

Central Christian Church **Banner**



August 2014

A Note from our Pastor, Bill Russell



Ice Cream Social

On Sunday, 20th July, we enjoyed our "Sing a Long" Sunday service followed by an Ice Cream Social hosted by Mark Rutledge. See inside, page 6, for more on this wonderful morning.

Pictured are Mark Rutledge, Priscilla Nelms and Jennifer Stevens.

What a wonderful, albeit bitter-sweet, the month of July was. We said goodbye to two longtime, dear friends, Bob Brown and Georges Smith, and we will certainly miss them. We welcomed back with big smiles and open arms Peggy Brown. We rejoiced with Michael Simmons as he came forward to profess his belief in Christ as his savior and to join our congregation as we journey together in faith. July was just a microcosm of life itself, some as bitter as an un-ripe persimmon, some as sweet as the icing on the cakes that the DWM ladies will be selling on election day. The good news is that whether today is sweet, and we want to make it last, or whether we would rather spit it out, we don't have to do it alone. Peggy and Michael have joined us so that we can travel with them and hold them up on their spiritual trek. And, praise God, none of us has to travel alone. Jesus goes with us, each step, every day, all the way.

Bill Russell

Spotlight on Giving

On Sunday, July 27th, Shula Shaw-Cangelosi shared with us the following offertory homily;

“My husband Russ had my Bible rebound for me recently. It would have been less expensive to buy a new one, but this Bible was my high school graduation gift in 1975 from the Presbyterian Church where I was a member during my "growing up" years and on into adulthood. For almost 40 years this Bible has been my companion- sometimes read with joy and thanksgiving- sometimes with pain and sadness, but it has always been a source of strength AND a link to that little church that made a huge impact on my life.’

‘The church is no longer there, and most of the former members have gone on to be with Jesus. We were small in number but mighty in hope, generosity, and love.’”

We need to remember and celebrate what a difference Central Christian Church makes in people's lives with our gifts and offerings. We, too, are small in number but mighty in hope, generosity, and love.

Always Room for Humor

In this edition I am paying tribute to one of the all time best wordsmiths, Phyllis Diller, who died two years ago this month. This edition is peppered with her one liners, i.e. “A bachelor is a guy who never made the same mistake once”.

New and Re-joining Members

What a great month here at Central, with the return of Peggy Browne. We are so pleased to have you back.

We are also so blessed to receive in our fold a new member, Michael Simmonds. Michael has been visiting us for some months and you will remember how helpful and industrious he was at our Summer Sale in June.

It is also such a pleasure to see Sarah Jane Smith back with us, following the recent death of her husband, Georges. We know she is seeking the companionship and love of her Church family and that we can provide.



Peggy Browne and Sarah Jane Smith enjoying themselves at our recent Ice Cream Social.



Michael Simmonds

Editor's Note

**IF YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THE
BANNER BY E-MAIL CONTACT
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AT 901-497-4385**

or by e-mail at: wesalsdadd@hotmail.com.

**All contributions for the August issue must
be submitted to the Church Office by July
28th.**

In Memoriam

Sadly we said farewell to our Lay minister Emeritus, Georges Smith in July. Georges will be sadly missed as a friend but also for the tireless way he carried out the office of Lay Minister particularly with his visits to the sick and shut-ins.

His funeral service was attended by many of our congregation and was a very moving experience. Bill Russell and George Goodnight spoke heartfelt words of love and remembrance of Georges' life. ‘Taps’ was played and two members of the armed forces attended for the flag folding ceremony. The folded flag was presented to Sarah Jane Smith.

Building from the Board

Our Monthly board Meeting was held on July 17th and opened with prayer and with a request from Bill Russell that we remember the families of people who have lost their lives in both the Malaysian Air disaster and in the continuing Israel and Gaza situation.

The treasurers report included figures for both May and June and disclosed for the two months a total income of \$25,989 expenses totaling \$17917. Income included a legacy of \$14,383 for our Building fund.

The Chairman requested that any inquiries regarding the accounts be directed to the Financial Secretary, Treasurer or Chairman, in the first instance, rather than to the Jim Carls. It was noted that Jim prepares the accounts and tax information for a nominal fee. In appreciation of the work Jim does for the Church it was resolved that a restaurant gift card be sent to him.

Linda Johnson reported that the DWM have set October 18th as the date of the Autumn Evening Event. They have also approved \$500 for new Hymnals and had also discussed improvements to the Church secretary's office.

Floyd Scarberry as buildings and Grounds Chairman reported on estimates received for repairs to the roof of the Gymnasium Building and for the replacement of windows in the Education Building. Approval was given to the roof repairs to be carried out at a cost not to exceed the lowest estimate received to date. Further estimates were to be obtained for the window replacements.

Micki Artman reported for the Outreach Committee on all their current projects, the special collections, the back-pack ministry, the food pantry collection. Appreciation was expressed for the great work of that committee.

Linda Johnson, Board Secretary

The reason the golf pro tells you to keep your head down is so you can't see him laughing.
Phyllis Diller

Church Notice Board

On the right is pictured Pat Hammond who, on July 6th, gave us a stirring rendition of the Star Spangled Banner.

Our Music Director Amy Lindeman has been enjoying a well earned Summer break and in her stead we have been privileged to have our music supplied by Layne Wilson, pictured on the far right with her husband Forrest.

Bill Russell will be away on Sunday August 31st and the message will be in given to us by Kathy Young, our Lay minister .



Bake Sale for Democracy on August 7th!

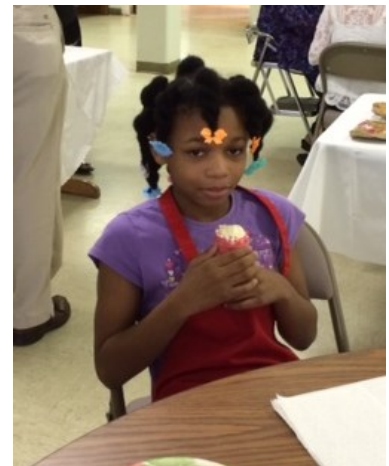
You should be aware that August 7th is an Election Day and that, once again, we have been chosen as one of the Voting stations. It has become a tradition that we have a Bake Sale on voting day and not only does this help the Community as a whole in funding our Outreach programs but it has resulted in our Polling Station having one of the largest turnouts in the city. Please bring your baked goods for the sale by the Wednesday 6th. For more details speak to Pat Hammond who, as usual, is organizing this event in her own inimitable style.



July Social Events

On July 20th we enjoyed a Sing-a-Long Sunday Service. Instead of a Pastors message that day we enjoyed hearing hymns chosen by members of the congregation including such old favorites as Onward Christian Soldiers, Bringing in the Sheaves and The Navy Hymn. After the service we enjoyed an Ice Cream Social hosted by Mark Rutledge where we were treated to ice cream with a multiple choice of toppings together with cookies.

On Wednesday 23th we were served Tops Barbeque with all the usual sides and desserts. After the meal we were treated to a games evening with prizes comprised of candy and baked goods made by Church members



Best way to get rid of kitchen odors: Eat out.

-Phyllis Diller

Buildings and Grounds

At the recent Board Meeting approval was given for the repairs to our leaky Gymnasium Building roof. The contractors, Seamless Systems, were soon on the job, as can be seen from the picture on the right.

Just one more thing off our “honey do” list!

Next month, hopefully we can start replacing the old and rotted windows in the Education building.



Future events

Summer Vegetable Dinner :

On August 20th we be having our annual vegetable dinner and invite all our members and friends to attend. We are excited to announce that the profit from the \$6.00 per person dinner will be sent to Week Of Compassion to assist with the needs of the many children from Central America seeking refuge from violence. Debra Goodnight & Micki Artman, Outreach Chairpersons, will present the program highlighting this timely issue.

Please plan to join your church family for a menu taken from church members’ gardens of squash casserole, fried okra, new potatoes & green beans, corn on the cob, marinated cucumbers, fresh sliced tomatoes, cornbread & dessert.

Save the Date – Autumn Evening in Central Gardens- October 18

The date has been set so mark your calendars and tell your friends! What can you do now? You can go through your home for ‘Treasures’ and give them to Daphne Brown for the beautiful display in the Treasures area and you can contact merchants for Silent Auction items for our Action area and give those to Carol Scarberry.



Our new signage

DWM Luncheon on August 10th

The DWM will host a pot-luck salad luncheon on Sunday, August 10, 2014, and as part of our 2014 theme of “Body, Mind and Spirit,” Kelly Askins, MD, psychiatrist, will present the program with a focus on mental health. Please join us for lunch and a very interesting program. A brief business meeting will follow the program.

Dr. Kelly Askins is a psychiatrist in Memphis, Tennessee. He received his medical degree from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis and has been in practice for 25 years.

Clothing Closet

The two pictures represent the scene, at our free Clothes Closet, just minutes after the doors opened on Saturday August 2nd.

By the time the doors closed about 50 people had been outfitted, including a child who was being baptized the following day. She needed white clothing and, of course, we were able to help.

In addition to clothing we provided coffee, orange juice together with sausage and biscuits.

It was heartwarming to our volunteers to hear the comments and praise for our Church, and what we do, from the grateful families who attended.



Most children threaten at times to run away from home. This is the only thing that keeps some parents going.

-Phyllis Diller

A Thank You from Carol Scarberry

Many of you will have read of the tragic murder of Sgt. 1st Class Michael W. Braden, a married father, who served 27 years. He was shot and killed at the Tennessee National Guard Armory in Lobelville,

Carol writes:

“Dear Friends:

Thank you for your cards, calls and mostly for your prayers at the time of the death of my nephew, Michael. Our church family is a living support to us.”



Outreach

No one can claim that Central does not have a generous congregation. This sentiment can be seen in everything we do, even in the collection of our Special Offerings each year. To date this year our generous givings to the Special Offerings are as follows;

Christmas 2013 Offering -\$627 (sent in January 2014)

Week of Compassion - \$674.50

Gideon's Offering - \$163.00

Easter Offering - \$440

Pentecost Offering - \$ 343

BACKPACK MINISTRY

You may recall that at the beginning of this year the Outreach Committee brought to you a service project for not only the Outreach Committee but for the entire congregation. We started the "Backpack Ministry" by taking donations and collecting items to fill backpacks to be given to the homeless. We have created 11 backpacks and distributed 8 to the homeless. The Outreach committee will review this program over the next few months to determine if additional backpacks should be created. If so, more funds and items will need to be collected at that time.

FOOD PANTRY

It is almost time to start looking in our pantries and cabinets again. August is the next month we will be collecting items for the food pantry at Grace St. Luke's. Did you know that the food pantry at Grace St Luke's distributes a three day supply of groceries on an emergency basis to families in crisis? Many families who are facing trauma and who are not (yet) homeless, food pantry assistance can bridge the road to recovery or more long term assistance. The most needed items are usually dry milk, canned meats, nutritious cereals, toilet paper, soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Be on the look out for the collection signs around Central in August.

Outreach Committee

Debra Goodnight Micki Artman

I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them.

-Phyllis Diller

School Supplies

It's that time of year when we collect school supplies for children in the Binghamton area.

Please donate such items as crayons, pencils, rulers, writing pads, erasers etc. Alternatively make a cash donation which will enable these supplies to be purchased in bulk.

Please speak to Carol Scarberry or contact the Church Office for more information.

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This Month at Central

Sunday 3rd

9:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service
12:00 noon Fellowship

Worship Leader: Daphne Brown
Loaf: George Goodnight
Cup: Richard Brown

Wednesday 6th

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 10th

9:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service
12:00 noon DWM Luncheon

Worship Leader: John Bennett
Loaf: Kathy Young
Cup: George Goodnight

Wednesday 13th

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 17th

19:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service
12:00 noon

Worship Leader: Richard Brown
Loaf: Daphne Brown
Cup: Carol Scarberry

Wednesday 20th

Vegetable Dinner and Program

Sunday 24th

9:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service

Worship Leader: Carol Scarberry
Loaf: Debra Goodnight
Cup: Richard Brown

Wednesday 27th

No Dinner or Program

Sunday 17th

19:45 am Bible Class
10:30 am Coffee in the Narthex
10:45 am Worship Service: Kathy Young, Minister
12:00 noon

Worship Leader: Debra Goodnight
Loaf: John Bennett
Cup: Daphne Brown

August Diary Reminders

7th
Bake Sale

17th
Semi-Annual
Congregational
Meeting

14th
Meetings of Elders
and General Board

Birthdays
1st
Wesley Goodnight
8th

Marcia Thraikill
8th

Bill Pennington
10th

Dennis Hall
28th

Clay Artman
29th
Carol Scarberry

You know you're old
if they have discon-
tinued your blood
type.
-Phyllis Diller