



# NEWS

## UP FRONT

I'm excited about the Fresh Expressions Vision Day that we are going to be hosting at Central Downtown on November 9th from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM in partnership with the Great Rivers Region.

Fresh Expressions is an organization that has helped churches throughout the world learn how to more effectively navigate cultural change and connect their neighbors with God's love. They describe the Vision Day as a one-day training event geared toward helping the church "to discover what it means to be the Church in new and creative ways, hear from Fresh Expressions practitioners, learn how to renew existing congregations through fresh expressions of church, and discern what this could mean for your region, community, or neighborhood."

There is so much we can learn from those who have been on journeys similar to ours and who have experienced God stretching their boundaries and leading them into new spaces.

Fresh Expressions says "we believe that fresh expressions of church are an example of how God is doing new things today. All over the world, established churches are crossing barriers to experiment with new ways to gather and make disciples. Instead of expecting people to come to them, these churches are doing what Jesus did: They are releasing missionaries from within their congregations to go to the people.

We believe that every local church can help foster these fresh expressions of church."

I hope you will make plans to learn more on November 9th! You can find more information and register through links on our website and Facebook page. The promo code "central" will allow you to register for \$10.

Your Partner in Mission,

*Josh*

## COMING UP

- 10/6 First Sunday Church Fellowship groups off-site
- 10/2 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 10/2 Budget Q & A
- 10/5 Men's Breakfast
- 10/6 Downtown Youth
- 10/13 NB Youth
- 10/16 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 10/16 Quarterly Business Meeting
- 10/19 Men's Breakfast
- 10/27 Great Pumpkin Chase

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

October 2019

## KUMLER & LOAMI FOOD PANTRIES

For the month of October we are especially asking for donations of personal care products for Kumler and Loami food pantries. When one's budget is tight and you must provide food for the family on a tight budget, personal care products are usually at the bottom of the list. So when you are out shopping consider picking up bath soap, shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, etc for the food pantry. Remember, too, all nonperishable food is welcome.

## Fellowship Opportunity at the Springfield Campus

The Member Care committee would like to invite those interested to meet in the Welcome Center following worship on the first Sunday of each month and have lunch at designated restaurants in groups of 6-8. Everyone will pay for their own meal; but it is a chance to develop relationships over food. The past couple of months have been a resounding success! Please join us.

## The World Mission Offering

Traditionally received in October, the World Mission Offering this year is highlighting the Ministry Priorities of Evangelism and Discipleship, Immigrants and Refugees, and Education. While these represent only a fraction of International Ministries, they provide a window into what God is doing worldwide. Envelopes will be in the pews and checks should be made payable to Central Baptist with WMO in the memo.

**10/2 - Wednesday Night Dinner** meets in Merriam Hall at 4:45 p.m. Please call the church office to make a reservation no later than noon Tuesday.

**10/2 - There will be a Budget Question and Answer** session in Merriam Hall at 6 p.m.

**10/5 & 19 – Men's Breakfast** takes place in Merriam Hall at the Springfield campus from 8 to 9:30 a.m.

**10/6 - Meet in the Welcome Center** following worship and go out for a meal at various restaurants. All are welcome!

**10/6 & 20 - Downtown Youth** meet following worship.

**10/13 - New Berlin Youth** meet from 5 to 7 p.m.

**10/14 - Children's House will be closed** for Professional Inservice but the Church office will be open.

**10/16 - The Quarterly Business Meeting** meets in Merriam Hall at 6 p.m.

**10/27 - The Great Pumpkin Chase** is a City-wide scavenger hunt where teams collect clues and race to the finish line for a bonfire celebration. Don't miss it!

## Feast of Plenty

FOP planning is underway and we are looking for donations of hats, scarves, new socks, and gloves. Volunteer sign-up will begin the last Sunday in October!

## BIRTHDAYS

10/1 Hannah McDaniel

10/7 Jackie Crossin

10/11 Reg Mills

10/14 Lin Glomski

10/21 Steve Sheffield

10/22 Mike Large

10/24 Jan Sherrow

10/29 Debbie Aldag

## ANNIVERSARIES

10/3 Adria & Brad Martin

10/9 Nancy & Tom Langford

10/14 Dixie & David Dalbey

10/19 Ruth & David Ficke

Did we miss someone? Please let us know at [ann@cbcchurchfamily.org](mailto:ann@cbcchurchfamily.org)

## OUR CONDOLENCES

Our hearts go out to the following families who lost loved ones during the month of September: Heather Southwell on the death of her grandmother, Myra Devine. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

## Welcome New Members

Please welcome new members who've joined since January 2019: Cristy and John Saint

## Retirement Party for Phil Maxwell

Phil Maxwell has been our choir director for 15 years and he is retiring this Fall. We are grateful for the passion and joy he has brought to directing choral music. We want to celebrate the goodness of God and Phil's ministry with us on Sunday Nov 3 during the 10:45 worship service at our Springfield location. Our worship will include choir anthems, hymns and special music. We hope you will join us to worship God and say thank you to Phil for leading us in worship these past 15 years.

## Sisters Seeking Wholeness

The Area II ABW Fall Rally will be held Tuesday, October 15 at First Baptist Church, 1152 NE 575 St., Greenfield, IL 62044 (217-368-2690). Catalina Salivia from Peoria Friendship House of Christian Service will be sharing with us about the many ministries they provide. There will also be a presentation by Barbara McKean called "Navigating the Web". Registration and coffee begins at 9:30 a.m. Please bring a salad to share for lunch.

## The New Berlin Youth Fundraiser

The NB Fundraiser is Sunday, November 3 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds. A meal will be served from 11-2. The silent auction takes place also 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 to raise money for students to have life-changing experiences at youth camps!

## A Friendly and Welcoming Church

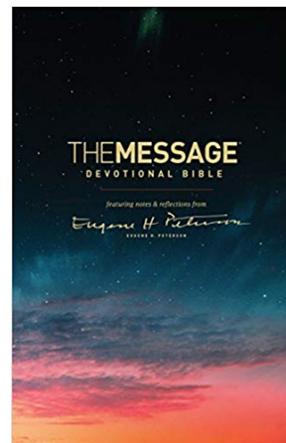
"In the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of the book *50 Ways Churches Drive Away First-Time Visitors*, author Jonathan Malm talks about "The Cold Congregation." As he was visiting a new church for the first time, he states "as soon as I made it past all of the professionally loving volunteers, I was confronted with ice. There was no more welcoming, warm feeling. The folks in the room gave me looks like "Who is this guy? Why is he in our church?" He stated "It appeared that the leadership at the church desperately wanted guests in their service, but the congregation missed the memo." He further stated "You can't rely on your greeters and staff to be the only welcoming force in your congregation. That isn't enough." He also states "Your greeters' jobs are to welcome people, however, it does NOT have nearly the impact as when a random layperson warmly greets a newcomer."

Bottom line...God wants his flock to be friendly and welcoming in church. When you see someone at a church service that you do not know or recognize, make it your top priority to go to them before or after the service and say "Hi" to them. You do not need to learn or know everything about them...just introduce yourself, ask them their name(s), thank them for attending and encourage them to come back again. We must be welcoming church, if we truly want new people to become part of our church family. -Larry Aldag, Outreach Ministries

*The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language* is a highly idiomatic translation of the Bible by Eugene H. Peterson and was published in segments from 1993 to 2002. The Message is a personal paraphrase of the Bible in English from the original languages. It is a highly simplistic translation, using contemporary slang from the US rather than a more neutral International English, and it falls on the extreme dynamic end of the dynamic and formal equivalence spectrum.

According to the Introduction to the New Testament of *The Message*, its "contemporary idiom keeps the language of the Message (Bible) current and fresh and understandable." Peterson notes that in the course of the project, he realized this was exactly what he had been doing in his thirty-five years as a pastor, "always looking for an English way to make the biblical text relevant to the conditions of the people."

Eugene Hoiland Peterson (November 6, 1932 – October 22, 2018) was an American Presbyterian minister, scholar, theologian, author, and poet. He wrote over 30 books, including the Gold Medallion Book Award-winner *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language*



This book may be found on the New Book Rack in the Library. (1600 pages, 2018. 4.1 out of 5.0 Amazon rating)

*Jim Filler*, On behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

## A NOTE FROM CHILDREN'S HOUSE

Last month everyone got adjusted into their new classrooms and we celebrated with a Spirit Week, Sept. 9-13. Families joined us for a fun evening of exploring and learning during Open House on Sept. 12! Children's House would also like to thank Central Baptist for hosting the Family Fun Fest on Sept. 14. Several Children's House families and staff were in attendance and had a great time. It was a wonderful planned event with something for all ages.



This month, classrooms will be focused on exploring all the wonders of harvest time and Autumn. Our preschool classrooms will be heading to the local pumpkin patch, as they study and learn about pumpkins. There are also many field trips planned to Farmer's Market to choose and buy a classroom pumpkin. We are so grateful for the gifts that God brings us this season.

Chapel has begun as well and we are searching for volunteers to help lead a 10 minute bible lesson with preschoolers. If you are interested in getting little ones excited about the bible, please contact me at [Judy@cbcchurchfamily.org](mailto:Judy@cbcchurchfamily.org).

*Judy Vlach*, Director Children's House

## Commitment Sunday Pledge Cards

Just a reminder to please turn in your completed pledge cards to the church office. You can mail them or put your card in the Offering plate during worship. Extra cards are available at the sanctuary exits and in the church office.

## A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

### Couples Article

How healthy is your marriage? Greg Smalley of Focus on the Family suggests that we take the pulse of our marriage once a week with “A Marriage Health Checkup Plan” by asking some simple questions and really listening to our spouse’s answers without being defensive. Greg offers these suggested questions to get you started:

- What’s working well in our marriage?
- What’s one thing I did this last week that made you feel loved?
- What should I be doing?
- On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate our marriage over the past week? Why?

### Parenting Article

If you are involved in a stepfamily, then preference toward biological children is probably playing a role in your relationships and is perfectly natural. Writing for Focus on the Family, Shannon Perry offers ideas for “Overcoming Favoritism: Loving Your Stepkids”: Refuse to segregate by relationship terms, Show equal respect, Set equal limits, Allow for reasonable differences, Be open to the truth if you are accused of being unfair, Schedule one-on-one time with your biological kids

Blessings,

*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](http://www.connectedpairs.com), stop by, call, or email me in the counseling office. I look forward to talking with you soon.