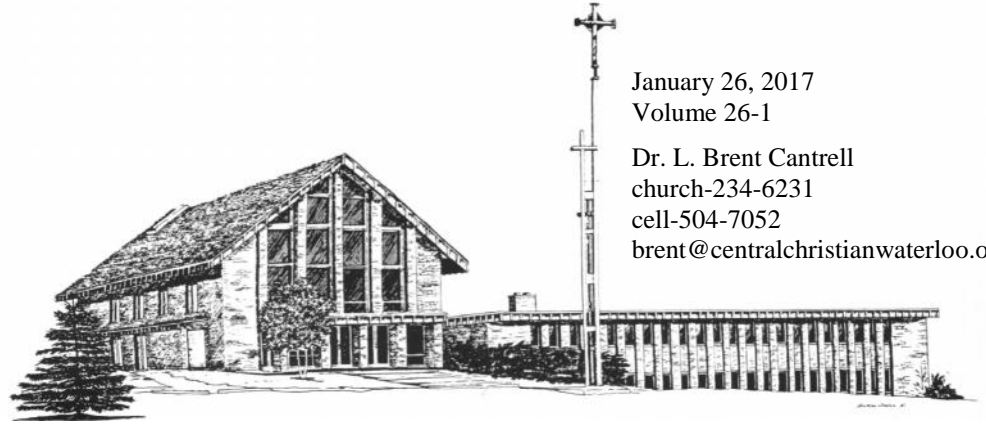




# The CONNECTOR

January 26, 2017  
Volume 26-1

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Connecting friends and family of Central Christian Church with each other, the community, and beyond.

## From the Pastor

Time seems to fly. Seems like we were just celebrating Christmas and now we are a week away from Super Bowl Sunday. That means Lent is right around the corner. Lent this year begins on March 1st. It is called Ash Wednesday. We will have our Ash Wednesday worship service at 6:00 p.m. that evening.

What is Lent? It is a period of 40 days (excluding Sundays) between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. You count backwards from Easter by these 40 days to determine the date of Ash Wednesday. It is a period of renewal and contemplation of Jesus' life, teachings, death and resurrection.

That means this year Palm Sunday is April 9th, Maundy Thursday is on April 13th and Easter is on April 16th. A special feature of this year's Easter Worship Service will be a Cantata by our Ministry of Music Ensembles.

Time flies. Mark your calendars and plan to attend these worship services.

## YOUTH and FOOD BANK

The second Sunday of each month is Children's Message time. In January, as part of the youth's leadership and participation, after the message they pass canisters through the congregation to collect loose change for the Food Bank. Over \$40.00 was collected. This will be an ongoing activity. Be sure to check the thermometer in the Narthex. Thanks to Kristi Butikofer for facilitating and Bob Mayfield for the thermometer.

The February Sunday donation will be given to the Souper Bowl of Caring which will be given to the Food Bank. This program was started by a youth group in 1990 and is now worldwide and the Food Bank is a participant.

## Building God's Kingdom

Want another way to help add to our Building Fund? For all present and future Amazon.com users go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). Then select "Central Christian Church Waterloo" as your charity. You will then go to your regular screen and can place your order as you usually do. The item(s) you buy will have to have "Eligible for Smile.Amazon" on the item description screen.

Every quarter Central Christian Church will receive a check from Amazon for .05% of all online purchases. You can check to see how much your purchases have added to Central's account. This is on-going, not just for a select time. Invite your family and friends to use this also. Anyone and everyone is welcome to help us out by going to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com).

Your BGK Task force is looking at various ways to increase our Building Fund balance. We want to try projects that will reach beyond just our own members. If you have any ideas for such programs, let Wendy or Sharon know.

# SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY!!

February 5, 2017

~ back by popular demand! ~

Homemade soups will be prepared for your winter eating enjoyment! Keep a couple of quarts in your freezer for an easy, quick meal. Think about selling to family and friends, too.

Soup of your choice ~~~ One Quart: \$6.00

**Place Your Order Now!**

**Vegetable Beef:** \_\_\_\_\_ **qts.**      **Ham & Bean:** \_\_\_\_\_ **qts.**  
**Chicken/Noodle:** \_\_\_\_\_ **qts.**      **Chili:** \_\_\_\_\_ **qts.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

I will pick up my soup order: Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (between 11:00-12:00)  
Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

Please deliver to my home on Saturday: \_\_\_\_\_

Address for Delivery: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place your orders by completing this form. Place it in the morning offering, leave it in the church office, or call the church office at 234-6231, no later than **Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**~~ all proceeds will help reduce the debt on our remodeling! ~~**

## In Sympathy

We extend our sympathies to the family of Donna Romine (husband Roger) who recently died.

We express our sincere sympathy to Corrinne Brody in the loss of her husband, Joe.

May God's comforting presence be with the Romine and Brody families during their time of grief and loss.

## \$Dollars & Sense\$

Here are the numbers for December. General Fund Income was \$14,365. Total income was \$16,152.93. Expenses were \$17,603.65. We were in the red for the month for \$1,450.72. Yes, quarterly insurance payments were due and that always tips the scale toward red. For the year, actually six months of the Fiscal Year, we have used 44% of the Budgeted monies. Of all money taken in, the figure is \$103,746.65. Total expenses taken out of that figure are \$88,573.80. The Building Fund had an exceptionally good month. We are still expecting rebates from the various lighting projects. We're on the path of being in the black in January.

As always, we are thankful for that which we receive and pray we use it to the good of God's Kingdom.

Toots Weston, Treasurer

## Thank You

Dear Central Christian Church,  
Thank you so much for your constant support! Not only do you support the mission year round with activity, gifts in kind, and financial support, you have blessed us with additional support in the expansion of House of Hope. We appreciate your prayers and support more than you know!

Thank you for being a part of the House of Hope and the mission to break the cycle of homelessness among women and children in the Cedar Valley. Because of you, lives are changed and futures are filled with possibilities and opportunities!

Sincerely,  
Karin Rowe, Director

## Prayer Concerns

Please pray for.....

Margaret Olds	Mike Deters
Alice Baker	Sue Geisler
Linda Sharp	Corrinne Brody
Chet Fredin	Jeanne Yeager
L. Brent Cantrell	Buzz Blake
Gary Longhorn	Ann Hewitt
Darrel Baker	Jim Brody
Ron Ewoldsen	Norma Brody
Glen Casteel	Maxine Weichers
Mary Canfield	Tammy Newcomb
Reva Fredin	Shannon
Helen Miller	Bev Donels
Ledger Dalton	Gloria Kammeyer
Ann Kirk	Brad Neessen
Rachel Kahn	Mark Sawyer
Jaxton Engstrom	Jan Sawyer
Ramona Adolfs	Benjamin Wellborn
Zeke Bessire	Becky
Dale & Bobbie Buhl	
All military personnel	

## In Sympathy

We extend our sympathies to the family of Jane Criswell, the daughter-in-law of Chet Fredin, who died recently. May they feel God's comfort from the Central Christian Church family of faith.

# CALLING ALL 'CHICKEN PICKERS!

**Saturday, February 4th**

**8:30 a.m. (or whenever!)**

**Our Soup-er-Bowl 2017 soup sale is in progress.  
Now it is time to Cook/Pick Chicken and Cook Noodles  
For the much in demand Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup!**

**COME JOIN IN THE FUN AT THE NOODLE PARTY (zoo!)  
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL ON SATURDAY 2/4/17.**

**No experience necessary—on the job training available!**

**Bring a friend, neighbor, or family member.**

P.S. Our goal is to make plenty—about 150 quarts so we can fill the orders we have plus extra for those who forgot to order.

## **... AND REMEMBER**

**\*\*Take soup orders from family, friends, and neighbors\*\***

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## **Your Giving is important to us Bazaar Storage Room. . .**

A reminder from your Financial Secretaries regarding your giving envelope/check. Please record on the envelope or check how you wish to have your monies distributed. An example: Your check is for \$110. You wish \$50 to go to the General Fund. \$50 to BGK and \$10 for Food bank. Your envelope or check notation line should record this information. We endeavor to record all giving correctly. Thank you for assisting us in this effort.

Julianne and Vicki  
Financial Secretaries

Thanks to all who stayed to help take the decorations down on January 8th! The Bazaar storage room is now all organized; you can see the floor, walls and ceiling.

We are asking that when you bring items to put in that room, please leave them on the tables that you see as you walk in the door. Please mark what they are intended for. We have committed to keeping that room organized—with your help.

And next year we will also get to decorate the new Gathering Space!

## **Vendor - Craft - Bake Sale April 8th - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Central Christian Church\\**

## **CHURCH CAMP**

It may seem early but it is time to be thinking about Summer Church Camp. You can already find out about Church Camp by going to this website

[www.uppermidwestcc.org/camps—youth](http://www.uppermidwestcc.org/camps—youth)

It is a good thing to go ahead and sign up to secure your spaces. Camp fills up quickly.

Remember the church pays 1/2 of the Registration fees.

An exciting event is being planned for April 8th. A Vendor Sale (with crafts as well!). Here is some initial information. Tables will be \$25 per vendor. We already have a few people interested and are working on a bunch more. So, if you know anyone, please let me know.

We will be advertising on the radio and possibly in the newspaper. We will for sure put something on Facebook! It will list all of the vendors and what they sell along with information on the show.

We are considering having a raffle. If you know of anyone who would be willing to donate, please contact Rachel Crow or Ashley Reynolds.

## Building God's Kingdom Construction Update Report

Already Sunday Fellowship, funeral gatherings, meetings have used our Gathering Space although we haven't officially taken ownership. It seems so spacious and gives us flexibility in function.

We will make decisions slowly in furnishing this space; we want what we buy to support the uses as we experience them. We appreciate the offers we have already received of items, but we do want this space to have a unified, inviting atmosphere; so we are saying, "No" to any offers. If you have suggestions as to what you think we need to provide for, please pass them on to one of the task force members.

We want to again remind you why the costs have increased since we voted on the plan. In excavating for the Gathering Space they had to remove and replace the soil under there because what was in place was not stable enough. The restrooms by the Gathering Space had to be adjusted because of existing plumbing and electrical lines. Steel, which is the framework of our building, increased in cost 40% from January to June. Masonry also cost more, and we did make some changes in the exterior to offset some of that increase. The original elevator company did not honor its bid which was somewhat lower. And the Waterloo Fire Marshall required a building fire alarm system at a cost of almost \$30,000.

We are working on fundraisers so that we can meet those monthly loan payments. Super Bowl Sunday soup orders for February 4th are now being taken. Ordering through Smile.Amazon.com is being promoted (see front page article). With the consent of Dave and Nan Kane, who head the Bazaar and Summer Fest, the Ministry Council approved that the proceeds from 2017 Summer Fest and Bazaar, minus the 10% Outreach, go to the Building Fund. We want to support these events by helping them to be bigger and better.

The elevator installation has begun. It will take about a month to build from the inside ground up. The room that was the old nursery has been turned into a classroom for kids on Wednesday evening; Wiggly Worship is in the next room; and, of course, the Nursery has already been moved into the corner room. Stop in the Bazaar Storage room across the hall to see it newly organized. The next classroom is for Wednesday evening's older youth group; the previous Challenger classroom is still set up for meetings. The Library furniture has been rearranged and decisions about its furnishings will be addressed.

We are so excited to be so close to the end of a dream, but realize there is much work ahead before hitting the goal of no indebtedness. Thank you to all who are committed to Building God's Kingdom at this time and in this space.

Wendy Brudevold and Sharon Gatewood, Co-Chairs.

## Building Fund Financial updates...

Our first-of-the-month bills from TurnKey are getting smaller. December's bill was \$102,480 and January's was \$51,897. The total TurnKey has billed us as of December 31, 2016 was \$502,443.

We are so appreciative of the continued honoring of pledges and the extra giving that we saw in December. We are carrying a balance in our Building Fund account. But, we reached our \$190,000 line of credit limit in December and are in the process of extending that so that we can continue to pay TurnKey bills. After we have the final walk-through and accept the building remodeling construction, we will then come to the congregation for approval for the loan we will be negotiating with Farmers State Bank.

The BGK Task Force is trying to anticipate having to make monthly loan payments by putting in place some fundraising projects now. The Souper Bowl Sunday soup sales are continuing until February 4th. Please place your orders for those warm, tasty winter suppers.

We also have registered Central Christian Church for the Amazon Smile program. Amazon will pay to the church .5% monthly on any orders anyone places through Smile.Amazon.com (See the front page article for details). This is an ongoing program, so invite your friends and families to order this way, too.

Ministry Council and the leaders of the 2017 Summer Fest and Bazaar have agreed to designate the profits from these events, minus the 10% Outreach money, to the Building Fund. The responsibility of you as members is to get invested in making these annual events bigger and better. Put your thinking caps on for ideas to increase income for these two projects.

Wendy Brudevold and Sharon Gatewood, Co-Chairs.

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## Operation Christmas child

This year, in addition to individuals filling boxes in October and November of 2016, we are collecting items throughout the 2017 year. We will be asking each month for a different themed item so that our FROG youth can pack boxes at the beginning of November (something they all enjoyed doing in 2016).

January—hats, mittens and scarves

February—accessories: watches, necklaces, bracelets, sunglasses and hair accessories are a few that come to mind.

We will gladly accept any items for the shoeboxes at any time during the year. For 2017 the boxes can no longer contain candy or toothpaste.

Thank you for your continued support of this outreach program.

## Followers

The Elders have set developing leadership at Central as a major project for this year. In his sermons Brent is urging us to listen to God's counseling for how each of us can respond.

William H. Danforth (1870-1956), founder of the Ralston Purina Company, wrote in 1931 in his book I Dare You that physical, mental and social sides of life are important, but unless the *Spiritual* side is developed, it dies, and all the other sides suffer.

Following are some statements from this book regarding spiritual development:

- Hidden down in every person is some of the divine. This is the spark I am daring you to turn into a blaze—the spirit that naturally makes you do the right thing at the right time.
- Know of no other side of life that will so widen your whole horizon. If this side is not developed, it dies, and the other three sides of life suffer.
- Real religion requires real courage
- Make an adventure out of religion
- If you consider religion something to be put up with, it becomes drudgery
- But if you consider religion an opportunity to grow, then unseen things of life take on new significant
- Religious growth requires action, the actual doing of right things. We advance only by doing
- Say your prayers tonight, but unless tomorrow you can act on them, they are not worth much.

As Pastor shared, Jesus wants us to be **Followers** (doers) not Fans.

Sharon Longhorn, Elder Chair

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## Risk-taking Outreach

Central Christian Church is committed to reaching beyond our building. In November we filled 62 boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We gave \$228 to our Disciples Thanksgiving Offering. In December we collected \$170 for the Disciples Christmas offering. Thanks to Brent Thomas for highlighting those offerings throughout the year.

Plus we filled a Mitten Tree for Lou Henry Elementary students. We remembered those working on Christmas Eve with plates of goodies when we "Took it to the Streets" after our service. (The Upper Midwest Region has asked Central to set up a table at its All Congregational Gathering Saturday, August 26th at the Conference Center to promote projects like this.)

Each month we give percentages to Salvation Army, Northeast Iowa Food Bank, and Love, Inc. as well as our Disciples Mission Fund that supports the denomination's work.

And we support the causes within our building through our Thanksgiving dinner (\$1100) and extra contributions to the Building Fund in December. Kristi Butikofer has the children collecting loose change for the NE IA Food Bank on the second Sunday of each month.

God is good to us and we are giving back. Thank you  
Sharon Gatewood, Risk-taking Outreach

## THANK YOU

Thank you Central Christian Church family. Thank you for your thoughtfulness, condolences and support in my loss of Joe. God bless you all.

Corrine Brody

## CONDOLENCES

We send our prayers and sympathy to Kim Cantrell and family in the death of Kim's brother, Dick Smith, last weekend and on the death of Kim's brother-in-law, Kent Stirm, also last weekend..


**FEBRUARY 2017**


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1  5:45 pm F.R.O.G. Pad	2 10:15 am Worship Review 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	3	4
5 9:30 am Worship Hospitality Hour Soup-er Bowl Sunday FOOD BANK SUNDAY	6	7  7:00 pm Elders Mtg.	8  5:45 pm F.R.O.G. Pad	9 10:15 am Worship Review 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	10	11
12  9:30 am Worship Hospitality Hour	13  6:30 pm DOEs Mtg.  Meals on Wheels Delivery	14 7:00 pm Facilities & Finance Mtg.   HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	15  5:45 pm F.R.O.G. Pad	16 10:15 am Worship Review 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18
19  9:30 am Worship Hospitality Hour Ministry Council Meeting	20  Meals on Wheels Delivery	21	22  5:45 pm F.R.O.G. Pad	23 10:15 am Worship Review 6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	24	25  8:00 am Men's Bible Study
26  9:30 am Worship Hospitality Hour	27  6:30 pm DOEs Mtg.  Noon - Connector Articles Due	28	 <i>February</i>			

## CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"Disciples of Christ"  
3475 Kimball Avenue  
Waterloo, IA 50702  
(319) 234-6231

## Touching Others For Christ

### SERVING IN FEBRUARY

#### COMMUNION FILL & WASH

5 Sue Geisler  
12 Sue Geisler  
19 Justin Thomas  
26 Justin Thomas

#### DOOR GREETERS

Upper: Barb Moeller  
Lower: The Thomas family

#### ELDERS SERVING

5 Elda Watson  
12 Mike Deters  
19 Sharon Longhorn  
26 Gary Eliason

#### 2nd VISITING ELDER

Robin Thomas  
Linda Sharp  
Jerry Thordsen  
Elda Watson

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 Russell Watson	12 Karen Tansey
2 Charlotte Parks	14 Molly Frederickson
3 Christie Sapp	16 Victoria Kollmann
3 William Cleope	18 Brett Gregory
4 Jadya Wagner	19 Gary Longhorn
4 Mailee Uhlenhake	20 Norma Wyatt
5 Dallas Hoppe	20 Ashley Reynolds
5 Skylar James	21 Ralph Hocken
6 Raeven Forney	22 Sheila Garwood
8 Sarah Williamson	24 Rowan Miller
10 Annette Ehlers	24 Tyree Newcomb
11 Rosalie Tisue	25 Adam Arnold
11 Odin Helmke	25 Rose Marie Wood
11 Pam Barker	26 Clemie Marken

### FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

10 David & Nicole Derifield  
14 Adam & Ashley Arnold  
14 Kevin & Shelley Rose  
16 Randy & Victoria Kollmann

