

The Chimes

Vol. LXIX-USPS=097-160 | December 2, 2015 | No. 23

Sunday in Worship

December 6, 2015

Second Sunday of Advent

Scripture: *Luke 1:26-38*

8:30 a.m.

Rev. David Shirey,
preaching

Donna Isaacs, elder

11 a.m.

The McDaniel Memorial
Choral Presentation:
"Magnificat" (Johnie Dean)

Rev. David Shirey and
Dr. Sherri Phelps,
leading worship
Dave Nisbet and
Sara Moon, elders

Connect:

Sunday services are broadcast live at 11 a.m. on WWTF-1580 AM and streamed on iHeart Radio. You may also listen to the sermon on our website at centralchristianlex.org. Look for us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CentralChristianLex.info>

Advent is upon us. Christmas is three weeks away. Opportunities for worship, study, fellowship, and service abound in this holy season.

A few weeks back, Pastor Elizabeth, Michael Rintamaa, and I met on three different occasions to plan for Advent and Christmas Eve. We're pleased to offer two services on Christmas Eve, one at 5 p.m. and one at 11 p.m., each with its own feel and content. We hope you'll make plans to be present for one of them.

5 p.m. "Come As You Are" Christmas Pageant (note: new time)

Children, youth, and adults will gather in the sanctuary. Families are encouraged to sit together. The service, led by Pastor Elizabeth, a lay leader, and me will begin with the congregational singing of "O Come, All Ye Faithful." We'll then hear the Christmas story from Luke 2 interspersed with congregational singing of carols corresponding to the

verses of scripture.

After the carols have been sung and the Christmas story read, all the children present for the service will be invited by Elizabeth and me to come to the chancel steps and take their places around the manger that will be placed in front of the communion table. Parents will be welcome to come and stand with young children. *Children are invited to come to the service outfitted as whatever character of the nativity scene they desire.* Shepherds, angels, Marys (yes, plural), Josephs, as well as animals ("the cattle are lowing/ the baby awakes", sheep) will stand in designated places on the chancel steps, grouped together according to their character, flanking the manger. We will also have large baskets near the entrances to the sanctuary with dress-up items for children who do not come in costume. With our gathered live nativity before us, we will

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From David Shirey, continued from page one
sing all the verses of "The First Noel"
together.

After the singing of the hymn, we will
segue to the sharing of communion.
Worshippers will be invited to come forward to
the Chancel Steps to receive the bread and
cup and will return to pews with a candle.

The service will close with the lighting of
the candles and singing of "Silent Night."

11 p.m. Service of Lessons and Carols

Our 11 p.m. service, modeled after the
long-standing Festival of Lessons and Carols
from Kings College, Cambridge, will include
readings from Isaiah, Micah, Luke, Matthew,
and John by readers spanning the genera-
tions of Central Christian and interspersed
with the congregational singing of carols. I
will offer a brief Christmas Eve meditation
followed by the invitation to communion,
which will take place by our coming forward
to the chancel steps. Candlelight and the
singing of "Silent Night" will close the service
on a note of peaceful reverence.

Both services include music played on
harp by Sally Kelton and soloists singing "O
Holy Night" (Amanda Balltrip at 5,
Katherine Hay at 11).

Elizabeth, Michael, and I enjoyed the
pleasure of rethinking Central's Christmas
Eve Services. We look forward to sharing in
one of them with you and yours.

Until then, a blessed Advent to you.

David A. Shirey

Our Sympathy

We express our sympathy as a congregation
to:

Bill Hellard and Jeff Hogue in the death
of Bill's uncle, Arthur "A.B." Hellard.

Family and friends of Central member
Marilyn Ranseen in her recent death.

Ann Robinson and family in the death of
her husband, George Dale Robinson.

Jeff and Rosemary Minnick in the death
of Jeff's father, Charles Walker Minnick.

Child Care Center Collects for God's Pantry

Families at the Central Christian Child
Care Center have conducted a food drive for
God's Pantry. They brought the food
Monday, November 23 -- 2 car loads. Our
God's Pantry Coordinator, Ann Thompson,
has finished the calculations, and the Child
Care Center families collected 539 containers
of food for a total of 483.10125 pounds.
WOW!

This extraordinary effort was led by
Central members Sarah Meehan and Ashley
Orr. They, and the Child Care staff, children
and parents, have been so generous with
their blessings for our low income friends
and have shown us what it means to be in
ministry.

Please remember to bring your God's
Pantry donations to church and leave them
in the blue barrel in Fellowship Hall.

A Change Is Gonna Come

ADVENT 2015

McDANIEL MEMORIAL CHORAL PRESENTATION: 12/6 at 11 a.m.

Magnificat, music by Johnie Dean

Chancel Choir & professional orchestra

SUNDAY SERMON SERIES: 8:30 & 11 a.m.

A Change Is Gonna Come

12/13 *In the Jordan*

12/20 *In Bethlehem*

12/27 *In this Child*

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK PRAYER: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16 at 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

Making Room for Change: Resting in Scripture

lectio divina (guided meditation on Advent Scriptures)

with Lisa Maas, Certified Spiritual Director

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Salvation Army Angel Tree & Mitten Tree for James Lane Allen School 11/22 - 12/6

Special Christmas Offering 12/6 - 12/20

Alternative Giving Fair & Disciples Women Bake Sale 12/13

Christmas Caroling 12/13 at 3:30 p.m.

LONGEST NIGHT: 12/20 at 5 p.m.

A service of Remembrance and Healing

CHRISTMAS EVE: 12/24

Family Service at 5 p.m. (note new time)

Candlelight Service at 11 p.m.

New Members

We are pleased to introduce new members of our congregation.

Lindsey Burke and Spencer

Mancillas united themselves in membership with Central Christian Church on November 1. The couple met in Cincinnati while they were classmates in law school. They had a whirlwind romance and married in June 2014. Since then, they graduated law school, moved to Lexington, passed the Kentucky bar, and are now buying their first home. Spencer works for Maxwell Street Legal Clinic, educating workers about wage theft and workers' rights. Lindsey is the new Executive Director of Sunflower Kids, a non-profit that provides a safe place for families impacted by interpersonal violence to meet for shared custody visits. The couple is excited to be a part of Central's Justice Ministry.

Tim and Stephanie Bischoff have lived in Lexington for more than 17 years, and are both Louisville natives and graduates of Western Kentucky University. Tim works at KET in communications and marketing. Stephanie works as a teacher's aide at Fayette Cooperating Preschool and as a freelance copyeditor. They have been married since 2002 and have three children: Isaac (10), Carter (8), and Lily (4).

If you have not met Lindsey, Spencer, Tim, and Stephanie yet, please introduce yourself and welcome them.

Congratulations

To **Summer Smith and Patrick Smith** who were married, October 31, at the Bell House.

To **Meagan Moulden and Ricky Obst** who were married at Central, November 7, with Dr. Ray Holdren and Rev. Keith Wilson co-officiating.

To **Jessica Laswell & Jared Burdine** on the birth of their daughter, Amelia Grace, on October 24.

To **Leona Brown and Burley Burns** who were married at Central, November 28, with Dr. Ray Holdren officiating.

To **Demethra Sanders** on her new job as Payroll Coordinator for a Lexington business.

The following gifts have been given to Central Christian Church:

In memory of

Shawn White

(for God's Pantry ministry)

by

Beth White

In memory of

Ann Wilson

(for the Building Fund)

by

Charles Coyle

Dan & Betsy Stewart

(for the Parish Nurse Ministry)

by

Jewell Sloan

Holiday Giving

As is our custom at Central Christian, during the upcoming holiday season there will be various opportunities to express gratitude for our many blessings by giving to those in need:

- * **Angel Tree** began November 22 and will continue through December 6. This is our second year participating with the Salvation Army in the Angel Tree program. Last year Central provided gifts for 65 children who might otherwise have had none.



- * **Hats, socks and mittens** will be received for the children at James Lane Allen Elementary School. The “mitten tree” is in the Welcome Area. The faculty and staff, as well as the students, always appreciate Central’s generosity at the holiday season.

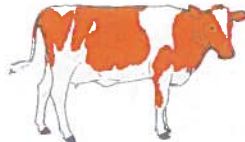


- * **Christmas Offering** December 6, 13, and 20. As we approach Christmas, many of us are able to share our blessings in the form of gifts. Central Christian Church takes up a Christmas Offering, which is particularly special because it serves the state of Kentucky. Of the donations collected, 40% will go to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky, while 60% will be given directly to the Christian Care Community located here in Lexington. Your gift will touch the lives of many people in many different circumstances. This is truly a gift that makes a difference.

- * **Alternative Giving Fair / PeaceCraft & Disciples Women Bake Sale**— December 13.

The Alternative Giving Fair will be held Sunday, December 13, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This traditional event at Central supports valuable ministries in the local and global community. You may give a gift of financial support in honor of someone you love.

- Adult Day Center (Christian Care Communities)
- Building a United Interfaith Lexington through Direct-Action (BUILD)
- Central Christian Child Care Center
- Central Music Academy
- Disciples Women Bake Sale
- Fair Trade Products
- St. James Place (Foundation For Affordable Housing)
- Heifer International
- Mission Behind Bars and Beyond
- Moveable Feast
- Room in the Inn
- PeaceCraft



Members of our Chancel Choir will entertain us with holiday songs.

Please plan to attend and be a generous gift-giver.

Central Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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Christmas Caroling

O Little Town of Bethlehem,

Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, Jingle Bells, Silent Night...

If you long to sing the carols of Christmas, join us, young and old, for an all-church Christmas caroling event Sunday, December 13. We will meet at the church at 3:30 p.m. for fellowship and hot chocolate, and disperse in groups throughout Lexington to carol for some of our members and their neighbors. RSVP to Rev. Elizabeth at (859) 233-1551 or elizabeth.n.king@gmail.com.

Elders Offer Prayer and Anointing with Oil on December 13

The Elders and Rev. Elizabeth King will once again be offering prayers for healing and anointing with oil after both services on Sunday, December 13.

The October 25 worship service and sermon focused on the church's healing ministry. In response to James' words, "Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them... anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord" (*James 5:14*), Pastor Elizabeth and the elders offered prayer at the chancel steps following the Benediction during the Postlude. Due to the very favorable response of the numerous persons who came forward following both services, the elders are pleased to offer this ministry again. Persons coming forward can be specific or general in their requests for prayer for themselves or loved ones and will receive prayer and the anointing with oil of the sign of the cross on their forehead.