

Central Christian Church **Banner**



CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN MID-TOWN MEMPHIS

www.cccmemphistn.org

April 2013

A Note from Pastor Bill Russell



I had a friend ask me last week if things were busy around our church. After taking ten minutes to tell him, I was worn out. The chapel garden, the roof, repair and renovation in the sanctuary, destruction in the library, the new gutters, Lent with 6 different ministers and a beautiful new exterior cross, the wonderful Easter egg hunt, our new friends from St. Francis Old Catholic Church, overflowing baskets and boxes of food for the Food Pantry, the clothes closet, a superb Maundy Thursday dinner and communion service, all capped off by a wonderful crowd for the celebration of Easter, truly gave me something to tell him about, and gave me cause to reflect on how hard each of you work for His Kingdom and for His church here at Peabody and Mclean. It is such a privilege to serve with you, and I am very thankful for each of you.

For those of you who notice such things, between now and Pentecost you will find no Old Testament readings on Sunday morning. I am not ignoring the Old Testament; rather, the lectionary guides us into the New Testament during Eastertide, and most of my messages will be coming from the gospels, mainly John. One last thing: you may have noticed Sunday morning people scuffling around making sure everyone had a hymnal. That is a super problem to have and is probably one that we won't face every Sunday, for a while. But, I have learned that sometimes folks borrow a hymnal to take home to copy something out of it. Then they forget about it. We are short a number of hymnals, so I ask that you look around your house, particularly those of you that have a piano, and see if you might have a borrowed hymnal you forgot about. We need those hymnals. What a great problem to have. One month to 90. I am excited; I hope you are. It is going to be quite a day. BILL

Our Visitors

In March we welcomed, among others, Martha Pipkin, who lives near the church, and on March 10th we enjoyed music from Barbara Schuette who came with her husband Charles. Easter Sunday brought visitors too numerous to list including many friends and family but also some first time visitors from the neighborhood. As a congregation we are truly blessed, and honored, to have so many visitors

Spotlight on Giving

John Bennett, at a recent Sunday service, gave us this Offertory thought. Many of you will know that my wife Connie has a son, Michael, who is a Memphis Police Officer. I asked him recently what would he do if he had to arrest his mother. His immediate response was "I would call for back-up".

Well that is what the service leader does every Sunday just before the offering. We call for back-up. Without your generosity we could not continue the Ministry that has been going on here for nearly 90 years. Nor could we afford necessary repairs to the structure of this lovely church and the other buildings. So please remember all this is made possible because you respond to the calls for back-up.

Let us pray using, the words of St Ignatious Loyola from 600 years ago, "Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to seek reward, save that of knowing that I do your will."

**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 contri-
butions for The Banner must be with
the Editor and Church Secretary,
John Bennett, by the last Wednesday
of the Month.**



Our new Street Number made by Floyd Scarberry who also made the cross pictured on the front cover

Our Talented Congregation

This is, I hope, the first in a series of articles about people, in this congregation, with special skills. Nanda Noordermeer is an amazing seamstress who has her own clothing line and also makes the Bib It, as shown in the adjoining picture. I can tell you, from personal experience, they provide great protection to a shirt front when tackling a rack of barbecued ribs with lashings of sauce! So all you guys, and gals, as we enter BBQ season, get yourselves a Bib It. For more information go to Nanda's web site at <http://www.bibitbynanda.com/>.

If anyone else has a talent or a home grown product, they would like to share, please let your editor know.



Buildings and Grounds

With so much going on at the Church it is easier to describe, in pictures, just some of what we are doing.



George Goodnight pressure washing.

Our New Signs. It pays to advertise!

Before and After



Wednesday Night Family Dinners and Study Programs

March has been another exciting month for the Wednesday Night Family Dinners and Study Programs. Katrinka Hall and Linda Johnson kicked the month off with Katrinka's delicious Lasagna and Linda Johnson's tiramisu. In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, Mary and Jack Artman served their traditional Irish dinner. Connie and John Bennett brought a delicious roasted pork dinner, with all the trimmings, followed by Connie's decadent fudge pie for dessert. The Maundy Thursday Meal included Daphne Brown's special quiche, Katrinka Hall's tasty roasted asparagus and Linda Johnson's Caesar Salad and rolls, followed by Katrinka Hall's special dessert.

As a continuation to sharing perspectives on "What Our Neighbors Believe," Dennis Neenan, from Wesley Sr. Ministries, brought the story of Zacchaeus to life the first Wednesday of March. The second week Frank Williams, Permanent Deacon from the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, explained the Catholic views on Lent, including the similarities and differences in our faiths. Delesslyn Kennebrew, a Pastor from Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church, brought a very impressive message on "Tough Love," and how hard it is to love those that don't love us. The month closed with Pastor Bill Russell bringing a moving Maundy Thursday Service, with a vignette on Judas and the thirty pieces of silver being presented by Randy Pennington and Robert "Yo-Yo" Flynn, and Amy Lindeman's special pre-recorded music.

Please join us in April for a delicious meal and share in the preparation for our 90th Anniversary Celebration. April's meal hosts and activities are follows are detailed on the back cover.



Bill Russell with the Rev. Delesslyn Kennebrew

Humor in Language - Some Great Insults

A member of Parliament to Disraeli: "Sir, you will either die on the gallows or of some unspeakable disease."

"That depends, Sir," said Disraeli, "whether I embrace your policies or your mistress."

"He had delusions of adequacy." - Walter Kerr

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire." - Winston Churchill

"I have never killed a man, but I have read many obituaries with great pleasure." Clarence Darrow

"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary." - William Faulkner (about Ernest Hemingway).

"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it." - Mark Twain

"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends.." - Oscar Wilde

Clothes Closet

Once again our Clothes Closet was an unqualified success as we were able to provide a range of clothing to over thirty-five people including many children. This new endeavor, for our Church, is a great addition to our outreach particularly in the local community.



Building from the Board

Highlights from the March 21, 2013 General Board Meeting are as follows:

	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Total Income:	\$ 7,515	\$ 20,973
Total Expenses:	\$ 8,231	\$ 15,545
Net Income/Expenses:	(\$ 716)	\$ 5,428

The Elders approved Pastor Bill Russell's recommendation to declare the Wednesday Night following Easter as a day of rest. **There will be no Wednesday night dinner on April 3, 2013.** Meals will be served, as usual, at 6:30 PM for the remaining Wednesday Nights in April with work nights for the 90th Anniversary Celebration replacing the usual study time.

The Deacons plan to re-stripe the parking lot, weather prevailing, prior to the Anniversary Celebration. The lovely banners commemorating our 90th Anniversary were hung in the Sanctuary by Rob Artman and the DWM approved \$300 to be used for the flower bed on the Peabody side of the Church. So many exciting things are happening at Central, that an Interim Banner has been published by John Bennett to keep everyone apprised of all the events.

Carol Scarberry presented Central's generous collection of underwear and Easter clothing to the Church Women United at their March Meeting and they were very pleased with the very large amount presented.

A Motion was made, and unanimously carried, to name John Bennett as the 2013 Chairman-Elect for the General Board of Central Christian Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Johnson, Board Secretary

Our Easter Service

The weather was dreary and yet we had the largest congregation we have had in years. Bill Russell gave a very moving, and thought provoking, message about the Gospels concerning the Resurrection, his theme being “The Folded Napkin”. Amy Lindeman not only prepared an excellent music program but also sang a solo “The Holy City” which brought spontaneous applause from the congregation. Pictured below are the signs outside the Church, the beautifully dressed altar and, the moment in the service, when Bill asked us all to greet someone we had not met before.



Easter Egg Hunt or “Hide the Eggs and They Will Come”

And, that's just what they did! Approximately thirty enthusiastic egg hunters ranging in ages from eighteen months to ten years attended the first Community Easter Egg Hunt, hosted by Central's Outreach Committee on Saturday, March 30. For about two hours, they snatched up the candy-filled Easter eggs by the basketful, and jumped, laughed, screamed, competed for prizes, and gobbled up lots of Easter treats in the Fellowship Hall.. The smaller children had a separate, and enthusiastic, hunt for eggs in the parlor. No child left without a prize. What the weather threatened to dampen, turned into a real Eggstravaganza!

In addition to the Egg Hunt we also had a competition where the children were asked to guess the number of Jelly Beans in a Jar, the winner got the Jar of Beans. Guesses ranged from 82 to 275 but we are not disclosing the exact amount as we will be doing a similar competition next year!

On behalf of the Outreach Committee, we want to thank all who helped make this a success! We could not have done it without your help!



Connie Bennett and John Rainey, showing how it should be done.



The “Sign In” line for the Egg Hunt.



Found one!

Thoughts for the Day

Can an Atheist get Insurance against Acts of God?

Is atheism a non-profit organization?

If you try to fail and succeed, which have you done?

And lastly, what if there were no hypothetical questions?

Central Christian Church Celebrating 90 Years of Ministry in Midtown Memphis

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This Month at Central

There will be no Dinner or Bible study on
Wednesday: April 3rd

Sunday: April 7th
10:15am Bible Class
10:30am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45am Worship Service
12:00 noon Fellowship

Worship Leader: John Bennett
Loaf: John Johnson
Cup: Carol Scarberry

Wednesday: April 10th
6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm 90th Anniversary Work Party

Dinner prepared by:
Katrinka Hall/ Linda Johnson

Sunday: April 14th
10:15am Bible Class
10:30am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45am Worship Service
12:00 noon DWM Luncheon

Worship Leader: Daphne Brown
Loaf: Kathy Young
Cup: Daphne Brown

Wednesday: April 17th
6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm 90th Anniversary Work Party

Dinner Prepared by:
Marcus Mitchell/ Betty Jones

Sunday: April 21st
10:15am Bible Class
10:30am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45am Worship Service
12:00 noon Fellowship

Worship Leader: Mark Rutledge
Loaf: Kathy Young
Cup: Daphne Brown

Wednesday: April 24th
6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm 90th Anniversary Work Party

Dinner Prepared by:
Bill Russell

Sunday: April 28th
10:15am Bible Class
10:30am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45am Worship Service
12:00 noon Fellowship

Worship Leader: Carol Scarberry
Loaf: Mark Rutledge
Cup: Debra Goodnight

Diary Reminders

April

1st and 2nd Passover

13th Last Day for filing
Tax Returns

24th Administrative
Professionals Day

May

5th
90th Anniversary of
Central Christian Church
Celebration

April Birthdays

6th Richard Brown

11th Floyd Scarberry

21st Rob Artman