

# Central Christian Church **Banner**



## July 2020

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



The past 4 months have changed our lives immeasurably. Our normal is no more, we are filled with angst, uncertainty hovers over every aspect of life. Yet, the grace and love of God remains. I spent the past week in the mountains with 16 members of my family. I stopped, so to speak, to smell the roses. It was very strengthening and allowed me to know that life is going to be okay. As we continue on this journey to wherever, I remind you of Christ's words, "Lo, I am with you always...", and I urge you to share your love with those around you. We **WILL** get through this and I am praying that soon we will be able to worship again together. I miss each of you!



#### News Ya' Gotta Read!

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**MLG&W to the rescue with a new transformer! A/C and a third of lights were out for 5 days.**

**DWM NEWS**



**DWM President  
Micki Artman**

**I hope this note finds you well. I wanted to let you know we will plan our next DWM meeting as soon as we can. We continue to make our tithe to the church each month and are still planning to host a bake sale during the November election. We will keep you updated on that event.**

**Until then, know that if there is anything you need do not hesitate to reach out to me.**

**Take care and I hope to see you soon.**

**Micki Artman**

**Philippians 4:6-7**

**6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.**

**7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding,**

**THANKS!**

**On behalf of the Disciples Women’s Ministry I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mark Rutledge for the beautiful Japanese Red Leaf Maple he generously donated and had planted in the church garden in honor of the DWM. Thank you Mark!!**



**“A Tree Grows In Chapel Garden”**



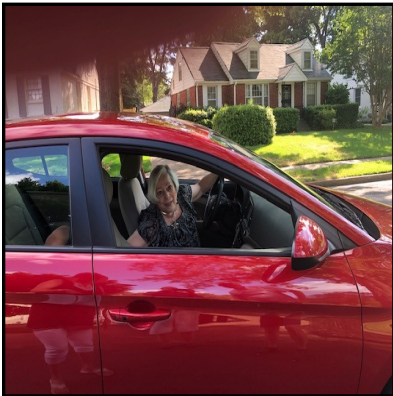
## BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY KITS FOR HER FAITH MINISTRIES

Central's DWM would like to provide 25 Safety Kits for the kids as they go back to school in August and would invite your financial support. Since these items are in short supply and we need multiples, we have already purchased them in large amounts as we could find them. Each kit is in a gallon zip-lock bag and will include 5 face disposal masks, hand sanitizer, anti-bacterial wipes and tissues, costing about \$7 each. If you can help with \$10 or \$20 dollars, please send your money to Micki Artman.

Thank you for helping provide the children some measure of safety from COVID-19!

## BABY SHOWER PARADE

Wes and Emily Goodnight will be welcoming an addition to the family around July 7. A Baby Shower Parade was held on June 7. People drove by, got out and visited, and were treated to a bag of favors put together by Micki Artman and her crew.





# CENTRAL CHRISTIAN MEMBERS: *STAYING ACTIVE!*

Members and friends of Central Christian know how to “Stay Active” during these challenging times. Look how we keep busy among ourselves with family and home projects.



Linda Johnson's lilies



George and Mary resting after painting



Some of John Bennett's handiwork



Lovely plant stand By John



Picnic time for the Russell clan



Linda's lovely porch



Finished table



Mark R. “staying active” in Samos, Greece (6 years ago)



Will and the crew.

## MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN

### MARK RUTLEDGE

**I want to thank everyone who responded to my letter regarding Phase 1 of reopening the church. While talking to some of the members, new suggestions and recommendations were provided that I hadn't thought of.**

#### **Worshiping at Central**

**In general, members felt that, when we reopen the church, it would be nice to worship in the Sanctuary instead of the Fellowship Hall. Everyone that I talked to felt that masks should be worn, and that we need to continue "social distancing". Fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall is on hold for now.**

#### **Christ City Church**

**Members of Central may not yet be aware that Christ City Church will wait several more months before once again worshiping in our Sanctuary. The members at Christ City have a strong concern for their children and the need to maintain "social distancing".**

#### **July Board Meeting**

**The Board will have to meet sometime soon to discuss reopening the church. One factor that must be taken into consideration is the status of the COVID-19 virus in the Memphis area. If the situation doesn't warrant, we will have to wait a while longer to reopen. But, when we do reopen, we have an initial plan to get us going again.**

## Communion: Changing With the Times



**With all the new challenges that we face before we can reopen our church, there's the challenge as to how we should partake communion together when we worship. Deacons may still distribute the elements as it is done every Sunday. Another solution is to have individual containers that hold the bread and grape juice. The picture shows the communion elements on the left before it is open, and on the right are the elements after opening. The wafer is stored under a piece of plastic and must be peeled separately from the tab that is used to open the grape juice. The container may be picked up at the same time the worshiper picks up a bulletin as they enter the sanctuary.**

**After having talked to members and friends who received the Phase 1 letter (steps to reopen the church), there was a suggestion from Cecilia Thompson that may work regarding communion: BYOC. This stands for "Bring Your Own Communion"!**



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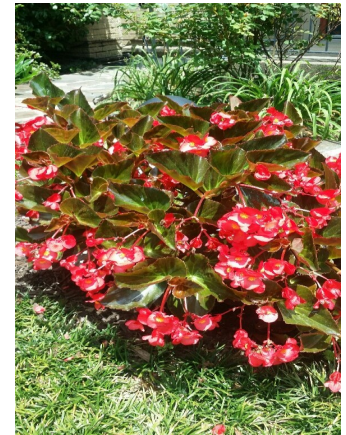
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“No matter what is happening now, events will ultimately bend toward love the way a flower bends toward sunlight”

Marianne Williamson

For those who cannot visit our Chapel Garden, enjoy the summer flowers that are in bloom!



## July at Central

### Birthdays

Mark Rutledge  
7/4  
Rachel Greer  
7/24



### Church Calendar for July

4 –Fourth of July  
14-Compassion Clinic  
28-Compassion Clinic

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