



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, February 15, 2006

No. 5

## Bill Moutray in Concert at Central

Central's next exciting concert for the Decatur community will be on March 12 at 4:30 p.m. featuring **Bill Moutray** "with a little help from his friends," in a concert of vocal favorites including show tunes, medleys and spiritual songs. Please help spread the invitation among your friends so that they don't miss this delightful opportunity to hear Bill sing some of his favorite songs in Central's sanctuary.



## Church Family Pictorial Directory

Sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center or online at [www.signup.olanmills.com](http://www.signup.olanmills.com) (use the church phone # 217-428-4336) to be included in the 2006 Central Family Pictorial Directory with updated photos of new and familiar faces, updated addresses and phone numbers, a new birthday and anniversary roster all in a handsome hardbound keepsake. Olan Mills Photographers will be here to take pictures for the directory on March 28-29, April 3-4 and May 25-26. Each family pictured will be able to pick the picture for the directory, receive a free 8x10 portrait and a free copy of the directory. Remember, your family will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits and you are under no obligation to buy anything. There are no follow-up sales contacts as a result of your participation in the Church Family Pictorial Directory. Plan now to be a part of the Central Family Album.

## Ladies Night out Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>!

All Central women and friends are invited to join us for our first Ladies Night Out of the new year! We will gather on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Carlos O'Kelly's Mexican Café (2930 North Main Street). We will order off the dinner menu with separate checks (17% gratuity will be added – meals with beverage average \$10-14). Bring your grown daughter, or mother or friend for a great evening out. Sign up this Sunday at the Women's Ministry table in the Friendship Center.

## Family Fun by the Fireplace!

Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> the Central family will gather around the Friendship Center fireplace for an evening of fun, games and snacks. All are invited to come together from 6-8 p.m. for this mid-winter fellowship event. Various games will be available on tables around the room, including a young children's area in the Welcome Center. Each family is asked to bring a finger food or favorite snack to share. Beverages will be provided by the Fellowship Department. If you have a favorite game that you would like to teach others, please feel free to bring it. Join us by the fireplace for an enjoyable evening of fun and games!

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2006**

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

**Footer Faith**

Text: Isaiah 43:1-7

Charles Watkins

## Capital Campaign Council

Leaders of the new 2006-2009 Building Fund Campaign *Preserving our Past...Securing our Future* including the following:

Campaign Chair

**Mike Holbrook**

Campaign Secretary

**Cindy Soebbing**

Spiritual Emphasis Chair

**Lois Whitaker**

Publicity Chair

**John Graham**

Advance Pledge Chair

**Gene Garver**

Chair of the Church Council

**Chris Fagin**

Team Leaders

**Keith & Jeannie Backes**

**Larry Chapman**

**H H & Hilary Critchfield**

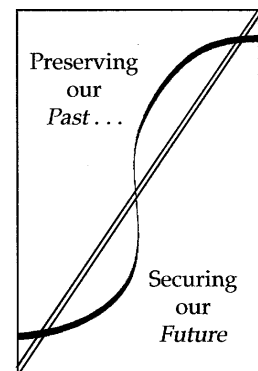
**Al Fagin**

**Mike & Gerri Munos**

**Ron & Mary Jane Oliver**

**Larry Otis**

**Kevin Otis**



## Youth Column

**Central Youth**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**CCC FRIENDS**  
**5:30- 8 p.m.**

Our new mid-week friendship making ministry meets on Wednesday evenings. Groups for Elementary, Jr. High & High School are offered. Join us this week for supper, worship and growing friendships with each other and with God.

**Family Theater Outing**  
**Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**at 2 p.m.**  
**Decatur Park District**  
**Storyteller Theater's**  
**Aladdin**

We have a dozen tickets to this wonderful show! Sign up with **Pastor Robert**. Our own **Jessica Brooks** has a role in the production.

## Welcome New Member



Welcome to **Charlie Ropp** who was baptized into Christ last weekend and is now a member of Central along with his wife **Nicole Fogerson Ropp**.

## Charles's Column

These are exciting days for anyone who loves or even admires the buildings that house all of Central's ministries. We are in the final days of the *Proud of our Past...Focused on the Future* Capital Campaign 2003-2006. The three-year pledge period ends next month, and hopes are high that each of us will be able to fulfill our commitments to that effort.

Even as the three-year pledge period is ending, the final projects of the campaign are moving ahead on schedule. The renovated choir room is going to provide wonderful quarters for one of Central's most vital ministries. The expanded and accessible stage is in place and ready to receive its new floor on which wonderful productions and performances will take place for years to come. The new lighting system will create exciting new capacity for dramatic and musical events of all kinds. Much of the painting is now complete, and the finished carpentry, cabinetry, and stage rigging will be installed over the next month. In addition to gifts by those who made pledges to the campaign, many memorial gifts are being used to help bring all these projects to successful conclusions. We still hope to be in our new facilities by Easter.

Looking back over the last three years, it is amazing to see all that the congregation has accomplished in the current campaign. A complex new drainage system has kept the Great Hall and choir room almost entirely dry for the last year. The new parking lot surfaces and the new carriage house along with the elimination of the old garage have given the whole campus a streamlined and clean look. The new signs around and within the buildings give a unified sense of direction to those who come to visit Central or attend community and arts events here. The new exterior and parking lot lighting make Central's building a beacon to the neighborhood by night as well as during the day. The expanded Martha Johnson Smith Memorial Play Yard gives our children a safe and attractive place to play and grow stronger. The outreach component of the campaign, to provide funds for building a house for Habitat for Humanity, will come to fruition next month when our congregation presents a check for \$40,000 to the local Habitat affiliate to which Central volunteers so much skilled and dedicated volunteer labor.

The building fund that ends next month has been most successful. And if each of us completes our commitment to it, the church can end the period debt free. Congratulations!

*Charles Watkins*

## Mix Up Your Spare Change for the Mix in '06

This Sunday you will find a large jug on the Women's Ministry Table in the Friendship Center. We invite you to drop your spare change in the jug each week or month as together we mix up our change for our Mix in '06 scholarship fund. This is part of an on-going fund raising emphasis for this significant women's event. The Mix in '06, is so named because women from both the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ will participate together June 21-25 in Indianapolis, IN. Over 5000 women are expected to share together in uplifting mission, energizing fellowship, challenging study and inspiring worship. You'll also want to stop by the Women's Ministry Table for more information and registration forms for the event.

## News From the Pews....

Congratulations to **Lindsey Thomas**, who is graduating from Illinois State University. Lindsey is the daughter of **Karen Thomas**.

Sympathy is extended to **Roy Schilling** following the February 12th death of his brother-in-law, *Herbert Rogers* of Lincoln, Illinois.

## Note of Thanks Received

With grateful hearts we acknowledge all the many ways our wonderful Central Family expressed their concern and sympathy for us, and thank you for helping us celebrate a life well lived. **-The Family of Nathalie Irwin**

## Week of Compassion Special Offering

Week of Compassion has helped Disciples respond to natural and human catastrophes for over 60 years. However, 2005 was one of the most momentous years in WOC's history. Wars, famines, earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes and storms were among the disasters that WOC responded to last year. Disease, hunger and poverty also claimed the lives of millions of people. However, Disciples giving was unprecedented last year - representing three times what Disciples normally give. WOC is deeply grateful for the outpouring of concern and compassion, and Disciples commitment to reach out to "the least of these." But the need for on-going outreach and support that includes earthquake survivors in Pakistan, refugees in Sudan\Dafur, and U.S. Gulf Coast hurricane evacuees continues. So please give generously on Feb. 19 and Feb. 26 when the WOC special offering is received. To learn more about WOC and its current work, see the new display board in the Friendship Center or click on the "Week of Compassion" link on our website at [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org).

## Register Your Child for Preschool

Registration for the 2006-07 Preschool year will be held in the Nichols Education Wing on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. This time is for church members and families already enrolled. Open registration, for the public, will be held the following week. If you are interested in registering a child, but are not available during these hours, please call the church (428-4336) and talk with **Jean Pease**, the Preschool Director.

## Counting On You

### February 12

Worship Attendance ..... 254  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 69

## Evangelism Seeds

Do you know that approximately 90% of the people who join a church do so because someone they knew and trusted invited them to attend worship? Who do you know that might receive strength, hope and blessing from the fellowship, worship, study and mission opportunities found at Central? Invite them today and help put them in touch with a life-giving relationship with God.



## Sunday, February 19, 2006

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
Music: Offertory-Marilyn Mertz, piano  
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
8:30-10:15-Parish Nurse Clinic  
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.  
9:30-Sunday School  
11:15-Children's Worship, 250

## Monday (20)

8:00-Wellness Walk  
5:15-Capital Campaign Team Leaders,  
Disciple Room  
6:00-CCC Friends, Robert Bushey's  
6:30-Ladies Night Out, Carlos O'Kellys  
8:15-Basketball, Webster-Cantrell Hall

## Tuesday (21)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,  
Senior Pastor's Study  
1:15-ChristCare, 218  
2:00-Habitat Meeting, 280  
6:00-Christian Education Dept., 280  
6:30-Bible Study, Coleen & Mike  
Myer's home

## Wednesday (22)

12:00-Central Singers  
2:00-ChristCare, 290  
5:30-Stephen Ministry, 280  
5:30-CCC Friends, Disciple Room, 240,  
260 & 290

## Thursday (23)

10:00-Alanon, 212  
6:00-Bell Choir, 290  
7:00-Chancel Choir

## Friday (24)

8:00-Wellness Walk

## Saturday (25)

6:00-8:00-Family Game Night,  
Friendship Center

## Bake Sale Thank You

The Mix in '06 Planning Task Force thanks everyone for the wonderful response to Sunday's bake sale. Thank you to all who helped plan and sell, to all who baked such delicious treats, and to all who purchased items. Over \$250 was raised for scholarships for Central women to attend the Mix in '06 in Indianapolis this coming June. Thank you one and all!

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## Serving Schedule—February 19, 2006

### Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Connie Bordner, Larry Otis

### Deacons:

8:15 - Team 1 - Gene Garver, Capt., Tina Canfield, Jared Carter, Bev Chapman, Merle Chapman, Jim DeZarn, Dennis Downey, Al Fagin, Chris Fagin, Sally Force, Sandy Garver, Dean Gray, Janet Gray, Joe Lewis, Gail Prince, Larry Prince, Dean Simcox, Sue Simcox, Rebecca Smart

10:45 - Team 2 - Richard Ward, Capt., Cathy Ash, Jim Ash, Neil Baird, Debbie Bateman, Philip Bateman, Azalee Berner, Warren Berner, Dale Ford, Judy Ford, Alex Harm, Christine Lyman-Harm, Ernestine Mrozinski, Ron Oliver, Dave Phillips, Nita Phillips, Kelly Swallow, Steve Swarhout, Janet Thicksten, Larry Thicksten, Sally Thicksten, Kathy Thornton

### Ushers:

8:15 - Team 4 - Ed Acheson, Capt., Carole Holbrook, Mike Holbrook, Carl Morris, Phyllis Morris, Betty Ann Roe  
10:45 - Team 9 - Bruce, Carol, Allison, Jessica, Maggie Stoddard

### Greeters:

8:15 - Don & Brenda Tankersley, Ed & Joy Adams  
10:45 - Joyce Leach, Ruby Agnew, Bob & Carol Bischoff

**Fellowship Coffee Hosts:** Gordon & Susan Gregory

**Children's Worship:** Teri Bushey

### Acolytes:

8:15 - Sam Funk  
10:45 - Erik Harm

### P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash  
10:45 - Jim Hinze

### Preparation of Communion:

Mary Jane Oliver, Jim & Myra Hinze, Mark & Nancy McAfee, Suzie Miller

### Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams  
Sunday School and 10:45 service - Doug Soebbing  
10:45 service only - Carol Graham

### February 22 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Sara Field, Marge Karl

### Hosts:

Feb. 20 9:00-12:30 - Alice Brooks  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
Feb. 21 9:00-12:30 - Barb Flanders  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
Feb. 22 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith  
12:30-4:00 - Ruby Agnew  
Feb. 23 9:00-12:30 - Evelyn Sperry  
12:30-4:00 - Lilabelle Traylor  
Feb. 24 9:00-12:30 - Yvonne Purcell  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

**Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
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HTTP://WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG  
e-mail: [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto: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  
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.



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**(Disciples of Christ)**  
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PERIODICAL  
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