

We Are



# Central Baptist Herald

## September 2022

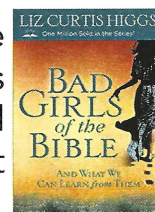
*Central Unconditionally Welcomes  
and Affirms All People to the  
Journey of Faith in Jesus Christ.*

## Women's Book Club Returns



The Women's Book Club met at Sweet Tea Café in Holly Hill on August 2nd for lunch and to discuss which book to study for the fall session.

They decided on "Bad Girls of the Bible" by Liz Curtis Higgs. New copies can be ordered at Amazon. Used copies are also available from Thrift Books, Second Sale or ABE Books.



The book club will officially restart on Tuesday, September 6th at 1pm. They have decided to go back to meeting at the church in room 4 and you are welcome to bring your own lunch if you like.

All women are invited to join whether they attend Central or not.

For more information, please call Sylvia Meincke at 386-451-5223.

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## *Sonny's sayings.....*

It's great to be back! It's good to be back in the office, and back in the pulpit. Before I say much more, though, I need to make sure to share some important gratitude. While I was gone, BJ held down the fort in the office, my dad held down the fort with Bible Studies, a few different folks held down the fort in the pulpit, Nancy held down the fort with the youth group, and you, as a church, kept the fort down with the church. So please hear my "thank you." Thank you for the time away and thank you for allowing it to be stress-free.

My time away was needed. As Melissa noted on her Facebook page, she and I took a trip to North Georgia to work on some stress that we experienced this past spring. It was a healing time, and while there is still work for us to do, we are both committed to the work, and both covet your prayers. I also took a trip to South Carolina for a personal retreat, and all along the way, I was able to spend some valuable time reflecting on my calling as a pastor, as the pastor of Central, and just the general direction of my life (personal, marriage, family, and church). Finally, I was able to be home and spend some good time with our kids, who, by the way, are not getting any younger. While I intend to share some of the insights I have gained with the church in the next few weeks, please know that my time away was marked by a sense that, regardless of where life has taken me, I have been surrounded and enveloped by the grace of God.

This spring was probably the greatest struggle I have experienced in my life. All of the plans, all of the foundations upon which I have built my life, were called into question. It was marked by many dark moments, some of which you could sense as a church. I did not hide the struggle, but there was much that went unsaid. But despite the darkness and desperation, I always strangely felt a steady drumbeat reminding me to remain faithful, that underneath the surface God was working, regardless of what was going on at the surface. That drumbeat came from encouraging words and cards, from phone calls, comforting visits with people, and from the very Spirit of God. As spring turned into summer, the drumbeat got louder, and the darkness began to lift. And while I wouldn't wish that darkness on anyone, and it is not fully gone, I still learned that through it all, God was present; God was grace; God was patience; God was love. There is still work to be done in all of my communities (church, family, neighborhood), but it is a comfort to know that as we toil, God is present. And I believe that the same is true for all of us: God is present. I hope that you have a great month, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Many blessings, Sonny.

## Year-to-Date

(as of August 24, 2022)

Total Receipts: \$ 288,153.45

Total Spending: \$236,903.52

## Special Gifts this Month

### In Memory Of:

**Bob Trumbull**

From: Shirley Hess,  
Ray & Betty Howe, Mary Sheffield  
Ed & Martha Meadows

**Trevor & Jennifer Leonardi**

From: Kevin & Kimberly Leonardi  
For: General, and the Youth/  
Children & MOPS ministries

**Vicky Jackson**

From: Ed & Martha Meadows

### In Honor Of:

**BJ Meyer**

From: Ed & Martha Meadows

## Youth News

As a THANK YOU to all who donated and helped to support the Youth and Children with Passport Camp, the Youth hosted a hamburger cookout following worship on August 7.



The youth group is in the process of redecorating the youth room and they are in need of some shelves, end tables and a TV stand. If you have any of these and would like to donate them to the youth, please call the church office.



# September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b>	<b>2 Birthday</b> <i>Edward Meadows</i>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5 Birthday</b> <i>Anthony McCulley</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7 Birthdays</b> <i>Steve DeVane Betty Fant Carolyn Moss</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14 Birthday</b> <i>Daniel Rutter</i>	<b>15 Birthday</b> <i>Steve Bransom</i>	<b>16</b>	<b>17 Birthdays</b> <i>Tom Pokorny Jacob Weaver Josh Weaver</i>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20 Birthdays</b> <i>Janet Collins-Free Burniece Miranda</i>	<b>21 Birthdays</b> <i>Jim Shoopman Priscilla Warner</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23 Birthday</b> <i>Linda Byrd</i>	<b>24 Birthday</b> <i>Elaine McCulley</i>
<b>25 Birthday</b> <i>Loraine Harrell</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27 Birthday</b> <i>Ben Meyer</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30 Birthday</b> <i>Emily Goodwin</i>	



## Life at Central....

After taking the summer off, the PrimeTimers gathered for lunch at the RiverGrill in Ormond Beach.



The PrimeTimers have some exciting events coming up that we hope you'll take part in.

September 29—Bingo/Ice Cream Social— 2pm in Adams Hall  
 October 27—PrimeTimers Luncheon — 10:30am in Adams Hall  
 December 5—PrimeTimers Christmas Party — 10:30am in Adams Hall



## Fun with Crafts



We invite you to come and join the fun on the first Thursday of every month at 10am over at Central Manor. In July, the Craft Class made banks out of socks which they called Money Socks so that you can "sock your money away." Then in August, the group made beautiful flowers. The class is headed up by Diana Allen, Nancy Jones and Joan Williams. They always make beautiful and creative works of art—no experience is required and we promise you'll have a fun and enjoyable time learning.



Jabrielle joined the group in August and made her very own flower.



## *What's happening at Central?*

September 2022

### Upcoming Events

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
September 1 @ 10:00am	Craft Class	Central Manor
September 1 @ 3:30pm	Waves	Main Bldg. Dream Rm
September 6 @ 1:00pm	Women's Book Club Resumes	Main Bldg. Rm. 4
September 8 @ 10:00am	Food Distribution	Parking Lot
September 9 @ 9:30am	MOPS	Main Bldg.
September 10 @ 10:00am	Story Workshop	Adams Hall
September 18 @ 2:00pm	Story Workshop	Adams Hall
September 23 @ 9:30am	MOPS	Main Bldg.
September 29 @ 2:00pm	PrimeTimers Bingo/Ice Cream Social	Adams Hall

### Weekly Events

<u>Day/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sundays @ 9:30am	Sunday School	Marchman & Main Bldgs.
Sundays @ 9:30am	Early Morning Gathering	Zoom
Sundays @ 11:00am	Worship	Sanctuary
Sundays @ 5:30pm	Youth Group	Main Bldg., Upstairs
Sundays @ 7:00pm	AA—Softer/Easier Way	Adams Hall
Sundays @ 8:00pm	AA—Love & Service	Adams Hall
Mondays @ 10:00am	AA-Wednesday Women	Adams Hall Rm. 3
Mondays @ 12:00pm	Al-Anon—Serenity	Adams Hall Rm. 3
Mondays @ 1:30pm	Bridge Group	Adams Hall (main)**
Mondays @ 6:30pm	Girls Pack	Marchman Rm. 206
Mondays @ 7:00pm	Girls Troop 1	Marchman (Boy Scout Rm)
Mondays @ 7:00pm	AA-Aloha Group	Adams Hall
Tuesdays @ 10:30am	Sonny's Zoom Bible Study	Zoom
Tuesdays @ 1:00pm	Women's Book Club	Main Bldg., Rm. 4
Tuesdays @ 7:00pm	Concert Band	Adams Hall
Wednesdays @ 12:15pm	Lunch with the Pastor	Main Bldg. Rm. 4
Wednesdays @ 2:00pm	AA—Wednesday Women	Adams Hall Rm. 3
Wednesdays @ 5:15pm	Connections	Adams Hall
Thursdays @ 5:30pm	Cloggers	Marchman Rm. 208
Thursdays @ 6:00pm	Boy Scouts	Marchman (Boy Scout Rm)
Fridays @ 10:00am	AA-Wednesday Women	Adams Hall Rm. 3
Fridays @ 12:00pm	Al-Anon	Adams Hall Rm. 3



## *Potpourri*

By Elaine Hardy

### **Back to School--for Adults**

If you are "laying low" trying to keep cool in these Dog Days, why not do a little supplemental reading for your Sunday School class? If you will let me know what topics, scripture or persons you are studying, I will pull out some suggested reading for you. Just text my cell at 882-5864.

**New in the Library** is a scholarly work by Dr. Jim Shoopman. In his words . . .

Dear Church Family,

In recent months, our church has reconnected in a more expansive way with 12 Step Addiction Recovery groups. We have always had a heritage of welcoming this brave and remarkable community of recovery people into our church, ever since the days of Hal Marchman. Recently, we have welcomed the Recovery Café organization to utilize some of our usually-unused space. While the Wednesday night Connections program is not specifically a 12 Step program, it utilizes some of the more useful patterns and approaches of 12 Step meetings, in order to better welcome seekers who have had bad experiences with more typical church meetings. We are hoping to express faithful love and concern to our 12-step brothers and sisters through these outreach efforts in our community. With that being the case, I have decided to donate a copy of a new book to the church library – I did my dissertation at Florida State University on 12 Step Addiction Recovery Groups as an American Religious Movement. A "movement" is any group effort to change some aspect of our experience in the world. Some movements are political, some are social, some are medical, some are religious. A religious movement is an effort to change how some people experience religious or spiritual life.

My dissertation sought to understand this movement as a spiritual attempt to help people cope with addiction. It started with Alcoholics Anonymous, enlarged to Narcotics Anonymous, moved on to Gambler's Anonymous and then a great many other Anonymous small groups to help people cope better with compulsive-addictive problems through a program of spiritual commitments and small group self-help. Like many dissertations, my work is book-length, a 348-page study of the history and social organization of 12 Step groups. The length makes it a major commitment to read, and it is certainly not for everyone. The first chapter is necessarily a little more complicated, but the rest of the work is written so that anyone can read and understand how 12 Step groups work and the contribution these groups have made to American and worldwide spiritual experience.

If you are curious to understand a little more about what these 12 Step groups are like and how they work, this volume is available for you to borrow from the church library.

### **Death in the Church at Large**

Frederick Buechner 96, American theologian and author of 39 books died August 15 at his home in Vermont.

### **Denominational News**

Several of the Southern Baptist Convention's major entities are under investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice in the wake of its multiple problems related to clergy sex abuse. The statement from SBC leaders gave few details about the investigation, but indicated it dealt with widespread sexual abuse problems that have rocked the largest Protestant denomination in the U.S. Earlier this year, an SBC sex abuse task force released a blistering 288-page report from an outside consultant, Guidepost Solutions. The firm's seven-month independent investigation found disturbing details about how denominational leaders mishandled sex abuse claims and mistreated victims. Following the release of the Guidepost report, the SBC voted during its annual meeting this past summer to create a way to track pastors and other church workers credibly accused of sex abuse and launch a new task force to oversee further reforms.

### **Wednesday Night Connections**

Anyone notice the Publix grocery TV commercial with a good motto for us? "We find our way together at the table."

### **A Personal Note**

Thank you for the many cards and inquiries about Sandi during her hospitalization for hip replacement surgery and physical therapy rehab. She is now walking and hopes to be home and back in worship soon.

## Office News

Copies of the "finalized" church directory are now available at the church. I put "finalized" in quotes because we will also be able to update this new directory, so, while it will never truly be final, at this point, it has all of the additions, corrections and changes that we are aware of.

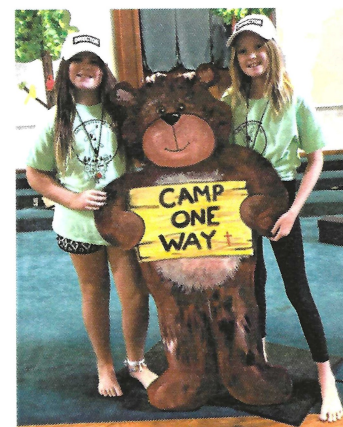
As many of you know, I now wear several hats at Central besides Office Manager; I'm also the Church Organist, Senior Adult Director and handle some of the visitation. Because of these extra jobs, it is not always possible for the office to be open from 9am-5pm daily as it was in the past. I try my best to "stick to these hours" or have a volunteer cover as needed but sometimes volunteers are not available when I'm away on another task. If you need to come up to the church office, it might be a good idea to call just to make sure someone is there that can help you.

Thanks in advance for your patience and understanding—BJ Meyer



# Performing Arts Camp

As we mentioned last month, the newsletter went to print during the week of the performing arts camp. We wanted to take this opportunity to share some additional photos with you from the camp. This year, we had over 22 campers ranging from Kindergarten through eighth grade. They performed an original play by our own Ruth Bethea called "The Mystery at Camp ONE WAY." They performed this play on Thursday, July 28 for their friends and family members. The video is still available on our church YouTube Channel—simply go to youtube.com and search for "The Mystery at Camp ONE WAY". You will be glad that you did!



## The Halifax Herald

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