



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, July 12, 2006

No. 26

## Attend the All-Church Mission Luncheon on July 16<sup>th</sup>!



Our missionaries to Honduras are back and ready to share their stories and photos with you!

Everyone is invited to join the Honduras Mission Trip Participants for a Taco Salad Bar Luncheon at 11:15 a.m. (immediately following 2<sup>nd</sup> service) on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. We'll share a delicious summer luncheon together, see pictures from the Honduras Trip and share in the stories and excitement of **Jane Latshaw, Don Tankersley, Bob Smith** and **Karen McFadin**, who recently spent eight days in Tegucigalpa, Honduras working with our Global Mission Partners, Bruce and Linda Hanson. Plan now to come and share in the excitement! Call the office today at 428-4336 and we'll be sure to set you a place at the table!

## Volunteers Needed to Provide Snacks at Habitat Worksite

Volunteers are currently needed to provide snacks and drinks at the Central Christian Church Habitat for Humanity worksite on Thursday and Saturday mornings. Donuts or baked goodies and cold drinks are all that is needed. This would be a great project to do with your children or can be done as an individual or group. If you are interested in helping, contact **Pastor Gretchen**.

## Habitat for Humanity House Dedication

Decatur Area Habitat for Humanity will be dedicating their 48<sup>th</sup> home on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. The house is located at 3939 East Hickory Street. Refreshments and a tour of the house will follow the brief service of dedication.

## Sunday Breakfast Club Menu - Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>

The SBC main dish for this week is Breakfast Sandwiches (eggs, cheese, Canadian bacon or sausage) on bagels and English muffins. Along with our main dish, fruit, yogurt, cereal, milk, juice, and coffee are available each week. SBC serves breakfast from 8:45-9:15 a.m. in the Great Hall every Sunday during summer. Donations are accepted each week to help offset the costs of the breakfast.

**SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2006**  
WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00  
**Waiting With Eager Anticipation!**

Text: Romans 8:12-25  
Gretchen Barron

## In Memoriam

During the second quarter of 2006 Central received special gifts honoring the memories of **Rosemary Bednar, Lyle & Minnie Campbell, Velma Cravens, A. Earlene Esry, Shirley Glasscock, Helen Hopper, Nathalie Irwin, Ross Laird, Juanita Lawrence, Earle Ray, Lucille L. Ray, Irene Smith Roe, R.D. Schwarze, W. Glenn Shoemaker, Alma Shyer, Raymond Tyler, George Wagner, and Robert E. Ward.**

We are grateful for the lives of these whose memories are honored here at Central and for those who have given memorial funds honoring them. Memorial gifts to Central in the first six months of 2006 total \$17,456.

Gifts to the church honoring the memories of friends and family members are always welcome and appropriate. Each gift is recorded at the church and acknowledged to the family. Memorial gifts are used for special needs approved by the Church Council and in consultation with family members.

## Evangelism Seeds

Don't measure your possibilities by what you think you can do but by what you think God can do. Invite someone to church this week!

## Central Youth

### Wednesday/Thursday Night Specials

Central Youth (grades entering 6<sup>th</sup> - finishing 12<sup>th</sup>) are invited to Pastor Robert's home, for our next gathering on July 19. We will enjoy supper and swimming. Future dates include August 2 & 17.

### Chicago & Six Flags Great America Trip July 16-July 18

The Central youth trip to downtown Chicago and Six Flags Great America Amusement Park will leave after supper on your own on Sunday evening, July 16 at 5 p.m. and return around midnight on July 18. Youth need to bring a sleeping bag and pillow, good walking shoes for the city, a bag or pack, swimsuit and towel for the water-park, sunscreen, and money for four meals, games, shopping at Gurnee Mills Mall, souvenirs, etc. Monday we will visit the John Hancock Tower, Navy Pier, Grant Park and other Chicago attractions. We will be staying at First Christian Church in Gurnee on Monday night.

### Decatur Celebration Parking

Central youth will park cars at National City Bank at the corner of Eldorado Street and Main Street during the Decatur Celebration. Speak to Pastor Robert or Don Martin to sign up for the hours you are available to work. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and will provide scholarships for summer activities.

## CrossWalk America Walkers to Enter Illinois This Week

The CrossWalk America Core Walkers will enter Illinois this week as they continue their journey to Washington DC. With more than 13 weeks and 1,650 miles under their belts, the core walkers of CrossWalk America have seen plenty of signs that show them their message of Christian compassion and inclusion is resonating with people of all faiths around the country. The CrossWalkers are covering approximately 25 miles per day, walking as Jesus did during his three years of Ministry, seeking to reclaim the core values of the Christian Faith. They are doing this by spreading the message that Christianity is first and foremost about the just and unconditional Love of God for *all* people, and Christ's commandments to love God and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Central will host the CrossWalk America walkers in Decatur for a Community Potluck Style Dinner on Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall. The Rev. Eric Elnes, PhD, Co-president of the organization will share with us at the dinner. The walkers are staying in the homes of church members from Central, First Congregational United Church of Christ and First Presbyterian Church while they are walking near Decatur. Plan to join us to welcome these sojourners for a compassionate gospel to Decatur. Visit their website for more information at [www.crosswalkamerica.org](http://www.crosswalkamerica.org)

## Summer Lunch Club Cook-out & Swimming Party

The Summer Lunch Club for children grades entering 1<sup>st</sup> - finishing 5<sup>th</sup> will meet at Pastor Robert's home on Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> for a cookout and swimming. Children need to bring a swimsuit (floatation device if they need/want to), towel, bag for wet clothes and sunscreen. Hot dogs, chips, fresh veggies, dessert and drinks will be available. All 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited even if you were not able to attend other SLC events. Contact Pastor Robert at 428-4336 for directions to the party.

## Central Family Camping Trip, August 10-13

Youth grades 6-12 are invited to travel to Spencer, Indiana for a three-night, camping trip to McCormick's Creek State Park. We will hike, enjoy the swimming pool, play in the low falls of the creek, worship together and enjoy a campfire each night. The cost is \$30 per youth. Families and friends are welcome to join us for the weekend with advanced reservations. Site fees will apply for families bringing their own campers/tents. Forms are now available in the Friendship Center and are due back by July 30<sup>th</sup>. Contact Pastor Robert with questions.

## Even the Good Things in Life Can Cause Stress

Do you know that even a happy occasion can cause stress? Some of the most exciting events of our lives can cause us to doubt ourselves and our abilities. Here are just a few of the stressful times when a Stephen Minister could smooth the way – new baby, new job, move, promotion, recognition, retirement, marriage, empty nest. These are all events that we look forward to, but each will change our lives in significant ways. Most of the time it causes both ourselves and our families to make adjustments that are stressful. Stephen Ministers are ready and able to help make the transition easier for you. If you or someone you know is experiencing stress related either to a happy or sad event, ask if he or she might benefit by talking with a Stephen Minister. Talk with **Pastor Gretchen** for more information. We have a Stephen Minister available for you!



### News From the Pews.....

Congratulations to **Dr. Daryl & April Trusty** of Glen Dale, West Virginia following the June 26<sup>th</sup> birth of their son, **Dawson Hunter**. Proud grandparents are **Bill & Joyce Hawks**.

### FunTimer's on the Go to Rockome Gardens!

The FunTimer's, Centrals on-the-go group of adults age 55+, will travel to Arcola's Rockome Gardens on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>. We'll spend time at the current exhibit, "Passing on the Comfort: A Traveling Quilt Exhibit from the Mennonite Central Committee". This exhibit features 18 quilts and comforters sent to the Netherlands nearly six decades ago to provide aid and comfort to those fleeing the ravages of war. The display tells the story of a woman and her family, whose home was used as a "safe house" by the Dutch resistance movement during and after World War II. We will also eat lunch at the new "Days Gone By" restaurant which recalls the 1940's era and spend casual time in the beautiful gardens and many quaint shops, exhibits and demonstrations. Shops and exhibits include a Soda Fountain, Candy store and Bakery, a Five & Dime, Blacksmith, Saw Mill, Fishing Pond, Farm House, Schoolhouse and train and buggy rides. The Amish Farm Market will also be open that day. Admission to the Gardens is just \$4 for seniors. Lunch is on your own but you receive a 20% discount with a current church bulletin (which we can arrange!). The van will leave Central at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> and will return before 5 p.m. Sign-ups to reserve your place on the van begin this Sunday in the Friendship Center. You won't want to miss this fun trip!

## Counting On You

### July 9

Worship Attendance ..... 309  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 83

During the month of June, Central received gifts for the General Operating Fund of \$42,246 which is \$7,754 below the giving goal for the month. Giving in May and June has been well below what was expected.

Expenses to operate the church in June were \$59,624 which is \$2,907 below the budget for the month but \$13,845 more than the church actually received.

So far this year, it has cost \$43,418 more to operate Central's ministries than the church has received.

All outreach commitments for June both locally and globally were paid in full.

Gifts to the *Preserving our Past...Securing Our Future* capital campaign during June were \$8,411. The total amount of building debt is \$103,000.

Your regular and generous giving keeps Central going! We're counting on you! Do your best for your church so that your church can do its best for God. Detailed monthly financial reports for the congregation and the Board of Trustees are always available on the counter by the church office in the Friendship Center along with minutes of the last Church Council meeting. You can always pick up copies and see exactly where the congregation stands financially.



### Sunday, July 16, 2006

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services  
Music: Offertory-Karen Driver, soprano;  
Chris Thomas, tenor  
10:00 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
8:45-Sunday Breakfast Club, Great Hall  
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Cindy Soebbing  
9:00-Sunday School  
11:15-Mission Trip Luncheon, Great Hall  
2:00-Habitat House Dedication,  
3939 East Hickory Street

### Monday (17)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics,  
Great Hall/Heritage Room  
4:00-Aerobics, 290

### Tuesday (18)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,  
Senior Pastor's Study  
4:00-Aerobics, 290

### Wednesday (19)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280  
12:00-Central Singers  
12:00-3:30-Summer Lunch Club  
1:15-POP ChristCare, 218  
3:30-5:30-SLC Aftercare  
4:00-Aerobics, 290  
5:30-Youth Wednesday Night Special,  
Robert Bushey's house  
6:00-Women's Retreat Planning,  
Disciple Room

### Thursday (20)

10:00-Alanon, 212  
4:00-Aerobics, 290  
6:00-Cross Walk America Potluck,  
Great Hall  
7:00-Chancel Choir

### Friday (21)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics,  
Great Hall/Heritage Center

### Saturday (22)

1:00-4:00-60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception,  
Great Hall

**Serving Schedule—July 16, 2006**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:00 - Bob Smith, Larry Thicksten

**Deacons:**

8:00 - 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  
 10:00 - 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:**

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Ruby Agnew, Betty Beebe, Willie Birkhead, Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos  
 10:00 - Team 10 - Bill Blank, Marilyn Blank, Bob Harmon, Billie Harmon

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Debbie & Dennis Downey, Evelyn & Max Sperry  
 10:00 - Joyce Leach, Ruby Agnew, Clyde & Jean Booher

**Parish Nurse:** Cindy Soebbing

**Acolytes:**

8:00 - Brittney Munos  
 10:00 - Jessica Brooks

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Greg Carter  
 10:00 - Jim Hinze

**Preparation of Communion:**

Brenda & Don Tankersley, Bill & LeEtta Bass, Pam Larrick, Jane Latshaw, Hazel Perry

**Van Drivers:**

8:00 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams  
 Sunday School and 10:00 service - Doug Soebbing  
 10:00 service only - Richard Ward

**July 19 Visitor Mailing Crew:**

Sara Field, Marge Karl

**Hosts:**

July 17 9:00-12:30 - Alice Brooks  
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
 July 18 9:00-12:30 - Darla Lienemann  
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
 July 19 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman  
 12:30-4:00 - Sally Thicksten  
 July 20 9:00-12:30 - Jean Booher  
 12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong  
 July 21 9:00-12:30 - Juanita Ballance  
 12:30-4:00 - Juanita Reynolds

**Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
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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  
 Shelly Messmore ..... Preschool Director  
 Trudy Garland, Janet Langston ..... Preschool Teachers  
 Kay Villarreal, Robin White ..... Preschool Teachers  
 Rudi Descaro ..... Custodian  
 David Flanders ..... Custodian  
 Dean Hadden ..... Custodian  
 Charles Wallace ..... Custodian

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**(Disciples of Christ)**  
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