



# NEWS

## UP FRONT

Easter is upon us and we are reminded again of the power and beauty we experience through the love of Jesus. As we have navigated our way through the gospel of John this year we have experienced the ways Jesus invited all people to come and see how good it is to know the one who is “the way, and the truth, and the life.”

As the disciples of Jesus followed Jesus closely, they were shaped day after day to live into “the way” of Jesus. This shaping prepared them to be the unlikely sort of people God could use to bring hope, light, and love into a world that is divided, indifferent, and skeptical. My prayer is that we too as a church are being shaped to be a similar source of God’s love in the places we find ourselves because the world desperately needs it.

Part of the struggle at times to share God’s love with the world is that we aren’t sure how. We often feel as though there should be some grand gesture and the reality is that sometimes God uses grand gestures and then often times God uses us in the ordinary moments and stuff of life.

Easter is an incredible coming together of those two things. Jesus laying down his life then resurrecting and demonstrating a power beyond sin and death is the grandest gesture our world has ever seen. The hope of God has always been that this gift would land in the ordinary and thus making your life and mine an incredible coming together of those things. May we in this season of Easter live in the ordinary space of life as people shaped by “the way, and the truth, and the life.” As we do so, I believe we’ll find God using us to bring God’s hope, light, and love into a world that is divided, indifferent, and skeptical.

Your Partner in Mission,  
Josh

## COMING UP

- 4/1 Easter Sunday
- 4/4 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 4/4 Generous Justice study
- 4/7 AB Men’s Breakfast
- 4/8 NB Youth
- 4/9 Hegarty Circle
- 4/9 Leadership Coord. Team
- 4/15 Downtown Youth
- 4/18 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 4/18 Quarterly Business Mtg.
- 4/21 AB Men’s Breakfast
- 4/22 NB Youth
- 4/25 Opioid Crisis Awareness

## All Month

Spring is in the air and the food insecure of Springfield can use our help by resupplying the Kumler and Loami Food Pantries. For the month of April we are suggesting bringing peanut butter and cereal to the Serve the World Center where your donations will be taken to Kumler. Donations in New Berlin will be taken to Loami Food Pantry. Remember that all nonperishable food is always welcome and needed.

**4/1 - Easter Sunday:** We will worship on this special day at our regular worship times.

**4/4 - Wednesday Night Dinner** from 4:45 to 5:45 pm in Merriam Hall.

**4/4 - Generous Justice Book Study** meets at 5:45 pm in Webber Lounge.

**4/7 - AB Men's Breakfast** meets in Merriam Hall at 9:30 am for fellowship, prayer, and bible study.

**4/8 - New Berlin Youth** meet at 5 pm at the Timber Lodge on the Sangamon County Fairgrounds.

**4/9 - Hegarty Circle** meets at 9:30 am in Webber Lounge for fellowship and prayer.

**4/9 - Leadership Coordination Team** meets at 6:30 pm in Webber Lounge.

**4/15 Downtown Youth** meet from 12 to 2 p.m.

**4/18 - Wednesday Night Dinner** from 4:45 to 5:45 pm in Merriam Hall.

**4/18 - Our Quarterly Business Meeting** meets at 6 p.m. in Merriam Hall.

**4/21 - AB Men's Breakfast** meets in Merriam Hall at 9:30 am for fellowship, prayer, and bible study.

**4/22 - New Berlin Youth** meet at 5 pm at the Timber Lodge on the Sangamon County Fairgrounds.

**4/25 - An Opioid Crisis Awareness** meeting takes place at 5:30 pm in Merriam Hall, led by a team from SIU and the Sangamon County Health Department.

## Birthdays

4/1 Amanda Jackson

4/2 Lindsey Harwood

4/3 Phillip Maxwell

4/4 Abbie Mizeur

4/7 Joy Jones

4/8 Nancy Langford

4/8 Olivia Crain

4/10 Barbara Reynolds

4/11 Flo Fry

4/11 Kiersten Torbeck Large

4/14 Malcolm McKean

4/16 Phil Palsen

4/17 Jennifer Logan

4/17 Leigh Steiner

4/17 Josh Beal

4/21 Connie Honey

4/25 Jim Newbanks

4/28 Brooks Steiner

4/30 Tsige Gerre-Medhin

## Anniversaries

4/7 Gene & Jan Sherrow

4/10 Jim & Jeanne

Newbanks

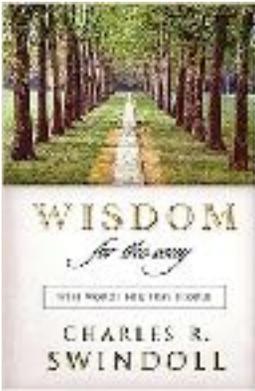
Have we missed anyone? Please email [ann@cbcchurchfamily.org](mailto:ann@cbcchurchfamily.org)

## The Secret Place

Each daily devotion in this quarterly magazine includes a Scripture passage, an original meditation, and a brief prayer. These meditations share comfort and inspiration found in life's everyday details. This combination of Scriptural and personal insight provides both a timeless and timely perspective for contemplative meditation that draws you closer to God in your daily walk as a Christian. Copies of the Secret Place are available in the newsletter display at the Reception Desk.

### Three Recently Added Devotional Books

**Your Best Life Begins Each Morning** - The potential to live your best life starts with each new morning. With every sunrise, you can choose to approach the day with an attitude of faith and expectancy. Bestselling author Joel Osteen writes, "When you get up in the morning, the first things you should do is set your mind in the right direction."



**Wisdom For the Way: Wise Words for Busy People** – This book collects some of Charles R. Swindoll's most classic insights into daily bite-size readings.

**Heaven Calling** - Readers are ushered into His presence, where they can hear heavenly words spoken straight to their heart.

These books may be found on the New Book Rack in the Library. As with all devotional books they can be checked-out for the entire year.

#### **Do You Believe? (New on DVD)**

A dozen different souls—all moving in different directions, all longing for something more. As their lives unexpectedly intersect, they each are about to discover there is power in the Cross of Christ ... even if they don't believe it. Yet, when a local pastor is shaken to the core by the visible faith of an old street-corner preacher, he is reminded that true belief always requires action. His response ignites a faith-fueled journey that powerfully impacts everyone it touches in ways that only God could orchestrate. This DVD can be found in the Video Section.

Jim Filler, On behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

## THANK YOU & NOTES

#### *From the Logan family*

There are not enough words in the English language to sufficiently say thank you for the love and support our church family has shown me and our sons in this difficult time of Mike's passing. The kind words, the food, the hands held, the expressions of love and most importantly the prayers are greatly appreciated. Thank you all.

#### *From the Member Care Team*

Kudos to all who brought items, filled Valentine bags, and delivered them to some very special people in our church...you know who you are! Your gracious generosity in sharing and the loving way you served merit our heartfelt thanks.  
Blessings, Jennifer Logan, Lowanda Medley, Edna Walden

#### *From Sarah Ashebir*

I just wanted to reach out and thank my church family for making it capable for me to go on this Puerto Rico trip. It was such an amazing time interacting with the community restoring a park and talking to the people of the hope God brings. Throughout this experience not only did this community feel impacted, but through team care and personal time, so did I. As Boston is currently receiving 18 inches of snow, I very much wish that I could be back. Once again, thanks so much!!

#### *From Katie Ingram*

I am so excited to announce that I have accepted a full time job working at the Autism Clinic! I have found my calling in this job and am excited to start this new opportunity. With this new job, I will be cutting back a lot of my hours as an intern. I will still be working each Sunday with the youth, helping with media, etc. I am so thankful for the opportunity I have been given as an intern at Central, and I cannot wait to continue to serve with you all!

### Volunteer Opportunity

The Pastors and staff/church members of Central Baptist Church lead chapel services twice a month for children ages three through five. They are 10-15 minute sessions filled with a Bible message, songs and prayer in the sanctuary. The services are not centered around the Baptist belief system, rather they are meant to bring the children together as a community for a celebration of God's gifts to us. We are always seeking volunteers to help with a chapel lesson. Chapel begins at 11:00. There are currently two April dates available, April 10th and 24th. If you would be interested in volunteering for April or any other future dates; please contact Judy at [judy@cbcchurchfamily.org](mailto:judy@cbcchurchfamily.org) or my phone at [\(217\) 523-0122](tel:2175230122).



### Staff Spotlight:

In April we will celebrate three staff members and their work anniversaries.

- Miss Kayla joined our team in 2015 and is currently teaching in the Pre-K Rainbow room.
- Miss Erica is celebrating her first year with us and currently teaches in the two's/Sunshine room.
- Miss Tami joined the team in 2012 and teaches in the Pre-K Shooting star room

Children's House is very blessed to have these three amazing ladies on the team and look forward to many more blessed years.

Judy Vlach, Director

## A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

How many times have you wished that you could change something about your spouse or your spouse's behavior? While many partners have made this wish, the truth is that you can't change your spouse. There are steps you can take to bring about change in your relationship, but you have to be the one who is willing to change.

The article "How to Change Your Spouse" suggests that we often enter into a marriage and fail to realize that in order to maintain that relationship, both spouses will have to change over time. If you want your relationship to succeed, you not only have to be willing to change, but be willing to be the one who takes the first step toward change because taking that step can initiate change in your spouse as well.

There is a quote in the article that says "Marriage is easy, it's the living together that gets really tough." The "living together" is what marriage really is all about and to be successful you have to be willing to learn, grow, and change with your spouse. After all, there is no such thing as the perfect spouse, and you are not entitled to the perfect spouse. If you want a good spouse, be a good spouse. To read the article click [here](#).

National Infertility Awareness week is April 22-28, 2018. One in eight couples struggles to have a child and infertility can affect anyone of any age, race, religion, or socioeconomic status. To raise your awareness about the disease of infertility, please visit RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association's webpage to read real stories and find ways you may wish to get involved.

Blessings, Stephani Cave, LCPC  
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