: Bill Russell

Sunday 19th

9:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service
12:00 noon Fellowship

Worship Leader: John Bennett
Loaf: Debra Goodnight
Cup: Richard Brown

Wednesday 22nd

6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Bible Study

Dinner Prepared by: Debra Goodnight
Bible Study: Bill Russell

Sunday 26th

9:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: Katrinka Hall
Loaf: John Johnson
Cup: Mark Rutledge

Wednesday 29th

6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Bible Study

Dinner Prepared by: Carol Scarberry
Bible Study: Bill Russell

January Diary Reminders

16th
Meetings of Elders and General
Board

Birthdays

18th
Terry Harris

Future Dates for your Diary

February 2nd
Soup'er Sunday



February 14th
Valentine's Day



February 17th
President's Day

