



the Clarion

January 2018

of Central Christian Church (DOC)

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*At the sound of the tolling midnight bell
A brand new year will begin.
Let's raise our hopes in a confident toast
To the promise it ushers in.*

*May your battles be few, your pleasures many,
Your wishes and dreams fulfilled.
May your confidence stand in the face of loss
And give you the strength to rebuild.*

*May peace of heart fill all your days
May serenity grace your soul.
May tranquil moments bless your life
And keep your spirit whole*

Unknown

***"God calls Central
Christian Church to be a
welcoming and open faith com-
munity where Christian love,
action, and
discipleship unite."***



Serving...

GREETERS

January 1

Twyla Edinburgh
Melanie Hurst

January 8

Jimetta Mankin & Paige

January 15

Betsy Wallace

January 22

Jimetta Mankin

January 29

Jimetta Mankin & Paige

PRAYER CARDS

ATTENDANCE PADS

Marsha McQueary

COUNTERS

January 1

Twyla Edinburgh
Dick Hunt, Melanie Hurst

January 8

David Rose
Carroll Vasbinder

January 15

None Scheduled

January 22

None Scheduled

January 29

None Scheduled

Deadlines...

The deadline for the Clarion is the next-to-last Wednesday of the month at 10AM

Deadline for the bulletin is Tuesday mornings at 10AM.

Prayer List:

Submit names by filling out a Prayer Request form located in the Pew Pads, and placing it in an offering plate, or by contacting the church office.

Janice Fields

Priscilla Hammons

Christine Kennedy

Diana Chavis

Bettie Davis

Brock Gonthier

Vic & Carol Mullen

Paul Myers

Jane Siebenmorgen

FOR YEARS WE AT CENTRAL have said our church is the best kept secret in town: a church open to all people and with an incredible diversity in all kinds of ways, a church constantly striving to be involved in ministry and outreach in Jesus' name, a church where social justice is not just a word, but an expanding reality; a church reaching out to share our love, our faith, our vision, our mission.

Well, something really exciting has happened this year: We have had more new members than we have had in years – because more of you decided to speak out and invite people around you. YES!!! Are we still a secret in this town? To some degree, but we are really working to change this. People in our church have had us on TV, in the paper, and on the radio more than ever before, - and the media is putting us out there because what we are doing is significant and important and needs to be heard by everyone! Thank you for speaking up and sharing who we are and what we are doing. Thank you for keeping in your prayers the importance of what we are doing and this community sharing our vital ministries with others. Thank you for being a part of this church, this community, this ministry in Christ's name – and keep on sharing so our ministries we do together are no longer a secret. Keep on living your faith, speaking up, and inviting your friends. AMEN

Phil Ewoldsen



Progressive Dinner



CCC participates in 2017 Christmas Parade



CWF Christmas Dinner



Jason Sloan worship music

Our Church Family.....

Please report items for Our Church Family to the church office, and please remember the following in your prayers:

Serving...

Central Christian Church (DOC) and all our ministries as we begin 2018!

Aletha Carter as she waits for confirmation from her doctor that the radiation treatments worked on her cancer.

Sally Criss, Susan Edmondson's sister, as she continues to deal with failing health due to ALS.

Joni & her husband, Mike; Joni works with Rick Dennis. Mike was recently diagnosed with a mass in his lung.

Rev. Jack Diel as he recovers from recent knee replacement surgery.

Angie Hammond as she has surgery on January 3 and her husband, **George**, who has been experiencing chest pains and the doctors are trying to determine the cause.

Will & Betsy Hine as Will continues to recovery from an accident he suffered on vacation in North Carolina and as Betsy offers her support and care to Will (may he not drive her too crazy!).

Don & Kathy Iliff as Don continues to gain weight and strength; may 2018 be a much better and brighter year for both of them.

Pat Ketchel as she has been hospitalized with a broken hip and congestive heart failure. Pat is the mother of **Tricia Hillegas**, Rev. Rebecca's oldest friend. Tricia recently lost a sister in October and must drive four hours one way to visit her mom.

Sally Leonard & Karie Tharp to have healing and peace throughout 2018.

Donna McGee's grandmother who is 102 years old and recovering from a fall.

Sean & Mary Beth Mullen and Vic & Carol Mullen, Sean's parents, who are now at Cobblestone Crossing. Please pray that Sean and Mary Beth will now get the rest they need after all the months of care they have offered Vic and Carol.

Ryan Neff as he recovers from a motorcycle accident that led to amputation of one of his legs.

Jo Anne Seybold & her family as Jo Anne gets settled at Southwood in Terre Haute.

Amanda, Traci Tucker & Sarah Wilson's niece, as she adjusts to medication and a diagnosis of severe pulmonary hypertension.

Paul & Tambra White as Paul recovers now at home after a recent stroke and aneurysm. Tambra is Norma Plascak's niece.

We extend our deepest sympathies to **Andrea Johnson** at the death of her grandmother.

We extend our deepest sympathies to **Rick & Brenda Waltermire** at the death of Rick's brother, Gordon.

Due to Patient Privacy Laws, hospitals are no longer able to contact pastors if a church member is admitted for treatment. If you or a loved one is in the hospital, please call the church office or Rev. Rebecca.

ELDERS

January 1
David Rose
Shelly Manning

January 8
Betsy Hine
Susan Edmondson

January 15
Sherrie Mansfield
Brenda Waltermire

January 22
Susan Edmondson

January 29
Shelly Manning
Susan Edmondson

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

None scheduled

Thank you so much for all your support and prayers. We miss all of you very much. Don continues to improve. Though progress is slow, it is constant. I truly do not know how we would have gotten through this without your help and am much more secure knowing you will continue to support us. Loved the food, company and conversation. On the road, haven't quite finished the journey yet. Thank You!
Kathy & Don Iliff

Many thanks to all of you for the most generous Christmas gift! As I have been saying for the past 30-some years(!), ministering with and among the Central Christian Church family is a privilege and blessing. The support of this congregation nurtures my spirit and inspires me endlessly. Blessings to all of you this Christmas!
Karen Sagraves

Thank you for the very generous Christmas gift. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to work with and for all of you. May you have the blessed peace and joy of Christmas, and the riches of Christ in the New Year.
Madonna Nally

REBECCA'S REVELATION

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ! Happy Christmastide and Happy New Year! In the spring of 2017, Central Christian applied for a Flourish grant through Eli Lily and the Indiana Region of the Christian Church (DOC). CCC became a recipient of a Ministerial Compensation grant, and one of the requirements of the Flourish program is that I am to attend seminars twice a year (with other lay members of the church) and I am to participate in a peer group co-hort.

At the peer group I attended in December, our leader Bruce Barkhauer raised the issue of Spiritual Formation within our congregations. Bruce listed 5 categories that together comprise "Discipleship." Although I think we do a relatively good job teaching some areas of Spiritual Formation and Discipleship, we can always do better – and some areas we haven't been as intentional as we need to be.

I know very well how challenging it can be to get yet another group together, to find a date that works for most, etc. So...I would like to try some Spiritual Formation by creating another email group – similar to what we have done with the CCC BIG Read. The first branch of discipleship we will address will be Stewardship.

As Bruce writes, "Stewardship is not fundraising...it is about responding with *our whole being* to the generosity of God. Stewardship impacts every aspect of life. Perhaps the greatest sin of all is that we have made (stewardship) about budgets and board reports instead of about a life-giving adventure and an invitation to discover deeper joy in discipleship."

If you would like to explore biblical, theological understandings of stewardship, contact me with a request to be included in the email group. My plan is to share reflections, scripture passages, and/or questions several times a month for you to read and ponder at your convenience. You can choose to share thoughts with others in the group via email or not.

My prayer for all our members and friends is that we continue to grow in our relationships with God and continue to grow and develop as the disciples of Jesus Christ. Do something good for your body, mind, and spirit: join our Spiritual Formation e-group! What a great way to kick-off 2018!

Peace!

Rev. Rebecca

CCC BIG Read Begins 3rd Year!

We embark on our third year of the CCC BIG Read, reading through the Bible a book at a time, in January 2018. With *Hosea*, which we read in December, we are now in what is known as the Minor Prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures. There are twelve Minor Prophets altogether and they are not called minor because they are of less importance; the length of their books are simply much shorter than the Major Prophets of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel.

In January we will read Joel through Nahum. These six books contain a total of 27 chapters, so read one chapter a day and you will still have some time left over at the end of the month.

Some basic Info:

- Joel: Precise historical date is debated among biblical scholars. This prophet's focus is on a plague of locusts and subsequent severe drought; Joel calls for national lament over this disaster. Is this God's judgment? When the plague is over, is this divine intervention?
- Amos: Shepherd & Dresser of Sycamore Trees; prophecies during first half of the 8th century BCE Amos charges Gentile (non-Jewish) nations with crimes against humanity; he then says Israel is guilty of the same crimes. The prophet shares 5 symbolic visions of God's judgement upon Israel.
- Obadiah Difficult to determine date with one chapter! This prophet writes of God's judgement (shocker!) against a nation called Edom.
- Jonah This more story than prophecy is set in the 700's BCE, but was most likely written after the exile several centuries later. God calls Jonah to go to Nineveh to tell them of their impending doom at God's hands. Jonah runs in the opposite direction of Nineveh. After a slimy encounter with a fish, Jonah finally goes to Nineveh... and then is suicidal because the Ninevites turn their lives around! *(continued on next page)*

Micah Another 8th century BCE prophet (very busy century!). Not surprising, Micah contains divine judgements against various nations/peoples. One of the most fascinating sections of any prophetic book is the great lawsuit God has against Israel in chapters 6-8.

Nahum Most likely written in the 7th century BCE in Jerusalem. Nahum begins with the grand majesty – and severity – of God. He then focuses on the impending and complete destruction of Nineveh.

Blessings upon your reading and reflection!
Rev. Rebecca

WORSHIP

Welcome 2018! Can it be 2 years since our big 175th anniversary year? Seems like just yesterday and that spirit of excitement for the past as well as the future is still with us. What will we look forward to in the new year of 2018? We started the new liturgical year December 3 with the Hanging of the Greens on the first Sunday of Advent. Now, we move on toward Epiphany on January 7. Come let us worship the light! The Christ Child was born on Christmas Day and we move from a time of darkness and expectation into the light of Epiphany and Christmastide.

After the busyness of Advent and Christmas, even though both are times of quiet, introspection and meditating within the Church and worship services, January is often lost in the liturgical year; and yet it is really a time of great light, rejoicing and deep significance. The Christ Child is born! The Magi traveled long distances to see where the star would lead them and they worship Him and bring him precious gifts! Mary and Joseph steal away into a distant land to protect the Christ Child from the insane wrath of Herod! Instead of a dark period in the calendar we want to bring light to our worship and to our world. Each Sunday in January, starting with New Year's Day, has a special focus and we hope that each of you will be present on these Sundays (as we do for all Sundays!) to share in the wonderful worship we enjoy together in the Lord's name.

January 7 Epiphany Sunday — The Service of Lights. After this service we will take down Christmas decorations. We need to get enough help to do this,, especially tall people for the tree. Please plan to stay after Church to help. With enough people it will only take an hour or less.

January 14 Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

January 21 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

January 28 Laity Sunday

One definition of Epiphany is “a realization of a truth.” This was the time that the Magi realized the significance of the star that they had studied and now followed. This is the time that the light leads us all to the realization of the true meaning of the birth of Jesus. Let us welcome the new calendar year, looking forward to a new beginning in our lives, in the life of Central Christian Church and in the Liturgical year.

Our theme for the season of Epiphany is “Known and Called.” We will hear stories of people discovering and recognizing the identity of Jesus, and by extension, who we are called to be as his followers. What identifies us in such a way that others see an unmistakable likeness in us?

Lent and Easter were late in 2017 but in 2018 they are very early. Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day, February 14! Lent leads us to March 25 and Palm Sunday and then through Holy Week to Easter on April 1. These seasons guide us on our journey through the Christian year and we cherish each one of them.

Betsy Hine

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Christian Education will meet on Monday, January 8th at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome to join us as we plan for the new year.

The God Squad will have a lock-in on Friday, January 5th beginning at 7:00pm. We will end at 10:00am on Saturday morning. Each God Squad member may bring one middle/high school aged friend. Each person should bring a 2 liter bottle of soda and a snack to share. Please have dinner before you arrive. Breakfast will be provided. Each person attending must have a signed permission form to stay.

All children and youth in elementary through high school are invited to join us for roller skating at the Terre Haute Skate World on Sunday, January 28 from 2:00-4:00pm. Admission is \$3.50. Skate rental is \$2.00 for regular skates, \$3.00 for speed skates, and \$4.00 for inline skates. You will probably want money for snacks and drinks. Adults are welcome to skate or watch. There is no charge for non-skaters. Each skater needs a signed permission form.

Theresa Vaughn



Christmas Program



Christmas Program



Hanging of Greens



Christmas Parade



Christmas Caroling



Christmas Movie

Active Adults 2018

Invitation to All Adults of CCC

Plan to join our Active Adults on Friday, January 12 at Bandanas for supper and an evening of fellowship. Please find the signup sheet posted at our Information Center.



January 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2 6:00 PM Worship Team	3	4	5	6 GOD SQUAD LOCK-IN 5PM—11 AM
7 Elders@Noon Epiphany Celebration	8 9AM Bible Study 10:30AM Communion at Bethesda & Wyndmoor 3:30PM Evangelism 6:30PM Christian Ed	9 7PM Taizè at SMWC	10 5:30PM Holy Cow In Cornerstone Rm	11	12 7:00 PM Active Adults Dinner at Bandanas	13 9AM-12noon Mat making
14 11:00 AM Deacons Meeting	15 9AM Bible Study Martin Luther King, Jr Day	16	17	18	19 5—7 PM Kathy Ocampo Use of Bldg	20 9AM-12noon Mat making
21 Board@noon	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 2—6PM M B Ripple Use of Bldg	29	30	31			

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Paige Tevlin | 6. Leila Herndon | 21. Leatha Myles |
| 2. Will Hine, Sr | 7. Tyler Keller | 26. Debbie Gonthier |
| 2. Erica West | 13. Toni Johnson | 31. Mac Meyer |
| 3. David Rose | 17. Bonnie Wilson | |
| 4. Patrick Meyer | 21. Michelle Manning | |

Jan 13 David & Margaret Harden

Jan 15 Stacie & Brian Whitley



**Central Christian
Church
(Disciples of
Christ)**

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We're On The Web
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Worship Services
9:30 AM
(Nursery for Infants & Toddlers
Open 9 AM -12Noon)
Sunday School for
all ages 11 AM

The Outreach Committee would like to thank all those who have generously donated their time to help make mats for the homeless of our community and/or have given gift cards for our angel tree, or mitten tree for Fuqua Elementary, or donated toiletries for the hygiene kits for the homeless. This congregation is truly loving and giving which is so evident this time of year.

We will continue meeting in the Cornerstone Room on Saturdays from 9 AM until noon from December 30 through January 20. Our promise of 20 mats to PATH should be fulfilled well before the Point In Time count of homeless on January 24.

In January we will begin collecting small Lego sets for Aaron's LEGOs. You may remember this project was begun in honor of the Todd's son Aaron who lost his battle with heart complications. These sets will go to the Riley Children's Hospital's heart center where they will be distributed.

May everyone enjoy the blessings of this joyous Christmas season when we remember the greatest gift of all.....God's gift in the birth of a tiny child.

Mary Jo Brown, Outreach Chair