

# the+theme

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
Bi-monthly newsletter

November &  
December 2018

from the Pastors ♥

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Boo!

That is a statement usually uttered to create a measure of fear. During this time of the year, with the world's Halloween approaching, it is probably said more than any other time of the year. The effects of the word "boo" are quick and effective when used on a two to six year old as you combine the word with a surprise appearance from around a dark corner. However, the effects of such a word dissipates as we age and become wise.

I wonder if the effects of an even more frightful event may be dissipating because we are simply getting used to it? What is this event? It's the decline of the church in America. It seems that Satan has launched an increasingly aggressive attack to do as much damage to people and society as he can. People are listening to Hollywood, to societal elites, to misled scientific directions, to bankrupt political leaders, to the all-knowing print columnist as well as to the social media experts of whom anyone with a keyboard can be. Satan has corrupted our educational systems from kindergarten through graduate school while making society think that it is progressing towards a more enlightened, freer people. We have arrived at a time, not unlike a time in the past, where "everyone does what is right in their own eyes", "every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually", "those call evil good, and good evil". Or as Malachi put it, "Everyone who does evil

Is good in the sight of the LORD," as a weary societal word to excuse all sin.

You see, people have been here before. Excusing sin. Discarding truth. Disparaging God's people. These tactics of Satan have played out in many cultures. So, as a result, is the church declining in America? Yes. But that does not have to be our final answer. It is true, 65% of all churches in America are declining or plateaued (56% declining, 9% plateaued). Over the past few years, ours has been one of those 65%. We have love. We have solid teaching. We have great worship led music. We have a phenomenal location. We have great people. There is not a reason in these that we should not be reaching people and pushing back the darkness. So, why aren't we growing? One answer to a multi-faceted answer is this, we are not giving away what we have.

You see, conversely, there are 35% of the churches in America that are growing. In the face of societal repression and obstruction, they are bucking the shakers and movers of Satan's agenda in order to give away the Kingdom of God. They are giving their love to those outside the church building. They are giving true teachings to the lost. They are giving salvation invitations in homes and businesses. They are giving their ministries and programs to reach a lost world rather than to simply support a past culture. In short, faith marks their steps, not fear.

To be continued...

In Christ,

*Pastor Leroy*

## Remember the Turkey!

Several years ago, the Peanuts cartoon pictured Charlie Brown bringing out Snoopy's dinner on Thanksgiving Day. Snoopy was shocked to see his usual dog food in the bowl. He took one look at the dog food and said, "This isn't fair! The rest of the world is eating turkey with all the trimmings, and all I get is dog food. Because I'm a dog all I ever get is dog food!" He stood there and stared at his dog food for a moment, and said, "I guess it could be worse. I could be a turkey."

In the case of Snoopy, there is very little joy in his thankfulness. He was thankful that he was treated better than the turkey, but he still felt that he deserved more. Christians struggle with these same feelings. We are thankful to God to a certain point, but our thankfulness lacks the joy that only comes when we realize how great God's grace really is in our lives. You see, the Bible says that we all are sinners (Romans 3:23) and that the consequences of our sin is spiritual death (Romans 6: 23). We deserve the turkey's fate. But God, who is rich in bestowing grace and mercy, has prepared a place for us at His table. God doesn't give us what we deserve. Oh, He gives us so much more!

This Thanksgiving when you look at the turkey remember God's grace, His undeserved favor. John Newton, the writer of the beloved hymn, "Amazing Grace", never lost his joy and thankfulness to the Lord for saving, as he pinned, "A wretch like me". This same unmerited favor (Grace) has been extended to all who have been rescued from their sins by Jesus. In the days before his death, John Newton is quoted as proclaiming with a loud voice during a message, "My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things: That I am a great sinner and that Christ is a great Savior!"

### We Will Remember

We will remember, we will remember, we will remember the work of Your hands.

And we will stop! And give You praise for great is Thy faithfulness.

I will remember the works of the LORD; Surely I will remember Your wonders of old. I will also meditate on all Your work, And talk of Your deeds. Your way, O God, is in the sanctuary; Who is so great a God as our God? Psalm 77: 11-13 NKJV

### Remember the Season

Christmas is always a busy time of year. Central Baptist's music ministry will be presenting "God Speaking" in the morning service on December 9<sup>th</sup>. This will be an exciting time of praising God through music. In addition, there will be opportunities for our music ministry to make an impact on our community.

Have a joyful Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas! (And remember the turkey.)

PraiSing Him,  
Pastor Jeff

## GET INVOLVED!

- Children's Choir (Grades 1-6) - Wed. at 6pm
- Adult Choir - Wednesdays at 7:00pm
- Orchestra - Sundays at 9:00am
- Youth Praise Band - Sundays at 5pm
- Handbells - Sundays at 6:20pm

### #Othersfirst

A few years ago the football field manager and the marketing team had the painters paint #HAILSTATE as a promotion. It turned out to be a huge success as every sports network made it a hot topic for the next few weeks. Since then, hash tags have been going strong. Hash tags are used by Universities, Campaigns, Business', Special Event promoters and even President Trump. Hash tags are also used to promote movements and messages such as #blacklivesmatter, #hashtagbluelives matter, and most recently - #metoo. Hashtags are used in social media to help spread a message or idea.

I've noticed something about our culture and #'s; we have a tendency to be a bit selfish. When an individual or a specific group benefits from a movement, that individual or group has no motivation for resolve or resolution. For example, if the movement is to make peace and peace is made, there is no longer any reason for the movement. As a result often the people leading the movement lose track of the goal and begin focusing on personal gain. This is selfishness!

Paul warns us about doing things out of selfish ambition or vain conceit (Philippians 2:3). And he encourages the believer to be like minded with Christ in sharing in His love that is selfless – caring, compassionate, and tender. While Solomon had his own issues with selfish living, he still addressed the concept of selfless living in the wisdom God gave him, “*A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed*” (Proverbs 11:25). Joy can be found in selfless living that has others in mind, “...then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and in mind” (Philippians 2:2). This is the kind of living that considers others interest before my own (Philippians 2:4).

I'd like to start a new movement where everyone benefits and God is glorified, #othersfirst. Could you imagine what the church would look like if our daily goal was to look out for the other guy before looking after my own interest? It would change the way I even approach an intersection or even think about the person who went through the red light. I couldn't help but be less offended by others and certainly less offensive to others.

Writing this, I can't help but think about some of the selfless people in my life such as Jane Frisco, Matt Carey, Caleb Burks, Darrell and Vanessa Bostwick, Ed and Yvette Snedeker, and many others. These people are truly examples of that “Mind of Christ selfless love”!! I also want to thank our church for your constant support and encouragement, especially during the month of October with the special appreciation reception for our pastors. We were truly blessed!!  
#othersfirst

Jesus loves you!!

Shalom,  
Shannon England

# Preschool Ministry



Welcome Abigail Hernandez

Born September 6<sup>th</sup>

Congratulations! Josue & Sudisaday

*I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus.*

*1 Corinthians 1:4*

*God has blessed Central's preschool ministry with all the children, and the volunteers who make it possible to care for them.*

**A Special Thank You to all who serve in preschool, Sunday school teachers, welcome center greeters, class volunteers, & paid workers.**



***If you are not currently serving in preschool, we invite you to come and be a part of this important ministry. Contact Linda Durfee for more information. Thank You!***

***Sickness*** hits everyone at one time or another. Preschool has a policy on when it is best to keep your child home from church:

## **Policies Concerning Sickness**

One of the concerns we face in the preschool area is that of sickness. Our desire is that preschoolers are not exposed to any symptoms of illness. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as you observe the following guidelines and policies for admitting your child to the Preschool Department.

**A child is considered sick when he/she has...**

...A fever of 99 degrees or higher.

...Been on antibiotics less than 24 hours.

...A cold, especially with thick, yellowish-green mucus; congested coughing or rattling in the chest, sore throat, or breathing difficulty.

...Symptoms of an infectious illness such as "pink-eye"(reddened eyes with drainage), chicken pox, vomiting or diarrhea.

...Unexplained rashes or skin infections

Your child must be free of all the above symptoms for at least 24 hours. If your child has any of the above symptoms, you may be asked to remove your child from the area. This is for the well being of your child and the other children, and caregivers who are at church.

# Greetings from the Missions Desk:

November December Missions Newsletter Segment composed 10/15/2018 by Ed Snedeker.

Let me get right to it. Below is the fund asset and liabilities.

## What's old?

Cooperative Program (8% of offerings as designated by church vote), line item 110 of the yearly budget.

Total contribution as of Sept 30, 2018 is \$30,837.22.

Annie Armstrong (NAMB) offering was \$6,766.90. Sent to the Florida Baptist Convention/forwarded from there.

Lottie Moon (IMB) offering was \$18,347.92. Sent to the Florida Baptist Convention/forwarded from there.

Brevard Baptist Association (2% of offerings as designated by church vote), line item 120 of the yearly budget. Total contribution as of Sept 30, 2018 is \$7,709.31.

Outreach Ministry, line item 140 of the yearly budget set at \$4,920.00. Total contribution as of Sept 30, 2018 is \$3,690.00.

Local Missions Fund (AKA, Send Central) voluntary giving by members and is not included in the yearly budget. The balance in this account as of Sept 30, 2018 is \$2,545.73. This account paid out \$1200.00 and took in donations of \$321.83. Note: a \$200.00 donation came in to this account and was directed to a specific area. In these cases it will automatically happen apart from committee discussion. The committee approved a \$1000.00 payout.

Note: The above numbers are direct from our financial officer Linda Spicer.

## What's new?

Y'all voted me back in for another year as chairman of the missions committee. Thanks for the vote of confidence but it isn't me, it's my team of great folks that are the stars. Can't thank them enough. In our last meeting, the dedicated members voted on the budget for next year. They decided to seek an increase, Increase funding for existing missionaries, take on a new missionary and assist our folks in a ministry at Canaveral Port to feed the sea goers one Sunday a month. The increase to line item 140 is a total of \$10,740.00/yr. presently, it is \$4,920.00/yr. It is now in the capable hands of the finance folks at CBC. We also sought an increase to the Cooperative Program from 8% to 10% of non designated giving and opted to keep the Brevard Baptist Association at 2%.The Lottie Moon dinner is Wednesday November 14<sup>th</sup>. Special speaker will be announced soon. That means we are still working on that. The giving goal this year is \$20,000.00.

In closing: Any questions/comments can be directed to me, my pew is always open. 4<sup>th</sup> row from the front on the piano side of church next to the balcony stairs. See you on Sunday.

# Saints Alive



November 12, 2018

11:30 AM

Central Baptist Church

Fellowship Hall

Bring a favorite Thanksgiving dish to share.

Turkey will be provided

Come and share your most thankful moments.

Saint's

Alive



December 10, 2018

11:30 AM

Central Baptist Church

Fellowship Hall

Bring a favorite Christmas dish to share.

White Elephant

Christmas Party

## Safety and Security Initiative Update

By Ted Wolfe

In the September-October newsletter, the “Safety and Security Initiative” article described the various activities being undertaken by the Safety and Security Team (SST) under the sponsorship and initiation of the Board of Trustees. One of the safety needs the team has been addressing is medical emergencies and it was noted that this need was the number one priority of the initial eight priorities the team had identified. To that end, three Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) had been donated as well as numerous interested people enlisted for CPR/AED training.

During this past month of October these trained and certified people became organized as the Medical Response Team (MRT) operating as an auxiliary of the SST. There are now over 16 members of the MRT and growing. A luncheon and working meeting was held recently to introduce all the members and to familiarize them with the contents of the AED cabinets as well as their locations. The MRT has three main objectives;



- ...to organize as an auxiliary group under direction of the SST and who are certified in CPR/AED first aid or equivalent.
- ...to respond to medical emergencies in an appropriate manner until EMS personnel are on the scene.
- ...to stay organized for the purpose of pertinent and appropriate communications from the SST and to become familiar with other team members with like skills and interests.

Hopefully, none of these resources will ever have to be used but we are prepared just in case.

Other areas of church safety are continuing to be addressed under this trustee initiative. The SST members will soon be deploying the use of radios for the purpose of communicating between on-duty members during church events as well as with the pre-school and nursery workers. Other areas will be included in the future. These radios were provided by many generous donors who support the efforts and priorities of this initiative.

We are again grateful to be able to tell you about more of these important behind the scenes activities that are going on at Central and will hopefully continue as we take a much more active role with our church safety and security.



## **FOOD PANTRY**

It is that time of the year again. Time when we purchase extra food items to bring to the Food Pantry. Every year at Thanksgiving and Christmas the Food Pantry puts together holiday food baskets for the needy. There are many persons who will have to do without food during the holidays. God has given us so very much and just like Jesus fed the masses and I think we can feed the hungry too.

Things needed for Thanksgiving and Christmas food gifts:

- Potatoes (real potatoes)
- Canned Carrots
- Canned Corn
- Canned String beans
- Gravy (jars)
- Cranberry Sauce
- French Fried Onions
- Stuffing Mix
- Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Cool Whip



Drop off your donations in the Fellowship Hall, the Sanctuary Foyer or the Church Office.

The gifts for Thanksgiving will be on Monday, November 12th from 11:00a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The gifts for Christmas will be on Monday, December 10th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



## **FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

What is fellowship? The dictionary states that fellowship is a group of people that join together for a common purpose or interest. I think as Christians we should most importantly have fellowship with God daily but also on occasion we can fellowship with (wait for it) our "fellow" Christians! One of many things Central Baptist Church does right is food, fun and fellowship! We just had a night of that showing appreciation for our Pastors. It was a fun night and there definitely was lots of food! We are a family at Central and I love that we can get together to enjoy each other's company and have some fun together. I hope that you all look forward to joining together with our church family for some more great fellowship soon! There are several ideas already in place for the coming year - but I would welcome any new ideas- more food, fun and fellowship coming soon!

Let's have some fun serving the Lord!

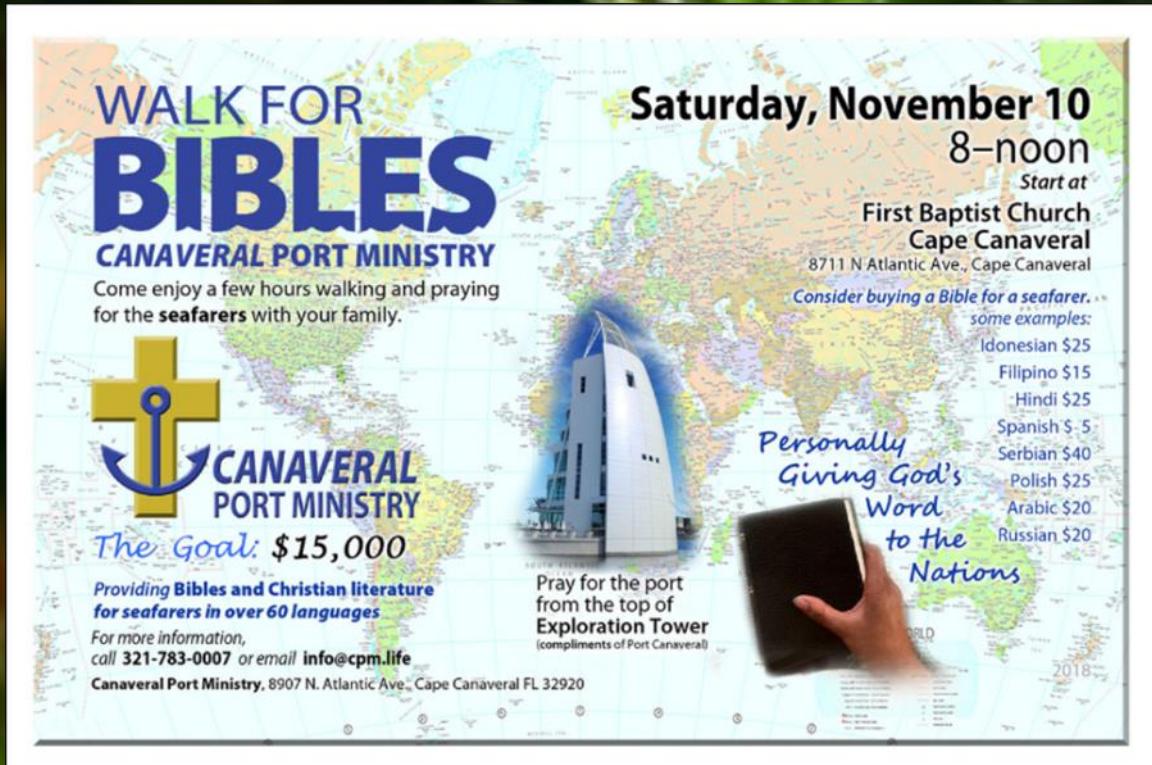
# NOVEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<p><b>Regular Sunday Activities</b></p> <p>Sunday School (9:30am), Morning Worship Service (10:45am), Youth Praise Band Rehearsal (5pm), Joint Evening Worship Service (6pm), G.A.'s, Acteens, Blitz &amp; Adults (6:30pm), College/Young Adults after pm service</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>Supper (5:20pm), Bible Study, Youth Group, Children's Choir, Ladies Bible Study, ESL (6:00pm), Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:00pm), College/Young Adults (8:30pm)</p>		1 1:30pm CHSF in Fellowship Hall 6pm Outreach	2 Acteens	3 Sleepover
4  Regular Sunday Activities	5 10am Quilting Ministry 11am Food Pantry 7pm Deacon Mtg	6 General Election No Men in Motion	7 Regular Wednesday Activities	.8 1:30pm CHSF - off campus 6pm Outreach	9 Family Camping at Scout Island	10 Walk for Bibles 8am-12 noon
11 Regular Sunday Activities 5pm Budget Forum	12 11am Food Pantry 11:30am Saints Alive 6pm Stewardship Mtg  FL Baptist State	13 12pm Men in Motion  Convention	14 Regular Wednesday Activities  Lottie Moon Kick-off Dinner	15 1:30pm CHSF in Fellowship Hall  6pm Outreach	16	17
18 Regular Sunday Activities Lord's Supper 6pm Business Mtg	19 10am Quilting Ministry 11am Food Pantry - Thanksgiving Food	20 No Men in Motion	21 No Wednesday Activities  College/Young Adult Thanksgiving Meal	22  Office Closed	23	24
25 Regular Sunday Activities	26 11am Food Pantry	27 12pm Men in Motion	28 Regular Wednesday Activities	29 1:30pm CHSF - off Campus 6pm Outreach	30	

# December 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<p><b>Regular Sunday Activities</b></p> <p>Sunday School (9:30am), Morning Worship Service (10:45am), Youth Praise Band Rehearsal (5pm), Joint Evening Worship Service (6pm), G.A.'s, Acteens, Blitz &amp; Adults (6:30pm), College/Young Adults after pm service</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>Supper (5:20pm), Bible Study, Youth Group, Children's Choir, Ladies Bible Study, ESL (6:00pm), Adult Choir Rehearsal (7:00pm), College/Young Adults (8:30pm)</p>		1 Women's Ministry Christmas Party 5pm	
2 Regular Sunday Activities Lottie Moon Offering Dec 2nd - 9th	3 10am Quilting Ministry 11am Food Pantry 7pm Deacons Mtg.	4 12pm Men in Motion	5 Regular Wednesday Activities	6 1:30pm CHSF - off campus 6pm Outreach	7	8
9 Regular Sunday Activities featuring Choir Christmas Program 5:00pm Nominating Committee Mtg.	10 11am Food Pantry 11am Saint Alive 6pm Stewardship Mtg. ..... Jan-Feb Newsletter Articles due	11 12pm Men in Motion	12 Regular Wednesday Activities	13 1:30pm CHSF Fellowship Hall 6pm Outreach	14	15
16 Regular Sunday Activities	17 10am Quilting Ministry 11am Food Pantry - Christmas Food	18 12pm Men in Motion	19 Regular Wednesday Activities - No Dinner Christmas Caroling Refreshments after in Fellowship Hall	20 CHSF - Off til Jan 10 ..... Jan-Feb Newsletter Published	21	22
23 Regular Sunday Services	24 5pm Christmas Eve Service & Lord's Supper	25  Merry Christmas	26 Office Closed No Wednesday Activities	27 Office Closed	28 Office Closed	29
30 Regular Sunday Services	31					





November 18 @ 6pm

## Just a reminder:

The church buildings are equipped with WiFi.

Look for "Central Public"  
the password is praiseGod



## Staff

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## MINISTERIAL STAFF

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## CHURCH OFFICE

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Monday - Thursday 9am-5pm