



NEWS

UP FRONT

The words of Jesus to his disciples in John 13:35, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

As a church family and particularly in our Downtown context, this verse is an urgent calling in the place we find ourselves. Our Sunday time of corporate worship has been an ongoing matter of prayer, discussion, and, for some, division. We live now in the space of holding these matters before God in an intentional way and asking for his Kingdom to come in our midst. We don’t know exactly where God will lead us in the weeks and months ahead but we do know this love is central to where we are going. “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” Anything less than what Jesus invites us into is missing the mark as the church. This calling should impact our prayers, our discussions, our opinions, and our future as we seek to follow Jesus faithfully.

As part of explorations around worship late last year, I had a conversation with a worship leader at another local church and a statement he made stuck with me. On the topic of generational dynamics and unity expressed through corporate worship, he said, “we have to help younger generations learn our story and recognize that we are standing on the shoulders of the generations that go before us while at the same time helping our older generations recognize their God given responsibility to raise up the next generation into faith and leadership.”

That statement resonated with me as I consider where we are and where I am. I desperately want to honor and respect those who have so beautifully helped me to grow into the faith that is now mine. As I look at my children, I desperately want to be a part of a church that takes seriously the call to raise them up into faith and leadership.

While recently watching the Netflix special, “Springsteen on Broadway”, I was moved by the way Springsteen talked about his relationship with his father and with his children. He made the comment that “we are ghosts or we are ancestors in our children's lives. We either lay our mistakes, our burdens upon them, and we haunt them, or we assist them in laying those old burdens down and we free them from the chain of our own flawed behavior. And as ancestors, we walk along side of them, and we assist them in finding their own way and some transcendence.” I wasn’t expecting Bruce to bring me to tears, inspired to think deeply and intentionally about how I relate to my elders and my children but he did. I think his words are powerful for the church as well.

Continued....

COMING UP

- 3/2 Men’s Breakfast
- 3/3 Downtown Youth
- 3/6 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 3/10 Daylight Savings Time
- 3/10 NB Youth
- 3/11 Hegarty Circle
- 3/12 Finance Team
- 3/12 Leadership Coordination Team
- 3/16 Men’s Breakfast
- 3/17 Downtown Youth
- 3/20 Wednesday Night Dinner
- 3/24 NB Youth

WHAT'S HAPPENING

UP FRONT continued....

I invite you to continue praying and I invite you to practice discernment as you seek God in this season as well. As we navigate this season in our church's life, I also offer a question to help guide you in the practice of discernment as you discuss and think about corporate worship at Central: How does my opinion connect to my following of Jesus? Put another way - how would a coffee conversation with Jesus on this matter, impact the words I speak and the attitudes I hold?

Your partner in mission, *Josh*

All Month

In March, we will have envelopes in the pews for the **America For Christ offering**. The theme is Galatians 6:9-10. Your gifts impact thousands—through ministries with marginalized children, mission trips that transform lives torn asunder by hurricanes, resources that cultivate Christian leaders, chaplains who bring comfort to hospitals and nursing homes, and much more. Let us not become weary in doing good!

KUMLER & LOAMI FOOD PANTRIES

Once again we are asking for your concern, generosity and prayer for the food insecure in our area. When you go shopping please pick up a can or several cans of fruits and vegetables and place them in the Serve the World Center during the month of March. In addition say a prayer for the food pantry and the people that they serve. Remember too that all nonperishable food is welcome.

3/2 & 3/16 - Men's Breakfast takes place in Merriam Hall from 8 to 9:30am.

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

3/6 & 3/20 - Wednesday Night Dinners take place on the 1st and 3rd 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.

3/10 & 3/24 - New Berlin Youth Group meets from 5-7 p.m.

3/10 - Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to turn your clocks forward one hour at 2 a.m.!

3/11 - Hegarty Circle meets at 9:30 a.m. in Weber Lounge.

3/12 - The Finance Team meets at 5:30 p.m.

3/12 - 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.

MARCH 2019

BIRTHDAYS

3/2 Syl Grisham

3/5 Phyllis Hudspeth

3/6 Lowanda Medley

3/6 Brady Zeiger

3/10 Paige Martin

3/12 Mark Fetch

3/15 Madisyn Hanson

3/16 Judy Vlach

3/17 Jim Walker

3/21 Sharon Smith

3/21 Jack Reynolds

3/22 Ann Webb

3/23 Chris Ballenger

3/29 Bill Smith

3/29 Jim Stolleis

3/31 Emily Lynch

3/31 Star Lochridge

ANNIVERSARIES

3/6 Ted & Elaine Turkcan

3/7 David Decker & Leigh Steiner

3/16 Prentice & Heather Southwell

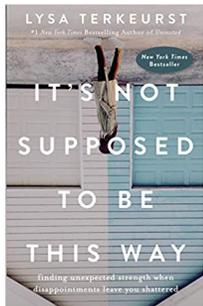
3/17 Rodney & Gretchen Gruber

3/21 George & Anne Tankersley

3/31 John & Jennie Alt

Did we miss someone? Please let me know at ann@cbcchurchfamily.org

It's Not Supposed to Be This Way: Finding Unexpected Strength When Disappointments Leave You Shattered



New York Times bestselling author Lysa TerKeurst unveils her heart amid shattering circumstances and shows readers how to live assured when life doesn't turn out like they expected. What do you do when God's timing seems questionable, His lack of intervention hurtful, and His promises doubtful? The author invites us into her own journey of faith and, with grit, vulnerability, and honest humor, helps us to: (1) Stop being pulled into the anxiety of disappointment by discovering how to better process unmet expectations and other painful situations, (2) Discover the secret of being steadfast and not panicking when God actually does give us more than we can handle, and (3) Know how to encourage a friend and help them navigate hard realities with real help from God's truth.

This book may be found on the New Book Rack. (2018. Amazon Rating of 4.8 out of 5)

DVD: Timepiece

Hallmarks 1996 prequel to The Christmas Box -Timepiece jumps ahead 16 years from the resolution of Christmas Box, then takes us back to the 1940s, when Mary (Naomi Watts) and her late husband, David (Kevin Kilner), a wealthy arms supplier to America's war effort, marry and endure both a bogus murder trial and a crushing family loss.



This DVD can be found in the Video Section. (91 minutes, Not Rated, 4.8 out of 5 Amazon rating).

Jim Filler, On behalf of the Volunteer Library Team

THANK YOUs and NOTES

Last December, through our church's Benevolence Budget, our Outreach Area was able to put together care packages for Dallas Tankersley and the soldiers he serves with who are currently overseas. We sent over 100 sticks of deodorant, razors, and a variety of snacks and as a thank you to the church Dallas had this framed flag sent to the church. You can view it on the Serve the World Table.



A Note Regarding Downtown Worship Formation Team

The Worship Formation team has begun their work in earnest. This team will be assisting our worship leader and pastors in preparing the worship experiences. The influence of this team will first be seen in our April services. Between now and then Melissa Gibson will continue to lead our services but come April her leadership will be amended and supported by this team. In April we will also be asking for your thoughtful feedback on your worship experience. Look for a feedback form in the bulletins beginning in April. Know that we covet your prayers that our work will help us reveal powerful and unifying worship experiences that shape us into Christlikeness. ~Leigh Steiner, Josh Sabo, Mary Ellen Sharp

A NOTE FROM CHILDREN'S HOUSE

MARCH 2019

Children's House will be closed for attendance on March 4th for Professional Development. Staff will be partaking in required training for their continued education hours. Risk management, team orientation, and Ages and Stages are just a few. Staff will also have time to work in their classrooms, prepare curriculum blocks for their lesson plans and for team planning.



Be sure to check out the new curriculum block board, located in the main hallways next to the Twos room. Here you can discover monthly themes and information about each classroom. Take a look at each classrooms monthly concepts and photos documenting all the fun. We are looking forward to sharing our daily adventures of fun and leaning. Don't forget to follow us on facebook , another great location for information.

Children's House has a current need for an area carpet for the third floor playroom. If you have a gently loved area rug or carpet piece that you would like to donate please feel free to contact the Children's House office. Thank you.

Judy

Children's House Director

A NOTE FROM CONNECTED PAIRS

Couples Article

What are some ways you and your spouse “create margin” in your lives for each other? Ryan Frederick asks this on his [Fierce Marriage](#) blog. He defines *margin* as “the extra room you need to allow for unpredictable outcomes. It’s a *reserve* of sorts, storing whatever it is (you) might need more of.” Ryan provides examples of margins, such as leaving early for an appointment to allow for traffic, or having a savings account for emergencies. Ryan suggests there are “[3 Types of Margin You Absolutely Need in Your Marriage](#).” He says these are a financial/money margin, an energy margin, and a time margin. If you allow for these margins, you are off to a good start of living life according to your priorities. To read the full article, click [here](#).

Parenting Article

Who do you turn to first when you need parenting advice, or simply need parenting support and encouragement? For [Popsugar Family](#) blogger Angela Anagnost-Repke, it’s her mom friends. In her blog, “[My Mom Friends Are the Reason I’m a Better Parent](#),” Angela shares, “the greatest part of having [solid mom friends](#) is that they are your teammates in crushing **the biggest myth out there: that perfect mothers exist**” (emphasis added). I added the emphasis because I think we all need to be reminded of that every now and then. How do you and your mom friends support one another? To read the full article, click [here](#).

Blessings,

Stephani Cave, LCPC

ConnectEdPAIRS

217-972-4851

stephani@cbcchurchfamily.org

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, stop by, call, or email me in the counseling office. I look forward to talking with you soon.