



The Central Visitor

A weekly visitor to your home bringing you news from Central Christian Church

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, January 25, 2006

No. 4

Millikin Faculty Musicians in Recital

Violinist **Thomas R. LeVeck** and pianist **Susan Schroeder Cobb** will present a recital in the sanctuary of Central Christian Church on Sunday February 12 at 4:30 p.m. Both musicians have achieved great success in their wide ranging musical careers.

Mr. LeVeck began his career with the United States Military Academy String Quartet followed by twenty two years with the symphony orchestras of Dallas and St. Louis. He has also been on the faculty of various Illinois universities. He is currently serving as a member of the Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra as well as teaching violin at Millikin University.

Susan Schroeder Cobb is the coordinator of Class Piano and teaches piano at Millikin University. Dr. Cobb is an active solo and collaborative recitalist and performs frequently with Thomas LeVeck. In the summer of 2003 and 2004 Dr. Cobb was on the faculty of La Musica Lirica, an international music festival in Urbina, Italy. She is now director of Bella Musica – Millikin in Italy – the 3rd annual chamber music festival held in Urbina, Italy.

The recital at Central will include Sonatas by Beethoven, Shostakovich and Debussy. Plan now to attend and bring your friends to this wonderful musical event.

CCC FRIENDS a New Ministry of Friendship Making

A new ministry is taking form at Central for children, youth, adults and families. The mission of this new ministry is to grow friendships with one another and with God. In today's world making friends is a different proposition than it was several years ago, and many of us are not even sure what it takes to build mutually satisfying friendships. Using materials from Friendship First, a small group ministry that compares our friendships with others to the friendship we are called to seek with our Lord Jesus Christ, we will explore how to make new friendships and strengthen those we already have. Through weekly gatherings centered around food, scripture, prayer and laughter, participants will grow in their relationship with God. A group for Young Adults (18-30's) will meet on Monday evenings, groups for children grades K-5 and youth grades (6-12) will meet on Wednesday evenings beginning with supper, and an Adult group will meet on Thursday evenings. Sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday, January 29th.

Last Chance to Order Super Subs

The Youth will receive orders for Super Bowl Subs this Sunday, January 29th. Our Subs sell for \$5 each with three meat choices and choice of toppings. Order forms will be available in the Friendship Center with delivery of our famous Subs on Super Bowl XL Sunday, February 5th. This annual youth fundraiser provides support for scholarships for camp and summer mission trips currently in planning.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2006
WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45
We Call Ourselves Disciples

Text: Mark 1:14-20
Gretchen Barron

Sisters in Spirit on the Lincoln Trail

Sisters in Spirit, one of Central's groups for women, will have their February 4th meeting at the home of **John and Carole McClarey**. John, a member of Central, is a world-renowned artist, known for his sculptural portrayals of Abraham Lincoln. We will have an opportunity to tour John's studio, hear about his work, see his latest creations in process, and hear from his vast knowledge and passion for all things Lincoln! The tour and presentation begin at 10:30 a.m. Those who would like to ride in the church van or follow in your own car should meet at the church by 10 a.m. Following John's presentation, you are invited to join for lunch at a local, yet to be determined, restaurant. You won't want to miss this fascinating opportunity. Sign up in the Friendship Center.

Ready to Get Out of the Boat?

Come and join us for a ten week study of John Ortberg's book *If You Want to Walk on Water You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*. This new group will begin meeting Tuesday, January 31st from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the home of **Coleen and Mike Myers**. Books will be available at a discounted rate of \$12 each. You may register by calling the Myers or signing up in the Friendship Center this Sunday.



Youth Column

CCC KIDS & Central Youth

**Winter Youth Party
Sunday, January 29th
1-6 p.m.**

We will board the church van to leave at 1 p.m. for First Christian Church of Sullivan and return by 6 p.m. A fun break in your January "blahs." Bring: 2 ltrs. of pop, nickels (as many as you can for offering), and 1 or 2 questions for God, to share in worship. Summit, Koinonia & Shalom Camp Reunions! Led by the Rev. Mike Dixon from Koinonia Camp.

**Saturday, February 4th
Sub Shop
10 a.m. - Noon**

Youth grades 6-12 will build our famous Super Bowl Subs for delivery on Sunday, February 5th.

**Sunday, February 5th
Super Bowl Party at
Pastor Robert's House**

Watch the Super Bowl on an 8 ft. x 8 ft. Screen with Surround Sound!

We will gather at 5:00 p.m. and watch together through half-time or 8:30 p.m., whichever comes first! Finger foods and drinks will be provided. Bring a dessert to share.

Gretchen's Gleanings

You've heard the old saying, "Good things come in small packages!" Well, here's a new one for you – "Good things come in small groups!" In a small group setting, church members get to know each other on a deeper level than is possible in larger, corporate worship settings. In a small group, participants share in what is going on in their life, they share joys and concerns and they lift each other up with prayer and other forms of support and encouragement. In a small group, people often feel more free to ask questions – questions about scripture, questions about belief, questions about God and questions about yourself. And in a small group and through the feedback you receive from others, you are more likely to learn some new things about yourself, perhaps even discover some new area of mission or service that God is nudging you toward! If you have not participated in a small group at Central, or if it's been a while, this new year of 2006 offers many opportunities for you to grow and share and learn. This week's newsletter is full of information about various groups and activities that will challenge you to grow spiritually.

You may be interested in a new study beginning next week at the home of **Mike and Coleen Myers** or you may want to check out the new Foundations course beginning soon or perhaps you are interested in CCC Friends. In addition, there are several other on-going opportunities to be involved in small group ministries. We have ChristCare study groups that meet on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons and our ChristCare Stitchers that are together every Tuesday morning.

If you are musically inclined, you might want to try the Chancel or Bell Choirs. Our Dorcas Disciples and Sisters in Spirit women's groups and Elderberries and FunTimers also provide wonderful opportunities to get to know others and to grow in your faith. If you are interested in any of these opportunities or have suggestions for additional small group study and growth opportunities, don't hesitate to talk with me anytime. And remember, "Good things come in small groups"! We hope to see you in one soon!

Blessings, *Gretchen*

Building on a Firm Foundation!

A new study group, which focuses on the foundations of our faith, will begin Thursday, February 2nd, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Participants will focus on a different question of faith each week for ten weeks.

This study is for everyone — those new to the faith or seasoned veterans. It will allow you to take a fresh look and ask questions of your faith in a warm and relaxed setting. Each session includes a meal, a video presentation and group discussion. Cost for group materials is just \$12 (includes two separate books) and a basket will be available each week for donations to help offset the cost of the meal.

Childcare will be available in the church nursery and children are invited to join the group during the mealtimes. This is also an excellent opportunity to invite a friend, neighbor or family member to experience the Central difference and grow in their faith and understanding. A minimum of six participants is required for this study. More information and a sign-up sheet are available in the Friendship Center. Be part of the excitement ... sign up today!



News From the Pews....

Grandparents, **Robyn & Tom Spry** proudly announce the January 20th birth of their grandson, **Cole Steven** to **Brian & Kim Spry** of Woodridge, Illinois.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of **Judith Berneice Baird Steinman**, of Fountain Hills, Arizona, following her death on January 12.

Evangelism Seeds

When you put on your nametag on Sunday morning before entering the sanctuary, do you ever wonder why? I mean, really, doesn't everyone know who you are? Well, actually – NO! Yes, the people who know you know who you are. But one of the things we do each Sunday with our nametags is to make Central a more welcoming place for those who are new to our congregation. How wonderful it is to be able to speak with someone and know their name! Thank you for this gift you give to our guests when you put on your name tag each Sunday!

Spirit of Christmas Thanks

Recently we received the following notes of thanks from families served by Webster Cantrell Hall:

Thank you, for everything and I loved my gifts! Thanks.

Catrina

Our deepest regards for the wonderful gifts. Thank you.

Alisa & Xzylia

With special thanks for being so thoughtful, Thank you.

Chris, Michelle, Tommie & Elexus

Thank you so much for all the wonderful gifts you gave us! I will be eternally grateful for the sewing machine! Thank you for making my Christmas wish come true!

Donna & Jessica Feather

Thank you so much for all the gifts this year, they will all be truly appreciated and enjoyed by all of us.

Thank you, **Lyndsay, Aanyale & Children**

Again, thank you Central for generously sharing the Spirit of Christmas!



Sunday, January 29, 2006

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: 8:15 Offertory-Central Singers
10:45 Offertory-Ladies of the Choir
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
8:30-10:15-Parish Nurse Clinic
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
1:00-Youth leave church for Winter Party, Sullivan First Christian Church

Monday (30)

8:00-Wellness Walk
6:30-CCC Bowling, PlaMor Lanes
8:15-Basketball, Webster-Cantrell Hall

Tuesday (31)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
1:15-ChristCare, 218
6:30-Bible Study, home of Coleen & Mike Myers

Wednesday (February 1)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
12:00-Central Singers
2:00-ChristCare, 290

Thursday (2)

10:00-Alanon, 212
6:00-Foundations Course, Disciple Rm.
6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (3)

8:00-Wellness Walk

Saturday (4)

10:00-Youth Sub Shop, Disciple Room
10:30-Sisters in Spirit, John McClarey's Studio

Basketball
Open to High School & Adult
Webster-Cantrell Hall
Mondays at 8:15 p.m.
beginning January 30

Contact Pastor Robert
for more information



Serving Schedule—January 29, 2006

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Chris Fagin, Jan Dobbs

Deacons:

8:15 - Team 3 - Mike Holbrook, Capt., Charlotte Ballance, Jane Davis, Andy Fulk, Sherri Hood, Paula Hovey, Bob Keller, Karen Keller, Debbie Seaberg, Connie Shields, David Shields, Max Sperry
 10:45 - Team 4 - Jeannie Backes, Jordan Backes, Katie Beal, Mark Beal, Louise Boline, Mary Boyle, Shirley Brooks, Jon French, Dee Hill, Louellen Lusk, Karen McFadin, David Miller, Katie Miller, Janice Mitchell, Alex Otis, Andrew Rutherford, Bryan Rutherford, Gary Rutherford, Roger Rutherford

Ushers:

8:15 - Team 1 - Bob Wells, Charlotte Ballance, Jim Bednar, Pamela Bednar, Jarrett Bednar, Bill Fogerson, Nicole Fogerson Ropp
 10:45 - Team 6 - Maxine Koenig, Betty Chapman, Larry Chapman, Mark Beal, Katie Beal, Kaylene Beal, Sean Beal

Greeters:

8:15 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Nicole Fogerson Ropp, Julie Schneider
 10:45 - Roy Schilling, Ruth Ewing, Donna Strong

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Bill & Mary Alice Rule

Acolytes:

10:45 - David Martin, Joshua Bushey

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash
 10:45 - Jordan Backes

Preparation of Communion:

Becky Johnston, Bob & Phyllis Logan, Carole & Francis Songer

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams
 Sunday School and 10:45 service - Keith Backes
 10:45 service only - Ron Oliver

February 1 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Juanita Clark, Sara Field

Hosts:

Jan. 30 9:00-12:30 - Sara Field
 12:30-4:00 - Judy Ford
 Jan. 31 9:00-12:30 - Rosie Doore
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
 Feb. 1 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith
 12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong
 Feb. 2 9:00-12:30 - Betty March
 12:30-4:00 - Shirlee Johnson
 Feb. 3 9:00-12:30 - Bonnie Sauer
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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 HTTP://WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
 e-mail: *central@cccdisciples.org*

Charles Watkins Senior Pastor
 Robert Bushey Pastor for Children Youth and Families
 Gretchen Barron Pastor for Evangelism and Membership
 C. William Nichols Senior Minister Emeritus
 Jim Whitaker Pastor for Visitation
 Don Martin Minister of Music
 Leslie Peart Organist
 Valerie Rozanski Administrative Secretary
 Pat Beals Church Secretary
 Sue Burkham, Jane Latshaw Parish Nurse Coordinators
 Katie Beal Childcare Coordinator
 Joanne Frady, Sarah & Debra Fulk Childcare Providers
 Shelby Larrick, Bryan Rutherford Childcare Providers
 Jean Pease Preschool Director
 Trudy Garland, Shelly Messmore Preschool Teachers
 Kay Villarreal, Robin White Preschool Teachers
 Rudi Descaro Custodian
 David Flanders Custodian
 Dean Hadden Custodian
 Charles Wallace Custodian

The Central Visitor (USPS 098-520) is published weekly by Central Christian Church, 650 W. William, Decatur, IL 62522. Periodical Postage paid at Decatur, IL.
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Central Visitor, 650 W. William St., Decatur, IL 62522.

Counting On You

January 22

Worship Attendance 307
 Sunday School Attendance 83



Central Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
 650 West William Street
 Decatur, IL 62522-2326

PERIODICAL
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