

The William D. Dietrich Endowment Scholarship Fund



The deadline to apply is Sunday, May 15.

William Dietrich, Pastor at Central Baptist Church from 1953-1984, greatly valued investing in future leaders of the church and society. We invite church members who are actively involved in Central Baptist Church, exhibit qualities of leadership within their school, church, and community, show an investment in faith, the church, and the future of the church to apply. You may contact the church office for an application or watch for a link in the CBC Weekly Updates. Please return your completed application to the church office or scan and email it to Nicole at nicoleaverette@cbcrichmond.org.

The deadline to complete and return your application is Sunday, May 15.

MUSICAL FACTS

Which genre of music is known as an instant mood booster?

- Classical
- Reggae
- Jazz
- Top 40
- All of the above

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" text originally reflected the words from Revelation 19:12, "...and on his head were many crowns." Text writer Matthew Bridges described a different crown in each stanza: "Crown him with many crowns," "Crown him the Virgin's Son," "Crown him the Lord of Love," "Crown him the Lord of peace," "Crown him the Lord of years," and "Crown him the Lord of heaven." Later text writer Godfrey Thring wrote six stanzas that began "Crown him with crowns of gold," "Crown him the Son of God," "Crown him the Lord of light," "Crown him the Lord of life," "Crown him the Lord of lords," and retaining Bridges' first line, "Crown him the Lord of heaven," he constructed a new final stanza. Rather than publish two entirely different hymns, hymn editors used a combination of stanzas from *both* lyricists. The tune name **DIADEMATA** is taken from the Greek word for "crowns" in Revelation 19:12. (Answer to the mood booster question above:

Many studies have found listening to music can lift your spirits, and any genre will do the trick as long as it's one you enjoy. "For some people it's Bach; for others it's heavy metal," says Elizabeth Lombardo, author of *A Happy You: Your Ultimate Prescription for Happiness*.)

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTRY NEWS



Wednesdays at 6 PM

Lenten Bible Study

Imagine the Post-Pandemic Church
Lessons from Ezra
led by Terry Maples

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 16

11 AM - 1 PM

BOUNCE HOUSE, CRAFTS, EGG HUNT
AND HOT DOGS!



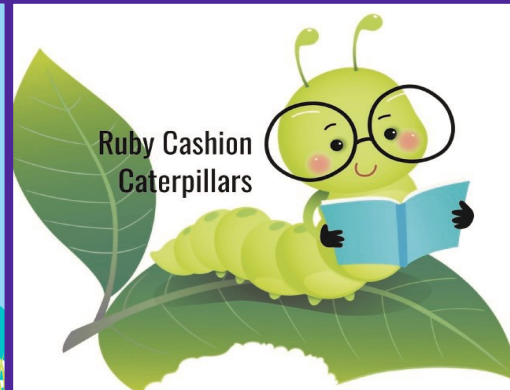
EASTER EGG HUNT CANDY DONATIONS

PLEASE DROP OFF ANY CANDY DONATIONS
(NO PEANUTS, PLEASE) IN THE
WELCOME CENTER BEGINNING THIS SUNDAY!

THANK YOU!!

We are looking for volunteers to help with Central's Easter Egg Hunt this year.

If you would like to volunteer, you may sign up in the Welcome Center beginning this Sunday or email Melissa West (melissawest@cbcrichmond.org).



Ruby Cashion
Caterpillars

Ruby Cashion Preschool has begun accepting Interest Forms since our first Open House in February. **Our next Open House will be held on Wednesday, April 20th from 4:00—7:00pm.** We are spreading the word to the community that Ruby Cashion will be reopening this fall! Our goal here at the preschool is to be a wonderful resource to our community. Ruby Cashion Preschool will open its doors again in September of 2022 and will begin registration in the month of April, until then we will continue to collect Interest Forms and schedule tours. If you know of someone who is looking for a loving religious preschool program, please have them contact me directly at melissawest@cbcrichmond.org.

The Messenger

OBSERVING HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT CENTRAL

Palm Sunday April 10

Worship @ 11:00 AM
Sunday School @ 9:45 AM

As we celebrate Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week, we ask that you bring **New or Gently Used Coats** of all sizes to be donated. Just as the disciples laid their cloaks down for the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, we too lay down our coats and serve Christ by serving those in need.



WORSHIP @ 11:00 AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9:45 AM

Maundy Thursday Service

April 14 @ 7 PM



The word Maundy comes from the Latin 'mandatum', meaning 'mandate' or 'command' which refers to instructions Jesus gave his disciples to "Love one another as I have loved you." Maundy Thursday, the night before Christ was crucified, commemorates Jesus' final Passover meal with his disciples which Christians consider the institution of Holy Eucharist, also known as Lord's Supper or Communion.

On Maundy Thursday our worship experience will be in the form of
Readers' Theater:
The Last Supper,
Garden of Gethsemane agony,
mock court appearances before Pilate and Herod,
and Christ's journey to the cross.

Join us on Thursday, April 14, 2022, 7 PM, in Central Baptist Church's sanctuary for a meaningful and memorable gathering including reflection, prayer, communion, and consideration of Christ's final demonstrations of love through servanthood and sacrifice.

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13

Letter from David:

Dear Friends,

I am grateful to you for your support and affirmation as reflected in the March 13 called business meeting. I am also proud of your decision to overwhelmingly approve the motion in that same business meeting that: **“We, the congregation of Central Baptist Church, as a first step in addressing the issues identified in the Center for Healthy Churches’ report, and moving into the spirit of Scenario 3 of becoming an Acts 15 or demonstration community, enter a period of re-covenant to prayerfully study our church covenant and seek God’s discernment for his calling to who we are as church, as members of the body and our purpose in God’s kingdom.”**

In the body of Mike Clingenpeel’s report to the congregation, issued on January 23, 2022, he said:

If CBC members could, as at the Acts 15 meeting, **embrace one another as people “saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ” and adopt a code of relational conduct** that would prevent ugly rumors to be shared, secret meetings to be held and bullying tactics to be used, then the fellowship of the church might be spared a sharp split.

Decades ago, (a) Berkeley sociologist ... used the term **“demonstration community”** to describe the Church. ... (He) believed that **the role of a church in the world was to demonstrate the reality or essence of the Gospel**. He was optimistic enough to believe that when society sees what the Gospel looks like it will find the Gospel attractive.

How then can CBC become a “demonstration community?”

CBC cannot be an effective demonstration community by passive acquiescence to its internal conflict. The status quo is not a healthy option.

It can be a demonstration community in one of two ways. It may show how a Christian community, divided by convictions, can honor the convictions of each other and bless each other to take different but legitimate approaches to being the church in the world.

It can also be a demonstration community **by defining its identity and mission broadly enough to embrace the diversity existing among Christians and showing how Christians behave in Christlike ways** to do Christ’s work.

My goal as pastor has only, ever and always, been to embody and reflect the love and grace of Jesus Christ. I feel strongly that your adoption of the motion that we move towards becoming a “demonstration community” reflects your commitment to the way of love. **In our vote, love won the day. And God is love; so, God’s love won.**

My friend, Dr. Kevin Heifner, shared the following post online recently. It reflects who God is; and it reflects my beliefs about God. And based on your statements, as reflected in our congregational vote, it reflects your beliefs about God, too:

“I have a friend who is a retired minister. He has been through an experience with cancer. ... (He shared) a basic concept of God. Described by the phrase... ‘God is love’.

I thought about that. **Taken literally...God/love would be synonyms. I decided to substitute love for ‘God/the Lord’ into several verses from the Bible.**

Love is good to all... Psalm 145:9
You are the love who sees... Genesis 16:13
Love gives wisdom... Proverbs 2:6
For the word of love is right and true... Psalms 33:4
The words of love are flawless... Psalms 12:6
Love is our refuge and strength... Psalm 46:1
Where the spirit of love is there is freedom... 2 Corinthians 3:17
Maybe it is as simple as the closing line of Les Misérables... *‘To love another person is to see the face of God’.*”

As the Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 13: “If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,^[a] but do not have love, I gain nothing...¹³ **And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.**”

As one of the first steps in addressing the issues identified in the Center for Healthy Churches’ report, **we are inviting all adults, beginning on Easter Sunday, April 17, to spend a quarter together in Adult Sunday School** (and we strongly encourage all adult classes to participate) in the Fellowship Hall. **Dr. Scott Spencer**, a friend of the church, writer of several books, including *Journeying Through Acts*, and previously Professor of New Testament at BTSR, will lead these adult studies which are entitled - **Opening Acts: Unleashing God’s “Unhindered” Spirit in the Church and World.**

Let us now embrace the hard work of working toward reconciliation and coming to terms with what it means to be church, as God’s “unhindered” Spirit is unleashed within and upon us, one and all.

In Christ,
David Turner

CBF Ukraine Relief Efforts By Terry L. Maples, Coordinator Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

The crisis taking place in Ukraine is beyond comprehension. So much death and destruction. Such a brutal attack on humanity, democracy, and religious freedom. As followers of the Way, we are called to make peace—not just enjoy it. We are called to offer hope when all seems hopeless.



Jeff Langford from CBF Heartland shared these words of gratitude for ways in which Fellowship Baptist have already helped by supporting the long-term presence of CBF field personnel. It’s pretty easy to see “presence matters.”

- CBF field personnel Gennady and Mina Podgaisky have served in Kyiv, Ukraine, for 20 years. From a safe location in the U.S., they remain in constant contact with Ukrainian pastors and leaders, conducting grief counseling, helping Ukrainians find safe locations and providing financial support for those fleeing the country (additional news below).
- Dianne and Shane McNary have served as CBF field personnel in Slovakia since 2004. They are preparing and organizing places to be used as a refugee stop-overs by Ukrainians moving into and through Slovakia.
- CBF field personnel Mary Van Rheenen, who has served in Europe since 1996, is working to support Ukrainian refugees through partners in Moldova.
- Matt and Michelle Norman have served as CBF field personnel in Spain since 2011. Matt is serving as CBF's liaison to the European Baptist Federation and its response to the Ukraine crisis.

Until the Russian invasion, the Village of Hope (founded by the Podgaiskys) hosted three Ukrainian foster families with a total of 21 children. We received the bad news on March 10 that the Village of Hope was bombed by Russian military strikes. Fortunately, everyone was evacuated and no one was injured or killed.

In the same way the church is not a building, this important mission post continues unabated (even with the Podgaiskys home on assignment). From NC, the Podgaiskys are working through their networks to provide friends and neighbors with evacuation information and connecting Ukrainians to resources in the country: transportation, relocation to safety, shelters and contact information for medical advice, and the location of food/shelter.

The Podgaiskys are also sending funds to trusted ministry partners and individuals in Kyiv, Romania and Spain to provide humanitarian relief. These field personnel have partnered with the War Orphan Project, a new ministry putting together a plan to aid an orphanage that is taking care of the children whose parents were killed during the Russian invasion. As of March 4, the ministry had taken in more than 45 orphaned children from just one area of Ukraine.

Here is how you can help today. You can give hope to the threatened and displaced Ukrainians by giving to CBF’s Ukraine Relief Fund. Please give generously at: www.cbf.net/ukraine.

*Rejoice!
Christ is Alive!
I know that my Redeemer is alive,
and at the last He will rise upon the earth.
When I awake,
He will set me by His side,
and in my flesh,
I shall see God.
(Job 19:25, quoted from the Liturgy of Taize)*

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