



TOWER

Newsletter of Central United Church of Christ

May 2020

Volume 74, No. 4

Ah, Beloved,

What we are going through these days! Who'da thunk....

I'm reminded of a great story that started making its rounds over a century ago. Some attribute it to an author named Roger William Thomas, other attributions include tales of visits by British royalty to Canada in the very early 1900's. Most recently, Ann Landers wrote of it in her advice column for the Chicago Tribune, August 12, 2000. It goes something like this:

A minister visited with a young woman on her deathbed. Her dying wish was to be buried with a fork in her hand. This was accomplished at the appropriate time, according to her wishes.

Why the *fork*?—the obvious question so many had when viewing the deceased. The answer, also obvious, when one thinks a bit: the young woman had explained to the minister that at all Church pot lucks and other special occasions, guests were told to keep their forks for velvety chocolate cakes, or apple pie, or any other of the mountains of delicious desserts that rounded off every meal. "Keep your fork...", the saying goes, "...the best is yet to come."

Good advice; not only for mealtimes, but for all times, for all situations. We, as Christians, WE know the joy, the promise of bliss that lies ahead, no matter what we've just been through or are going through at the moment.

Theological disputations can escape us at difficult times, but this is easy to remember. You'll never forget:

"Keep your fork—the best is yet to come!"

Missing you,
Judy

FAITH IN ACTION

MAY BENEVOLENCE

“Common Ground”

Common Ground Helps neighbors in the Jefferson City area reach their full potential. Common Ground offers temporary financial assistance, access to healthy foods, housing support, and education opportunities. There is a community garden where neighbors are welcome to participate in upkeep and free produce. Vouchers to low-income families are available during the summer for Farmers Markets. Common Ground is a strong supporter of Project Homeless Connect. On-site computer classes by State Technical College are offered, as grant funding is available. Last year Common Ground was a huge resource for community members who had damage or were displaced by the tornado. Your donation will make a direct impact on those who are homeless, near homeless, recovering from natural disasters or living in poverty.

BLANKET DRIVE

May is our annual blanket drive. The Mission and Outreach Ministry will again sponsor this drive. If we are not able to have church during the drive, we're still encouraging members to financially help with this worthwhile cause. The blankets provide warmth and shelter to someone who has been affected by natural disaster, war or some other situation that leaves a person in need. A blanket can really make a difference in many situations. The cost of one blanket is \$10, however, any amount will help. If we are able to worship together in the sanctuary sometime in May, the blanket will be on display and a member of the Mission and Outreach Ministry will be available to assist with donations

and memorial/honorarium cards at that time. Otherwise, you can mail in a donation to the church for blankets. Be sure to write “Blanket Drive” in the check memo. With a donation to the blanket drive, you are helping make life a little better for someone in need.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING KIT

During the month of May the Mission and Outreach Ministry will be collecting items for the CWS Cleanup Bucket. Due to the availability of products for the Cleanup Bucket we have shortened the list. *Please collect these items at your home, and watch for more information re: when it will be safe to bring them to the church.* If you have any questions, contact Susan Poettgen at 573-298-4515 or email her at susan.poettgen@gmail.com.

Clothesline 1 – 100 ft. or 2 - 50 ft.

Scrub Brush

Contractor grade trash bags – 24 to 48

Sponges small or large

Non aerosol insect repellent 6 – 9 oz.

Liquid Laundry Detergent 1 – 50 oz. or 2 – 25 oz.

MISSION JC

“Mission JC” was cancelled for 2020; however, there are plans for it to be held again in 2021. The Mission and Outreach Ministry at Central Church had a project scheduled that will still need to be completed. We will be tying fleece blankets for Project Homeless Connect and Festival of Sharing. A date to complete this will be set when it is safe to do so.

OUR SHARED LIFE

SANDER'S FARM

Need a refreshing place to go? A change of scenery? A different place to walk? You might consider going out to the church's Sander's Farm... The lake is full of fish (one recent member can attest to that!). There are many places to walk and hike along nature trails, and be sure to go across the new bridge. If you'd like to have a cookout with your kids, there's a fire pit out at the farm, or you can just have an old fashioned picnic under the pavilion. Take advantage of using the Sander's Farm and enjoy your outing! *(Please note—the water is still off and will be turned on sometime close to mid-May, once the cold night temperatures have ended.)*

YOUNG YOUTH

Wednesday After School Program — With schools not reopening this Spring and during this time of the “Stay-At-Home” order, Rene Miserez, Young Youth Director, has been mailing out Bible lessons and activities to the kids, and has included kids who haven't taken the chance to join the afterschool group. If you know someone who should be included, please contact Rene at 573-694-6022 or bellsic@aol.com.

Vacation Bible School — Save the dates of July 6-10 from 9:30 a.m.—12:00 noon daily! This year we are headed to “Lava Lava Island: Where Jesus' Love Flows.” VBS is for ages 4 through those just finishing 5th grade. Hopefully by the June “Tower” issue, we'll know if we can go forward with those dates, and there will be more information for kids and volunteers then.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

We are working on updating the church membership directory. You should have received an update form already, but if not, please contact Rene Miserez at 573-694-6022 or bellsic@aol.com to get one sent to you. We hope to receive all of the forms back soon.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Due to the COVID-19 situation, the 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.

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

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
Permit No. 8

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
10:00am Worship Service
10:15am Children's Sunday School
(1st & 3rd Sundays)

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

Phone: (573) 635-1041
E-mail: office@centralucc.com
Website: www.centralucc.com