

Volume 5, Number 8

February 22, 2012

Catch the Spirit Practicing Contentment



I have a small card in my house to remind me to “practice contentment”. Paul’s letter to the Philippians 4:12, 13: *“I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.”*

More and more it seems that we are bombarded with advertising designed to make us want to change what we have and to foster discontent. We find ourselves trying to keep up with the Joneses, the Smiths, and our neighbors. We hear about someone’s new home and become upset because we would also like to be able to afford a new house. We want larger and larger televisions. We hear about someone else’s adventures and are jealous that we never seem to do anything except run errands. The accumulation of “stuff” does not buy happiness. If we are unhappy (discontent), the accumulation of more stuff is not going to make us happy.

When we know we are loved by God and supported by our families and friends, we can be ourselves, comfortable in our own skin, and satisfied with whatever comes our way. This is not to say that we shouldn’t try to change things that need changing – a lot of it is recognizing what can and can’t be changed and coming to terms with it.

In an article by Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat, suggestions are made about how we can practice contentment:

Want what we already have (basic gratitude – don’t take possessions for granted);

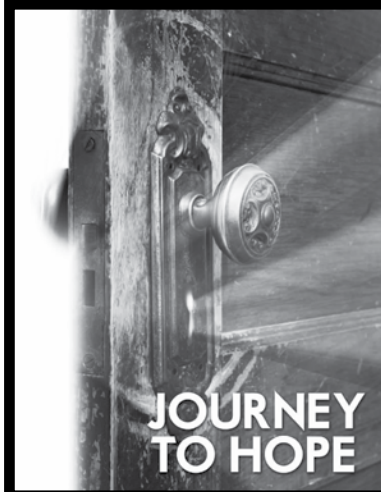
Don’t make comparisons; focus instead on what is unique about us – our God-given talents and gifts;

Accept our imperfections and the “lacks” in our lives – none of these matters to God. Love who we are, not the person we would become if we lost 10 pounds or when we master a certain skill or when we get “that” job.

God loves us as we are, warts and all!

Fenner Russell
Director of Traditional Music & Worship Ministries

discipleship Opportunities



Journey to Hope!

A Lenten Message Series
for all Services of Worship Celebration

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| I. The Inhabitants of Your Space | February 26 |
| II. A Safe and Secure Identity | March 4 |
| III. Light in the Workplace Tunnel | March 11 |
| IV. Avoiding Life's Sand Traps | March 18 |
| V. The Root of All Evil | March 25 |
| VI. When the Going Gets Tough | April 1 |
| VII. Finding Hope in a Cemetery | April 8 |

The River

Feel the need to be renewed? Come to "The River" and drink deep from God on Sunday, February 26th, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. in Wesley Chapel. It's a time of worship, prayer, and renewal. Childcare will be provided.

"Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker" Psalm 95:6

Pray and Fast on Lenten Wednesdays

Following our Ash Wednesday Day of Prayer and Fasting, members of the Central Family are invited to join our senior pastor and others as we share in this spiritual discipline each Wednesday during Lent by fasting the noon meal and spending that time in prayer for our church and other known needs. If you have never fasted before, this is an excellent time to try it and experience the heightened spiritual awareness that fasting provides when it is accompanied by prayer. Fasting generally involves going without solid food while at the same time still receiving liquids for hydration. God will bless you as you seek him on these special days through prayer and fasting. Jesus set the example, and those who follow suit are blessed.



New Adult Study

New Sunday School Study

If you are looking for a class or short-term study during Lent, the Testament Class will begin a new study on Sunday, February 26 entitled "Not a Fan" based on a book by Kyle Idleman, who is the teaching pastor at one of the nation's largest churches, Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, KY. The dictionary defines a fan as "an enthusiastic admirer." Fans want to be close enough to Jesus to get all of the benefits, but not close enough that it requires sacrifice. Fans may be fine with repeating a prayer, attending church on the weekend, but is that really the extent of the relationship Jesus wants from us? This study will challenge participants to consider what it really means to call yourself a Christian. The goal is to move participants toward becoming a completely committed follower of Jesus. The class meets in Wesley 202 at 9:40 a.m. each Sunday and is led by Brian Swain (bswain@centraltolife.com) and Lamar & Donna Pettus.

Did You Know...

...the Youth Mission Luncheon that was held this past Sunday to raise money for their upcoming Spring Break Mission Trip to Mexico raised over \$5,407. A big THANKS goes out to the Central family for supporting Student Ministries.

Planning Your Legacy

In coordination with The United Methodist Foundation of Arkansas, Central has scheduled a **free informational event for Friday, March 2nd, at 11:30 a.m.** that will cover the subjects of developing wills, living wills, guardianship planning, trusts, and other estate planning documents as would be appropriate for each individual situation. The program will be held on the second floor of the Student Ministries Building, and lunch will be provided to those who register to attend. Childcare is also available if needed. Following lunch, there will be a brief presentation and distribution of planning and informational resources by the UMFA vice-president of development, Janet Marshall, and local estate planning attorney Denton Woods of the Fayetteville law firm Reece Moore Pendergraft LLP. If you have questions about the event, please feel free to contact Brian Swain at bswain@centraltolife.com or 479-442-1828. If you want to register online, go to www.centraltolife.com/estate. Space is limited for this event so we encourage you to act quickly!

*Planning
your Legacy*



Partnering with Parents: New Parent Class

Any expectant parents and parents of newborns are invited to attend the New Parents class being held on Sunday, February 26th. In this class parents will receive practical tips for teaching their child about God, learn specific ways to pray for their child, hear about Infant Baptism from Rev. Cleffon Vaughan, and tour Central's nursery and day care facility. The class will be held from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the Student Ministries Building (1st Floor Central Park). Childcare will be provided. Register at www.centraltolife.com, or contact Michele Crippen at 442-1800.



Connect to Central's Social Media

Central now has over 280 Facebook fans! If you haven't yet, you can "like" us on Facebook by going to www.facebook.com/centraltolife and clicking "like" at the top of the page to become a fan or follow us on Twitter by going to www.twitter.com and searching "centraltolife".



Girls' Night Out

Friday, March 2nd, join the women of Central for a girls' night out! Kim Witte will be sharing "Passion: The Power to Press On," and it will be a great time of fun and fellowship. This event will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Ministries Building Worship Center. Dessert and coffee will be provided. This event is free, but registrations are requested. Childcare is available with registration. To sign up, go to www.centraltolife.com/women or contact Susan Meek in the church office at 442-4237.



Discovery Class

Discovery Class for Prospective Members

Central's next Discovery class for those desiring to explore membership in Central will be held on Sunday, March 4th. The class will begin at 4:00 p.m. and conclude around 8:00 p.m. Central's pastors will lead the class and cover the History of Christianity and United Methodism, Distinctive United Methodist Beliefs, Central's Mission and Vision statements, Steps to Salvation, and the Meaning and Expectations of Membership. A light meal will be served halfway through the evening, and childcare is available with reservation by February 29th. Registration is available online at www.centraltolife.com, or by contacting Lora Hayes in the church office at 442-4237, or lhayes@centraltolife.com.



Openings at CCC

Central's Center for Children has openings in the full time preschool program for three and four year olds. In our part time program, Hand in Hand Learning Center, there are immediate openings in the toddler and fours classrooms. If you would like more information about enrollment in these programs, please call the child care office at 479-443-4037.

Spring Break Childcare Available

The Camp Central Afterschool Program will offer care for elementary-aged children during the week of Spring Break, March 19-23. Reservations for these spots must be made in advance. There are also openings in the afterschool program for children in Kindergarten through 6th grade. Please call Wanda Boyd at 479-443-4037 for more information.



Upper Room

The Upper Room devotional guide is an excellent way to have a daily quiet time. Pick up your daily devotional guide for March/April in the CAC Foyer, Sanctuary Narthex or Church Office. You may also read the Upper Room online at www.upperroom.org.



Rehearsals Beginning Now for Easter Cantata

If you are interested in being a part of the choir for the Easter Cantata (to be presented the Sunday AFTER Easter), rehearsals will begin this Wednesday at 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Rehearsal CD's to use at home or in the car are available. All are welcome who are willing to make the rehearsal commitments. For more info, please contact Fenner Russell at frussell@centraltolife.com.

Save the Date!

A "Beyond Our Walls" Community Service Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 21st. Registration will begin on April 1st. Contact Glenn Miller at gmliller@centraltolife.com for more information.



Central Community

Infant Baptism

John and Meghan Teeter will present their infant daughter, **Ann Geurian Teeter**, in Christian Baptism at the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary this Sunday, February 26, 2011.

New Arrivals

Congratulations to Spencer and Lauren Robinson, of Columbia, South Carolina, on the birth of a son, **Parker Fox Robinson**, on December 29, 2011. Mark and Kim Dutton are the maternal grandparents and Donnie and Libby Dutton are the maternal great-grandparents.

Congratulations to Tyson and Jean Lawrence, of Denver, Colorado, on the birth of a daughter, **Maeby Olive Lawrence**, on February 6, 2012. Chuck and Brenda Bushong are the maternal grandparents.

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Congratulations to Lewis and Donna Epley who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on February 24, 2012.

Hospitalizations

WRMC - Tommy Van Zandt, Mark Brandon

UAMS - AD Poole

Previously Hospitalized & Released - Jody Farrell, Elizabeth Flippo, Dave Randle, James Stewart

Note – Due to privacy laws, our pastors are unable to access hospital admission records as they have in the past. For our pastors to know you are in the hospital, please inform the Church Office or let the hospital admission officials know you are United Methodist.

Sympathy to...

Wanda Belzung in the death of her sister, Marceile Webb Beckman, of Dickinson, Texas.

Record of Our Stewardship

General Operations	2/19/12
Needed each week	\$ 65,170
Received this week	\$ 49,587
Property Maintenance	
Needed each week	\$ 4,707
Received this week	\$ 1,994
Count Me In	
Received this week	\$ 11,309
Life-to-Date	\$ 1,538,651
Uganda Mission Phases I-III	Funded
Uganda Mission Phase IV	
Phase IV Goal	\$ 51,000
Received this month	\$ 6,846
Received Year to Date	\$ 11,594

Check out our website for all the details on what's happening with Central Student Ministries! www.centraltolife.com/students

• studentlife This Sunday, February 26th

studentlife is our regular Sunday night program. Come, join in the fun, and get plugged in to a small group. It'll be the best decision you ever made!

5:00 – 5:30	Hang Time (SMB & CAC)
5:30 – 6:00	Snack Supper (CAC Great Hall)
6:00 – 7:30	Worship/Small Groups (SMB 2nd Floor)

• Spring Break Important Dates

It's not too late to check out the great opportunities available to students over Spring Break. Head over to our website (<http://www.centraltolife.com/students>) to learn more about these great opportunities to serve.

- **Joplin Paperwork Due February 26th:** All paperwork is due by Sunday, February 26th. For more information, contact Andrew Brown (abrown@centraltolife.com).
- **Team Orientation | March 4th (Both Trips):** There will be a mandatory training event for all participants on Sunday, March 4th at 12:15. Please make plans to attend.

• Summer Missions 2012

Join us this summer as we head out to serve on two week-long mission trips. Cost is \$300 (\$50 Deposit Due by April 1st). More information and online registration at our website – www.centraltolife.com/students

- Service Over Self (June 10-16): Memphis, TN
- Ozark Mission Project (July 8-14): Siloam Springs, AR



CentralSTUDENT
MINISTRIES



Central Community

Calendar of Events

Sunday, February 26

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| 8:00 | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) | 9:00 | Disciple III - Green/Herriman (Wesley 102) |
| 8:30 | Traditional Worship Celebration (Sanctuary) | 9:30 | Disciple II - Gullett (Wesley 310) |
| 9:15 | Truth Seekers Class (Wesley 307) | 10:00 | Staff Meeting (Wesley 307) |
| 9:40 | Sunday School | 11:30 | Community Meals (Great Hall) |
| 9:40 | Contemporary Worship Celebration (Great Hall) | 6:30 | Disciple I - Farrell (Wesley 102) |
| 9:45 | College and Careers Class (Wesley 206) | 6:30 | Apprentice of Jesus - Pulliam (Wesley 304) |
| 10:30 | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) | 6:30 | Apprentice of Jesus - Thorn (Wesley 307) |
| 11:00 | Traditional Worship Celebration (Sanctuary) | 6:30 | Second Coming - Holifield (Wesley 310) |
| 11:00 | Contemporary Worship Celebration (Great Hall) | | |
| 12:15 | Student Ministries Advisory Team Meeting (SMB 209-210) | | |
| 2:00 | Young Adult Ministry Task Force (Wesley 304) | | |
| 4:00 | Joyful Noise! (Ed Bldg 112) | | |
| 4:00 | New Parent Class (SMB 1st Floor) | | |
| 4:30 | Team 4:12 Leader Meeting (CAC Sideroom 3) | | |
| 4:30 | studentlife Leader Meeting (CAC Sideroom 1-2) | | |
| 5:00 | studentlife Game Time (SMB Café and Great Hall) | | |
| 5:15 | studentlife Leader Meeting (CAC Sideroom 1) | | |
| 5:30 | studentlife Snack Supper (Great Hall) | | |
| 6:00 | studentlife Worship (SMB Worship Center) | | |
| 6:00 | Women's Lenten Study (Wesley 102) | | |
| 6:00 | The River (Wesley Chapel) | | |
| 6:30 | studentlife Small Groups (various locations) | | |
| 7:00 | Council on Ministries Meeting (Wesley 310) | | |

Monday, February 27

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| 9:30 | Apprentice of Jesus - Pulliam (Wesley 304) |
| 10:00 | Timothy Team/Tiny Tims Teachers' Meeting (SMB 206) |
| 3:30 | Celebration Ringers (Ed Bldg 109) |
| 5:45 | Jubellation! Handbell Ensemble (Ed Bldg 109) |
| 6:30 | Boy Scouts Troop 102 (CAC Scoutroom) |
| 6:30 | Second Coming - Holifield (Wesley 310) |

Tuesday, February 28

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|------|---|
| 6:30 | Men's Small Group (Wesley 310) |
| 6:30 | Men's Bible Study - Broyles (3263 N. College) |
| 9:00 | Worship Team Meeting (Wesley 303) |

Wednesday, February 29

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|-------|--|
| 9:30 | The Gathering (Wesley Chapel) |
| 10:30 | Senior Saints Choir (Wesley 104) |
| 4:45 | WNL Express Meal (Great Hall) |
| 5:45 | Timothy Team Classes (Ed Bldg) |
| 5:45 | Tiny Tims Classes (SMB 1st Floor) |
| 5:45 | Team 4:12 (SMB 2nd Floor) |
| 6:00 | WNL Adult Classes (Various Locations) |
| 6:00 | Intermediate Handbells (Ed Bldg 109) |
| 6:00 | Disciple I - Haas/Jones (Wesley 102) |
| 6:00 | Disciple I - Vaughan (Wesley 304) |
| 6:00 | Disciple II - Graves/Tucker (Wesley 310) |
| 6:00 | Disciple III - Johanson (Wesley 306) |
| 6:30 | Contemporary Worship Team Rehearsal (Great Hall) |
| 7:00 | Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) |
| 9:00 | Wesley Foundation Bible Study (Ed Bldg 208) |

Thursday, March 1

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|-------|--|
| 10:00 | Community Meals Bible Study (CAC Siderooms 1 & 2) |
| 11:30 | Community Meals (Great Hall) |
| 2:30 | Children's Ministry Prayer Gathering (Wesley 107) |
| 4:00 | studentlife Praise Team Rehearsal (SMB Worship Center) |
| 5:30 | String Coalition (Wesley 1st Floor) |
| 6:30 | Perspectives Course (SMB Worship Center) |
| 6:30 | Prayer Group (Wesley 206) |

Friday, March 2

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|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 6:00 | Men's Fraternity (SMB Worship Center) |
| 11:30 | Planning Your Legacy (SMB 202/204) |
| 6:30 | Girls' Night Out (SMB Worship Center) |

Wednesday Night Live Menu

February 29

Hamburgers or Cheeseburgers, French Fries, Salad Bar, Dessert, Drinks

Feed My Sheep: Bauman Team

* menu subject to change due to availability of food



MAKING CHRIST CENTRAL TO LIFE FOR THE PEOPLE OF NORTHWEST ARKANSAS & AROUND THE WORLD

CONNECT, GROW, SERVE, REACH

Lenten Crosses

In celebration of Lent, Central is again providing Lenten Crosses to display in your yard as a witness to your neighbors of your faith in Jesus. Upon placing a cross in your yard, you will have three significant colors of cloth (Purple for now through Maundy Thursday; Black for Good Friday through Saturday, Easter Eve; and White for Easter Sunday) with directions on how to attach and utilize each color. Crosses will be available to pick up this Sunday, February 26th, Wednesday, March 28th, and Sunday, April 1, until the supply runs out. There will be no charge for the crosses but donations will be gladly received.



Lord's Day Celebration

Sunday, February 26, 2012

First Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Traditional Services - Sanctuary

9:40 a.m. Contemporary Service - Great Hall

Message

Journey to Hope

Rev. J. Anthony Holifield

I. The Inhabitants of Your Space

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Service - Great Hall

Message

Journey to Hope

Dr. Steven K. Pulliam

I. The Inhabitants of Your Space

To Reach the Pastor on *Emergency* Call this Weekend,

Call **479-799-7473**