



# NEWS

## UP FRONT

A little over 2 years ago, after a period of prayer, conversation and discernment, we changed our worship schedule, combined our two Springfield location worship services into one service, and moved our New Berlin worship service to the morning. For New Berlin the change has brought new opportunities and new life. But in Springfield we have experienced the challenge of bringing 2 different styles of worship together.

In late September of last year, the Leadership Coordination Team recommended that the worship discernment process be renewed, to look at our worship experience in Springfield and bring recommendations to the church. A team was formed from the core of the original team and Leigh Steiner graciously agreed to facilitate the work of the team. Prayerfully their work began as worshippers and worship leaders were interviewed as well as leaders of some churches in the area. With prayerful guidance and listening to what was shared with us, the team shares these thoughts and recommendations.

We were reminded of our role in worship. Soren Kierkegaard, a Danish theologian from the mid 1800's wrote this of worship:

"In the most earnest sense, God is the critical theatergoer, who looks on to see how the lines are spoken and how they are listened to: hence here the customary audience is wanting. The speaker is then the prompter, and the listener stands openly before God. The listener ... is the actor, who in all truth acts before God".

It has also been stated this way: God is the audience, the worship leaders are the prompters and those who worship are the actors bringing their worship to God. And we ask, is God pleased with what we offer him?

As we seek to please God in worship, a worship development team has formed whose role is to develop worship experiences that both continuously remind us of our role in worship and form us into Christ-likeness using different forms and expressions of worship, some from recent years as well as those of years past.

Through our interviews with Phil and Robert we came to the conclusion we need to offer them a season of retreat to step back and pursue God without the obligations that come from leading week to week. We are providing them an 8-week period to be away to engage in some spiritual practices, do some study, and visit other churches. When they return they will simply worship at Central for 4 weeks before slowly integrating into worship leadership roles. Their first Sunday on retreat is Sunday February 3 and they return on March 31.

*Continued...*

## COMING UP

2/1 Men's Breakfast  
2/3 Downtown Youth  
2/6 Wednesday Night  
Dinner  
2/10 NB Youth  
2/11 Hegarty Circle  
2/12 Finance Team  
2/12 Leadership  
Coordination  
2/16 Men's Breakfast  
2/17 Downtown Youth  
2/20 Wednesday Night  
Dinner  
2/24 NB Youth

During the retreat period Melissa Gibson will lead in worship and others will fill in during some Sundays in February when she has previous commitments. Beth Maxwell will be directing the choir. Funds needed for worship leadership during the retreat period have been committed by generous gifts outside the church's planned budget.

We thank you for your prayers during this discernment process and thank you for continuing to pray as we enter a new season of worship at Central Baptist Church in Springfield. We are called to be God's people, one in heart and spirit, a sign of hope for all to see. May our worship shape us in the image of Jesus Christ so all may know the blessing of God's love.

*Mary Ellen*

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

**2/2 & 2/16** - Men's Breakfast takes place in Merriam Hall from 8 to 9:30am.

**2/3 & 2/17** - **Springfield Youth Group** meets after worship from 12 - 2 p.m.

**2/6 & 2/20** - **Wednesday Night Dinners** take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 4:45pm. Make your reservations by noon the Tuesday before the meal by calling Ann at the church office or emailing [ann@cbcchurchfamily.org](mailto:ann@cbcchurchfamily.org).

**2/10 & 2/24** - **New Berlin Youth Group** meets from 5-7 p.m.

**2/11** - **Hegarty Circle** meets at 9:30 a.m. in Weber Lounge.

**2/12** - **The Finance Team** meets at 5:30 p.m.

**2/12** - **The Leadership Coordination Team** meets at 6:30 p.m. in Weber Lounge.

### Outreach in 2019...We Really Need Your Help!

This year, we really want to increase our outreach efforts both in New Berlin and in Springfield. The Outreach Team has prepared an aggressive plan for this year and we can really use your help! If you would like to learn how you can help in New Berlin, please contact George Tankersley and in Springfield, please contact Larry Aldag. Let's really work hard this year to bring others to know the true love of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

### Recycling News

In January, we switched waste removal companies; to avoid committing to long contracts and extraneous charges and to go with a local, family-owned company. We now do business with Lake Area Disposal. Because of this change, we no longer recycle plastics or aluminum picked up from our site. You can, however, continue to take these products to Lake Area's site and drop them off. So, from January 16, we are only recycling paper and cardboard. Paper will go in the recycle bins that are placed in the kitchenettes, the Main Office, and in Merriam Hall and cardboard will be placed next to the bins for our maintenance staff to break down. These must be kept separate. We may have places to put aluminum and plastics so that if anyone wants to volunteer to take this to a recycling center, they may do so.

## BIRTHDAYS

2/2 David Law

2/6 Ruth Lee

2/8 Joleen Welch

2/9 Ann Wells

2/15 Dave Campbell

2/16 Dan Holland

2/18 Adeline Wells

2/19 Mary Sharp

2/22 Sheila Fite

2/22 Sheila Hodel

2/22 Virginia Langford

2/22 Kathleen Yazell Smith

2/23 Mary Kirschner

2/25 Judson Sabo

2/26 Pat Miles

2/27 Phil Richardson

2/27 Cathy Watson

2/28 Alison Coffey

2/28 Carol Volle

## ANNIVERSARIES

2/1 Mark and Chris Ballenger

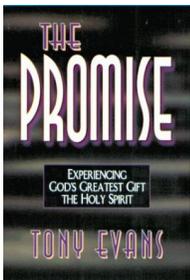
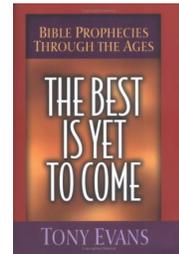
## **KUMLER & LOAMI FOOD PANTRIES**

This is the time of year that the food pantries often run low on food-the holidays are over and the weather is cold. Our church family has heard the message of Jesus to feed the hungry and has supported the Kumler and Loami food pantries for many years. For February let us pick up an extra jar of peanut butter or box of cereal each time we shop and bring it to church where our donations will be taken to the food pantries to help feed those in need. Remember too that all nonperishable food is welcome.

## **OFF THE SHELF**

### **Two Books by Tony Evans**

*The Best Is Yet to Come – Bible Prophecies Through the Ages:* What is prophecy and why is it so important to us? How does a knowledge of what will happen in the future affect our lives now? Questions like these have been asked by Christians for centuries. Tony Evans, in this book, tries to answer these and many other questions. He wrote this book "to communicate the prophetic program of God from eternity past to eternity future in a logical and progressive way." His desire is "to cause all believers to fall more deeply in love with the God who holds eternity in His hands." What we learn of Christ through prophecy, and what we learn about God's plan for history, should make us so grateful that worship simply flows out of us. As we live in confidence that Christ is coming back, Evans calls us to continue to point people to Christ, the key and fulfillment of prophecy.



*The Promise – Experiencing God's Greatest Gift, the Holy Spirit:* Evans writes, "If you and I are going to live victorious Christian lives, we must understand that the Holy Spirit's task is to enable us to experience the Christian life." It's the Spirit who lifts the truth of Scripture off the page and explodes it into our lives. So if you long for a closer walk with Christ and a new infusion of power for godly living, then you're ready for *The Promise* - a deeper, biblical experience of the Holy Spirit.

These books may be found on the New Book Rack in the Library. These Books were donated by Pat & Brett Miles.

## **THANK YOU NOTES**

*A note from Kim Señor written Dec. 13, 2018:*

As we go into celebrating the holidays with our own families I'd like to take this quick opportunity to thank Central Baptist Church for all that they do for us and especially for the Christmas Mart. I have had parents come up to me in tears, thanking us for this. Several families have said that they didn't know what they were going to do and this was perfect for them and their families. They were very impressed with the quality of gifts and all the help they received. There will be a lot of happy children come the 25th. Thank you again for helping us serve our families you are appreciated. -Kim Señor, Parent Educator, Graham Elementary School

**NOTES..continued**

*A Note from Ruffin Walden:*

Dear Central Baptist Church Members, On behalf of the Walden family, thank you for the many cards, contributions, and condolences expressed on the death of my mother - We are most appreciative. Sincerely, Ruffin Walden

*A Beautiful Experience*

It was called The Blackout and when we entered the sanctuary it was dark. We were given a glow stick, like the kind at evening celebrations, and we wore them around our necks. It was me and about 4 other people. It was about 5 minutes until the Blackout started. I thought I was glad I came to support Robert's efforts since the numbers were small. And then over 30 youth walked through the sanctuary doors joined by others until probably 50 came together to worship. I was overcome. I couldn't see their faces, but for over an hour, Robert and his team lead in praise and worship and those youth expressed their worship with their voices, their entire bodies, and I trust, their hearts. Robert had invoked at the beginning "Holy spirit you are welcome here. Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere," and that is exactly what happened. And we all left with our light, taking it out into the night. ~Leigh Steiner

**A NOTE FROM CHILDREN'S HOUSE**

Winter weather has arrived and the children are so excited. They have really enjoyed discovering all the wonders of snow and ice. Through hands-on activities we have explored the elements with science and math. Of course they will tell you that playing in the snow is the best part of winter.

During the month of February, love and friendship will be our center's theme. To help us celebrate love, we asked the preschool program to help define Love.

**Love is.....**

**Pre-K 3**

Ashlyn- when mommy hugs me

Brayden- When I cuddle with my mommy, she likes giving me hugs.

Lincoln- My mommy reads me stories.

Peter- When daddy cuts his eyebrows.

Aiden- When daddy buys me trains.

Ava- My mom cooks for me.

E.j.- Mom and Dad

Stephano- be with mommy and daddy

Norah- when someone loves you

Sammy- They play with toys with me

Ridge- Giving hugs

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Hope- you clean up your mess  
Malachi- teaching

**Pre-K 4**

Morgan-cuddling  
Megan- To Play nicely  
Ellie- Love is something we do to care for other people.  
Cora- When you feel love in your heart and you share it with others  
Charlie- someone else loves you back  
Noah- They have a birthday party  
Isabelle- hugs  
Irie- They take care of me  
Hunter-My mommy and daddy snuggle me  
Aubree- When you make popcorn for other people  
Corinne- When mom hugs me  
Calvin- a heart  
Lydia- When your heart loves others  
Lillian- When mommy lets me sleep in her bed,... well sometimes

*Judy Vlach*, Director

**A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS**

**Couples Article**

Hello! I hope 2019 is treating you well thus far. If you are still motivated to work on New Year's resolutions, the folks at Fierce Marriage offer "5 Tips and Tools for a Stronger Marriage This Year." Ryan's tips are to pray for each other intentionally, learn new relational skills, discuss and agree upon a saving plan, escape together more often, and pursue each other more each day. To read the full article and see Ryan's suggested tools for being intentional about your marriage this year, [click here](#).

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.