

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



This time last year, we were welcoming 2020 with open arms. To say that 2020 was a disappointment is an understatement. I pray that we do not look at the coming year negatively, heavily influenced by 2020. We don't know what the new year will bring. We do know that Emmanuel will be with us, in good times and bad. There will be opportunities and blessings, joys and celebrations. There will also be sadness, hurt, and disappointment.

The promise we all have for the new year is God's loving presence with us. Let's step forward eagerly, waiting to worship together, to serve together, to fellowship together. God has promised us abundant life. Let's go love it together. Happy New Year, friends

*"Hope and faith flower from the cheerful seeds of the old year to the sprouting garden of the new year's dawn." Terri Guillemets*



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Editor in Chief: Diane Senger  
Cub Reporter: Mark Rutledge  
Proofer: John B. Rainey  
Roving Photographer: George Goodnight

Recently overheard comment from one of the *Banner* staff members: "I would quit all my bad habits for the new year, but then I remembered that nobody likes a quitter."

## IN-PERSON WORSHIPPING AT CENTRAL

In December the Board decided unanimously to wait until the COVID-19 situation improved in the Memphis area. Hopefully, sometime in the spring, Central will once again be open for in-person worshipping.



## BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 2021

All Board Members at Central need to mark their calendars for Wednesday evening, January 20th from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The date is set aside for the first Board meeting of the New Year. The meeting will be via conference call.

As a reminder the conference number is:  
**602-580-9862 Access code: 2576798**

## Message From Debra Goodnight Chairperson of the Board



Dear Friends:

As we begin the New Year, we want to thank God for bringing us safely through 2020 and for those servants at Central who helped sustain the church in 2020. To our Minister, Bill Russell – he has continued to guide and lead us on our spiritual journey with thoughtful worship messages and Bible Study. God has planted Bill firmly at Central to be a Blessing for such a time as this!

We also thank Diane Senger, John Rainey, and Layne Wilson as they fulfilled their staff positions at the church during very difficult times. Thanks go to Mark Rutledge for leading the church in spectacular fashion as Chairman of the Board in 2020. Mark, please accept our heartfelt appreciation for all you did in 2020! Lastly, to George Goodnight for his dedication to taping & uploading the Bible Study & Worship Services on YouTube weekly since March – it was a huge effort and greatly appreciated!

We want to thank our Members & Friends for your offerings during 2020 – you have made it possible to maintain the missions and the upkeep of the church, underwrite the salaries, pay all the expenses and start 2021 with a cushion in the bank account. We are grateful for your generous giving!

The Lord has certainly blessed Central during this year & we give him All the Glory! We will navigate 2021 together with God's help and guidance.

**May God bless and protect each of you! Pray for each other and pray for Central!**

Grace & Peace in 2021,

Debra Goodnight, Chairperson of the Board

## PRESENTING NEXT YEAR'S LEADERS AT CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The *Banner* is proud to announce the leaders who will help direct and maintain our church for next year (2021). They are:

### Board Officers:

**Chairperson-of-the-Board:** Debra Goodnight  
**Chairperson-Elect:** John Johnson  
**Financial Secretary:** George Goodnight  
**Treasurer:** John Bennett  
**Secretary:** Linda Johnson

### Trustees:

John Johnson  
John Bennett  
Kathy Young

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### Church Officers (Elders)

**Chairperson:** Mark Rutledge

Debra Goodnight  
George Goodnight  
John Bennett  
Linda Johnson  
John Johnson  
Mary Artman (Emeritus)  
Carol Scarberry  
Kathy Young

### Church Officers (Deacons)

**Chairperson:** Randy Pennington

Floyd Scarberry  
Connie Bennett  
Dorothy Feimster  
Micki Artman  
John Rainey  
Wesley Goodnight  
Brad Lott  
Michael Simmons

Clay Artman  
Allen Goodnight

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### Committee Chairpersons

**Buildings & Grounds:** Mark Rutledge with George Goodnight & Wesley Goodnight  
**Christian Education:** Kathy Young  
**DWM:** Micki Artman  
**Evangelism:** Bill Russell  
**Outreach:** John Rainey  
**Fellowship:** John Bennett  
**Wednesday Night Dinner:** Linda Johnson  
**Membership:** Carol Scarberry  
**Wedding Liaison:** Diane Senger  
**Communication:** George Goodnight  
**Events Coordinator:** Mark Rutledge

## DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY SERVICE PROJECTS FOR 2020



Thanks to more people than we would ever be able to mention in this article the DWM Service Project for December 2020 was once again a true blessing. This year's service project was truly a joint effort that included in no particular order, the Women's Group at Faith Christian Church, Kingsway Christian Church, CCC DWM and of course, our always faithful congregation and their donations to our ministries. Thanks to all we were able to donate \$1,000.00 to Rachel's Kids for gift cards for 10 families to help with Christmas.

Thank you to all who were so generous this year with your prayers and blessings!

Micki Artman, President DWM

*Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering, 'It will be happier.'* Alfred Lord Tennyson

## VIDEOTAPING ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES



For the past several month, Central's video crew has been taping worship services so that members can worship safely from home. The above photos were taking at two different tapings. Now, put on your "Sherlock Holmes" hats. Can you deduct which photo was taken for which Advent service?

# PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR 2020 CHURCH YEAR



Left: George Goodnight at the February "Souper Sunday"



Right: Quay Butts, Dorothy Feimster and Carol Scarberry at the March Bake Sale



Above: Floyd Scarberry—Caught the big one in May.

Below: Do you remember "Guess Who" in the August Banner?



Left: Emily Goodnight, Anne Russell, Bill Russell at the June 7th "Baby Shower Parade"



Below: John Bennett shows off wood-working talents in the October Banner.



Above: Central's own Diana Senger appeared in the September Banner by washing windows before an upcoming election.



Above: Paramedic testing begins in November.



Left: The staff appears on the front cover of the December issue of the Banner, wishing everyone at Central Christian Church a Merry Christmas.



531 S. McLean at Peabody,  
Memphis, TN 38104-5102



OFFICE: 901-276-2708  
WWW.CCCMEMPHISTN.ORG  
EMAIL: CENTRALCHRISTIAN@CCCMEMPHISTN.ORG

## OUTREACH: REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED



In recent issues of the *Banner*, John Bennett showed off his wood-working talents as well as his knitting skills. Knowing there is always a need to help those less fortunate, John took the initiative to knit hats and socks to help with Outreach at Central. The photo on the left shows just a few of the items that John created. Members at Central also donated purchased socks, gloves, and clothing to give to anyone asking for help in addition to handing out Snack Bags.

The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who help support Outreach this year. "We couldn't have done it without you!", says John Rainey, Chairman of Outreach.

At right is a colorful example of John Bennett's handy work.



## January at Central

### Birthdays

Brad Lott  
1/4



### Church Calendar for January

1 - New Years Day  
5 - Compassion Clinic  
18 - Martin Luther  
King Day  
19 - Compassion Clinic  
20 - Board Meeting  
6-7 pm via conf.  
call

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)