



THE HAPPENINGS

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, JC

NOVEMBER 2022

FROM YOUR PASTOR

This month we celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday, and we enjoy an abundance of blessings for which we can be thankful. Most of us also enjoy an abundance of wealth, if we compare ourselves to the average inhabitant of planet Earth. Wealth is usually considered a blessing, but that isn't always the case. In irresponsible hands, wealth can be a curse.

Consider the wisdom reflected in these verses from Proverbs: *Two things I ask of you, O LORD; do not refuse me before I die: Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, "Who is the LORD?" Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God* (Prov. 30:7-9; NIV). Biblical wisdom suggests that it's good to have neither too little nor too much, lest our relationship with God suffer as a result.

Billionaire investor Warren Buffet is quoted as saying he wants to leave his children enough money that they can afford to do whatever they want, but not enough that they can afford to do nothing. Even this secular financial guru recognizes that having too much can be a bad thing if we don't possess the wisdom to handle it. He's given billions of dollars to charity and lives much more modestly than you might expect.

High-living prosperity preachers don't seem to share the concern of the writer of the proverb, however. They are unfortunately more than willing to "fleece the flock" to elevate their lifestyles. In contrast, Pastor Rick Warren has given away

much of the wealth he earned through the phenomenal success of his best-selling book, *The Purpose Driven Life*. He repaid his church all the money they had paid him over the years as their pastor, stopped accepting a salary from the church, and he became what he calls a "reverse tither"—that is, he gives 90% of his income to the church and lives on 10%. And his lifestyle remains modest compared to other religious leaders of similar means. Now, if you ask me which of those religious leaders has the better understanding of God and his word, Rick Warren would get my vote, for obvious reasons.

I once read the words of a guy who said that when he was younger, he always wanted a Porsche, his "absolutely favorite car." But when he reached his late 30's, he had developed a more mature list of what makes him happy: "(1) Seeing my wife smile; (2) seeing my kids smile; (3) helping people; (4) reading; (5) going to church; (6) sitting around with my family, doing nothing; and (7) watching the kids play (nicely)." He says, "It's funny how most of [those things] have nothing to do with money."

In this month of Thanksgiving, give thanks to God for what you have . . . and for what you don't!

Yours in Christ's service,

UPCOMING CHURCHWIDE EVENTS & HOLIDAYS

DON'T FORGET TO
FALL BACK
NOVEMBER 6

ELECTION DAY
2022
NOVEMBER 8

VETERANS DAY
NOV 11

OCC PACKING & FRIENDSGIVING
NOVEMBER 13
4:00 PM

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT
DECEMBER 2, 6-9 PM
SIGN UP BY NOVEMBER 21

NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES ON
NOVEMBER 23

Happy Thanksgiving
NOVEMBER 24

ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION

November is one of my favorite months of the year! One reason I love November is I know that Thanksgiving is almost here. I love Thanksgiving and all that goes with it. A second reason I love November is that most churches approve their budgets (Ministry Plans) during the month. Once the Ministry Plan is approved staff may move forward with final plans for the coming year. I love moving forward!

Central Baptist Church has developed a Ministry Plan for 2023. The total of that plan is \$1,957,210.84 or a 0.6% increase over 2022. You will find a brochure at the Welcome Desk that unpacks our plan for the new year. It might be helpful to know the steps to developing and implementing our new Ministry Plan:

- 1—Staff and ministry leaders submit spending requests by mid-August.
- 2—The Administrator compiles the requests for submission to and approval by the budget sub-committee in September.
- 3—The Board of Directors review and approve the Ministry Plan in October.
- 4—The plan will be discussed at the Quarterly Business Meeting on November 2.
- 5—The plan will be approved by a Lord's Day Vote on Sunday, November 6.

You will find attached to your copy of the 2023 Ministry Plan Brochure a copy of a 2023 Giving Options Selection Card. Be sure to complete that card and drop it in the black contribution boxes or by giving it to Kirsten Borger in the front office. Thank you for your financial support of Central Baptist Church's Ministry Plan.

Finally, I love November because it is a time of planning adjustments for the new year. Although we have enjoyed DNA groups now for two years it is time to allow new opportunities for these groups to married couples. Therefore, we will offer DNA 2.0 in January. These groups will be composed of a leader couple and up to four additional couples. All the other "rules" of DNA groups will apply, but we have heard the voices of many couples who wish to be together through this process. Be sure to take advantage of one of these groups in the new year.

Carry on!



CONGREGATION CARE, OUTREACH, & SENIOR ADULTS

COMPASSIONARIES: UNLEASH THE POWER OF SERVING gives us a wonderful springboard for the fall to launch VIM (Volunteers in Ministry) and VOM (Volunteers On Mission). Serving strengthens our connection with others. (Page 66, Compassionaries). Some service is done alone but most of the time, we serve with and for others. Examples: Backpacks for Guatemala kids, Operation Christmas Child, Loaves and Fishes, Coalition 4 Kids Tutoring, and more.

Are you **READY!** To Unleash the **POWER!** Contact Gene at 423-232-2364 to volunteer or if you have questions.

VOLUNTEERS ON MISSION OPPORTUNITIES: SIGN UP NOW!

CBC Nativity Display 2022, Mission Center - VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help with the set up beginning on October 31. Contact Kirsten, 423-926-7121, for dates and times available.

Coalition 4 Kids Tutoring - Choose a day; 1-4 times a month. Join Brandon at Coalition 4 Kids or Tony and Gene at Mountain View Elementary. Contact Brandon Salyer at 423-232-2365 to volunteer.

Loaves and Fishes, Saturday, November 5, 3:00 PM - Work with a team to serve lunch and provide a sack supper. Donations of \$25.00 can be made to CBC to cover the costs (designate Loaves and Fishes). Contact Ashby/Connie Clanton at 423-282-8348.

BUC Lunch at ETSU BCM, November 10 - Contact Brandon Salyer at 423-232-2365 to volunteer or drop off desserts by 10:00 AM.

Operation Christmas Child Packing, Sunday November 13, 4:00 PM

Current Missions Group, November 17, 2:30 PM in the Missions Center

Haven of Mercy Thanksgiving Meal Prep, November 23, Fellowship Hall - Help is needed to prepare the dressing, mashed potatoes, deviled eggs and more for their Thanksgiving Meal. Contact Tom DeBord at 423-794-7802 to volunteer.

Puppet Tree, December 10, 10:30 AM - Volunteers are needed as a puppeteer, back stage helper, a greeter, or as a refreshment host. A wonderful opportunity to be ON MISSION for our community and church kids as we share the GIFT of Christmas. Contact Tammy at 423-232-2363 to volunteer.

VOLUNTEERS IN MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES: SIGN UP NOW!

Preschool Sunday Morning Ministry - Care for preschoolers while parents attend worship (read a book to them).

Greeter Team - Provide a joyful smile and warm greeting to members and guests as they enter our building. Provide assistance as needed to worship or class room locations for guests.

Ushers Team - Greet and welcome members and guests to worship with a friendly smile, a worship guide and assist with seating as needed.

SAVE THE DATE!

CBC 50+ Chili Cook Off & Veterans Day Celebration - Thursday, November 10 at 5:00 PM in the Welcome Corridor. Grab your "prize winning" chili recipe & show us what you got! Join us for great food, fellowship, and bluegrass music. To enter your chili recipe, call Tammy at 423-232-2363.

Veterans Day Remembrance - On Sunday, November 6, we will honor our military with a slide show in the Welcome Corridor of those who have served and those that are presently in the Armed Forces. If you have a photo of a veteran that you would like added, please email it to gelliott@cbcjc.org or bring it by the church office during regular weekday hours to be scanned. If you are unsure if we have a veteran's photo, call Tammy at 423-232-2363 to check the list.

Shine On,



FOCUS ON WORSHIP

CBC Orchestra and Friends Concert Recap – Sunday, October 23, 2022

WOW! What a marvelous afternoon of worship, praise and PURE JOY! Our orchestra blesses us most every week as they accompany our congregational singing and share meditations and preludes but we rarely get to enjoy an hour of their wonderful playing. Sunday's concert was the most beautiful and meaningful I can remember. Thank you CBC Orchestra and Rachel Cox for all the hard work, planning and coordination to make this GREAT worship event a reality.

Individual musicians from this group provide most of the solos and duets offered as meditations in worship. For 26 years these dedicated church men and women have faithfully prepared and served in our church and around the world as they have gone on mission to at least 5 countries for more than 10 different outreach and teaching events. Our folks make up almost 10% of the Johnson City Community Concert Band and some play in both the Johnson City and Kingsport Symphonies. Our church choir combined with four others from Greeneville, Jonesborough and Kingsport for a regional concert in May of this year featuring the music of award-winning Christian composer Mary McDonald. The orchestral accompaniment was provided by our folks and individual players from four other churches; this concert was

an opportunity for a reunion and to combine their talents once again. Rachel Cox, our CBC Orchestra director, led the group in preparation of Sunday's concert and also did so for the presentation in May.

In a loving and self-deprecating fashion, our group often refers to themselves as the "RSF": The Roan Street Filharmonic. But the light humor of that moniker belies the deep commitment to our Lord and offering musical excellence to Him whenever the opportunity arises. I am inspired, challenged and encouraged by this fine group every week and am so very grateful to be part of a church family that loves, supports and provides a place for them to thrive. Very few churches have such a group and almost none as dedicated and accomplished.

I'm grateful Joyce Dean Garrison came to our church and started our orchestra in 1997 and that Rachel Cox has conducted, grown and shepherded them for more than 20 years. Soli Deo Gloria: To God Be the Glory!



PRESCHOOL & KIDS MINISTRY

Trunk or Treat is officially over, and we're so grateful for everyone's support! This outreach event is always a hit in our community. Thank you so much for your candy and treat donations, in addition to the time and effort of decorating trunks, greeting, serving food, and praying for attendees. Our church family is truly a blessing!

With the end of October, we're gearing up for the holiday season with several special events and opportunities. This year, we're planning a special Operation Christmas Child packing event combined with a churchwide fellowship on Sunday, November 13 at 4:00 PM. Join us for shoebox packing and Friendsgiving, where the church will provide turkey and you're invited to bring your favorite thanksgiving-themed side or dessert. Sign up to bring a dish at cbcjc.org/occ. You can also donate items to fill shoeboxes in the Welcome Corridor at CBC.

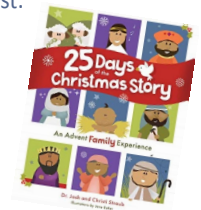
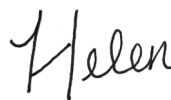
Looking ahead, December is rapidly approaching and we're working on lots of awesome events:

On Friday, December 2, we're planning a Parents Night Out from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. This event is open to weekday preschool and church families with kids up to elementary school. The cost is \$15 for the first child and \$10 for each additional child from the same immediate family. We'll serve dinner, play some games, and do some crafts while we watch a Christmas movie. The deadline to sign up is Monday, November 21 at cbcjc.org/pno.

On Saturday, December 3, we'll host a Kids Gingerbread House baking & decorating competition at 1:00 PM, where kids will learn to make their own gingerbread then build and decorate a house. Houses will be displayed at CBC where we'll take churchwide votes and announce our winners. Following this, our Women's Ministry will host our annual Cookie Exchange at 3:00 PM. Bring a dozen cookies to share as we have a lovely time of fellowship, crafts, and - most importantly - celebrating the reason for the Christmas season.

Of course, there are many more opportunities in the life of our church, and we hope you'll be part of it all. Perhaps now more than ever, as life returns to "normal" (whatever that means), we may be tempted to add more and more to our calendars. But I want to encourage you to focus on the meaningful moments we can find in the season of advent. To that end, we'll be providing kids with an age-appropriate book you can use to take a few minutes each day to remember the true gift of the season - the gift of Christ.

Yours in His Service,



STUDENT & COLLEGE NEWS

Hello Church!

One thing that I believe strongly about ministry and about life is that an empty stomach makes for a poor learner. I think that Jesus believed the same thing and the evidence is present throughout the gospels, such as the over the top displays of his concern for the physical hunger of the people who were following him. The feeding of the thousands we see in John 6 and Mark 8, and the simple occasions where we see Christ sharing a meal and a message with those around him show us God's great and enduring love for them. We also see this in several places in the Gospel of Luke.

For me, it is clear that while "man cannot live on bread alone," Jesus understood that oftentimes you must feed someone's belly before you can feed their soul. We do this in Student Ministry at Central. Rarely is there a gathering of students within our ministry that doesn't involve feeding of the belly and feeding of the soul together!

For this reason I wanted to dedicate this month's student space in the Happenings to the wonderful volunteers who have contributed to feeding students through baking, hosting, purchasing, and serving! We are able to reach the students in our community because of your faithfulness!

Special thanks to:

The Holder family, Mary Ann McConnell, Carole Browne, Debbie Odom, Donna Depew, Paula Pickle, Bill and William Hobbs, Jessica Sutterlin, Nancy Hodges, Jackie Maggard, Sharon Vicars, Karen Corpening, Carol Broyles, Laura Aiken, David Sauer, Jenny Greer, Holley Ziglar, Kirsten Borger, and our anonymous sponsors!

If you would like to support our feeding of hungry bellies and souls, please contact Brandon!

PARISH NURSE UPDATE

If Fall is here, then Winter cannot be far behind! Are you moving onto this season in good spirits or struggling? Many people struggle with the change of seasons and there is a very real basis for this: seasonal depression, also called Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). This type of depression is triggered by the change of seasons, and most commonly begins in late fall. Symptoms include feelings of sadness, lack of energy, loss of interest in usual activities, oversleeping and weight gain. Fortunately, all of these symptoms can be treated.

We all face different emotions based on our circumstances. Not everyone who is sad has Seasonal Affective Disorder. The holidays are difficult for many. Do you dwell in the negative or the positive? Do you stay active or do you withdraw when faced with challenges? Do you take your concerns to the Lord? Do you also give thanks for what you have?

The Bible guides us in all circumstances. In Psalm 46:1, the psalmist says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." Pray about your concerns, but also give thanks.

The Parish Nurse Program is here to assist our church family to maintain or regain wholeness in body, mind and spirit. Caring for others is an expression of God's love for us.

-Louann O'Dell, DNP, RN Parish Nurse

CHURCHWIDE COLLECTIONS

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRIES FOOD COLLECTION

November collection is Oatmeal. Collection bin is in the Catering Kitchen.

CURRENT MISSIONS

We are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Items needed: comb/hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, solid lip balm, stick deodorant, bandaids (especially in fun colors or characters), reusable water bottle, small blanket, socks, underwear, sunglasses, flashlight, hair ties/bows, compact mirror, pencils & pens, small manual pencil sharpener, erasers, crayons, markers, colored pencils, glue sticks, small calculator (solar powered is great), ruler, scissors, stickers, tote bags, playdough, chalk, jump rope, small toys, and crafts.

OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT INFO

Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
CLOSED FOR LUNCH EVERY FRIDAY, 12:00 - 1:30 PM

300 N Roan Street
Johnson City, TN 37601

phone: 423-926-7121

email: hello@cbcjc.org

website: cbcjc.org

PASTORS

Dr. Tommy Hood, Senior Pastor
Tony Martin, Worship Pastor
Gene Elliott, Congregational Care, Outreach, & Senior Adult Pastor
Dr. Michael Davis, Administration & Education Pastor
Brandon Salyer, Student & College Pastor
Helen Kern, Preschool & Kids Pastor

ON CALL ASSISTANCE

If you have an emergence on the weekend or after hours during the week, call the church number 423-926-7121 and select 8 to contact the on-call pastor.

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