



NEWS

UP FRONT

Celebrate the Season With Us

The tree I can see from my office window is still full of green leaves. But as you read we have entered the month of November and the holiday season will soon be in full throttle. The following opportunities are ahead for your prayer list, volunteer hours, financial support, and worship celebration.

November 4 is the Youth Fall Fundraiser from 11 to 2:30 at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds. This primary fundraiser for the youth resources their trips and activities as they serve and worship God in the year ahead. Come eat, shop and celebrate the gift of our youth groups!

November 18 in Springfield, we will dedicate 5 babies (all boys!) in worship. Following the worship service we will share a potluck meal together and invite you to stay and decorate Merriam hall for the Feast of Plenty. Come join the celebration!

November 22 is the Feast of Plenty Thanksgiving meal. Many hands make this possible. Volunteers are needed to deliver meals, serve meals, greet guests, and clean up. We also need store purchased desserts, lots of them. We are also collecting new blankets and toiletry items for gift bags for our guests. Come help us celebrate and give thanks!

November 25, the New Berlin sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas following worship and the Springfield sanctuary will be decorated for Christmas following worship as well. Come join the fun!

December 8 is the Graham Christmas Mart. Merriam Hall will be converted into a store to help financially struggling families provide Christmas gifts for their children. Volunteers have shopped all year and found some incredible deals, but volunteers to help families, shop, wrap gifts, and care for children are needed and we are accepting financial gifts so we can start shopping for next year. Come join the fun and spread some Christmas cheer!

December 12 is the last Wednesday Night Dinner of the year and the night we host our Children's House families. Following dinner, the children of Children's House will share their Christmas program. Come join the celebration!

December 24 at 7pm is our Christmas Eve candlelight service in Springfield. Come celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with us!

December 30 we are combining all our Springfield and New Berlin worship services for a breakfast and worship service in Merriam Hall. Come celebrate God's presence with us.

Mary Ellen

COMING UP

- 11/4 Daylight Savings Time
- 11/4 Youth Fall Fundraiser
- 11/9-10 Washington Street Mission/Hy-Vee Supply Drive
- 11/12 Veteran's Day-Church Closed
- 11/13 Leadership Coordination Team Meeting
- 11/18 Feast of Plenty Potluck & Decorating
- 11/22 Thanksgiving Day Feast of Plenty
- 11/23 Office Closed
- 11/25 Sanctuary Christmas Decorating

PRAYER TIME

Since my return from Sabbatical, I have sensed a call to invite anyone, who is concerned for our church and desires to see us reach the next generation for Jesus Christ, to a time of prayer each week. If you would like to participate, our gathering will be at 12:30 pm on Wednesday in Weber Lounge. Come join us!

WHAT'S HAPPENING

11/6 & 11/28 - Wednesday Night Dinner takes place in Merriam Hall from 4:45-5:45 p.m. Make your reservations by noon Tuesday, 217-523-3639, or email ann@cbcchurchfamily.org. Note the new dates.

11/3 & 11/17- Men's Breakfast takes place in Merriam Hall from 8 to 9:30am.

11/18- Springfield Youth Group meets after worship from 12 - 2 p.m.

11/9-11/10 - Washington Street Mission Supply Drive at Hy-vee needs volunteers to sit at the tables and be a presence for Central Baptist.

11/11 & 11/25 - New Berlin Youth Group meets from 5-7 p.m.

11/12 - The Church is closed for Veteran's Day.

11/13 - Leadership Coordinating meets at 6:30 p.m. in Weber Lounge.

11/18 - FOP and Christmas Decorating following potluck after worship.

11/25 - New Berlin campus Christmas Decorating.

11/22 - Feast of Plenty in Merriam Hall. 12 - 2pm

NEW GENERATION TEAM ORGANIZED

On July 23, a new Outreach Area Team met for the first time with a common goal of exploring new ways for our church to reach out and connect people to God's love. The team has been inspired by a book entitled *For a New Generation* written by Lee Kricher. The team has completed a SOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis of the downtown campus so that Central can begin to address issues that may be hindering new people from connecting with Central. The team is also discussing a book entitled *50 Ways Church Drive Away First-Time Visitors*. The team consists of the following: Larry Aldag, Ruth Ficke, Lin Glomski, Darin Harms, Dulci Harms, Paula Harwood, Scott Kinkade, Taylor Kinkade, John Martin, Brett Miles, Stephanie Miller, George Tankersley, Sheila Zeiger, Josh Sabo, and Mary Ellen Sharp. Please feel free to talk to any of these individuals to learn more.

There will be a combined December/January newsletter next month, so be thinking about what you would like to say into next year!

BIRTHDAYS

11/1 Betty Thomas

11/3 Emily Sharp

11/3 Evelyn Nagel

11/5 Garvice Saunders

11/6 Fred Stericker

11/8 Betty Darrow

11/12 Nancy Wilkinson

11/14 Marilyn Winn

11/17 Richard Spiker

11/18 Dick McDaniel

11/21 Darin Harms

11/22 Chloe Allen

11/25 Colette VanDusen

11/29 Lillian Bernauer

11/29 Wade Ballenger

11/30 Matt Allen

ANNIVERSARIES

11/5 Philip & Erika Palsen

11/6 Ralph & Jackie Billings

11/8 John & Rita Black

11/17 Brad & Sheila Zeiger

11/25 Greg & Paula Seifert

11/27 Richard & Pat Spiker

KUMLER & LOAMI FOOD PANTRIES

Thanksgiving Day is coming; a special time of stepping out of our routine and taking time to be thankful for all of the blessings that we have. Jesus also calls us to remember those who are less fortunate than we are—to remember the poor. One way we can do that is to pick up some extra nonperishable food items and bring them to the Serve the World Centers. The emphasis for November are canned goods; fruit and vegetables. However all nonperishable food is welcome.

THANK YOU NOTES

Central Baptist,

Thanks so much for the consistent meal donation. We appreciate it so much. We have had a large influx in the past few weeks. Knowing your 2 meals a month were coming helps us remember God is with us too. Thanks again! Chantell

Dear Friends,

This note is long overdue. My only excuse is that they keep us very busy with bus trips and activities on campus. Thank you for the good wishes and warm send-off. I keep up with you through a few friends. I've visited three churches, Baptist, Presbyterian, and Church of Christ, at the invitation of family and friends. I'll choose one soon. This retirement center is not associated with any religious groups, but we are provided rooms for religious activities we plan. I have joined one of two Bible studies that meet on campus. We are studying Philippians. This is a big complex with 535 independent-living residents in an apartment building joined by indoor hallways. There are three dining rooms. In addition, there are about 200 assisted-living and/or critical care residents. I am very thankful for such a nice apartment home only 15 minutes from my daughter and her family. Thank you for being my friends—some of you the entire 56 years I was a member of CBC. I will keep you in my prayers and ask you to do the same for me. Much love, Lowanda Medley

With Thanksgiving around the corner, I want to express my thankfulness for everyone who assisted with meals to Contact Ministries over the summer! You all were wonderful and I know how much it means to those who find themselves in need as well as the staff of that Christian organization. In particular, I want to thank Rob Lewis and Shiela, Brenda Thornburgh and the Zimmerman Class, Phillis Hudspeth and the Doby Class, Judith Anderson, Jolene Welch, and Jim Newbanks. God bless you all. In Christ's love, Carol Volle

NEW MEMBERS

Please find and welcome our newest members:

- Mike, Cathy, Kallen, and Corren Watson
- Emily Sabo
- Scott Kinkade
- Scott and Betty Darrow

YOUTH FALL FUNDRAISER

The Youth Fall Fundraiser will be held on Sunday, November 4 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds in New Berlin. A meal will be served from 11-2, a Silent Auction will take place from 11-2, and Vendors from 11-2:30. There will also be exciting raffle items. All Tickets are \$10, children 4 and under are free. Join us for a fun afternoon of food, music, and great bargains. Come and raise money for students and their life changing experiences at summer youth camps.

FEAST OF PLENTY THANKSGIVING DAY MEAL

Now in it's 33rd year, we will hold our annual "Feast of Plenty" on Thanksgiving Day from 12 - 2 p.m. in Merriam Hall. This is an entirely volunteer effort in which we offer a free traditional Thanksgiving meal to all members of the community. An army of volunteers sign up to cook, serve, provide transportation, deliver meals, and clean up. Volunteers have also donated desserts, greeted visitors, taken phone calls, and provided additional help wherever needed. Many volunteers make this an annual tradition and spend their holiday helping others in the name of Christ and His love. There will be a signup sheet on the Serve the World Center so that you may volunteer in any of these vital areas. You may also donate new blankets, small toiletry items, or make a cash contribution. Please call 217-523-3639 or email the office@cbcchurchfamily.org.

WASHINGTON STREET MISSION AND HY-VEE

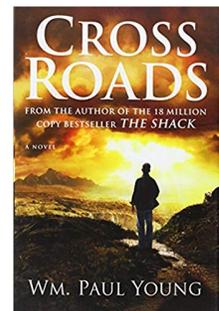
On November 9-10, CBC is partnering with the Washington Street Mission in the Hy-Vee store to help collect needed items for the Mission. We are seeking volunteers to sit at the CBC table on both days to promote CBC and also encourage consumers to purchase items for the Mission. If you can help or need additional information, please contact Larry Aldag a.s.a.p. on his cell: 217-416-2904 or by emailing him at larryaldag@gmail.com.

OFF THE SHELF

***Crossroads* by William Paul Young**

Anthony Spencer is egotistical, proud of being a self-made business success at the peak of his game, even though the cost of winning was painfully high. A cerebral hemorrhage leaves Tony comatose in a hospital ICU. He 'awakens' to find himself in a surreal world, a 'living' landscape that mirrors dimensions of his earthly life, from the beautiful to the corrupt.

The adventure draws Tony into deep relational entanglements where he is able to 'see' through the literal eyes and experiences of others, but is "blind" to the consequences of hiding his personal agenda and loss that emerge to war against the processes of healing and trust. Will this unexpected coalescing of events cause Tony to examine his life and realize he built a house of cards on the poisoned grounds of a broken heart? Will he also have the courage to make a critical choice that can undo a major injustice he set in motion before falling into a coma? This book may be found on the New Book Rack.



DVD: The Encounter

Stranded in the middle of nowhere, five strangers find themselves marooned in a deserted roadside diner. An arrogant businessman, a lonely single woman, a couple on the verge of divorce, and a youthful runaway all come face to face with a diner owner who serves them more than temporal nourishment. This genial host is a certain Nazarene, who knows all of their secrets and possesses the answers to all of their problems - if only they would trust him. It is a miraculous Encounter that will leave them all changed. This DVD can be found in the Video Section. (85 minutes, Not Rated, 4.8 out of 5 Amazon rating)

Jim Filler, on behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

Graham - Compass at Westminster

Presbyterian - The Compass program for Graham students is a partnership between Compass for Kids, Central, and Westminster. The program is held each Tuesday from 3 to 6:30 PM. Volunteers can serve for a portion of that time in a variety of different roles. To find out more information email Molly Berendt molly@compass4kids.org

The Graham Christmas Gift Mart is an opportunity for our church to partner with the staff of Graham Elementary in a way that empowers the families this Christmas season. Parents purchase a voucher at the school for \$5 and then come to Central to shop for their children on Saturday, December 8th from 10 to noon. The \$5 goes to Graham to support their family engagement programming and the parents get the opportunity to select gifts for their children, wrap them, and bring joy to Graham children on Christmas morning.

We need your help to make this year another successful event! Would you consider helping in either or both of the following ways:

- GIVE - We have had volunteers shopping for deals all year and the store is already better stocked than it has ever been. Would you consider making a monetary gift to help cover the cost of gifts?
- SERVE - We are in need of volunteers on December 8th to help greet people, host our guests, help wrap gifts, work on crafts with kids, and help with the shopping process. If you are interested in serving you can email josh@cbcchurchfamily.org or sign up on the sheet in the Serve the World center.

Thank you for helping us Serve the World this Christmas season!

A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

Couples Article

Defensiveness is one of John Gottman's Four Horsemen of relationship destroyers. Yet, it can be very difficult to listen to your partner's complaint without feeling defensive. This is especially true when you are triggered. A trigger is an enduring vulnerability of something that reminds you of the past and that can escalate the present conversation. Relationship coach Kyle Benson offers some tips to practice non-defensive listening. Kyle suggests ways to self-soothe to listen, such as writing down what your partner says and any defensiveness you are feeling, remembering love and respect, taking deep breaths, and not taking your partner's complaint personally. For additional tips and to read the entire article, [click here](#).

All the best,

Stephani Cave, LCPC

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For monthly couples, individual, and family tips, please sign up for our e-newsletter. For daily relationship tips, follow us on facebook. For more information about any ConnectEdPAIRS service, please visit our website at www.connectedpairs.com, stop by, call, or email me in the counseling office. I look forward to talking with you soon.