

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

MARCH 2019 NEWSLETTER

No matter who you are or where you've been, you are welcome here

From Your Temporary Shepherd ~

Even with Easter later than usual this year, it still seems that we just get a glimpse of the baby in the manger before we enter the special season of Lent. For Christians, the six weeks before Easter are a time of study, repentance, and preparation for the events of Christ's death and resurrection. It is a season of growing closer to God as we revisit the events that lead us up to Easter.

I welcome the Lenten invitation to more frequent prayer, meditation, acts of charity, sacrifice, and extra measures of kindness and compassion, and the opportunities to open myself up even more to God's leading in my life and the life of the church.

I hope you will join me on this Lenten journey. In whatever way you choose, allow yourself to be challenged to do something that is not part of your usual routine. I will be sharing a daily Lenten calendar, which you can pick up at church on March 3rd. I will also attach it to my weekly email note that week. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 6th.

If you prefer more general guidelines, here are a few to consider this season, or perhaps for a lifelong change. May we all find ways to walk closer to the Spirit during these days.

---Give up an unhealthy habit.

---Take on a new healthy or loving habit.

---Hoe out – go through your home or office and discard/give away/recycle what you don't use.

---Read one chapter in the Scriptures every day.

---Purchase nothing that is not absolutely necessary.
(One couple did this for a year and saved \$8,000!)

---Finish a project you've been working on for months/years.

---Every day, write down something for which you are thankful.

---Catch up with someone who hasn't been to worship in a while.

---Every day, tell the members of your family that you love them, no strings attached.

---Do whatever you can to heal a past hurt, or forgive a past offense.

The word "Lent" comes from the word "*lencten*", meaning "*spring*". But according to Robert Schuler, LENT means – "LET'S ELIMINATE NEGATIVE THINKING". (That's actually a pretty good idea.)

Lenten blessings to you all.

Pastor Jerrie

A WORD FROM DEACONS

Our first meeting of 2019 was held on February 14th. Pastor Jerrie and all Deacons were present, as well as our newest member; Sue Eck. Officers were elected as follows: Co-Chairs; Harriet Stewart and Sue Ellinger, Secretary; Janet Galcynski. Other Board members are Lisa Labombard, Doris Shay, and Bill Stewart.

We updated our Watch-care List and our Communion schedule. We also discussed ideas for book studies, Lenten studies and some upcoming worship changes with Pastor Jerrie.

Blessings to you all
Harriet Stewart
Co-Chair.



ON MARCH 10TH

Don't forget to spring ahead an hour so you don't miss Music Sunday. YAY!!!

We have had two meetings so far.



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

We are putting together some questions to be sent out and answered by our members. This will help us update the Central Baptist Church Profile.

We discussed the criteria under which we, as a committee, will present a pastor for candidacy. We have agreed that a candidate will only be presented if there is a consensus by the members of this committee. We will be meeting the first Sunday of every month following worship service.

Please remember to keep us in your prayers.

Bill Stewart, Courtney Tesini, Dave Burgess, Erika Burgess, Gretchen Ingraham, Merian Rogers, and Tom Rice



MARCH 10TH

will be **MUSIC SUNDAY**. Pastor Jerrie will be distributing ballots asking for one or two of your favorite hymns in the next couple weeks and the reason why

they are favorites. On March 10th we will be singing many of those submitted and learning the history and reason for writing them. This is sure to be an interesting Sunday that you won't want to miss!

Walk
in the
Light
of the
LORD
see John 5:19-22

for April articles
is March 20th

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Dear Friends,

We extend our most sincere appreciation to Central Baptist Church for the beautiful memorial for our Mom, Jackie Wynn. The music, service, luncheon, prayers, and fellowship made it very special for us and a deserving tribute to her. It was a spiritually uplifting celebration of life during a difficult time of grieving; that is what she would have wanted. With gratitude and many thanks.

*Peace and Blessings,
Joe, Laurel, Mike, and Kevin
Wynn*

WORSHIP IN MARCH

We are already preparing the FAVORITE HYMN SUNDAY on March 10th (have you voted yet?). We'll be singing some of our favorites and telling the stories of how they came to be. This is a good Sunday to invite a friend – there is no sermon.

There are other changes taking place in March, as we begin the Lenten season. Beginning March 3rd, the role of Worship Leader will change slightly. I will be picking up the Invocation after the first hymn, and the Worship Leader will be reading the Scripture of the day.

After the scheduled 3rd Sunday coffee hour, you are all invited to remain in Hays Hall for a discussion forum – or “Church Chat” as some refer to it. This is a time of focusing on the vision of CBC, finding the path ahead, and just generally talking with each other. This will help both the Search Committee and me as we look to the future and the information needed to call a new pastor.

And.....not done yet – on the 5th Sunday of March, we will gather in Hays Hall for table worship, instead of in the sanctuary. This is an opportunity to examine and discuss a Scripture passage in small groups, and experience worship in a different way. Several churches are doing this periodically and finding it very valuable.

There are deeper reasons for each of these, and if you want to know more, just ask. My thanks to the Board of Deacons for approving these changes. Also, stay tuned for more information on an upcoming Lenten Study.

I hope you will join us for each Sunday in March as we make our way through this most special season of Lent.

Pastor Jerrie

LENT

Lent is the time to take the time
To let the power of our faith story take
hold of us,
A time to let the events
Get up and walk around in us,
A time to intensify
Our living into Christ,
A time to hover over
The thoughts of our hearts,
A Time to place our feet in the streets of
Jerusalem
Or walk along the sea and listen to his
word,
A time to touch his robe
And feel the healing surge through us,
A time to ponder and time to wander....

Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste
of God!

Ann Weems
[Kneeling in Jerusalem](#)





STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

We hear in nearly every Sunday service that we should “return a portion of what God has given to us”. What we hear less often is that God has specified what portion we should return to Him: a tenth of our income, a tithe. Among the many scriptural passages imploring us to be generous is Leviticus 27:30.

“Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or the fruit of the trees, is the Lord’s; it is holy to the Lord.”

While we may fall short of some of God’s commandments and covenants, we certainly respect them as worthy goals. The Ten Commandments, for example, are not easy to follow perfectly, but few of us would suggest that it is acceptable to lie or murder. We strive to reach the goals that God has set for us. So, it should also be with our giving and service to the church: we should seek the goal of tithing as we seek other Christian behavior. “Seeking” in this case could take the form of a gradual increase in giving, reaching closer to the goal that God has set for us. Thank you for your continued support, and please consider that the future of our church depends on your generosity.

George Rogers
Stewardship Committee

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE MOST NEEDED BY THE WESTFIELD FOOD PANTRY:

Child friendly snacks, like granola bars, raisins, crackers, or fruit pouches

Jelly, jam, or Fluff

Box cereals for kids

Oatmeal (packets or canisters)

Fruit juices (bottles or boxes)



As always, thank you for your continued support! Without you we could not provide for an average of 1,200 people per month.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH IS FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY.



*TOP O THE MORNIN!
EVERYBODY’S IRISH ON MARCH 17TH!
Don’t forget to wear your green!*



HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Krista Chechile,
Darlene Meacham
- 4 Diane Ziemba
- 5 Jim Renaudette
- 7 David Iserman, Jr.,
Dana Painchaud
- 11 Bill Stewart
- 13 Pastor Richard Painchaud,
Audra Spath, Loretta Tobias
- 14 Jeremy & Justin Shay
- 16 Josh Ellinger, Audrey Ritchie,
Barbara Hawley
- 19 Linda Taylor
- 20 Matthew Thieme
- 21 Gary Zercher
- 23 Sherri Gelina, John Rowley
- 25 Emily Czarnecki
- 26 Ruth Bloking
- 27 Jake MacAdam, Leah Rucki
- 30 Jeanne Gannon, Gina Holzapfel,
Cameron Gaj, Carolyn Laframboise,
Dave Engley
- 31 Heather Stewart, Hilary Placzek,
Trinity McDowell



AND ANNIVERSARIES.....

- 4 Jake & Amy Ellinger
- 12 Kathy MacLean & Vincent Placzek
- 16 Loretta & David Tobias



The Board of Trustees has been working on a

proposal to rent space to Christ the King Church of Westfield beginning in June. We are excited to welcome their members who will worship here on Sundays using Hays Hall and take part in Bible study on Wednesday evenings. After meeting with their representatives, we are impressed with their passion and energy and their overwhelming desire to work with us as Christians. Look for them to start moving in after Easter. You will recognize some familiar faces as well as some new to us; they hope to join us in some of our community and church projects too!

The board would like to thank Franklin Estes for his service to the Trustees, given always with kindness and generosity, as he retired from our group.

WHY JOIN A CHURCH CHOIR?

You only have to set foot inside the doors of this, or any, church to appreciate the magic and beauty of choral singing. The human voice is a musical instrument to be treasured. To a new singer though, the thought of choral singing may seem like a daunting task, especially for someone unable to read music. With that in mind, here's a small guide outlining the basics of getting started. After all, now is as good a time as any to jump in...

A New Challenge: Learning to sing is a challenge in itself, but learning to sing with others is a skill that makes the experience all the more rewarding.

Social Benefits: As with any club or social group, membership will not only enhance your circle of friends but also your social life.

Education: There is a wealth of sacred choral music to discover and being part of a choir is one way of finding some of the hidden gems of sacred choral repertoire.

Health Benefits: Singing is an ideal way to relax and relieve stress as it provides an outlet from the pressures of daily life.

The main requirement for choir is the ability to sing in tune. Nearly everyone does this without even thinking about it. And you have to think about what voice part you would like to sing but don't worry, it's the job of the music director to guide you. And remember that joining choir is a commitment.

*FAITH plants the Seed...
LOVE makes it grow.*

2 Peter 3:18

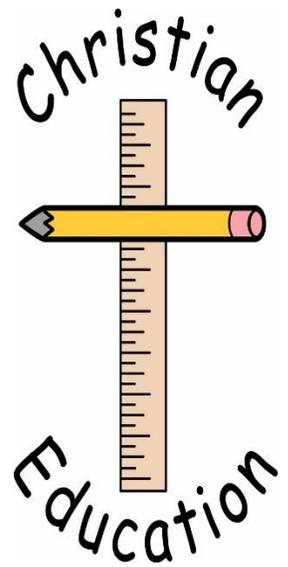
All of us in CE love helping grow seeds of faith, whether you are attending church or sending your children to be encouraged in their faith journey we want you to know "WE LOVE WHAT WE DO!"

Many of you may already have heard that Central Baptist Church will be marching in the Westfield Parade on May 19th to celebrate our city's 350th Birthday. With the help of other church committees and anyone else who wants to help, we will be making a float for the parade. Please call Barb in the church office (568-0429) and leave your contact information if you would be willing to help with the float, or would like to march in the parade. ALL are welcome to join in; it's another way of showing Westfield who we are and how we serve GOD right here in the community. Our theme is from 2Peter 3:18, as quoted above.

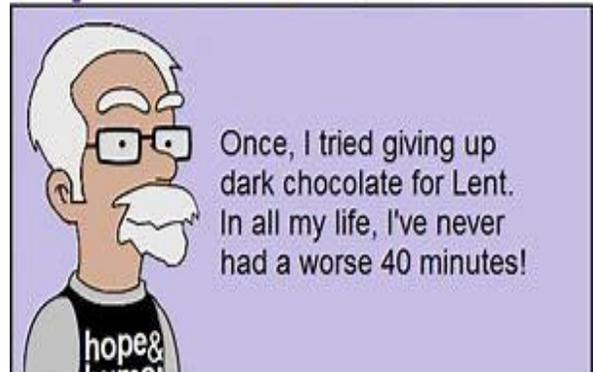
Other news.....

Scholarship applications are due May 1st and applications are available in the church office.

The children enjoy their music time every Sunday. They did a wonderful performance at Christmas! Perhaps another special event is in the works? Come and join the fun to find out!



hope&humor jameswatkins.com



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Office Closed	2
3 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Communion Worship 11:30 Search Mtg	4 10:30 Bible Study	5	6 10:30 Cooking Class 7:00 Choir 7:30 AA LENT BEGINS	7	8 Office Closed	9 YMCA using tables
10 Daylight Savings 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Music Sunday 12:30 Youth Group	11 10:30 Bible Study	12 2:30 Governor's House 6:15 Grandparents	13 10:30 Cooking Class 6:00 Missions 7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	14 1:00 Deacons 6:00 Trustees	15 Office Closed	16 8:00 Prep 9:00 Community Breakfast
17 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	18 10:30 Bible Study 7:00 Church Council	19	20 10:30 Cooking Class 7:00 Choir 7:30 AA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21	22 Office Closed	23
24 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:30 Youth Group	25 10:30 Bible Study	26	27 10:30 Cooking Class 7:00 Choir 7:30 AA	28	29 Office Closed	30
31 9:45 Sunday School 10:30 Table Worship in Hays Hall						