



Banner



August 2016

A Note from our Pastor, Rev. Bill Russell

I said at some point last month that I would love to know the number of man/woman hours that were spent in preparation for Summer Sale and in the aftermath of cleaning up. I feel sure that it would be a mind-boggling number that would be quite eye opening as to how hard you, as a congregation, work. Since I will never know the number of hours, I am just going to bask in the knowledge that I am blest beyond belief to be a part of a church family that works so tirelessly to get so many projects accomplished. I want to say one last very sincere thank you to all of you who did so much. The hours, the sweat, the sore muscles, and the mighty groans will allow us to continue to be the conduit for God's love through our ministry and service here in our community and, through our denomination, around the country and the world. Many, many thanks to each one of you.

A Tribute to Bill Johnson

The following is the Offertory address given by Debra Goodnight at the service before the recent luncheon to honor Bill Johnson.

“We are celebrating and highlighting the life and contributions of the late Bill Johnson, who would have been 65 this week. I wonder how many of you have at least one Bill Johnson painting in your house or know someone who owns one? I myself have at least five, my son Wesley has the same and, as a matter of fact most of our family own a Bill Johnson painting”

(continued inside)



John Johnson, brother of the late Bill Johnson, with Bill's painting that was donated to the Church and will hang in the Pastor's office.

Offertory Meditation

Daphne Brown recently shared with us this offertory thought:

“I’m quoting from a recent Reader’s Digest where a lady wrote this; ‘My collection of vintage kitchen utensils includes one whose intended purpose was always a mystery. It looks like a cross between a metal slotted spoon and a spatula, so I use it as both. When not in use, it is prominently displayed in a decorative ceramic utensil caddy in my kitchen. The mystery of the spoon/spatula was recently solved when I found one in its original packaging at a rummage sale...It’s a pooper scooper.’ Patty Brozo, Green Valley, Arizona, Reader’s Digest May 2016.

Now I’m not sure if I would have attached my real name and state of residence when I submitted this to Reader’s Digest, but it made me think of the summer sale. We often receive items that we have no clue as to what they are and we always pass it around letting everyone guess it’s purpose. And my standard answer to customers who ask about certain items is “If you buy it, it can be whatever you want it to be.” Well, this lady apparently needed a spoon slash spatula and she found what met her needs.

That’s what our summer sale, our bake sales, our Autumn Evening event and our tithes and offerings do. They meet the needs of our church, our neighbors, our community and even further.

I’ll bet you wondered how I was going to tie that pooper scooper in to the offertory.”

Beautiful Voices



Sarah Jane Smith, now retired from our Choir, sporting a new hairstyle thanks to Carol Scarberry



Lane Wilson and Peggy Dunkin who sang a duet at our Service on Sunday July 31st

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@ccmemphistn.org

All contributions for the September Banner should be emailed or sent to the Editor at the Church Office by August 29th.

Past copies of the Banner together with sermons, special music videos etc. can be found using links to YouTube on our Website at ccmemphistn.org.

Drive-Thru Prayer Ministry

On Thursday, July 28th, five prayer partners turned out on a damp muggy morning, at 7:00am, to host a drive through designed to help motorists voice their prayer concerns. While we have had few people bring their concerns, so far, this has not damped the spirit of those who came to help. Once again we thank Richard Brown for his idea and organization. We all know this will be a success once word gets around. So show this article to everyone you know who has a prayer concern and, let's face it, that's everyone. Spread the word and if you know anyone in the media give them a copy of the article or put them in touch with the Church office.



A Tribute to Bill Johnson (continued from the front page)

“ For those of you who did not know Bill he grew up in this Church and his mother and fathers were significant supporters of Central their entire lives. Bill was very intelligent, well read, well educated and wonderfully talented. His talent is what we want to highlight today. We say so many times that our offerings to Central comprise of both money and talent. He shared his talent by donating paintings to the Church and to our fund raising efforts.

Today, on what would have been his 65th birthday, we will dedicate one of paintings to be hung in the Pastor's office and remember his contributions.

Let us follow in Bill's footsteps to offer up to God not only our money but our talents to further God's work at Central.”

Pictured on the right are Linda Johnson and Katrinka Hall who prepared the luncheon.



Summer Sale

Once again the Church members pulled together and created, out of castoffs and surplus items, a Summer Sale second to none. Not only did the DWM raise over \$6000 for their various outreach programs, but they arranged for the ladies of Karat Place to get free clothing. Karat Place is a non-profit reentry transitional center for homeless women ex-offenders and their children. Furthermore, a lot of the surplus clothing and kitchenware was donated to “Bob the Clothing Guy”, another local charity run out of Bob’s garage, which donates these items to people in need.

Debra Goodnight, on behalf of the DWM, sends a huge thank you to everyone who helped. There are so many people who gave their time and energy, and so many tasks involved in bringing this event to a successful conclusion, that it would be difficult to name names. Suffice to say you know who you are and without your individual contribution this event could never have been a success.



Outside, in the Breezeway, we had furniture, children's toys and much more for sale, all organized by Mark Rutledge.



While inside our newly updated Fellowship Hall the crowds flocked in to buy clothing, books, electrical goods, linens and much, much more.

DWM Fall Retreat



Creating the Arts of Worship

TDWM Fall Retreat – September 16-18, 2016

Resource Speaker: Rev. Dr. Christal Williams, Tennessee Regional Minister



Karleen Sternisha
TDWM, VP, Retreat Coordinator
731-886-0422 (home)
731-592-1964 (cell)



It's time to start planning!

Fall Retreat has been expanded to
Friday evening, September 16 to Sunday, September 18
at Bethany Hills Camp and Conference Center.

We are so proud to announce that our resource speaker this year will be the Rev. Dr. Christal Williams, Tennessee's Regional Minister. We hope you are able come and get acquainted with our new leader. Under her leadership we will explore the various ways to express our faith through "The Arts of Worship". Do we worship on our knees or standing? With our hands folded in prayer or lifted in praise? With our eyes and mouths closed in meditation or wide open in praise to the Most High?

We will explore with

Drama	Dance	Singing
Sculpture	Art	Poetry

Our program has been revised this year to provide:

- More free time.
- Shorter sessions
- More activities

We have not changed the opportunities for you to

- Renew old friendships
- Make new friendships
- Renew and revitalize your faith journey
- Be challenged to think of new ways to express your faith

So, spread the word! Pin up the enclosed information.

Fill out your application and send it in!

"See you in September!"

From the Board

The July Board Meeting, was held after the service on Sunday the 24th. In addition to the usual reports from the officers and the committee Chairs, we received an update on the results of the Summer Sale in that the net proceeds were expected to reach about \$6000.

The Autumn Evening in Central Gardens fund raiser was also discussed and the date fixed for Saturday, October 15th.

As the Church will be a voting precinct on August 4th it was agreed there would be a Bake Sale. Micki Artman agreed to be the coordinator.

Due in part to the success of the Summer Sale and the amount of clothing given after the sale to other charitable causes, it was agreed that our Clothes Closet Ministry would be held over to, at least, the end of September, dependent on the level of clothing contributions we receive.

The next Meeting of the General Board will be on Sunday August 21st.

The Meaning of Evangelism?

I mentioned at last board meeting that I would like for all of us to start thinking very seriously about what we need to do at Central to draw new folks into our fellowship. I have ideas, but I certainly don't have them all, and since you know CCC as well as anyone, I value your input. For us to speak clearly about evangelism, I feel it necessary to be sure we have a definite understanding as to the differences between mission, outreach, and evangelism. The three are closely connected, and they point to the same target, but there are major differences which we need to identify as we seek to gain new members. To that end, I would like to have 15-20 minutes at the August board meeting to discuss these three terms and look at the similarities and the differences. So, I ask you to put down on paper, concisely, how you define these words, and, any ideas that you think will help us rev up our efforts. Please keep this piece of paper. Put your definitions on it (if you have more ideas and need more paper, use the back), and I will get them from you the week before the August meeting, or you can give them to me whenever you have them done. Don't sign this. Feel free to speak your heart and mind. Let's get busy. Thank you!

Bill Russell



Rachel Greer with some of “Rachel’s Kids” on their way to the last Summer Camp of the year.

This must be an example to us all of practical evangelism!

Vegetable Dinner

On August 17th we will have our annual “Vegetable Dinner” followed by a program which, I am reliably informed, will be an evening of Bingo.

So if you are a gardener and have surplus produce, please make up a vegetable dish and bring it along on the 17th.



TAKE THE CHALLENGE SIGN UP DAY

On Sunday, August 14, 2016, the DWM will host a “Salad Extravaganza” potluck luncheon. Everyone is invited. There will be a \$5 charge which will include a variety of delicious salads, dessert and beverage.

It is also “Sign-up Day” to “TAKE THE CHALLENGE” by pledging one \$1 over-the-counter medication purchase from the Dollar Tree or any other retail store with a \$1 inventory per month for the next fifteen months for the Compassion Neighborhood Clinic, the 2016-17 service project for the western area of the Tennessee Disciple Women’s Ministries. You may purchase the goods yourself or donate money and we will put your shopping dollars to work. Please, please help by supporting us in this very worthwhile ministry.

Respectfully,

Linda Johnson, President

Disciple Women’s Ministries

Compassion Neighborhood Clinic

The clinic is part of Caritas Village on Harvard Avenue, Memphis. It hosts a free medical clinic with an all volunteer staff every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesday night 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Doctors and nurses treat minor adult and childhood illnesses, help find doctors to treat chronic illnesses, and provide health education. Staff do not write prescriptions for pain, nerves, diets or sleeping pills. Nor will they complete disability evaluations/paperwork, admit clients to hospitals, or replace a patient's regular physician. Treatment is first-come, first-served. The clinic is run by Dr John and Judy Lang who are dear friends of our Church and are pictured below with Linda Johnson.



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This Month at Central

Wednesday 3rd

No dinner or program

Sunday 7th
19:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service

Service Leader: Kathy Young
Loaf: Carol Scarberry
Cup: John Johnson
Refreshments: TBA

Wednesday 10th

No dinner or program

Sunday 14th
9:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service

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

Wednesday 17th

6:30pm Vegetable Dinner and Program

Sunday 21st
9:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service
12:30pm Meetings of Elders and Deacons
1:00pm Board Meeting

Service Leader: John Johnson
Loaf : John Bennett
Cup : Debra Goodnight
Refreshments: Debra Goodnight

Wednesday 24th

No dinner or program

Sunday 28th
9:45 am Bible Class
10:45 am Worship Service

Service Leader: Mark Rutledge
Loaf : George Goodnight
Cup : Carol Scarberry
Refreshments: TBA

Wednesday 31st

No dinner or program

Church Calendar for August

4th
State Primary and Shelby County General Election

Bake Sale

17th
Vegetable Dinner

Birthdays

1st
Wesley Goodnight

10th
Dennis Hall

26th
Bill Pennington

28th
Clay Artman