



TOWER

Newsletter of Central United Church of Christ

November 2020

Volume 74, No. 10

Driving days behind the steering wheel, as I do, my thoughts return to other drives with a carload of towhead children in the back of the station wagon, or stacks of groceries from my monthly trip to the supermarket an hour away, trips to family for holidays. There never was any hint of distress about finding the way; after all we'd been that way before.

Then I think of the saying "God is my copilot." I don't quite agree with that, but not because the thought isn't genuine, but it just doesn't quite fit my idea of God. God is the pilot, or in more earth-bound terms, God is behind the steering wheel, God is driving. I can be as carefree as were my children about getting to the right place at the right time.

Who would have thought that a girl from Central New York would end up in Missouri? Or that a quiet but highly independent child would go through several careers as an adult and end those careers in the ministry, now in Jefferson City miles away, hours away, from home.

Thanks to you, a loving and generous congregation, the trip is being eased, shortened, by the rental of a small apartment within walking distance of the church where I'll spend successive nights and an occasional emergency stay when weather dictates. I'll not be cooking great banquets or having large open houses for you all, but I will be safe and "on call" when you need me for the part of the week I'm with you. At the moment we think that will be Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights except for the week Council meets. That week it will be Thursday through Sunday morning so I can attend meetings. I'd greatly appreciate committees and groups scheduling meetings during those times, if possible, so I can be with you as much as possible. I do so enjoy being with you! (I am beginning to sound like the Apostle Paul: "...I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy." 2 Timothy 1:4)

What plans we can make together to serve our LORD! What good times we can have doing so! God, a *copilot*?
No way.

Thank you, All.

In Christ,
Judy

VERSE OF THE DAY:

"For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" Romans 11:34

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

A big thank you from the Mission and Outreach Ministry to everyone who helped make kits, provided money or items for kits, and helped transport them to Tipton. The people at Sharefest were happy to us!

The church had 545 kits, including 285 School Kits that the Elenor Circle made this year! The value of the kits translates to \$11,053.00! It was an awesome year.

Here is a break-down of the kits delivered on October 10, 2020:



- CWS Emergency Clean-Up Buckets — 5
- CWS Hygiene Kits — 71
- CWS School Kits — 290
- MO Baby Bundles — 103
- MO Backpacks of Love — 13
- MO Family Food Packs — 11
- MO Paper Products Packs — 11
- MO Personal Hygiene Packs — 22
- MO Student Dental Packs — 19
- Fleece Blankets — 4

Pictured above:
Patti Schmutzler, Susan Poettgen,
and Joyce Mutert (not pictured
Gary Mutert)

Pictured to the right:
Leo Blochberger

These folks helped load the kits,
backpacks, baby bundles, cleanup
buckets, and paper products
packs. The trucks were full!



NOVEMBER BENEVOLENCE

Every Child's Hope

(formerly Evangelical Children's Home)

This month's blue benevolence envelope puts the spotlight on a UCC mission that has been serving disadvantaged children and young people for more than 150 years. Every Child's Hope in St. Louis County began as an orphanage, but the children who now stay there are emotionally troubled young people who can no longer stay at home. The counseling program's goal is to return these children to permanent homes and restore their original families if possible.

An Early Education Center and the Geitner School emphasize positive behavior. The Steppingstone program serves both the Kansas City and St. Louis areas in helping young people who are being phased out of the welfare system.

Every Child's Hope has changed through the years, but the example of God's love remains the key element in bringing children at risk through hard times so they can enter adulthood with the tools for success.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING QUILT AUCTION

The in-person quilt auction has been cancelled this year. In lieu of an in-person event, the auction will be held online starting November 5th going through November 14th.

For information on the quilt auction or to view the quilts, go to festivalofsharing.org and select quilt auction, then click the button to go to the auction site. Or you can go straight to the site at: benefitbidding.com/festivalofsharing.

HARVEST HOME SUNDAY

Let's help the Samaritan Center by bringing canned goods/non-perishables for Harvest Home Sunday, which is on **November 15**.

Please bring in your food items by Sunday, November 8, so the Worship Ministry can decorate the sanctuary for Harvest Home Sunday.

IN THE MILITARY

1LT MOARNG Rodrigo Gonzales

Rodrigo Gonzales started as an enlisted Infantryman 11B in 2010 after attending One Unit Training Station at Fort Benning, Georgia with E Co 1-50 (Echo Company). After completing Infantry School, he was assigned to A Co (Alpha Company) 1-138 Infantry Regiment with the Missouri Army National Guard (MOARNG) in Boonville, Missouri. There he served as a rifleman and grenadier from 2010 until 2015, achieving the rank of E-5 Sergeant (Enlisted).

In 2015, he was commissioned as an Infantry Officer from Lincoln University's Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program. After attending Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course (IBOLC) at Fort Benning, he was assigned as a Heavy Weapons Platoon Leader with D Co (Delta Company) 1-138 Infantry Regiment in Monett, Missouri.

Then he made the transition to Transportation. After attending Transportation OBLC, he was assigned as the Executive Officer for the 1241st TC (Transportation Company) in Monett, Missouri from 2018 to 2020. He has recently taken a position as the Executive Officer for the Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ) in Jefferson City, Missouri located at MOARNG headquarters (Ike Skelton).

1LT MOARNG Rodrigo Gonzales currently lives in Columbia and works at the Missouri Farm Bureau headquarters in Jefferson City. He has 3 children: Nolan, Ethan, and Emily.

85+ BIRTHDAYS



HOWARD SCHNEIDER (11/05)

2932 Mohawk Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101

LEE THOMPSON (11/07)

5827 Cantor Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109

MABEL THOMPSON (11/22)

StoneBridge Oak Tree
3108 West Truman Blvd., Room 511
Jefferson City, MO 65109-0596

JAMES RAU (11/28)

319 Pioneer Trail Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109

BROTHERHOOD HIGHLIGHTS

October 6, 2020

- Four members and Rev. Scott were in attendance. We shared from Arris' Pizza.
- Treasurer reported a balance of \$6,774.09. Golf tournament around \$4,000.00. Next year the tournament will be held on September 10.
- Voted to give \$2,000.00 to the Samaritan Center.
- Discussed our project at Camp Aurora and will probably do it in the Spring.
- Discussed repairing the parking lot, sealing the driveway and repairing the retaining wall on Ashley Street.
- Six replaced the deck on the dock at Sander's Farm on September 26.
- Decided to start our monthly meeting with a meal in October.
- Rev. Scott closed the meeting with a prayer.

Carl Ernst, Secretary

THANK YOU

Thank you for the recognition of my 30 years of directing the Bell Choir, dating back to January 1990. Having been part of the Bell Choir since 1977, I have spent most of my life with the group and I truly enjoy both the bells and the treasured friendships. It remains one of the highlights of my life and I am so thankful to have been a part of it.

Rene Miserez

Thank you for the support you gave us through Stanley's illness. Thanks to Rev. Judith Scott for being there for us. Thank you to those who gave memorials and sent cards, and to the Elenor Circle for the prayer blanket. It was greatly appreciated. God bless you all.

Norma, Joseph & Steven Eikermann

To my church family and friends — I THANK YOU for the cards, phone calls and personal visits celebrating my birthday. I miss church in person, but watch the happenings on the internet. I'm not there in person, but there in spirit!

Walt Rottmann

Thank you to my wonderful friends at Central Church for the beautiful cards for my birthday. Each one was really appreciated, and truly meant a lot to me.

Carolyn Scheperle



CANCELLED — Christkindlmarkt, like so many other activities around town, has been cancelled this year due to COVID concerns.

YOUNG YOUTH

Wednesdays after school ... Do you know any kids in K-5th grades? Invite them to join us for our Wednesday after school program. We share snacks and fun, a 20-30 minute Bible lesson or faith-building activity, and dinner. Supervision begins at 3:00 and we end at 6:00. Please note that we will not meet the day before Thanksgiving since there won't be any school.

Rene Miserez, 573-694-6022
Young Youth Director

HANGING OF THE GREENS

One of the special traditions of Central Church is the annual "Hanging of the Greens" which takes place on **Sunday, November 22**. Please make plans to stay after worship that day and help decorate the sanctuary for this beautiful time of year. We'll also need help on Saturday, November 21, assembling the trees.

The First Sunday of Advent is November 29. Also, watch for upcoming information as plans get underway in preparation for the annual Christmas Eve Service at Central Church! If you have any questions, contact Barb Schmutzler, Worship Ministry Chair.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



The NEW TODDLER NURSERY SUNDAY SCHOOL class for 2 and 3 year-olds is now available during the worship service after the Children's Message. Two volunteer adults will provide a simple fun activity on a Bible story, introduce music like "Jesus Loves Me" or "This Little Light of Mine", and promote playing with toys and other toddlers. The picture to the left is from Sunday, October 11, showing Kasen Stafford and Amber Schmutzler decorating a cupcake with the story on the Parable of the wedding banquet.

Also, the Elementary School Age Sunday School class for 4 to 11 year-olds is available EVERY Sunday during the worship service following the Children's Message. Two volunteer adults will provide a simple Bible story to read and have a rotation of different types of activities like science, cooking, arts & crafts, music, and games. Join us! If you have any questions, please contact Jeanie Woodward, Faith Formation Ministry chair.



Teachers, Patti Schmutzler and Bob Scott, met during a ZOOM meeting to plan Sunday School.

November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 TOTENFEST SUNDAY 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Children's Sunday School <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>	2	3 5:30pm Brotherhood	4 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7
8 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Children's Sunday School	9	10	11 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	12 4:30pm Salvation Army Meal 5:00pm Mission & Outreach Ministry	13	14
15 HARVEST HOME SUNDAY 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Children's Sunday School	16	17	18 10:00am Meals On Wheels 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	19 5:30pm Finance Ministry 5:30pm Faith Formation Ministry 6:00pm Human Resources Ministry 7:00pm Council Meeting	20	21
22 HANGING OF THE GREENS 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Children's Sunday School	23 1:00pm W.I.G.S. Circle	24	25 Wednesday Activities Cancelled	26 THANKSGIVING DAY Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10:00am Worship Service 10:15am Children's Sunday School	30	31				



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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
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Ministers.....Every Member
Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Judith Scott
Young Youth DirectorRene Miserez
Organist Shirley Klein
Bell Choir DirectorRene Miserez

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:

10:00am Worship Service