



# TOWER

Newsletter of Central United Church of Christ

June 2020

Volume 74, No. 5

Loved Ones!

True confessions time. I admit that on occasion I have been preoccupied and have missed the sign that changes from 60 MPH to 55 MPH on Rt. 40 West, coming into Sedalia. Some day there are going to be red lights flashing in my rear-view mirror. How do I know that? I know that because I know the way.

But that's not always the case. My husband, Bob, was the Municipal Judge in Marysville, Kansas, when we lived there, and heard traffic violation matters among others. Marysville, population just a tad over 3000, is the apex of an important intersection between Rt. 77 (the major route connecting Lincoln, Nebraska with Manhattan, Wichita and the State of Oklahoma) and Rt. 36, known as "starvation alley" by truckers. Marysville is like a bowl, downhill from every direction as you come into Town, and at one time at entry into Marysville from the South on Rt. 77, the speed limit turned from 65 to 35 just as you crossed the City line—without warning.

Marysville has an excellent police force. My church was located right next door to the police station, and I can attest personally to the dedication and zeal of both the Police Chief and his twin brother, the Under-Sheriff, to maintaining the well-being and safety of Marysville and its streets. Travelers, passing through, learned two valuable lessons: Watch for signs, and, best to go slow if you don't know the way.

We are those travelers, today, making our way through unfamiliar times, uncharted ways. We have a map, the Bible, and we have a guide, Jesus Christ. We also can learn something from a small city on the vast Kansas plains: Watch for signs! Best to go slow if you don't know the way....

Looking forward to being together, even if we have to "go slow,"

In Christ,  
Judy

*Psalm 37:7 "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him...." (KJV)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council met on Thursday, May 14, and decided to re-open in-person worship services in the sanctuary **beginning Sunday, June 21** at 10:00 a.m. We have a Safe Church Committee working on details.

Please be prepared to wear a mask. There will be new seating arrangements during worship. Our capable ushers will be there to direct and assist you. We will have the ability to check the temperature of each person coming into the building and will use a laser thermometer.

Also, throughout the week, please do not go into the areas of the office, library and classrooms nearby. We want to protect Rev. Scott and Michelle.

Before the Church Service on June 21, the church will be properly cleaned and disinfected. The committee will be working on more details, and those updates will be shared later. All of this is necessary to protect everyone!

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Long, Safe Church Committee Chair, at 896-4840, or another Church Council member. Let's be safe! Thank you for your patience, cooperation, and understanding.



Please do come and participate in our Church Services. We miss you. The following points are in line with the CDC and medical authorities:

- a. Wear a face mask in the church building, and any time outside you are near people.
- b. Social distancing will be observed, with 6-feet between people, even when sitting in the pews. People of the same household/family may sit together. Our ushers will assist you with seating arrangements.
- c. Ushers will take your temperature before you enter the sanctuary. This will be done with a laser thermometer. Laser thermometers do not touch the individual. We will not be transferring germs to one another with regular thermometers, etc. If you have a temperature over 100 degrees, or have a cough, or other signs/symptoms of illness, please do not come to church, and seek medical advice.
- d. There will be no singing of the congregation or choir members.
- e. We should not have physical contact such as touching, hugging, or lingering in the church facilities after services.
- f. Coffee hour has been suspended for now.
- g. Please do not use the office entrance/exit doors! We are not to be in the library, or in that hallway, or classrooms in the office area. Let's protect Rev. Scott and Michelle.

**DRIVE-UP WORSHIP SERVICE  
AT SANDER'S FARM  
June 7, 10:00am**

The Church Council has approved the idea of a Drive-Up Worship Service out at Sander's Farm and will take place on Sunday, June 7, at 10:00am. We'll use all the appropriate guidelines regarding social gathering and remain in our cars. **COME AND JOIN US!** The Central Church virtual Worship Service will also be available that day, online, starting at 10:00am.

**FAITH IN ACTION**

**JUNE MONTHLY BENEVOLENCE  
Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat has announced a Blitz Build to help Jefferson City recover from the tornado last year. Five homes were already committed to being built this year with the addition of four homes on Jackson Street. The community's help is needed to accomplish this blitz. Volunteers, monetary donations and prayers are essential in Habitat's efforts to help local families rebuild their lives. Your contribution in the June benevolence envelope will help Habitat for Humanity make dreams come true in our community. The Habitat Re-Store is always looking for donated items to sell, including gently used furniture, home décor, kitchen appliances, and washers and dryers.

**CSW BLANKETS**

The Blanket Drive will continue through June. We have collected \$235 as of May 11. You can mail your contribution for blankets to the church office, and be sure to denote that it's for the Blanket Drive. Thank you for your support of this project.

**RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE  
JULY 28, 2020**



The Mission and Outreach Ministry is helping sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive, set for Tuesday, July 28 at the church. Volunteers will be needed to staff the canteen and the registration table. New this year will be someone taking the temperature of everyone who enters the gym. All staff, volunteers and donors will be required to wear a mask. No walk-ins at this time due to the virus. All donors must register through the website. This may change by July.

Snacks for the canteen are needed. Each snack must be individually wrapped. Drinks will have to be individual, no pitchers of lemonade and cups. Social distancing will be required for those waiting, in the canteen area, and in the donation area. We will be using more of the gym to spread out.

## OUR SHARED LIFE



Pictured are some Church Council members prior to the meeting on May 14, while wearing masks & observing physical distancing. From left to right: Warren Witt, Mary Hoelscher, Larry Long, Harry Kujath, Susan Poettgen, Jeanne Woodward and Allen Schmutzler.

## ONLINE WORSHIP

We encourage you to participate in our church worship services online which are available on the church's Facebook page, on [centralucc.com](http://centralucc.com) website, and on [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) (Central United Church of Christ). Services are also archived if you miss a service. We realize everyone does not have internet access, and Alan Bagnall is creating CDs of the worship services and also large-print transcripts; these are being distributed to 13 members who were identified as benefitting from this service. If we missed contacting you and you would like to be included, please let us know. We also have a few extra CD players. The plan is to continue with the CDs and transcripts even after worship resumes for those whose situations make staying home a safer alternative.

## MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

We're currently working to update our membership directory and will be finalizing it soon. Please help us make sure we have your correct information listed. We're asking for your address, telephone number, cell phone number(s) and email address(es). Please indicate whether phone and email may be published in the directory which is provided to our church members, or if you would like either of those kept for church office use only. You may send your information to Rene Miserez at 823 Nob Hill, Jefferson City 65109 or email [bellsic@aol.com](mailto:bellsic@aol.com).

## RELAY FOR LIFE

Due to the COVID-19 situation, Relay for Life—Cole County scheduled for June 5 has been postponed to a later date, most likely this Fall. At this time, it is not known what will happen with the August 30th Cardinals baseball game to which Central UCC Women's team is raffling 4 tickets. Once we are able to be together in the sanctuary for worship again, the team will resume fundraising.

## YOUNG YOUTH

Vacation Bible School plans are currently in extremely flexible mode. The only thing that's certain is that we will NOT be having our "Lava Lava Island: Where Jesus' Love Flows" adventure at church as originally scheduled July 6-10. Whether that means switching to an online format, or rescheduling for later in the summer, or later in the year, will be decided after more is known about school plans. The music for Lava Lava Island is also some of my favorite, so if singing is still cautioned against, we are even switching adventures.

At our Wednesday after school get-togethers, we sometimes have spur-of-the-moment type lessons and call them "brown bag lessons." One of the kids will take a bag into another room, pick an item and I have to come up with a Bible lesson that incorporates whatever they've put into the bag. It helps keep me flexible and reinforces "go with the flow." VBS seems like that this year ... go with the flow and make the most of it. It would have been nice to have VBS as always and get some structure back for the kids (and some of us adults look forward to VBS, too!), but caution wins. So we're in limbo ... which strangely enough is also a dance you might find at Lava Lava Island. And as I reread what I've written, I also realize that "go with the flow" is also strangely appropriate for a volcano island themed adventure. God sometimes works in mysterious ways ... things are going to be just fine.

Rene Miserez  
Young Youth Director  
573-694-6022

## JUNE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

### WORSHIP USHERS

#### 2020 Team Schedule:

January & July — Mary Ann Wippermann  
February & August — Gary Woodward  
March & September — Carl Ernst  
April & October — Monty Schmutzler  
May & November — Russell Rottmann  
June & December — Team Captain Needed  
(formerly Dick Kettenbrink's)

#### June Team:

*(Formerly Dick Kettenbrink's)*

David Kohler

Dennis Kuebler

Gary Siebern

Warren Witt

### SALVATION ARMY MEAL

Thursday, June 11 — Mission & Outreach Ministry

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Wednesday, June 17 — Joni Witt

## 90+ BIRTHDAYS

To our knowledge, there are no "90+ Birthdays" in June. If you know someone who should be added to the list, please contact the church office.

## HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



### BAILEY HIGGINS

Bailey is graduating within the top ten percent of Jefferson City High School as a National Honor Society member. During her time at JC, she was an Honor Roll student for four years, participated in choir for four years, including Chorale her senior year, danced with show choir for one year, served as a Green Team Chair on two committees her junior year and Green Team President her senior year, was active in the JC theater department for two years in: *Secret Garden/A Little Princess; Grease; Almost, Maine; School Daze; Legally Blonde;* and *Clue*, and was an active Student Council member for two years, acting as the Homecoming Thrones Chair her senior year.

Bailey was a student athlete and played varsity tennis for the Jefferson City Lady Jays for all four years of her high school career. Her sophomore year, Bailey advanced to the doubles individual state tournament with her doubles partner Erica Dunn, and also received individual all-district honors

in doubles play her senior year after returning from injury. She was also team captain her senior year.

Bailey will attend Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri in the fall to major in Film, Television, and Video Production and play tennis for Webster Athletics.



### OLIVIA SCRIVNER

Olivia is graduating from Jefferson City High School. While at JCHS, Olivia was enrolled in the welding program available through Nichols Career Center. Nichols offers trade school programs for local high schools in the area and allows students to earn certifications. The two-year welding program helped grow Olivia's love for welding and she has decided to pursue welding as a career. She will be attending the American Welding Academy in Union, Missouri for their four-month training and education program to further develop her welding skills. Olivia's future plans include a desire to start her own welding business.

Olivia's activities included FFA and 4H. She also enjoys horses and turkey hunting at Sander's Farm.

## COLLEGE GRADUATES



### LAURA MISEREZ

Laura is graduating Summa Cum Laude from the University of Missouri-Columbia with dual bachelor's degrees in journalism and political science, a minor in English, an Honors College certificate and a Multicultural Studies certificate. During her time at Mizzou, she served two terms as president of a political science honors organization, led two week-long service trips over school breaks, worked as a Journalism Ambassador representing the school to alumni and prospective students, and was a Deaton Scholar working on interdisciplinary solutions to food insecurity. She was also active in Griffiths Leadership Society for Women, Magazine Club, and Mizzou Women in Media.

She gained journalism experience through several internships during school, including at The Columbia Missourian and Vox Magazine in Columbia, Business Traveller Magazine in London, and St. Louis Magazine, where she still freelances frequently. She also worked as an assistant producer on an NPR affiliate international news program Global Journalist, and as an intern at

the Missouri Review literary magazine. In her senior year, Laura completed a 50-page honors thesis on press freedom issues in Brazil and served as Vice-President of the Journalism Student Council.

Her immediate post-grad plans include a trip to Central Dairy and a well-earned nap. After that she's hoping to go into magazine journalism.

## CAMP AURORA UPDATE

Camp Aurora is still taking registrations at this time. The board has been meeting through Zoom Meetings and will make a decision by June 15th whether to have camp or close. An update on the website, and also to registered families, will go out on May 31st. It's too early to say definitely what Camp Aurora will be doing, or if enough kids will sign-up to have camp, but in the meantime, we're moving forward with preparations to hold camp with some modifications. This includes having a full-time nurse at camp for all camps, limiting the number of campers in cabins or inside areas, limiting the number of kids in or around the pool at one time. We will obviously practice social distancing. Finally we are monitoring CDC guidelines for summer camps as well as any other state guidelines as we near our final decision dates. As of our last meeting, the CDC had not released definitive guidelines for summer camps. On the bright side, Camp Aurora ordered a new stove and hood with a fire suppression system similar to the one at CUCC. We also bought a new soda machine and God found us one for only \$400! We are looking for a dry storage cabinet for dry goods (metal to keep out any rodents) and crock pots for the kitchen. The girls Tosh has been a great update and we are going to rewire, fix the plumbing, and repaint the boys Tosh.

We're hopeful we can have camp this year. There has been such a growth of campers over the past 3-4 years and it has been exciting to watch. We've been using more cabins every year due to the growth of the number of campers. We pray God helps the board in our path through this pandemic. God Bless!

**CENTRAL**  
United Church of Christ  
118 West Ashley Street  
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## OUR MISSION

To be a Christ-centered community of faithful disciples  
who are called to grow in faith, and share God's love  
as we reach out to each other,  
to our community, and to our world.

**CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
118 W. Ashley Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

**SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:**

8:30am Adult Sunday School  
9:00am Coffee Hour  
9:30am Children's Sunday School  
10:00am Worship Service

Ministers..... Every Member  
Pastor..... Rev. Dr. Judith Scott  
Director of Music..... Dr. Patrick Clark  
Young Youth Director ..... Rene Miserez  
Organist ..... Shirley Klein  
Bell Choir Director ..... Rene Miserez

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