



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXVII

Decatur, Illinois, September 28, 2005

No. 39

Consecration Day at Central is Sunday After Next

Have you been giving careful thought to what you want to do to keep Central's ministries going in 2006? Pray this week that God will help you as you make this important decision about what to put down on your Giving Card October 9. There is still time to send in (or phone in - 428-4336) your reservation for the all-church dinner on October 9.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2005

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

Trash & Trophies

Text: Philippians 3: 4-14

Robert Bushey

Piano Concert October 11

Radoslav Kvapil from Prague in the Czech Republic will present a concert on the sanctuary Steinway grand piano on October 11 at 7:30 p.m. The concert is free and open to all your friends and neighbors. They will be glad if you invite them to attend with you!

Organ Concert October 23

Gordon Stewart, the Huddersfield Town Hall organist in Great Britain, will present a concert of pipe organ music in the sanctuary on October 23 at 4:30 p.m. Gordon played a stunning concert at Central in 2002. Don't miss this opportunity to hear him play again!

All Church Hayride

Central members and friends are invited to the all-church Hayride, Sunday, October 16th. We'll begin to gather at 4:00 p.m. and will plan to eat around 5:00 p.m. at Hayrides & More in Blue Mound. This annual event always promises good food, fun and fellowship! The cost is \$5 per person with a maximum of \$15 per family. This includes the hayride, hotdogs, buns, s'mores, condiments, drinks and table service. Please bring a dinner item or munchie to share. Remember, it can get pretty cold on the hayride, so dress appropriately. Tickets are on sale this Sunday in the Friendship Center.



Join us on a hayride!

General Assembly Highlights

Come and watch Dr. Samuel Kobia's message "In Christ a New Humanity" from the General Assembly in Portland, Oregon. Dr. Kobia serves as General Secretary of the World Council of Churches. We will also learn about resolutions calling for peace in the Sudan and exploring our relations with the people of Haiti. Meet in the Great Hall this Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Central Breakfast Café Menu

Everyone is welcome to join us for a continental breakfast this Sunday from 9:00-9:30 a.m. Donation baskets will be available to offset the cost of the breakfast. The Central Breakfast Café menu includes: Rolls and pastries, yogurt, fruit, cereal, milk, juice and coffee.



Holiday Card Workshop

We invite you to join with other Central folks and friends for an evening of making Holiday cards on Monday, October 3rd in the Disciple Room. Come when you can and stay as long as you like, anytime between 5:00-8:00 p.m. You will need to bring your own supplies and materials and a finger food for a shared supper. If you have Holiday or Christmas rubber stamps and would be willing to let others use them, please bring them as well. We will also have a swap table available where you can place items you no longer want and receive something new from someone else. There will be lots of ideas and samples for inspiration. Childcare will be provided for young children in the nursery. Sign up in the Friendship Center today!

News for Children & Youth

CCC KIDS

Children grades 1-5 are invited to CCC KIDS on Sunday, October 2nd from 4:30-5:30 p.m. We will play games, enjoy snacks and learn about upcoming activities including a Kids to Kids mission project to help with hurricane recovery efforts along the Gulf Coast. A calendar of dates for Fall activities will be available.

Youth Group Sunday, October 2nd 11:30-12:30

Youth are needed to help serve lunch to clients of the Oasis Day Center for the Homeless. The Center is located at 243 W. Cerro Gordo St. We will take a chili lunch to the center at 11:30 a.m. and serve for about an hour.

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Youth grades 6-12 are invited to a Pizza Dinner on Sunday. We will be making plans for our Miracle Day Lock-In and trip, making assignments for our Comedy Dinner Theatre production of *Fools* and signing up for Youth Sunday.

Comedy Dinner Theatre

The Youth of Central are rehearsing for the production of Neil Simon's play *Fools* under the direction of **Katie Beal**. The show is scheduled to play November 11-13. A dinner theatre will be available for the Friday and Saturday night production of the play which will raise money for the Great Hall and Stage renovation project. Tickets will be available beginning October 16th.

Robert's Reflections

Since I moved to Decatur almost eight years ago, I have been constantly working on various remodeling/building projects. First, we added a two-level deck on our home and built a play center for the boys. We then built a shed, replaced doors, gutted and remodeled a kitchen and a bath, replaced flooring, painted inside and out, and updated the landscaping all with only minor scrapes and bruises. And, then we moved. Building and working with my hands is in my blood. Generations of my family have built and renovated homes, worked the ground for road construction, landscaping and farming, and worked in factories manufacturing various goods.

Beginning this weekend, 38 individuals from Central will give of their time, energy, and abilities by participating in the Miracle Day renovation projects in Chicago and Carbondale. Central's mission representatives will account for about ten percent of the total workforce from throughout our region. I will be one of them, and I understand that my crew will be painting the library of the SIU Interfaith Center on October 8th.

Since the church picnic, we have been reflecting on the Generations of Generosity that have constructed the wonderful foundation of stewardship upon which the many outstanding ministries of our congregation have been built. As we continue to prayerfully consider our estimate of giving for 2006, I invite you to offer your prayers of thanksgiving and support for the generous stewardship of those who have raised and donated funds, given thousands of dollars worth of in-kind donations of materials and labor, and the nearly four hundred Disciples who will practice their Christian stewardship by traveling to the Miracle Day sites and offering their service to the glory of God. As you make plans to attend and reserve your place for the Consecration Day Dinner, celebrate the devotion of those who walked before us nurturing seeds of hope and love and building ministries of compassion and service, and join in making your commitment to support and grow in our mission of loving God and caring for people.

Peace & Joy,
Robert

Attention Bell Ringers

Chancel Bells will begin rehearsals on Thursday, October 6 at 5:30-6:45 p.m. (The time change is to accommodate the new Chancel Choir time)

We plan to participate in the Hanging of the Greens service on November 27 at 7:30 p.m. and will also play in two worship services on Sunday December 4. Please let **Don Martin** know whether or not you can join us this time. Invite a friend to come.

Storybook Prison Ministry Orientation

Another Storybook Ministry orientation meeting has been set for Monday, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in Room 280. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, you are invited to attend. Storybook Ministry is done in cooperation with Lutheran Social Services. Four times each year, trained volunteers work with inmates at the Decatur Women's Correctional Facility to help them choose, read and record stories to send to their children. For more information or an application form, please speak with Pastor Gretchen. You must attend an orientation session before you are allowed into the prison to work with this ministry. We are also accepting donations to help purchase children's books. If you would like to make a donation to this project, write "storybook ministry" on the memo line of your check and send it to the church office or place it in the offering plate on Sunday.

News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Lee Staley**, of Sebring, Florida following the September 26th death of her husband, *Lavelle Staley*.

Sisters in Spirit goes to the Y – October 5th

Step out at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 5th, to the Greater Decatur Y, where Susie Engle, health and wellness director of the YMCA, will talk about simple changes you can make which will keep you fit and healthy and also give us a tour of the Y's beautiful new facility. Sisters in Spirit is a monthly gathering of Central women and is open to all who are interested. It is not a group in the traditional sense, but rather an opportunity to gather around specific interests and programs. No childcare provided for this gathering. Sign up this Sunday!

Note of Thanks Received

Many thanks for all the cards, notes, visits, and prayers during my "6 day nightmare" in the hospital. It is a great comfort to be a part of such a caring congregation. I am now able to resume my usual lifestyle and was happy to be able to be back at church Sunday. *Inabell Kirby*

Now is the Time to Register for the Women's Retreat!

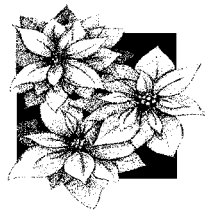
The October 5th deadline is quickly approaching to sign up for our second annual fall retreat, October 21-22 at Camp One-Way (near Mt. Auburn). Claudia Grant will guide us through the theme of *Dream On, Sisters!* The \$60 registration fee is due upon registration. An additional gift of any amount will help subsidize program costs or provide scholarships which are available. This is not limited to Central members, so invite a friend or family member.

Who Do You Know That Needs a Note of Encouragement?

Once again this month, the Evangelism department is including a post card in your Sunday bulletin and encouraging you to write a personal note to someone you know without a church home, someone going through a difficult time, or someone who has gotten out of the Sunday morning habit of attending church. The card is pre-printed with Centrals address, worship times and a simple "thinking of you" greeting and includes space for your personal message. We encourage you to jot down your message at church while you're thinking of it (don't forget to sign it) and then take it home to add the address and a .23 stamp before dropping it in the mail.

Order Your Christmas Poinsettias Now!

Fall is only beginning but now is the time to order your Holiday Poinsettias! We are selling them as a fund raiser for future mission trips. The Poinsettias are grown at a local greenhouse. Each plant is in a 6 ½ " pot with a decorative wrap and beautiful handmade, wired bow. Plants are available in red, pink, white, peppermint (peach & white) and marble and sell for \$12 each. Order forms are available in the Friendship Center. Orders will be accepted through October 17th and payment must accompany the order. Order one or several for yourself or others. Don't miss this opportunity to pre-purchase beautiful holiday plants and support future mission trips. The plants will be available for pick up the first Sunday of December. For more information, see **Pastor Gretchen**.



Sunday, October 2, 2005

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services

Music: Offertory-Kaylene Beal,

French Horn

10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir; Tami

Longcor, Soprano; Michael Brown,

Tenor; Bill Moutray, Bass

8:30-10:15-Parish Nurse Clinic

9:00-Central Breakfast Cafe, Great Hall

9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.

9:30-Sunday School

4:30-CCC Kids

5:30-Youth Group

6:30-8:45-Play Rehearsal

Monday (3)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall

5:00-8:00-Holiday Card Workshop,

Disciple Room

6:30-Storybook Ministry Training, 280

6:30-CCC Bowling, Pla Mor Lanes

Tuesday (4)

9:00-ChristCare Stitches, 207

9:30-PEO Meeting, Disciple Room

10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,

Senior Pastor's Study

11:45-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room

1:15-ChristCare, 218

6:30-Play Rehearsal

Wednesday (5)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280

12:00-Central Singers

6:00-Sisters in Spirit Planning Meeting

6:30-Play Rehearsal

7:00-Sisters in Spirit, Decatur Y

Thursday (6)

10:00-Alanon, 212

5:30-Chancel Bells

6:00-Spiritual Life Bible Study,

Disciple Room

6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207

6:30-Play Rehearsal

7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (7)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall

7:00-Youth Miracle Day Lock-in begins

Saturday (8)

5:00-Youth leave for Carbondale, IL

7:30-Elders' Breakfast, Disciple Room

4:30-Chancel Wedding, Sue Burkham

& Jack Dixon

Reception following in the Great Hall

Serving Schedule—October 2, 2005

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Randy Brooks, Larry Thicksten

Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Connie Bordner & Tom Spry

Deacons:

8:15 - Team 3 - Mike Holbrook, Capt., Charlotte Ballance, Dallas Beyer, Mary Coate, Jane Davis, Sherri Hood, Paula Hovey, Bob Keller, Karen Keller, Norm Lienemann, Larry Otis, Debbie Seaberg, Connie Shields, David Shields, Max Sperry
10:45 - Team 4 - Jeannie Backes, Jordan Backes, Katie Beal, Mark Beal, Louise Boline, Mary Boyle, Dan Brintlinger, Nedra Brintlinger, Randy Brooks, Shirley Brooks, Deborah Foster, Larry Foster, Andy Fulk, Debra Fulk, Sarah Fulk, Dee Hill, Wayne Honeycutt, Louellen Lusk, Karen McFadin, Janice Mitchell, Kevin Morrison-Otis, Alex Otis, Andrew Rutherford, Bryan Rutherford, Gary Rutherford, Roger Rutherford

Ushers:

8:15 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Ruby Agnew, Betty Beebe, Willie Birkhead, Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos
10:45 - Team 10 - Bill Blank, Marilyn Blank, Bob Harmon, Billie Harmon, Sally Thicksten

Greeters:

8:15 - Frances Heiserman, Rita Woods, Don & Brenda Tankersley
10:45 - Bill & Carol Charlton, Carroll & Doris Little

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Mike & Gerri Munos Family

Acolytes:

8:15 - Sarah Funk
10:45 - Jessica Brooks, Avery Martin

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Jim Bednar
10:45 - Larry Pepper

Preparation of Communion:

Carroll & Doris Little, Mark & Nancy McAfee, Joan Smith

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Ed Adams
Sunday School and 10:45 service - Kevin Wilmot
10:45 service only - Bruce Williams

October 5 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Juanita Clark, Sara Field

Hosts:

Oct. 3 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman
12:30-4:00 - Maxine Koenig
Oct. 4 9:00-12:30 - Roy Schilling
12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford
Oct. 5 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong
Oct. 6 9:00-12:30 - Betty March
12:30-4:00 - Shirlee Johnson
Oct. 7 9:00-12:30 - Bonnie Sauer
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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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
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

September 25

Worship Attendance 317
Sunday School Attendance 71



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(Disciples of Christ)
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PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID

