



# Banner

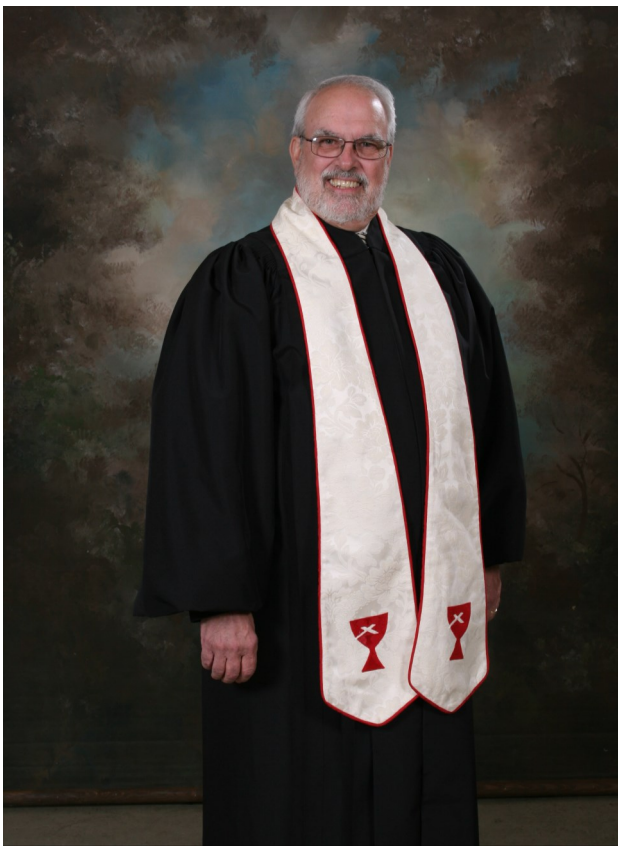


**CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN MID-TOWN MEMPHIS**

**[www.cccmemphistn.org](http://www.cccmemphistn.org)**

**June 2013**

**A Note from Pastor Bill Russell**



I realize that we are almost a month out from our 90th Celebration, but I see and hear from folks almost daily, folks not in our church family, and they still talk about what a magnificent success it was and how glad they were to be with us. So, for one last time, let me say thank you to everyone for the time, talent, energy, and resources which you offered up to make May 5th so wonderful.

I have a personal thank you to the DWM for the portrait which now hangs in the entrance to the fellowship hall. I am honored to be in the company of so many spiritual men, and my prayer is that, at some point, I will feel worthy of being connected to that "great cloud of witnesses". Thank you, ladies; thank you Ken Shoup, and thank all of you, my friends. I am truly humbled.

Look forward, now, and it is almost summer. Our inclination is to slow up a bit, take it easy a tad more, and let things just sort of drift in the heat until fall. In some parts of our lives perhaps we can do that, but if we want to be the best disciples, we have to keep on keeping on. Jesus' work does not recognize summer vacation, nor does our need to continually seek to nurture our soul. I found out last summer that 'summer slump' is not a malady here at Central; nonetheless, if you are in town on Sundays during the summer, remember that God has promised to be with us when we gather. I trust you will be too. Have a happy and Safe Summer! PS Sunday morning fellowship will be in the narthex. The coffee is better out there!

## Food Pantry Month

This month we are collecting for the Grace saint Luke's food pantry. Donations of food should comprise of non-perishable, in date, dried and canned goods only. Of course money will also be gratefully received as this will enable food to be purchased at a discounted rate.

## Spotlight on Giving

Daphne Brown recently shared this Offertory thought and prayer with us:

“Giving is an act of faith. We want to believe that what we have to offer makes a difference in this world. But more than that, we believe in the One who is behind our giving. We may not "see" God with these "eyes of flesh"; we may find it difficult to even catch a glimpse of what God may be doing around us and in us. Likewise, we may not see the effect of what we give, of what we do for Christ. But still, we believe, trusting in the One who is faithful, whose grace we often can only see by faith, day by day. I invite you to give now as an act of faith.”

**PRAYER:** May these gifts be an act of faith in you, O God whose faithfulness is great. Help us in our doubts and fears to realize the ways in which you are making of our lives an offering. Amen

**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 contributions for The Banner must  
be with the Editor and Church Secre-  
tary, John Bennett, by the last Wednes-  
day of the Month.**

## Our Visitors

We were so blessed, in May by so many visitors, far too numerous to mention. Our 90th Celebration Service was attended by some 150 people and we have had at least another 30 visitors during the month. As always everyone is welcome to attend our services, you will be greeted with open arms and, in addition to sharing our worship, you will be able to enjoy our friendship and fellowship.

## Tribute for our 90th Celebration

Among the many messages we have received, regarding our 90th anniversary Celebration, was this note :  
Dear Bill, and Members of Central Christian Church. I almost wish I could think of something else, but the memories of the happy hours spent at Central Christian Church two weeks ago for the anniversary celebration have me obsessed! The only problem was lack of time to visit with everyone I would have liked to and so I do have some serious regrets. But the memories brought back and the faces once so very familiar are now fresh in my mind again.

My sincere thanks to each and every one who had a part in the multitude of details involved in making it such a wonderful event. My heart will treasure the memories of friendships renewed and events long past.

I will continue to watch with interest and love the plans God has for His church on that corner. Do let's keep in touch!

And my love to each and every one of you there!

Helen Gilchrist Marshall



# 90th Anniversary Celebration in Pictures



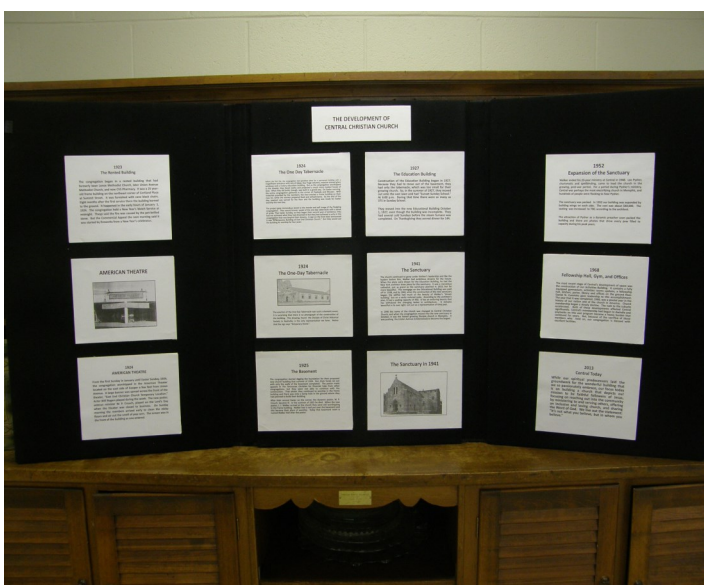
Nancy Woodall Thornton, Claudia Woodall Buchanan , and Debra Goodnight



Clara Holton and Mark Rutledge



Betty Conner and Mary Artman



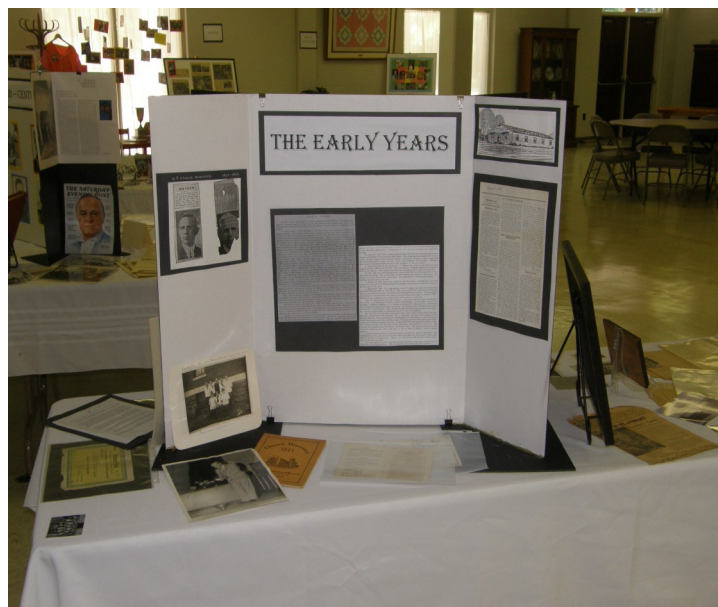
History of the Church compiled by Linda and John Johnson



Pictures of some of the Weddings in our Church Family



Display relating to our Church Music over the years



Some of the many Documents and Artifacts from our Church History

## Essay presented for National Merit Special Scholarship

We are all aware of the great work done by Rachel Greer and, her late husband, Harry. You will recall, last year, she was nominated, by the Commercial Appeal, as one of a select group who, in their view, had made the biggest contribution to make Memphis a better place. Perhaps after reading this essay you will have a better understanding of why!

“Although I have volunteered with many groups during high school, the times I volunteered with Rachel’s Kids were some of the most rewarding because of the leaders I met. I met a man named Harry Greer. He was a computer guy who lived in a suburb of Memphis. He and his wife Rachel, who owned a flower shop in mid-town Memphis, got involved with some inner city kids when one stopped by the shop asking for a job. The teenager came in the flower shop and asked if Rachel had any jobs so he could get money to buy a school uniform.

Rachel was impressed by the kid and gave him a job sweeping the floors. The next day, he came by again with a younger brother. Before long more kids stopped by. Rachel told Harry about this and soon they fixed up a back room so the kids could stop in, do their homework and get a snack. Harry and Rachel started taking the kids to church. Most of them had never been out to a restaurant to lunch not even to a fast food place. Harry and Rachel loaded up the car and took the kids out. They had to come to church to get to go.

Then Harry decided he could do more if he lived near the shop and the kids. Rachel had some extra office space in her shop so Harry set up an office there. He sold his house and bought a house in the Binghampton area where the kids lived. The kids started stopping by in the morning on the way to school to get a Poptart or bowl of cereal. Rachel and Harry started collecting school uniform pants and shirts and washing them so the kids could have something to wear. The group of kids grew. Harry started getting people to tutor. Then he met a doctor who wanted to come to the neighborhood once a week and set up a free clinic to give shots and other free medical service.

When Harry’s elderly neighbor had to move to a nursing home, he sold Harry and Rachel his house next door just for what he owed so Harry could set it up to be like a school for tutoring. Everybody that saw what Harry was doing wanted to help.

I met Harry and Rachel through my Mom. He needed some help on the week of Thanksgiving when I was in the 9th grade. He wanted to make sure all the people in the neighborhood had food. He got a lot of stuff donated but he gave my Mom a list of things he still needed. We bought the food, then we went over to his house and packed up the baskets. The next night we went back and delivered them in the neighborhood. Everyone knew Harry. Even some of the neighborhood kids came over to help us. I still remember my little brother climbing on the back of the truck with some of the younger kids and watching the two of them go up handing out the baskets. The apartments we went to were really in bad shape. Even though it was cold, people were sitting on their front porches just waiting on us to come. It was so different from things I had done before. The people were so grateful.

This may not have seemed like much, but I really learned how people can make a difference in the world. You don’t have to be rich to give of your time and share what you have. I was just really surprised about how Harry and Rachel just had taken these kids and this life for their own. It made me think of other things I could do.

I worked with Harry and Rachel for two years. Last Christmas, (2011), Harry died of cancer but Rachel continues to live in the neighborhood and help the kids.”





## Dedication of Penny's Chapel Garden

On May 5th one of the events, to Celebrate our 90th Anniversary, was the dedication of Penny's Chapel Garden next to the Sanctuary of the church. Penny (Myrtle) Pentecost was a charter member of Central back in 1923. She was represented at the dedication by her daughter Patsy (Pentecost) Amidei of Atlanta, Ga.



Photo (l to r) Bill Russell, Pastor, Central Christian Church, Mark Rutledge, Chair, Property and Grounds, Patsy Amidei, Debra Goodnight, Board Chair, and Glen Stewart, Regional Minister, Christian Church, Disciples of Christ.

A Plaque was “unveiled” in honor of the contribution made by Mark Rutledge to the conception and completion of the garden project.





# Property and Grounds

The past few months have seen great improvements in the repair and general appearance of our Church and other buildings. Not only have we seen new roofing, gutters and down pipes, but also the completion of the Chapel Garden and the painting of the doors etc. has greatly improved our 'curb appeal'.

Internally the redecoration of the parlor was completed and the similar work in the library will soon be finished when the source of the pesky leak is found..

However maintenance of our building is an on-going labor of love. The next project is the updating and of some of the electrical wiring and fuse boxes particularly in the Education Building. This work is urgent as it is a safety issue. Some of the windows in that same building still need urgent replacement if further weather damage to the interior of some of the rooms is to be avoided.

So, in conclusion, don't expect me to stop asking for your time and other resources just yet!

Mark Rutledge, Chairman.

## New Head for John the Baptist And other Weird Headlines

### Federal Agents Raid Gun Shop, Find Weapons

Store Owner Arrested Previously

By Brian Barber  
World Staff Writer

On July 2, undercover narcotics agents served a warrant at Thax's home, [redacted] to search for drugs. They found a stockpile of [redacted]

### Worker suffers leg pain after crane drops 800- pound ball on his head

CHARLESTON (AP) — The state Division of Highways granted contracts to a [redacted] He said he has trouble walking and suffers leg pains.

### Prisoner serving 2,000-year sentence could face more time

WILLIAMSPORT (AP) — David Paul Hammer was looking forward to 2,000 years of starting at the same cement walls, the same wired fences, the same guard towers.

After going on a crime spree of kidnapping and murder attempts following an escape from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary in the early 1980s, 38-year-old Hammer was sentenced to more than a lifetime in federal prison.

Now, the federal government says the 2,000-year sentence may not be enough.

Hammer has admitted to killing

him unconscious and strangling him with a cord. Prosecutors are seeking Hammer's death by lethal injection.

Closing arguments are expected to begin today in the sentencing phase of the trial. A jury will decide whether to sentence Hammer to death or tack on another life sentence and move him to the nation's most secure federal prison, in Florence, Colo.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Frederick Martin is rooting for the former. Throughout the trial and sentencing phase, Martin has described

### New Head for John the Baptist

Headline from Newspaper in Brighton, England, in 1963, on appointment of new Headmaster to local School

### Mississippi's literacy program shows improvement

The Associated Press

and his late wife, Sally, put \$100 million of their own money into the foundation

1 • Mar. 14, 2005 A Legal Journal serving Madison

### Alton attorney accidentally sues himself

By Steve Karris

Alton attorney Emert Wyss

chosen Center Title—a company that Wyss owns close her loans.

In the course of the [redacted]

## Building from the Board

Highlights from the May 16, 2013 General Board Meeting are as follows:

	<u>April</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Total Income:	\$ 4,863	\$ 35,188
Total Expenses:	\$ 12,081	\$ 45,442
Net Income/Expenses:	(\$ 7,218)	(\$ 10,255)

George Goodnight, our videographer, recorded the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Service in its entirety, and it may be viewed on YouTube.

The roof repairs have been completed and the gutters are in place. The fuse box needs to be replaced, and there are some lighting issues that need attention. Donations toward the roof repairs, gutter replacement and lighting projects are welcome and appreciated.

We have a beautifully redecorated library that is now available for use. The building and grounds underwent several “face-lifts” in preparation for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, and we have a beautiful place in which to worship.

Central will host a meeting on May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> with Patty Chase, Rebecca Hale and church leadership from Central Christian Church, Lindenwood Christian Church and Mississippi Boulevard to discuss possible participation in a one-year voluntary ministry for young adults to serve the underserved in the community. A report on the meeting will be made at the June Board Meeting.

Preparation will begin immediately for the Summer Sale scheduled for June 22, 2013. A lot of help and support is needed to put on this event. We need meal hosts for work days, donated items for the sale, and lots of volunteers for labor. Please see Debra Goodnight, if you are interested in hosting a meal. You are invited to share your time and talents. Blessings are guaranteed!

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Johnson, Board Secretary

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNERS

Wednesday Night Family Dinners were a little different for the month of May. The first Wednesday Night of the month was declared as a “night of rest” to recover from the arduous labors of love in preparation of our memorable 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. George Goodnight served his and Debra’s greatly anticipated traditional Mexican meal in celebration of Cinco de Mayo. As hard as their act was to follow, Rob and Micki Artman hosted a grand fish fry with “the works.” The grand finale for this segment was the men’s cook-out in which they served steak, baked potatoes, and all the trimmings.- Central is truly blessed with culinary talents.

The Wednesday Night Family Dinner recess that begins the week of Memorial Day will be deferred until the Month of July. Instead of taking the month off, we will use the Wednesday Night hour to prepare for the Summer Sale. Just think--15 volunteers equals 15 hours of work! We will have a light supper, prepared by volunteer hosts, and begin work immediately on the big event.

You will be notified of any special meal occasions between July and September and a new Meal Host Schedule will be distributed prior to September.

Our special thanks to all the meal hosts for making the first segment of our Wednesday Night Family Dinners splendid!

Respectfully,  
Linda Johnson and Daphne Brown, Co-chairs  
Wednesday Night Dinner

*Central Christian Church Celebrating 90 Years of Ministry in Midtown Memphis*

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## **This Month at Central**

**Saturday: 1st**  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm Work Day for Summer Sale

Lunch Host: Daphne Brown

**Sunday: 2nd**  
10:15 am Bible Class  
10:00 am Coffee and Fellowship in the Narthex  
10:45 am Worship Service  
12:00 noon Work Party for Summer Sale

Worship Leader: John Bennett  
Loaf: George Goodnight  
Cup: Kathy Young  
Lunch Host: Wesley Goodnight

**Wednesday: 5th**  
6:30 pm Work Party for Summer Sale

Dinner Host: John & Linda Johnson

**Saturday: 8th**  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm Work Day for Summer Sale

Lunch Host: Mark Rutledge

**Sunday: 9th**  
10:15 am Bible Class  
10:00 am Coffee and Fellowship in the Narthex  
10:45 am Worship Service  
12:00 noon Work Party for Summer Sale

Worship Leader: Daphne Brown  
Loaf: Carol Scarberry  
Cup: Mark Rutledge  
Lunch Host: Quay and Herb Butts

**Wednesday: 12th**  
6:30 pm Work Party for Summer Sale

Dinner Host: Carol and Floyd Scarberry

**Saturday: 15th**  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm Work Day for Summer Sale

Lunch Host: Debra and George Goodnight

**Sunday: 16th**  
10:15 am Bible Class  
10:00 am Coffee and Fellowship in the Narthex  
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: John Rainey  
Loaf: Mark Rutledge  
Cup: Daphne Brown

**Wednesday: 19th**  
6:30 pm Work Party for Summer Sale

Dinner Host: Rob and Micki Artman

**Thursday: 20th**  
6:30 pm Meeting of the Elders  
7:00 pm Meeting of the General Board

**Sunday: 23rd**  
10:15 am Bible Class  
10:00 am Coffee and Fellowship in the Narthex  
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: Carol Scarberry  
Loaf: Richard Brown  
Cup: John Johnson

**Wednesday: 26th**  
6:30 pm Work Party Post-Summer Sale

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

Worship Leader: George Goodnight  
Loaf: Kathy Young  
Cup: Debra Goodnight

### **Diary Reminders**

**Sunday June 16th**  
**Father's Day**

**Saturday June 22nd**  
**Summer Sale**

### **Birthdays**

**5th**

**Jane Bond**

**8th**

**Lyndi Lott**

**14th**

**Henry Lindeman**

**23rd**

**Quay Butts**

**25th**

**Vannie Huey**