

JANUARY 2020

# TODAY NEWSLETTER

Vol 6, Iss 1



The newsletter for  
alumni and friends of  
Central Christian College



# A NEW YEAR PERSPECTIVE



In a rather odd throwback, our home was recently blessed with a little record player and a fairly rich collection of old children's stories and songs. There were even a number of Christmas records in the mix, which added an old-school flavor to our Christmas traditions. It was fun to listen to Gene Autry and Bing Crosby, complete with that scratchy sound that can only be recreated through the use of an actual record player.

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**“OUR HERITAGE, ROOTED IN THE PURSUIT OF TRUTH, GUIDED BY BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES, AND A DEDICATION TO FOLLOWING CHRIST REMAINS UNTOUCHED.”**

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I know that in this day and age high-resolution is the all the rage and there are many digital resources that provide high-quality audio. However, I think I have reached that point in my life where new is not always all that it is cracked up to be.

Sure, high-resolution sound is pretty neat. It can make for a fantastic experience at concerts and theatres. Yet, there are still times that I prefer that

old scratchy sound emanating from the turntable. While high-resolution does provide a distinct quality to what is heard, it also erases the unique characteristics that make some recordings unique. This is the same reason that I have not made the jump to LED Christmas lights on the house. To me, there is just something special about the warm glow of old fashioned light bulbs.

Don't even get me started with things like replacing quilts with some of these new microplush blankets – like the infamous Snuggie®. I am sorry, while I will admit that they are super-soft, they just can't replace the sheer comfort of wrapping up in a quilt, resplendent with the love and memories that are sown into the very stitches of the fabric.

So, as we prepare to usher in the beginning of a New Year, I find myself anticipating the newness of the year, while at the same time reveling in the history that has brought us to this new day.

This year, Central Christian College of Kansas will celebrate it's 136th graduating class. We will also celebrate our 20th anniversary as a four-year institution and our 10th year as an on-line school. Furthermore, strange as it might sound, though we have been offering Associate Degrees for many

years, this January we celebrated our first graduate from the Associate of Arts in Criminal Justice program. Old and new wrapped together in a single moment.

What is comforting, like the scratchy sound from that old record player and the warmth of that old quilt, is that it really does not matter if it is 136-years or 1-year, there are some things about Central Christian that are simply not affected by the passage of time. Our heritage, rooted in the pursuit of Truth, guided by Biblical principles, and a dedication to following Christ remains untouched. That is the comfort we hold too, which no new device, contraption, or design will ever alter.

While much of the world will begin this New Year striving to maintain novel New Year resolutions, we can take comfort that our resolution is to remain resolute to the mission that first guided Rev. and Mrs. Damon to open the doors of Orleans Seminary back in 1884.

It was that mission that guided the transition to McPherson. It informed our growth from Central Academy and College to our current namesake, Central Christian College of Kansas.

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**Ctd. on page 2**

## FIRST WORD

**Ctd. from page 1**

It informed the partnership that made Central Christian and Wessington Springs one family. And, it continues to inspire the work of this great institution as we prepare to usher in 2020.

So, bring on the new, but please know that as the clock strikes 12:00 AM on New Year's you will find me still wrapped in my old quilt, listening to old records – and most importantly, still pursuing the rich heritage and mission that has made this great College stand the test of time.

Happy New Year.



**Dr. Lenny F. Favara**

President | CC '89, '91



The First Family (L to R): Jeremiah, Dea, Lenny, and Joey Favara

# CENTRAL WELCOMES WINTER



The Central sign amongst the snow



Stoll Hall looking rather wintry



Central's iconic Science Hall

## A SALES EXPERIENCE

Before the end of the fall semester, Dr. David Ferrell (CC '75) assigned Sales Class students to a selling experience with insurance professionals in McPherson to engage them in the real life situation of having to 1) make a phone call to someone they don't know, 2) set up the appointment, 3) arrive on the appointed date and time (early); 4) dress appropriately, 5) make eye contact, shake hands (no bone crushing handshakes and no fishy handshakes); 6) find common ground; 7) make small talk; 8) give the presentation on the CCKK insurance program; 9) show confidence and product knowledge; 10) talk clearly and not mumble; 11) answer questions thoughtfully and accurately; 12) take control of the situation; 13) bring the conversation to a close; 14) thank them and exit in an appropriate way.

After the presentation, when Dr. Ferrell called the insurance professionals for feedback, every student represented themselves, the department, the College, and their families in very positive ways. Comments included: "She should get an A for her presentation." "You have some great students at the College." "I wish I had this opportunity at their age." "You have a good

program there." "This is an invaluable opportunity for your students." "Thank you for calling me to participate." Dr Ferrell stated, "Probably not a single student wanted to complete this activity. They had some fear and uncertainty. One student considered dropping the class because of this assignment. But every student, in the end, was glad for the opportunity to experience this in real life. They now have the confidence that they can make that appointment, they can show up (if appropriately prepared) and execute the presentation, and feel assured that they can do this again."

Student Kassidy Forsberg loved the experience, saying, "This experience was new and invigorating. It provided me with future skills and competencies that I can use for the rest of my life. It was interesting to promote an insurance course to a professional in the area of insurance. I learned that even when selling to somebody, the client is still just a person with knowledge, feelings, and uniqueness. The second thing I learned is I am not afraid to present information face-to-face with others as much as I used to be. Lastly, I found that following up with the client and readiness are key factors that



Dr. David Ferrell teaching a class

build business relationships. Overall, I acquired more knowledge about the insurance programs when I had to promote them in my meeting with Todd Whitehill".

Student Jordan Meier stated, "The experience was very nerve-racking at first. I was afraid that I would mess up my presentation, but once I got in there and started talking to her I immediately calmed down. She was so nice and was interested in what I had to say. This experience was very helpful for me when I get in the career field".

## CENTRAL GRAD BECOMES CHIEF

*The following article is taken from portions of the McPherson Sentinel, Oct. 1, 2019. Written by Jessica Cass.*

After six months of serving the city of McPherson as Interim Police Chief, Mikel Golden has accepted the position of McPherson Police Chief.

Mayor Tom Brown made a motion to drop the interim in Golden's title and officially acknowledge him as the designated leader of the McPherson Police department. The move was unanimously received and voted in as official.

Surrounded by his wife and daughters, Golden was pinned with his new badge declaring him "Chief."

Former Chief McClarty worked with Golden throughout his years in the department and it was at his encouragement that Golden be appointed Interim Police Chief while the city considered the next appointment for the position.

The City Commissioners said they believe the city has a bright future with Chief Mikel Golden and Assistant Chief Todd Martens at the helm of our 34 persons Police Department.

Chief Golden is a 2015 graduate of Central's organizational leadership and criminal justice bachelors programs.



McPherson Chief of Police, Mikel Golden

# CCCK EDUCATORS HONORED

Twice each year, the Kansas colleges and universities that offer teacher preparation programs are invited to select two teacher education students identified as Teachers of Promise to participate in a specific professional learning and recognition opportunity. Teachers of Promise are identified by their colleges and universities for showing great potential as future educators.

Central Christian College of Kansas was honored to recognize Elementary Education Majors, Kendra Jellison and Melissa Reimer as their Teachers of Promise.

The Teachers of Promise selected each fall are invited to attend a half-day workshop presented by the current Kansas Teacher of the Year Team. During the workshop, the Teachers of Promise have the opportunity to hear and learn from eight exemplary teachers who have a passion for teaching and are excited about working with those who will soon be entering the teaching profession. The Teachers of Promise also are invited to attend the Kansas Teacher of the Year State Awards Banquet. Nearly 500 Kansas Educators, family members, and friends attended the 2019 Kansas Teacher of the Year Banquet in Wichita, Kansas in November.



Senior Kendra Jellison



Senior Melissa Reimer

The education department is in need of the following items. If you would be willing to help, contact Education Department Chair, Cathy Brown at [cathy.brown@centralchristian.edu](mailto:cathy.brown@centralchristian.edu) or at **620.241.0723 ext. 507**.

### PLAQUE TO DISPLAY TEACHER OF PROMISE WINNERS

Dimensions: 20x13 – holds 36 name plates | Cost: \$250

### FUND ESTABLISHED TO OFFSET STUDENTS TRAVELING FOR THEIR INTERNATIONAL FIELD EXPERIENCE | Amount Requested: \$10,000

During May, education students can take a 3-5 week trip overseas where they will be placed in a school to complete their 4 hour course requirements for Field Experience. By opting to take this opportunity, they:

- free up 4 hours from their course schedule.
- free up time for students by not having to squeeze in 90 hours of observations and teaching 5 lessons into an already crammed schedule.
- have the ability to learn from diverse teachers and students around the globe.
- have the ability to make friends from all over the world.
- have the ability to potentially love international teaching and obtain a job.



## PURCHASE WITH PURPOSE

PART OF YOUR PURCHASE CAN BE DONATED TO CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE OF KANSAS AT \_\_\_\_\_

[smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

JUST SELECT CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE OF KANSAS AS YOUR CHARITY \_\_\_\_\_

# Thank You

## FOLLOW US!



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[www.centralchristian.edu](http://www.centralchristian.edu)

# A FAMILY CHRISTMAS



**T**was the night of Central's Family Christmas. Great crowds of students, faculty, and staff gathered together in the cafeteria for a communal Christmas celebration full of laughter and stress relief.

The end of the semester arrived quickly, and so did final exams. The Student Government Association (SGA), led by Student Body President Marleigh Strickling, sponsors "Exam Crams" at the end of every semester. Typically, Exam Crams happen at 9 pm on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of finals week to provide opportunities for students to take a break from studying and get their minds off of finals for a little while. The end goal is for students to feel refreshed by engaging in activities with other students, faculty, or staff.

Dean of Student Life, John Walker, brought the idea of providing Christmas gifts for every student as a surprise at the end of the semester to SGA at the end of October. In order to provide gifts for every student, parents of students would be sent a letter asking them to send in a gift for their child, which would then be handed out to each student. SGA loved the idea and decided to run with it.

Soon thereafter, the Central community was made aware of an Exam Cram event that would take place on Monday, December 9th at 9 pm. The traditional Exam Cram event on a Monday night of finals week was Late Night Breakfast—an event where hot breakfast items were served by faculty and staff to the student body late at night. However, this semester SGA desired to

couple this traditional event with the new idea of providing Christmas gifts to each student.

SGA sent out letters to parents immediately and packages started arriving as soon as the second week of November. The vision of making this event spectacular for the students inspired additional ideas. The SGA team chose a well-known favorite, chicken and waffles, to be served for the Late Night Breakfast portion of the event, and in an attempt to foster the Christmas spirit they convinced Santa Claus to make an appearance despite it being his busiest time of the year. SGA wanted to sponsor an Apple Watch giveaway as well. Multiple packages began arriving every day, and by Thanksgiving break, SGA had received many gifts from parents for their child (some even sent extras for other students!). SGA even received gifts from community members.

About a week before the event, SGA realized a lot of gifts were still needed and that parents would not be able to send in gifts that late. Faculty and staff were contacted asking for help—to pick specific students they would enjoy giving a gift to and bring those gifts wrapped and ready to hand out.



Members of the Women's Basketball team

**Ctd. on page 6**

## ACROSS CAMPUS

### Ctd. from page 5

The response was tremendous. Faculty and staff immediately began picking out students from those remaining that they wanted to bless by giving them a surprise gift. When the SGA team saw the response by faculty and staff, one member, student Emmalee McDonald, said, "Yes! Marleigh and I were talking about how amazed we are!" Within 24 hours every student was accounted for. It truly was amazing to see the generosity of faculty and staff and it was an incredible blessing to the SGA team.

The night of the event approached quickly. The last gifts were being collected, SGA was setting up the cafeteria where the event would be held, the Apple Watch was being wrapped, faculty and staff were gathering to serve breakfast, and students were waiting in great anticipation. They began lining up outside the cafeteria doors to get some delicious breakfast and learn how they could win the Apple Watch. What they still didn't know was that they each would receive a Christmas present that night. Santa Claus showed up just in time, the chicken and waffles were golden brown, and all the gifts were set out around the stage and under the tree. It was time for the doors to open and for Central Family Christmas to begin.

Students were greeted and invited to take part of the Christmas celebration by faculty and staff as classic Christmas music filled the air. Santa Claus sat atop the stage with the gifts all around him as several other faculty and staff served students going through the breakfast line. Not only were the chicken and waffles a huge hit, but the bacon and eggs were too! Creative Dining Services did a wonderful job that was crucial to the night's success. SGA had planned to wait until all students had gone through the line before starting to hand out gifts to students, but there was no end in sight to the line as tables began to fill up one by one. Then, the big surprise commenced. Each student

received a "Merry Christmas!" from SGA members, faculty, staff, and Santa along with their present.

The event lasted an hour, but the gift-giving went on for over 30 minutes as students filled the cafeteria to max capacity. An estimated 200 students attended the event and a vast majority were there the entire time simply enjoying being together. Education Department Chair, Cathy Brown, stated, "The participation level from students was something magical! Can't wait to see what's next on the agenda!"

After the line dwindled down to a couple students, Marleigh Strickling announced that a Central pennant was taped on the underside of a table, which determined the students who would play a game with one of them winning the Apple Watch. Students frantically checked under their tables. A group of ten students were sitting at the table with the pennant taped to it and then the game began. The person who could write numbers 1-50 on a sheet of paper the fastest would win; however, there was only one pen at the table. In order to have the pen, doubles had to be rolled on a pair of dice that was passed from person to person. Student JP Krussick took home the Apple Watch after almost five minutes of a crazy game!

In the end, everyone who came out loved the event and those who missed it were sure to hear about in the following days. Dr. David Ferrell, Chair

of the Business Department and Executive Director of the Foundation, kindly remarked, "The excitement and energy level was as high as I remember for the last 15-20 years. Thank you [SGA] for helping keep this tradition going."

SGA hopes to continue to foster high energy at campus events throughout the remainder of the year and has a great line-up of events planned for the Spring semester.

Blessings,

*Elijah Barsness*

**Elijah Barsness**  
Director of Campus Life  
Gillespie Resident Director



Members of Men's Soccer posing with Santa



Professor Steve Smith (right) serving students



Students hanging out and opening gifts

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE OF KANSAS

ATHLETICS

# HALL OF FAME

CLASS OF 2019-2020

SAVE THE DATE | APRIL 18, 2020

MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US APRIL 18, 2020 FOR THE 2019-2020 HALL OF FAME CEREMONY

ON CENTRAL'S CAMPUS  
ALL ARE INVITED! TICKETS ARE \$25 PER PERSON

THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI ATHLETES TO BE INDUCTED:

**CLAUDINE FERRELL** (CC '49) | Coach  
*First coach of women's programs inducted*

**THE 1986-1987 MEN'S SOCCER TEAM**  
*National Small College Athletic Association Soccer Champions*

**SABRINA LAWHORNE** (CC '86) | Women's Basketball

**GREG LOVERCAMP** (CC '79) | Men's Cross Country

**MICHELLE LUNA** (CC '02) | Women's Soccer

**MATT TURNER** (CC '01) | Men's Basketball and Tennis



# TIGERS TAKE ON FALCONS

On December 13, 2019, the Lady Tigers Basketball Team got to come home after a 3 week stretch of away games. They have been busy competing against NCAA Division 1 & 2 teams to help prepare for their conference play this season. For this home game, however, the Tigers took on the Kansas Christian College Falcons and looked to get back in the win column before the next conference game on the 16th of December.

The Tigers would assert their dominance quickly in this game. In addition to getting off to a quick start offensively, they would also show off their dominate defense only allowing 6 points for the visiting Falcons. The Tigers would take advantage of their strength in numbers as they would tire down the Falcon's defense and score easy baskets. They would also cause a lot of turnovers and take advantage of their speed and transition play. At half the Tigers would find themselves with a comfortable 40-12 lead.

The next half would almost be identical to the first as the Tigers would find ways to cause the Falcons to commit turnovers and then would go down the floor and score. The Tigers also had one of their better shooting days as they shot over 45% and would make 9-24 beyond the arc. Four Tigers would even score in the double digits. At the end of regulation they would take home a dominating victory with the score Tigers: 91 and Falcons: 30.

The Lady Tigers improved to 3-5 and are looking forward to the heat of the season coming up in the first quarter of 2020.



Junior Jordan Dixon setting up for a pass



## JANUARY 2020 SPORTS SCHEDULE

<sup>RV</sup> Reserve \* Conference Event #Double Header

**Home Games in Bold**

- 4 MWres @ Midland Open  
WBball @ Oklahoma City University\*  
MBball @ Oklahoma City University\*
- 7 WBball vs. Langston University\***  
**MBball vs. Langston University\***
- 9 WBball @ John Brown University\*  
MBball @ John Brown University\*
- 10 MWres – St. Mary Dual**
- 13 JV MBball @ Bethany College
- 14 MWres @ Cloud
- 15 JV MBball @ Hesston College
- 16 WBball vs. Panhandle State\***  
**MBball vs. Panhandle State\***
- 17 MWres @ Missouri Valley Open
- 18 MWres @ Missouri Valley Open  
**WBball vs. Wayland Baptist\***  
**MBball vs. Wayland Baptist\***
- 21 JV MBball vs. Bethany College\***
- 23 WBball @ SW Assemblies of God  
MBball @ SW Assemblies of God<sup>RV</sup>
- 24 Baseball @ University of the SW<sup>#</sup>
- 25 Baseball @ University of the SW<sup>#</sup>  
WBball @ Texas Wesleyan University\*  
MBball @ Texas Wesleyan University\*
- 27 JV MBball vs. McPherson College
- 29 JV MBball vs. Tabor College
- 30 WBball vs. Oklahoma City\***  
**MBball vs. Oklahoma City\***

## FEBRUARY 2020 SPORTS SCHEDULE

- 1 **WBball vs. SW Christian University\***  
**MBball vs. SW Christian University\***
- 4 **WBball vs. John Brown University\***  
**MBball vs. John Brown University\***

[www.cctigers.com](http://www.cctigers.com)

# CHOIR TO PERFORM AT CARNEGIE HALL

Una Voce, the Central Christian College of Kansas Concert Choir, has been invited to sing at Carnegie Hall under the direction of Dr. Bradley Vogel in May of 2021. The choir will be performing Dan Forrest's Requiem for the Living in New York City, in combination with many other choirs from around the country. Previously members of the CCCK Concert Choir sang at Carnegie Hall in November of 2017, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Martin, where they performed Martin's debut of Rhapsody in Bluegrass.

Dr. Vogel served at Tabor College for twenty-one years as Professor of Choral Music and Music Department Chair. His Concert Choir has been selected to perform at the Kansas Music Educators Association State Convention five times, and he has been a guest conductor with the Wichita State University Symphony Orchestra and A Cappella Choir. The company Imagine



Music Publishing has published Dr. Vogel's choral compositions.

This opportunity is also available to CCCK choir alumni and to freshmen entering college in the fall of 2020. If you have a family member that is considering coming to CCCK, music scholarships are available to students to participate in jazz band, ministry team, and choir.

You will have the opportunity to listen and interact with Dr. Bradley Vogel on Monday, February 24th, as the guest

of the annual Chaney Music Symposium. He will be directing a mass choir consisting of Una Voce (CCCK Choir) and local Christian high school choirs. The performance will be at 7:00 p.m. that evening in Wesley Black Fine Arts Building, and the event is free to the public.

If you are interested in being a part of the exciting Carnegie Hall experience, please contact Amy Tolle, Director of Choral and Vocal Music, at amy.tolle@centralchristian.edu, or call at 620-241-0723 ext. 450.



## MAC BRASS PERFORMS

The Music Department hosted the McPherson Community Brass Choir on Sunday, December 1st and was treated to a mixture of Christmas, folk songs, and concert music.

Ty Kaufman and Kelly Long were featured on the bagpipes in "Scotland the Brave" and "Cockney Jocks," and James Neel's agile flute solos on "Chestnuts Roasting Over an Open Fire" and "Frosty the Snowman" contributed to a magical Christmas atmosphere. The

evening concluded with the musical favorite "Seventy Six Trombones."

Jerry Toews, director of the brass choir, was complimentary of the venue and appreciated being able to perform on the CCCK campus.

Music Chair Brett Janssen (CC '01) mentioned "We look forward to hosting the McPherson Brass Choir again in the future and bringing fun, quality music to the Central community."

## UPCOMING FINE ARTS EVENTS

- JAN. 14** CCM SEMINAR: SPIRITUAL FORMATION OF THE CHRISTIAN ARTIST - FEAT. PAUL AUSTIN  
7 PM | THE WAREHOUSE
- JAN. 21** GUEST: SAMMIE KING'S INSIDE OUT JAZZ BAND  
7:30 PM | THE WAREHOUSE
- FEB. 18** "A NIGHT OF GERSHWIN" w/ THE JAZZ BAND & CHOIR  
7 PM | THE WAREHOUSE
- FEB. 24** CHANEY MUSIC SYMPOSIUM FEAT. BRADLEY VOGEL & CHOIR  
7 PM | GREER AUDITORIUM
- FEB. 28** SONGWRITERS & LAB BAND CONCERT  
7 PM | THE WAREHOUSE

 @CCCFINEARTS

# PICTURES FROM DECEMBER 2019 MUSIC EVENTS



Senior Emily Widiger, AKA Emmy Wid



Senior Charis Ball playing guitar and singing



Sophomore Jordan Summers belting some lyrics



Sophomore Jordan Summers



Junior Luke Koerperich laying down the beat for the lab band, Lemongrass



Senior Kayla Ouder Kirk on the bass



L to R: Mrs. Amy Tolle, Senior Wyatt Davis, Senior Charis Ball, Junior Joseph Cox



Husband and wife looking on as the Central Jazz Band performs



The Central Jazz Band putting on their Christmas jazz concert



L to R: Sophomore Jordan Summers and Junior Luke Koerperich playing jazz



**CENTRAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE OF KANSAS**

1200 S Main St | McPherson, KS 67460

620.241.0723 | [www.centralchristian.edu](http://www.centralchristian.edu)