

# CBC Courier

Central Baptist Church ●

A Community Church

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Rev. Kathryn Palen

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& TREASURER

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## ◆ FROM THE PASTOR

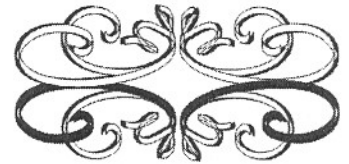
I want to thank everyone who participated in the first two sessions of our congregational identity and purpose process. The openness, energy, thoughtfulness, and genuine sharing that filled the sessions were amazing.

During the first session we worked together to develop a history timeline for CBC. Then we identified some of the meaning we find in that history and how it helps shape our sense of who we are as a congregation.

In session two we considered why people go to church, in general, and to CBC, in particular. We then worked on various ways we might describe CBC's identity and purpose. So many wonderful and exciting ideas emerged. Let me share three that spoke to a number of the evening's participants:

- Living and experiencing the Christian faith with an open heart, open mind, and open spirit.
- Supporting and accepting each individual in his/her distinctive journey of faith.
- Shining our mission light at home and beyond.

## ● Upcoming

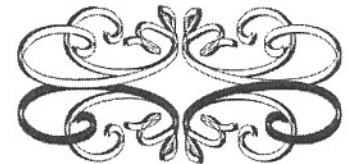


Bling  
into Spring

Jewelry Sale

2:00-5:00 p.m.

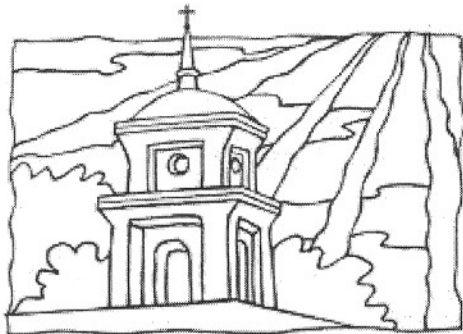
Sunday, March 27



Our Executive Committee will meet soon to finalize the next steps for our identity and purpose process. One of those steps will include crafting the ideas that emerged into a mission statement that might help guide our congregation as we move into the future.

Please watch for the ways you may participate in the next steps of this important process. I am grateful we will be able to take those steps together.

Kathryn



## CAPITAL FUND RAISER

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The Trustees have identified a need to replace the roofing shingles on the original portion of the church. The shingles are more than 25 years old and have been repaired three times in the last couple of years to stop leaks.

They also identified the need to replace the old main entrance doors and the rear door near the Town Hall with insulated doors and new frames to eliminate this major heat loss.

At the Feb. 11 "Congregational Identity & Purpose" meeting, the Trustees brought up these needs and also asked the attendees if there were any other items that should be included in a fund raiser at this time.

Those present at the meeting recommended these items be included as goals for the fund raiser:

- Replace the roof shingles on the original church roof (\$20,000-\$30,000)
- Purchase and install new exterior doors in the old building (\$4,000-\$5,000)
- Purchase new chairs, chair racks and round tables for the Gathering Space (\$4,000-\$5,000)
- Replace the storm windows over the stained glass windows (\$TBD)
- Restore Fellowship Hall and/or the downstairs kitchen (\$TBD)
- Update the rear entrance path, ramp, etc., from the Town Hall (\$TBD)
- Pay down the mortgage principal (up to \$60,000)
- Restore the FY 2010/11 salary and benefit cuts for the Pastor and Organist (\$10,000)

The Trustees conducted a "Straw Poll" of parishioners and concluded that these goals are feasible. They recommend that a capital fund raising campaign be conducted to attain these items.

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### Special Business Meeting on Sunday, March 6 at 11:00 a.m.

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There will be a Special Business Meeting on Sunday, Mar. 6 at 11:00 to discuss and vote on several capital purchases, including replacement of old roofing. Voting will also include conducting a Capital Campaign to raise money to meet the costs.

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## Sermon Series Explores Mountain-top Messages

In Matthew's gospel, some of Jesus' most important teaching moments take place on mountains. During our current sermon series, we are exploring some of the surprising things Jesus had to say and what his teaching might mean for us today.

### Messages from Mountains:

- |             |                                      |                 |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| February 20 | <i>It's a Tall Order</i>             | Matthew 5:38-48 |
| February 27 | <i>Some Things Just Don't Work</i>   | Matthew 6:24-34 |
| March 6     | <i>Don't Worry About Being Wrong</i> | Matthew 4:12-23 |

### Within Our Church Family



Congratulations to John Andrews, whose translation of *The View of Life* by Georg Simmel recently was published by the University of Chicago Press.



Kathleen Williams sends thanks for the prayers, cards, calls, and meals following her recent surgery.



## Lent

### Lent to Include Worship, Study Opportunities

For some people, the season of Lent brings thoughts of giving up something, such as a certain food or a habit. This year at CBC our Lenten worship and study opportunities will focus on giving up something—but in a different way.

#### Worship Services

During our worship services we will explore *Lightening the Load* as we travel the Lenten journey. Each week we will consider something we might need to put down or aside so that we might travel more lightly.

Our Lenten sermon series will include:

March 13

*Voices That Pull at Us*  
(Matthew 4:1-11)

March 20

*Limits That Block Us*  
(John 3:1-17)

March 27

*Pasts That Haunt Us*  
(John 4:5-42)

April 3

*Certainties That Blind Us*  
(John 9:1-41)

April 10

*Expectations That Disappoint Us* (John 11:1-45)

#### Lenten Study

Our Lenten study will help us let go of what we think we may know about other religious traditions and open ourselves to lessons we may learn from five of the world's major religions. Sessions during this five-week series will be offered at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays and at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays.

The sessions of *Lenten Lessons from the World's Wisdom* will include:

March 16/17

*Hinduism: Honoring the Divine*

March 23/24

*Buddhism: The*

*Interdependence of All Life*

March 30/31

*Islam: Surrender to God*

April 6/7

*Judaism: The Gift of Community*

April 13/14

*Christianity: The Power of Love*

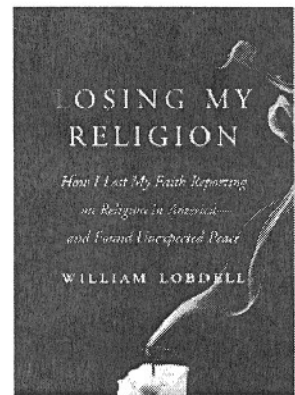


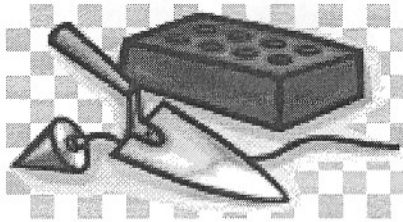
#### ► Reporter Tells About Spiritual Journey

The spiritual memoir small group's next selection tells about a different kind of spiritual journey. The group will discuss *Losing My Religion: How I Lost My Faith Reporting on Religion in America—and Found Unexpected Peace* at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 10.

William Lobdell, a former religion reporter for the *Los Angeles Times*, recounts in this plainly written memoir how he became a Protestant evangelical, nearly accepted Catholicism, and, in the end, rejected faith altogether.

Flyers with more information about this memoir, along with copies of the book to borrow, are available in the church parlor.





***Building on Our Foundation***  
**2011-2012 Stewardship Campaign**  
**Continues through February 27**

WE'RE 28 DENOMINATIONS STRONG!



Central Baptist Church  
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A COMMUNITY CHURCH

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