



Dear Church Family,
I would like to thank my church family for their love, prayers and beautiful cards that I received during my illness. I am doing much better.
Virgaleen Worthington

Central Baptist Church,
We want to thank each of you who called, sent cards and who prayed for us during the past few weeks. We really appreciate your love and concern during this difficult time. Please continue to pray for us in the weeks ahead.
Patty Martin and Family

Dear Central Baptist Family,
Thank you so much for your love and prayers during this time. We truly appreciate you opening the church for us to honor and remember Judy. We will always think of Central Baptist Church as family.
Sincerely,
Bud Casebier and Family

Dear Church Family,
I would like to thank each and every one for their prayers, cards and calls during my time of need. Please continue to pray for George and me.
Frances Druen-Wheeler

July Mission Trip to Inez - Cancelled
It is with regret that we have decided to cancel our summer mission trip to eastern Kentucky. We pray this time of struggle is over by July but with little time to meet and prepare we have decided it best to cancel. We also know that there will be plenty of opportunities for us to be on mission here in our own community when this ends.
We will be planning for our trip next year.

Ministerial Staff
TJ Daugherty: tj@centralbaptistparis.com
Senior Pastor
Mickey Ballard: mickey@centralbaptistparis.com
Associate Pastor of Music & Worship
Jonathan Graves: jonathancbc2019@outlook.com
Associate Pastor of Families & Youth
Church Secretary: kaye@centralbaptistparis.com
Financial Secretary: cathy@centralbaptistparis.com
visit us at www.centralbaptistparis.com

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www.facebook.com/centralbaptistparisyouth

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Paris, KY 40361

Central Baptist Church
829 High Street
Paris, Kentucky 40361
Return Service Requested



829 High St. • Paris, KY 40361
859-987-3951 or 859-987-5638
www.centralbaptistparis.com

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TJ's Take

The last six weeks have been a whirlwind. My family has moved across the country, purchased our first house, settled into a new home, and established a new routine with me serving in a new role as senior pastor. All of this, of course, while we all face the craziness of our world and the pandemic of COVID-19.

As I've reflected on these past few weeks and the beginning of my time here at Central, I feel a great amount of tension.

On the one hand, I am incredibly frustrated. I'm frustrated that we can't gather together. I'm frustrated that Sunday mornings are relegated to streaming services on Facebook live and simulcasting them over the radio. I'm frustrated that technology doesn't always cooperate and that we

have faced so many challenges in that area. I'm frustrated that I can't get to know the flock on a personal level. I'm frustrated that we can't take the Lord's Supper together. I'm frustrated that we can't fellowship. I'm frustrated that we have to have prayer meetings over Zoom. I'm frustrated that we can't share a meal together. I'm frustrated that I can't look around the room and see the people of God worshipping together in unison. And I'm frustrated that I can't feel your energy and excitement as we pore over the Scriptures.

This situation is difficult for all of us. And it is just so incredibly frustrating.

But on the other hand, as frustrating and difficult as this has been, I also find myself being encouraged and excited about things that are happening. I'm encouraged that our staff hasn't missed a beat and has continued to look for ways to lead and serve the flock. I'm encouraged that our technology team has week by week continually improved the livestream quality for us as a church. I'm encouraged that for the first time in our church's history, we have the ability to broadcast our services to the entire community and beyond. I'm encouraged that we've learned how to provide a means of staying connected to people who are traveling, who are sick, or who are homebound even after we are allowed to come together. I'm encouraged that we've added the capability of online giving, and I'm encouraged about the faithfulness of God's people to continue to financially support the church. I'm encouraged by the many emails and texts and phone calls I've received, telling me that my family is loved and cared for. I'm encouraged about the eagerness that has been demonstrated for hearing from the Word of God. I'm encouraged because now, when we finally do get to gather again, we won't be so prone to take it for granted.

And I'm encouraged because God is continuing to work in so many magnificent ways.

So I hope, like me, you're frustrated. I hope that each Wednesday or Sunday when you do a Zoom meeting with

your Sunday School or when you login to Facebook live to watch a service, I hope you realize that it's not quite right. It's not quite the real thing. And I hope you realize that even though it's better than nothing, it's certainly not a legitimate substitute. Because God has created us to commune with one another.

But at the same time, I hope you're not completely deflated. I hope you're encouraged. Because God isn't waiting on this quarantine to be over. He's moving now. He's worthy to be praised even now.

The previous few weeks have brought a tension of frustration and encouragement. I don't know what the next few weeks will bring. And I don't know how much longer we will be in this situation of waiting.

But I do know that the God of heaven is still on his throne. And no matter what happens, we will continue to worship him together.

More than ever, I greatly long for the day when we will gather together again and sing praises to the King of Kings in worship together. And in God's timing, it will happen.

Until we gather again,
Pastor TJ



MICKEY'S MUSINGS

It could probably go without saying, but the last 8 weeks have been a trying time. However, it has also been a time for incredible growth, development, and learning new things. On March 14, 2020, the following statements were 100% true:

- I had never created a Facebook Live video
- I had no idea how to get audio signal to the computer

- I had never heard of OBS (Open Broadcaster Software)
- I had never leveraged ProPresenter—our projection software—for multiple signals
- I had never imported live video feeds into ProPresenter
- I had never created graphics for live streaming
- I had never created a photo frame for Facebook
- I had never uploaded audio to our website
- I had never created new content for our website
- and so much more...

I do not say these things to direct attention to myself; I say them to wonder where we would be if everyone tried something new, something outside of one's comfort zone, outside of one's knowledge base for the benefit of spreading the Gospel.

When the time comes for us to return to the building to worship and serve together, who would be willing to learn to do some of or all the things listed above? You will not have to spend hours reading articles, watching YouTube videos, or making phone calls to solicit advice. I will gladly provide you with the information, resources, and training you will need. Are you willing to use your talents in service to the Father in any of these areas? Are you willing to be used outside of your comfort zone? The worship ministry needs you. Your church needs you. As evangelist Bob Jones is quoted as saying, "the greatest ability is availability." Make yourself available for service after this period of separation concludes and see what incredible growth you can experience.

Mickey

Sunday Morning Services

If you don't have Facebook live but are still wanting to access our services on Sunday morning, you can tune in to
AM 1440 or FM 100.9
Please spread the word!



Jonny's Corner

Hello Church Family! I pray that everyone is doing well. As the quarantine season is still ongoing, I know that it is frustrating for everyone that we are unable to come together here at the church as a congregation. Not only is it frustrating for the congregation, but it is tough for the staff as well. But, God has still left the door open for us to share the gospel through technology and social media.

While Zoom meetings are not ideal, it still allows the ministries at Central Baptist Church to come together. I know Zoom meetings are not the same as meeting in the youth room, but it is always good to talk to students and see each other's faces. I am excited that God is moving in His student ministry, even while this tough time is ongoing. I am excited because students want to have Bible studies; either face-to-face, via FaceTime or small group Bible studies via Zoom. This excites me because God is still at work in the students. Students are taking time to think and spend time with God.

I am also encouraged to hear that the Children's Packets are useful in helping children be engaged in the sermon on Sunday mornings. Shannon Kenimer is working hard preparing the packets each week. At the same time, I am also encouraged to hear parents spending time with their children working on the packets. This really excites me that parents are taking this opportunity to teach and share the gospel with their children.

Eventually this season of the pandemic will come to an end. Our church will be able to congregate again and the activities at the church will resume. But remember, even during this time, God is still at work. At the end of all this God's glory will shine! I pray that more people will see God's presence in their lives and want to build a close relationship with Him. Even through quarantine, God has

given all of us the opportunity to share the gospel at home or even through technology.

I am praying for all the families that have been impacted by this terrible virus. But, at the same time, I pray that God's presence be felt through this pandemic. His glory and grace is greater than this pandemic! God has kept the door open for evangelism. Yes, we might be sharing the gospel through a method that is uncomfortable and not familiar with, but the door is still open. God did not say it was going to be easy, but it is possible. So, I encourage everyone to keep pushing forward with the gospel!

My favorite verse in the Bible is Psalm 46:10 (ESV), "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth!"

God Bless,
Jonny

Central Baptist welcomes new members TJ and Chloe Daugherty

Average Attendance & Giving Report through April 26th

Year to Date Budget Giving \$135,484.23
Year to Date Budget Required \$163,064.00
Budget Shortfall \$27,579.77

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
Central Baptist Church Goal - \$5,000
Collected as of April 26th \$3,414

Tithes and Offerings can be mailed to the church office at 829 High Street. Also, online giving is set up give.idonate.com/central-baptist-paris/give and it can be found on our Facebook Page



Ross and Shirley Mackin have seen God at work in the part of Thailand where they serve as International Mission Board missionaries.

"We've seen God answer prayers and heal people who believe in Him," Shirley said. "God has provided hope and peace for many who believe in Him. One woman named Boua was mainly bedridden, unable to do much of anything. She is now able to care for herself, has peace in her heart, and is able to come to meetings of the believers."

Most of the Mackins' work is in countryside villages. They go door to door sharing the gospel, and then follow up with a six-week evangelistic Bible study for anyone interested. They also tell them to invite their family, friends and neighbors.

From there, they try to start ongoing Bible studies with groups of new believers with the hopes they will become a church.

Where the Mackins serve, if someone believes in Jesus, they face social pressure that pushes them to turn back to Buddhism. In their hearts, they believe, but they have a hard time standing against opposition. "They say they cannot be different from everyone else or that they have to continue following the religion of their ancestors," Ross said.

Shirley asked for prayer for those new believers and for her and her husband as they continue to offer hope to the Buddhists where they live. "Pray for endurance and perseverance in sharing the gospel and discipling believers," she said. "Pray for good health for us so that we can continue our work."

*Submitted on behalf of the WMU by Edna Stanley

