



Central Connection

January 18, 2012

Dear Friends,

As I write this our nation is concluding its annual recognition of the contributions Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. made to our understanding of race relations in the United States. In many ways I count Dr. King as one of my heroes, especially a hero of the faith. He was a man who looked to his Lord and Savior for inspiration in starting a people on a journey out of humiliation and oppression by speaking truth to power and calling all of God's children to live together in harmony and peace. His short life was a testimony to the ability of grace and mercy to trump evil and injustice and continues to serve as inspiration for new generations of Americans who do not think it odd or inappropriate for people of all racial and ethnic backgrounds to sit at table and break bread together.

We have made great strides, as a people, in the nearly forty-four years since his assassination towards achieving the dream he proclaimed from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in August of 1963, but we still have a long way to go. Having reread the text of his speech I am struck by how contemporary it still is. Although Jim Crow as an official government policy is a topic for the history books, we as a people have still not fulfilled our potential as a light to all the nations, a model of what could be for the world when all of God's children put aside categories and definitions which divide and subjugate. We as a people still let fear and prejudice condition our daily lives as we hold on to misguided lessons of the past.

However I do believe the day is coming closer when the dream that Dr. King's "four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character," will come to fruition. As I talk with Andy and Wyn, I am struck by the way they talk about their friends and classmates. I hear them speak about the other children with whom they spend their days in the same moderate tones that I use when speaking about the children of my childhood. The difference being that I grew up in a homogeneous environment whereas they live in a more diverse world. When I hear Wyn make a statement like "he has brown skin," I know that he is just report fact not making a judgment. In some small way I believe he is becoming the realization of Dr. King's dream.

When Dr. King said, "...we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!'" I do not believe he was talking about a day when we would no longer see differences, rather they would not matter. On that day we will see red, yellow, black, and white as signs of God's wonderfully creative diversity, something to be valued not disparaged. On that day we will see many hues of brown and tan in box of crayons, know that they are all named "Flesh", and are things to be treasured.

I believe we are getting there. When I began thinking about the statistical report that we will soon be submitting to the General Assembly I was somewhat dismayed. We have to report the ethnic diversity of our congregation and I was fearful that our report would reflect a reality about the Church in America first exposed by Dr. King, that Sunday is the most segregated time in our society. Then I realized we have African American members, Chinese American members, and Native American members in addition to our European American members. My trepidation was not founded on my inability to see our diversity but rather my inability to use that as how I define the individuals in our community. In my eyes and I hope yours our members are not valued for the tone of their skin, the accents of their voices, or their places of origin but their willingness to proclaim God's love for humanity by loving as they have first been loved. In that way maybe justice is beginning to roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. In that way maybe the dream is being realized and every valley is being exalted, every hill and mountain being made low, the rough places are being made plain, the crooked places are being made straight, the glory of the Lord is being revealed, and all flesh is seeing it together.

Grace and peace,

Brian

Thanks

Thank you to Ann Chronister and Lee & Elizabeth Hopkins for helping fold the *Central Connection* this month.

Thank you so much for your recent donation of \$275 to our camp. This will go a long way in helping to send one of our local children to camp this summer. God Bless! – *Debbie Young, Royal Family Kids Camp Director*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

JoAnn Hutchinson 01/25
Janice Coulter 01/27
Trey Smith 01/28

Madie Westbrook 02/01
Paulette Binkley 02/04

Prayer Concerns List

A special prayer that you'll be blessed with tender care and needed rest, warm thoughts of friends that mean so much and most of all, God's healing touch.

Christian Sympathy: Munn Family, Death of Patsy Howell's 48 year old nephew

Madie & Jim Westbrook
Rexann Oller
Jane Boudra
Jim Robbins

Dorothy Trigg
Paula Reid
Todd Wetzal
Donna Przybys

Milton Howell
Jean Robbins
Jean Oates

Jackie Weir (Carol Wilkins)
Mona Berry (Lissa Teal)
Beth Gray (Schutts)
Suzanne Gatewood (Carol Wilkins)
Kay Dodson (Douthits)
Sally Jones (Douthits)
Janice Reid (Reids)
Dawnisa York (Kris Griffin)
Tyler Robbins (Robbins' Grandson)
Lisa Nufer (Kris Griffin's Sister)
Susan Ward (Ken Coker)
James Stevens (Susan Wetzal's Father)
Michelle (Donna Przybys)
Janet Werner (Mary Sue Johnson)

Gladys Scott (Cheryl Coffman)
Virginia Hays (Connie Schutt)
Susie Onasch (Bill & Sharon Eaton)
Winn Corpes (George & Paula Reid)
Delores Bryan (Ann Shields)
Jane Casto (Susan Wetzal's Mother)
Doug Walton (George & Paula Reid)
Jane Sentelle (Brian Brock's Aunt)
Carrie Scheffers & Daughter (Reids)
Patsy Kimzey (Roy & Beth Monroe)
Lorene Evans (George & Paula Reid)
Patricia Nix (Jim Clark)
David McDaniel & Family (Jim Clark)

All military personnel including: Charles Smith (Afghanistan), Will Porter, Riley Whittenburg, Timothy Dann, Callie Latimer, David Gordon, Brandon Gortemiller, Stephanie Williams, Will Holland, Mark Hendron, Jay Jackson, Dustin Clark, Joshua Johnson, Andrew Bellocchio, Adam Fuller, and Jacob Randle.

Go Green

Go green in the new year with food. 1. Go vegetarian one day a week. The livestock industry is a huge greenhouse gas emitter. 2. Eat organic – it may not be nutritionally superior, but it's a lot better for the planet. 3. Refuse to buy foods that are unnecessarily packaged, such as fruits and vegetables. 4. Annoyed by excessive food packaging? Tell your grocer or the manufacturer. Fire off an email or write a formal letter expressing your concerns. 5. Grow your own fruits, veggies, and herbs. See more at <http://planetgreen.discovery.com>.



Central Welcomes Visitors



January 8: Jim Clark, Will & Brook Cooper, Leigh Ann & Bob Veach, Jacqueline Herring, Susan Phillips, Rolf Jacksch, Cheryl Becker, Dr. Mark & Darlene Myers

January 15: Dr. Mark & Darlene Myers, Peyton & Noah Coffman, Jack & Babs Hudkins, Charles Eddy, Jacqueline Herring, Susan Phillips, Will & Brook Cooper, Bob & Leigh Ann Veach, Dawn Scarborough, Jim Clark

Youth

Congratulations to the following CPC youth who recently qualified for and participated in All-Region Band, representing Russellville Junior High School: Emily Jordan (flute; 2nd band), Bryce Owens (French horn, 2nd band), and Scotty Scott (percussion, 1st band). These youth, along with talented youth from all over our region, performed concerts this past Saturday in Conway. Also performing that day, representing Conway, were Sam and Joe Coker, grandsons of Jimmie and Ken Coker, Sr. The students in 2nd band had the pleasure and honor of having as their conductor our own Jerry Ratzlaff, who directed his band with his usual enthusiasm and panache!

Congregational Care

The new year has brought with it some new committees for our church. The Nurture committee has been divided into two committees, Congregational Care and Fellowship. The Congregational Care committee consists of Bereavement, Meal Missions, Helping Hands and Adopt a Student Program. We are really excited about the coming year and looking forward to serving the congregation to the best of our abilities with the Lord's guidance. We



have some wonderful people who are in charge of the different sub-committees and some new members who will contribute their talents. I would like to acknowledge the people that have done such a great job of serving on these sub-committees and will continue to serve on them. Bereavement: Linda Griffin; Meal Mission: Bob and Linda Griffin, Coordinators, John and Judi Baker, Doug and Jane Martin, Jan and Nancy Shaw, Joe and Joy Morrow, and Judy Murphy; Jane Martin: Adopt a Student Program; and, Ann Chronister: Helping Hands. Please know that the friends who have made delicious meals for Helping Hands are greatly appreciated, too! We had our first meeting this week and feel it was very productive. Helping Hands would like your help with members who are in need of a meal in addition to the meals on Tuesday night provided by Meal Mission. If you know of someone in need please contact Dana or Ann Chronister. Looking forward to a great year serving the Lord with your help. Committee members: Linda Griffin, Jane Martin, Jan Shaw, Theresa Magill, Sally Ramey, Theresa Singleton, Elder Liaison, Ann Chronister Moderator.

Presbyterian Women

Come enjoy potluck lunch and receive an update on Vera Lloyd Home from their new Development Officer, Renee Dickens. They opened a new transitional living program for boys in October. Please join us on February 7, at noon. If you are a working woman please come and join us during your lunch hour.

Notes of Interest

If you are missing any lost kitchen items, such as plates, containers, baskets, etc. they will be on a table in fellowship hall on Sunday for you to reclaim.



If you are interested having your Blood Pressure taken on any Sunday please ask Toni Bachman, Judi Baker, Kellie Coker, Sandy Kremp, Jane Martin, or Connie Schutt. Any of these ladies will be more than happy to accommodate you on any Sunday.

Upcoming Events

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sunday, January 22 | 5:30 p.m. | Youth |
| Tuesday, January 24 | 1-7 p.m. | Meal Mission |
| | 1:30 p.m. | Central Prays, Jessie Qualls' Home |
| Wednesday, January 25 | 5:30 p.m. | Handbell Choir Rehearsal |
| | 6:00 p.m. | Session |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| Thursday, January 26 | 10:00 a.m. | Central Prays, Church Library |
| Friday, January 27 | 9:00 a.m. | Quilters |
| | 11-2:00 p.m. | Chili for Children, Wesley Foundation |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Ann Shields' Piano Recital |
| Sunday, January 29 | 5:30 p.m. | Youth |
| Tuesday, January 31 | 10:00 a.m. | Newsletter Deadline |
| | 1-7 p.m. | Meal Mission |
| | 1:30 p.m. | Central Prays, Library |
| Wednesday, February 1 | 5:30 p.m. | Handbell Choir Rehearsal |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Potluck Hosted by Mission |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |
| Thursday, February 2 | 10:00 a.m. | Central Prays, Church Library |
| Friday, February 3 | 9:00 a.m. | Quilters |

Looking to Sunday

January 22:

Scripture..... Mark 1:14-20; Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Worship Assistant. Seth Coulter
Children's Sermon..... Pastor Brian
Children's Church. The Haulmarks
Ushers. Ken & Kellie Coker
Drew & Jimmie Coker
Nursery Volunteer. Sally Ramey
Bus Ministry..... Don Carnahan
Acolytes. Jackson Hudkins, Bailey Magill
Coffee Host. Mike & Janet Roys
Youth Meal. Jon & Barb Clements

January 29:

Scripture..... Deut. 18:15-20; Ps. 111
1 Cor. 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28
Worship Assistant. Susan Jordan
Children's Sermon..... Pastor Brian
Children's Church. Pat Hagemeyer
Ushers. Steve Heaton, Jay Hudkins
Doug & Jane Martin
Nursery Volunteer. Haley Perks
Bus Ministry..... Bill Wade
Acolytes. Wyn Brock, Dalton Haulmark
Coffee Host. George & Theresa Singleton
Youth Meal. Doug & Jane Martin



2012 Shepherd List

Shepherd – June Carnahan

AIKMAN, Amy
AIKMAN, Audrey
AIKMAN, Bill
AIKMAN, David
AIKMAN, Jim
AIKMAN, John
AIKMAN, Natalie
AL-HAKEEM, Ashley
AL-HAKEEM, Derrick
AL-HAKEEM, Karen
AL-HAKEEM, Kathy
ALLEN, Bob
ALLEN, Susan Walker
ATHEY, Alon
ATHEY, Ethel
AUSTIN, Brandi
BACHMAN, Toni

Shepherd – Cheryl Coffman

BAKER, Barbara
BAKER, Cathy
BAKER, John
BAKER, Judi
BAKER, Kittie
BAKER, Mary
BARR, Marian
BARTLETT, Marian
BELL, Linda
BELL, Robert

Shepherd – John Aikman

BOLLINGER, David
BOLLINGER, Marilyn
BOUDRA, David
BOUDRA, Jane
BRITTENUM, Bettye
BRITTENUM, Jamie
BROCK, Maggie
BROCK, Brian
BROCK, Andy
BROCK, Wyn
CALVERT, Charlotte
CALVERT, Edward
CALVERT, Katelyn
CALVERT, Steve

CAMARATA, Virginia
CARNAHAN, Don
CARNAHAN, June
PERRIN, Justyn
PERRIN, McKayla

Shepherd – John Baker

CARNAHAN, N. L.
CARNAHAN, Linda Polk
CHRONISTER, Ann
CLEMENTS, Barbara
CLEMENTS, Isabelle
CLEMENTS, Jon
CLEMENTS, Madeline
CLARK, Jakob
COCHRAN, John
COFFMAN, Cheryl
COFFMAN, Ronnie
COHOON, Mary
COHOON, Richard
COKER, Ken
COKER, Jimmie

Shepherd – Mikel Fuller

COKER, Cameron
COKER, Drew
COKER, Kellie
COKER, Ken
COLEMAN, Cheryl
COLLINS, Paulette
COLLINS, Vernon
COULTER, Courtney
COULTER, Janice
COULTER, Katelyn "Katie"
COULTER, Kelsey
COULTER, Seth
DALE, Pam
DALE, Roger

Shepherd – Toni Bachman

DELONE, Jerry
DELONE, Renee Turk
TURK, Joe David III
DICKEN, Amanda
DICKEN, Tom
DOUTHIT, Gretchen

DOUTHIT, Scotty
EDDY, Charles
FALLS, Jeanice

Shepherd – Linda Carnahan

FULLER, Barbara
FULLER, Mikel
FULLER, Bill
FULLER, Betty
GARDNER, Jackie
GOODMAN, Dick
GOODMAN, Rita

Shepherd – Kellie Coker

GRANGER, Ed
GRANGER, Julia
GRIFFIN, Bob
GRIFFIN, Linda
GRIFFIN, Kris
GRIFFIN, Paige
GRIFFIN, Sarah
COOK, Ellen
PRATER, Emma Grace
GUNTER, Mary
GUNTER, Roger
TURLEY, Skye
HAGEMEIER, Dean
HAGEMEIER, Pat
HAMBERG, Susan

Shepherd – Jay Hudkins

HARDIN, Jim
HARDIN, Lynn
HARRELL, Wanda
HAULMARK, Benjamin
HAULMARK, Bob
HAULMARK, Gabriele
HAULMARK, Nicholas
HAULMARK JR., Bobby
HEATON, Steve
HEATON, Amber
HEATON, Michael
HENDERSON, Grace
HENSON, Mary
HENSON, Stan

Shepherd - Lissa Teal

HERRING, Jacqueline
HOPKINS, Elizabeth
HOPKINS, Lee
HOWELL, Milton
HOWELL, Patsy
HOWELL, Robert
HOWELL, Robin

Shepherd - Dean Hagemeier

HUDKINS, Jackson
HUDKINS, Jay
DAY, Danya
HUTCHINSON, Jerry
HUTCHINSON, JoAnn
JOHNSON, Mary Sue
JONES, Katherine
JORDAN, Elizabeth
JORDAN, Emily
JORDAN, Scott
JORDAN, Susan
KELLAM, Garrie

Shepherd - Bill Aikman

KIEHL, Bill
KIEHL, Vicky
KREMP, Sandy Jones
LEA, Andrea
LEA, Phillip
LEA, Mary Elizabeth
LU, Mary
LU, Min-Der
MAGILL, Bailey
MAGILL, Eric
MAGILL, Garrett
MAGILL, Logan
MAGILL, Maggie
MAGILL, Theresa
MARLAR, John
MARTIN, Doug
MARTIN, Jane
MASSENGALE, Cheryl

Shepherd - Theresa Singleton

MCANULTY, Myrna
BOUDRA, Jessica
MINTON, Jake
MINTON, Alaina
MINTON, Declan
MINTON, Oliva
MONROE, Beth
MONROE, Roy
MOORE, Joe
MOORE, Kay Franks
MORROW, Joe
MORROW, Joy
MURPHY, Jim
MURPHY, Judy

Shepherd - Barbara Fuller

NORRIS, Carroll
NORRIS, Elizabeth
OATES, Charles

OATES, Jean
OLLER, Rexann
OLSON, Audrey
OLSON, Chuck
OLSON, Jonathan
OLSON-STAU, Laura

Shepherd - Seth Coulter

PAYNE, Cara Thurlby
PAYNE, Charles
PAYNE, Grant
PAYNE, Richard
PAYNE, Walker
PERKINS, Richard
COCHRAN, Lisa
PERKS, Haley
PERKS, Joshua
CLARK, Jim
PETERS, Jeannie
PETERS, John
PETERS, Jay
PETERS, Julian
PETERS, Mazie
PETERS, Zadie
PHILLIPS, Susan

Shepherd - Scott Jordan

PORTER, Elfrieda
PORTER, Evelyn
PRICE, Kathy
PRICE, Mary
PRICE, Will
PRZYBYS, Donna
PRZYBYS, John
QUALLS, Jessie
RAGSDALE, Jonada
RAMEY, Sally

Shepherd - Ann Chronister

RANKIN, Jane
RATZLAFF, Jerry
RAY, Jonathan
REID, George
REID, Paula
ROBBINS, Jean
ROBBINS, Jim

Shepherd - Mary Elizabeth Lea

RAINES, Hanna
RAINES, James "Spanky"
RAINES, Katie
RAINES, Zachary
ROLLOW, Alice
ROWLEY, Blake
ROWLEY, Brent
ROWLEY, Kathryn
ROWLEY, Phillip
ROYS, Janet
ROYS, Mike

Shepherd - Sally Ramey

SCHUTT, Connie
SCHUTT, Jan

SCOTT, Katie
SCOTT, Liz
SCOTT, Scotty
SCOTT, Tom
SCOTT, Judy
SHAW, Jan
SHAW, Nancy
SHIELDS, Ann

Shepherd - Jan Shaw

SINGLETON, George
SINGLETON, Theresa
SMITH, Trey
SMITH, Ethan
SMITH, Janie
SMITH, Trey
STINGLEY, Annie
STINGLEY, Kathleen
STINGLEY, Rusty
STOKER, Michael

Shepherd - Bob Haulmark

SWEEDEN, Todd
TALBURT, Camille
TALBURT, Dwight
TAYLOR, Mark
TEAL, Gaylon
TEAL, Lissa
THORNTON, J. J.
THORNTON, Judy
TOLAND, Jarrod
TOLAND, Megan

Shepherd - Audrey Olson

TOLLISON, Beverly
TRIGG, Dorothy
TRIGG, John
TURNER, Bob
TURNER, Jean
VAN HORN, Sara
WADE, Bill
WADE, Lynn

Shepherd - Sandy Kremp

WALLACE, Scotty
WARD, Caleb
WARD, Casey
WARD, David
WARD, Rebecca
WEST, Cheri
WESTBROOK, Jim
WESTBROOK, Madie
WETZEL, Adam "Chase"
WETZEL, Nathalie
WETZEL, Susan
WETZEL, Todd

Shepherd - Cheryl Coleman

WILKINS, Carol
WILLIAMS, Kenneth
WILLIAMS, Kevin
ZIMMER, Connie
ZIMMER, Steve

Central Presbyterian Church
400 West Main Street, Russellville, AR 72801
E-Mail: cpcoffice@cpcusa72801.org
Web Address: <http://cpcusa72801.org>
Brian Brock, Pastor 968.1238
Dana Costley, Secretary, 968.1238 (Office)
Jon Clements, Director of Music
Vicky Kiehl, Ann Shields, Organists
Robin Howell, Page Griffin

**Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 136**

Return Service Requested