



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, October 11, 2006

No. 41

Dr. Herbert Knudsen to be Consecration Day Speaker

This Sunday is Consecration Day at Central, when each member has the opportunity to present a giving plan for 2007 in worship before the Lord. Our guest speaker this Sunday is the **Reverend Dr. Herbert L. Knudsen**, regional minister and president of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin.

Herb has been a pastor in our region for the last thirty-five years and our regional minister for the last eight years. Herb is a graduate of Morningside College in Sioux City, IA (B.S.), Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC (M.Div), Sangamon State University (M.A., and Chicago Theological Seminary (D.Min.). He and his wife Duff are parents of two sons, Rob and Chris, and grandparents of four grandchildren: Robert, Michael, Elisabeth, and Thomas.

Be here Sunday to extend a warm Central welcome to Herb Knudsen.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2006

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

Life in the Vineyard

Text: Matthew 21:33-43

The Rev. Dr. Herbert L. Knudsen

Mission Trip Informational Meeting

If you might be interested in attending one of the 2007 Mission Trips to the hurricane affected New Orleans area, join us Tuesday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m. for an information meeting. Pastors Lonnie and Vicki Southern, from Davis Memorial Christian Church in Taylorville, will share stories and pictures from their recent trip to the area. Our trips are scheduled for March 10-18 and June 23-July 1, 2007. Both groups will travel to the New Orleans area to assist individual families with the reconstruction of their homes. Tasks may include roofing, dry wall installation, painting, general cleanup and more. There will be a job for you to do, regardless of your physical ability or knowledge/experience. Cost per participant will be \$250 to cover travel, lodging and meal expenses, and scholarship will be available. You will also be responsible for purchasing your own meals during travel times. Look for the trip information packs available in the Friendship Center soon and plan to join us on October 24 as we learn more about this mission opportunity.

Disciples Class Sponsors Book Signing for Bill Nichols

This Sunday, October 15, there will be a book signing for Bill Nichols' new book, *If Gold Shall Rust*. The cost of the book is \$13.95. Bill will sign books at the west entrance from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

All Church Hayride

Central members and friends are invited to the All-Church Hayride, Sunday, October 22. We'll begin to gather at 4:00 p.m. and 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. Sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center or call the church office at 428-4336.

Welcome New Member



Welcome to **Alvin Taylor**, who became a member of Central Christian on Sunday, October 8 by transfer of membership.



Central Youth

Sunday, October 15th

Central Youth will rehearse for Youth Sunday from 5-7 p.m. We will gather in the sanctuary. If you do not have a part assigned, there is still room for you to participate. Contact Pastor Robert and plan to be at rehearsal on Sunday.

Sunday, October 22nd

Central Youth are encouraged to attend the All Church Hayride & Weiner Roast at Hayrides & More in Blue Mound. The fun begins at 4 p.m. Call Pastor Robert 428-4336 if you need a ride!

Youth Sponsors Meeting

Monday, October 16th
6:30 p.m.
at PlaMor Lanes

Coming Events

October 29th Youth Sunday
(Both Services)
Lunch at Monicals
after church

Summer 2007 Mission Trip

to Slidell, Louisiana
Ages 13 yrs. & Up
June 23rd-July 1st

Put it on Your Calendar Now!

Children's Worship This Sunday

Children's Worship, for children ages 5-12, is available during the 10:45 service this Sunday, following the Offering. Children are welcome to exit the sanctuary after the Prayer of Dedication and meet Katie Powers in the Friendship Center.

Charles's Column

Professional development officers articulate four basic principles of fundraising:

- Money flows toward success
- Most people are more interested in people than anything else
- Charities prosper best with optimism
- Integrity: without it, forget it

Understanding the importance of these fundamentals, the Stewardship Department at Central has produced a video highlighting some of the many reasons you can be glad that you support our congregation financially. The video will be shown in the Friendship Center one more Sunday. Here are some of the points to keep in mind as you make your decision this Sunday on Consecration Day about your level of support for your church in 2007

- ✓ Central is the church home for more Illinois Disciples of Christ than any other congregation
- ✓ More Disciples worship at Central each week than at any other downstate congregation
- ✓ Central is by far the largest contributor in Illinois to the Disciples Mission Fund which supports all the general, regional, educational, and worldwide ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
- ✓ Central provides a comprehensive program of pastoral care to four hundred families including Stephen Ministry, bereavement caring, and Parish Nurse programs
- ✓ Central has sustained the same ministry team of two capable administrative assistants, one accomplished organist, and five dedicated ministers for almost nine years—an unprecedented record of tenure among church staffs in our denomination
- ✓ Central is the only Decatur congregation with a supporting fund at the Community Foundation of Decatur
- ✓ Central is the only Decatur congregation listed in the annual report of the United Way of Decatur/Macon County
- ✓ Central members provide eighty-seven per cent of the congregation's current income
- ✓ Central's most recent capital funds campaign for building improvements was underwritten fully by contributors
- ✓ Central was the first congregational recipient of the James P. Johnson Stewardship Award by the Christian Church Foundation in Indianapolis

This Sunday you have the opportunity to build on this record of success, providing religious ministries to people you know and care about, in a successful congregation where finances are managed by volunteers you know and trust and financial records are always open and available. If you have not turned in your reservation for lunch at the church this Sunday, please phone the church office today!

Charles Watkins

Choir Tour Dinner and Jamboree

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 4, for a great time in the Great Hall! Chancel Choir will prepare a meal and provide entertainment to raise funds for their summer tour to the West. Watch the *Central Visitor* for details about menu and guest artists. You'll have a rootin' tootin' good time, guaranteed!

Disciples Class Holds Take-Out Dinner Fund Raiser

The Disciples Class is selling tickets in the Friendship Center on Sundays October 15, 22, and 29 for their Pork Chop Take-Out Dinner fund raiser. Tickets are \$7.50 for an 8 oz. butterfly pork chop, potato salad, baked beans, roll and butter. The take-out meals can be picked up on Sunday, November 5th, from 11:30-1:00 p.m.

Note of Thanks Received

No words can express the gratitude we feel for pastors' visits, communion, prayers, cards, and phone calls.

You've been our rock while Don is fighting his cancer. We hope for the best.

Don & Rae Owens

Order Your Christmas Poinsettias Now!

We are again selling poinsettias 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, Monet (blush) and marble and sell for \$12.50 each. Order forms are now available in the Friendship Center. Orders will be accepted through October 22nd and payment must accompany the order. Order one or several for yourself or others (they make great gifts) but 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, speak with Pastor Gretchen.

Evangelism Seeds

You've heard the saying, "This is a CH__CH. What is missing?" The answer, of course, is "UR". You are missing (and you are missed) when you don't regularly participate in worship. You are missing (and you are missed) when you don't take advantage of opportunities for spiritual growth through study groups and outreach projects. You are missing (and you are missed) when you don't join with your church family for fellowship and fun activities. And perhaps you know other people for which something is missing. Make it a priority this week to invite them to join you for worship or study or outreach or fellowship opportunities at Central. Together, we can celebrate all that it means to be a part of Christ's chURch!

Counting On You

October 8

Worship Attendance 276
Sunday School Attendance 80



Sunday, October 15, 2006

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-Chancel Choir
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse, Jane Latshaw
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
11:15-Children's Worship, 250
12:00-*Consecration Day Dinner*,
Great Hall
1:00-3:00-Bill Nichols Book Signing,
West Entrance
5:00-7:00-Youth Sunday Rehearsal,
Sanctuary

Monday (16)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
6:30-Youth Sponsors Meeting, PlaMor
6:30-CCC Bowling, PlaMor Lanes

Tuesday (17)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,
Senior Pastor's Study
1:15-POP ChristCare, 218
5:30-Stephen Ministry Training, 290
6:00-Young Adults, Bushey's house

Wednesday (18)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
11:30-Banner Committee, Disciple Rm.
12:00-Central Singers
5:30-Church Council, Disciple Room
6:30-Public Relations, Volunteer Room
6:30-Fellowship & Shepherding Depts.
Disciple Room

Thursday (19)

10:00-Alanon, 212
1:30-ChristCare, 290
5:00-Job Study, Disciple Room
6:00-Baby Talk Family Fun Night,
Great Hall
6:00-Chancel Bells
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (20)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall

Saturday (21)

9:00-3:00-CPR Class, Disciple Room
11:00-Hunger Relief Team Serving
at Good Samaritan Inn

Serving Schedule—October 15, 2006

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Larry Otis, Bob Smith

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, Bob Hoaglin, 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 3 - Dennis Downey, Capt., Debbie Downey, Kim Downey, Ryan Downey, Tina Canfield, Paula Hovey

10:45 - Team 8 - Dean Hadden, Doug Soebbing, Donna Strong

Greeters:

8:15 - Norma Mason, Barbara Beyer, Steve & Juanita Ballance

10:45 - Larry & Betty Chapman, Larry & Sally Thicksten

Parish Nurse: Jane Latshaw

Children's Worship: Teri Bushey

Fellowship Coffee: Harold & Bess King

Acolytes:

8:15 - Jarrett Bednar

10:45 - Avery Martin

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash

10:45 - Larry Pepper

Preparation of Communion:

Carroll & Doris Little, Connie Ogden, Jan Patrick, Connie Schabowski

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Keith Backes

10:45 service only - Ron Oliver

October 18 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Sara Field, Marge Karl

Hosts:

Oct. 16 9:00-12:30 - Alice Brooks

12:30-4:00 - Dee Hill

Oct. 17 9:00-12:30 - Barbara Beyer

12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Oct. 18 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman

12:30-4:00 - Sally Thicksten

Oct. 19 9:00-12:30 - Jean Booher

12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

Oct. 20 9:00-12:30 - Juanita Ballance

12:30-4:00 - Juanita Reynolds

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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
Katie Beal Childcare Coordinator
Joanne Frady, Debra Fulk Childcare Providers
Shelby Larrick, Kaylene Beal Childcare Providers
Shelly Messmore Preschool Director
Trudy Garland, Janet Langston Preschool Teachers
Wendy Jalley, 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)
650 West William Street
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