



TOWER

Newsletter of Central United Church of Christ

February 2021

Volume 75, No. 1

Ah, Loved Ones,

Another confession: I *like* machines. They help me do my work, and I like *anything* that makes work easier. I use several different kinds, but have to admit, they can be cantankerous. Not having any special education or experience with fixing machines, I don't always know how to fix them. A lot of trial-and-error goes on at my house.

One of these, the fussiest as it turns out, is a 30-year-old Swiss "commercial" knitting machine, one of a limited edition that no longer is made. No spare parts available. Very few of these still are in use, world-wide. I may be the only one in America still using one. My contact for help is in Germany. Designated "commercial" because they originally were used by designers to create new fabric, my machine is not used to make garments, just the fabric. At times our lives seem intertwined, like the proverbial Grandfather's Clock: "It was bought on the morn of the day that he was born and was always his treasure and pride. But it stopped short, never to go again, when the old man died."

My machine hasn't wanted to run since Christmas. I wanted it to knit material for scarves for Steppingstone, LOTS of material, and it would not start. Not knowing what else to do I took it apart and cleaned all its electrical components with alcohol just in case they'd become greasy. Miracle of miracles, I put it all back together and it worked!

There are a couple of lessons in this for us. Yes, clean up our act, right? Also important, maybe more important, let nothing interfere with the source of our power. Power, just out there, does nothing for us unless we connect to it.

You know where I'm going with this: we cannot grow, be productive with our faith unless we have a good connection with God and plug into Him. Where can we go for some good instruction on how to connect with God? Like a broken record, I continue to say just read what God has already given us, the Bible. Join all the parts, our brothers and sisters in Christ, in worship whether we are together or apart. And turn on! Turn on the love of Christ to show the world what can be done in His name!

Oh...Yes, on the very last day, I had a big box of scarves for Steppingstone. Praise God! Amen.

Judy

Verse for today: "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Lent



Some dates to remember for the 2021 Lenten Season:

Ash Wednesday — February 17

Palm Sunday — March 28

Good Friday — April 2

Easter Sunday — April 4

(Watch for more information re: these dates.)

FEBRUARY BENEVOLENCE

Camp Aurora

February's blue benevolence envelope supports the ministry of Camp Aurora, that special facility along the Niangua River. Camp Aurora is a place where lives are enriched and friendships and memories are made. The camp, on 40 acres nestled in Ozark Hills, is a place where one can witness God's presence in nature and learn more about Christian values. Camps are available for all ages from second graders through senior high youth and range from three days to a week. There is also a family camp weekend. When Camp Aurora Ministries does not have camping sessions going, the camp is available for rent by other groups and organizations.

Your donation this month in the blue benevolence envelope will help fund the upkeep, repairs, and renovations to Camp Aurora as well as the day-to-day operating expenses for the various camp sessions. Scholarships for 50% of the cost are available through the church office for any Central Church youth who wish to attend camp, experience the beauty of Camp Aurora, and make memories that will last a lifetime.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

January/February Kit

CWS Hygiene Kit

- 1 nail clipper (remove packaging)
- 1 toothbrush in original package
- 1 bath size bar of soap in package
- 1 washcloth
- 1 wide tooth comb (remove packaging)
- 10 standard size Band-Aids

We have hand towels to add to the kits. Affordable wide-tooth combs can be found at discount suppliers such as sallybeauty.com or at Dollar General. Search for "wide-tooth pastel comb" to see an example of combs that meet the kit requirements. All items need to fit inside a one-gallon Ziploc type bag. You can bring a complete kit or any part of the kit to drop

in the Festival of Sharing box in the Narthex. People who have to go to shelters because of floods, fires, tornadoes or other natural disasters greatly appreciate receiving these kits.

A MESSAGE FROM WORSHIP MINISTRY

Hanging of the Greens and Taking Down the Greens had a different feel in 2020 and early 2021. Observing safe distancing, small groups worked to transform our sanctuary from Fall to Advent. Mary Ann Wippermann, Patti and Barb Schmutzler removed and stored the Fall decorations one Saturday morning and then carried Christmas decorations into the sanctuary. On Sunday, November 22nd and Monday, November 23rd, Jim Price assembled the Christmas trees and hung the wreaths. During this time we were using our "old" sanctuary camera with a fixed-view for our live-streaming broadcasts and placed the trees in the chancel area, as they would not be viewable in their traditional corner locations. Many have wondered where these trees came from? They are our traditional trees!! Just scaled down. We only used five sections of our trees. Whereas, we normally use nine sections and raise them another two feet on large platforms. And you may have, recently, noticed we now have our new panning and zooming camera installed. Thank you to Rev. Scott for securing the grant to purchase this camera and to Josh Mullins and Allen Schmutzler for installing the camera and software. Also on Monday, November 23rd, Mary Ann Wippermann carefully arranged the nativity on the altar. Barb followed on Tuesday evening and decorated the trees. Taking Down the Greens were Susan Poettgen, Mary Ann, David Kohler and Dennis Kuebler. One morning, Susan and Mary Ann "undecorated" the trees and put away garland, floral arrangements and the advent candles. Another evening Dennis and David removed the trees and wreaths and stored everything away and tidied-up. It takes a village. How fortunate we are to have each other. Many Thanks. We hope you enjoyed our "Pandemic View".

85+ BIRTHDAYS



FEBRUARY

FRANCES BYRD, 2/16

702 Cardinal
Jefferson City, MO 65101

JOANN ROBERTS, 2/26

12479 County Road 4039
Holts Summit, MO 65043

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you Central Church Council and my church family for the gifts, cards, notes and messages in recognition of my 25 years as organist. I appreciate your kindness, support and thoughtfulness through the years. I have a lot of good memories of some of the very special programs and services we have done. It is a joy and a privilege to serve Central Church, and I look forward to continuing our music ministry together.

Shirley Klein

Thank you for supporting Every Child's Hope. Your donation of \$463.37 will help ensure our children receive the support they need as we adapt to our new normal. We strive to provide a safe place for young people to live and succeed every day. We thank you for being a part of our on-going mission! Visit our website at www.everychildshope.org.

Michael P. Brennan, CEO

Thank you so much for your recent generous donation of 100 pounds of groceries and new toys collected for the Samaritan Center. The food items will help to provide all the less-fortunate in our community with healthy meals over the holidays. The toys will certainly put a smile on some children's faces on Christmas morning. Thank you for listening to your hearts and reaching out to those in need!

Marylyn DeFeo
Volunteer Exec. Director

2020 GIVING STATEMENTS

Your 2020 annual giving statement is in the gym for you to pick-up at your convenience.

If you do not have a keycard to enter the building, please contact the church office at 635-1041 and the gym door will be unlocked for you.

Also, the 2021 offering boxes are still available in the gym for you to pick-up. Both the statements and offering boxes are on a table next to the gym doors.

YOUNG YOUTH



Rene Miserez
Young Youth Director
573-694-6022

I am anxiously awaiting the day that we can start back up our Wednesday after-school gatherings. Until then, we will work with our “lesson-in-a-box” activities. Please contact me if you have someone to be added to our list.



CHURCH RECORDS

We rejoice in the baptism of:

Molly Reese Stafford, baptized on January 17, 2021. Molly is the daughter of Kirk and Danielle Stafford.

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to families of the following who passed away recently:

Juanita Muck passed away on November 19, 2020. Services were held November 28, 2020.

Larry Rizner passed away on December 28, 2020. Services were held January 4, 2021.

Jerry Watson passed away on January 18, 2021. The date services were held was not available at the time the “Tower” was printed.

MONTHLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

SALVATION ARMY MEAL

February 11 — Patti Schmutzler

MEALS ON WHEELS

February 17 — Women's Fellowship

"TOWER" DEADLINE

Please turn in articles and pictures for the March "Tower" issue by Monday, FEBRUARY 15. Thanks.

SALVATION ARMY MEALS 2021

January – Rene Miserez

February – Patti Schmutzler

March – Mission and outreach Ministry

April – Patti Schmutzler

May – WIGS

June – Mission and Outreach Ministry

July – Parlor Class

August – **OPEN**

September – Connie Pack

October – Nelda Lay

November – Rene Miserez

December – Bell Choir

If you would like to volunteer for August, please call Susan Poettgen at 573-298-4515, or email her at susan.poettgen@gmail.com. The second Thursday of each month is filled by Central Church. You would be feeding around 50 people. Brochures with information are available in the narthex.



Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. Deuteronomy 6:5

Dear friends, let us love one another for love comes from God. 1 John 4:7a

February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 10:00am Worship	8	9	10	11 5:00pm Salvation Army Meal	12	13
14 10:00am Worship	15 Office Closed for Presidents' Day	16	17 ASH WEDNESDAY 10:00am Meals On Wheels	18 7:00pm Council Meeting	19	20
21 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 10:00am Worship	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT 10:00am Worship	29	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
118 W. Ashley Street
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Phone: (573) 635-1041

E-mail: office@centralucc.com

Website: www.centralucc.com

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