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# Message from Rev. Bill



I am a bit afraid of this first Thanksgiving and Christmas after Anne's death, yet God is making it clear that I cannot let my loss overshadow all that I have been given. So as the holidays (Holy Days) approach, I am looking at what God has done for me, and my conclusion is what we

say many Sundays: "God is good, all the time". My world is now different, but I have 52 years of wonderful memories. I have the knowledge that through the Christ child I have eternal life, and I have friends, family and my faith to strengthen me as I push forward. We all have these things to get us through life. So, I say to you, enjoy Thanksgiving and truly give thanks, have a merry Christmas and make more memories, and thank your friends, your family, and your God for being at your side. Merry Christmas to all. I love you.

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From the *Banner* staff , we wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### IT'S TIME TO DECORATE!

There will be a Decorating Party on Saturday, November 27 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend to make Central Christian Church stand out at Christmas.





## **OUTREACH - How Sweet!**

Malachi 3:10 Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that <u>there</u> will not be room enough to store it.



It was bound to happen to Central Christian. The storehouses are abundantly full of cookies, and not wheat! Recently

Christ City Church accepted an offer to take 10 pallets of chocolate and peanut butter cookies. Not wanting to let food go to waste, the cookies were brought by truck to Central Christian. However, Central's custodian had the daunting task of unloading and storing the cookies before they were distributed. As of this writing, the "warehouse" is still overflowing.

Outreach Chairman John Rainey stepped up to the plate. Knowing that other organizations might be able to help, John phoned local midtown churches to let them know that boxes of free cookies were available. Seventy Five boxes to date have been distributed to St. John's United Methodist Church and Idlewild Presbyterian Church. There's still more in "Central's Warehouse".



### The Bucket List!

Never let it be said that Mary Artman doesn't keep active whenever she can. Recently Mary had the opportunity to take a ride in a hot-air balloon at her home at Kirby Pines. The bal-

loon was tethered so that Mary could take a ride just high enough so that she could say: "Well, that's another adventure off my bucket list". Way to go Mary!

### Visitors From Afar

Sunday, October 31st was an exciting day at Central Christian Church. Members of Helen Marshall's family came from far and wide to worship with Central's congregation. Jennie, the young lady on the right, traveled from San Fran-



cisco to be here. Dr. Susan Pearson, seated in the center, traveled from Lander, Wyoming The lady on the right is Christie who is visiting from Texas. What a great thrill it was to have the opportunity to meet with Helen Marshall's family first hand.





## Wow! What A Difference!





Landscapers Marco (top photo) and **Rocky planting** Sanctuary Garden.



Central Christian Church now has a new and more "refreshed" look at the corner of Peabody and McLean. After a well-needed power washing of the church, the **Property and Grounds Commit**tee had the old, overgrown plants removed and a new Sanctuary Garden planted.

#### Superb Thanksgiving Dinner



The November Wednesday Night Family Dinner was spectacular. George and Debra Goodnight hosted the dinner that was enjoyed by all who attended. The dinner included the traditional turkey along with homemade side dishes of dressing, corn pud-

ding, sweet potato casserole, English peas and other goodies. Desserts included pecan pie, coconut pie, pumpkin pie, chocolate whipping cream cake and cherry supreme cake. Rev. Bill Russell gave an excellent

homily regarding the Thanksgiving Season.

In addition to an excellent meal, Debra Goodnight, on behalf of the church. acknowledged the help Mark Rutledge gave in ensuring that

ed.



the needed roof repairs, Pictured left: Debra and George outside remodeling and Goodnight who prepared the cleaning were complet- Thanksgiving Meal; Rob and Mickie Artman helped serve the meal.



#### Does Recycling Pay? Yep, It Sure Does!

When the workers removed the old COPPER gutters and metal frames from the ceiling of the outside walk-ways, Central asked to keep the metal. George Goodnight (left photo) tied down the scrap metal and with John Rainey's help (photo right) took the metal for recycling. Money from the scrap metal went to the Church's general fund.





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# Merry Christmas From Central Christian church



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