



**Central
Christian
Church**
(Disciples of Christ)

The CONNECTOR

November 19, 2020
Volume 13-20

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Connecting friends and family of Central Christian Church with each other, the community, and beyond.

How wonderful it is to be your Co-Pastors here at Central Christian Church! It is a testament to God's faithfulness that you all reached out to us. Henry and I were unsure of what the future would hold. We are both pastors, yet we weren't quite sure if a church would want us as Co-Pastors. Then, like an answer to prayer, Central came along. Your love for God and God's people is contagious. Your passion for ministry and outreach filled us with excitement. We came here to visit and it felt like home. Since arriving in October, that feeling has grown. Thank you all for your warm welcome and hospitality to us. We cannot wait to get to know each and every one of you personally. We know that this year has been strange and difficult, but we will get through it. We will be together again. In the meantime, rest assured that you are in our hearts and in our prayers every day.

Henry and I feel as though we were made for ministry. I, even as a little girl in North Carolina, knew that I wanted people to be feel loved by God and by me. For many years I felt like the awkward kid and thus, I've always looked for the quiet people, the outcasts, to let them know they belong too. This need to share love only expanded as I grew older. It is the core of my call story—that God is love—and we were created to share that love. As a teenager I led a youth group at my church and was active in Christian Education. For the last four years I was an associate pastor in Decatur, GA. There I worked with the children and youth ministry, preached, and found my passion for church ministry. I also met Henry at my church in Decatur in the spring of 2017 while he was on Spring Break from seminary.

Ministry is in Henry's blood. His parents are both ministers and so were his grandfathers. But more than that, Henry has always been a helper. No matter who you are or where you are from, Henry will reach out as a friend. This is where his passion for outreach comes—he will always be a helper. For the past four years Henry has worked as an associate pastor in Fort Worth, Texas. There he led youth, outreach, and a soup kitchen and food pantry.

Henry and I love God and God's people. We want to learn with you, grow with you, and do ministry with you. You all have so much to teach and share with us about ministry. Thank you for inviting us into your Central Family. We are honored, grateful, and excited to be with you. Know that whether we are near or far, together or apart, God is with us. God is with you. In our joy and in our sorrow, God is near. Keep the faith. Reach out if you need prayer, a friend, or anything. We are here for you.

Much love and grace to you,

Pastors Anna and Henry

For I know the plans
I have for you,"
declares the LORD,
"plans to prosper you
and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope
and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

HOUSE of HOPE EVENTS and NEEDS

UPCOMING EVENT

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

WHEN: December 11-13 from 5pm-8pm

WHERE: Riverview Conference Center
439 N. Division Street, Cedar Falls

Hop in the car and enjoy our family friendly, drive through light display. There will be music and Santa and it will be a jolly good way to support House of Hope!

Order tickets online for a hands-free experience at houseofhopeccd.org/events

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Furniture Movers: Help move donations into the garage or an apartment

Substitute Receptionist: Fill in when scheduled volunteers are unable to make it.

Cleaning Assistance: Help clean and sanitize our building to satisfy covid regulations.

DONATE:

Diapers (size 4, 5 & 6)
1000 watt microwaves
Warm Winter coats (boys M, girls 3T) Women: S, L, XL, XXL
Twin Mattress Covers
Hard plastic plates and bowls
13 gallon trash bags
Lysol spray

Advent Decorating

We will be decorating the Sanctuary for Advent on Saturday, November 28. We will begin about 9:00 am. If you can come and help for part of your morning that would be great. It is always wonderful to see the outcome of the work that goes into it. All help is appreciated!

Amazon Smile

How many of you use Amazon? I do especially now, however, I use Amazon Smile, I go to www.smile.amazon.com and place my order. By going to this website, I am able to donate a percentage of my sales to Central Christian Church. Anyone that uses Amazon Smile can pick Central to receive a percentage of their sales. Another great thing is that you can do this throughout the year. A percentage of your total will be sent to Central Christian Church quarterly. If you have any questions, see Robin.

Note From Your Moderators

Just a reminder to all of you that even though we are not having in-service church services the office is still open and Anna and Henry are still in the office. You can obtain the recorded service on our website. Don't forget about Marion's jams and jellies and the raffle items. They are in the Gathering space and you can check on them during the regular office hours when the church is open from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Hurry and grab yours before they are all gone. If you want some and are unable to come to church to get your choices, then let Robin know and we will deliver them to you. It is still of utmost importance for all of us to continue our tithing to the church, even if we do not have services in the sanctuary. The mail is checked daily. There are still monthly bills and salaries that have to be paid.

Mike Deters, your Co-Moderator

With Thanksgiving coming very soon I find myself reflecting on all the things we at Central have been blessed with this year. We have seen a year filled with challenges and we have met those challenges and have come out stronger. We have not always been able to join in person worship together but we have remained a strong church family. We have been blessed with a great leader in Mike and very committee head that has put forth so much effort to make Central the place it is today. We have outstanding employees and those that donate their time who meet the everyday challenges. Our Music Ministry and Elders that makes every Sunday service beautiful and a find a way to get us virtual. How about our Pastors? God has blessed us with Jerry who is always there for us and served until God answered our prayers with Anna and Henry!!! We are so blessed with everyone in the congregation who steps up every time there is a need whether it be to hold a fundraiser, donate for a fundraiser or sending in your financial support. Thank you God for all these blessings you give us. Happy Thanksgiving!

The Saturday following Thanksgiving, Nov. 28 we will be decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. It will look different this year. We all love the beautiful trees in the sanctuary and we will again set those up as we can enjoy them in our virtual service and virtual Cantata. We will not be putting up trees in the gathering space or other places other than the sanctuary. Even though we won't be putting up as many trees we still need your help setting up the trees in the sanctuary. Please come and help at 9:00 am.

Bev

Ecumenical Service

As we are accustomed to during this Pandemic, this year's Ecumenical Service will be online. Westminster is hosting this year, our Handbell choir will be doing a piece, and our very own Pastor Henry is doing the sermon. I will email out the link to the service as soon as I have that. Keep an eye out for that email.

Sermons

Our weekly sermons are being recorded on Thursday mornings to be uploaded to our website by Sunday morning. The sermons can be mailed to you if you do not have access to the internet. If you are not receiving the sermon by mail and would like it, please contact Robin at the church office.



DECEMBER ADVENT OUT-REACH

Just a reminder so we call all start thinking of this important project in December. If you would like to do a box and do not want to go out and shop for the items, we would be glad to do the shopping for anyone who does not feel comfortable doing shopping during the Covid pandemic. The box should be able to be done for around \$26.00. Basically a dollar a day.

As we enter into the Christmas Advent season and thank God for all of our blessings, let us also think of the less fortunate that have a hard time during the Christmas season. We would like to make sure that they are not forgotten after the holidays are over.

We would like our church family to help us help the Veterans to get their pantry stocked up in January when the help is not so plentiful. As families try to put food on the table for the celebration of Jesus' birth, this may leave them in great need to try and put food on the table in the months following the holidays.

We are asking you to participate in a reverse Advent Calendar to help our Veterans after the holidays. Here is a calendar for the month of December and you can see each day you take one item listed and put it in a box, if you watch the ads at this time of year you can get some amazing deals on most of these items. You should be able to fill your box for a reasonable amount if you watch upcoming holiday sales. Misti and Kristi went to Aldi's and purchased their items and were able to get everything for right at \$26.00. Maybe that is too much for some of our congregation to handle, but possibly you could team up with another person and split the month in half to fill a box. We would like to set a goal of **35** boxes to be filled for the Veterans. We will fill the boxes during December and bless them to be delivered to the Veterans in January.

These are the very people who have sacrificed their lives, that we may celebrate the freedom of religion in our country so we may celebrate Jesus' birth without persecution. This is just a small way that we can show them they are loved and how important they are to all of us when sometimes we take their sacrifices just a little too much for granted.

Thank you in advance for your help with this mission. God bless you and have a wonderful Christmas season.

Your Outreach Committee

ADOPTING A FAMILY

The Outreach Committee has worked with AFIL in adopting a family. They have succeeded! As a church we will be adopting the Woodward family. The Woodward family is a family of 4, mom and dad and 2 sons. The boys are 4 months old and 5 years old. The items that have been suggested for the family are:

5 yr old son: requested a baby doll and any accessories to go with it (apparently he likes to care for a doll like his parents do for his brother), also picture books appropriate for his age.

4 month old infant: is currently wearing 12 month old clothes, he is a big baby and growing fast. If clothes are purchased they request 18mth to 2T size. Also, any baby sensory toys.

Wife/Mom: slippers (size 6 womens), lounge pants (size 6 or med), heated blanket, robe.

Veteran Husband/Dad: Heavy boot socks, black, he wears a size 10.5 shoe; basic tools for around the house...hammer, screwdrivers, Gorilla glue, whatever you can use around the house for small repairs.

As you can see this family is not asking for much, but maybe, just maybe, we can give them and show them a little bit of Christ's love.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

Thank You

Our hearts are filled with gratitude in appreciation for all the prayers, words of encouragement, cards and phone calls that we received during Alan's recent farm accident. His recovery is pretty much complete, is back to farming and life as usual.

God Bless each and everyone of you.

Sincerely,
Alan and Shiela



Veteran's Day Project

The Outreach Committee would like to convey our huge appreciation for making the M&M Veteran's Day Project such a success. Once again you came through like the generous, caring church family that you are. We set a goal for 50 bags to take to the AFIL. We were able to take 92 bags to be distributed to our Veterans. We attached a Veteran's appreciation poem on each bag to let them know how much they are loved and appreciated. We also had a trunk full of misc. other food items and a beautiful pair of men's boots also.

Teresa's eyes were huge when I told her we collected 92 bags. Everyone that helped with this give yourself a big pat on the back. You are the best! Whenever we ask you give **SO GENEROUSLY!** Thank you so much for all you do.

Your Outreach Committee

2020 MITTEN/SCARF/HAT TREE

We have had a crazy year and it seems like nothing is *normal* right now. The winter will still come and there will still be people in need of warm hats, scarves and mittens. We will carry on with our tradition of a tree for hats, gloves, mittens and scarves. They can be for adult, children and even babies. They can be plain or wild and crazy! We are already in the time of year where we are having frigid temperatures.

While we are not having our service at church on Sundays, these can still be dropped off during normal office hours.

We want to be able to provide the blessings of warmth to those who may not have that luxury unless we share our blessings with them. We will once again be donating to the Peoples Clinic in Waterloo.

Please help us deck the tree so we can't see any empty spaces. As you hang your items take a minute to thank God for all that we have and that we are able to share our blessings with those in need.

Your Outreach Committee

Visit Our Library

Don't forget to visit our library. We have so many books. We had a big donation of inspirational fiction books, so come in and take a look. Remember those cold months are almost here and the libraries are closed again for COVID. What could be more convenient than coming to our church for books. Remember our library has no lines, crowds, needs no library card, and you can browse at your convenience and take as many as you want! You don't even have to return them if it's something you would like to keep. Donate any you want to get rid of. Just drop them in the basket and I will put them away for you.

Don't forget Moms, Dads, Grandparents, we have a library now in the nursery for the youngest church goers. Stop in take as many books as you want, read them, bring them back or keep to read to the young ones if they find a favorite. Children that are taught to read and enjoy being read to will be more apt to enjoy reading as they get older.

Come and enjoy,
The Book Lady, Sue

Don't Forget

There are jams, jellies, kitchen boas and raffle tickets for sale. The jams and jellies are priced as marked. The kitchen boas are \$10 each. The raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6/\$5, the items being raffled are a baby quilt and a crocheted afghan. You are welcome to come and purchase or look at these items throughout the week during office hours. See Robin for raffle tickets.

Prayer Concerns Please pray for.....

Kevin Evans	Charlie Mims
Shannon	Reva Fredin
Charlotte Parks	Anita Neessen
Rick Fairbanks	Benjamin Wellborn
Wilma Johnson	Travis Geisler
Sue Geisler	L. Brent Cantrell
Buzz Blake	Bill Kammeyer
Bill Mims	Zeke Bessire
Mary Canfield	Tammy Newcomb
Ron Greenley	Ashley Arnold
Gloria Kammeyer	Rose Marie Wood
Mark Sawyer	Rachel Kahn
Jaxton Engstrom	Kevin Johnson
Wayne Sparks	Alyssa Newcomb
Keri Hayes	Elda Watson
Ralph Hocken	Ann Kirk
Rickieana	Dawsyn Nichols
Lennyn Nichols	Victoria Kollmann
Matt Schimmel	Jayce Wright
Ali Miller	
All poor and oppressed people across the world	
Children of Yemen and other war zones	
All military personnel	



DECEMBER 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9 am—Noon Sew What Group	2 5:30 pm Frog Pad	3 10:00 am Taping of Service 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal	4	5
6 9:30 am Worship	7	8	9 5:30 pm Frog Pad	10 10:00 am Taping of Service 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal	11	12
13 9:30 am Worship	14 Noon—Connector article due	15 9 am—Noon Sew What Group	16 5:30 pm Frog Pad	17 10:00am Taping of Service 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal	18	19
20 9:30 am Worship	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve service At 6:30 pm	25 	26
27 9:30 am Worship	28	29	30	31		

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"Disciples of Christ"
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Touching Others For Christ

SERVING IN DECEMBER

COMMUNION FILL & WASH

6 Kristi Butikofer
13 Kristi Butikofer
20 Kristi Butikofer
27 Misti Conyers

DOOR GREETERS

Upper: Misti Conyers
Lower: Kristi Butikofer

ELDERS SERVING

6 Dave Kane
13 Larry Durchenwald
20 Wendy Brudevold
27 Mike Deters

2nd VISITING ELDER

Wendy Brudevold
Mike Deters
Brent Thomas
Toots Weston

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Nicole Walker	24 Julia Kuhlmann
02 Wayne Sparks	28 Luke Linsey
03 Charlie Mims	29 Shelley Rose
03 Gary Arnold	31 Jennifer Rigdon
08 Peggy Moore	31 Adrienne Fuller
09 Judy Hughes	31 Trent Hageman
10 Wendy Brudevold	
10 Amie Newcomb	
11 Bruce Zager	
13 Brent Thomas	
14 Ann Kirk	
15 Gordon Hekel	
22 Ila Ury	
22 Tonya Fuller	



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

20 Jack & Kay Bullock
28 Jeremy & Cathy Helmke

