CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN MID-TOWN MEMPHIS

**banner** 

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### September 2013

### A Note from Pastor Bill Russell



Central

Christian

Church

## Roof Capital Campaign

As you can see our Capital Campaign is off to a good start. In fact at the time of writing this the total collected now exceeds \$9000. We still have a way to go but we are on target to clear the debt, incurred for the essential repairs to the fabric of the building. A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed, or pledged, a gift toward this campaign. We have inherited an amazing building, which is proving a great asset to the community, and it is right that we should maintain it so as to pass this facility on to generations to come. Well, friends, we made it through another summer, and as best I can tell, vou didn't miss a beat. Clothes Closet, Summer Sale, food pantry, sponsorship of Gordon Elementary School supplies none of the things we do for others ever took a vacation, and that speaks so well for you. Now we look forward into the fall and see what God has in store for us. Put Wednesday evening, Sept. 11th, on your calendar. We have been invited to join with Kingsway that evening for dinner and a very special Sept. 11 memorial service. The meal will be at 6:30 and the service will be immediately afterward. We will have several cars leaving Central promptly at 6:00 that evening, so if you want to ride out there with me or someone else, just be at Central at 6:00 and we will get you there and back home. We will return to our usual fall schedule on the following Wednesday, Sept. 18, with dinner at 6:30 and the program immediately afterward. . I look forward to our time together mid-week, and I hope more of you will include it on your weekly schedule this fall. I look forward to seeing your smiling faces Sunday mornings.

### Spotlight on Giving

Here is an abridged version of an offertory thought that John Bennett shared with us recently:

I have been contemplating ways of financing the needs of our Church and it occurs to me that with Memphis International Airport looking for more budget carriers we should consider starting a low price airline. So if you are traveling soon, consider Disciples Air, the no-frills airline. Join me, if you will, on a flight of fantasy with Disciples Air, where flying is an uplifting experience. Imagine, if you will, that you are booked on one of our flights and are waiting for take-off. You should know that there is no First Class on any Disciples Air flight. Meals are potluck. Rows 1-6, bring rolls, 7-15 bring a salad, 16-21 a main dish, and 22-30 a dessert.

Everyone is responsible for his or her own baggage. All fares are by freewill offering and the plane will not land until the budget is met. In the event of a water landing, I'd say forget it. Start saying the Lord's Prayer and just hope you get to the part about forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, which some people say "trespass against us," which isn't right, but what can you do?

We're going to start lunch right about noon and it's buffet style so right now I'll say Grace... "Come Lord Jesus be our guest and let these gifts to us be blest. Father, Son and Holy Ghost, may we land in Las Vegas or somewhere pretty close. Amen."

Seriously let us pray "We are all on the same flight together so Lord help us to meet our budget so that we can, together, all be cleared for that final approach" Amen

John Bennett thanks an anonymous contributor to the internet for the idea behind this thought.

## IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THE BANNER BY E-MAIL CONTACT

#### **GEORGE GOODNIGHT AT**

901-497-4385 or by e-mail at: wesalsdadd@hotmail.com.

All contributions for The Banner must be with the Editor and Church Secretary, John Bennett, by the last Wednesday of the Month.

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### **Our Visitors**

August was a great month for the number of visitors to our Church, in fact on one Sunday they made up a quarter of our congregation. Most visitors were local but we had some out of State visitors including one from Georgia. We believe we welcoming to our visitors and we hope they feel encouraged to come and worship with us again. If you were a visitor, and read this, please come back and bless us with your pres-



The Rev. Ryan Starr

# An invitation from Kingsway Christian Church

On September 11th we will be hosting a meal and service of remembrance at Kingsway. Central Christian Church is invited to join us as we share food, prayers, silence, scripture, and worship with Kingsway's beautiful Chancel choir in Schaeffer Chapel. Please join us for dinner at 6:00pm and service at 6:45pm.

Rev. Ryan A. Starr Senior Minister

# Autumn Evening in Central Gardens-October 12

Our Church wide fundraiser is coming up and we need your help.

Silent Auction Items- You can solicit gifts from Merchants you use, offer services of your own, or donate new gifts.

Tasteful Treasures- Please donate items like silver, glassware, jewelry, etc.

Bake Sale- Begin your baking so that we have a huge selection.

Invite your family and friends to attend. Complimentary tickets are available and tickets in advance are \$12.00 and \$15.00 at the door so be sure to purchase tickets early.

Let the Food Chairman (Micki Artman and Quay Butts) know what you are contributing to the food table.

Offer your help for all the advance work.

We will use nice paper shopping bags for the items in the Tasteful Treasures so please bring those to church. (Like a Macy's shopping bag with handles.)

Thank you for your support! We are looking forward to a very successful event!



### BUILDING FROM THE BOARD

A meeting of the Board was held on August 15th with twelve members present.

<u>Minutes of the Last Meeting</u>: The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved subject to a small amendment to the presentation of the accounts.

<u>Calendar Events:</u> The date of the annual Autumn Evening was given as October 12<sup>th</sup>. Mark Rutledge announced that The Adams Avenue Camerata will be performing at the Church on September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm and part of the proceeds will be donated to the Church. Bill Russell announced that Kingsway Christian Church would be having a Service of Remembrance on September 11<sup>th</sup>, preceded by a Dinner. As the dinner was free to our congregation, Bill Russell will need to know numbers and car-pooling is being arranged. Following the Wednesday Night Dinners on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October we will have working evenings in preparation for the Autumn Event and a schedule for work parties, on the Saturdays leading up to the event, will be prepared.

<u>Minister's Report:</u> Bill Russell congratulated the Church, on the assistance given to the Saint Francis Old Catholics, in their recent fund raiser. He stated that the Saint Francis congregation continues to be amazed at what we do for them. He referred to a draft letter presented to the meeting, which he intended sending to local Church's, proposing a joint service at Thanksgiving and offering our Church as a venue for this year's service. The Board wholeheartedly supported this event and the draft was approved.

Treasurer's Report: The accounts were approved as read.

Discussion also took place regarding the people who use our Church facility. Richard Brown suggested that a visual aid, regarding our progress toward achieving our capital campaign be prominently displayed so that users of the facility may be encouraged to contribute. The motion was carried.

A further discussion took place regarding the capital campaign, the amount raised so far, letters and emails that had been sent and the creation of a "thermostat" visual aid showing our achievement at any given time.

<u>Elder's Report:</u> Pat Hammond gave the Elders report and referred to changes in the church service to bless the offering. This addition was implemented on August 25th.

<u>Buildings and Grounds:</u> Mark Rutledge reported on various new opportunities for groups to use our facilities, particularly Weight Watchers. It was agreed that Mark pursue these contacts and, in particular, the Board approved the use by Weight Watchers of the Fellowship Hall subject to Mark finalizing terms. Richard Brown suggested that all users of the Church facilities should provide evidence of insurance against loss of equipment etc. as well as usual third party liability risks.

<u>New Business</u>: The Regional Office has encouraged outreach groups to participate in Loving Hands Day. Debra provided the information to the Outreach Committee for their review.

A report was given on those who are sick including Peter Russell, Chris Bethany and Georges and Sarah Jane Smith, Jack Artman and Marcus Mitchell, and it was requested that they be remembered in our prayers.

<u>Closing</u>: Debra Goodnight\_thanked everyone for a good meeting and George Goodnight concluded the meeting with prayer.

John Bennett

Acting as Board Secretary

### Celebrate with Rachel's Kids!

The Tennessee Disciple Women's Ministry announced on Friday, August 23, that Rachel's Kids was selected as the Mission organization that the Tennessee Western Area Disciple Women will support for 2014 & 2015. This is exciting news and will greatly benefit the families in Binghampton.

# Saint Francis Old Catholic Church

During August we hosted the Saint Francis Old Catholics for a fundraising dinner New Orleans style. The Fellowship Hall was decorated New Orleans style and cooks, drawn from both our Churches, prepared a Cajun Gumbo. The ticket included wine and a raffle and great time was had by the 40, or so, people who attended.

#### August, at Central Christian, in Pictures



Mary Artman and Linda Strong. Linda was the Guest speaker our DWM luncheon



Kathy Young brought the message while Bill Russell was on holiday

# Hymn of the Month

Our hymn of the month is #470 "When the Church of Jesus". The first verse is particularly appropriate to our church as we are situated on, what can be, a noisy street. It runs "When the church of Jesus shuts its outer door, lest the roar of traffic drown the voice of prayer, may our prayers, Lord, make us ten times more aware that the world we banish is our Christian care". Put on your listening ears and get ready to learn a new song!

Harmoniously yours, Amy

### More about our Visitors !



You may recall that two years ago we had a visit from John Bennett's brother Richard and his sister Maggie. While they were here they, of course, visited Gracelands. Well the visit seems to have had an effect on Richard. The picture shows him at his 70th birthday party in August.

Recently, Floyd and Carol Scarberry introduced us to their family members, Steven and Laura Beth Albang

## Spotlight on Georges Smith

Georges was born in Magnolia, Iowa on July 4th, 1921 into a farming community of about 1,000 people. He says that farmers would bring their eggs and cream to the city to trade for credit for groceries and the local crops were corn, oats and alfalfa hay. He was the oldest son with a twin brother/sister and another brother. His parents separated and he went to California Junction, IOWA to live with his grandparents. After a period in Gary, Indiana he then moved to Hobart, Indiana to live with his mother and her new husband.

He continued his nomadic ways by hitchhiking to California where he lived with his father and graduated from Bell High School in Bell, CA. While in California he started learning to box. His trainer told him that he could not fight unless he could win and he became the Light Heavyweight Champion of Southern California.

In 1938 he moved back to Hobart, Indiana and worked for the Inland Steel Company where he saved a coworkers life by rescuing him from the furnace area.

Georges always wanted to fly so in August, 1940 he joined the Army. Wright-Patterson AF Base in Fairfield, Ohio was home until Pearl Harbor was bombed. He was made a Sergeant Major of his service group and was one of the original 'Flying Sergeants' and retired from the Army Air Corps as a Flight Officer. Georges got his nickname of 'Buzz Smith' because he received the all-time high fixed based gunnery score at Eglin Field in Florida and was allowed fly by himself and 'buzzed' the field.

After the war Georges worked for several companies and his son, Georges Jr., was born in 1950 in Shreveport, LA. He now had a grandson and great-grandson named after. Georges got back into flying by becoming a crop duster and even worked for the State Department and went to far-off lands such as Pakistan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Thailand, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, and Sudan where he trained locals to crop dust.

He came back to the Mid-South for a job crop dusting in Clarksdale, MS and told his friend he wanted to meet a 'nice girl.' His friend knew this really nice widow named Sarah Jane and the rest is history. They were married in 1961 in the old McLemore Christian Church by Charles Woodall and began singing in the choir for Rose Gillespie. They joined Central in the 1960's and were instrumental in bringing Rose Gillespie to Central as our Choir Director.

He had a second career with the Bureau of Business Practices -Division of Prentiss Hall in publishing and then Liberty Chrysler Plymouth as a car salesman and Business Manager. Georges was a great supporter of the Liberty Bowl and served on the Board of Directors for many years, becoming the Secretary / Treasurer. He went through Lay Ministry School with Kathy Young and the late Eula Woodall and Walter Hubbard.

He and Sarah Jane are long time residents at the Edinborough where he enjoys sports on TV-especially the Memphis Tigers and golf. Stop by and see them sometime and tell him you enjoyed his bio!



## Wednesday Night Family Dinners Return



The Wednesday Night Family Dinners will resume on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and Linda Johnson and Daphne will co-host the annual Italian Dinner. Please plan to join us for an authentic Italian cuisine. You will not want to miss "Little Italy at Central."

After the Dinners on 2nd and 9th of October we will have "work parties" in preparation for our Autumn Evening event

## Attention All Cooks!!!!

Sunday, September 9, 2013, is the very last day to get your recipes to Linda Johnson to be included in the Cookbook commemorating our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Please, please get them to us! We have so many wonderful cooks and you will want to be a part of this very exciting project. We are accepting recipes from members past, present and future, and friends of Central.



## Vegetable dinner

On August 21st we had a fabulous vegetarian dinner followed by an evening of entertainment including games and numerous door prizes. As you can see, from the picture, the food table was highly colorful and held a cornucopia of fantastic and tasty dishes.



#### Central Christian Church Celebrating 90 Years of Ministry in Midtown Memphis

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#### This Month at Central

Sunday 1st 9:45 am Bible Class 10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex 10:45 am Worship Service 12:00 noon Fellowship

Wednesday 4th,

Sunday 8th 9:45 am Bible Class 10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex 10:45 am Worship Service 12:00 noon Fellowship

Wednesday 14th,

Sunday 15th 9:45 am Bible Class 10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex 10:45 am Worship Service 12:00 noon Fellowship

Wednesday 18th,

Thursday 19th 6:30 pm Elders and Deacons Meeting 7:00 pm Board Meeting

Sunday 22nd 9:45 am Bible Class 10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex 10:45 am Worship Service 12:00 noon Fellowship

Wednesday 25th,

Sunday 29th 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: John Johnson Cup: Kathy Young

Worship Leader: John Johnson Loaf: Daphne Brown Cup: Debra Goodnight

Worship Leader: John Rainey Loaf: Richard Brown Cup: Carol Scarberry

Worship Leader: Katrinka Hall Loaf: George Goodnight Cup: Kathy Young

Worship Leader: Daphne Brown Loaf: Mark Rutledge Cup: Richard Brown September Diary Reminders

<u>Events</u> 11th Kingsway Christian Church 6:45 pm Service of Remembrance

> <u>Birthdays</u> 3rd Christine Bethany

> > 8th Clara Holton

13th Jack Artman

13th John Johnson

14th Katrinka Hall

27th Allen Goodnight

28th Haley Stephenson