



*A church that feels like Home,
A congregation that feels like Family...*

Central Church

Jefferson City, MO

October 2021
Volume 75, No. 8

“TOWER”

Newsletter of Central Church

Learning to Turn

When I was in 5th grade, my best friend and I created a game we'd play during Jays Football Games. We would start near the locker rooms at the “old” Pete Adkins Stadium and walk the length of the field between the stadium seats and the concession stands. (This area was always crowded with high school students who were there to socialize rather than watch the game.)

Now, the rules of the game were simple; in fact, there was really only one rule. Once you chose your course from one end of the stadium to the other, you could not turn left or right. If you were walking straight toward a line at the concession stand, you had to walk through it. If you were headed into a crowd of especially tough-looking high school guys, you couldn't turn. To change course was to lose. To turn was to fail.

Now, as you might imagine, this regularly created a bit of conflict for us. Big high school seniors rarely have any compunction about knocking down a couple of uppity 5th grade boys who refuse to move over for them. In fact, often they appeared to enjoy it quite a bit. Yet, despite the danger, we kept on playing our reckless and unwise game. We refused to change. We refused to turn. And, it regularly got the two of us hurt.

As we look to the future of Central Church, I wonder if we can't learn something from my 5th grade folly. I wonder if we can't consider our course and learn to wisely turn instead of walk into conflict.

Over the last couple months, I have heard numerous people express that they know change will be necessary if Central is to grow and survive into the future. They acknowledge that, if things don't change, our long and rich history as a church may very well come to an end. And, I know these folks really mean what they say. Nevertheless, knowing it and doing it are two very different things. We can say that we're going to change, but really changing is far more difficult to do than to say. We will all need to work together and be committed to God and one another if we're going to learn to turn in and toward the future.

It will take work. There may even be some conflict. Nonetheless, with God's help and God's grace, I am confident that we can change, succeed, and even thrive because we serve the Lord of transformation and renewal. Praise be to Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jason

Verse of the month – “...those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)

THE INSTALLATION OF THE REVEREND DOCTOR JASON ABBOTT



God graced us with a beautiful day on Sunday, August 12, as we celebrated the installation service of the Reverend Doctor Jason Abbott as our new Senior Pastor.

Thank you to everyone who came to share this moment with our church and with his family. We were thrilled to see so many familiar faces, and so many friends, eager to welcome the Abbott Family back to the Jefferson City community and to the local community of faith. Thank you especially to the Reverend Doctor Ian Noyes who came from Santa Barbara, CA to give the charge to Rev. Abbott and the congregation. I know

that the family truly appreciates his dedication and friendship.

Thank you to the members of our Congregational Life Ministry for organizing the amazing reception. The sheer number of appetizers, finger-foods, cookies, and candies was astounding, and the presentation was simple and elegant. Thank you to everyone in the congregation who cooked or baked for this event, and to those who helped to clean up.

OCTOBER BENEVOLENCE

The Blue Envelope for October in the offering box is Neighbors in Need. This is a United Church of Christ benevolence. Since we have left the UCC, the October benevolence will be HALO.

For thousands of kids around the world, HALO represents far more than food and Shelter. It represents the day their entire life changed. HALO believes that every child should have the foundation of a family. In Jefferson City HALO has a girl's home for ages 16-21 who are homeless or high-risk situations. HALO provides a safe place to sleep plus a lot more. HALO puts homeless kids on a path to a positive future.



FALL FESTIVAL FUN

**Saturday, October 9
2:00 p.m.— 6:00 p.m.
AT SANDER'S FARM**

Let's celebrate the wonderful Fall weather and enjoy a day out at our beautiful Sander's Farm on Saturday, October 9, from 2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.! We'll have food, games, fishing, kites, pumpkin crafts, a campfire, singing, music, and hayrides. There will also be game contests for horseshoes, washers, cornhole/beanbag, golf "chipping", and more. Great music will be provided by Tom Whittle.

Most food and drink will be provided by Congregational Life Ministry; however, if you would like to bring a snack item or side dish, it will be welcomed but not necessary. The Brotherhood will be grilling brats and hotdogs for us.

Bring a guest or two. Bring your fishing gear. Bring extra game ideas, and let's celebrate an exciting new year for Central Church and new adventures.

As Walt Rottmann likes to say while helping maintain the property, "If the weather is great, we will see a beautiful sunset across our lake and will see the crosses on Yonder Hill too. What better way to wrap up a wonderful day!"

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Howser, Congregational Life Chair, at 573-680-5011.



85+ BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER

Walter Rottmann (10/01)
2220 Green Meadow Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Carolyn Scheperle (10/10)
222 Gateway Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Bee Sullivan (10/15)
1815 Seven Hills Road
Jefferson City, MOI 65101

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the delicious meal you provided for us after Auth Ruth's funeral, and thank you for the recipes! Aunt Ruth loved her Central Church family very much. She felt so blessed to have you in her life. Thank you for all of the cards, flowers and visits. They really made her feel loved.

Family of Ruth Popp

A big thank you from Congregational Life Ministry to all of the members of Central Church for the food donations for Pastor Jason's Installation reception! The amount of donated items was astounding and the reception was amazing! Also, thank you to all cooked, set-up, cleaned up and came to celebrate the day with our new Senior Pastor and his family.

Central Church was one of eight historic worship places on the Historic City of Jefferson Tour on Sunday afternoon, September 12th. One hundred fifty three people toured Central Church. Many complimented our church's architecture, stained glass windows, and magnificent organ. Shirley Klein played organ music several times all afternoon and visitors were amazed by the sounds and the pipes. Thank you to Marilynn Bradford, Shirley Klein, Joyce Mutert, Allen and Barb Schmutzler, Bill Stine, Judy and Tom Thompson, and Mary Ann Wippermann for being tour guides and helpers. Also, we had four volunteers from Historic City of Jefferson, Bill and Verna Luebbert, Marilynn Medley, and Janet Maurer, who helped with the crowd.

Patti Schmutzler

Thank you to Allen Schmutzler. Without him, his technical expertise, and his extreme amount of patience, the new website would be non-existent, or at the very least, non-functional. We did run into one issue that tested both of our frustration levels, but a handy Facebook group provided that one last solution and the new website is now working. Thank you Allen. I can edit a site, but setting up a domain from scratch is not something I would ever have felt comfortable doing. Your breadth of knowledge continues to impress me.

Alan Bagnall

BROTHERHOOD HIGHLIGHTS

September 7, 2021

- Eleven men met, and enjoyed fried chicken.
- Golf Tournament was discussed, and everything is ready.
- Dennis Kuebler and Carl Ernst delivered Meals on Wheels in August. Brotherhood is responsible for delivering meals in January and August.
- Fall Festival at the Sander's Farm was discussed.
- Windows in the nursery need some work, and furniture was moved across the hall.
- We set September 26 as a date to seal the church driveway.
- Breakfast Bonanza will be on the third Saturday of the month, beginning with October 16.

Carl Ernst, Secretary

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

On October 12th at 1:00 p.m., the Women's Fellowship will meet in the Friendship Room to decide what direction we want to go. We are inviting all the women of the church to join us, and are interested in knowing what you would like this organization to be. Together we should be able to build it to serve all the women of the church.

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



Blood Drive

Central Church

118 W. Ashley, Jefferson City, MO 65101

Friday, October 22, 2021

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: CentralChurch
to schedule an appointment.

REGISTER



Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes
by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your
pre-donation reading and health history questions
on the day of your appointment.

RAPID PASS



redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

TRICK OR TREAT **Sunday, Oct 24**
Halloween Party **5:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

Spook-tacular Treat Boo-fet!
Fun and Games!

Monsters INK temporary tattoo parlor
Witch's Flight Training School
Cap'n Hook's Ring Bling
Itsy Bitsy's Fly Fishing
Splat the Rat
and many more!

Doors open at 5:30 sharp.
Wear your costume (but
nothing that will scare our
younger friends) and join us!

5th grade and younger

Fun for all!



The Halloween Party is always fun and it's for EVERYONE. Even if you don't have little friends to bring to the party, just come hang out with us and enjoy visiting with people and seeing the kids in their Halloween costumes.

Or better yet, use this as a fun opportunity to invite a neighbor, friend, or family member to join you at church.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Pre-Covid we had over 100 kids (woohoo!) and they all brought parents, so this can be such a great community outreach for us. But we need LOTS of volunteers (over 30 of you!) to make the Halloween Party a success. It's easy, it's a lot of fun, and it's a really short time commitment.

- * 20+ workers for carnival-style games
- * snack table
- * prize table
- * welcome our guests
- * set-up
- * take-down and clean up

Main helpers would be needed 5:00-ish to 7:00-ish (dress in costume if you'd like). Please let Rene know if you can help so we can plan accordingly. Set-up will be 11:15-whenEVER(?) the day of the party.

Snack brigade ... A couple of years ago we started getting together to work on all of the themed snack goodies and it was so much fun it became a new tradition. If you'd like to help make the ghoulish treats, we'll be getting together at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct 23, at Rene's house.

Thank you in advance for your help!
Rene (694-6022 or bellsic@aol.com)

YOUNG YOUTH

Wednesdays after school ... Our after school program is for kids in K-5th grades and we'd love to have you join us when you can. We share snacks and fun, a 20-30 minute Bible lesson or faith-building activity, and dinner. Supervision begins at 3:00 (or whenever your school gets out) and we end at 6:00.

Be sure to join us for upcoming activities for all ages (read about them elsewhere in the Tower):

Fall Festival at Sanders Farm ... Sunday, Oct 9 ... 2:00-6:00

Halloween Party ... Sunday, Oct 24, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Rene Miserez,
Young Youth Director
694-6022 cell/text

VOLUNTEERS ... if there's a week you can join us for the Bible lesson from 5:00-5:30 (or for the afternoon, if you'd like), please let Rene know. We need an extra adult to join us due to the Safe Church Policy.



Breakfast Bonanza
Central Church
118 W. Ashley, Jefferson City

Saturday, Oct. 16 7:00 – 11:00am

Made-from-scratch Biscuits
Scrambled Eggs Pancakes Gravy
Sausage Bacon Coffee/Milk/Juice

All-You-Can-Eat
\$10 Adults; \$5 Kids 6-12; Kids 5 & under free

centralchurchjcmo.com

FEATURE STORY ON NORM KLEMMME

— Story as originally published in The Missourian Newspaper of Washington, Missouri (written by Laura Miserez, daughter of Rene Miserez).

“In almost all of the many community projects that Norma Klemme volunteers for each year, she serves with her hands. From distributing food at the Union Food Pantry to collecting cans and boxes for the Zion United Church of Christ recycling program, her hands are her instruments. But each October, Klemme, 89, laces up her tennis shoes and serves with her feet at Franklin County’s annual CROP Hunger Walk, raising money for local, national and international nonprofits that work against food insecurity.

This year’s CROP Hunger Walk, set for Oct. 10 near Zion United Church of Christ in Union, will be the county’s 30th, but there’s another milestone that Klemme is also looking forward to. To celebrate her upcoming 90th birthday in March, she plans to walk 90 blocks in Union and raise at least \$9,000. She’s already begun walking one block a day toward her goal.

“With all the needs there are in the world, my goodness, someone has to help,” Klemme said.

When Klemme celebrated her 80th birthday in 2012, she did so by walking a full 80 miles over several months leading up to that year’s event. She raised \$19,000 that year, which she split into donations to the CROP Hunger Walk, which shares a quarter of its funds with Franklin County food pantries; Habitat for Humanity of Franklin County; Emmaus Homes; and the Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM), a ministry of the United Church of Christ.

She was inspired by her late friend Elenor Vieth, of Jefferson City, who raised \$7,000 on her 70th birthday in the 1980s and \$16,000 on her 80th birthday in the ’90s doing the annual CROP Hunger Walk.

Klemme said about 20 people walk in the event each year, but she and her husband, the Rev. Armin Klemme, both hope to have at least 30 participants to commemorate the walk’s 30th year in Franklin County. It’s also the 30th anniversary of the Union Food Pantry, one of the primary local benefactors of the walk’s proceeds each year and a place the Klemmes have spent time volunteering regularly since it opened.

The first Franklin County walk in 1991 raised \$2,500 with 50 walkers, and the number of walkers peaked in 1994 with 140. Despite having a relatively low turnout of 32 walkers last year, the 2020 CROP Hunger Walk raised over \$9,000. In its 29 years, the walk has raised around \$128,000, with \$32,000 of the funds donated to local pantries.

“People want to keep everything here, but Jesus didn’t say we just helped people in our country,” Armin Klemme said. “A good Samaritan says when a person is in need, you help them, wherever they are. There are people in other parts of the world who need help.”

Over the years, walkers have ranged in age from infants being pushed in strollers to elders such as Armin Klemme, who at 96 is still planning to participate in some of the walk. For those who can’t walk, there is also an annual “Rock-a-thon,” where participants promise to clock a certain number of hours on the rocking chairs outside Fricks Market in Union for donations. That event will be Saturday, Oct. 2, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This year, Norma Klemme hopes to donate some of her funds for the second time to Harvest Table, the free weekly community meal held at St. Peter’s United Church of Christ in Washington.

(Cont. from page 8)

“Norma’s generosity has been part of my life for the last 15 years, so having part of her proceeds go to our mission is wonderful,” said Karen Dawson, the co-founder and organizer of Harvest Table. “Our mission is expanding. We’re doing more and more each week, so this help from Norma and the CROP Walk will go really far in helping people in need.”

Norma Klemme said she doesn’t know how much she’s raised in total in her years participating in CROP Hunger Walk. Her first time participating was around 1960, when CROP stood for Christian Rural Overseas Program. The annual program is organized by Church World Service, a nonprofit that provides emergency assistance to people in need and builds partnerships with local organizations for long-term sustainability in dozens of countries worldwide.

Church World Service (CWS) brought in more than \$76 million in revenue in 2018, with \$72 million coming directly from grants and donor contributions, according to the IRS. The nonprofit, which has around 400 employees and more than 4,000 volunteers, contributed more than \$45 million in aid in 2018.

Although CROP is still the acronym used, today it is short for Communities Response to Overcoming Poverty, which Norma Klemme said is meant to encourage more people to take part in the mission to end hunger, which started in 1947 as a collaboration between the newly formed CWS, Lutheran World Relief and National Catholic Welfare Program.

“Before, when it was ‘Christians’ — that can be limiting,” she said. “People might wonder, do we invite Muslims? Hindus? Jews? Well, we do (invite them).”

CWS also offers aid following natural disasters — everything from tsunamis to hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires and tornadoes. The Klemmes said they have previously supported CWS missions to affected regions from Joplin to Haiti.

In addition to volunteering with CWS, the Union Food Pantry and Zion’s recycling program, Norma Klemme also was a big player in Franklin County’s Habitat for Humanity organization, which dissolved last year after building 12 homes in its 20 years. She was on the board for most of that time.

In 2012, the Klemmes were honored with the inaugural Franklin County Service Providers Members of the Year award — which has since been named after them — to recognize the hours of service they had poured into the community since moving to Union in 1990.

“I think God multiplies what you do, if you have a heart for it,” Norma Klemme said. “I hope the little bit will help. ... We’ve got so many problems, but there’s a lot of hope out there.”

For anyone wishing to learn more about the CROP Hunger Walk, or to sign up to walk or sponsor a walker, go online to events.crophungerwalk.org/2021 or call Zion United Church of Christ at 636-583-2814."

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)

OCTOBER: (Team Captain—Monty Schmutzler)

Mark Mueller	Allen Schmutzler
Roger Schneider	Roland Warmann

COMMUNION

October 3 — Patti Schmutzler

SALVATION ARMY MEAL

October 14 — Nelda Lay

MEALS ON WHEELS

October 20 — Joni Witt

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

August 19, 2021

- The Historic City of Jefferson Tour will be Sunday, September 12th from 1:00pm-4:30pm. Eight churches including Central Church are included in this tour.
- Sunday School classes are starting September 12th for kids age 5 through 5th grade. Please contact Patti Schmutzler or Jeanie Woodward if you are interested in helping teach.
- The Installation Service for Rev. Abbott is being planned for September 12th. A Rally Day picnic lunch will be held in the church gym after the church service.
- Rally Day will be September 19th. Bibles will be given to second graders. A picnic will follow.
- The Oktoberfest German meal is planned for Friday, September 24th from 4:30pm-7:00pm. It will be a drive-thru and/or drive-in depending on the number of covid cases.
- Roger Hager has been fixing tomb stones.
- The Red Cross blood drive is scheduled for October 22nd from 1:00pm-5:00pm in our gym.
- Central Church has reserved a trolley to look at Christmas lights on December 14th leaving at 5:30pm and returning at 7:00pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The cost is \$10 per seat.
- A Fall Festival is being planned for October 9th at the Sander's farm.
- Gladys Gladden donated her piano to our church. It is in the Sunday School room across from the nursery.
- Michelle's new email address is:
office@centralchurchjcmo.com

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Mutert, Council Secretary



Thank you to the Gladden Family for donating a piano to Central Church in August.

DEADLINE FOR

NOVEMBER "TOWER" ARTICLES:

Friday, October 15

October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 World Communion Sunday 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Sunday School	4 5:30pm Brotherhood	5 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Dominoes 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	6 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	7 4:30pm Salvation Army Meal	8 2:00pm Fall Festival at Sander's Farm	9 7:00am Breakfast Bonanza
10 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Sunday School	11 1:00pm Women's Fellowship	12 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	13 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Meals On Wheels 1:00pm Dominoes 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	14 6:00pm Mission & Outreach Ministry 7:00pm Church Council	15 1:00pm Blood Drive	16 23
17 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Sunday School 11:00am All-Church Luncheon	18 1:00pm WIGS Circle	19 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	20 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	21 28	22 29	23 30
24 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Sunday School 5:30pm Halloween Party	25 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	26 1:00pm WIGS Circle	27 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir 7:00pm Sr. Choir	28	29	30
31 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Sunday School						

CENTRAL CHURCH
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 Church

118 W. Ashley St.
Jefferson City, MO 65101

centralchurchjcmo.com
office phone: (573) 635-1041
office email: office@centralchurchjcmo.com

Senior Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Jason Abbott
Ministers.....Every Member
Young Youth Director.....Rene Miserez
Organist.....Shirley Klein
Bell Choir Director.....Rene Miserez

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:

9:00am Coffee Hour
10:00am Worship Service
10:15am Children's Sunday School