



A Message from Rev. Bill Russell



Pastor Bill Russell

I just want to thank all of you for your wonderful expressions of love and concern during the last four weeks as I am recovering from my surgery. 2021 has not been a fun year for me, but you, my church family, have been there every step of the way, and you continue to be. I have said repeatedly that Central does not play Church, Central DOES Church.

You have brought God's love to me in huge amounts and in many ways, and I know you take it to so many others. I am blessed beyond words to serve with you. Thank you.



Wow! The Lindemans!

On Sunday, June 27th, the congregation at Central Christian Church was treated with some special music sung by lead singer Russell Lindeman, and his back-up accompaniment Amy Lindeman. (Yep! They're related!) They sang *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* as Layne Wilson accompanied on the piano.



An idle church? Not Central Christian!

This issue of the *Banner* will show to all who read it that Central Christian Church is alive and well! Don't miss reading not only what our church members are doing, but what is happening at the church today, and what the church will be doing in the future!

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From the *Banner* staff: Articles for the September issue of the *Banner* must be turned before noon, August 26th.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL
NEWS**

See page 3



MLG&W and Central

It appears that MLG&W is inching closing to completing their project which started over a month ago. The old gas line has been replaced, and now the work to replace that sidewalk has begun. The old sidewalk had to be removed, but MLG&W has begun to replace it with a new one.

The first photo below shows the sidewalk demolition that began way-back-when. The photo next to it shows cement being poured over the new gas pipe. The bottom photo shows what the sidewalk looks like at the beginning of July.

Mark Rutledge,
Chairman of Property & Ground



Sidewalk Demolition



Pouring Concrete



MLG&W Welder At Work



Not yet a sidewalk



He's Back At Work!

As the saying goes: "You can't keep a good man down!" This is certainly true when it comes to Pastor Bill Russell (pictured left). Just days after two surgery procedures, Bill is back with us along side with his faithful companion Rosie.



Brandon Martin, a member of Christ City Church, came to the rescue on Sunday afternoon after all church services were over. Christ City was planning to have a cook out and to set up a water slide for the *young-at-heart* members. The problem arose when the hose was connected to the outside spigot which was covered with duck tape (don't ask!) to prevent leaking when turned on. Brandon came to the rescue and quickly made the repairs needed to stop the leak. He had the right part at the right time! Central Christian Church would like to thank Brandon for stepping in and resolving the leaky problem for both churches.

Snow Lake Celebration

Carol and Floyd Scarberry invited Central's church members and friends to a wonderful celebration of Independence Day. Visitors began to arrive around two o'clock on Saturday, July 3rd and were treated to boat rides on Snow Lake as well as a bar-b-que dinner followed by spectacular fire works later that evening. One guest from Central (John Rainey) was asked if he enjoyed the celebration. John replied: "Everything was perfect - especially since I caught the most fish and the biggest one, too".



(Top left above) "Captain" Bob Cannon helping to dock Floyd's pontoon boat; (top right above) John Rainey displays his "almost" trophy fish; (Lower right) fireworks celebrating July 4th at Snow Lake.



Shhh! It's A Secret !



One of the best kept secrets at Central Christian Church is the adult Sunday School class. Kathy Young, who has been teaching the Bible for several years now, has brought a new and interesting way of learning from the scriptures. In the photo is Kathy (center) with Dorothy Feimster (on the left) and Carol Scarberry (on the right) going over passages from the Gospel of Mathew.

Some of us think that we already know everything that is to know about the Bible, but you would be wrong! There's a lot more to learn. Plus those who attend may freely share their thoughts and beliefs when studying scripture - and those attending "agreed to disagree"! Sunday School begins right after fellowship in the Parlor. There's plenty of room for all!

Cross Your Fingers!

Central's dish washer has seen better days. Derek, the technician from Hobart Services, has made an attempt to repair the rinsing arm which has stopped functioning.

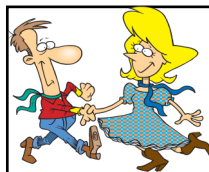
Derek, with help from his co-workers and some detailed investigation, was able to piece together that the model number on the dish washer was *not exactly* correct. Their research came up with the exact model number, and the fact that the dish washer is 61+ year old!

A patch was made to repair holes in the iron swivel arm. Did it work? The answer will be in the September issue of the *Banner*.

Photos (top): Derek with the broken rinsing arm; (bottom) the patch has been made!



Rumor has it that Central's own Carol Scarberry needed temporary transportation while her car was getting an oil and filter change. However, the real reason that Carol is riding a camel is that she had the opportunity to enjoy some free time with her family at the Memphis Zoo.



Midtown Squares, Square Dancing Club, will resume lessons at Central Christian Church this Fall. Patti Bundy, leader of the club, noted: "Don't worry if you did not attend any of the classes in 2020, because refresher training will be given." Patti also noted that the classes are for everyone, and that no previous experience is necessary. No dance partner? Not a problem! Just show up for the class! Please watch for the dates and times to join the group on Thursday evenings.

Speaking of Vegetables Dinners

Mark you calendars for the upcoming vegetable dinner Wednesday evening August 18th at 6:30 p.m. It's been two years since Central Christian Church has had a vegetable dinner, so it's time to have another one! Linda Johnson and Mark Rutledge will be coordinating the dinner with members from Central. Several friends of church members are also expected to attend. As a memento from the August 2019 Vegetable Dinner, here are a couple of photos to bring back good memories:



Well, it was bound to happen!

Readers of the *Banner* already know about the "mystery donations" of clothes and items that show up at the church's kitchen door. Well, the word and/or *mystery* has spread. Recently Central has received not only clothing, but furniture (couches, foot stools), dishes, and small items that are perfect for a yard sale. With funds needed for repairs around the church, the Property and Grounds team is proposing a *possible* (key word is POSSIBLE) yard sale as a fund raiser the first Saturday in October. More info about the sale will be in the September issue of the *Banner*.

Y'SHOULDA BEEN THERE!

Central's chefs once again prepared another fantastic meal for the July Wednesday Night Family Dinner. Hostess Linda Johnson and chef extraordinaire John Johnson outdid themselves. John prepared pulled pork for bar-b-que sandwiches, and Linda prepared potato salad, baked, beans, and corn on the cob. Debra Goodnight highlighted the meal with three scrumptious desserts consisting of coconut chess pie, chocolate chess pie, and lemon meringue pie. Y'shoulda been there!



Above photos: left, a warm welcome; center, John doing "chef" work; right, Debra's outstanding desserts.

90 To 1?

The "90 To 1" is not a reference to betting odds or even a ratio. It refers to two "young at heart" individuals who attended Central's worship service on Sunday, July 18th.

It had been a long time since a "very young" person had attended worship at Central.

Madison Goodnight (center of photo) broke that streak by coming along to the service with her dad Wesley Goodnight.

Why "90 to 1"? Madison turned 1 last July 7th, and on July 18th was with her great-great grandmother Mary Artman, who was heard to proudly say that she herself was 90 (and a half, to be accurate). Isn't it great to see all of these young people at worship at Central! (Wesley's age? Between 1 & 90.)



Outreach - Reaching Out



Several years ago Micki Artman helped start up an Outreach Ministry to help the homeless with food and personal necessities. Today, John Rainy continues that mission to help those in need.

John and others at Central have noted that the Outreach Mission has a "foot print" that expands beyond Central Christian Church, beyond Rachel's Kids in the Binghampton neighborhood, and beyond Tennessee (see *Central's Footprint*, page 5).

Recently one early week-day morning John was walking to Central to begin his duties as the church's custodian. As he walked past Idlewild Presbyterian Church, he noticed some homeless people staying in the church's doorway. John struck up a conversation with one of the homeless and asked how he could help. The answer? The answer was with food, hygiene items, and clothes.

John still had time before beginning his church duties. So, what did John do? He "reached out" to the homeless by taking seven snack bags stored at Central, returned to Idlewild, and handed out food to hungry individuals.

John noted that: "Handing out snack bags had slowed down at the church because of the pandemic, so I saw a way to reach out and help others in need."

In his spare time before coming to work, John distributes snack bags, hygiene kits and some clothes to the homeless at Idlewild. Money from donations and fund raisers at Central help to supply food and personal necessities.



Above photos: (top left) Clothes needed by homeless ; (center) Homeless always in the need for socks; (top right) hygiene kit; (bottom left) Contents of a snack bag; items change depending on inventory.

Central's Footprint: Bigger Than You Know!



For the past several month the church calendar in the *Banner* has listed "Paramedic Testing" as an upcoming event. Many of the readers may not know much, if anything, about this testing.

As the name indicates, there are tests that medical professionals need to pass in order to upgrade their status to become or to be recertified as a paramedic. When the tests are passed, there is a State of Tennessee Representative on site at Central to complete the necessary paper work.

When a door closes....

A chain of events had to occur before Tony McCallum (Lead Instructor of Mid-America Safety Services) found his way to Central Christian Church. The chain begins with (are you ready for this!) the COVID-19 Pandemic. Before the pandemic arrived, Tony and his team were testing in Southaven, Mississippi. But, because of state restrictions on large gatherings, Tony and his crew had to postpone testing. Tennessee, on the other hand, allowed larger gatherings. So....

Word of Mouth

Tony mentioned to a friend (Jim Ricci) the need for a testing cite. Jim mentioned the need to a friend in the Aikido Martial Arts group at Central, and that friend contacted the Facility Usage Coordinator to call Tony. The rest is history!



Tony McCallum and Becca McCallum



Jim Cagle & Tony

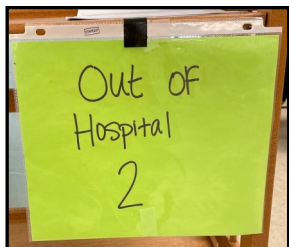
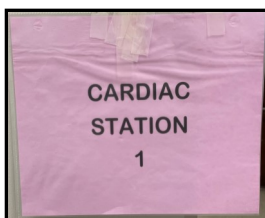
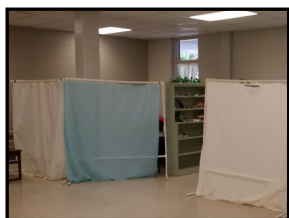
Team Leaders

Tony and Becca McCallum are two of the team leaders that make things happen for paramedic testing. Tony makes sure that his staff sets up the Fellowship Hall for testing, while Becca is the "Chief Operations Officer". Together with Jim Cagle (State of TN Representative) candidates will now be on the National Registry of EMTs.

THE FOOT PRINTS

Tony noted that candidates do not only come from the Tri-State area, but from all around the United States. At a recent testing, candidates came from Missouri, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Tennessee, and Arkansas. When asked about candidates from other states, Tony said: "We've had candidates from 49 of the 50 states (all but Hawaii) and two countries (Germany and Costa Rica)."

When paramedics leave Central's home ground, they can now go out into the world to help others.



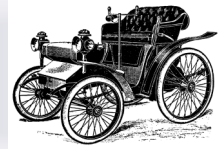
Top left: Fellowship Hall curtained off for specific testing. The two signs designate the type of testing to take place behind the curtains.



Above left: Intravenous testing; Above right: Cardiac arrest testing; Far right: Candidate taking a quiz.



Out With The Old



“Out with the old” AC units began early Thursday morning, July 8th, around 6:50 a.m. when technicians from Memphis Air Conditioning and Heating arrived to dismantle the old, non-working AC units above the gym roof. The first order of business was to remove the ancient AC condenser and to remove an old unit that no longer was operational.

The photos show the workers as they begin to remove the units. It took a crew of five men most of the morning to cut away the old units from their “moorings”. Plus several hours were needed to remove the old units so that the new units could be installed.



Old Chiller Unit's Last Day at Central



Disassembling Old Chiller



Alan Cook Inspecting Old AC Unit



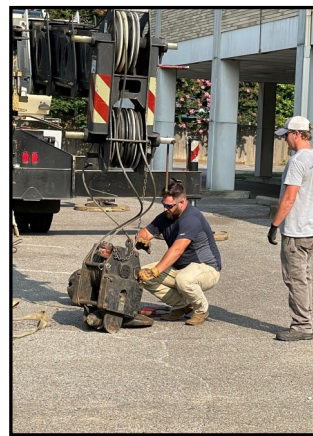
Disassembling Old AC Unit



Memphis AC & Heating



Crane Used to Lift AC Units



Preparing the crane



Heavy Lifting!

Before any “heavy lifting” could be done, the crane had to be tested to ensure the operator had the correct cables. (See photo above) The top photo on the right shows the crane taking down the old AC condenser and the bottom photo shows the lowering of the old AC unit.

In With the New!



First: Install the New A/C Unit

The arrival of the new AC unit for the gym roof was greatly anticipated! Around 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 8th, Alan Cook, project manager from Memphis Air Conditioning and Heating, pulled up with the new unit in tow. (See photo on the right)

Soon after Alan's arrival, the heavy-duty crane arrived and parked in the south parking lot right next to a red, compact car that had been parked overnight at Central. The car and crane were *extremely* closed to each other. Work was at a halt until one or the other moved.

Fortunately, Mark Rutledge, Chairman of Property and Grounds, was on site to take note of the problem. He quickly canvassed the homes nearby and found the owner of the car. Once the owner of the car parked elsewhere, work continued.



The new AC unit above and where the red car was.



Heavy duty crane & no red car



Alan Cook inspecting the cables on the crane



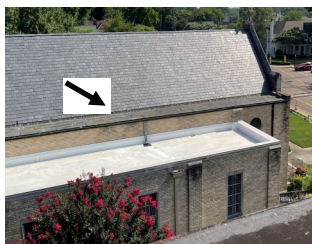
Out with the old!



In with the new

Second: Install the New Gym Roof

Now that the new AC unit has been installed over the gym roof, the next phase of the project is the new TPO roof. TPO stands for **thermoplastic polyolefin (TPO)**, a single-ply roofing membrane that covers the surface of the roof. The name is a bit misleading, because rather than being a plastic, TPO is actually one of a few different types of rubber, usually a blend of polypropylene and ethylene-propylene rubber.



The photo on the left shows part of the Sanctuary roof that already has a TPO covering. The new gym roof will have a similar covering. The arrow points to the old flat metal roof that will be replaced.



The photo above shows an example of the three roofs that will eventually be replaced - not repaired! Roof #1 is what the gym roof looks like currently. Walking on the old roof is very "spongy" and causes rain water to leak onto the gym floor below. Roof #2 is above the Educational Building, and is scheduled to be replaced sometime in 2022. Roof #3 is the old 60+ year slate roof that will be replaced with new shingles. Also, the flat metal roofs and copper drains on both sides of the Sanctuary roof will be replaced.

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August Birthdays



Wesley Goodnight 8/1



Clay Artman 8/28



Tallulah Campbell 8/29



Carol Scarberry 8/30

August at Central

Below is the list of those who
will be serving as Worship
Leaders for August:

Date	Worship Leader
1	Kathy Young
8	Mark Rutledge
15	John Bennett
22	Debra Goodnight
29	John Johnson

Church Calendar for August

8 - Board Meeting
18 - Vegetable Dinner
21 - African Violets Meeting
26 - Deadline for *Banner*
Articles
28 - Paramedic Testing

Count down Calendar To

May of 2023:

20 Months !!!!



Central Christian Church
would like to thank everyone at
Rachel's Florist who helped
design and construct such a
beautiful arrangement that
decorates the Baptistry Win-
dow in front of the Sanctuary.



From the *Banner* Staff:

Greetings to all! The staff at
the *Banner* would like a wee
bit of feedback from our
readers.

Over the past several
months, the staff has been
including just about every
happening around the
church so that the readers
can be informed.

Please email or call the
church and let the staff know
if you enjoy reading the *Ban-
ner*.

(Reference email address and
phone number below.)

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