



*A church that feels like Home,
A congregation that feels like Family...*
Central Church
Jefferson City, MO

September 2021
Volume 75, No. 7

“TOWER”

Newsletter of Central Church

New Beginnings

I remember well the day Natalie and I were married. I recall all the work leading up to it. I recall our anticipation and our visions of the future. I remember how much fun it was to celebrate with all those whom we love during both the rehearsal dinner and reception following the wedding. And, of course, the excitement of the honeymoon—traveling to northern California and exploring the coastline from Big Sur to Napa Valley together. This was all relatively easy and fun. Natalie and I look back upon this time with warm hearts and smiles on our faces. Joy and unity and fun came pretty easy during those days.

When we do premarital counseling, we enjoy talking about all this with couples; however, we are also careful to discuss what comes after the “honeymoon” period, like the time, about two months into our marriage, when we had our first big fight. Neither Natalie and I can recall what started that fight, but we do remember the aftermath. We remember how frustrated we were with one another, how it made us question our trust for each other, and how it even made us wonder whether we should be married at all. It was really difficult, and so we share it with couples who are about to get married, so they’ll be ready for the rocky times and the work that marriage (or any committed relationship for that matter) is sure to bring.

Central Church Family, I believe there’s a lesson in this for us as well. We are just beginning a covenant relationship with one another—a covenant between pastor and parishioner. It’s a relationship which God has designed and called us into (Acts 20:28; Hebrews 13:17), and it has been a real joy to begin to get to know your welcoming and hospitable congregation. We can feel the Holy Spirit working to draw us together. Nevertheless, there will be times ahead when it is not easy. There will be opportunities for us to be offended and to question one another. There will certainly be times in which I disappoint you and you disappoint me. The road before us will entail hard work and the need to forgive and be forgiven. We will need to lean upon the Spirit’s uniting work again and again. Yet, our heavenly Father is good. Our Lord Jesus Christ is sovereign, and as we cling to his grace and mercy, he will see us safely through the storms that may come.

Amen. Praise the Lord Jesus!

Pastor Jason

Verse of the month – “To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.” (Jude 24-25, NIV)



Sunday, September 19

Mark your calendars for Rally Day Sunday, which takes place on September 19th. Bibles will be presented to 2nd graders. The Faith Formation Ministry will also be hosting a picnic lunch (fundraiser) in the gym following the worship service.

SEPTEMBER BENEVOLENCE

Food Bank of Central/NE Missouri

The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri is a regional disaster and hunger relief network that acquires and distributes millions of pounds of food annually to partner agencies across a 32-county area. As a member of Feeding America, The Food Bank is able to work with manufacturers, wholesalers, processors, growers, retailers and restaurants to secure donations and food at reduced costs. The Food Bank partners with more than 150 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other agencies to ensure food gets into the hands of those who need it most, and also works with more than 180 schools to help students receive nutritious food. Please contribute to this month's benevolence, the "Food Bank of Central & Northeast Missouri."

FESTIVAL OF SHARING UPDATES

Due to the increase in COVID-19 numbers, the Sharefests will be staffed with volunteers from the host churches. We will not be taking a group to Tipton again this year. The kits can be dropped off on Saturday, September 25, 9:30 to 11:30.

Mission and Outreach Ministry will continue collecting items for the Missouri Family Food Boxes through the first two weeks of September. Please bring the following and place in the box in the narthex: 3 boxes of mac & cheese; 3 cans of vegetables; 3 cans of fruit; 1 jar of peanut butter; 1 can of pasta sauce; 1 lb. of pasta; 3 cans of tuna; 3 cans of chicken.

RELAY FOR LIFE RECOGNITION

Central Church would like to recognize the fundraising efforts of Mary Ann Wippermann during the recent Relay for Life campaign. Mary Ann will be

the second highest individual fundraiser for the Cole County Relay for Life, raising over \$3,000, and due to her efforts, the Central Church women's team will again be one of the top 10 fundraising groups for this local effort. Thank you, Mary Ann, for your continued passion and dedication to this worthy cause. Thank you as well to everyone who donated to Mary Ann, to another Relay for Life participant, or to the Relay in general. Because of your generosity, they have raised in excess of \$75,000 this year to help fund cancer research and patient care programs.

TOUR OF HISTORIC PLACES OF WORSHIP

September 12; 1:00—4:30 p.m.

Central Church will be one of eight historic churches participating in the Tour of Historic Places of Worship, which happens on Sunday, September 12, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Other historic churches on the tour are First Christian Church, First United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church, Grace Episcopal Church, Immaculate Conception Church, Quinn Chapel, and Temple Beth El. This year Historic City of Jefferson (HCJ) is partnering with these congregations to tell the story of their congregation and how its members have impacted Jefferson City for over 200 years.

Patti Schmutzler is coordinating Central Church's portion of the tour with HCJ. Four volunteers from HCJ have committed to help us with greeting and directing traffic inside from Washington Street to West Ashley Street.

If you are interested in helping with the speaking, giving the sanctuary tour, or selling our church's history books, etc., please contact Patti Schmutzler. There will be two shifts for helping: 12:30-2:30pm, and 2:30-4:30pm. For more information, check out www.historiccityojefferson.org.



85+ BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER

Norma Farley (9/06)
1810 St. Mary's Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Elroyd Renfrow (9/14)
680 Oak Creek Ct.
Jefferson City, MO 65101

OKTOBERFEST GERMAN MEAL September 24

The planning committee for the Oktoberfest German Meal at Central Church is working on preparing and hosting the event which takes place September 24. Depending on the COVID-Delta variant number of positive cases in Cole County, we will be having the meal as either "Dine-in" &/or "Drive-through."

We'll keep you posted on more details through church bulletin announcements, our church's Facebook page, and the church website. **We will need your help.** The planning committee members are Patti Schmutzler, Freda Maness, Pam Schmutzler, and Gary Woodward.

Be sure to mark your calendars for September 24th!

FALL FESTIVAL AT SANDER'S FARM October 9

Please keep Saturday, October 9, open for a fun-filled day at Sander's Farm. Planning is in the early stages, but we intend to have pumpkin painting, games, food, music, campfire, fishing, possibly hayrides, and more! Please contact Karen Howser or Faye Rinaldi with any suggestions to make it a special event at our beautiful farm.

VOLUNTEER GROUPS NEEDED

A lot of activity has been happening at our church, along with an all-church meal which takes place on the third Sunday of each month following the worship service. Congregational Life Ministry is hoping to get more church groups involved in planning and serving the meal. A free-will offering will be collected the day of the meal for your group's treasury. Please consider this appreciated service for our members. We have openings starting in December, and into next year (2022). Contact Karen Howser or Faye Rinaldi if your group would like to help out.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The first meeting of the Women's Fellowship year (2021-2022) will be held in October instead of our usual meeting date in September. More information will be posted.

Women's Fellowship would like to thank our Rummage sale coordinators, Sondra Spencer and Carole Spencer, for doing an awesome, huge job getting it organized, especially after not having it for the past couple years. So many volunteers (both men and ladies) helped a lot! Thank you, everyone!

YOUNG YOUTH

Back to school means Wednesday activities are back for K-5th graders. Join us whenever your school gets out for food and fun, faith and fellowship, as we build relationships with God and each other. We always include a 20-30 minute Bible lesson and activities, and also share dinner together. If you have friends or family with kids in that age range, they are absolutely welcome to join us. Come any time after 3:00 p.m., and we will end at 6:00 p.m.

Rene Miserez; 694-6022
Young Youth Director

FRIEND-ZEE ... Friday, Sept. 17; 5:30 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.

Our last minute-to-win-it theme party was a lot of fun and we are doing it again! Invite your buddies to come join us ... the more the merrier! And come hungry because there will be food. With minute-to-win-it games you get one minute to try to finish the challenge. They're fun, they're super easy to play, and they are usually pretty hilarious (to play, and to watch!). I hope to see you there!

RALLY DAY ... Sunday, Sept. 19, 10:00 a.m.

Plan to join us for Rally Day and support our friends receiving Bibles, and there's also a church lunch that day.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ... Wednesdays

Volunteers needed for Young Youth on Wednesdays – You don't have to "do" anything except for enjoying the Bible lesson; we're needing two adults per our Safe Church Policy to volunteer. You would be needed roughly from 5:00-5:30 p.m., and you are welcome to come for the afternoon. What a great way to be reminded of different Bible stories that you might have forgotten about! Please pick out a week that you can help.

Friend-zee ... I could use three helpers. I will need kitchen help and general help with the games.



BELL CHOIR

If you have ever thought you might like to give ringing bells a try, now is a great time, and you are welcome to join us! The ability to read music is a plus, but not required. If interested, please contact Rene Miserez at 694-6022.

UPDATES TO "NAME-CHANGE"

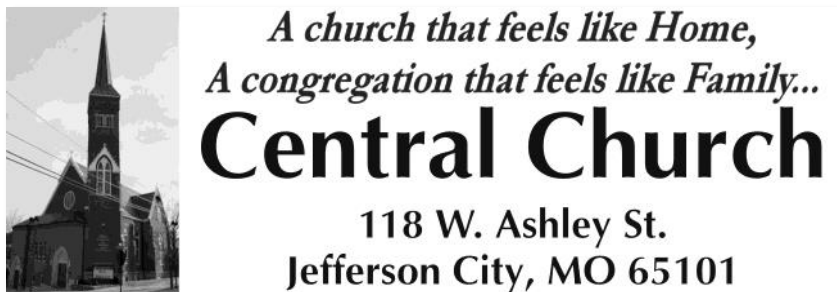
Changes, changes, changes... Leaving the United Church of Christ and changing our name to Central Church has necessitated several changes to our online presence. Some of those are seamless and you will barely notice them; some of them will require some changes on your part. We are attempting to identify everywhere online that has our old name listed and notify them of our name change (e.g. Google Maps, Yelp, etc.) but we are likely to miss some. If you should happen to notice our old name listed somewhere online for something current, please notify Alan Bagnall at 573-616-1302 or biggle@mcholland.com.

- **Facebook:** Our name on Facebook has been updated to Central Church in Jefferson City, MO. You can find us at facebook.com/centralchurchjcmo.
- **Website:** Our new website is centralchurchjcmo.com. We should be transitioning to this new website by the beginning of September or shortly thereafter. If you try to access the church website at centralucc.com, you may be redirected to the new site, but that is only temporary. Please update any links you may be using, and please start only using the new site once it becomes active.
- **Email:** The new email address for the office is office@centralchurchjcmo.com and that email address is valid at this time. The office@centralucc.com email address will stay valid for a period of time while people become accustomed to the new email address, but please start using the new email address and get used to doing so, update any address books, etc., as this old email address will eventually be deleted.

There will also be two additional email addresses:

Pastor@centralchurchjcmo.com Communications@centralchurchjcmo.com

- **Logo:** The previous logo included our prior name. We have a new logo for the church. It may only be temporary, if the church decides to use something different. What we are using at this time is:



THANK YOU NOTES

- Thank you for the recognition and the anniversary party on August 15 for our 100 years of service. Jan Miller designed the wall hanging for our anniversary. We appreciate everyone's love and support shown to us, and would also like to thank the person who left us the five quilt tops. We'll be working on them.

The Martha Circle

* * * * *

- I wanted to let Central Church and the Congregational Life Ministry know how nice everything was on Sunday, August 15th, celebrating Martha Circle's 100 years of service. My daughter and I enjoyed the church service, and the luncheon was so nice. We enjoyed looking through scrapbooks — so many quilts. Thank you to everyone who put this together.

Bonnie (Goller) Ott
(Daughter of deceased quilter, Oleda Goller)

* * * * *

- Thanks to your congregation for your generous donation of \$300.81 to Common Ground. This funds an average day in our benevolence office which helps people with rent, utilities, bus passes, and more.

Tim, Common Ground

* * * * *

- Thank you for your generous donation of \$215.81 to Unleashing Potential (UP). It is because of you that we are able to ensure that all children are given the opportunity to reach their fullest potential.

Darlene Sowell, President & CEO
Unleashing Potential

* * * * *

- Thank you for your recent gift of \$460.81 which helps families believe in a better future. Because of you, we continue to be able to move forward to provide safe, affordable housing to families in need.

Susan Cook-Williams, Executive Director
Habitat for Humanity

* * * * *

- Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,918.31 to the CSW Blankets program. Your contribution provides a tangible reminder to migrant families that they are not alone as they seek safety. It wraps refugees in warmth as they arrive in the United States to build a new future. CWS is able to respond when disasters occur and support is needed. Thanks to your compassion, we can—and will—change lives.

Rick Santos, President & CEO
Church World Service



FIFTEENTH ANNUAL TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY THE BROTHERHOOD

Friday, September 10

You are invited to participate in Central Church's Annual Golf Tournament on September 10th. Proceeds from the tournament are donated to benevolences like the Healing House, Samaritan Center, Boys and Girls Clubs, and New Tribes Mission. Registration is at 11:00 a.m., tee time at 12:00 noon, and a port steak dinner around 5:30 p.m., following the tournament. There will not be an auction this year; however, everyone is invited to the dinner. Please see Larry Long for tickets which cost \$10 per person. Carry-outs will also be available. For more information about the tournament, contact Russell Rottmann at russellw405@gmail.com.

RUMMAGE SALE

Thank you to everyone who donated items to our Annual Rummage Sale, helped set-up during the week, worked the day of the sale, or tore down and cleaned up afterwards. It takes a LOT of effort to put this sale together, and your efforts on behalf of this church are truly appreciated.



Thank you especially to Sondra, Carole, Paula, and their families who once again donated their time this week to spearhead the endeavor. These women have a process and a system for this event that works smoothly, year after year, and we are blessed to have them answer our call each time we ask.

To our shoppers, we hope you found some truly amazing bargains. Thank you for respecting our COVID protocols. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

MARTHA CIRCLE CELEBRATION

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARTHA CIRCLE OF CENTRAL CHURCH ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY!! This Circle began their journey in August of 1921 as a quilting circle, to provide quilts for the Evangelical Children's Home in St. Louis, Missouri. Six women attended that first meeting, at which time they decided to form a church circle. During their organizational meeting the following month, thirty cents was used to purchase needles and thread with two cents left. The two cents went in the mite box to be used for the payment of flowers sent to sick members. Dues were set at ten cents. The charter members were: Mrs. Nelse Addison, Mrs. Oscar Jens, Mrs. Alex Meyers, Mrs. Ed Weiss, Mrs. Charles Walz, Mrs. Fred Hollerorth, Mrs. George Katzer, Mrs. Oscar Raitchel, Miss Yetta Schott, and Mrs. Henry Schwaller. Mrs. Fred. Hollerorth (Minnie) organized this circle. Their first president was Miss Yetta Schott. There is a long list of members of this circle since that time. Initially the Martha Circle was called the Fifth Circle and later named the Martha Circle in honor of Martha Berlekamp, wife of Rev. Edwin Berlekamp. It is recorded the original goal of this organization was Biblical, "Whatsoever you do to these the least of ye brethren, ye do it unto me."

Today, they do custom quilting as they continue sharing their wonderful talents. Meeting weekly, they have quilted hundreds of beautiful quilts, some for gifts and others for which they are paid. Over the years this organization has helped to improve the lives of countless men, women, and children through their love and action, not only with their quilting skills, but also financially. The Martha Circle continues to support Central Church's Women's Fellowship mission projects, have made baby quilts for members, sewed for orphanage children, made hospital gowns, and financially provided Confirmation robes for Central children. Contributions were made to the Community Chest drive, Red Cross, the March of Dimes, Leadership Training needs, Samaritan Center, and Salvation Army. When the church had a need, they responded! Their list of giving is extremely long and marvelous, and this continues today. More recently, support was given to the educational fund for a student at Eden Seminary. This Circle participated in the Church World Service projects, supported the Evangelical Children's Home, participated in giving Ward Parties at Fulton State Hospital, and donated financially to local needs.

They have a history of quilting for the Festival of Sharing and the Interdenominational Quilters of Jefferson City. For many years they have been members of the Council of Clubs and the Council of Churches locally.



Members feel they have been blessed through their work, fellowship, and friendship one with another. And they now have a male member of the Martha Circle, Alan Bagnull. Currently Mary Ann Pearre is President of the Martha Circle, Linda Heller is Treasurer, and Jan Miller is their Secretary. THANK YOU MARTHA CIRCLE FOR YOUR CONTINUED LOVE AND SERVICE TO SO MANY FOLKS. YOU ARE APPRECIATED! WHAT A TERRIFIC HISTORY YOU HAVE! HAPPY 100TH ANNIVERSARY!! Central Church honored the Martha Circle Sunday, August 15th, during the worship service and the members were guests of honor at a luncheon following the service.

Pictured left to right: Mary Ann Pearre, Linda Heller, and Alan Bagnull.

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) |

SEPTEMBER:

(Team Captain—Carl Ernst)

John Hequembourg

Susan Poettgen

Larry Long

Curt Shipley

COMMUNION

September 5 — Barb Schmutzler

SALVATION ARMY MEAL

September 9 — Connie Pack

MEALS ON WHEELS

September 15 — Joni Witt

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

July 15, 2021

- Alan Bagnall has created new logos with our new name 'Central Church' and continues to update Facebook as needed.
- Our new domain name is centralchurchjcmo.com.
- Vacation Bible School was lots of fun with twelve kids attending.
- The KC Wolf presentation has been postponed until fall.
- The Red Cross blood drive is scheduled for October 22.
- Missouri Builders Service has been selected to make the repairs on our roof.
- The final steps will be taken to finalize our name change to Central Church, and to operate under Chapter 355 for our nonprofit corporation.
- Pastor Jason Abbott will give trial sermons August 1st and 15th with a congregational vote after the August 15th church service.
- The resignation letter from Rev. Dr. Judith Scott was read. A luncheon to honor her is planned for July 25th.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joyce Mutert, Council Secretary

DEADLINE FOR

OCTOBER "TOWER" ARTICLES:

Wednesday, September 15

SEPTEMBER 2021

| Sum | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|---|-----|
| | | | 1 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Dominoes 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir | 2 | 6 | 4 |
| 5 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship | 6 (Office Closed for Labor Day) | 7 5:30pm Brotherhood | 8 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir | 9 5:00pm Salvation Army Meal | 10 12:00pm Golf Tournament 5:30pm Pork Steak Dinner | 11 |
| 12 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship & Installation Service for Pastor Jason Abbott 11:00am Reception for Pastor Jason Abbott & Family 1:00pm Tour of Historic Places of Worship | 13 | 14 | 15 9:00am Quilting 10:00am Meals On Wheels 1:00pm Dominoes 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir | 16 6:00pm Mission/Outreach Min. 7:00pm Council Meeting | 17 5:30pm Young Youth Friend-zee | 18 |
| 19 RALLY DAY 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship 11:00am All-Church Luncheon | 20 | 21 1:00pm Elenor Circle | 22 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Card Games 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir | 23 | 24 Oktoberfest German Meal | 25 |
| 26 9:00am Coffee Hour 10:00am Worship | 27 1:00pm WIGS Circle | 28 | 29 9:00am Quilting 1:00pm Dominoes 3:00pm Young Youth 6:15pm Bell Choir | 30 | 31 | |

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