



TOWER

Newsletter of Central United Church of Christ

May 2021
Volume 75, No. 4

FENCES

Fences are not popular, at least in our neighborhood of five houses, each on its 5-acre lot. We LIKE to look over all that green lawn and imagine it belongs to each of us. We don't want our view interrupted by signs of ownership, like fences. At least, most of the time....

It seems our yard yields the biggest and most desirable worms and bugs in the neighborhood. Why do I say that? Our immediate neighbor to the south has /had three pet chickens. I say "had" because we suspect the smallest, named "Nutmeg," was carried off by one of the large eagles that circle above our properties looking for prey. She suddenly went missing, leaving not so much as a feather behind, while scratching around with the other two much-larger hens. The trio had been a daily occurrence and treated Bob (who also works the land—for different reasons) as a strange-looking but valued member of their tribe.

Fences. There IS a difference of opinion about fences about freedom and fences of all sorts. Our neighbors sincerely think we are cruel because our beloved cat is a house pet. She's never been out of doors, but does have the full range of the house in which to exercise her primeval muscles. Their pets, on the other hand freely range the neighboring surrounds irrespective of dangers or the damage they might cause. Seeing the grief and anguish when a dog, cat, or chicken is lost, we think (to ourselves) it is cruel not to protect them. Fences.

In the Book of Job, Satan challenges God: "Have you not put a fence around him (Job) and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land." Yes, sometimes fences are necessary for protection. Sometimes they are raised for spite.

Robert Frost wrote a poem about fences, "Mending Wall." In it he quotes a well-known proverb: "Good fences make good neighbors." The quote often colors the meaning. Where Frost lived, fences were stones piled on each other. The work went much faster if two did it together, one on each side of the fence. One interpretation is that collaboration, helping, assisting each other is better than separating one's self from one's neighbor when some sort of delineated barrier is necessary for other purposes.

Fences. Sometimes we see them in the Church. Do we have fences? What are they? Are they helpful or do they separate us from others unnecessarily? Asked another way, what is our mission? Are there barriers, fences, that interfere with our mission to act in the name of Jesus Christ or are they protections that enable us to survive and work in His name?

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We would not send our children out to play in the traffic nor would we lock them in closets behind the light of day. How to work all this out in shifting times and remain true to our LORD is a challenge indeed. How to protect and how to teach, how to prepare, how to act, all at the same time!

This coming year will present many challenges we've not had to face before. May we be granted the understanding, the wisdom, to respond in the love of Christ, because of our love for Christ, and all He has created, wise as foxes, harmless as doves. Amen; may it be so.

Judy

VERSE OF THE MONTH:

"...May [we] be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine..." Romans 1:12



MAY BENEVOLENCE Common Ground

Our benevolence offering for May is Common Ground. It helps individuals and families achieve sustainable freedom from poverty. They provide temporary monetary assistance to local families in need. All assistance is restricted by the amount of funds available, and prior history of assistance given by an appointment, to ensure that each client receives personalized intake and resource counseling. They may be referred to other agencies and services.

Some other services available are as follows:

Families Forward provides housing assistance to assist working families to transition from homelessness to independent living. They are supported for one year.

Annually, Project Homeless Connect connects individuals with a wide range of services. These services include dental exams, mental health screenings, Missouri birth certificates, job resources, showers and much more.

The Community Garden is where neighbors help with the upkeep in the garden, and produce is free for all as it gets ripe.

Vouchers are provided to low-income families for the Capitol City Farmer's Market during the summer growing season.

You can help this mission by providing a donation in this month's Blue Benevolence envelope.

"TOWER" DEADLINE

Please email your articles and pictures for the combined June/July "Tower" issue by Saturday, May 15. You can email them to office@centralucc.com. Thank you.

FESTIVAL OF SHARING April/May Kit

During the months of April and May, the Mission and Outreach Ministry will be collecting items for the CWS Cleanup Bucket. It is the most expensive kit (estimated value \$75) and has the most items. All cleaning items must be new. Please place your items in our box in the narthex. Donated items must be EXACTLY as listed below:

- **1 bottle of liquid household cleaner (12-16 oz.)
Must be water mixable. (no spray bottles)
- **1 **non aerosol** insect repellent (6-9 oz.)
- **Clothesline 1- 100 ft., or 2- 50 ft. lines
- **2 pairs non-surgical latex gloves
Should be durable for multiple uses.
(remove packaging)
- **1 scrub brush (plastic or wooden)
- **1- 50 oz. liquid laundry detergent
(bottles only)
- **1 liquid disinfectant dish soap (16-18 oz.)
- **18 reusable cleaning wipes (like easy wipes)
- **7 sponges, including 1 large sponge
- **24-48 **heavy-duty or contractor** type trash bags,
sized 36-45 gallon in a roll
(remove cardboard packaging)

Menards is a good place to get most of the items listed above. If you would like to donate money, the Mission and Outreach Ministry will shop for items. We do our best to get sale items and make the money stretch.

CENTRAL CHURCH VETERANS

Central Church is very proud of our two dear veterans, Paul LePage and Wilburn Rowden, who will be included in an article in the News Tribune by Jeremy Amick. Watch for the upcoming article!

85+ BIRTHDAYS



MAY

Lucia Vest (5/28)
1017 Holly Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Larry Long

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Duane Muck

PAST PRESIDENT: Tommy Thompson

SECRETARY: Joyce Mutert

TREASURER: Allen Schmutzler

COMMUNICATION MINISTRY: Alan Bagnall

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE MINISTRY: Karen Howser

FAITH FORMATION: Jeannie Woodward

FINANCE MINISTRY: Allen Schmutzler

HUMAN RESOURCES: Patti Schmutzler

MISSION & OUTREACH MINISTRY: Matt Kujath

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT MINISTRY: David Kohler

WORSHIP MINISTRY: Barb Schmutzler

THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you for all the prayers, well wishes and cards I received before my heart surgery and during my recovery. I am getting stronger everyday, and hope to be back in church soon.

Susan Poettgen

BROTHERHOOD HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Ten men and Rev. Scott met and ordered pizza.
- ◆ Workday at Camp Aurora is May 1. We'll leave church at 6:30 a.m.
- ◆ Will rake yard at the church on April 10 starting at 8:00 a.m.
- ◆ Will have Breakfast Bonanzas again on Saturday, April 17 and May 15.
- ◆ Harold Creed shared an inspiring story with us how small things may change a person's life.
- ◆ We made donations to RACS, Healing House, Boys and Girls Club, and New Tribes Mission.

Carl Ernst
Secretary



SAVE THE DATES

Vacation Bible School

July 12-16

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Invite your grandkids, friends, neighbors, cousins, and get ready for a great adventure erupting with fun! Our Vacation Bible School theme this year is "Lava Lava Island ... Where Jesus' Love Flows." It's going to be a blast!

===== Volunteers: We need you to save those dates, too =====

Crew Leaders ... experience VBS with the kids

Station Leaders ... 20-minute small-group sessions that get repeated AND everything is pre-planned and scripted Bible adventures, applying the theme for the day, crafts, games, or snacks

General Help ... help to fill out our Bible experiences or floaters where needed

To volunteer, contact Rene Miserez, Young Youth Director, at 694-6022 or email bellsic@aol.com.

CAMP AURORA DATES

Here are dates you will want to save:

SATURDAY WORKDAYS (9:00am — 1:00pm):

May 8

May 22

June 5

June 19

June 26

SUMMER CAMPS:

Senior High: July 4-10

Junior High/Middle High: July 11-16

Junior: July 18-23

Primary: July 25-28

Brotherhood has also scheduled a workday for Saturday, May 1st, to put a new roof on one of the cabins. See Carl Ernst if you would like to help with roofing. Others are welcome to do simple jobs like cleaning, raking leaves, etc. See Patti Schmutzler if interested.

MONTHLY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

USHER SCHEDULE

January/July	Mary Ann Wippermann Team
February/August	TEAM CAPTAIN NEEDED (Leo & Harold)
March/September	Carl Ernst Team
April/October	Monty Schmutzler Team
May/November	Russell Rottmann Team
June/December	TEAM CAPTAIN NEEDED (David, Dennis, Gary, Warren)

MAY:

Russell Rottmann — Team Captain

Bill Graves Harry Kujath

Duane Muck Walter Rottmann (honorary)

SALVATION ARMY MEAL

May 13 — WIGS Circle

MEALS ON WHEELS

May 19 — Mission & Outreach Ministry

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

April 15, 2021

The funds transferred from HEC, Memorial and Capital Improvement funds for the repairs on the drain and elevators have been transferred back since the insurance check has been received.

Faith Formation reported that there will be Sunday School every Sunday until school lets out. Bible School will be July 12-16.

Josh Mullins has agreed to chair the committee which will work to reach out to people outside of Sunday morning services by utilization of technology.

There is an opening in August to prepare a meal for the Salvation Army. If interested, contact Matt Kujath.

Property Management chair, David Kohler, is getting the finalized work orders for the roofing repairs from the hail storm. Both lower and upper parking lots with the driveway will be repaired, resealed and re-stripped when the warm weather stays long enough to do it.

For children from our church who want to attend Camp Aurora, our church will pay for half of the fee to attend. Please contact Matt Kujath or Patti Schmutzler if you have any questions.

Rev. Scott is planning to start taking communion to the homebound/shut-ins the first Sunday in May. She is also planning to resume visitations.

Congregational Life Ministry is currently planning several projects like an updated church brochure, monthly pot luck dinners after church, utilize the Sander's Farm more, etc.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce Mutert, Secretary

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

March 21, 2021

Outgoing council members were recognized and thanked for all of their work and support they gave.

Others were also thanked for their work and support, especially during the trying times of the pandemic.

The proposed budget was approved.

Delegates to the Conference of the United Church of Christ's annual meeting are Josh Mullins and David Kohler.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce Mutert, Secretary

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 6:30am Brotherhood Leaves Church for Workday at Camp Aurora
2 10:00am Worship Service	3 5:30pm Brotherhood	4 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir	5 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir	6	7 9:00am Camp Aurora Workday	8
9 10:00am Worship Service	10	11 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir	12 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir	13 5:00pm Salvation Army Meal	14	15 7:00am Breakfast Bonanza
16 10:00am Worship Service	17	18 1:00pm Elenor Circle	19 10:00am Meals On Wheels 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir	20 7:00pm Council Meeting	21	22 9:00am Camp Aurora Workday
23 10:00am Worship Service	24 1:00pm WIGS Circle	25	26 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir	27	28	29
30 10:00am Worship Service	31 Office Closed for Memorial Day					



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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