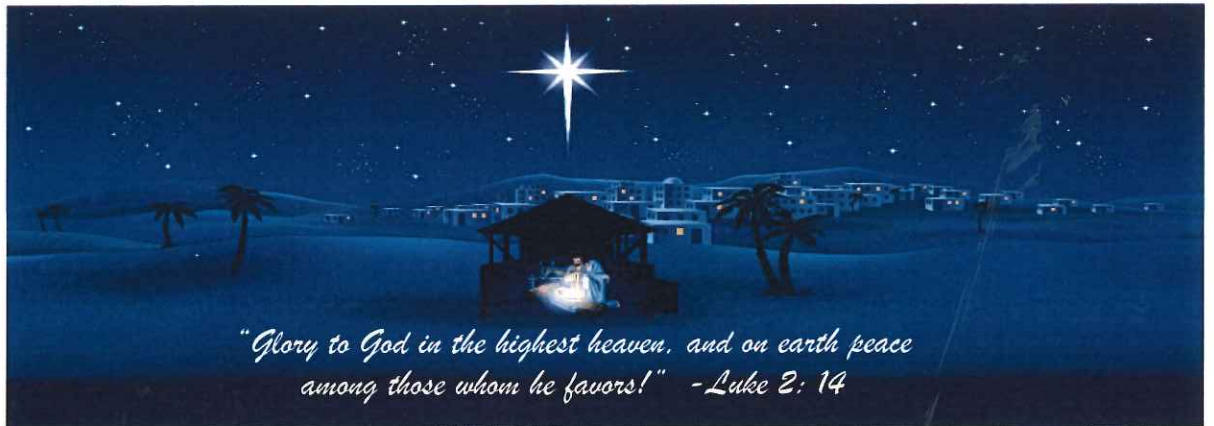


We Are



Central Baptist Herald

December, 2015



"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" - Luke 2: 14

Warmest wishes for a season filled with hope, love, peace and joy!
-The Staff at Central

In this Issue..



THE STORY
READ THE STORY. EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE.

Not yet connected to a small group? More on pg 6.

NEW FEATURE
"CENTRAL'S SERVANTS"
PAGE 6

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Sonny's Sayings

I read a book to the children this week called *The Three Cups*. It is a book about a boy, who when he turns 5,

receives a gift that he is told will give him lots of adventures. Expecting a ball glove or a cowboy hat, he opens the gift and sees three cups instead. "This is not a great gift!" he says. "How is this going to lead to adventure?" He finds out that he is going to start receiving a weekly allowance, and that money will be put in the three cups: some for spending, some for saving, and some for giving. Over time, he realizes that the cups were indeed a great gift, and that they did lead to great adventure: he buys a glove; and later on a car; and is able to give good things to people who are in need.

As we walk through Advent season, we are preparing for the great gift that God gave to the world in Jesus Christ. And like the gift before the boy opened it, as the prophets told about a great gift of God's action to bring forth a Savior, people were expecting a gift that they imagined would fit within their expectations. But when the Gift presented itself, both as a baby born to a marginal family, and placed into a feed

ing trough for animals, and then as an adult who regularly broke the Sabbath Laws and others, their reaction must have been like the 5-year-old boy's response when he saw the cups. "This is what you call God's gift? This is not what a Savior should look like!" Of course, over time, we have come to know that Jesus was indeed God's great gift to the world, like over time the boy came to know the value of those three cups. But it required a decision on the part of the early followers of Jesus to see his alternative approach to the Kingdom as a gift.

What are some of the things in your life that at the time were not understood as gifts, or might have even been painful, yet have become great gifts over time, when we choose to let it be? I think of the person who loses one job, to move into a place where they feel more loved and cared for than they were before. They eventually see the loss of the job as a gift. I think of a person who gets a diagnosis they did not want to get, but because of it, grows closer to family and friends. They might eventually see the diagnosis as a gift. I wonder if that might be the case when something changes in our church. Changes might make us uncomfortable or confused at first, but over time isn't there a good possibility that we might be able to see them as a gift?

As we approach this advent season, may this time of hope, peace, joy and love, be a time when we can be surprised by unexpected gifts in our lives, and may we always see God's hand and faithful presence in our lives.

Blessings, Sonny

Central Seniors Gather for Thanksgiving & Christmas, Thursday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m.

You may pay at the door (\$2), but reservations are needed by Monday, 11/30. A special holiday meal with musical entertainment provided by the United Brethren in Christ Academy Band will highlight the day. Questions? Call Rosenell Mounts @ 386-253-1369. **Let's kick-off this Christmas season with a packed house!** Who could you invite and bring to the gathering? Don't forget to bring non-perishable food products for H.U.M. Let's see how much we can gather. The needs are great!



Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL SERVICE

6PM

Communion & Carols





Linda's Log....

A few years ago, Mike Slaughter shared a novel concept in his book by the same name: *Christmas is Not YOUR Birthday*. A quote from the book jacket says, "Every year we say we're going to cut back, simplify, and have a family Christmas that focuses on the real reason for the season—Jesus. But every year, advertisements beckon; the children plead, and it seems easier just to indulge our wants and whims. Overspending, overeating, materialism and busyness rob us of our peace and joy and rob Jesus of his rightful role as the center of our celebration."

This year at Central, there will be opportunities to help us enjoy a gentler, more peaceful Christmas season. Free devotional guides, especially for the Advent season, are available in the sanctuary foyer. There will be meaningful worship each Sunday that includes special readings and prayers and candle-lighting. The Christmas Songfest on Dec. 13, will be a chance to relax and hear B.J. Myer play the organ, as well as participate in the singing of Christ

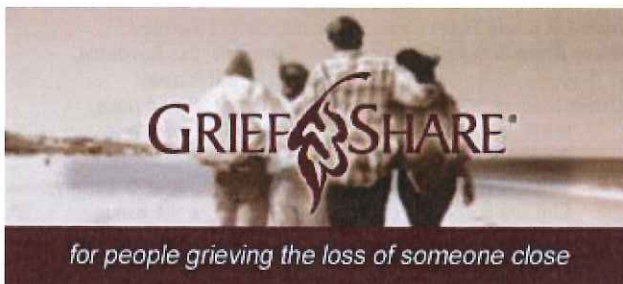
mas carols and other favorite hymns. Non-perishable food items for the H.U.M. collection bins can be brought to church to share our abundance with homeless or needy families in our community. Households with young children can be intentional about lighting candles on an Advent wreath at home each night followed by the reading of the Christmas Story. Children with good reading skills can take turns reading; and to vary and broaden the experience, the account from Luke could be read one night and the next night Matthew's story.

Participating in goodwill projects at school or at work or in the community can also help to remind us to consider others before ourselves. For example, our Angel Tree will be available on Nov. 29, to give us a chance to bless struggling families with Christmas gifts of toys or clothing for the children. Small groups are sharing meals with each other and with folks in need.

As we "prepare" for the coming of the Christ Child at Christmas, I pray that 2015 will be a memorable Advent(ure) for you and your family. I pray that we will all be surprised by hope, love, peace and joy!

Loving and caring, *Linda*

Counseling Ministry Announces 2 Seminars to Begin Jan. 14:



for people grieving the loss of someone close

Thursdays: 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Contact Joyce Page @ 386-677-8962



**Divorced?
Separated?**

You don't have to
go through it alone

DIVORCE Care
Find Help | Discover Hope
Experience Healing

Thursdays: 6 p.m.
Contact Mary Ellen Schmitt @ 386-756-8663

Church Conference Notes:

In conference on November 8, the church body elected 2016 officers, committees and team leaders, including 4 deacons who will serve 3-year terms beginning in 2016. Lists of these newly elected leaders are available in the sanctuary foyer. As first-time deacons, Chip Gallman, Mary Ellen Schmitt, and Laura Cason will be ordained in worship on January 3 and all 4 will be commissioned. Please pray for our church and these new leaders.

2015 Records - Year-to-Date

Avg. Worship Attendance: 168
(As of 11/15/2015)
Total Receipts: \$ 389,709.75
Total Spending: \$ 400,118.70
New Members: 12

Children's Christmas Blizzard Blast! **FREE**

December 20, 12 n - 7 p.m., Adams Hall
Reservations REQUIRED by Sunday,

Children, age 3 thru 5th grade are invited to an afternoon of Christmas Fun:

- games
- crafts
- a movie
- outdoor play
- cookie-baking

Call 255-2588 to Sign-up. Advance purchasing of food & supplies & adequate adult leaders means we have to know your children are coming.... **FREE!**

At a Glance...

Church Calendar

Sundays:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Lifetree Café & Small Groups - *The Story*

10:45 a.m. Worship

Special Note: Jan. 3, Deacon Ordination during Warship.

Mondays:

6:30 p.m. Dec. 7 Deacons' Mtg., Rm. 4
6:30 p.m. Dec. 14 Bldg. & Grounds Mtg., Rm. 4
Jan. 1 New Years Day - Office Close

Tuesdays:

10:30 a.m. Sonny's Bible Study, Rm. 4
12:00 p.m. Deadline, Reservations for Family Dinner
1:00 p.m. Women's Christian Book Club, Rm. 4
2:30 p.m. Beginning Bridge, Marchman Bldg., Rm. 116
6:30 p.m. Small Group - *The Story*, Rm. 4

**Wednesdays: No Wed. Activities 12/23 or 12/30
Activities Resume 1/6**

5:45 p.m. Family Dinner, Adams Hall
6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Adams Hall
Shine!, Youth Group & Preschool Child Care, Sanctuary Bldg.
7:30 p.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary
1:00 p.m. Small Group - *The Story*, Rm. 4
6:00 p.m. Small Group - *The Story*, Rm. 4

December Special Activities, call for add'l Info (386-255-2588)*:

- 7:30 p.m. Dec. 3 *Church group to Musical Event
- 2:00 p.m. Dec. 6 *Bel Canto Singers, "Family Christmas Concert"
- 5:30 p.m. Dec. 6 *Dinner & Jazz Concert with Linda Cole & Ray Guister
- 2:00 p.m. Dec. 13 Painting With the Spirit - Christmas
- 4:00 p.m. Dec. 13 Songfest, Featuring B.J. Meyer
- 12:00 -7 p.m. Dec. 20 Children's Christmas Blizzard Blast
- 12:00-7 p.m. Dec. 20 Youth Extravaganza - Daytona Lagoon +
- 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

Wednesday Family Dinner Menus
Price: Seniors 65+ \$5, Adults: \$7,
Kids under 18 eat FREE

Reservations Required by Tues. Noon (255-2588)

Dec. 2 Sloppy Joes, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Chips

Dec. 9 Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans

Dec. 16 Baked Ham, Mac & Cheese, Peas, Holiday Dessert
All dinners include salad, rolls, beverages, & dessert unless noted otherwise above.

Memorial Gifts

The Families & Central Thank You

- Bobby & Lynn Albovias** - Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley
- Mavis Asbury** - Jim Cummins, Carole Tarpley.
- Church Choir** - Jim Cummins, Bob Miranda, & Carole Tarpley for Music Ministries
- Jan Collins-Free** - Jim Cummins, Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley
- Richard & Lavelle Dycus** - Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley, & Dr. Bill Rippey
- Bo & Peggy Lynn Gibson** - Jim Cummins, Les Burdette, Jim Cummins, Carole Tarpley, Dr. Bill Rippey
- Jennifer Goodwin** - Les Burdette, Dr. Bill Rippey
- Shirley Hess** - Jim Cummins, Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley, & Dr. Bill Rippey for Children & Youth Ministries
- Jim & Tommie Lou Hitson** - Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley, & Dr. Bill Rippey
- Anne Jester** - Betty Green, Carole Tarpley, Dr. Bill Rippey
- Burniece Miranda** - Jim Cummins, Carole Tarpley, Dr. Bill Rippey
- Mike & Patty O'Sullivan** - Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley, Dr. Bill Rippey
- Jim & Joyce Page** - Jim Cummins, Les Burdette, Dr. Bill Rippey
- Jerry & Joanne Penny** - Jim Cummins, Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley & Dr. Bill Rippey
- Dan & Carol Rutter** - Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley & Dr. Bill Rippey for Children & Youth Ministries
- Keith & Mary Ellen Schmitt** - Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley
- Art & Joan Schrysen** - Jim Cummins, Les Burdette, Dr. Bill Rippey & Carole Tarpley
- Aiden & Louis Tozer** - Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley
- Mary Anne & Bob Trumbull** - Jim Cummins, Les Burdette, Carole Tarpley, Dr. Bill Rippey
- Other Memorials for Les Burdette** - Mark & Julie Blais, Bill & Jean Bordon, Elizabeth Burdette, Eric Foote, Dr. Walter Haslam, McKinnan & Lamphear Families, Patricia Parham, Jane Self, Bob Shisselbauer & Family, Clifford & Janice Smith, Marj Waters, Leslie Escue, Ronald & Susan Morrison
- Other Memorials for Carole Tarpley** - Laura Cason, Larry & Barbara Cook, Mary Ellis, Sheila Harshaw, Mae Holmes, J.O.Y. Class, Rose Jaffee, Jane Luzader, Flo Mose, Donna Murphy, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Phillips, Charles & Carolyn Schaeffer, Fran Teller, Gloria Wilson, F.G. & Jeanne Shaw, The Women's Christian Book Club
- Other Memorials for Dr. Bill Rippey** - Nancy Compton, Emily Goodwin, Ann Smith, Art & Barbara Giles
- Gift in Memory of Betty Jo Bullard** - From Carol Armstrong
- Gift in Memory of Skitch Manville** - From Harry & Adaline Halley
- Gift in Memory of Trevor & Jennifer Leonardi for Children & Youth Ministries** From Kevin & Kimberly Leonardi



December:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Ruth Bethea | 16 Dot Moore |
| 3 Melissa Gallman | LuEllen Ransbottom |
| John Penny | Mike Sapp |
| 4 Betty Jo Heck | Ron Bright |
| Danielle Carlson | 17 Patty Rippey |
| 5 Emily Burrows | Carolyn Garris |
| 7 Diane Lauxman | 19 Art Giles |
| 8 Kim Schap | 24 David Smith |
| 10 Ray Smith | 25 Nick Burrows |
| 13 Maxine Sinnett | 26 Jill Richardson |
| 15 Lorene Bullard | 27 Emily DeVane |
| Robert Padgett | Noah DeVane |
| | 31 Sandy Dunn |

2015 Goal: \$20,000

Christmas Offering

We give because He gave.

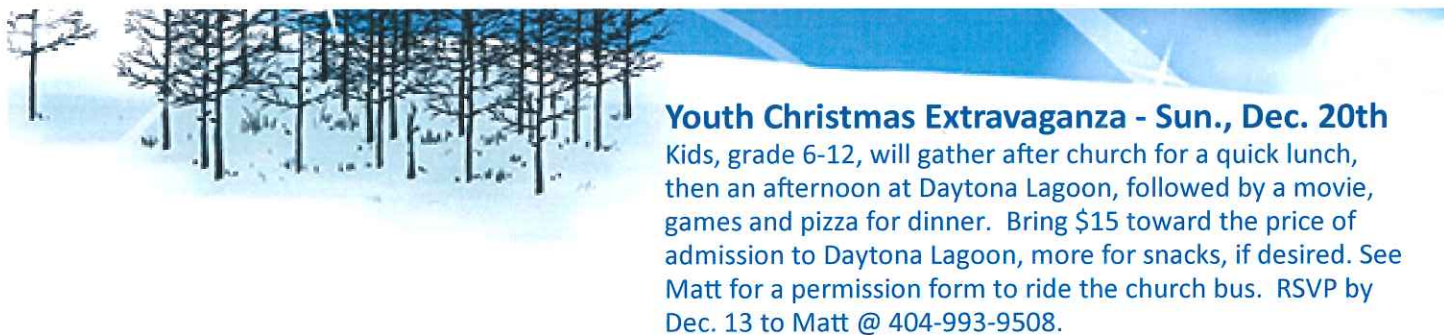
Challenge Goal: + \$5,000 (to Repair Adams Hall Roof)

Stories That Move Me... Matt Nelson

My dad recounts fondly going to see Star Wars Episode Four "A New Hope" in 1977, and I remember seeing it when I was growing up some twenty years later. Nearly thirty years later, the sequel to one of the most beloved movie licenses is releasing this Holiday season! I can barely believe it! What is it about lightsabers, Jedi, Sith, and the Force that is so captivating to us? One possible answer is the battle between good and evil, the literal light and dark powers of the universe. We root for Luke Skywalker as he risks it all to destroy the Death Star. We laugh at Han Solo's quips and plays at Princess Leia. We tremble at the power of Emperor Palpatine. We cheer as Luke manages to somehow not be killed by Darth Vader. We celebrate at the triumph of the Rebel Forces.

I believe there is more to the story than the violence without. Throughout the Star Wars narrative (yes, even Episodes 1, 2, and 3), the characters struggle with the violence within themselves. While our heroes strive to do what is right by defeating evil, they run the dangerous risk of becoming that evil themselves. There is a light side and dark side to all of us, and we resonate with that reality. We follow Anakin from youth to Darth Vader, making choices that place him along the path to darkness. We witness Han flip-flop from bad to good, not caring for anyone but himself one minute and risking his life the next. The Jedi masters have a desire for peace but use violence to attain it. As Luke seemingly defeats Darth Vader, he has a choice to make: does he kill him and give into his rage and vengeful spirit, or does he not perpetuate the endless cycle of violence. There is something powerful and alluring to the dark side, but it is a trap. As Yoda says it best – "Fear leads to anger; anger leads to hate; hate leads to suffering."

So is Star Wars a story about good versus evil? Yes, but not only the "good guys" versus the "bad guys," but that war is waged within every character and within each of us. In Isaiah 45:7, God says "I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all these things." Yet God calls us to the light through Jesus, the light of the world. John 16:33 reminds us that Christ has overcome the world, but not as a conqueror: as a living sacrifice. May we seek the light within this advent season, looking ahead to the light that is coming into the world.

Youth Christmas Extravaganza - Sun., Dec. 20th
Kids, grade 6-12, will gather after church for a quick lunch, then an afternoon at Daytona Lagoon, followed by a movie, games and pizza for dinner. Bring \$15 toward the price of admission to Daytona Lagoon, more for snacks, if desired. See Matt for a permission form to ride the church bus. RSVP by Dec. 13 to Matt @ 404-993-9508.



Christmas Organ Concert
Featuring B. J. Myer
&
Christmas Songfest
Sunday, December 13
4:00 P.M., Church Sanctuary

Painting with The Spirit

Artist Ruth Bethea presents an opportunity to express your artistic gifts with acrylics on canvas.

- Sunday, Dec. 13, 2-4 p.m.
- Adams Hall
- \$15 for supplies.
- Bring snacks to share
- Registration limited to 20. Call the church office (386-255-2588) to sign-up.



Lifetree Café, Sunday mornings at 9:30, is a conversation based program in a coffeehouse venue for the community. Current popular topics are explored in video and discussion. It is a great place to meet new friends and connect faith in life. All are welcome!

An hour of stories and conversation to feed your soul.

December Topics:

- 12/6 "I Disagree! How to have a healthy argument."
- 12/13 "Pursuing the Audacious Life"
- 12/20 "The Spirit of Santa"
- 12/27 "Schindler's Youngest Survivor Speaks"



THE STORY

THE STORY small groups are GROWING!

Groups will continue to meet, even though we will "PAUSE" the presentation of The Story for a special seasonal emphasis during Advent, beginning 11/29 and throughout the month of December. The Story will resume on Sunday, January 3rd. But just because the curriculum material changes slightly during this special time of the year, you won't want to miss any Sunday. Some small groups will use Tony Cartledge's Advent materials from *Baptists Today*, several groups are using material especially for Advent from EthicsDaily.com, and another group is using Adam Hamilton's video curriculum, "Journey to Bethlehem." Don't miss your opportunity for Advent conversations and spiritual growth at one of the most meaningful times during the church year. You may check the church calendar for meeting times and locations if you are not already connected to a group, or call Linda in the church office if you have questions.. It is NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN! You will be blessed!

Central's Servants: MARTY PETTY

Learning Trust by Joan Singley Schrysen

Marty Petty's roots at Central go back to 1970 when he and his parents moved to Daytona. An aunt and uncle, Priscilla and John Petty, invited them to Central Baptist Church where Marty heard a new kind of preaching, far different from the hellfire and brimstone sermons he heard back in Kentucky, sermons detailing God's punishment of sinners. Pastor Hal Marchman at Central spoke of God's love, His inclusive love for all of us. This positive emphasis on a loving God cemented Marty's ties with Central.

When elected deacon, Marty was proud to serve like the Christian men he looked up to, but when asked to serve as Chair, he declined several times. "I felt unworthy. I didn't think I had the tools to lead the deacons." When he finally accepted, he still felt he lacked vital leadership tools, "but God gave them to me and assured me He would always help me lead."

Always eager to learn, Marty capitalized on opportunities offered by Sunday School, Disciple, Emmaus, and now *The Story*. His four years as Deacon Chair, however, delivered major learning experiences. The best part has been the *unity* among the deacons, their desire to help improve Central and their willingness to do whatever was asked. On the flip side, things disrupting the church, such as the "music wars", have caused difficult times. As a leader, Marty's goal has always been for people to "get along, to come to church and worship God, showing love to God and each other."

Over and over during his years as Chair, Marty learned "to work hard for the church and then trust God to make it happen or show me how to make it happen" – major lessons in trust from the loving God Marty found at Central Baptist Church 45 years ago.

MARTY PETTY and his wife Darla recently celebrated their 45th anniversary. They have four daughters and seven grandchildren. Marty owns and operates the heavy equipment repair business started by his dad in Bunnell: Western Hills, Inc.

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Halifax Urban Ministries needs food for folks who would go hungry. Please remember them when you grocery shop. Donations may be placed in the blue tubs in the foyers.

Give to Central NOW!

Use this QR code to connect to your online bank. Your generosity means that Central can more easily shine a light for Christ in our neighborhood and around the world. There are several ways to give. See an usher or check our website if you have questions.



Servant Leadership

- Ministers. All Members
- Senior Pastor. Rev. Sonny Gallman
- Assoc. Pastor of Discipleship/Outreach Rev. Linda Pigott
- Assoc. Pastor of Worship, Youth & Families. Matt Nelson
- Organist. Penny Redfearn
- Pianist. Meg Pokorny
- Secretary. Gwen Bills
- Custodian. Steve Lauxman
- Camp Volunteer Ministry. The Swartzfager Family

This bulletin is also available on the church website: www.centralbc.org under "News" Email contact: info@centralbc.org
Central Baptist Church (386) 255-2588 Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon. -Thurs. Friday 7:30 a.m - 4:00 p.m.

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