

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
587 Mt. Vernon Road
Newark, Ohio 43055

NEXT NEWSLETTER:

Please stay tuned for upcoming communications, and secretary.newarkcentral@gmail.com is still the best place for messages -- that's also where to request being put on the email list for the "Nudge" & newsletter!

Worship & other plans ahead --

Friends, we wish we had a clearer view of the future than we do, but we can affirm that God is in control, and that we have a large at-risk population, whose care is what the Lord is calling us to be faithful in conserving to right now!

Please consider sharing our online Worship service materials on your own social media, or by email with friends -- we are still called to evangelism even when we're needing to stay close to home!

Newark Central YouTube Playlists:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7opxsRkX0ZEgVNfxrfnj8g/playlists>

Our elders are meeting "distanced" at the church lodge July 6th, and we are planning a General Board meeting for the usual date, July 15th, 7:00 pm, with a Zoom option for some & safe "distanced" seating in the Fellowship Hall for others. While Pastor Jeff will be gone July 25-26 for his father's funeral in Indiana, he will be preaching for us Sundays through August 9th.

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The Newark Christian

Serving God's Transformation of Licking County

Phone 740-366-4961

Email:
secretary.newarkcentral@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:
newarkcentralchristian.org

Our mission:

- To lead people to faith in Jesus Christ
- To work through the Holy Spirit, and
- To understand through the Holy Bible.

We seek to:

- Grow in knowledge,
- Cultivate the grace of Christ,
- Strengthen the unity of all Christians, and be
- Always moving towards the Kingdom of God.



And let us not grow weary while doing good,
for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.
~ Galatians 6:9 (NKJV)

Greetings in the strong name of Jesus!

Today we have a number of important notes and reminders, and a word from our congregational leadership team, so please read all the way through this newsletter, which repeats but also adds to Monday's "Nudge" . . . it's been an eventful few weeks.

The family of Jo Ann McPeek thanks you all for your love & support through her passing June 3; also the family of Darlene Bear thanks you all for your prayers, and the support given by many as Pastor Karen & Pastor Jeff led a memorial service June 28 out at the lodge. There we were able to provide distance enough that between mask wearing and outdoor air we could allow people to feel safe & secure while being together. Pastor Jeff was part of the Dennis McKnew graveside service at Cedar Hill on Wednesday, meaning no Zoom conference for Bible Study at 4:30 pm; there also is no Zoom Bible Study next Wednesday, July 8, as he is conducting a pair of committal services that day for the Franks family. Grace & peace to all who grieve, that they may know comfort & reassurance.

We enter a shift in our church life & structure in that starting July 1 there will only be three employees of Newark Central: Pastor Jeff reduced to half-time, and Jim our custodian and Patty our music director will continue on their current status. (We also have contracted employment of Ray Barber, our treasurer, and Mike Ewing, the lodge mower.) Our income for the last four months has been 40% lower than historic averages for General Fund income, and about half of our budget are fixed costs, so major reductions are necessary to ensure we get to year end without spending into other dedicated reserves.

Many thanks to all who shared in Pastor Karen's last Sunday & sermon for us, which is posted to the church YouTube channel in full; she also was the first to preach from the "awning entrance" of the church, which gives preachers some shade not available in the back of the pick-up truck, and cover if and when we have our first drive-in service on a rainy 10:30 Sunday morning.

It was a delight to hear from Rick & Karen down on Central Avenue who said they could pick up the 88.5 FM broadcast in their living room; the radius all around during our 45 minutes of broadcast is about one mile. But there is also a caution: we've heard from a few people who have health concerns who came to the first or second drive-in service, and did not come Sunday because they felt, with the amount of car to car visiting, they had to choose between being anti-social and feeling safe. Please, please, wear face coverings outside of your vehicle, and be willing to give or allow a wide berth . . . you don't always know who has reason for health concerns!

(cont. pg. 2)

Finally for this part of the newsletter (and please read the leadership letter on the facing page), we have in Ohio an opportunity to do "Virtual Camp" even if not at Camp Christian -- if you are or know a young person whether in high school for CYF, middle school for Chi Rho, intermediate grades for Junior Camp, or a post-high young adult with Advance Conference, you all have an opportunity through this link:

<http://www.ccinoh.com/ccio-blog/virtual-summer-camp-update.aspx>

This Sunday, July 5th, starts the virtual CYF Conference week; all you need to do is email Alan Dicken at the address on the linked page for that or any other week's worth of at-home, online programming. We hope many of our church's children and grandchildren, friends & family, can participate in this adjusted opportunity to create Christian community through our camp & conference program!

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Since we are holding off on releasing a calendar here are the birthdays for July as we have them in the office. We know that this is an important piece to our fellowship that we want to continue.

July Birthdays

2 Bill Toothman
 4 Marilyn Westfall
 5 Sarah Robinson
 9 Shirley Hickman
 14 Joe Jones
 16 Kim Halter
 18 Cheryl Lentz
 19 Jordan Hedrick
 19 Linda Jewell
 24 Keith Yost
 26 Jennifer Fry
 26 Konner Goodin
 26 Hillary Harper
 27 Camille Parrett

From our congregational leadership ~ June 30, 2020

Our church family,

We are so glad that many of you joined us on Sunday to hear Rev. Gebhart's message and send her off with our best wishes. Thank you, Claudia Stevenson for the arrangements of the beautiful display for church members to show their love and appreciation for Rev. Gebhart.

Both Rev. Jeff Gill and Rev. Karen Gebhart have turned in their resignations for their own personal reasons. We wish only the best for both and for their families. We know that our congregation is grieving these losses in different ways. We are not minimizing any of your emotions and we appreciate that some of you have shared your feelings with us and expressed what each of our ministers have meant to you.

As we move forward, we aren't forgetting about our ministers. We are simply moving into the future God has in store for our church. You may be asking "Where does this leave us?" We think this leaves us with OPPORTUNITIES. An opportunity to take a serious and closer look at our roles and responsibilities as members of this congregation. Whether you are a chairman of an Evangelism Team, an Elder, Diaconate, Trustee or simply someone who loves and attends our church on a regular basis, this is YOUR opportunity to step-up and do God's work. We can accomplish more when we share the responsibilities of day-to-day ministry with each other. Your participation is vital for our congregation. Each one of us can make a difference in the life of our church.

As leaders of this church, you should know that the elders have a meeting scheduled to discuss plans for an Interim Minister following Rev. Jeff Gill's departure in August. If you have thoughts about what you feel would be important for an Interim Minister, please send Jan Tomlinson an email at jtomlins@mail.cotc.edu so that your voice is heard.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Jan Tomlinson Ron Thompson Earl Stevenson

Board Moderator Elders Chairman Trustees Chairman

***Galatians 6:10 ~ So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone,
and especially to those who are of the household of faith.***