

Message From Pastor Bill Russell





Pastor Russell

It's amazing how quickly the year has sped by and here we are staring the holiday season in the face. Thanksgiving and Christmas are great times, there's a lot of happiness and joy, but with many folks there's just a lot of stress. With the holidays, for some, comes sadness and melan-

choly. Many emotions arise during the holidays. I hope as we move through the calendar during the next two months that we remember that the word "holiday" is a combination of the two words, "holy days". The Old Testament gives us many days that were holy to the Jewish people and became holidays for them, days set apart and dedicated to thanking God for His goodness. For the Christian, the day celebrating the birth of Christ, Christmas, is one of our two holiest days in the year. As we go forward, let's remember that these holidays ARE holy days, days when we thank God for all that we have and for the gift of His son. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

We hope to see you next Sunday at Central Christian Church:

Worship begins at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School begins at 10:30 a.m.



Debra Goodnight Received TN Merit Award

Debra Goodnight, a leader and longstanding member at Central Christian Church, was honored with the Tennessee Disciples Merit Award for 2022 at the Regional Debra Goodnig Assembly in Nashville on Friday, Oct 7. The award was presented to Debra by the Disciples' **Regional Minister Dr. Crystal Williams.**



When presenting Debra's award, Dr. Williams said:

"Thank you, Debra, for your love and faithfulness to the women of our region and beyond. This is the reason

why you were chosen to receive this award, now! You are a faithful child of God. One who leads well. You are admired by many, and your work has spoken well for itself. Thank you, for exemplifying what a Woman of beauty, grace, character, and love looks like. Thank you, for leading the Disciple Women a closer walk with Jesus and deeper relationship with one another."

And, on the inside:

Pg. 2, Happenings at Central Christian

Pg. 3: Central's 100 Year Anniversary

Pg. 4: Church Calendar and "Hey! Is it your birthday?"





Sanctuary Improvement: Flooring



Micki, Rob and Clay Artman, along with Wesley Goodnight, have donated their time and resources to improve the chancel area. In late September and early October work was done to lay new flooring where the old choir pews were. The old,



bare flooring was painted black to cover up years of use, but the Artman team felt it was time to "spruce up" the chancel area. The top photos are Micki and Rob cutting the floor pieces

outside in the Chapel Garden. The bottom photo shows how the floor currently looks in front of

the communion table. There is a wee bit more flooring to lay. More info and photos will be coming in the December issue of the Banner.



Central Christian's Outreach

For Thanksgiving

John Rainey, Chairman of the Outreach Committee, has started plans for raising

funds for Central's traditional fund raiser for Thanksgiving. This year Central will be collecting cash donations to help support Rachel's Kids, an organization that helps feed and support needy families in the Binghamton area. Rachel Greer, who heads *Rachel's Kids*, will distribute the funds as needed.

Donations have already been pledged by support groups using the church's facilities, groups like the African Violets Society and others. Please help the Outreach committee with your donations from now through Sunday, November 20th. Donations may be made each Sunday during worship, or may be sent directly to the Central Christian Church, 531 S. McLean Blvd, Memphis, TN 38104.



Artísan at Work:

John Bennett



John Bennett, one of Central's noted artisans and craftsmen, applied his talents and skills in repairing and refurbishing the Christmas Crèche. The Crèche was presented in 1971 by Mr.

& Mrs. Harold Dupree in memory of their par-John Bennett ents, and has adorned the Sanctuary every



pieces of the creche where difficult to Before repairs replace or find. John took the initiative to give Central's Crèche a new look.

During Advent John recommends that you take a closer look inside the Crèche to see the original art work.



After Repairs

Improvements: Lighting

Sanctuary Lighting

For several months the overhead lighting that lit the area around the Worship Leader's pulpit had been out. Due to scheduling issues and manpower needs, Ellendale Electric had to put the repairs on hold until both technicians and equipment could be available.

A few weeks ago the electricians were able to bring a scissor lift to be able to safely replace the lighting. Not only did the crew replace the burned out lamps, they had to move a few of the pews in order to place the lift in the correct location. While the opportunity was available, the crew also adjusted the lighting that focused on the communion table and the area around it. No longer would Pastor Bill Russell or Elders be in the dark.





Parking Lot Lighting

A special lift was necessary to replace the light and photo electric cell on the McLean parking lot area. And, wait until you see the new lighting that brightens up the dark corners of the parking light.











From the desk of Mark Rutledge, Chairmen of the 100 Year Anniversary Committee:

As I reported in the October issue of the Banner, plans for celebrating Central's 100th anniversary are still taking place. Currently decisions are being made regarding display of items relating to church history. Of course volunteers will be needed to help with the displays (Hint! Hint!).

More news to be reported in the December issue of the Banner.

Walker Hall Floor

Renewed!









Sunday, October 30th, under the leadership of Katie Woodruff, members from Central Christian Church, Christ City Church and Aikido Martial Arts partnered in holding an early "Trunk O' Treat" in the McLean Parking lot. Participants spruced up their cars with Halloween decorations and "spooky" décor. The Treat" was held a day earlier than October 31st because of school night and other commitments from the church families. As you can see by the photos, a good, "sweet" time was had by all. Top row of photos is Christ City Church members, bottom left Central Christian, bottom right Aikido Marial Arts



Wednesday Night Dinner: 00 An Early Halloween Treat

Central's own Pastor Bill Russell treated all of the Wednesday Night Dinner guests to a Bar-B-Que feast. Everyone 🕻 who attended filled their plates with pulled Bar-B-Que pork, baked beans,

coleslaw, and corn on the cob. Scrumptious desserts were provided by two of Central's well known chefs Connie Bennett and Linda Johnson.



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Happenings in November 2022 & More Happy Birthday! Below is the list of those serving as Church Calendar's Worship Leader for November Horízon: Date Worship Leader Nov 4, 5, 6 Aikido National **6** John Bennett Convention 13 Debra Goodnight Nov 6 - DST Ends 20 George Goodnight Nov 8 - General Election **27 John Johnson** Nov 11 - Veteran's Day Diane Senger 11/18 Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Nov 16 - Wed. Night Dinner Lord, and the Lord will reward them for Nov 24 - Thanksgiving what they have done. Proverbs 19:17 Nov 27 - Fírst Sunday In Advent Debra Goodnight 11/26 Davlight-Saving



Don't forget to set you clocks back one hour before you retire Saturday Nov. 5th, or you'll arrive at church an hour earlier than expected.

If you want to receive the Banner by E-Mail, please contact the church at 901-276-2708 or

by email at centralchristian@cccmemphistn.org

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH. CELEBRATING OVER 99 YEARS OF MINISTRY IN

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The photo on the left is a close up of the Tennessee Disciples Merit Award received by Debra Goodnight. More about the award is on page 1.