



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, May 10, 2006

No. 17

Ladies Night Out Tuesday, May 16th!

All Central women and friends are invited to join us for Ladies Night Out on Tuesday, May 16th at 6:30 p.m. at the New International Buffet in Mt. Zion (near Dollar Tree). As always, fun, fellowship, food, laughter and door prizes will abound! The buffet includes a large selection of salads, desserts, American and Asian favorites. Bring your grown daughter, or mother or friend for a great evening out. Sign up this Sunday at the Women's Ministry table in the Friendship Center or call the church office at 428-4336.



FunTimers on the Go to Amish Country!

Join us on Tuesday, May 23rd as our FunTimer's group heads for Amish Country. FunTimers, Central's on-the-go group for those 55 years and older, will leave the church at 9:30 a.m. and drive to Arthur where we will visit Beachy's General Store and Miller's Dry Goods as well as other places of interest. After a morning of shopping and sight-seeing, we'll enjoy lunch at Yoder's Kitchen. We should return to Central around 2:30 p.m. To reserve your place on the van, sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center or call the church office at 428-4336. Plan now to join us on May 23rd!

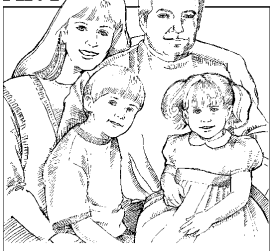
Group Pictures for the Directory

The Public Relations Department has scheduled a photography session with **Wayne and Donna Rutherford** for all Sunday School Classes, Deacons, Elders, Choirs and Acolytes in the Great Hall this Sunday, May 14th beginning at 9:15 a.m. and continuing during the Sunday School Hour. The photos will be published in the 2006 Pictorial Directory. A detailed schedule is available in the office.

Pictorial Directory May Photography Sessions

If you missed the March or April photo sessions, here is your chance to be included in the 2006 Pictorial Directory! Sessions are scheduled for May 24-26th from 2-8 p.m. You may make a reservation at the table in the Friendship Center this Sunday or online at: www.signup.olanmills.com (use the church phone # 217-428-4336. Remember, each family photographed will be able to choose the pose to be included in the directory, will receive a free 8x10 portrait, and will receive a free copy of the 2006 Pictorial Directory. There is no obligation to buy anything.

PHOTOS



SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2006
WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45
Love in Action
Text: I John 3:18-24
Charles Watkins

Silent Auction a Success!

The Fifth Annual Silent Auction raised nearly \$1900 for Dove, Inc. Thanks to our auction committee, **Darla Otis, Donna Strong, Judy Ford, Claudia Curry and Gordon Gregory** for getting our items donated and operating the auction. And, thanks to everyone who participated in the auction!

MUSICAMP 2006 is Coming!

The 2006 MUSICAMP will be June 12-16 from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church, 1329 Arbor Drive (their new location).

Again this year we will combine forces with First Baptist Church to present Musicamp. Children grades K-6 are encouraged to participate in this experience. There will be guest musicians to share their art. There will be singing, clogging, origami, choreography, handbells, puppets and more. Children will have an opportunity to share a talent on Friday in the Talent Show.

One of the purposes of the camp is to provide a program with music and related arts which stimulates creativity and experimentation within a Christian environment.

Registration forms are available in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact **Don Martin**.



Youth Column

Sunday, June 4th
Central Youth
Grades 6-12
3-6 p.m.

Central Youth will celebrate the end of the school year with a picnic at Fairview Park on Sunday, June 4th. Hot dogs and hamburgers and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. Bring a lawn chair. Bring your bike if you want to join **Pastor Robert** for a bike ride on the Fairview Park trail. We will also have a variety of sports equipment available for your fun as well.

Wednesday/Thursday **Night Specials Back** **for 2006**

Central Youth (grades entering 6th - finishing 12th) are invited to Pastor Robert's home, beginning June 22nd. A full schedule will be available soon. We will enjoy supper off the grill, basketball, volleyball, badminton, croquet, bocce ball, movies and swimming. Central Youth will not meet on Sunday afternoons from June through August.

Children's Music

Children will have an opportunity to sing during Children's Worship on Sundays, May 14, 21, & 28. They will sing in church on Pentecost Sunday, June 4th.

Charles's Column

My mother had a clear sense of mission. Her purpose in life was to make sure that her children amounted to something. She was relentless, tireless, and determined. She wanted to be sure that we knew how to work, how to play a musical instrument, and how to succeed in school. She was never ambivalent or indecisive when it came to what we needed to do to amount to something. She cared what the neighbors thought, and when we were walking to school, she instructed us to walk as if we had someplace to go. She wanted to be sure to root out any hint of laziness, because, obviously, if we were lazy, we could never amount to something. And she wanted to make sure that we always knew that we were loved intensely and determinedly and relentlessly.

My brother has four university degrees, I have three, and my little sister has two. Each of us has had a career in some form of public service. I believe my mother would consider herself successful in accomplishing her mission. At least by her standard, her children amounted to something. And her sense of mission deserves much of the credit for that.

Our Mother the Church also has a clear sense of mission: to increase in the world the love of God and the love of neighbor. She is also relentless, tireless, and determined. She wants to make sure that we care intensely about the lost, the lonely, and the oppressed. She wants us to challenge the powerful and champion the weak and the poor. She wants us to walk confidently in the world as those who serve rather than as those who seek to be served. She wants us to love Jesus, obey God, and be generous and forgiving. She wants us to love kindness, do justice, and walk humbly with our God.

Our success as Christian people and as a congregation depends on keeping the mission of our Mother the Church in the forefront of our thinking and purpose.

I always wanted my mother and my father to be proud of me. And together, we always want our Mother the Church and our Father God to be proud of us for our faithfulness, our devotion, and our love.

This Sunday as we honor our mothers (and our Mother the Church), let us honor their mission which is achieved when we pursue truth and kindness and love and joy and hope and justice and peace in the world.

Charles Watkins

In Memoriam

During the first third of 2006, Central received special gifts honoring the memories of **Dallas Beyer, Doris Bower, Eugenia Brilley, Betty Campbell, Lyle & Minnie Campbell, Barbara Cross, A. Earlene Esry, Helen Hopper, Nathalie Irwin, Juanita Lawrence, Mary Ann Parks, Celia Rupert, R. D. Schwarze, W. Glenn Shoemaker, Alma Shyer, Judith Steinman, Dorothy Stroyeck, George Wagner, Robert E. Ward, Betty Warner, and Genevieve Wolters.**

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 third of 2006 total \$9,636.

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.



Many of Central's most cherished members and friends were honored on Saturday at the annual Senior Member's Luncheon sponsored by the Deacons. How appropriate that this group, who have given so much to Central throughout the years, were the first to inaugurate the newly renovated Great Hall. Great food, fellowship and much laughter were shared by all!

Thank You, Deacons!

A big Thank You and appreciation to the Central Christian Diaconate for the lovely and delicious luncheon given for senior members of CCC. To extend to us the opportunity for fellowship and to "break bread together" is a fun thing for all of us!

Roe C. Skidmore

Counting On You

May 7

Worship Attendance 325
 Sunday School Attendance 80

During the month of April, Central received gifts for the General Operating Fund of \$53,490 which is \$1,510 below the giving goal for the month. For the first third of the year, giving to the General Operating Fund is 99.5% of the amount anticipated in the budget.

Expenses to operate the church in April were \$61,201. In the first third of this year, it has cost \$14,676 more to do the work of our church than our church has received from all sources. This accumulated deficit for the current year is well below the deficit anticipated by the budget and well below the deficit for last year at this time.

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

Gifts to the *Proud of our Past.. Focused on our Future 2003-2006* capital campaign during April were \$548. Gifts to the *Preserving our Past...Securing our Future 2006-2009* capital campaign during April were \$24,212. The church's total indebtedness stands at \$101,000.

Your regular and generous giving keeps Central going! We're counting on you! Be sure to do your best for your church, so that your church can do its best for God. Detailed monthly financial reports for the congregation and for the Board of Trustees are always available on the counter in the Friendship Center by the church office. You can pick up a copy and see exactly where the congregation stands financially.



Sunday, May 14, 2006

8:15 and 10:45- Worship Services
 Music: 8:15 Offertory-Daniel Hinze, Saxophone; Marilyn Ward, Piano
 10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
 9:00-10:15-Parish Nurse Lucy Acheson
 9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
 9:30-Sunday School
 11:15-Children's Worship, 250

Monday (15)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
 5:15-Nominating Committee, Parlor
 7:00-Scholarship & Awards Committee, Parlor

Tuesday (16)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
 10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
 1:15-ChristCare, 218
 5:30-Worship Dept., Parlor
 6:30-Ladies Night Out, International Buffet

Wednesday (17)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
 12:00-Central Singers
 5:30-Church Council, Disciple Room
 6:00-Preschool Family Fun Night, Great Hall
 6:30-Fellowship Dept., Disciple Room
 6:30-C.A.C.S. Dept., 280
 6:30-Property Dept., Friendship Center

Thursday (18)

10:00-Alanon, 212
 5:30-Peace & Justice, Disciple Room
 5:30-Evangelism Dept., Volunteer Room
 6:00-Chancel Bells
 7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (19)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall

Saturday (20)

2:00-Senior Breakfast Preparations, Great Hall & Kitchen

In the Hospital...

St. Mary's Hospital:

Inabell Kirby

Decatur Memorial:

Shirley Glasscock

Serving Schedule—May 14, 2006

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Larry Otis, Larry Chapman

Communion to Shut-Ins:

Deacons

Connie Shields
David Shields
Max Sperry
Jeannie Backes
Jordan Backes
Katie Beal
Mark Beal
Louise Boline
Mary Boyle
Shirley Brooks

Elders

Carol Graham
Barb Tyler
Julie Martin
Wayne Honeycutt
Cindy Soebbing
Larry Pepper
Shirley Swarthout
Bob Smith
Larry Thicksten
Pat Ash
Alternate: Jan Baird

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 Swarthout, Janet Thicksten, Larry Thicksten, Sally Thicksten, Kathy Thornton

Ushers:

8:15 - Team 1 - Charlotte Ballance, Jim Bednar, Pamela Bednar, Jarrett Bednar, Bill Fogerson, Nicole Ropp

10:45 - Team 6 - Maxine Koenig, Betty Chapman, Larry Chapman, Mark Beal, Katie Beal, Kaylene Beal, Sean Beal

Greeters:

8:15 - Charlie & Nicole Ropp, Jim & Julie Schneider

10:45 - Bob & Mary Jane Linton, Judson & Jean Pease

Fellowship Coffee Hosts:

Bill & Mary Alice Rule

Children's Worship:

Katie Powers

Parish Nurse:

Lucy Acheson

Acolytes:

8:15 - Sarah Funk, Sam Funk

10:45 - Erik Harm

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash

10:45 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

Robyn Spry, Jan & Ron Dobbs, Don & Virginia Swallow

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Andy Fulk, 763-6624

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Bruce Williams, 429-3974

10:45 service only - Ron Oliver, 875-0223

May 17 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Sara Field, Marge Karl

Hosts:

May 15 9:00-12:30 - Alice Brooks

12:30-4:00 - Florence Bolin

May 16 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith

12:30-4:00 - Lilabelle Traylor

May 17 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman

12:30-4:00 - Sally Thicksten

May 18 9:00-12:30 - Jean Booher

12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

May 19 9:00-12:30 - Juanita Ballance

12:30-4:00 - Juanita Reynolds

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

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