Top stories...

- Intergenerational workshop offers Advent keepsake.
- Blue Christmas Service returns Dec. 1 for those grieving a loss.
- Parents: Rehearsal for the Children’s Christmas Pageant is Nov. 24, 11:30am.
- Volunteers are needed for CISS meal on Dec. 13.
- Join the new Bible class 6–7pm, Wednesdays, in Room 202.

Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center will be highlighted for the Community Connections class

Each Sunday, at 9:00 a.m., in the Fireside Room, we are shining the spotlight on 13 mission partners that Central supports with our mission giving and volunteers. Guests will share stories and engage, inspire and educate us on how we can be more involved. Come, learn how we are making a difference in Des Moines and around the world, addressing hunger, poverty, homelessness, mental health, education, immigration and interfaith relationships.

Hanging of the Greens is Sunday, November 24

Everyone is invited to the Sanctuary on Sunday, November 24, 4:00–6:00 p.m., to decorate the church for the Advent season.

Help support Calvin Community!

Join in our annual gifts to Calvin Community – each tag on the tree in the East Parlor represents someone in the health care units at Calvin.

1. Take an angel tag(s) from the tree and sign your name, telephone and email to the corresponding tag number on the clipboard list.
2. Purchase a front zipper or button-up sweatshirt or sweater or other items indicated on angel tag(s). Gender and sizes are included.
3. You can add more gifts (i.e., socks, t-shirts and other items), if appropriate.
4. Please gift wrap and attach angel tag to package.
5. Deadline to return gift(s) to the church is Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019.

Don’t forget to check your name off the clipboard list.

Create a keepsake at Intergenerational Advent Workshop

On Sunday, December 1, at 9:00 a.m., in Fellowship Hall, join the Intergenerational Advent Workshop! Everyone is invited to come and create an ornament keep-sake with our families and friends. Enjoy pastries, bagels and fruit with your morning coffee and juice. Join us to usher in the 2019 Advent season. All crafts are compliments of the Christian Education Committee!
Upcoming @Central

Friday, November 22
12:00pm Church closes

Saturday, November 23
11:00am Taggart Funeral

Sunday, November 24
9:00am Education Hour
9:30am Chancel Choir
10:15am Worship
11:15am Fellowship Time
11:30am Christmas Pageant rehearsal & lunch
11:30am Stewardship Team
4:00pm Hanging of the Greens

Thursday, November 28
THANKSGIVING DAY
HOLIDAY Church is Closed

Friday, November 29
DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING
HOLIDAY Church is Closed

Sunday, December 1
9:00am Advent Workshop
9:00am Community Connections Class
9:30am Chancel Choir
10:15am Worship
11:15am Fellowship Time
11:30am Nominating Cmte
3:00pm Blue Christmas

Monday, December 2
12:00pm Holiday Market Committee Mtg

Tuesday, December 3
ELECTION DAY
9:30am Staff meeting
5:30pm Power Read
7:00pm Christian Educ. Committee

Wednesday, December 4
10:00am Bible Study
4:30pm Worship Cmte
5:00pm Building & Grounds Cmte
5:00pm Youth Handbells
5:00pm LOGOS
5:30pm Youth Group
5:30pm Communications Cmte
6:30pm Knitting Group
7:30pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 5
7am Holiday Market Setup

Blue Christmas Service is Sunday, December 1
This year, Central is offering a special Blue Christmas service on Sunday, December 1, at 3:00 p.m., in Cownie Chapel. Come and join with us in sharing Scripture, prayers and music, as we celebrate God’s Christmas presence with us, even if we are mourning, struggling or experiencing sadness. We will celebrate the God, who came to earth as a baby in a humble stable, and will “bear our griefs and carry our sorrows.” (Isaiah 53:4–6) Everyone is welcome to attend.

Join us for a new class December 5, 6–7:00pm
Do you have questions about your faith? Perhaps you have doubts or even disagree with what you think Christians believe? This new Wednesday class, titled What We Believe, will explore the foundational beliefs of our faith.

We’ll next meet in Room 202, on Wednesday, December 4, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., our topic is I Believe In Jesus Christ.

If your children attend our Wednesday LOGOS program, our parents can gather and learn as well. If you come to choir rehearsal, come early and join in our discussion. The class is facilitated by Central’s Seminary Intern Sheryl Puderbaugh.

SWCC Chamber Singers will be back on Thursday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m.
A Holiday Carols Concert is offered by the Southwestern Community College Chamber Singers from Creston, Iowa. This has been a long standing tradition at Central, so make plans to add this to your events this Advent season. The Chamber Singers are conducted by Lucas Mattson and Hannah Fearn and will feature music by Rutter, Lauridsen, Mozart, Mattson and Dawson. A free will offering will be taken.

The Holiday Market is December 6 & 7!
We need volunteers—call Jean Hamilton, 515-846-3258 or Gwen Brown at 515-777-3263 and sign up for a 2-hour shift.

We also need you to make Central’s famous Holiday Market soups!
Recipes are available from the church office or Laura Covill, 515-491-6494.

We hope you can invited your peeps to the market!
• Word of mouth—tell your friends, family and neighbors.
• Share the market graphic in an email or go to our Facebook post and share the event
• Send postcards to your friends or hand them out at work.
• Put a yard signs in your yard immediately (so your neighbors know).

Save the date for Children’s Christmas Pageant
Please come for a night of celebration, Christmas songs and even a live camel as the children and youth of Central present the telling of the Christmas story! The pageant will be held in Central’s Sanctuary at 5:00 p.m., Sunday, December 8, and is followed by a pizza dinner at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The pageant is directed by Central member Ryle Egge.
Parents note: pageant rehearsal is set for Sunday, November 24, at 11:30 a.m. with lunch following rehearsal.
Six volunteers are needed for December 13 shelter meal!
On the 13th of each month, Central feeds 250 people at the Central Iowa Shelter & Services in downtown Des Moines. Our Deacons need eight volunteers each month, to prepare and serve the meal. The menu is planned, all we need is help cooking and serving at the shelter: www.signupgenius.com/go/8050F4CA8A929AB9-shelter. Questions? Contact Stacey Heston, at 515-681-5405, staceyheston@gmail.com.

Lessons & Carols Service is Sunday, December 15, 4pm
The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols was first celebrated at King’s College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve, 1918. The nine Scripture lessons are those traditionally used at the festival and move from the season of Advent into Christmastide with carols and hymns accompanying each lesson. A reception will follow in East Parlor.

Christmas Caroling is Thursday, December 19, 5:30pm!
We’ll meet in the 39th Street Lobby to carpool. All ages are welcome to join in as we sing for our members who are in neighborhood retirement communities. If you have suggestions for who should receive a visit by the carolers, please give the church staff the names and locations. After spreading Christmas cheer, we will return for cookies and treats! Join Central’s Deacons for our second annual night of intergenerational caroling!

Nomination forms are now available
You can submit the names of Central members (please include yourself if you are interested) you feel should be considered by the Nominating Committee for Board of Deacons, Ruling Elder, Foundation Board and the Nominating Committee. Forms are available in the literature racks and church office or email suggestions to the church Office Manager Sheri Egge, at segge@dmcpc.org.

Poinsettias order forms are now available
Your contribution to the holiday decorations fund will help us purchase flowers, poinsettias and floral arrangements behind the altar and the sanctuary walls by Boesen the Florist (December 15, 22 and 24). Also, fresh greenery for the outdoor planter decorations designed by Brook Smith. Order forms are available in the Narthex, 39th Street Lobby and church office and the cost of one poinsettia plant is $15. You can also make a contribution online in Central’s Giving Portal. But please complete and return the form with the honor and memorial information to the office by Monday, December 16.
Take note of these fall activities @Central:

Nov. 24 .......... 11:30am..... Children’s Christmas Pageant Rehearsal & Lunch
Nov. 24 .......... 4:00pm...... Hanging of the Greens
Nov. 28 & 29 .................... THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED
Dec. 1 .......... 9:00am...... Advent Workshop
Dec. 1 .......... 3:00pm...... Blue Christmas Service
Dec. 5 .......... 7am–7pm.... Holiday Market Set-up
Dec. 5 .......... 7:30pm...... SWCC Chamber Singers Concert
Dec. 6–7 ......... 9am–5pm.... 2019 Holiday Market
Dec. 8 .......... 5:00pm...... Children’s Christmas Pageant & Pizza Dinner
Dec. 15 .......... 4:00pm...... Service of Lessons & Carols
Dec. 15 .......... 5:30pm...... Christmas Caroling
Dec. 24 .......... 5:00pm...... Christmas Eve Family Service
Dec. 24 .......... 7:00pm...... Christmas Eve Traditional Candlelight Service with Communion
Dec. 25 & 26 .................... CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED