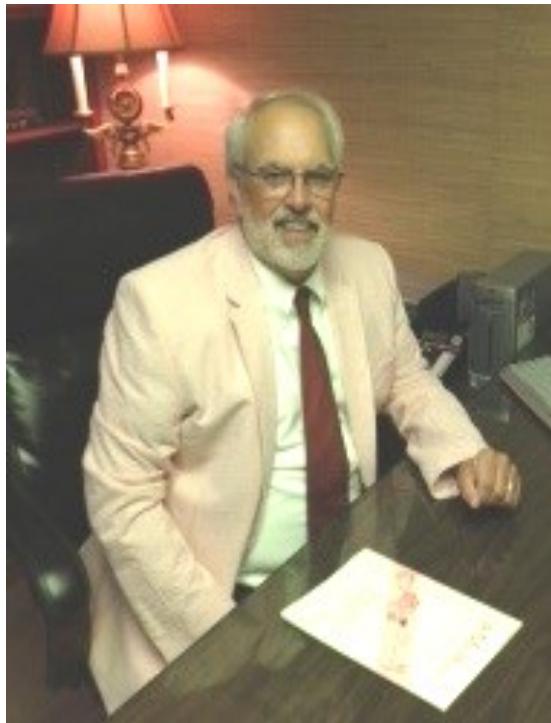




Banner

July 2015

A Note from our Pastor, Bill Russell



I have great difficulty telling my friends, clergy and folks from other churches, about how hard the people of Central work. I do NOT have any difficulty telling people why you work so hard. The scripture tells us that our treasure is where our heart is, and treasure is not just money. Treasure includes time, and that is probably our most precious commodity, simply because it cannot be replaced. I would not even guess at the number of man/woman hours that went into the Summer Sale. I do know that those hours were given by so many people because of their love for Christ, their love for Central Christian Church, and their desire to see this body of Christ flourish and continue to reach into the community in mission and in service. God continues to pour out His blessings upon our efforts because of your passion and true desire to be His people. There is an old Hymn, "We'll Work 'Til Jesus Comes". That is a great statement and describes our congregation. Let us continue to seek His leadership and guidance. Let us continue to be His church. I thank each of you for all of your hard work. You truly inspire me. Bill

New Member

A huge welcome to Paul Cooper who joined our Church in June. Paul has been visiting us for some months and has been a well known figure at our Summer Sale and Autumn Evening Events for many years. He has made a strong contribution to the discussions at our Sunday morning adult Bible study. We look forward to his being part of our Church family for many years to come.



Spotlight on Giving

On Sunday, June 28th, Shula Shaw shared with us the following Offertory thought:

"I don't know if any of you have ever had to receive blood. It is a somewhat scary thought. I have about 4 pints of someone's blood. I've often wondered whose blood I have and if I could meet them, how could I repay or thank them?

Then I think –

What if they didn't look exactly like I thought they would. A realization came to me that someone had shed His blood for me long ago. He didn't look like some people think by today's standards. If I met Him today, from all accounts, He might not be the most groomed person, nor have a prestigious job; He might appear to be a wanderer and dressed differently.... But oh, what a gift He gave with His blood.

The people who gave me blood didn't know me but extended my life, but Jesus knew me and gave me life everlasting. We have ALL been given that gift. We could never fully repay it, but the generosity we bestow is in gratitude of His gift. Lord, make us worthy and giving."

Editor's Note

**IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THE BANNER BY E-MAIL CONTACT
GEORGE GOODNIGHT
AT 901-497-4385**

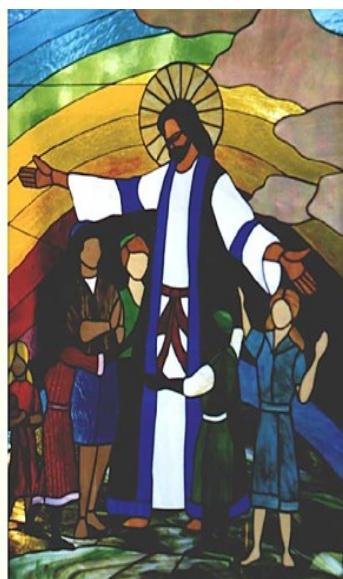
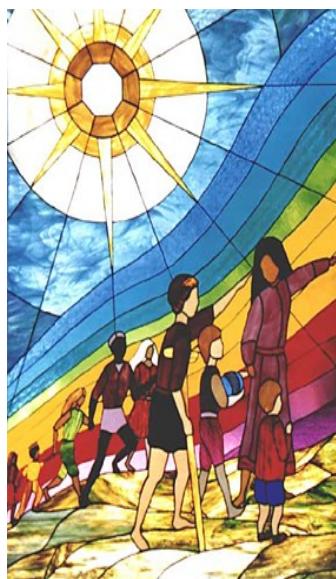
or by e-mail at: wesalsdadd@hotmail.com.

**Editor: John Bennett
(901) 276-2708**

Memorials and Honorariums

It seems that each month we are blessed with contributions from people, with no direct connection with our Church, who hear of our needs through some sort of telepathy. This month we are so grateful to Jim Walker who heard of our need for a new ice-maker and made a contribution to meet part of that cost. Thank you Jim.

Hymn of the Month



Stained glass windows at St. Margaret Mary Church (of Blessed Trinity Parish) in Apalachin based on the hymn "Gather Us In"

Faith Christian has been most generous in giving us 50 hymnals to supplement the ones we already have in the pews. Although we have more hymnals than folks in attendance, having this extra 50 will allow us to have the center section covered and no one will have to scuffle around trying to find a hymnal during the first hymn. If you know someone who goes to Faith, be sure and thank them for their willingness to share.

It sounded as if everybody enjoyed learning "Lord of the Dance" in June, and July's Hymn of the Month is just as good. The title is "Gather Us In" and is found on page 284. You'll hear it each Sunday in July, and by the end of the month, you will be humming it as you leave the sanctuary, as well as singing it like you've known it all of your life.

Summer Sale

Every year we, through our DWM, and with great help from the Men's auxiliary, plan and execute two main events, the Summer Sale and the Autumn Evening.

This year was no exception and after months of planning and weeks of hard work it all came together on Saturday, June 20th when we held our Summer Sale.

For weeks we have been setting up tables, unpacking boxes, opening, and sorting, bags of clothes, creating book stacks and generally working our cotton socks off! This suddenly all seemed worth it when, on that Saturday morning, we saw the lines of people standing outside our Church waiting for the doors to open. Just look at the picture on the next page; it was a wonderful sight and it is just a pity we don't have the same lines on a Sunday morning!

However the work did not stop there, everyone involved that day worked diligently to ensure every shopper was welcomed, given a shopping bag, had their questions answered where possible and was helped out to their vehicle with their bulkier purchases.

As we all heaved a concerted sigh of relief as the sale ended we were all aware that the whole exercise had to be repeated on the following Saturday for our 1/2 price sale. And, as if that was not enough, then the clear up started!

While it is egregious to single out individuals when everyone worked so hard shout outs must go to Debra Goodnight, for her extraordinary organizational ability, and to Daphne Brown who spend so much of her time sorting, pricing and arranging the display of the items on offer. In the two weeks before the sale Daphne worked in the Fellowship Hall nearly every day. The singling out of two people must in no way diminish the hard work put in by everyone else. The effort was fantastic!

So, what was achieved. The total received over the two day of the sale exceeded \$6100 which is by far in excess of anything achieved in previous years.

Where does the money go? The following is a list of the Charities and other organizations supported by our DWM:

Rachel's Kids
American Leprosy Program
Calvary Rescue Mission
Church Health Center Disciple Mission Fund (Love Offering)
Fellowship of the Least Coin
Global Women Connecting
Karat Place
Our own Meal Card, Snack Pack and Union Mission Voucher Project
Memphis Union Mission
MIFA
Minister's Discretionary Fund
Neighborhood Compassion Clinic
Woman to Woman Global -Woman-to-Woman Worldwide (WWW)

and, most importantly, Central Christian Church. and The Christian Church in Tennessee.

Thank you everyone!

Semi Annual Congregational Meeting on June 28th: Chairman's Statement

The purpose of this meeting is to give the congregation a mid-year “health report” of our church.

Financial

We continue to hold on financially. Due to the generosity of our congregation, and of our extended family and friends at Central, bills are paid on time, salaries are being met. However, this year brought an unexpected challenge to our budget when vandals broke two of our stain glass windows on the Peabody side of our sanctuary. Members and friends of Central, as well as strangers, helped us to meet the cost of repairs. We are truly blessed. Each year finds us needing various repairs around the church. We are fortunate to have a modest building fund to help with the cost of small to moderate repairs. We are also fortunate to have the Disciple Woman’s Ministry to offset other repairs, such as replacing the ice maker.

Membership

This year we lost two beloved members of our congregation: Jack Artman and Martha Bishop. Jack continues to live on in several ways – both in memory and in his repairs around the church. We still have the aluminum ladder he repaired that has two wooden legs. Remember Jack’s motto: repair, not replace! Martha Bishop will always hold a special place at Central – her cheerful outlook and personality will be longed remembered. The number of members at Central remains around 50. We continue to expect to grow in numbers, but we are not seeing the fruit of our efforts. Though we are strong in other church aspects, we are very weak when it comes to Evangelism. This is not a condemnation, but merely an observation. However, we should continue to invite those who are looking for a church home, and to communicate to the Memphis community that we are still a viable church.

Social

To quote my spiritual mentor Charles Woodall: “What time is it? It’s party time!” We have had Soup’er Sunday in February and Hot Diggity Dog Sunday in May. These times together may seem silly to some, but it is a time we need to set aside to come together as a family. It truly is part of our spiritual journey.

Spiritual

I believe the spirit of Christ reigns tall at Central. If any passage of scripture best describes our church, it is from Matthew, chapter 25, verses 35 and 36. “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you came to visit me. “ We feed the hungry through our food collection for the Grace St. Luke’s food pantry. We have the snack bag ministry to feed those come to our church looking for food and drink. We have McDonald gift cards. We have the free clothes closet. We visit our sick and hand out vouchers for those needing shelter at the Union Mission.

There are all kinds of prisons – prison of drug and alcohol addiction; prison of poverty. We at Central help those in need by providing a meeting place for self-help groups such as Adult Children of Alcoholics. We help children in the Binghamton community through Rachel’s Kids.

Let us not forget events such as the Men’s Auxiliary which raised money for the Compassion Clinic, and especially the DWM’s Summary Sale and Autumn Evening in Central Gardens, from which the proceeds are used to reach out to other services in the Memphis area. We at Central may not be great in numbers, but our spiritual outreach is alive and doing quite well!

In conclusion, I believe our church, overall, is doing well. We know our strengths and weaknesses. We may look back and remember our church as it once was, but we are always looking forward to the future. May we at Central continue to do and to seek God’s will at Central Christian Church.

Mark Rutledge, Chairman

Serving List

Weekly Highlight	Date	Worship Leader	Leaf	Cup
Independence Day	5-Jul-15	John Bennett	George Goodnight	Mark Rutledge
	12-Jul-15	Daphne Brown	Carol Scarberry	John Bennett
	19-Jul-15	Kathy Young	Mark Rutledge	Daphne Brown
	26-Jul-15	John Rainey	Kathy Young	Debra Goodnight
Summer Months	2-Aug-15	George Goodnight	Mark Rutledge	Kathy Young
	9-Aug-15	John Johnson	Daphne Brown	Debra Goodnight
	16-Aug-15	Mark Rutledge	Richard Brown	Carol Scarberry
	23-Aug-15	Shula Shaw	George Goodnight	John Bennett
	30-Aug-15	Debra Goodnight	Mark Rutledge	John Johnson
Labaor Day Weekend	6-Sep-15	Mark Rutledge	Kathy Young	George Goodnight
	13-Sep-15	Carol Scarberry	Debra Goodnight	Mark Rutledge
Fall Begins	20-Sep-15	Micki Artman	George Goodnight	Carol Scarberry
	27-Sep-15	John Bennett	Debra Goodnight	Richard Brown
Autumn Ev. At C.C.C.	4-Oct-15	George Goodnight	John Bennett	Mark Rutledge
	11-Oct-15	Daphne Brown	Carol Scarberry	John Bennett
	18-Oct-15	Debra Goodnight	Kathy Young	Daphne Brown
	25-Oct-15	Richard Brown	Mark Rutledge	Debra Goodnight
Halloween	1-Nov-15	Mark Rutledge	Richard Brown	Carol Scarberry
	8-Nov-15	John Johnson	John Bennett	Debra Goodnight
	15-Nov-15	Carol Scarberry	John Johnson	George Goodnight
	22-Nov-15	Kathy Young	Mark Rutledge	John Johnson
1st Sunday in Advent	29-Nov-15	Richard Brown	George Goodnight	Carol Scarberry
2nd Sunday in Advent	6-Dec-15	Debra Goodnight	Daphne Brown	Kathy Young
3rd Sunday in Advent	13-Dec-15	John Bennett	John Johnson	Mark Rutledge
4th Sunday in Advent	20-Dec-15	George Goodnight	Carol Scarberry	John Johnson
New Years 2016	27-Dec-15	Shula Shaw	Kathy Young	Daphne Brown

Summer Sale In Pictures



The crowd waiting to come in at the start
of the Sale



Wednesday Night Dinner and Program

DATE	DAY	EVENT	TIME / LOCATION	PREPARED BY
07.01.15	Wednesday	No WND	XXX	XXX
07.05.15	Sunday	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall	Debra Goodnight
07.08.15	Wednesday	No WND	XXX	XXX
07.12.15	Sunday	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall	DWM Potluck Luncheon - Salad Sunday
07.15.15	Wednesday	No WND	XXX	XXX
07.19.15	Sunday	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall	Daphne Brown
07.22.15	Wednesday	No WND	XXX	XXX
07.26.15	Sunday	Fellowship Hour	Fellowship Hall	Daphne Brown
07.29.15	Wednesday	Wednesday Night Dinner	Fellowship Hall	Hawaiian Luau - L. Johnson/M. Rutledge

If you need to make a change in the schedule, please give me a call at 262-6298. Thanks for your help! Daphne

Our Congregation at Play



George Goodnight cooking up a storm!



Connie Bennett horse back riding in the Ozarks, Arkansas

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



OFFICE: 901-276-2708
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CENTRALCHRISTIAN@CCCMEMPHISTN.ORG

This Month at Central

Wednesday 1st

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 5th
9:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: John Bennett
Loaf: Debra Goodnight
Cup: Mark Rutledge
Liturgical Color: Green
Refreshments: Debra Goodnight

Wednesday 8th

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 12th
9:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: Daphne Brown
Loaf: Carol Scarberry
Cup: John Bennett
Liturgical Color: Green
Refreshments: DWM Potluck Luncheon

Wednesday 15th

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 19th
19:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: Kathy Young
Loaf: Mark Rutledge
Cup: Daphne Brown
Liturgical Color: Green
Refreshments: Daphne Brown

Wednesday 22nd

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 26th
Minister: Kathy Young
9:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: John Rainey
Loaf: tba
Cup: George Goodnight
Liturgical Color: Green
Refreshments: Daphne Brown

Wednesday 29th

Aloha Hawaiian Dinner: Mark Rutledge and
Linda Johnson

Church Calendar for July

4th
Independence Day

Birthdays

4th
Mark Rutledge

24th
Rachel Greer