

We Are



Central Baptist Herald

March, 2017



Sonny's Sayings

As I am writing this article, our church secretary Gwen has just come through surgery that will probably keep her down for about 2 weeks or so. What I know, but I don't really know (as of writing this), is that we will miss her while she is gone. Gwen is a critically important part of what we do as a church. She coordinates the church office. She is the gatekeeper for who gets access to the staff when we are busy. She is the first person people connect to when they call in or come in for a visit. She makes sure that office supplies are in. She manages our calendar, and our church directory. Those are just a few of the office responsibilities that she has, but she goes above and beyond. She builds relationships with the people who come in, whether they are present for counseling, dropping off a check for the church, or delivering mail. She identifies people who are hurting, or needing a church home, and makes sure to connect them with one of the staff. So when I say I know we will miss her, I'm not just saying it. What I know will happen over the next couple of weeks is that as she is gone, we will realize even more clearly how much she means to us, and remind us to never take her for granted.

I wonder how many other people there are in our lives that we take for granted, but which, when we think about it, are really important gifts from God. It could be a spouse, or a parent or a child. It could be a friend. We are surrounded by people, from ministers and bank tellers to neighbors and friends, that we depend on to be there for us. Sure, we are there for them, but I wonder what it would be like if we all took a second, or longer, to really ponder those who are in our lives, and plan to show them our gratitude.

I know that I was lucky enough to experience that outpouring of love when you had the surprise pastor appreciation day for me. It was a real treat, and I am very grateful for it. I could also tell how much joy it gave others to share in showing that gratitude. So make sure that this month, you take the time to give special thanks to those who help you along the way. I think I join the church in saying, "Thank you, Gwen!"

Ash Wednesday Service THIS Week!

Join us Wednesday, March 1 at 6:30 p.m as we mark the beginning of Lent, the 40 days before Easter with an Ash Wednesday observance in the church sanctuary.

This is a service of reflection and repentance as we begin preparations to remember the ultimate sacrifice of our Lord. As in all worship at Central, all believers are invited to participate. Child care will be provided for preschoolers.

If you wish to join us for our weekly family dinner at 5:45 p.m. that evening, call the office by noon on Tuesday for information and reservations (386-255-2588).



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Central's Performing Arts Camp : July 9-13

Registration for Central's Performing Arts Camp for kids grades 1 through 8 (completed) has begun, first come, first served. Students will audition for speaking parts and solos on Sunday afternoon, July 9 (2-5 p.m.), and take home their scripts. Monday through Thursday (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) campers will learn the songs, lyrics, and movements for the production: they will also design and construct the stage sets. The musical drama will be presented Thursday night, July 13, at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary..

Firm Registration Deadline is Sunday, June 18. Total cost is only \$50 / camper. For more information you may call the church office (386-255-2588) and speak to Linda



New Member Class March 12 After Worship

The emphasis will be on how to get the most from your church membership. Central Baptist Church is anxious to help everyone, especially folks new to our faith community get connected in service and spiritual growth. Deacon Phyllis Davis, the Pastor and others will lead a lively discussion about what it means to be a Christian as well as a part of a church affiliated with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Participants will discover or affirm qualities that are uniquely Baptist and learn about various program and service options that are available. This activity will take place in Life-tree Café in the Marchman Building after worship.

Phyllis says that most of the invitations have been sent but that RSV Ps are very important so they will have enough food available. If you received an invitation and/or have questions about this gathering you may call her at 386-761-7642. Please respond NO LATER THAN MARCH 5.

You Can Donate 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. You may also contribute at www.centralbc.org.



Visa and MasterCard accepted.

**Soup & Chili
Cook-off THIS
Sunday, 3/5.**



Call Patty O'Sullivan (386-672-2434) to let her know what kind of soup or chili you will be entering; we need lots of

soups and chili pots...there is no entry fee, but there are prizes for the best soup and the best chili. **Judging will be done prior to doors opening at noon, so bring your crockpots to Adams Hall beginning at 9:30, but no later than 10:00.**

Tickets are available at the door for food (\$5 /person, all you want to eat). There will also be salad, desserts and drinks included. Auction items this year include Dinners for 2, Yard Cleaning, Housecleaning, Bakery Goods, and a Backwoods Jeep Ride, as well as several Gift Baskets for raffle. New this year is a 50/50 Profit-Sharing Jackpot, so be sure to bring family and friends and extra spending money to join in the fun!

All proceeds will benefit the summer inter-generational mission trip.

Praising God!

2017 Year-to-Date (2/19/17)

Avg. Worship Attendance: 140
New Members: 0
Total Receipts: \$ 54,039.85
Total Spending: \$ 64,138.93

Special Gifts to Central This Month:

In Loving Memory of:

Trevor & Jennifer Leonardi
For Children & Youth Summer Events
& Central's Mission Trip
From Kevin & Kimberly Leonardi
Bobby Chutjian
From Evelyn Chutjian

In Honor of:

Sonny Gallman
From the J.O.Y. Sunday School Class
Central's Volunteers
From Gwen Bills

Log-in. . .

The Lenten season, beginning on March 1st, is very introspective and meaningful to me for many reasons, I've kind of been "playing at" centering prayer for several years. Perhaps this is the time for me to make a real commitment to developing this as a TRUE discipline in my life. We've talked a bit in a couple of small groups I attend about why centering prayer is so difficult for us...not least of which is today's short attention span (you know, that thing some folks are blaming for a so-called ratings decline for Nascar.) Seriously, though, there may be something to that short attention span idea. We live in a social media culture with Instagrams that embarrass instantly and forever and news stories that may be true or may be intentionally fake; we feel compelled to be ALWAYS "connected" whether we are eating, sleeping or trying to relax ("Trying" to relax may actually be an oxymoron...) I think this prayer can help me "disconnect" and at the same time "reconnect" more deeply with our Savior.

Centering prayer is referred to as a discipline because it requires focus and commitment to hang in there and keep still and quiet even though a thousand thoughts may be scampering through my brain in the daily 20 minutes I allot for silence and listening for the Spirit. I was encouraged when I read about a novice at centering prayer who reportedly complained loudly to the teacher that even after only one session she felt like a total failure because of her scattered thoughts during the session. The teacher wisely replied that having a thousand thoughts during a centering prayer session was a blessing because it was a thousand opportunities to "return" [her focus] to Jesus. In other words, productive practice!

Centering prayer as I understand it, focuses all energy on

Prime Timers! New Name for Those in the Prime of Life

Recently the senior adult team met to consider ways to be more contemporary and relevant. Tommie Lou came armed with a long list of potential activities for fun and fellowship. Rosenell resurrected a list of potential new participants and the team voted to change the name of CBS'ers to Prime Timers because 60 is the new 40 and our church and community are filled with active folks in the prime of life, who want to be engaged and actively serving. Prime Timers seems to be more up-to-date and attractive. At the February Prime Timers' Thursday Brunch (4th Thursday at 10 a.m.), folks signed up for a day trip to the Strawberry Festival in Plant City (March 10) and tickets for "Come Back to the Five and Dime" at the Little Theatre of NSB need to be purchased by March 8th. A Boat Tour on Cracker Creek and picnic on the grounds of The Gamble Place in April and another day trip to Jacksonville to the Alhambra Dinner Theatre to see "Dreamgirls" is scheduled for May 21st. Call Tommie Lou Hitson or Rosenell Mounts for details and other reservation information.

But it's not all "play" time. Prime Timers', whether members of Central or not, are actively engaged in myriad community and church service activities, spreading the light of Christ wherever they go. There are no dues to pay or long-term commitments. This just may be the "prime of your life" group for YOU!

Christ and opens us to the Holy Spirit. Even when I have practiced half-heartedly or intermittently, and even though I have rarely felt spoken to, I can honestly report that the practice and the discipline have always been refreshing and restful. This year, during Lent, I intend to calendar a daily special time when I will be intentionally "listening" and resting in the love of Christ. I pray you will consider what you will do to help yourself "return" to Christ, as well.

As we move toward Easter and the celebration of Christ's resurrection, I'd like to share a Resurrection Prayer from my spiritual reading that has been helpful to me:
"O God of the Risen Christ, help me to know in my heart that: hope can be resurrected from despair; good can be resurrected from evil; Creation can be resurrected from chaos; compassion can be resurrected from apathy; love can be resurrected from hate; and Life can be resurrected from Death. As I celebrate the power of the Risen Christ in my life, may I reach out and claim its wonder, sharing it with all I touch. May I know the truth that, indeed, each day is Easter. In the name of the Risen Christ, Amen."

Loving and caring, Linda



Spring Cupcake Sale, 3/26, After Worship

Plan to pick-up dessert for Sunday lunch after worship on the last Sunday in March. Specialty cupcakes will be sold (for donations) by our kids and youth to benefit summer activities for missions, performing arts camp and VBS. Please let Darla or Ruthie or Linda know if you can bake and donate cupcakes and also that your child or teen will assist with the sale.

Super Potato Bar Fundraiser For Summer Events

Teamwork, pre-planning and the generosity of many resulted in \$692 raised and lots of fun and fellowship at the major February fundraiser for summer events. Central folks donated the ingredients and/or money to buy the rest of the food so all the proceeds went directly into the

summer fund. Thank you for supporting and encouraging our children and youth as they work to earn a portion of their expenses for the mission trip and other summer activities.



Regular Sunday Schedule:
 9:15 a.m. Faith Discussion Grp.
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, LifeTree
 Café, Pre-School Nursery
 10:45 a.m. Worship w/ Preschool
 Nursery Provided

Regular Tuesday Schedule
 10:30 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
 1:00 p.m. Women's Christian Book Club
 2:30 p.m. Beginning Bridge,
 Marchman Bldg., Rm. 116
 6:00 p.m. Disciple, Rm. 4

Regular Wednesday
 5:45 p.m. Family Dinner, Adams Hall
 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Shine,
 Youth Group, Nursery Provided
 6:30 p.m. Lifetree Café
 7:30 p.m. Choir, Sanctuary

Regular Thursday
 2:30 GriefShare

March 2017

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p><i>Lifetree Café</i> Sundays 9:30 a.m. & Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. Marchman Bldg., Rm. 116 2/26, 3/1 Police Brutality, Necessary or Force? 3/5, 3/8 Meeting God face to Face 3/12, 3/15 Financial Freedom 3/19, 3/22 An Unsolved Mystery 3/26, 3/29 Unlocking the Mystery of Music</p>			<p>1 10:30 a.m. Communion at Indigo Manor 4:30 p.m. Stewardship Com Mtg. 6:30 p.m. Ash Wed. Service Birthday: Richard Pelletier</p>	<p>2 Birthdays: Phyllis Davis Kenna Marie McCulley</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 12:00 Soup 'R Chili Cook-Off, Adams Hall Birthdays: Gavin Bentley Ellen Clontz Betty Comer Henry Holly Inglett</p>	<p>6 5:30 p.m. Deacons' Prayer Time 6:00 p.m. Deacons' Mtg. Birthdays: Denise Jones Annie Talley</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Birthday: Susan Shoopman</p>	<p>9 Birthday: Cross Bode</p>	<p>10 7:00 a.m. Group Trip to The Strawberry Festival in Plant City</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 12:00 New Member Class 4:00 p.m. Hymn Sing At Central Birthdays: Tim Lauxman</p>	<p>13 5:00 p.m. Bldg. & Grounds Mtg. Birthdays: Dan Williams Ann Jones</p>	<p>14 Birthday: Jill Matthews</p>	<p>15 Birthdays: Carolyn Gibson-Neimann</p>	<p>16 Birthday: Kimmy Richardson</p>	<p>17 News Letter Items Due Birthday: Jim Rademacher</p>	<p>18 Birthday: Betty Edwards</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Birthdays: Carole Ford Kim Dawn Rand Emily Queen</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 10:00 a.m. Prime Timers' Thursday Brunch Birthdays: Dot Parker Bob Trumbull Madisen Smith</p>	<p>24 Birthday: Beth Burrows</p>	<p>25 Birthday: Jamani Moore</p>
<p>26 12:00 p.m. Kids & Youth Cupcake Fundraiser Birthdays: Leah Pokorny Michael Weaver</p>	<p>27 5:00 p.m. Pastor Relations 6:30 p.m. Church Council</p>	<p>28 Birthday: Rosenell Mounts</p>	<p>29 Birthday: Jennifer Inglett</p> <p><i>Family Dinner Menu</i> Dinner Reservations Tues. Noon 3/1 Baked Chicken, Scalloped Potatoes, Broccoli & Cauliflower Medley 3/8 Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes & Peas 3/15 Spring Break No Family Dinner 3/22 Lasagna, Garlic Toast 3/29 Chicken Fingers, Baked Beans (All dinners include Salad, Rolls, Beverages & Dessert)</p>	<p>30 Birthday: Paulette Amos Alice Rippey</p>	<p>31 Birthday: Hester Hudson</p>	

Matt Nelson

After months of talking about other things, marriage, youth, and things, I am back with a look at stories that move me. I started watching HBO's new show *The Young Pope* recently and it raises an interesting question: have we become too tolerant? The first American Pope, Pius XIII (played by Jude Law) calls into question the direction the church has been going for the past several decades. What does the church have to show for its inclusivity? What good does nearly unconditional forgiveness do? Pius calls for God's people to step up, to not be part-time believers. It is a fascinating alternate reality that begs the question – is he right? Have we gone too far in accepting the culture? Should we continue to be a safe haven of tolerance and love?

Of course, my answer is yes, we should emulate our Lord's example of love and forgiveness. In fact, I would say we have not gone far *enough* in love and acceptance. We still find ourselves, myself included, distancing ourselves from this centu-

ry's "unclean" people. Sometimes we simply do not know how to be around them, so we do not even try. But *that*, I believe, is the real key. Familiarity. I've talked about that theme in worship, and I believe it is crucial to Christians who profess to what to make the world a better place. We have to *familiarize* ourselves with those who are different than us. Instead of separating ourselves from the "other," we must see the otherness in ourselves. Let us prove that in the end, love wins, but not because it is limp and passive. but because it is active, moving, hopeful, and full of possibilities.

Matt



Deacon Ordination

New deacons Barbara Frase, Mike O'Sullivan and Priscilla Warner, pictured here, on Feb. 19, receiving words of blessing and affirmation from the congregation.



Boy Scout Sunday

Boy Scout troop 65 spent the first Sunday in February sharing lots of different types of pancakes, regular, 7UP, whole grain, and more with Central folks both before and after the worship service. This was a delightful way for them to add dollars to help pay for their scouting activities and badges.

Besides the fundraiser, the boys do community service here, most notably by helping park cars during events like Bel Canto Singer Concerts, but also by helping with grounds cleanup.



Ash Wednesday 2016



Central's Servants:
SYLVIA MEINCKE



Servant Leader
By Joan Singley Schrysen

Isaiah 6:8 is Sylvia Meincke's favorite Scripture: *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"* Sylvia lives to answer this call.

Recently members of the Building and Grounds Committee asked Sylvia to be their Chair, a tremendous job due to our sprawling, aging campus. Her reply: "I'm honored but this is not my committee. This is the church's committee and we are the members. I want open, honest communication. Everyone has their input. There has to be trust. And action." Already the choir has a new robe and music room on the first floor, a direct result of Sylvia's leading others to use their talents.

Some years ago the church was considering the national program Lifetree Café. Asked to be the director, Sylvia poured over a huge box of materials and prayed. "I don't think I've ever prayed so hard over anything. I said, 'Lord, I am so excited, but this has to be You wanting me to do this, not me wanting to do this. Lord, You know I don't shut up long enough to listen. So You have to hit me on the head with a 2 x 4.' And I had a lot of 2 x 4's before I totally committed." The first one was discovering the necessary folding tables and chairs on sale at Office Depot, a model they had never carried before nor would in the future.

Since the start-up in January, 2013 Lifetree has become an integral part of Central. The format appeals to community members who might not be comfortable in a more formal worship service. When asked the best part of all the work she has done for Central through the years, Sylvia instantly replied, "Oh, Lifetree, of course!"

Growing up in Harlan, Kentucky, a small town near the Tennessee border, Sylvia was the youngest of nine children. Their father was a coal miner, their mother a nurse. Sylvia's earliest memory of church is sitting on a stack of songbooks so she could see. After graduation in 1966 Sylvia moved to Daytona to help a brother in his funeral business and has continued to make her home here, living out, to the best of her ability, her commitment to answer God's call for servant leadership.

SYLVIA AND FRED MEINCKE have been married 28 years. Sylvia has two children and two grandchildren.

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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
Choir Director	Rev. Lee Gallman
Organist.....	Penny Redfearn
Pianist.....	Meg Pokorny
Office Manager	Gwen Bills
Custodian.....	Steve Lauxman

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