



NEWS

UP FRONT

Church family!

The seasons are changing (sometimes even by the day!). I am noticing more people outside, the flowers are budding, and the trees are blooming. We are in spring. What is often true of the physical world can be true in the spiritual world. We are experiencing a spring in our church. There is excitement, new faces and an overall sense of possibility. These are hopeful days. I am treasuring them and I hope you are too.

In the spirit of this sentiment, I would like to call your attention to a few items:

1. We are no longer inching our way towards our services being streamed. Instead, we are in the final days of it. The ad hoc streaming committee has been diligently working and is very close to bringing a proposal to the church. **In fact, I would not be surprised if a special business meeting will need to be called so that we can approve the proposal as a congregation.** Be on the lookout for communication about this.

Further, the contractor that we hope to use said this would be a very swift process. Now, if you have ever had any kind of renovations done to your house- you know "swift" can be a very relative term; however, we are hopeful that this project will indeed be accomplished swiftly. I want to thank John Martin, Reg Mills, George Tankersley, and Jeff & Mary Sharp for their hard work throughout the course of this project. We are indebted to their efforts.

2. I am pleased to announce that Emily Wheeler will be leading worship with us on Sunday mornings during the summer months. She is a familiar face to the church and comes unanimously recommended by Sharon, Beth and Sally.

I want to take a moment and speak to you from the heart. I know music has been a source of conflict at our church. That was said to me at a congregational meeting during my preview weekend. **Hymns and choir specials are the musical DNA of our church and I have no intention of changing course. This will still be very much a part of our service moving forward.** In fact, Emily is passionate about Hymns and choir anthems as well. We will not be introducing drums or "loud music"--- there is a culture that we have cultivated over the past few months and that same culture will continue moving forward. We will continue to prayerfully choose songs as they fit with the message of the sermon.

There are so many exciting things happening at Central. May we be marked by unity, grace and love in the coming days. In your mercy O LORD, hear our prayers.

Pastor Tony

COMING UP

5/6 Men's Breakfast
 5/10 Leadership Coordination Team Mtg
 5/14 Mother's Day
 5/17 Vespers at New Berlin
 5/19 Choral Society Program in the Sanctuary
 5/20 Men's Breakfast
 5/29 Memorial Day - Offices closed

Church Office
 8-5, M-F

Children's House
 7:30-5, M-F

WHAT'S HAPPENING

MAY 2023

Kumler & New Berlin Food Pantries

Have you reached out to the hungry in Springfield? There is a simple and effective way to do this and the need is great. Next time you are at a grocery store or food market pick up an extra can or two or a personal care item and bring them to the Serve the World center. Your donations will be taken to Kumler Food Pantry to help the hungry in our city.

Wednesday Night Dinner Shelter Meals

We will continue the Meal Train for Contact Ministries on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month until further notice. Instructions are on the Meal Train web site. Type this link into your browser to sign up: <https://mealtrain.com/yoog5m> or call the church office and Ann will sign you up.

Dates to Remember

5/6 Men's Breakfast meets at 8am in Merriam Hall.

5/10 Leadership Coordination Team meets at 6:30pm in Weber Lounge.

5/14 Mother's Day

5/17 Vesper Service at 6:30 p.m. at New Berlin campus. All are invited to attend this prayer service.

5/19 The Springfield Choral Society will present a program at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please call the Choral Society for more details.

5/20 Men's Breakfast meets at 8am in Merriam Hall.

5/29 Memorial Day - All offices will be closed.

NEWS AND NOTES

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, called and gave happy birthday wishes in person. A big thank you to our Sunday School class for having a mini-party. It meant a lot to me. ~Philip Palsen

Higher Education Scholarships

Over the years, generous people have contributed to the higher education investment fund. Interest from those investments is then distributed to those who apply for a scholarship as they pursue a higher education degree. Additionally gifts are made by individuals or groups to provide additional resources or fund a scholarship for a specific area of study. If you are an active member of the church, we invite you to apply for a Higher Education Scholarship. Forms are available in the Welcome Center or you may contact mary@cbcchurchfamily.org for an electronic copy. Completed forms are due no later than June 1 and should be returned to the church office.

OUR CONDOLENCES

To those who lost loved ones in March and April:

- John Grisham and family, on the loss of his brother.
- Jason Huddleston and family, on the loss of his grandmother
- Judy Vlach and Rachael Manion families, on the loss of their cousin.
- Barbara McKean and Malcolm McKean and family on the loss of their cousin.
- Bruce Hays and family on the loss of his sister-in-law.

BIRTHDAYS

5/1 Gideon Smith
5/3 Corren Watson
5/4 Maybelle Hall
5/5 Cristy Saint
5/8 Ray Reynolds
5/9 Nora Ficke
5/18 Jenny Bauer
5/18 Glen Smith
5/18 Helen Whitlock
5/21 Kallen Watson
5/22 Greg Seifert
5/29 Jennie Alt
5/31 Dixie Dalbey

ANNIVERSARIES

5/12 Reg & Judi Mills
5/22 Josh & Emily Sabo
5/29 Gregg & Paula Harwood

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

Special Offering for the Congolese Mission

MAY 2023

The ABWomen of the Great Rivers Region, whose hearts are full of compassion for the suffering of the Congolese, have set a goal of raising \$15,000 to send to two of our missionaries in Congo, Katherine and Wayne Niles, to purchase much needed medical equipment, train medical providers, and improve the quality of care for 100,000 patients who are served annually in the Baptist hospitals there. 90% of the funds will purchase medical equipment and the remaining 10% will pay for transportation, customs fees, training, and installation. There are 200 ABC churches in the Great Rivers Region. If each church would donate at least \$75, this goal of \$15,000 would be met! However, many of those churches are small and do not have active women's ministries. Therefore, it is up to the rest of us to fill the gap.



Examples of what a gift of this amount could buy:
\$100 Medications and Vitamins
\$250 Medical supplies for hospitals and clinics
\$500 Training of new nurses.

CBC has set its goal at \$1500. The Children's Sunday school will be making bracelets and bookmarks for a \$5 to the mission project. You can make your check out to CBC with (Congo Mission) in the memo any time before May 14 when we will dedicate the offering along with the Children's Sunday school.

NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

7 Secrets to a Successful Relationship after 50

These seven tips from Andrea Brandt, PhD, MMFT are for couples, no matter how long they have been together. Some of them are:

1. Open your heart fearlessly. You must be open and willing to share, listen, and understand.
2. Create emotional safety. You need to be able to feel that your partner truly sees, hears, and understands you and accepts you as you are.
3. Address conflict in a spirit of love. Approach each disagreement with the intent to listen fully and respond in the spirit of love.

To read the entire article, click [here](#).

Blessings,

Stephani Cave, LCPC
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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.

GRADUATES

MAY 2023

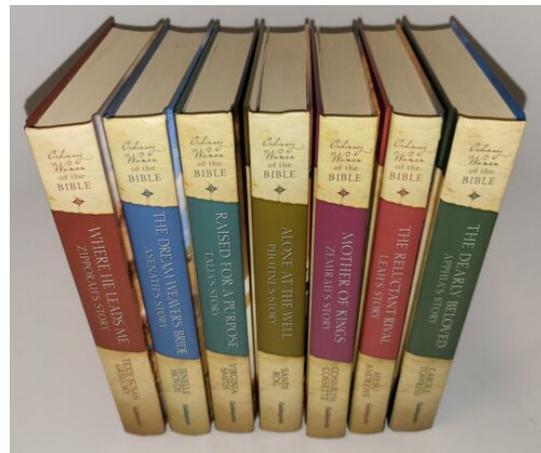
Are you or someone in your family graduating this Spring from High School or college? We would love to know about it! Send your graduates' names, graduating institution, date, and perhaps a mention of their future plans to ann@cbcchurchfamily.org or rachael@cbcchurchfamily.org.

OFF THE SHELF

More Books in the *Guideposts Ordinary Women of the Bible Series*

A Mother's Sacrifice - Jochebed's Story, the first book in the Ordinary Women of the Bible fiction series by Guideposts, was featured last month. Sixteen additional titles in this historical fiction series are now available in the Library as follows:

The Healer's Touch, Tikva
The Ark Builder's Wife, Zarah
An Unlikely Witness, Joanna
The Last Drop of Oil, Adelia
A Perilous Journey, Phoebe
Rich Beyond Measure, Zlata
Her Source of Strength, Raya
The Prophet's Songbird, Atarah
Daughter of Light, Charlene
The Reluctant Rival, Leah
Where He Leads Me, Zipporah
The Dream Weaver, Asenath
Alone at the Well, Photine
Raised for a Purpose, Talia
Mother of Kings, Zemirah
The Lonely Beloved,,Apphia



These books may be found on top of the bookcases across from the Librarian's desk.

An updated "GUIDEPOSTS FICTION GUIDE AND READING CHECKLIST", that includes the above books, is available at the Librarian's Desk.

Jim Filler, On behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

