

the Challenger

The Monthly Voice of Central Baptist Church | August 2018

Don't "Date" the Church

How many of you remember the very first time you set your eyes upon the person that would eventually become your spouse?

I remember the first time I saw Jennifer. I immediately thought, "Now, that is someone I need to meet!" Then, I saw her that evening sing in worship and I thought "This is incredible! Not only is she good lookin' but this girl also loves the Lord." I couldn't take it any more. I marched right up to her, asked her out, and amazingly she said "yes." We started dating that summer and continued to do so over the next year.

But then, we broke up. Why? Well, as the relationship became more serious, it was time to COMMIT, and I didn't know if I was ready to do that. So, I thought it would be best for us to not be together. Fortunately, it didn't take long for me to come to my senses and beg her to take me back. By the grace of God, she did.

If you think about it, this also happens in the life of the church. There are so many people who love to "date" the church, BUT COMMIT ... PLEASE! Sure, they enjoy going out once a week and coming for Sunday worship. They enjoy the social benefits of the church. They like how it makes them feel. They especially like all the "perks" — the good children's ministry for their kids, the great songs, and every once in a while, there might even be a good sermon. What they're not fond of is the responsibility that comes with commitment.

Now, I want you to know that I'm speaking from experience. When Jennifer and I were first married, we found a wonderful church plant on the outskirts of Springfield, Missouri. We quickly made new friends and enjoyed the worship. We eventually joined and attended almost every week. Then, they started to ask me to serve in various ministries in the church. I politely turned down their request and remember thinking to myself, "Isn't that what all these other folks are here for?"

Yet, in time [through the power of God's word and Spirit, through mature believers who invested in me, and through the testimony of my faithful wife who was serving in various ministries in the church] God began to work in my heart. I started to understand that church is unlike anything else in which I could invest my life. For the first time I began to understand how Christ views the church — that He loves her like a groom loves his bride [Ephesians 5]. I came to see if Christ loves and treasures the church that much, maybe I should as well. So, I committed my life to serving Him in and through His church.

I hope you would join me in that. There is no greater privilege than to give our lives in service to the One who has saved us. The best part is that we get to do that together. You are a valuable part of that "together." So, if we haven't seen you in a while, we would love for you to come back. If you haven't been serving the Lord through some ministry, we would love to talk to you about where to get plugged in. If you are not yet a member, we would love to invite you to be a part of the fam!

Christ loves His church. So much so, He died for her. So much so, He died for you and for me. It just makes sense that we would commit our lives to serve Him. God's plan is for us to do that together and we call that ... CHURCH!

Welcome Pastor Drew Heurion & Family!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our brand new Associate Pastor of Discipleship & Evangelism and his beautiful family — Rev. Drew Heurion, his wife Candace, their daughter Rawling, and son Harper. We are thrilled about what God's got planned for him here! His first Sunday here at Central will be August 19. Let's be sure to be here and greet him and his family with loads of love and hospitality! **There will be a combined "pounding" for both Pastor Drews (Elgersma & Heurion) on Sunday, September 9 at 6:00 in the FLC.**



Mid-Week WORSHIP, DISCIPLESHIP, FELLOWSHIP & FOOD @Central Resuming Wednesday, August 8!

4:30-6:00 pm | Fellowship Meal in the Gym

MENU: Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Butter Beans,
Salad Bar & Dessert

5:30 pm | Prayer Time

6:00-7:30 pm | M&Ms (Kids)

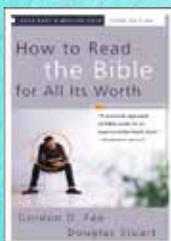
6:00-7:30 pm | Tethered (Students)

6:15-7:15 pm | Worship

6:15-7:15 pm | Bible Studies (beginning 8/15)

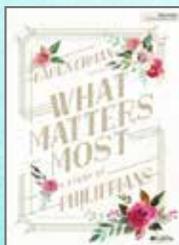
See class offerings at right & below

(All classes run from 6:15-7:15 pm unless otherwise noted)



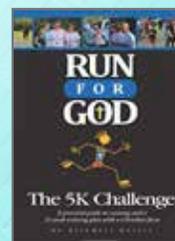
Men's Spiritual Leadership
Book: How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth
by Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stuart
6:15-7:15p | Cost: \$15

As men, we will be learning how to read and understand the Bible so we can lead our families as people of the Word. This book explains the different kinds of biblical literature — such as prophecy, Gospels, poetry, and history — so you can get the most from them.
Begins August 15



What Matters Most: A Study of Philippians
by Karen Ehman
6:15-7:15p | Cost: \$13

Paul's letter to the Philippians claims we can discover contentment and joy in the midst of all the world's trials and hardships by prioritizing what matters most—Christ. This 7-Week study will help you deepen your relationship with Jesus, turn your worries into worship, and develop gospel-centered tools for navigating relational conflict. **Begins August 15**



Run for God
6:15-7:15p | Cost: \$13

The Run For God 5K Challenge is a Bible study that focuses on endurance and faith. The course is designed to allow anyone the opportunity to run a 5K — regardless of fitness level — and draws parallels between a physical race and our journey with God. Our mission is to prepare people to be better witnesses for Christ physically, mentally, and spiritually. **Begins August 15**



GriefShare
6-7:30p | Cost: \$15

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. If you've lost a spouse, child, or family member, you've probably found there are not many people who understand the deep hurt you feel. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone. GriefShare meets weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. Each GriefShare session has three distinct elements: Video Seminar, Support Group Discussion, and Personal Study and Reflection.
Begins August 15



Financial Peace University
by Dave Ramsey | 6-7:30p
\$93/Family

Financial Peace University is a 9-lesson, money-management course taught by America's most trusted financial guru, Dave Ramsey. Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future and much more. **Begins August 15** **Register Online:**
<https://www.financialpeace.com/classes/1066812/registration>

It's Hard to Say "Goodbye"

by **Mary Lou Hilton,**
Children's Ministry Director

"Thank You" does not begin to express my deep gratitude to you my friends for the time you have allowed me to serve as the Director of Children's Ministries and for the love that you have shown me in so many ways. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve. Being a part of the lives of so many children has given me great joy. I will miss seeing them each week, but I am excited that I will be able to continue to watch them grow. I did not always understand the path God had for me through the years. It seemed to have many twists and turns. He did make it clear after He led us to Warner Robins and me to Children's Ministry. I could not be more grateful to God for His rich blessing. I cannot begin to call the names of all who have served with me during the years. Please know that I am extremely thankful for you, for your help, for your thoughts and prayers, and simply for your presence in my life. Johnny and I plan to remain active here at Central and we look forward to new opportunities that God will reveal as we continue along His path for our lives. Thank you again!!!

—*Much Love, Mary Lou*

Come & Worship!

by **Rev. Joshua McClain,**
Associate Pastor Worship & Music

We are kicking off the fall season in the worship ministry in August and we would love to have you join us! Do you sing or play an instrument? Are you skilled on guitar, violin, or any other instrument? We would enjoy connecting with you about serving in the worship ministry!

This dynamic group meets each week to worship and prepare for Sunday, and they have a great time doing it. Come to a rehearsal where you will be greeted warmly, and check out the choir, orchestra, or band! If you have questions or any interest in joining one of these teams, contact me at joshua@centralwr.com. I hope to see you this fall!

— *Grace and peace, Pastor Joshua*

Thank You, Mary Lou ...

It's so hard to put in to words how much you have impacted Central Baptist in the 16 years you have ministered to us as Children's Director. Your love for children and your tireless dedication to working with them is matched only by your desire for them to know Jesus. Your love, dedication, passion, creativity and heart for the Lord will be sorely missed on staff here. However, we look forward to continue serving alongside you in our church family! You and Johnny both make a powerful team, whose matchless abilities have benefitted Central for many years. We love you, we're praying for you, and we will ALWAYS be your family here at Central Baptist Church!

Thank You, Leanne ...

Well, if you haven't already heard, our beloved Leanne Stokes, our Pastor's Assistant, will be leaving us on the 10th of this month. She has accepted a position in the Assembly of God State Office in Macon to continue ministering to pastors alongside their State Superintendent. Central has been the recipient of her loving spirit and tireless dedication to our members and, most importantly, our pastors. The majority of us could no doubt recall many times she's made our day brighter with her smile and joyful attitude. Leanne, we can't describe the loss Central is going to feel without you! However, we DO know that God will be using you in a mighty way! We love you!

Join Us for

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH
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Stop by to check out resources for every step of your faith journey.

Bibles, Books, Gifts, Music & More

Don't Just Run — Run for God!

by Rev. Marty Hollingshead,
Director of Recreation

July 8, 2018 is the day the Earth stood still. People all around my neighborhood with jaw dropped stopped in amazement and wonder. Lawn mowers left unattended, cars driverless, and bushes left uncut. People lined up and down the street clapping, whistling, and high-fiving each other. The excitement was overwhelming. This is what I hoped would happen when I finally took the plunge and started to run. People stared, all right, and their jaws dropped — but it wasn't in amazement and wonder. I don't fault them, not many people often see a large man run.

Today was the day I started toward my goal of running a 5K this fall. Not just any 5K, but the Central Skedaddle. The Central Skedaddle is a 5K Run/Walk on Central Baptist's campus. I know this can be a lofty goal for some (me included), but it is important for us to strive to stretch our comfort zone spiritually, mentally, and physically. We are going to have a Bible study starting in August called Run for GOD (Hebrews 12:1-2). This study will step

**RUN
FOR
GOD.**

by step help us accomplish this goal of running by focusing on Jesus in all aspects of life. While we will be spiritually fed we will tame the beast of running in the process. Run for GOD will be part of our Wednesday night options for the fall. I look forward to seeing you there!

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**Kick-off
Night
WATER PARTY!!**
August 8
6:00-7:30 pm
CBC Pavilion

MOVE
Babies - Students
PROMOTE to new classes
Adults
Make a **PRIORITY** to be here
Sunday, August 5, 2018

August 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><i>Teachers, Administration, and Students... We are praying for you and your school as you begin a new year. We pray God protects you and blesses you beyond measure!</i></p>			<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Day of School in Houston County • NO Evening Activities 	2	3	4
<p>5</p> <p>PROMOTION SUNDAY FOR BABIES - STUDENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 pm Combined Parent Meeting for Children & Student Ministries (FLC) • 4:00-6:00 pm DivorceCare & DC4K Resume 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1:00 pm Helping Hands • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball Practice • 6:30 pm Prayer Ministry 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball Practice • JoyBells resume 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:45-5:45 pm Fellowship Dinner Resumes • 6:00 pm M&Ms Kick-Off Party • 6:15 pm Students Back to School Bash • 6:15 pm MidWeek Worship Resumes • 7:15 pm Choir Resumes 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:00 am Women on Mission 	10	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Upward Football & Volleyball GAMES
<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4:30 pm Deacons Meeting • 6:00 pm Family Worship & Fellowship - Steve Smith Ordination Service 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball Practice • 6:30 pm Prayer Ministry 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball Practice 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:15 pm MidWeek Bible Study Classes Kick-Off • 6:15 pm MidWeek Worship / Church Conference 	16	17	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Upward Football & Volleyball GAMES
19	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball GAMES • 6:30 pm Prayer Ministry 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball GAMES 	22	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:00 am Central 5-0 	24	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Upward Football & Volleyball GAMES
26	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball Practice • 6:30 pm Prayer Ministry 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11:00 am - 12:30 pm Sunshine Preschool Open House • 5:30-7:30 pm Upward Football/Volleyball Practice 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 am Sunshine Preschool Begins 	30	31	

Regular Activities

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

- 9:00 am.....Sunday School / Life Groups Worship
- 10:30 amSunday School / Life Groups Worship
- 4:00 pmOrchestra Rehearsal DivorceCare & DC4K

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

- 4:30 pmFellowship Meal
- 5:30 pmPrayer Time
- 6:00 pmM&Ms
- 6:15 pmTethered (Students) Mid-Week Worship Bible Study Classes
- 7:15 pmChoir Rehearsal

Welcome to the Family!

Profession of Faith

4.) Miss. Rachel Raley

Baptized

9.) Jackson Vickers

By Letter

- 60.) Samantha Kurpis
- 61.) Gavin Kurpis
- 62.) Jamie Cook
- 63.) Pam Cook
- 64.) Mr. John Raley
- 65.) Mr. Jeff Ngene
- 66.) Mrs. Ann Mungai
- 67.) Mr. Cyrille "CJ" Mungai



DIVORCE Care
DC4K
DivorceCare for Kids

New Session Begins August 5, 2018
Sundays at 4:00 pm
DivorceCare/Rm. 192 & DC4K/Rm. 293



Central Baptist Sunshine Preschool
2018-19 School Year

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Ages 1 Year-Kindergarten

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