



Banner

Shining the Light of Christ in Midtown Memphis



A Message From The Pastor

July, 2012



Bill Russell

I want each of you to know how truly humbled I am to be called to serve with you at Central. I am sure that most of you are aware of my life-long connection with the church, and this

really is a home-coming experience for me. You have made me feel so welcome, and have shown me so many kindnesses, that I do not have the words to adequately say 'Thank you'. Suffice to say that you have made me feel very much at home, very welcome, and I eagerly anticipate serving and ministering with you.

My goal is to visit in each member's home by the end of October. I want to get to know each of you, know a little bit about your story, and hear your hopes and aspirations for Central Christian Church. AND, I want you to get a better feel about who I am and what I am about. So when I call you to set up an

appointment for our 30 minute get-together, write down some things for us to discuss.

This is an exciting, pivotal time in the continuing, dynamic story of Central Christian Church. There is a glorious past to build on, there is an exciting present to enjoy, and there is a wondrous future to anticipate. Let us all be in prayer that we will hear God's voice and discern His will as He directs us, His people, in the direction He would have us go. I look forward to being a part of the next chapter in your story as His people at the corner of Peabody and McLean.

Joyfully,

Bill

Please contact George Goodnight if you would like to receive the Banner by e-mail. Please call George at 497-4385 or e-mail him at wesalsdadd@hotmail.com.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

We welcomed our new minister, Bill Russell, June 17 and were blessed to have his daughter, Ashley, adding to our music for the day.

Gloria Jeffery enjoyed a visit from her son, Jim, and grandchildren, Haley and Wyatt, in early June.

The Artman family traveled to Gulf Shores for a week on the beach, while Amy Lindeman and her family were on the beach in Florida.

John and Linda Johnson were in New York City for John's daughter's wedding.

We extend our sympathy to Chris Bethany on the death of her sister, Elaine Goldsby, and to Connie Bennett, whose aunt died recently.

George Goodnight is nursing a knee injury and John Bennett is recuperating from pace-maker surgery. Shula Shaw is now home after surgery at Methodist University Hospital.

We are happy to welcome Chantey Nelms back with us.

Recent visitors have been Scott, Denise and Christopher Price, Virginia Harding and Loretta Gheston.



Carol Scarberry gave this heartfelt offertory on Father's Day.....



"I grew up in a large family, the youngest of 8 children. My Daddy was 50 years old when I was born and I don't have memories of him playing games with me but I do have memories of his values. He was a good and generous Christian man. I remember once when a neighbor was ill and my father along with the children and others in the community worked his crops for him. He would say, 'You don't give to expect something in return, but God will bless you.' He grew vegetables and took them to the Scott Street vegetable market to sell in the summer. When he returned, Mama would ask him if he sold everything and his answer was "Most everything and what I didn't sell I took to the orphanage." As I look back, I suspect he intentionally saved some back for the orphanage. He was also generous to our church and once gave a hefty pledge for a new church organ. When my mother questioned him, his reply was, 'Have Faith, God will take care of us.' We hope Central has the faith of this Christian farmer. If we do, God will take care of us!"

BUILDING from the BOARD

Highlights from the June 21st General Board meeting are as follows:

- Income was over \$9000 from the month of May. Expenses were less than \$9000. Net Income/Expense was \$354.
- We will begin our first \$1000 installment payment on the air conditioning unit in the Fellowship Hall.
- Five windows have been replaced.
- Dorian Lyons has been hired as a temporary part-time maintenance man to work during John Bennett's recuperation.

- The Board approved a recommendation to purchase an electronic piano that has an orchestral sound and does everything from ringing bells to changing octaves.
- Sherry Richardson will fill in as church secretary the week of July 2nd while Patty Quinn is on vacation.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Johnson,
Board Secretary

Installation Service-Sunday, July 15th

Glen Stewart, Regional Minister, will lead the Installation Service for Bill Russell during the church service on Sunday, July 15. We want all church members and friends to be present at this meaningful and important service. There will be a reception afterward. Please plan to attend!

Wednesday Night Dinner on July 25th

Central will have our famous vegetable dinner on Wednesday, July 25. There will be surprise musical entertainment. Make plans now to attend dinner with your church family on the last Wednesday in July at 6:30 p.m. Please see Debra Goodnight if you would like to help host the meal.



I will be out of the office from Monday, July 2 to Thursday, July 5 on vacation. The office is closed on July 4th due to the holiday.

The office will be staffed by Sherry Richardson on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Please do not hesitate to call if you need help from the office.

Disciples Women's Ministries

The Disciple Women will meet Sunday, July, 8, after worship and the program will be brought by Judy Childress with the Ovarian Cancer Foundation. The DWM invite the entire church to stay for a Pot Luck Dinner and this informative program.

Father's Day Celebration

Mary Artman and Quay Butts led the Father's Day Celebration at church and thanked all the fathers for their giving spirit in all the work and leadership they give to their families. Then they asked each man to continue in the giving spirit by donation to Tools for Hope through Church World Service. Sixty-eight dollars was collected and will be sent to help people build a better life for themselves and their community.



August 2, 2012 is another voting day. This election is going to be very important to the people of Memphis, therefore the turnout will probably be high. Ladies of Central we must bring out our best bake sale items. As you know we have a reputation to uphold. The neighborhood thinks highly of your bake goods and we should exceed their expectations. Don't let August 2 slip up on us. Get to baking!!!

JULY 4TH BIRTHDAYS

You will want to reach out to our two July 4th birthday boys-- Georges Smith and Mark Rutledge and wish them a Happy 4th of July and Birthday! Of course to wish Mark Happy Birthday, you'll have to call him in Hawaii!

FOOD PANTRY

During the month of July we will once again receive donations for the Food Pantry at Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Items that cannot be obtained at the Food Bank are especially needed as well as cash donations. See list below for some of their needs.

We Need The Following:

- Tuna
- Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Canned chicken
- Canned meat products
- Tooth paste and brushes
- Travel-size Shampoo
- Travel- size Bath soap

Clothes Closet at Central

The Disciple Women are starting a new project that they hope will meet the needs of our nearby neighbors who are less fortunate. The DWM will be keeping the men's, women's and children's clothes from our Summer Sale to start a Clothes Closet to be housed in Walker Hall. Tentative plans are to have it open one weekend a month for people to get free good used clothes. The New Beginnings program emphasizes that Central should focus on what we do well and execute mission projects around our skills and we certainly do our Summer sale well! More to come on this new mission for Central.

SUMMER SALE IS HUGE SUCCESS

The Summer Sale was the most successful in Central's history with a total at Banner printing time of over \$4300 and the 1/2 price sale profit still to come. A huge thank you to everyone who helped, donated, picked up, prepared food and prayed for the success of the sale. Please come to help during the 1/2 price sale on Saturday, June 30 from 8:00 to 12:00 and for the clean-up afterwards.



So much to buy, so little time.



Inside and out, people shopped and loaded up on many bargains.



The sale would not be possible without everyone who participated.



Let's not forget the "Lunch Ladies". Jan Pricer, Katrinka Hall and Linda Johnson sold hotdogs and cokes to keep the customers full and shopping!



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

These have been exciting times in the history of Central Christian Church. During May and June, our Board and congregation voted unanimously to call Bill Russell as our new Minister.

He, in turn, had felt and has expressed a strong calling to be our minister. On Sunday, June 24, he further demonstrated this commitment by also becoming the newest member of our church.

Now that our mutual calling as church and minister has been established, we must continue to attempt to discern God's call of Central Christian Church. We have, since early this year, been pursuing the New Beginnings program of the Board of Church Extension, Disciples of Christ. We are now in the process of preparing for small group meetings, to be held beginning this summer.

In his book, *If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*, John Ortberg speaks of a "calling" as applied to an individual: We are here for a purpose. It is usually not that easy to discover and requires us to be honest with ourselves about our gifts and our limitations. We do not choose - we are called. Where God calls, He provides gifts to us to accomplish the calling. A calling is something we do for its own sake rather than for the rewards it may bring us. It is therefore different from a career. Pilate had a career, Jesus had a calling.

As we begin this new phase of our existence, let us all prepare to discern God's calling for the future of our church.

Respectfully,
John R. Johnson, III
Chairman
General Board 2012



The entire congregation unanimously voted to call Bill Russell as our new Minister on Sunday, June 10 and welcomed him to the pulpit on June 17. It was a great thrill for him to unite with Central in Membership on Sunday, June 24th. Please help the church in welcoming Bill as our Minister.

As you know, he has served on seven church staffs for over 40 years as Minister of Music, Youth Director and Evangelism Director. He graduated from Memphis Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in 1992 and has taught Sunday school for 35 years. Probably, most importantly, he is the husband of Ann, father of Amy Lindeman and Grandfather of Little Henry and Russell!



The semi-annual meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, July 22, 2012, immediately following the service.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

531 S. McLean at Peabody
 Memphis, TN 38104-5102
 Address Service Requested



OFFICE: 901-276-2708
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This Month At Central

Regular Sunday Schedule
 9:30 am Adult Bible Study
 10:45 am Worship
 12:00 noon Fellowship

<p>Sunday, July 1 Regular Sunday Schedule Wednesday, July 4 (Office Closed)</p>	<p>Serving July 1 Worship Leader Jack Artman Loaf George Goodnight Cup Carol Scarberry</p>	
<p>Sunday, July 8 Regular Sunday Schedule</p>	<p>Serving July 8 Worship Leader John Bennett Loaf Carol Scarberry Cup Debra Goodnight</p>	
<p>Sunday, July 15 Regular Sunday Schedule</p>	<p>Serving, July 15 Worship Leader Daphne Brown Loaf Debra Goodnight Cup Richard Brown</p>	
<p>Sunday, July 22 Regular Sunday Schedule</p>	<p>Serving, July 22 Worship Leader Micki Artman Loaf Daphne Brown Cup Jack Artman</p>	
<p>Sunday, July 29 Regular Sunday Schedule</p>	<p>Serving, July 29 Worship Leader Debra Goodnight Loaf Kathy Young Cup George Goodnight</p>	

HAPPY 4th OF JULY