

# Central Christian Church **Banner**



**January 2016**

## A Note from our Pastor, Rev. Bill Russell



Bill Russell standing behind a floral decoration presented to the Church by John and Linda Johnson in honor of John's father, John, who would have celebrated his 100th birthday on December 23rd.

As we begin 2016, I hope that each of you has a vision of how we can join together in improving the faith journey that we share. We experienced a good year as a church in 2015, but we cannot rest. How can we make worship better? How can we make our fellowship and Church family stronger? How can we reach out into the community more effectively? How can we minister to each other more intentionally? Over the next month, I would love to hear your thoughts on these questions, as well as any other ideas that you have that will help us improve who we are and what we are doing. Complacency and accepting the status quo are killers. What more can we do to better be the church God wants us to be? I'm asking you, please speak up.

## Happy and Holy New Year

Everyone at Central Christian Church wishes all our readers, our congregation in the widest sense, a Happy and Holy New Year. May this year bring to you everything you wish for as we all try to do our best for our fellow human beings both spiritually and practically. May we all be as healthy and contented as the good Lord will allow. It promises to be a year of political infighting and argument leading up to a Presidential Election and wouldn't it be wonderful if we, as Christians, can demonstrate that we can discuss these issues with courtesy and respect for the other persons point of view while turning the other cheek if they choose not to extent to us the same courtesy and respect.



## Spotlight on Giving

On Sunday, January 3rd, Mark Rutledge, our outgoing Chairman shared the following Offertory thought:

“Resolutions or not, there is a sense of beginning again in this first month of the year. That’s good. We could let the weeks pass without much thought, but we need time to reflect and look ahead.

The Scriptures do not speak about the significance of the first month, but they do focus on the importance of worship on the first day of the week, the Lord’s Day. Paul advised the Corinthians to prepare for giving to the special opportunity he was encouraging. “On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.”

This first month of the new year provides a marvelous opportunity to begin giving on the first day of the week through our church. That would be an important step and a blessing for our church. If you presently give regularly on the Lord's day, thank the Lord for working that conviction into your heart. In the first month, make Him first, and resolve to give on the first day.”

### Church Notice Board

In addition to our regular Church facility bookings we have been asked, by the Shelby County Election Commission, to make our Fellowship Hall available on March 1 for a Provisional Preference Primary and Shelby County Primary elections.

Our Friends at the Beethoven Club have asked, once again, to use our Church and Fellowship Hall on April 2nd and 3rd for their Annual Young Artist of the Year Competition. This is a competition open to amateur musicians 28 years of age or younger at the time of competition. Entrants must live within 250 miles of Memphis,

### Memorial and Special Gifts

Each month we receive donations from generous people, some of whom wish to remain nameless, who dedicate their gift to a particular person or family. Here are some of these gifts received in December.

An anonymous gift in honor of Dorothy Taylor, Mary Artman’s sister.

David Hansom in honor of Daphne Brown’s Birthday.

The Special Christmas Collection was taken during two Sunday services in December and amounted to \$439. Many thanks to all who contributed.

### Editors Note

**If you want to receive the Banner by E-Mail please contact the Editor, John Bennett, by phone on (901) 276-2708 or by e-mail at: [centralchristian@cccmemphistn.org](mailto:centralchristian@cccmemphistn.org)**

**All contributions for the February Banner should be emailed or sent to the Editor at the Church Office by January 28th.**

**Past copies of the Banner together with sermons, special music videos etc. can be found using links to YouTube on our Website at [cccmemphistn.org](http://cccmemphistn.org).**

# Serving List

Weekly Highlight	Date	Worship Leader	Loaf	Cup	Shut In
	3-Jan-16	Mark Rutledge	George Goodnight	Kathy Young	
	10-Jan-16	Carol Scarberry	John Johnson	Daphne Brown	
<b>Martin Luther King Day</b>	17-Jan-16	John Bennett	Kathy Young	George Goodnight	
	24-Jan-16	Daphne Brown	Debra Goodnight	John Johnson	
	31-Jan-16	Kathy Young	John Bennett	Mark Rutledge	
<b>"Soup'er Sunday"</b>	7-Feb-16	Debra Goodnight	Carol Scarberry	John Johnson	
<b>Valentine's Day</b>	14-Feb-16	George Goodnight	Debra Goodnight	Kathy Young	
	21-Feb-16	John Johnson	John Bennett	Mark Rutledge	
	28-Feb-16	Mark Rutledge	George Goodnight	Carol Scarberry	
	6-Mar-16	Shula Shaw	Daphne Brown	John Bennett	
<b>Daylight Saving Time</b>	13-Mar-16	Micki Artman	John Johnson	Daphne Brown	
	20-Mar-16	John Rainey	Carol Scarberry	George Goodnight	
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	27-Mar-16	Carol Scarberry	Mark Rutledge	John Johnson	
	3-Apr-16	John Bennett	Debra Goodnight	Daphne Brown	
	10-Apr-16	Daphne Brown	Mark Rutledge	Kathy Young	
	17-Apr-16	Kathy Young	George Goodnight	John Bennett	
	24-Apr-16	Mark Rutledge	John Bennett	Debra Goodnight	
	1-May-16	Carol Scarberry	John Johnson	Debra Goodnight	
<b>Mother's Day</b>	8-May-16	John Bennett	Kathy Young	George Goodnight	
	15-May-16	Daphne Brown	Mark Rutledge	Carol Scarberry	
	22-May-16	Kathy Young	Debra Goodnight	John Bennett	
<b>Memorial Day</b>	29-May-16	George Goodnight	Carol Scarberry	John Johnson	
	5-Jun-16	Merlin Taylor	George Goodnight	Kathy Young	
	12-Jun-16	John Johnson	John Bennett	Debra Goodnight	
<b>Father's Day</b>	19-Jun-16	Debra Goodnight	Kathy Young	Mark Rutledge	
	26-Jun-16	Shula Shaw	Daphne Brown	Carol Scarberry	
<b>Shut-in list for communion by Elder serving at the Cup:</b>					
		1	Sara Jane Smith		

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# Christmas Party

On the 27th December the Church family got together, at the home of Bill and Anne Russell, to celebrate the birth of Jesus. A huge thank you to our hosts for the excellent food and drink. This was also a great opportunity for many of the congregation to see Bill and Anne's new home. We all wish them many happy years there.

As you can see from the pictures a great time was had by all. What a wonderful way to celebrate a birthday!



Chantey Nelms



Our Music Director, Amy Lindeman, with Fr. Tommy Shepperd of St. Francis Old Catholic Church



Richard Brown, our Chairman Elect for 2016, and Daphne Brown



Rachel Greer and Pat Hammond



Mary Artman, Debra Goodnight and friend.

# Christmas Party (Continued)



Top: Nanda Noordemeer, Wesley Goodnight with his Fiancée Emily.  
Middle: Tami Taylor, Carol and Floyd Scarberry  
Bottom: Linda and John Johnson, Connie and John Bennett

## December Board Meeting

A General Board Meeting was held on December 17, 2015 and was Called to Order by the outgoing chairman Mark Rutledge who led the meeting in prayer.

The Minutes from the November 15, 2015 Meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, John Bennett, presented the report which disclosed total income for November of \$16,005 and expenses that month of \$16,679. He also gave year to date figures of income at \$107,437 and expenses of \$114,517, resulting in a shortfall for the year to date of \$7080. The Treasurer also commented on additional security measures that were being taken following a theft of property and attempted theft of Church funds in October.

A number of other matters were discussed including a proposal amending the list of Board Officers to be presented to the congregation for approval.

Appreciation for Board Leadership: John Johnson extended appreciation on behalf of the Board to Mark Rutledge for his leadership and love and dedication to the church. It was a unanimous proclamation of appreciation.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM, and Kathy Young led the closing prayer.

## Installation of 2016 Board Officers

A congregational Meeting was held, after our Church service on Sunday 27th December, to approve the 2016 Budget and to approve the list of Officers for 2016. The list comprised of Chairman Elect Richard Brown, Treasurer George Goodnight, Financial Secretary John Bennett, and Board Secretary Connie Bennett. Both proposals were approved unanimously.

The Installation of the Board Officers was made during our service on January 3rd. Also during the service the incoming Board Chairman Wesley Goodnight handed Mark Rutledge, the outgoing Chairman, an engraved plaque as a token of the appreciation of the congregation for Mark's outstanding contribution to our Church during his year in the Chair. After the service the DWM hosted a reception with the refreshments being prepared by Debra and George Goodnight.

On the right are pictured Wesley presenting the plaque to Mark together with a picture which includes Bill Russell who presided over the installation.



# Christmas Sunday Service



On Sunday December 26th Bill Russell led us in a very moving Christmas Service. The church had been beautifully decorated throughout the Advent Season and the flowers were enhanced by a gorgeous flower arrangement by Rachel's Florists. The arrangement was given by John and Linda Johnson in memory of John's father, John, who would have been 100 years on December 23rd.

The congregation joined in singing some well known Christmas Carols and young Henry Lindeman III gave us a magnificent rendition of "The Little Drummer Boy", while his proud mother, Amy, our Music Director, and his proud Grandfather, Bill Russell, looked on. Bill then gave an inspired message "The Perfect Gift" and that can be seen on YouTube by following link in our website.

Instead of adjourning to the fellowship Hall, as usual, the congregation were invited to meet later that day at the home of Bill and Anne Russell and pictures of that fellowship can be seen elsewhere in this publication.



Pictured top left are Amy and Henry Lindeman. Above are John and Linda Johnson and left is Bill Russell.

## DWM

As part of the Church Christmas celebrations, on December 13th, Debra and George Goodnight prepared and served a lovely holiday meal to the congregation on behalf of the DWM.

Using contributions from the Church members, and others, the DWM purchased and distributed Christmas presents and MacDonald's gift cards, to five "Rachel's Kids" and the daughter of one of our church members.

During January a collection will be made of cold and flu remedies to present to the Caritas Village project which is based on Harvard Avenue, in the Binghamton community. Caritas Village uses art, music, hospitality, theatre, classes, and connections to creatively join people together in common goals from many different ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds..

Items needed are cold and flu remedies, first aid items, Kleenex etc. Also cash donation can be made through Carol Scarberry to enable the purchase of the items most needed.

### Italian Luncheon



The DWM will host an Italian Luncheon on Sunday, January 10, 2016, immediately following worship services. Everyone is invited to attend. There will be a \$3.00 charge for the meal with the exception of those asked to bring a dish. There will be an installation/dedication of 2016 DWM Officers, and a 2016 Planning/Budget Meeting by the officers following the luncheon.

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## This Month at Central

Sunday 3rd  
9:45 am Bible Class  
10:45 am Worship Service  
12:00 noon Reception for New board Officers

Service Leader: Mark Rutledge  
Loaf: George Goodnight  
Cup: Kathy Young  
Refreshments: Debra and George Goodnight

Wednesday 6th  
6:30pm Dinner and Bible Study

Meal prepared by: Daphne Brown

Thursday 7th  
11:30 am Lunchtime Bible Study

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

Service Leader: Carol Scarberry  
Loaf: John Johnson  
Cup: Daphne Brown  
Refreshments: DWM Luncheon

Wednesday 13th  
6:30pm Dinner and Bible Study

Meal prepared by: John Rainey

Thursday 14th  
11:30 am Lunchtime Bible Study

Sunday 17th  
9:45 am Bible Class  
10:45 am Worship Service

Service Leader: John Bennett  
Loaf: Kathy Young  
Cup: George Goodnight  
Refreshments: Mary Artman

Wednesday 20th  
6:30 pm Dinner and Bible Study

Meal prepared by: Carol Scarberry

Thursday 21st  
11:30 am Lunchtime Bible Study

Sunday 24th  
9:45 am Bible Class  
10:45 am Worship Service

Service Leader: Daphne Brown  
Loaf : Debra Goodnight  
Cup : John Johnson  
Refreshments: St. Francis Old Catholic Church

Wednesday 27th  
6:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner and Bible Study

Meal prepared by: Rev. Bill Russell

Thursday 3rd  
11:30 am Lunchtime Bible Study

Sunday 31st  
9:45 am Bible Class  
10:45 am Worship Service

Service Leader: Kathy Young  
Loaf: John Bennett  
Cup: Mark Rutledge  
Refreshments: Nanda Noordemeer

### Church Calendar for January

3rd  
Installation of and  
Reception for New  
board Officers

17th  
Elders and General  
Board Meeting.

18th  
Martin Luther King  
Day

### Birthdays

1st  
Peggy Browne

3rd  
Marcus Mitchell