



The Spire

September 2019



Pastor's Page

Ways to Make a Difference

I believe we discover our purpose as we go. As opportunities arise, as we become aware of needs, as our consciences become pricked by issues that need to be addressed, and we feel that sense of calling that tells us we are here to make a difference. This is the fruit of a healthy spiritual life, nurtured by regular spiritual practices of prayer, meditation, common worship and intentional gratitude. The natural rhythm is, as some have put it, "journey inward, journey outward." Personal spiritual practices bear fruit in public engagement. There are so many ways this can happen, and our congregation has been engaged in so many ways over the years; we are practicing what we believe. There are some groups that are now meeting at our church, and some elsewhere that I would like to highlight. Some of these have been meeting for a long time, some have been started by Rev. Sonna, our part time Community Ministries pastor. Consider whether you may feel called to get involved and help make a difference.

Citizen's Climate Lobby

Purpose: CCL empowers everyday people to work together on climate change solutions. Together we're building support in Congress for a national bipartisan solution to climate change.

Schedule: 1st Mondays of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Session room here at Central Pres.

P.A.C.E. Police and Community Engagement

Purpose: PACE is the place where we talk through in real time, the tough issues and incidents that are facing our society. We believe that moving forward starts with our conversations. One of our goals is to learn how to listen to different perspectives and be aware of our own biases.

Schedule: 1st Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. in the Session room here at Central Pres.

Bridges of the River Valley

Purpose: Creating opportunities to engage in healthy political discourse across cultural, social and party lines. Building bridges so that we can create a better community that offers opportunities for all people.

Schedule: 3rd Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. in the Session room here at Central Pres.

Interfaith Fellowship

Purpose: We promote the common good through positive interactions among diverse faith traditions.

Schedule: 1st Sundays 3:00 p.m. in the Literacy Council, 300 S. 11th St. 11th & B.

Second Sunday Suppers at Salvation Army

Purpose: to provide a homemade nutritious balanced meal to food-insecure people in our area.

Schedule: 2nd Sundays, 3:00 — 5:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army.

Sack Lunch Program

Purpose: To provide nutritious food to the poorest of the poor in our community, "fighting hunger one sack lunch at a time".

Pastor's Page continued:

Schedule: Breakfast is served Monday through Friday, 8:30--9:00am and lunch is served Monday through Saturday, 11:30am--12:00pm, from the Secrest Building, 123 N 6th St.

Merry Muffin Makers for the Sack Lunch Program

Purpose: To make delicious homemade muffins for the Sack Lunch program, and to laugh a lot in the process.

Schedule: 1st Thursdays 8:30 a.m. — 12:30, or whatever time you can spare. Meets in the kitchen here at Central Presbyterian.

There are many other ways to be involved as well, including the Knitting Club, the Book Club, the ministries of the Presbyterian Women, the Deacons, as well as excellent classes to attend and events like Third Thursdays and Wine Tastings periodically. Collectively, we are making a significant difference in the River Valley!

Blessings,
Pastor Steven

Congratulations to Pat Schmidt!

At the third annual Civil Air Patrol Fun at the Fort event on Tuesday afternoon August 6th, U.S. Rep. Steve Womack (R-Rogers) spoke at the event and presented the Gill Robb Wilson Award to **Major Patricia Schmidt**. The award is the Civil Air Patrol's highest award for senior member professional development. The Civil Air Patrol is the Auxiliary of the United States Air Force. Its mission includes aerospace education, emergency services and cadet program. There are 58,000 members nationwide. They perform 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue, a news release states. We are proud of you and thank you for your service Pat!



Mark Your Calendars!

Oktoberfest will once again be held at Janie Glover's place on Friday, October 25th. Mark your calendars and look for more information to be forthcoming.



Central's Meal Share

Remember: if a meal is needed for a church member, contact Andrea Beckman at 479-452-4698 or by email at a.beckman@sbcglobal.net. If you are unable to reach Andrea, you can call Pat at the church office.



The Care Cart makes its journey down our aisle each week during the offertory. The Care Cart is where we place our NON-Perishable Grocery offerings. Please no bread or other products which mold or require refrigeration. These items are given to the Clearinghouse Food Pantry when the storage bin is full.

September 2019

Money Counters for September

Janie Glover and Marilyn Simpson

Liturgist for September

Linda Riley

Care Cart for the Month of September

Barbara Clark, Peggie Sabbs

What's Happening at Central?

Another slow, hot and humid month in the life of the church but we do have events to celebrate. We just learned that Pastor Sonna has been approved to attend a four day assessment program at Columbia Seminary in Georgia in November. This is part of her training to become a 1001 New Worshipping Communities leader. Pastor Steven will also be attending but he will not be assessed. The Presbytery of AR will be paying the expenses.

CSA (Community School of the Arts) has moved in and will begin classes in August. They have really cleaned up the area, waxing floors, cleaning and painting walls. The space allows them to expand their program of providing high-quality instruction in music, theatre, dance, and visual art.

Seekers (Monday Morning Bible Study) will be resuming after Labor Day with video series called ProFuture Faith. The Enneagram groups have resumed meeting and other program and activities suspended for the summer are gearing up.

The Session voted to grant Blake Bulger and Sydney Oliver scholarships of \$3000 for this school year. The amount of the scholarship will be determined by the Session annually depending on the growth of the fund. Only the income can be spent. Blake and Sydney made a 4.0 and a 3.5 GPA, respectively. We are very proud of our young adults.

The Kathya Covenant Group will be placing an information display in the hallway leading to the After Worship Fellowship the first Sunday of each month to keep the congregation aware of her situation and offer a chance to make donations. The auction of the CDC contents will be held September 10th in and around the CDC building. The proceeds will be placed into her fund for monthly distributions. We are currently sending her \$200 per month. \$100 comes from the Needy Fund and has been approved by the Session for a period until October 2022 (three additional years and \$100 comes from The Kathya Davilia Fund).

The New Vision Home is very busy. In July, 108 children entered the home, either coming into the Foster Care Program or attending family meetings and other functions. The house is in need of trash bags, paper towels, and toilet paper. Any help would be appreciated. Place your items in the box outside of the Sanctuary.

Financially, we are on course with the pledges but we still have huge repairs that have to be addressed. It is part of the function of the Future of the Church Committee at this time to gather those costs and determine how we can meet the needs of the church spiritually, physically and financially.

Blessings – David Whitt, Clerk of Session

Focus on Kathya

Since the Kathya Support Group first talked to the congregation about Kathya Davilia, her life has become even more difficult. First of all, Kathya's husband has left her and their sons and is getting a divorce. Kathya and her sons were devastated. Kathya has often suffered health difficulties. At this time she is facing surgery to remove a large non-malignant growth from her breast. Both of these incidents affect Kathya in different ways, but the financial affect is large. Our support group intends to do a better job of keeping the congregation informed of Kathya's changing condition. We also intend to make it easier for the congregation to make on going contributions to help Kathya and her sons. From now on, there will be updates in the Spire about this family and a member of our group will be collecting offerings every first Sunday of the month after Worship. Please consider caring for Kathya with your prayers and your contributions.

Suzanne Bethell

<u>Mercy</u>					
Day of Week	Week of 9/1	Week of 9/8	Week of 9/15	Week of 9/22	Week of 9/29
Monday	Debbie Gordon	Mike McClure	Gale Beckman	Gary Simpson	Cissy Rose
Tuesday	Clifford Lyon	John Hale	Sandy Barron	Charles Cook	Galen Hunter
Wednesday	Linda Riley	Debbie Gordon	Mile McClure	Gale Beckman	Gary Simpson
Thursday	David Harp	Clifford Lyon	John Hale	Sandy Barron	Charles Cook
Friday	Cissy Rose	Linda Riley	Debbie Gordon	Mike McClure	Gale Beckman

<u>Baptist Health</u>					
Day of Week	Week of 9/1	Week of 9/8	Week of 9/15	Week of 9/22	Week of 9/29
Monday	Galen Hunter	David Harp	Clifford Lyon	John Hale	Sandy Barron
Tuesday	Gary Simpson	Cissy Rose	Linda Riley	Debbie Gordon	Mike McClure
Wednesday	Charles Cook	Galen Hunter	David Harp	Clifford Lyon	John Hale
Thursday	Gale Beckman	Gary Simpson	Cissy Rose	Linda Riley	Debbie Gordon
Friday	Sandy Barron	Charles Cook	Galen Hunter	David Harp	Clifford Lyon

Listing of Staff and Church Leaders 2019-2020:

Session Members:

David Whitt (Clerk of Session)
Cissy Rose
Mike McClure
Gale Beckman
John Hale
Debbie Gordon
Clifford Lyon
Linda Riley
David Harp
Galen Hunter
Gary Simpson
Charles Cook
Sandy Barron

Trustees:

Ken Cowan
Jackie Franklin
Renda Cook
Chris McRae

Treasurer:

Clifford Lyon

Deacon Members:

Roberta Elliott - Moderator
Theresa Hardgrave
Jo Hardy
Sandy Mackenzie
Larry Hall
Kathryn Rice
Alda Rae Epperson
Dave Kotarek
Chris Hlavin
Martin Hyatt
Janis McClure
Renda Cook

Church Staff:

Pastor - Rev. Steven Kurtz
Pastor - Rev. Soniyah B. Key
Music Director- Sheila Mann
Organist- Barbara Jetton
Financial Sec.- Cheryl Sykes
Custodian- Elvia Reyna
Secretary- Pat Kent

Greetings Central Prez Family,

I just wanted to take a little time to thank you.....For your hospitality, For your warm welcome, For your support, For your faithfulness, For your generosity, For your kind words, For your presence, and your prayers. Special Shout out to Steven for his friendship and leadership.....and thank you most importantly for being you- a church full of bold and courageous people.

Rev. Sonna B. Key

Deacon's Corner

Fall is almost here, and with that comes a flurry of activity from the Central Presbyterian Deacons. As the change of seasons approaches you can look forward to the annual Deacons picnic. The October picnic always promises great cookout food, fun games as well as activities for children. In November the Deacons will be collecting names of our college students in order to send caloric encouragement to get them through semester finals. November also will find Deacons planning and hosting the annual Thanksgiving day worship service and potluck luncheon for any of us who may otherwise spend the day alone. December brings holiday poinsettias for the sanctuary and special visits and gifts to our shut-ins. As we look forward to the change of seasons, look for an increase in the activities of your Deacon!

Janis McClure



Care Committee

Every 3rd Tuesday of the month, a group of caring individuals meet at Williamsburg Kitchen at 12:00. Over lunch, we discuss visiting the shut-ins of our church. We team up and then go to visit those who aren't able to come to church. Please join this important mission of our church. We hope to see you on September 17th.



September Birthdays

Sally Tabor	9/02
Stephanie Oliver	9/03
Suzanne Spain	9/05
Kevin Smith	9/09
Kay Olson	9/12
Len Warden III	9/12
Charlotte Olienyk	9/14
Gayle Mason	9/14
Alexander Barham	9/29

Coffee Host for the Month of September

9/01 - Team 5, Franklin
9/08 - Team 6, Gordon
9/15 - Team 7, Flexible
9/22 - Team 8, Whitt
9/29 - Team 1, Rose



Flower List for September

9/01 - Sonja Jeon
9/08 - Jean & Floyd Pence
9/15 - Chun S. Choi
9/22 - Stanhope Wilkinson
9/29 - Christy Reneau

September Greeters:

Gene & Theresa Hardgrave
Floyd Pence

Contacting Church Staff

Office Hours 9 am-3 pm (Monday - Friday)

Office Phone Number, (479) 783-8966 Website: <https://www.centralfortsmith.org>

Rev. Steven Kurtz, Pastor, (479) 755-7008, stevendkurtz@gmail.com

Rev. Young Doo Kim, Korean Congregation Pastor, (318) 751-2260, youngdook@msn.com

Rev. Soniyyah B. Key, Community Ministries Pastor, (479) 561-4701, sblue33@gmail.com

Cheryl Sykes, Financial Secretary, financials@centralfortsmith.org

Pat Kent, Church Secretary, office@centralfortsmith.org

September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Back Pack Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Worship Committee-P 12:30 PM Korean Worship Service	2 Labor Day-Office closed 	3 10:30 AM PW General Meeting-P 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 7:00 PM Venturing Crew-Classroom	4 4:00 PM Korean Worship Service 5:45 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	5 8:30 AM Merry Muffin Makers-FH/Kit. 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 6:30 PM PACE 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Meeting -Classroom	6	7
8 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Building and Grounds Meeting 12:30 PM Korean Worship Service 3:00 PM 2nd Sunday Supper	9 9:30 AM Monday Morning Seekers-SR 6:00 PM Boy Scouts -FH	10 10:00 AM Hannah Circle-Lib. 5:30 PM Esther Circle-Lib. 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 7:00 PM Venturing Crew-Classroom	11 4:00 PM Korean Worship Service 5:45 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	12 1:00 PM Retired Teachers - FH 5:30 PM Enneagram Fellowship - Lib. 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Meeting -Classroom	13	14 11:00 am Memorial service for Doug McRae here at church.
15 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM CE Committee Meeting-P 12:30 PM Korean Worship Service	16 9:30 AM Monday Morning Seekers-SR 10:45 AM Book Club-Lib. 6:00 PM Boy Scouts -FH	17 12:00 PM Care Committee Meeting -WBK 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 6:00 PM Session Meeting-SR 7:00 PM Venturing Crew-Classroom	18 4:00 PM Korean Worship Service 5:30 PM Bridges 5:45 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	19 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 6:00 PM Third Thursdays-FH 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Meeting -Classroom	20	21
22 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:00 PM Outreach Committee-P 12:30 PM Korean Worship Service	23 9:30 AM Monday Morning Seekers-SR 6:00 PM Boy Scouts -FH	24 12:30 PM Knitting Group-Lib. 6:00 PM Deacon's Meeting-SR 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 7:00 PM Venturing Crew-Classroom	25 4:00 PM Korean Worship Service 5:45 PM Handbell Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice	26 5:30 PM Enneagram Fellowship - Lib. 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Meeting -Classroom	27	28
29 Loose Change Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM Korean Worship Service	30 9:30 AM Monday Morning Seekers-SR 6:00 PM Boy Scouts -FH	1 10:30 AM PW General Meeting-P 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 7:00 PM Venturing Crew-Classroom	2 4:00 PM Korean Worship Service 7:00 PM Choir Practice	3 8:30 AM Merry Muffin Makers-FH/Kit. 6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous Meeting-P 6:30 PM PACE 7:00 PM Nar-Anon Meeting -Classroom	4	5