



THE HAPPENINGS

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, JOHNSON CITY, TN

INVESTING IN RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD, ONE ANOTHER, AND THE WORLD.

MAY 2022

FROM YOUR PASTOR

What does it mean to be “lost” in the spiritual sense? In his excellent book *Renovation of the Heart*, Dallas Willard points out that a great deal of confusion on the subject of lostness has resulted from the fact that we think of being lost primarily in terms of its outcome. That is, those who are lost wind up in hell, a place where no one would want to go. But, he says, “the condition of lostness is not the same as the outcome to which it leads. We’re not lost because we are going to wind up in the wrong place. We are going to wind up in the wrong place because we are lost.”

To be lost, then, is to be out of place, and spiritual lostness is being out of place with respect to God and his purpose for your life. To be lost to God is to be useless, as when we lose the keys to our house or car. No matter how much we may need or want our keys, and no matter how good those keys may be, if they are lost they are useless to us. As Willard says, “when we are lost to God, we are not where we are supposed to be in his world and hence are not caught up into his life.” Hell becomes the “cosmic dump for the irretrievably useless.”

Being lost to God is also being lost to ourselves, because we don’t know where we are, where we’re going, or how to get there. I once heard of a man whose tombstone read, “He left this world not knowing why he had entered it.” Such a life inevitably results in self-obsession, and self-obsession takes a person farther and farther from God until he becomes the kind of person for whom “away-from-God” is the only place for which he is suited. Over time, the lost person’s will eventually loses the necessary flexibility required to be able to turn back to God in repentance, and he comes to the place where he cannot “want God” any longer. And so, as Willard concludes, “*the ultimately lost person is the person who cannot want God.*” Multitudes of such people pass out of this life and into eternity every day.

What a horrible circumstance! And sadly, most of those who are lost do not know it, because it is inherently a condition of self-blindness. But God has revealed himself to us in his word, in his actions, and most explicitly in his Son. And like the prophet Isaiah, when we catch a glimpse of God, we also discover our lostness (Isa. 6:1-5). If we respond with repentance and faith, by God’s grace we are saved from our lost condition and are restored to usefulness in God’s kingdom. Then we can truly say, “I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.”

Yours in Christ's service,

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

Aaron Seneker, Media & Gathering Worship Director

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





The congregation and staff of Central Baptist Church wish to congratulate Tony Martin in his 25 years of service as the Minister of Music and Worship here at CBC. Tony began his ministry here, with his wife Michael, in April 1997. God has richly blessed the work of his hands through not only the Worship Ministry, but in many other areas! Thank you Tony for sharing these past 25 years with us. May God give you many more years of creative service here at Central.

ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATION

Although it may not feel like it, summer is coming, quickly! That means we tend to alter our activity schedule some. Summer is a great time to try new things and enjoy new experiences. Summer 2022 will be no different here at CBC.

As we did last summer, we will host Sunday Night Small Group(s) in homes. This is an opportunity to study the Bible together and enjoy some close fellowship with people we may not otherwise get to know. This summer we will use Barnabas Piper's study of *Ecclesiastes: Finding Meaning in a World of Passing Pursuits*. We will begin on Sunday, June 5th @ 6 PM.

During July our church will experience 31 Days to a Better Sunday School. This is a daily opportunity to learn what makes a Sunday school healthy and effective. It is my hope that every member of CBC will pick up a copy of this booklet and use it daily. I have sought to compile proven and tested principles and best practices used by "the best" Sunday schools I have known. I think you will find it an interesting read.

We will culminate July with our Annual Sunday School Worker Training on Sunday, July 31 from Noon-2 PM. This will be a luncheon for all Sunday school workers followed by some specific equipping.

One last thing for Summer! We will be having Adult Groups on Wednesday evenings during June and July. Topics and leaders will be announced soon. This means that we will also have meals on selected Wednesday evenings, those when our students and children's ministries hold activities on campus. I think you will like what we have planned.

Carry on!

STUDENT & COLLEGE MINISTRY

Hello Church!

I wanted to share with you all of the incredible things that are happening in our student ministry this summer! We have quite the jam packed schedule and I know it will all be meaningful, no matter how silly an ice cream and kickball party seems on the surface. Every opportunity to make connections with and between students is something worth doing as it draws us closer to the kind of fellowship Jesus calls us to live our lives in! I am looking forward to an incredible summer of service, of fellowship, of laughter, and of worship. I hope you will join us as you are able or maybe you'll pass this calendar along to a neighbor with students in the house, or to a friend you know, and we will get to know even more students this summer! Thank you church for an incredible (almost) first year of Ministry. I can't wait to see what God does through us this summer!

— Brandon

**2022
CBC STUDENT
SUMMER CALENDAR**

June

- 1** | Kickball & Ice Cream, 6 PM
- 8-12** | Summer Camp
- 15** | Family Night & Camp Photos, 6 PM
- 20-23** | In The City 4 The City
- 25** | Day Quest at Doe River, 9:30 AM
- 29** | Paradise Acres, 4 PM

July

- 6** | Play It Again Arcade, 6 PM
- 13** | Progressive Dinner, 6 PM
- 20** | Food Games, 6 PM
- 22** | Phillip night, 6 PM
- 27** | Bob Ross Night, 6 PM
- 30** | Carowinds, 6 AM

MONDAY MUNCHIES (12 PM)
6/6, 6/13, 6/20, 6/27, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25

CBC
1941

FOCUS ON WORSHIP

In April, our **JOY Choir and Senior Adult Ministry** led Easter worship services, complete with communion, at four local senior living facilities. We led worship at Townview, Everlan, Abundant Christian Assisted Living and Governor’s Bend. The group sang beautifully, Dr. Hood and Rev. David Hottel presented great messages, and Gene Elliott and Tammy Hammitt welcomed and served communion. We have not done this for three years, so it was really wonderful to be back with folks in our community! We have such a fine group—they truly spread the love of the Lord and JOY everywhere they went.

Our **JOY and Inter-generational Choir Tour** to Williamsburg and Jamestown, VA is coming up June 27-29, 2022. We have 30 signed up so far and we can take more. It is really going to be a fun and meaningful trip! Moms, dads and kids; grandparents and grandkids; anyone interested—call Tony for details.

Jesus’ Jinglers, our student bell team, went on tour April 22-23 to Dandridge, Maryville, Sweetwater and Lenoir City, TN. They rang for several senior centers and fellowshiped with the residents afterwards. On April 24, they wrapped up their tour by ringing many of their pieces in the Sanctuary worship services. I am very proud of this group for their commitment and hard work. Ringers and leaders: Alexis and Maki Bayard, Erin and William Carder, Sofia Collins, Andrew Cunningham, Steve and Garrett Humphrey, Sophia Swink, and Tony Martin.



Blessings!



Then Sings My Soul



A FREE Worship Concert
with
Mary McDonald
Sunday, May 1, 5:00 PM
First Baptist Church
211 N. Main St., Greenville, TN

Featuring the combined choirs of
Central Baptist, Johnson City
First Baptist, Greenville
First Baptist, Kingsport
Trinity Baptist, Jonesborough

Also featuring Central Baptist Orchestra

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 4
FELLOWSHIP HALL
5:30 PM

End of Year Family Picnic
Wednesday, May 18
Rotary Park
5:00 PM



MILAVOX presents...

Four Pianos in Praise

Four grands. Sixteen hands. Infinite delight!

May 14, 2022, 3 & 7 p.m.
ETSU Martin Center for the Arts

to benefit
Isaiah117
Caring for children awaiting foster placement

Tickets: www.milavox.org

CONGREGATIONAL CARE, OUTREACH, & SENIOR ADULTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Thanks for your care ministry through Sunday School group connections with emails, texts and notes. Praying for one another develops a strong congregational care church. Contact me, gelliott@cbcjc.org or 423-232-2364, with care concerns or prayer updates.

Shine On,


GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRIES FOOD COLLECTION

May - Beans (Any Type)
Collection Bin is located in
the Catering Kitchen.

CHARLIE CRAWFORD DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

SUNDAY, MAY 15
4 PM / ROOM A-101

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY MEAL

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other members and families in the church. You can sign up by Connection Card, calling the church office (423-926-7121), or on the church website at cbcjc.org (SELECT EVENTS & GATHERINGS at the top of the page; then SELECT WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL; from there you can see the upcoming menus, make your reservation, & pay online if you wish). Reservation deadline is Monday by 4 PM. We also have prayer time and sign care notecards. See you on Wednesday!



CURRENT MISSIONS

THIRD THURSDAY
2:30 PM

MISSIONS
CENTER

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.

PARISH NURSE UPDATE

It is hard to believe that this time last year, we were dealing with limited social contact, masking, COVID, and quarantines. What a difference a year makes. We are still taking steps to be healthy and safe, but now it is time to take personal responsibility.

One of the best ways to protect yourself from illness and health problems is to use good handwashing techniques. Wash your hands with soap, water, and friction for at least 15 seconds. This should be done frequently and always before handling food or touching objects in the outside environment. Masks are not required, but are encouraged if you are in a vulnerable population with chronic illness or advanced age.

We can choose to honor God by also choosing to take care of our bodies. In 1 Corinthians 10:31 (ESV) it says, "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." So, by choosing to honor God and follow His teachings, we choose to follow a healthy lifestyle: we choose to eat in a healthy manner, we choose to practice self-control, we choose to exercise, and we choose to take care of our bodies. In other words, there are multiple ways we can choose to honor God. What are you choosing today?

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