



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXVII

Decatur, Illinois, October 12, 2005

No. 41



Organ Concert October 23

Scottish organist **Gordon Stewart** will appear in concert on the Diller Memorial Pipe Organ in our sanctuary on Sunday, October 23 at 4:30 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public along with all your friends and neighbors. Gordon Stewart currently serves as organist at Huddersfield Town Hall in England and last appeared in our sanctuary in 2002 with trumpeter Anthony Thompson. If you enjoy hearing the “king of instruments” played well, don’t miss this exciting concert.

Craig Courtney Workshop & Concert to be Held at Central

Thankful Praise, a Choral Workshop with Craig Courtney will be held on November 19 and 20. Saturday, November 19 from 1:00-4:30 p.m. Craig Courtney will rehearse six anthems with workshop participants. This is in preparation for the Workshop Concert to be held on Sunday, November 20 at 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in singing in the Mass Choir, please fill out a registration form available in the church office.

Please invite your friends to the Sunday Concert. Besides the anthems performed by the Mass Choir, Craig Courtney will play some of his music on the piano and Janna Peterson will sing some solo works. For more information contact **Don Martin**.

Sunday, November 20 at both worship services we will dedicate the anthem Simple Praise with words by Pamela Martin and music by Craig Courtney. This piece was commissioned by the Chancel Choir to honor the memory of **Albert Johnson**.

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. Sign up before noon on Friday by calling the church office at 428-4336.



Join us on a hayride!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

Not in Word Only

Text: I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Charles Watkins

Generations of Generosity Campaign Begins

Last Sunday the first 171 of the families Central depends upon to support Christ’s ministries through our congregation made their estimates of giving 2006. Next, the church urgently needs to hear from all remaining members and friends of this church. Giving cards are being mailed to all members who have not yet been heard from. Please complete your Giving Card for the coming year by this Sunday.



Generations of Generosity

Flu Vaccine Offered at Central

The Macon County Health Dept. is again offering flu and pneumonia vaccinations for those considered high risk and for people 65 years and older. It will be at Central on **Friday, November 4th** from **8:00 a.m. to noon** in the Disciple Room. The cost for the Flu vaccine is \$25 and pneumonia vaccine is \$30. Your medicare card is accepted for both.

Youth News

Youth Group

Sunday, October 16th

Youth are encouraged to attend the All Church Hayride at Blue Mound beginning at 4 p.m.

Sunday, October 23rd

Youth grades 6-12 will be practicing for Youth Sunday at 4:30 p.m. We will practice for about 45 minutes and then make a fast food run for supper. Bring money for supper. Play practice for the cast of Fools will follow supper.

**Youth Sunday
October 30th**

Children and Youth will lead us in worship for both morning services. Children grades 1-5 will serve as Greeters, Ushers and Acolytes. Youth grades 6-12 will lead our liturgy and music for the morning. If you do not have a part in our Youth Sunday service and would like to participate, please contact **Pastor Robert** or **Don Martin** at 428-4336.

Comedy Dinner Theatre

The Youth of Central are working on 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 on two nights of the play to raise money for the Great Hall and Stage renovation project. Tickets are available beginning October 16.

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 Cafe menu includes: waffles, yogurt, fruit, cereal, milk, juice and coffee.

Charles's Column

The Christian Church Foundation in Indianapolis is a money machine for Jesus. It was created by visionary Disciples leaders who imagined a financial unit that could accumulate financial resources for the whole church and invest them commercially for returns that would strengthen Christ's ministries. At first it sought planned gifts to benefit the general church and its units. But later, it arranged to provide professional investment services for regions and congregations with permanent funds to invest.

In 1998 our congregation's Board of Trustees accepted my recommendation to invest ten per cent of Central's permanent funds with the Foundation. Then in 2000 the financial markets suffered serious reverses that soon stopped the stream of income from these funds, and after three years it began to look like a poor decision indeed. Today, however, because of the patience and faith of our congregation's trustees, the corpus of Central's funds has grown to \$102,000 and the congregation now receives \$1,000 each quarter for current mission and ministry from the Christian Church Foundation. While growing our original investment of \$90,000 by 13% over these years, our congregation has received \$16,700 in income.

We have had a close partnership with the Foundation for many years. **Gary Kidwell**, the current president; **James Johnson**, the previous president; and **Deborrah Wray**, Vice-President for the Great Lakes zone have each been guest preachers in our pulpit for Consecration Day celebrations.

In 2004, the Foundation distributed more than \$12 million to Disciples-related ministries and organizations including Central. The Disciples Mission Fund also received \$801,907. An additional \$2 million was distributed to individuals under the terms of life-income gift agreements (including at least four members of our congregation). As of December 31, 2004, the Foundation was responsible for \$315 million of the church's money, either as permanent funds held in trust or as funds owned by church-related institutions and invested with the Foundation.

This Sunday we will welcome to our worship services Deborrah Wray, who will present to you the James P. Johnson Stewardship Award, which was first presented to our congregation's president **Chris Fagin** at last July's General Assembly of our denomination. We will relive the experience this Sunday as Debbie makes the presentation to you in person and as Chris accepts it on your behalf. No other Disciples congregation has ever received this honor.

Congratulations, Central!

Charles Watkins

DisciplesWorld Subscriptions

Did you know that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has a monthly magazine that can help keep you in touch with what is happening in our denomination and around the world? DisciplesWorld magazine draws on timeless insights from Scripture, theology, and informed, responsible reporting. Each monthly issue includes feature articles that explore today's relevant topics; in-depth articles about current international news and reports from around the world; articles that examine current issues facing churches; book and movie reviews; bible study; commentary; Disciples news and Fast Chat interviews with famous and not-so-famous people and so much more. All this comes to your door each month for an annual subscription of \$25. Become connected today! Look for the display in the Friendship Center where you may pick up a sample magazine and subscription form.



What happens when hundreds of joy-loving, mission-giving, Spirit-filled Disciples get together? A Miracle, of course! Many of Central's youth group and others pause for closing worship after a long, hard day of work at Miracle Day at the SIU Interfaith Center in Carbondale last Saturday. Over 600 Disciples from around the region gathered in Carbondale last weekend and Chicago the weekend before to participate in a miracle of painting, repairing, cleaning, weeding and faith-building. Look for more Miracle Day updates in the weeks to come on the Friendship Center bulletin board and our website at www.cccdisciples.org

General Assembly Highlights

Come and learn what has happened and what is happening with the NBA. We will watch a DVD of a forum that was held during the General Assembly. Sunday, October 22nd we will wrap up our series with the sermon from the closing worship preached by our new General Minister and President, the Rev. Sharon Watkins. Meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Great Hall.

Note of Thanks Received

Thanks for all the cards, prayers and visits from the ministers and members while I was in the hospital and at Manor Care.

Virginia Ferre

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 hand-made, 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. Don't miss this opportunity to pre-purchase beautiful holiday plants and support future mission trips. The plants will be available for pick up December 4th. For more information, see **Pastor Gretchen**.



Sunday, October 16, 2005

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
 Music: Offertory-Michael Brown, Tenor
 10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
 8:30-10:15-Parish Nurse Clinic
 9:00-Central Breakfast Cafe, Great Hall
 9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
 9:30-Sunday School
 9:30-Children's Music, 270
 11:15-Children's Worship, 250
 1:00-3:00-Play Rehearsal
 1:30-3:00-Webb Anniversary Reception,
 Great Hall
 4:00-All-Church Hayride, Blue Mound

Monday (17)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics,
 Great Hall/Heritage Center
 6:30-CCC Bowling, PlaMor Lanes
 6:30-Play Rehearsal

Tuesday (18)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
 10:00-Pastor's Staff Meeting,
 Senior Pastor's Study
 1:15-ChristCare, 218
 5:30-Operations Dept., Disciple Room
 6:30-Play Rehearsal

Wednesday (19)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
 12:00-Central Singers
 5:30-Church Council, Disciple Room
 6:30-Peace & Justice Study, 207
 6:30-Play Rehearsal
 6:30-Fellowship Dept., Disciple Room

Thursday (20)

10:00-Alanon, 212
 5:30-Chancel Bells
 6:00-Spiritual Life Bible Study,
 Disciple Room
 6:30-Play Rehearsal
 7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (21)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics,
 Great Hall/Heritage Center
 6:30-Play Rehearsal

Saturday (22)

2:00-Play Rehearsal

Serving Schedule—October 16, 2005

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Sue Ann Cain, Jody Featherstun

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 2 - Don Tankersley, Capt., Carl Boline, Frances Heiserman, Becky Johnston
 10:45 - Team 7 - Karen McFadin, Chad McFadin, Jon French, Jane French, Clyde Booher

Greeters:

8:15 - HH & Hilary Critchfield, Ed & Joy Adams
 10:45 - Bruce & Felicity Williams, Gary & Penny Rutherford

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Jan & Ron Dobbs

Children's Worship: Teri Bushey

Acolytes:

8:15 - Jarrett Bednar
 10:45 - Daniel Hinze, Sean Beal

P.A. Operator:

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

Preparation of Communion:

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

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams
 Sunday School and 10:45 service - Doug Soebbing
 10:45 service only - Ron Oliver

October 19 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Sara Field, Marg Karl

Hosts:

Oct. 17 9:00-12:30 - Alice Brooks
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
 Oct. 18 9:00-12:30 - Betty Beebe
 12:30-4:00 - Lilabelle Traylor
 Oct. 19 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman
 12:30-4:00 - Sally Thicksten
 Oct. 20 9:00-12:30 - Jean Booher
 12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong
 Oct. 21 9:00-12:30 - Juanita Ballance
 12:30-4:00 - Juanita Reynolds

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 HTTP://WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
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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

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Counting On You

October 9

Worship Attendance 332
 Sunday School Attendance 76



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(Disciples of Christ)
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