



Central Messenger

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The Pastor's Pen



The Central Baptist Church is a progressive and innovative church family with a theme of "Reclaiming Our Families Through Patience, Perseverance, and Prayer." We have a myriad of talents and gifts within our church body. We believe in the holistic approach to ministry and we have over forty ministries to help the total person. Our church family is (1) Friendly, (2) Faithful, and (3) the Favor of God is upon us. We are excited about the vision of God upon the ministry of this

church. God never gives a vision without making provisions.

We communicate this vision through social media, vision casting, and phone tree messaging. The Central Messenger is our on-line newsletter to further enhance our vision for communicating and spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please read and enjoy!

Blessings

Pastor Ricky Ray Ezell, Sr.

When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, I used everything you gave me.

ERMA BOMBECK

A Note To Our Students

It's never too early to get started. Your child maybe a high school freshman or a senior, you should begin your financial aid search as soon as possible. Scholarships for high school students are the most popular and most awarded. If you get an early start, you are increasing your chance of being awarded more money for college.

There are several resources and websites available for parents and students to search for different scholarships. Scholarships vary from athletic, college-specific, company-sponsored, merit-based and minority., just to name a few. Unigo.com is a great online resource that can help you find and apply for a host of scholarships! Remember, every dollar helps!



Senior's Corner



THE GOLDEN AGE

The Senior Citizens fellowship was held on Saturday, September 9th, at 2:00 p.m. We had an awesome time in fellowship. The seniors enjoyed an all you can eat fish fry as they watched the movie, "Hidden Figures". We also gave out door prizes at the conclusion of our fellowship. Stay-tuned for upcoming events. We love our Senior Citizens!

Physical Activity Guide for Seniors

Physical activity is a **vital** for maintaining a high quality of life and independence. Becoming more physically active is recommended by many experts, including:
 U.S. Surgeon General
 American Heart Association
 American Diabetes Association
 Center for Disease Control & Prevention.

Be healthy. Be active.

30 minutes a day
 at least **10** minutes at a time
5 days a week

Calendar of Events

- Jubilee Choir Anniversary, October 8th
- Senior Citizens annual program, October 15th
- Halloween Festival, October 28th
- Youth Ministry Anniversary, October 29th
- Church Anniversary, November 12th
- Christmas Concert, December 16th
- Christmas at Central, December 24th
- Central Watchnight Service, December 30th

Men's Day 2017 Activities

Our men have been busy working towards Men's Day 2017.

Below are a few of their activities:

- *Choir rehearsal, Saturday, **September 9th at 10:00 a.m.**
- *Gospel Sing-Out- **Friday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m.**
- *A "Taste of Central" **Sunday, September 17th at 1:00 p.m.** we will sample a variety of delicious gourmet dishes prepared by the men of Central Baptist Church.
- *Legal Forum with Attorney Charles Brooks
Wednesday, September 20th, 6:00 p.m.
- *Deep Sea Fishing Trip – **TBA**
- *Men's Prayer Breakfast - **Saturday, September 23rd, 10:00a.m.**
- Men's Day Celebration – **Sunday, September 24th,**



2016-2017 4th Marking Period Honor Roll



John Hannibal
 Victor Jones
 Christian Livingston
 Jaxson Montgomery
 Kamryn Nesbitt
 Shayla Phillips
 Kyndall Riley
 Myracle Slaughter
 Gabrielle Stukes



Precious Breeland
 Laneisha Brown
 Kendrell Chambers
 Laurin Hannibal
 Lauren Hinton
 Nasir Jackson
 Sidney Johnson
 Jada Jones
 Jonathan King

Jordyn Livingston
 Gabrielle Montgomery
 Jaylen Phillips
 Charles Price
 Talia Pugh
 Kori Sinkler
 Joshua Taylor
 I'Rihaunna Wheatle



Dorothy Allen
 La'Niya Anderson
 Mary Anderson
 Taylor Anderson

Jordan Foy
 Camryn Laurie
 Christian McDaniel
 Elizabeth McDaniel

FYI - Homestead Exemption

Example
Home market value: \$90,000
Exemption: \$25,000
School tax rate: 0.024

$\$90,000 - \$25,000 = \$65,000$ taxable value
 $\$65,000 \times 0.024 = \$1,560.00$ school taxes

Example (no exemption)
Home market value: \$90,000
School tax rate: 0.024

$\$90,000 \times 0.024 = \$2,160.00$

Richland County Government offers many types of exemptions to its citizens. One of the most popular is the Homestead Exemption.

The Homestead Exemption is a program designated to help the elderly, blind, and disabled. This program exempts the first \$50,000 value of your primary home.

Qualifications include:

You must be Age 65 before December 31 of the year before you fill out the application. If you own real estate jointly

with a spouse, only one is required to be 65 years of age.

* If property is jointly owned, please bring or mail the spouses date of birth.

- To apply you will need proof of date of birth (driver's license or birth certificate).
- DISABILITY—You must be totally and permanently disabled: To apply you will need to present documentation from the state or federal agency certifying the disability

- BLINDNESS—Certified by a licensed ophthalmologist, or a letter from the Commission of the Blind.
- Either of the aforementioned qualifications—age, disability, or blindness makes one eligible for the exemption

Questions regarding eligibility status and application procedures should be directed to: (803) 576-2610 or (803) 576-2611.



FYI-Disabled Veterans Exemptions

A Disabled Veteran who is 100% permanently and totally disabled service connected, is entitled to exemption on his or her legal residence and up to one acre of land and exemption from taxes on no more than two vehicles owned or leased by the disabled veteran.

To qualify for the vehicle exemption, the South Carolina

Department of Revenue requires that the vehicle be registered solely in the name of the disabled veteran or jointly owned in the name of the disabled veteran and his or her spouse to qualify for the exemption. To apply you will need your qualification letter from the Department of Veteran Affairs and complete form PT-401-at the SCDOR.

A surviving spouse may continue to use the "V" tag after tag after the death of the disabled veteran so long as the surviving spouse does not remarry; however, the surviving spouse will not be entitled to the exemption.

The surviving spouse will be entitled to reapply for the exemption on the residence unless remarried.

FYI - Prisoner of War (POW)

Any member or former member of the armed forces who was a prisoner of war in World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, or the Vietnam War and who is a legal resident of this State. This exemption also extends to the surviving spouse of a qualified former POW for the lifetime or until the remarriage of the

surviving spouse.

The Disabled Veteran or Prisoner of War (POW) must apply with the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). Once the VA approves the application; the disabled veteran will receive a letter stating that the veteran is 100% permanently disabled. The disabled veteran will then take the letter and fill

out a form PT-40 at the SCDOR, located at 301 Gervais Street, Columbia, South Carolina, and the disabled veteran will be granted their exemption. The disabled veteran will provide proof of exemption from SCDOR to the Richland County Auditor's Office to receive a zero tax bill.



FYI - Richland County Auditor

The Richland County Auditor is Mr. Paul Brawley. The auditor's Office creates approximately 500,00 tax notices a year that generate approximately \$670 million dollars in revenue for Richland County.

The auditor's office has a website that you may explore for answers to your questions or the ability to transact your tax business with the office. You may find out information on vehicle taxes such as high mileage, bill of sale application, title application, vehi-

cle taxes such as high mileage, bill of sale application, title application, vehicle change of address, information on taxes for boats, motor homes, and campers, airplanes and more.

If you do not find a solution to your tax concerns, please call the auditors office at (803) 576-2600 between 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM or visit the office between the same hours on Monday through Friday. The address is 2020 Hampton Street

Columbia SC 29204 –2nd Floor.

The website is www.richlandonline.com Click on departments and move down to Auditor.

The auditor's email address is brawleyp@rcgov.us

Member Highlights

The Gethsemane Baptist Association will celebrate 150 years of service on October 20, 2017. A banquet will be held at the Brookland Banquet and Conference Center on October 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. In keeping with the theme, "Honouring The Past and Pressing Towards The Future Through Missions", Gethesemane will honor one missionary or lay person from each church. The honoree from Central Baptist Church is Deaconess Margaret B. Flores. Margaret B. Flores was born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina. She was married to the late Dea. Pedro Flores. She is the mother of three

children, Cassandra Green Frost of Columbia, South Carolina, Retired Master Sergeant Ricky S. (Pamela) Green of Suffolk, Virginia and Brigadier General Norman B. (Sandra) Green of Houston, Texas. Margaret attended the public schools of Fairfield County graduating from McCrorey-Liston High School, Blair, South Carolina in 1961. She also attended Midlands Technical College.

She is a proud member of the Central Baptist Church where she serves as Vice President of the Deaconess Ministry, Secretary of the Jubilee Choir, Chaplain of the Willing Workers Ministry, Presi-

dent of our Senior Missionary Society, and a member of the Senior Citizens Ministry.

Margaret retired after 30 years of service at Baptist Hospital where she worked in outpatient surgery as unit coordinator.

Margaret enjoys: bowling, traveling, singing, meeting new people, enjoying her monthly outings with her girlfriends and one she really treasures is spending time and playing games with her five grandchildren.

Margaret's motto is: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Her favorite scrip-

ture is: Psalm 27:1

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid. afraid?

WELCOME HOME

The Central Baptist Church is pleased to welcome back home, Brother Courtland Thomas. Effective August 28, 2017, Courtland joined Aramark as the new District Marketing Manager. Courtland is directly responsible for eight accounts with additional oversight of Coastal Carolina and Winthrop.

Courtland joined Aramark from corporate dining with Sodexo in

San Antonio, TX where he served as Marketing Specialist. He began his career in foodservice as a marketing and communications intern for dining services at the University of South Carolina. Courtland has experience in marketing, social media, vendor management and client retention. Courtland has worked with regional teams across the country to develop in-house brands, improve customer satisfac-

tion and drive revenue through increase retail sales. Courtland has also participated in several successful re-bids.

Courtland holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Carolina in Marketing and Human Resource Management.

Central Baptist Church is thrilled to have him return as

the youth musician and choir director. He is a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Courtland has a twin sister, Courtney. Courtland's motto is, "If you have the faith the size of a mustard seed, you can tell the mountain to move and it will move. Nothing is impossible for you."



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NEWSLETTER STAFF



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BRENDA CARTER
ASHLEY CUNNINGHAM
BERNICE EZELL
SABRINA JACKSON
BRITTANY JONES**

