



NEWS

UP FRONT

Happy Easter, Church!

He is risen. He is risen indeed!

First, I want to share something from the heart, I truly love our church. I love who we are and who we are becoming. I'm grateful for the strong foundation we've built together. I love our Sunday School classes, our men's breakfast group, and our Connecting Women gatherings. I love the ways we serve our community through Graham Mart and Feast of Plenty, and how we show up at the Green Room for Levitt AMP. I love that we are present and rooted downtown.

I'll admit, I don't always do the best job expressing my thoughts and feelings to those closest to me. So I want to take this moment to be clear: I have deep joy and appreciation for each and every one of you. Yes, even in the midst of disagreements or challenges, my care for you remains. I am thankful for all of you.

Second, I am filled with hope for this next chapter in the life of Central Baptist Church. We are seeing new faces, new ministries are taking shape, and new opportunities to serve are emerging. Please join me in praying that this season will be marked by reaching many people, standing firm in truth, and loving others generously.

One ministry you'll be hearing more about is Dinner Church. This is a way for us to go beyond our walls; sharing a quality meal with our community while also sharing the stories of Jesus. That's the heart of it: gathering around the table and pointing people to Christ. It's simple, meaningful, and, I believe, deeply impactful.

Lastly, beginning in May, I'll be starting a new Bible study. Everyone is welcome, but one of the main goals is to create a welcoming space for those who are new to our church. Please be praying that this group connects well and becomes a place of belonging. If you've been part of a Sunday School class for a while, you know how important those relationships can be.

Thank you for being such a meaningful part of this church family.

Until next month,
Pastor Tony

COMING UP

4/1 Connecting Women, 10:00 a.m, Weber Lounge

4/4 Men's Breakfast, 8 a.m, Merriam Hall

4/5 Easter Service, 10:45 a.m.

4/18 Men's Breakfast, 8 a.m, Merriam Hall

4/26 Quarterly Business Meeting in sanctuary after the 10:45 service.

Church Office Hours

8-2:30 T-F

*The Church office is closed on Mondays.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Kumler Food Pantry

Central has been supporting the food pantry at Kumler United Methodist Church for a long time. Please pick up an extra can of food, peanut butter, Mac and cheese or any non-perishable food. Bring it to the church and place it in the Serve The World Center and we will get it to Kumler to help the hungry in our city.

Wednesday Night Dinner Shelter Meals

We provide meals for Contact Ministries through MealTrain. Instructions are on the MealTrain web site. Type this link into your browser to sign up: <https://mealtrain.com/yoo5gm> or call the church office at (217) 523-3639 and Rachael will sign you up.

NEWS AND NOTES

A Thank You From Graham School

Thank you for sharing your blessings with our students and families. Your generosity truly makes a difference. We are so grateful for your compassionate hearts and unwavering support!

RoseLawn Gravesites Offered By Central Baptist Church

Recently we discovered our church owns three gravesites at RoseLawn Memorial Park, 1735 S. Camp Butler Road, Springfield Illinois.

We are offering these spaces to our congregation for \$1,000.00 each. A Quit Claim Deed is required to purchase the spaces. If all three spaces are purchased, the Quit Claim Deed total is \$345.00. Individual purchase of a gravesite is \$345.00 for a Quit Claim Deed.

Please call the church office if you are interested or want more information.

Seder Meal

CBC hosted a Seder Meal on Palm Sunday in Merriam Hall. It was attended by just over 60 people. Rabbi Greg Kanter from Temple B'rith Sholom conducted the service with Sharon Schneider helping and food preparation was coordinated by David Radwine. The Seder was a huge success, and everyone felt a closer relationship with our Jewish friends. We also gained an understanding of the Seder which has been practiced since the time of the exodus when Moses lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

I want to personally thank all those who contributed to helping the preparation and clean up after the event. Preparation includes: Anne Tankersley, Paula Harwood, John Martin, Don Vlach and David Decker. The cleanup includes all those mentioned above plus; Larry Aldag, John Grisham, Sheila Zeiger, and Kiersten Large. If I have missed anyone, please forgive me. We are hopeful that this event will happen again next year.

Sincerely,
George Tankersley

BIRTHDAYS

4/3 Phil Maxwell
4/4 Jason Cox
4/8 Nancy Langford
4/14 Malcolm McKean
4/17 Jennifer Logan
4/17 Leigh Steiner
4/25 Jim Newbanks
4/26 Lucia Hill
4/28 Brooks Steiner
4/30 Tsige Gerre-Medhin

ANNIVERSARIES

4/10 Bruce and Lynde Hays
4/10 Jim and Jeanne Newbanks

If we missed anyone, let us know at rachael@cbcchurchfamily.org

NEWS AND NOTES (Cont)

James Project (The Closet 1:27)

When a child is placed with a new foster family, they very often arrive with only the clothing they are wearing. It is then up to the foster parents to find or buy necessities for the child - clothing, toiletry items, shoes, etc.

Through donations, Closet 1:27 provides clothing, shoes, bed, bedding, and necessities to newly placed foster children. How does it work? The foster parents of any newly placed child are given information about Closet 1:27 when they accept the child into their home. Their caseworker will then contact the James Project and they put together an order based on the child's gender, age and size and deliver it to the home within 24 hours. This allows the foster parents to spend more time getting to know their new child, rather than having to go out and run around town for basic necessities for their child.

LIST OF NEEDS:

- Diaper Cream
- Paper Products such as toilet paper and paper towels
- Baby Nail Clippers
- Hair Ties
- Head Bands
- Baby Wash
- Baby Lotion
- Children's Body Wash
- Mouthwash
- Shower Puffs and Nivea Lotion

These items may be dropped off at Central Baptist Church during the month of April.



the james project

Connected Pairs

7 Things The Easter Story Teaches Us About Marriage

In this classic FamilyLife article, Lisa Lakey shares seven things we can learn about God’s plan for marriage from the Easter Story

- 1. Betrayal can come from those we love and trust the most.**
- 2. We aren’t about betraying the ones we love.**
- 3. Others won’t believe your marriage can be saved.**
- 4. Marriage takes sacrifice.**
- 5. Marriage takes forgiveness.**
- 6. Marriage takes faith.**
- 7. We all need a Savior.**

To read the details of what the Easter story teaches us about marriage, click [here](#). (Read time 8 minutes)

Blessings,

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For more information about relationships, follow ConnectEdPAIRS on FaceBook. For more information about any ConnectEdPAIRS service, please visit the website at www.connectedpairs.com, call, or email the counseling office.

