

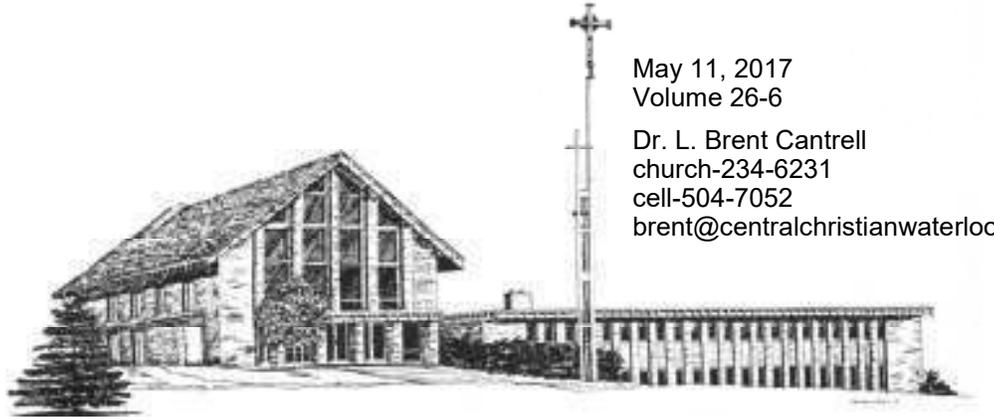


**Central
Christian
Church**
(Disciples of Christ)

The CONNECTOR

May 11, 2017
Volume 26-6

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

From the Pastor

e·van·ge·lism

ə'vanjə,lizəm/

noun -- the spreading of the Christian gospel by personal witness.

I am looking for about six to eight people who would join me in building an evangelistic program for Central Christian Church. We would work on special events, programs and incentives to help our church grow. Evangelism is at the heart of the work of the church. Please consider volunteering to help with this special undertaking. We would meet about once a month for an hour at a time. So I am not asking for a big commitment of your time, but people enthusiastic about church growth through Central Christian Church. Email me at brent@centralchristianwaterloo.org if you would be interested in helping out. Thanks in advance.

Thanks,
Pastor Brent



Count Your Blessings—Consecration Sunday, June 4th

“Count Your Blessings” is the theme of this year’s General Operating Budget Stewardship Campaign. We have many blessings at Central Christian Church: A Nursery Ministry, Wiggly Worship, FROG PAD, Alleluia Choir, Handbell Choir, Relay for Life, Operation Christmas Child, Feed My Starving Children, Taking It To The Streets, The Annual Bazaar, The Summer Festival, the Church Staff, the lay leaders of our congregation, the Ministry Council, DOE’s, Men’s Bible Study, Adult Bible Study and

the list goes on and on. These happen because we work together as a church to make them happen. These happen because we give money to the General Operating Budget. If we did not give these ministries and many others could not happen.

It takes a lot of money to run the church. Insurance payments and electric bills and building upkeep and the list goes on. We need to step up with generous pledges so we can reach our financial goals.

On Consecration Sunday, June 4th plan to turn in your pledge card (or do it before by returning it to the church office). You’ll receive your pledge card in a letter coming out next week. Give. Give generously. Increase your giving. Work toward a Tithe. And above all else “Count Your Blessings” for the ministries of our congregation.

The Stewardship Committee



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

This year, in addition to individuals filling boxes in October and November, 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). For the month of May the suggestion is...

Hygiene Items: washcloths, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, deodorant, soap,

A child from Russia said, "I absolutely loved the washcloth. As an orphan I had to share a towel with about 20 kids. So when I got the washcloth I actually thought it was my own personal towel."

Thank you for your continued support of this outreach program.



Prayer Concerns Please pray for.....

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

Summer Festival 2017—July 15

Spring cleaning: It's that time of year! As we prepare for summer, now is the time to donate furniture, household items, shoes, purses, clothing and especially children's items, toys books clothes, etc. Once preschool is done for the summer we will have extra room besides the garage. Please prayerfully consider what you can do to make this festival a success.

If you have questions call Nan, 610-7517 or Diane, 504-4923.

God Bless,
Nan Kane and Diane Forney

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study will meet Saturday, May 20 at 8:00 am instead of the previous published May 27. This change was made because of Memorial weekend.

All men are invited and encouraged to attend!

Thanks

I thank you all so much for the beautiful flowers, cards, emails, and other expressions of love and support I received during Administrative Professionals Week.

Your support means a lot to me. The church and my work here has been a blessing to me every day of the almost 29 years I have been here.

Thank you and may God bless you all as He has blessed me.

Lani Yates

Thank You

On behalf of the board, staff and volunteers of the Northeast Iowa Food Bank, I would like to thank you for your recent contribution of \$161.75 to the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. Our mission is to provide nutritious food and grocery products to non profit organizations and individuals in Northeast Iowa, while offering hunger education programs to the community and those in need. Your donation helps our neighbors and friends. One in six residents in our 16-county service area seeks assistance from a Food Bank agency each year.

Because of you, we have been able to meet a growing need throughout Northeast Iowa.

With Sincere Appreciation,
Barbara Prather, Executive Director

Thank You

Friends,

Your kind-hearted gift of \$49.85 has arrived Thank you! I am deeply grateful for your faithful, generous support for The Salvation Army.

Because of you, broken lives are restored. People who are facing hunger..homelessness...abuse... receive compassionate help here. No one needs to face life's problems alone.

On behalf of The Salvation Army and those we serve in our community, thank you for your generous support.

Major Harold Poff
Corps Officer

\$Dollars & Sense\$

The figures are in for the month of April. Total income was \$20,321.87. Total expenses were \$17,356.67. There was no red on the Financial Report. Palm Sunday, Easter, and Youth Sunday were in April. So attendance was up and so was offering.

We have used 77% of the monies budgeted for the year. There are two months to go in the fiscal year. I think we will finish a little under budget.

The General Fund, which is what you contribute, was \$17,135. This would certainly be a goal for every month. At this point we could pay off our Special Funds and still be a little in the black. This too should be a goal for every month. We have had activity on our Investment accounts.

Several projects are being done and have been completed and paid for out of the Memorial Fund, and the Capital Improvement Fund. A new computer network was paid for with Memorial money and Capital Improvement funded repairing several pews, recovering several and cleaning all of them.

Also there are a couple old construction problems that are being updated with Capital Improvement money. Thanks to Mike Papenthien for handling these projects.

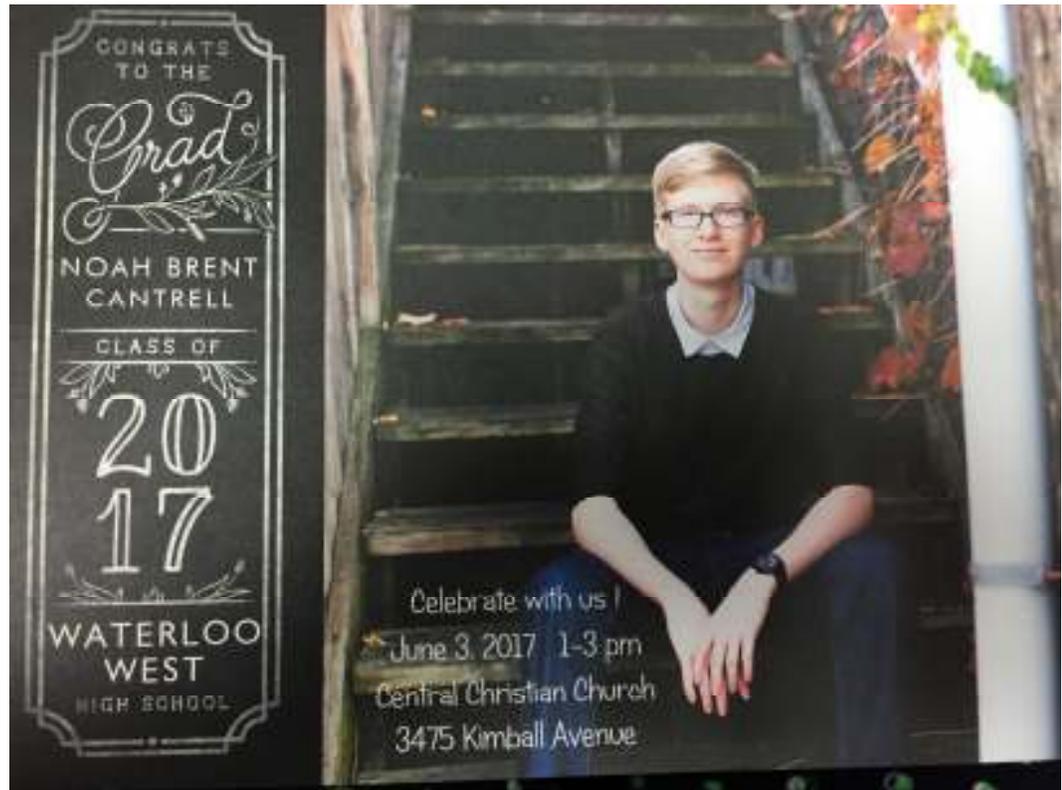
As always, we are thankful for that which we receive and pray we use it to the good of God's Kingdom.

Toots Weston, Treasurer

Graduation Open House

You are invited to help the Cantrell family celebrate Noah's graduation from West High School. Congratulations, Noah!!

June 3, 2017
1:00-3:00 pm
Central Christian Church
3475 Kimball Ave.



Craft Supplies Available

For many years we gathered on most Monday evenings to create and produce items for sale in the Bazaar Christmas room. With the death of our dear friend and chief crafter, Alice Baker, that era has come to an end. The materials we accumulated over the years have been moved from the Baker house to the church. They are being temporarily stored in the room next to the Bazaar/Tree Room near the end of the upper hallway until they can be dispersed.

We would invite anyone interested in craft materials to look and take those things that might be useful to them. We would love it if some of the materials would be used for making items for sale in the Christmas room, but we also will be happy if they can be taken and used for any purpose.

As much as possible the goods have been sorted and labeled, some in the metal cabinet in the room and the rest on and under the tables. Hopefully, this will enable the finding of actual items needed, or bring to mind something that could be made from the stuff! You are welcome to come and check it out whenever convenient. Bring bags and fill them.

We are also putting out the plea for help in making the Christmas room as successful as it was under Alice's watch. Help us do it right – for her.

Thank you.
Wendy Brudevold, Karen Hanson, Linda Lambert, and DiAnn Zager

Regional Newsletter Article The Cain Perspective

By Bill Spangler-Dunning, Regional Minister

Sometimes the world can threaten to steal our hope and optimism through its constant pessimism and talk about how things are always getting worse. The human spirit is so vulnerable to skepticism that over time these voices start coming from inside our own hearts and souls. But Jesus spent much of his earthly life pointing to a different perspective on how to see the world around us. He did this mostly through stories of people outside the normal view of others; Samaritans, Women at the wells, Gentiles, and even my favorite children.

Recently, a young boy named Cain helped challenge my perspective for the better. In my attempt to nudge people to try sitting in a different pew, I sat in Cain's pew one Sunday. He and his family therefore had to sit one pew back. Sometimes I think that my small efforts just are not making much of a difference. Cain asked his mother a few weeks later "Where is Mr. Bill? He should be in worship because Jesus is important!" I was off attending another church that Sunday but what it taught me is perhaps that simple act helped change both of our perspectives. Either way I now have a new friend!

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

"Disciples of Christ"
3475 Kimball Avenue
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Touching Others For Christ

EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN MAY

Sunday, May 14, 2017

9:30 am Worship—Mothers Day Special Service
Hospitality Hour

Monday, May 15, 2017

Meals on Wheels Delivery

Thursday, May 18, 2017

10:15 am Worship Review
6:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, May 20, 2017

8:00 am Men's Bible Study

Sunday, May 21, 2017

9:30 am Worship
Hospitality Hour
Ministry Council Mtg.
Bazaar Chair Mtg.



Monday, May 22, 2017

Noon Connector Articles Due
6:00 pm DOEs Group Social

Sunday, May 28, 2017

9:30 am Worship—Memorial Sunday
Hospitality Hour

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

Small World Graduation and
Last Day until Fall

