



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, February 1, 2006

No. 5

Sisters in Spirit on the Lincoln Trail

Sisters in Spirit will have their February meeting on Saturday, February 4th, at the home of **John and Carole McClarey**. John, a member of Central, is a world-renowned artist, known for his sculptural portrayals of Abraham Lincoln. We will tour John's studio, hear about his work, and see his latest creations in process. John will also share with us from his vast knowledge and passion for all things Lincoln! The presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. Those who would like to ride in the church van or follow the church van in your own car should meet at the church by 10 a.m. Following John's presentation, those who wish are invited to join together for lunch at a local, yet to be determined, restaurant. Sign up by calling the church office today. Sisters in Spirit is not a group in the traditional sense, but rather an opportunity to gather around specific interests and programs.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2006

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

Healing What Ails Us

Text: Mark 1:29-39

Charles Watkins

Mix in '06 Bake Sale

Central's own *Dream Team*, our Mix in '06 promotion task force, invites all to enjoy some Valentine treats at a Bake Sale in the West Entrance following both worship services on Sunday, February 12th. All proceeds go toward the scholarship fund for the Mix in '06, this year's version of the Women's Quadrennial. 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 energizing fellowship, challenging study and inspiring worship. More information and registration forms are available on the Women's Ministry table in the Friendship Center.

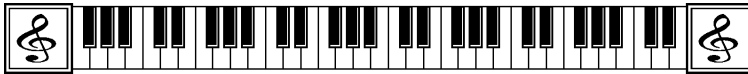
Building on a Firm Foundation!

A new study group will begin Thursday, February 9th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., focusing on a different question of faith each week for ten weeks. Each session includes a meal, a video and group discussion. Cost for materials is just \$12 and a basket will be available each week for donations to help offset the cost of the meal. Childcare will be available in the church nursery and children are invited to join the group during the mealtimes. More information and a sign-up sheet are in the Friendship Center.



Violin-Piano Concert at Central

Susan Cobb, pianist and **Tom LeVeck**, violinist will perform a concert at Central on Sunday, February 12th at 4:30 p.m. in Central's sanctuary. Invite your friends to hear these wonderfully combined musical talents!



FunTimers on the Go ... to Clinton!

Thursday, February 16th our next FunTimers trip is to Clinton! We will visit "The Art of the Kitchen" exhibit at Vespasian Warner Library, featuring a celebration of Revere Ware. Following the exhibit, we will enjoy lunch at the LaTeaDa Tea Room and Gift Shop, which is located in a charming Victorian home at Maywood Manor. There will be plenty of time for shopping in the gift shop. Lunches are priced between \$8 and \$11 and include beverage and gratuity. Dessert is available for those who save room! We will meet at the church at 10 a.m. and return to Decatur around 2:30 p.m. We need reservations for this event, so sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center or call the church office. FunTimers is Central's on-the-go group for those 55 years and older. Plan to join us!

Elderberries to Meet Wednesday February 8th!

We invite you to come and enjoy lunch with Central's fellowship group for those at least 55 years young! We will meet at noon on Wednesday, February 8th in the Disciple Room (because of Great Hall Renovations). The menu is Spaghetti and Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread and Dessert. The food is lovingly prepared with the dedicated hands of Central volunteers. Cost for the meal is just \$3. Following the meal, Central's own **Dan Brintlinger** will entertain and inform us with a presentation he calls, "Route 66: The Mother Road". To sign up, call the church office (428-4336) or mark "Elderberries" next to your name on the Friendship Pad this Sunday. Reservations cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. on Monday, February 6th, so don't delay, reserve your place today!

Youth Column

Central Youth Saturday, February 4th Sub Shop 10 a.m. - Noon

Youth grades 6-12 will build our famous Super Bowl Subs for delivery on Sunday, February 5th.

Sunday, February 5th Super Bowl Party at Pastor Robert's House

Watch the Super Bowl on an 8 ft. x 8 ft. Screen with Surround Sound!
We will gather at 5 p.m. and watch together through half-time or 8:30 p.m., whichever comes first! Finger Foods and drinks will be provided. Bring a dessert to share.

Summer Church Camp Schedule

Genesis (grades 2-3) - June 5-7
Shalom (gr. 9-12) - June 12-17
Koinonia (gr. 3-8) - June 26-July 1
ADDaM (gr. 8-12) - July 23-30
Bridge Builders (gr. 8-12) - Aug. 9-13
Start Making Your Plans Now!
Early Registration=Cheaper Fees!
Most week long camps cost between \$215-\$250.
Scholarships are available up to 1/2 cost for participating members but may NOT be used to cover Late Registration Fees.



Monday Night Basketball!

Thanks to the help of **Kevin Otis**, the gym at Webster Cantrell Hall is open at 8:15 p.m. on Monday evenings for Central folks who want a good workout shooting some hoops! Park near the gymnasium off 19th Street and enter through the gym door. Contact Pastor Robert or Kevin Otis for more information.

Charles's Column

In the next month you will be hearing about Central's next capital campaign to raise funds for our church building over three years from April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2009. In the last dozen years, there have been four previous capital campaigns:

1994-1997 Lifting Our Anchors which reduced the load of debt carried by our congregation from the construction of the wonderful Nichols Education Wing and the tuckpointing of the sanctuary building

1997-2000 Setting Sail for the New Century which continued the reduction of debt and provided for new heating and air-conditioning systems for the sanctuary, Great Hall, and Choir Room

2000-2003 Sailing Forward in the Spirit which retired remaining debt, renovated the kitchen and sanctuary including the enlargement of the pipe organ and supported the regional capital campaign

2003-2006 Proud of our Past... Focused on our Future which provided new exterior lighting, new exterior signs around the campus, new landscaping, expansion of the play yard, new parking lot surfaces, the first expansion of the church campus in this century, the construction of the new garage/utility building, repair of the sanctuary building boiler, and renovation of the Great Hall/Stage and Choir Room which is currently under way, and funds to construct a new house with Habitat for Humanity.

The new campaign which kicks off in March will include the following important projects:

- ◆ Replacement of the leaking roof over the sanctuary and chapel
- ◆ Maintenance of the church's stained glass windows
- ◆ Replacement of the disintegrating limestone steps outside the sanctuary and chapel
- ◆ Replacement of the church's ten-year-old fifteen passenger van with a safer and more accessible vehicle
- ◆ Replacement of the church's obsolete telephone system
- ◆ Retirement of any remaining debt from previous projects.
- ◆ Unanticipated building emergencies

Between now and the end of March, you will be invited to participate in the financial support of these needed improvements to our beautiful church building over the next three years. You have done so well in each of the previous campaigns, that your church is counting on you to do your best to maintain and improve our beautiful facilities for the glory of God.

Charles Watkins

Evangelism Seeds

Concerts, special fellowship events, and other non-worship activities are excellent opportunities to invite friends, family and others to experience the Central difference! Many find these opportunities to be less intimidating, in terms of both issuing and responding to an invitation to church. Often a successful visit to such an event or special occasion will open the door to a future invitation to attend worship services. So, who do you know that might enjoy a delightful evening of music in our sanctuary on February 12th. Invite them to attend with you! You never know what may come of such an invitation!



News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Connie & Bill Bordner** & family following the January 29th death of Connie's mother, *Nathalie Irwin*.

Church Family Pictorial Directory

Much has changed since the publication of our latest pictorial directory. The Public Relations Department is currently planning our next pictorial directory to be completed in 2006. We interviewed two prospective directory companies and have contracted with Olan Mills. Photographers will be here to take pictures for the directory on March 28-29, April 3-4 and May 25-26. You will have a chance to sign up your family to be included in this wonderful family album soon. Each family pictured will be able to pick the picture for the directory, receive a free 8x10 portrait and a free copy of the hardbound 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.



CCC FRIENDS offers 3 Nights of Fellowship

A group for Young Adults (18-30's) will meet on Monday evenings, groups for children grades K-5 and youth grades (6-12) and adults will meet beginning with supper at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings, and an Adult group will meet on Thursday evenings. All groups will conclude by 8PM and this session ends before Mother's Day. The mission of CCC FRIENDS is to grow friendships with one another and with God. In today's world making friends is a different proposition than it was several years ago, and many of us are not even sure what it takes to build mutually satisfying friendships. Using materials from Friendship First, a small group ministry that compares our friendships with others to the friendship we are called to seek with our Lord Jesus Christ, we will explore how to make new friendships and strengthen those we already have. Sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday!

Personal Hygiene Collection is Finished

Thanks to all who brought personal hygiene items for the area's homeless population. All gifts have been delivered to Oasis Day Center. If you have items to donate you may drop them at the center located at 243 W. Cerro Gordo between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. seven days a week. Thank you Central!

Diaconate Reminder

Each year the deacons honor Central's senior members, who have attained the age of 70 and above, with a reception and luncheon in the Great Hall. Each member of the diaconate is asked to contribute \$5 per year to support the event. Checks should be made payable to *Central Christian Diaconate*. If you haven't paid your \$5 yet, please mail it to Nancy McAfee.



Sunday, February 5, 2006

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: Offertory- Youth Choir; Zach Martin, baritone & Alex Otis, soprano
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
8:30-10:15-Parish Nurse Clinic
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
5:00-CCC Kids & Youth Super Bowl Party, Robert & Teri Bushey's house

Monday (6)

8:00-Wellness Walk
5:30-Peace & Justice Task Force, Disciple Room
6:30-Bowling Banquet, Forsyth
8:15-Basketball, Webster-Cantrell Hall

Tuesday (7)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
11:45-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room
1:15-ChristCare, 218
5:30-Public Relations Directory Team, Volunteer Room
6:30-Bible Study, Coleen & Mike Myer's house
6:30-Beta Sigma Phi, 207

Wednesday (8)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
12:00-Elderberries Lunch, Disciple Room
12:00-Central Singers
1:30-3:00-Low Vision Support, 280
5:00-CADV Meeting, Disciple Room
5:30-Shepherding Dept., Parlor
5:30-CACS Dept., 280

Thursday (9)

10:00-Alanon, 212
6:00-Preschool Board, 280
6:00-Foundations Course, Disciple Rm.
7:00-PrairieLand Investors, 212
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (10)

8:00-Wellness Walk

Saturday (11)

7:30-Elders' Breakfast, Disciple Room

Serving Schedule—February 5, 2006

Elders:

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

Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Connie Bordner, Jan Dobbs

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 Swarouth, Janet Thicksten, Larry Thicksten, Sally Thicksten, Kathy Thornton

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 - Roe Skidmore, Debbie Seaberg, Bill & Mary Alice Rule

10:45 - Kathleen Harrington, Dee Hill, Ed & Lucy Acheson

Fellowship Coffee Hosts:

Andy & Theresa Fulk

Acolytes:

8:15 - Brad Munos, Julia Funk

10:45 - Sean Beal

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Jim Bednar

10:45 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

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

In the Hospital...

Springfield Memorial: Curtis Clark

Decatur Memorial: Leora Birch, Edith Fuqua,
Patricia Haynes

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Ed Adams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Kevin Wilmot

10:45 service only - Brett Swallow

February 8 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Ruby Agnew, Helen Hufford

Hosts:

Feb. 6 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman
12:30-4:00 - Maxine Koenig

Feb. 7 9:00-12:30 - Roy Schilling
12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford

Feb. 8 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith
12:30-4:00 - Marilyn Ward

Feb. 9 9:00-12:30 - Charlie Harris
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Feb. 10 9:00-12:30 - Sara Field
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
650 West William Street Decatur, Illinois 62522
Telephone (217)428-4336 FAX (217)428-1700
HTTP://WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
e-mail: *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.



Central Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
650 West William Street
Decatur, IL 62522-2326

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID

