



2022



Message From Pastor Bill Russell



Pastor Bill Russell

How wonderful it is to be back in our sanctuary worshipping with our friends and family! Now Central Christian, Kingsway Christian, Lindenwood Christian, and First Baptist Church are looking forward to worshipping together Maundy Thursday, April 14th at Kingsway Christian Church. Service will begin at 7:00 p.m.

I hope that the Lenten Season has thus far been a meaningful time for each of you, and that all of Holy Week will be a blessing. For the Christian, Easter is the holiest of all days. Were it not for the resurrection of our Lord, there would be no salvation. Let's worship and rejoice together. Alleluia!



Ash Wednesday



Above: Sanctuary at First Baptist Church

On Wednesday, March 2nd, members from Central Christian Church, as well as members from Kingsway Christian and Lindenwood Christian, celebrated Ash Wednesday along with members at First Baptist Church. Pastors from each church participated in the evening's service.



Early morning photo of Central on March 9th

ON THE INSIDE

Be sure to read the continuing sagas of the *Wedding Story* and the *Case of the Misguided Package* on page 2. Turn to pages 2 thru 5 to read happenings around the church. There's a photo review on page 4 of the big Work Day on Saturday, March 12th. And on page 5, Waldo Gumshoe on another case.



Editor in Chief: Diane Senger

Cub Reporter: Mark Rutledge

Proofer: John Rainey

Roving Photographer: George Goodnight





Two Churches Working As Partners



Early last year CDC guidelines directed that, in order to lower the risk of being infected with the “you-know-what” virus, individuals should distance themselves 6’ apart. Members at Christ City Church took the initiative by placing X’s 6 feet apart on the Sanctuary pews.

Recently the CDC has indicated that social distancing could be relaxed. Once again Christ City has taken the initiative to remove the taped X’s from the pews. In the photo above Ben Higdon (Christ City) and Mark Rutledge (Central Christian) work together to “peel off” the painter’s tape that marked social distancing. Central’s secretary Diane Senger also helped removed the tape as well as taking the above photo.

Pre Yard Sale Held

On Saturday, March 5th, Central Christian Church helped host a yard sale, along with their sponsor, Christ City Church, for the Girl Scouts. The sale gave Central Christian a chance to set up a few tables to sell items and to let people know about the upcoming BIG yard sale on Saturday April 9th. The April yard sale is to help raise funds to replace the two damaged outside doors leading into the Sanctuary.



Connie Bennett



Mark Rutledge

Help from Connie Bennett, John Bennett, and Mark Rutledge made the “pre yard sale” a success. Several people stopped by and commented that they had missed Central’s yard sale.



A Wedding Story With A Happy Ending? Part 2

(continued from the March issue of the *Banner*)

In the March issue of the *Banner*, the wedding plans of Joseph Humphries and his bride Narra had to be put on hold due to the “you-know-what” virus. As you may recall, Joseph was an Ellendale electrician who had done work at Central.



The original date of the wedding was January 22nd, with plans to have only 6 or 7 people attending the wedding. However, the date was changed to February 19th, when more guests were able to attend the wedding. The wedding, of course, had to be moved to the Sanctuary. With more guests and a beautiful Sanctuary, Joseph’s mother, Barbara, stepped in to decorate with flowers and rose petals.

With the help of Central’s members, isle candles and appropriate music was added to the festivities. As you can see in the above photo, the wedding was beautiful.

The “Misguided Package” Part 2

(continued from the March issue of the *Banner*)

In Part 1, a “Misguided Package” arrived at Central addressed to Ms. Ann Harris. Waldo Gumshoe, the church private investigator, used various resources to contact the young lady. In fact, the young lady is in a very “delicate way”, as the contents of the package indicated. (See photo of package contents).

Mr. Gumshoe used his connection with LinkedIn and discovered that Ms. Harris is an attorney working for a law firm out of Virginia. She currently lives in Memphis, and is working from home. In fact, she lives just a few houses south of Central Christian Church.



Ms. Harris came by the church to meet Mr. Gumshoe and the staff, and to thank everyone for their effort. “Keep the package. Amazon sent me another one!” Go figure!



The BIG YARD SALE!



Yard Sale On Saturday April 9

8 a.m. until 1'ish

Workday: Wed., April 6th , 5:00 p.m. until 8'ish

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN HOSTS LOCAL FIREMEN

Tony McCallum, the gentleman in the short-sleeved shirt, third from the left, is no stranger to Central Christian



Church. Tony and his crew are at Central once a month to test candidates for the National Registry of EMTs and Paramedics. This time, Tony hosted firemen from the tri-state area who needed to complete a refresher course to renew their EMT and paramedic licenses. Approximately fourteen firemen attended the 4-day event, with one who called in from Spain!



Now, Ain't That Grand!



Movers from Amro Music delivered a grand piano as a gift from Grace St. Luke's (GSL) Episcopal Church. GSL was given a new baby grand and the "powers that be" found a good home at Central for the baby grand they had for several years. The men and women worked diligently to bring in the piano. John Rainey, Central's church custodian, also volunteered his help (see photos).



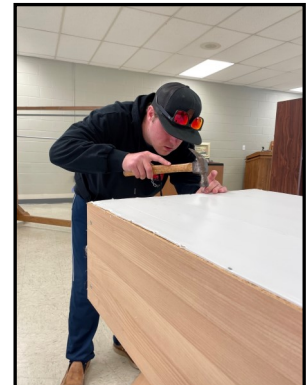
Top left: Amro workers moving the baby grand; (top center) moving the piano inside the church; (bottom left) workers and custodian John Rainey placing the baby grand in its new home; (center bottom) the "new" baby grand; (top right) Layne Wilson enjoying playing the baby grand.



March 12: The Big Work Day

March 12th 2022 saw members and friends of Central Christian at a workday to repair, clean, and store items throughout the church. John Bennett worked on cleaning out items temporarily stored in the library, while Rob Artman and Clay Artman worked on repairs, which included adding new door stops and an opener. Linda Johnson helped unpack and hang clothes that came in for the yard sale. John Rainey was assigned the task to start cleaning out and straightening out the Janitor's Closet. Layne Wilson, who plays the piano for Central on Sunday mornings, vacuumed the pastor's office as well as the Parlor/Sunday School rooms. A new comer to the group, Forrest Wilson (Layne's husband), helped by cleaning out the storage area under the stairs leading up to the second floor of the Educational Building.

At lunch time the workers were given a wonderful and tasty lunch of a variety of quiches and an assorted of fresh fruit.



The Working Crew!

Top Left: John Rainey cleaning out Janitor's Closet; Top Right: Forrest Wilson cleaning out storage area; Left: Layne Wilson spiffing up Pastor's office.

Top Row: John Bennett cleaning up the library; photo on right after John's work.

Middle Row - Rob Artman, Clay Artman making needed repairs on items in the Fellowship Hall.

Bottom Row: Randy Pennington (left) and Linda Johnson (right) storing incoming yard sale items.



More Than Contract Bridge At Central Christian Church!

Monday and Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. finds avid bridge players in the Fellowship Hall at Central Christian Church. But, little do the players know that their group leader is a “poet laureate”. Here’s a sample of his latest work:

THE LAST DAY OF WINTER

by Mark Gilley

The Frost Giant Winter had scarcely turned
his back

When buds began to sprout

(They mischievously hid beneath the snow).

Soon Old Man Winter will be

A paper tiger to be burned,

A scarecrow with his straw rotted by rain.

Strange, when he caused me so much pain
and longing

I would want him back again –

To trade these sun-filled days

for winter dreams.

Soon the Springtide life regains its sway.

I wish I could hold it back another day.

.... And the Mystery Continues!



Waldo Gumshoe, Central Christian’s personal private investigator, had just closed the case of the *Misguided Package* when he was summoned once again to investigate the trail of the mysterious doner or donors

who leave items outside the kitchen door.

Three packages full of clean, usable clothes, linens, and personable items were found. Church Custodian John Rainey brought them inside and immediately contacted Mr. Gumshoe. The world renown investigator asked that the contents of the package be inspected in order to find possible clues as to who secretly delivered them to the church. Mark Rutledge, Chairman of Property and Grounds, inspected the packages. To his surprise and delight, the contents of one package contained a beautiful and striking set of blue curtains.

Mr. Gumshoe and his loyal companion and trusted hound named Barry are “sniffing” out the trail! The word has it that the case may be solved by May. Stay tuned for the conclusion of this mystery.



Left photo: John Rainey discovers donated items; Right photo: Mark Rutledge displays the gifted curtains.



The Flower Children Have Returned!

After a brief hiatus because of the “you-know-what” pandemic, members of the African Violets Society have returned to the Fellowship Hall at Central Christian Church. Members of this group arrived early Saturday morning March 26th to set up for a show and sale of African violets. Photos on the right show members preparing tables and displays for this event. The “Flower Children” are planning another show and sale sometime in September.



Viewing clockwise, members gather around for a photo of the member’s plant display. Center photo shows a sample of one of the plants up for sale. The other two photos are members setting up for the sale.

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Happenings in April 2022

Happy Birthday!



Rob Artman 4/21



Below is the list of those serving as
Worship Leader in April:

Date	Worship Leader
3	George Goodnight
10	Kathy Young
17	Carol Scarberry
24	John Bennett

100 Year Anniversary

Count down to
May 5th of 2023
13 Months

May 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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Church Calendar for April

2 - Beethoven Club's
Young Artist Competition
6 - Work Day: Yard Sale
9 - The Big Yard Sale
10 - Dock Party -Scarberry's
14 - Maundy Thursday
16 - African Violet Meeting
17 - Easter Sunday
23 - Paramedic Testing
TBD - TN Disciples Women's
Spiritual Journey



A Gentle Reminder

For Maundy Thursday Service:

7:00 p.m., April 14th,

Kingsway Christian Church,

7887 Poplar Ave, Germantown,

The Memphis Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Monday and Friday at Central starting at 10:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome.



From the PUN factory: Many aspiring newspaper reporters take jobs in ice cream parlors. "Why do they do that?", you ask? To learn how to get the scoop!



GOT FREE TIME?

Helping hands are needed to pull weeds from the gardens, and hang clothes for the yard sale. All are welcomed!

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