



THE HAPPENINGS

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, JC

Investing In relationships with God, one another, and the world

OCTOBER 2022

FROM YOUR PASTOR

One of the five purposes for which Central Baptist Church exists is to worship God. In case you don't know, the other four are evangelism, discipleship, ministry/missions, and fellowship. You can find all five embedded in the concrete outside the main entrance to the church. But worship is my topic *du jour*.

What is worship? Our word "worship" comes from the Old English "worth + ship". It is to ascribe worth or value to the object of worship, and hence to offer love and devotion to that object. In the Christian context, it means to love, revere, and respect God as supremely worthy; to center our mind's attention and heart's affection upon him; to experience his presence and enter into communion with him; and to respond to his grace by giving him glory, honor, and sacrifice. In his best-selling book *The Purpose Driven Church*, Rick Warren defines worship more simply: "Worship is expressing our love to God for who he is, what he's said, and what he's doing" (p. 240).

In Matthew 4:10 Jesus resists the devil's temptations by quoting from the Old Testament: "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only'" (NIV). Warren points out that worship comes before service; for that and other reasons, worshiping God is the church's first purpose. Even when we couldn't *meet* together during the pandemic, we still did our best to *worship* together virtually. As all churches should, we put a priority on worship.

Is worship a priority for *you*? Do you recognize God's worth and value, and hold sacred the worship hour each week to gather with Christ's church to express your love and devotion to God? Great! That not only reflects your obedience to the command Jesus quoted above, it also demonstrates that your love for God is genuine. It even reveals your awareness that, while worship isn't about you, worshiping God is still good for *you* as the worshiper. That's a big part of why God wants us to come together to worship him: it's good for us! God never commands us to do anything that isn't good for us!

In a day and age where too many church-goers think worship *is* about them and what they want, we should remind ourselves that worship is about God, the object of our worship. He is worthy of our time, talent, and treasure. He is worthy of our sacrifices, worthy of our *worship*. And he seeks those who will worship him in spirit and truth (John 4:23). Whether we worship in a magnificent stone cathedral or a grass hut; whether we sing psalms, hymns, spiritual songs, or all of the above; whether the sermon soars or sinks; if we worship him from our hearts in spirit and truth, God will be pleased and God will be praised.

I look forward to joining you in worship this coming Lord's Day!

Yours in Christ's Service,

SAVE THE DATE!!
FAMILY WORSHIP & SERVICE DAY
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022

9:00 AM Sunday School
 10:30 AM Family Worship
 11:45 AM Box Lunch & Fellowship
 4:00-6:00 PM Trunk or Treat

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 & Children's Pastor

ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATION

As we near the end of 2022, much of my attention is on developing our 2023 Ministry Plan (Annual Budget). This Ministry Plan is more than a target for funding; it is the heartbeat of a church’s vision and passion. The old saying, “Put your money where your mouth is,” might be better stated, “Put your money where your heart is.” For every dollar given through the general offerings of CBC, \$.1237 goes to our mission strategies. Therefore, for every dollar we do not receive towards the Ministry Plan, we lose the opportunity to send that \$.1237 to missions. The Ministry Plan also provides daily, weekly, monthly, and annual ministry here in Johnson City and worldwide.

With the 2023 Ministry Plan in view, we cannot lose sight of the current Ministry Plan (Budget). You might note that we are currently behind in our giving. I do not know your situation personally, but would you consider helping us “catch up” so we might see the completion of the mission vision of CBC for 2022? Please pray with me about this.

I encourage you to take advantage of a new Discipleship Group that begins Wednesday, October 5th @ 6 PM in Room A105. I will be leading a discussion on *What is the Mission of the Church?: Making Sense of Social Justice, Shalom, and the Great Commission*. This book by Kevin DeYoung reminds us of what we are to be about as believers. I do hope that you will join me! The books are at no cost. What a bargain!

Carry On!



FOCUS ON WORSHIP

PRAY for your staff, the Long-Range Planning Team, your worship planners and leaders, and our congregation as we adjust to new schedules and design in our worship services.

Blessings!



CBC Orchestra and Friends Concert



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 4:00 PM
CBC SANCTUARY

Come for this FREE concert featuring lots of great music and support our wonderful church musicians!

Coming in December: **The Gift** church Christmas pageant featuring:
The Science Hill High School Chorus, CBC Orchestra and Choir,
The Gathering Praise Band, & Highest Praise



Friday, December 9 at 7:00 PM
Saturday December 10 at 7:00 PM
Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 PM

WE NEED YOUR HELP !!
Monday, December 5 to build the “tree” and fluff the greenery
Tuesday, December 6 to decorate and light the “tree”
Monday, December 12 to take down the “tree”

Please sign up with Tony at 423-232-2374 or Christina at 423-232-2385.
It’s going to be a wonderful program and unlike anything we’ve ever done. Don’t miss it!

CBC OFFICE HOURS & INFORMATION

Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

CLOSED FOR LUNCH EVERY FRIDAY
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

423-926-7121 cbcjc.org



ON CALL ASSISTANCE

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

CONGREGATIONAL CARE, OUTREACH, & SENIOR ADULTS

COMPASSIONARIES: UNLEASH THE POWER OF SERVING gives us a wonderful springboard for the fall to launch (VIM-Volunteers In Ministry & 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 423-323-2364 to volunteer or if you have questions.

VOLUNTEERS ON MISSION OPPORTUNITIES: SIGN UP NOW!

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.

Peace By Piece Quilt Show, September 30 & October 1 - Fundraiser for the Ukraine

BUC Lunch at ETSU BCM, October 6 & November 10 - Contact Brandon Salyer at 423-232-2365 to volunteer.

Current Missions Group, October 20, 2:30 PM in the Missions Center

Guatemala Backpack Project, October 22 - Join a team filling backpacks with schools supplies for children in Guatemala.

Trunk or Treat, October 30 - Decorate your trunk, serve food, donate candy, help setup & tear down, or meet and greet those in our community.

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.



Shine On,

CURRENT MISSIONS

Thursday, October 20
2:30 PM
Missions Center

Join us as we pack Sunshine Boxes for our CBC Military Men & Women. Monetary Donations are accepted and can be mailed in, dropped by the church office, or online at cbcjc.org. Please indicate Sunshine Boxes or WMU on the memo line.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRIES

FOOD COLLECTION

October - Sweet Potatoes

Collection Bin is located in the Catering Kitchen.

CHARLIE CRAWFORD

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

Second Sunday
3:00 PM
Room A-101

PARISH NURSE UPDATE

Do you know your blood pressure? Do you know what it is and what is normal? Abnormal blood pressure readings can affect our overall health. Blood pressure can be too high, too low, or somewhere in between. It can change with age, medications, position, and other health conditions. Blood pressure is the amount of force your blood uses to get through your arteries. When your heart pumps, it uses force to push oxygen-rich blood out to your arteries and then they bring the blood to your body's cells and tissues. If your blood pressure is abnormal; it can cause health issues. The only way to know your blood pressure is to measure it.

Your blood pressure reading has two measurements:

Systolic Blood Pressure (the top/first number): This is the pressure in your arteries when your heart is beating and sending blood into your arteries.

Diastolic Blood Pressure (the bottom/second number): This is the pressure in your arteries when your heart is at rest between heartbeats.

Some causes of high blood pressure can be stress, dehydration, and medical conditions. Have your blood pressure checked regularly. Recognize the problem. Give yourself a break and seek help. Turn to God in prayer and meditate on the Word of God. Spend time in thanksgiving and praise.

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

STUDENT NEWS

Central Family,

The Apostle John wrote in his 3rd letter that *“nothing brings me more joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth”* and I am so thankful for a ministry that is bursting at the seams with students who are committed to walking in the truth of Jesus’ commands! They serve with their whole heart as the hands and feet of their savior so often it is a routine part of our ministry! I am thankful for a church body that spurs these students on through prayer, donations to our weekly Wednesday night meals, and giving of their own time and resources to watch these students grow in their walk! Looking forward to an incredible season of ministry with students and families this fall!



— *Brandon*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Autumn is probably my favorite time of the year – there’s just something about the crisp air and the vibrant colors, especially in our area! However, more often than not, the season is fleeting. The weather turns cold much too quickly, and the leaves turn dull as trees become dormant in preparation for winter. In truth, so much of our life of faith includes the same changes we see in God’s creation. Change is all around us, and often when we embrace change, we see God move in ways that were previously unimaginable. If you haven’t yet had a chance to take a walk down our Kids’ Hallway, I would love to invite you to join us (especially by volunteering on a Sunday morning) or come by and ask for a tour one day! I would LOVE to show you our progress and future plans!



Since October is the month with all the autumn festivities, I would be remiss if I did not mention our upcoming Trunk or Treat on October 30. This annual event is a highlight for our church family, and has become a staple in our community here in Johnson City. While I haven’t attended CBC’s Trunk or Treat before, I hear that thousands of people are likely to attend, so we will need everyone’s help to make this event a success! Please look for information to volunteer as a trunk, greeter, food service volunteer, and more. We’ll also need plenty of candy donations, so if you’re at the store, we’d appreciate it if you pick up an extra bag for us!

Of course, we’re always in need of additional volunteers in our Kids Ministry! From helping with preschoolers during Sunday School and worship to teaching 4th and 5th graders in Sunday School, there’s a place for everyone to support the next generation. Volunteering is a great way to live out our mission as we invest in relationships with God, one another, and the world!

— *Helen Kern*



From the Missions Committee

Thanks to your generosity through regular giving, you have allowed the Missions Committee to send a donation of \$5,000 to Holston Habitat for Humanity for the upcoming Women Build on East Myrtle. Ladies, we need you for this Women’s Building—either as an individual or as a group (Sunday school class, Bible study group, friends and family). Sign up online today at www.holstonhabitat.org/womenbuild;

the cost is \$25 per participant. Build dates are Oct. 12-15, Oct. 19-22, Oct. 26-29, and Nov. 2-5. If you cannot help with building, you can still volunteer by providing meals for 15-20 participants during construction. Contact Mandy Penz to sign up for a meal and/or questions at volunteer@holstonhabitat.org or 423-239-7689, ext 801.



PACK THE CHEER SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 8:00 AM

With the cancellation of Central Baptist’s mission to Guatemala in 2022 due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we have pivoted our mission efforts to provide **Christmas Cheer Packs to Clubhouse Guatemala** for distribution to children at Christmas. Given the impacts of the Coronavirus on an already marginalized people, this is a way that we can continue to minister to the lives and hearts of these families and children. Our goal is to provide 1000 packs stuffed with school supplies, personal hygiene supplies, games, toys, evangelism tracts and a New Testament.

If you would like to bring some love to these children, please consider:

- Donating \$15 per Christmas Cheer Pack to the Guatemala Fund at Central Baptist Church. Your donation can be mailed in, dropped off by the church office, or you may give on-line at cbcjc.org.
- Join us at Central Baptist to “Pack the Cheer”. **SIGN UP TODAY** in the Welcome Corridor or by calling Kirsten at 423-926-7121.