



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, May 17, 2006

No. 18

## Families Participate in Blessing of Children



The pictured families participated in the Blessing of Children and Dedication of Parents on Sunday, May 14.



**SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2006**  
WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45  
**Called Friends**  
Text: John 15:9-17  
Robert Bushey

## Welcome New Member



We welcome **Ann Harshman**, who became a member of Central on May 14 by transfer of membership.

## Sunday Breakfast Club

Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> when our earlier worship and Sunday School hours begin for summer, the Christian Education Department will resume the Sunday Breakfast Club. This summer, children & youth classes and their parents will have the opportunity to enjoy breakfast as part of their Sunday School experience. SBC will serve breakfast from 8:45-9:15 a.m. in the Great Hall every Sunday during June, July & August. Following breakfast, children grades K-5 will meet for a *Journey through the Books of the Bible* which will teach the names and order of the books of the Bible along with some key events and characters. Youth grades 6-8 and 9-12 will meet with their classes after breakfast. Parents are welcome to stay with their child(ren) and enjoy breakfast before returning to their regular Sunday School class or stay and help with cleanup. A Young Adult/College group will meet at the tables in the Great Hall after breakfast for fellowship and discussion. The breakfast will be available on a donation bases and we will try our best to meet the needs of children with food allergies when we are made aware of the child's specific needs. Watch the Central Visitor for the SBC menu each week. Along with our main dish, fruit, yogurt, cereal, milk, juice, and coffee will be available each week. Plan now to join us for SBC this summer.

## FunTimers Go to Amish Country!

Join us on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> as our FunTimer's group heads for Amish Country. FunTimers, Centrals 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!

**Central Youth  
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 9<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**Summer Camp Deadline**

Registrations for camp that have not been turned in need to be returned this Sunday. Fees will increase if they are not mailed very soon! If you do not have your form or need one for any reason, please contact Pastor Robert as soon as possible. In many cases, a form must be completed by your child's doctor and/or a physical is required. More information is available in the church office.

**CCC KIDS Summer Lunch Club**

Plans are being made for a seven week Wednesday afternoon Summer Lunch Club for children grades 1-5 beginning June 7<sup>th</sup>. Our theme this summer is *AIR it's Everywhere!* We will gather for lunch at Noon followed by a variety of activities including field trips to the Decatur Airport, local parks, and possibly the WAND TV Weather Center. Lunches will be provided most weeks. SLC will meet from Noon – 3:30 p.m. Aftercare will be available for children from 3:30-5:30 p.m. with advance notice. Transportation to SLC will be provided each Wednesday upon request. Advanced reservations are required for transportation. Watch for more details soon!

**Robert's Reflections**

This Sunday we will pause to recognize and honor the graduating High School Class of 2006. Our graduates will be treated to our Annual Breakfast for High School Seniors during the Sunday School Hour and they will be recognized during worship at both services, as well. And, it is appropriate that the church should recognize and honor these young persons for their achievements as graduates and to seek God's blessing upon their futures as adults.

One of the greatest attributes of our society, our nation, has been the availability of a "free" public education for all children. Education has always played a significant role in the ability of a person to succeed at whatever goals they set for themselves. Public Schools play a vital role in beginning the educational journey for children regardless of social-economic status, race, gender or religion. And, from their beginning the church has been a key partner in public schools.

In recent years, driven by many changes in our society, including laws concerning education and attempts at reform, the church has become less and less involved in public schools. With the growth of parochial and private education, which also contributes in vital ways to the education of our children, the church in many ways has isolated itself from public education. And, some would argue that public education has isolated itself from the church.

Perhaps that is about to change in Decatur. Through a partnership of local clergy, congregations and school district leaders, the One Church One School ministry, which links a congregation to a specific school building, is set to begin. One Church One School is designed to help schools meet the needs of their students by involving volunteers from the church in the local schools. The ministry does not teach or preach the gospel, but does reach out with the active love that Jesus calls each of us to participate in. The school and church agree on what needs may best be met by volunteers and a relationship grows from there.

A Public Schools Task Force from the Christian Action and Community Service Department has been working with the Decatur Public Schools to link with a local school for the 2006-2007 school year. We are in conversations with a local school, and we have set a meeting on Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for anyone interested in learning more and/or being a part of the One Church One School ministry of Central.

One thing I want to be clear about is that this new ministry does not intend to replace any volunteering you may already be doing in the schools, public or private. I want to encourage you to be involved in the education of our children in any way you can – it is certainly one of the ways we are able to love our neighbors.

Hope to see you this Sunday as we worship God together and congratulate our High School graduating class of 2006!

Peace & Joy, *Robert*

***Evangelism Seeds***

Do you know someone who is searching for something meaningful in life? Be a friend and help them find what they are looking for by inviting them to experience the Central Difference!

## News From the Pews....

Congratulations to **Heather & Douglas Benner** on the May 12th birth of their son, **Christopher Odell**. Christopher is also welcomed home by his big brother, Sam, Grandma **Kim Teschner** and great-grandparents **Dean & Sue Simcox**.

## 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).

We will again 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, singing, clogging, origami, choreography, handbells, puppets and more. Children will have an opportunity to be in a talent show on Friday. Registration forms are available in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact **Don Martin**.

## Notes of Thanks Received

Our sincere thanks to all who helped with the senior reception luncheon and monetary donations. Everyone was so willing and helpful. The volunteers came early and stayed for clean up. The cakes were great. The seniors look forward to this event and you made it go smoothly.

**Sally Force & Chloe Hoaglin**

Thank you to the ministers, ChristCare Power of Prayer Group, Stephen Ministers and members of Central for the prayers and expressions of sympathy after the death of my sister, Mary Ward.

**Darla Otis**

We want to thank everyone who helped to make last week's Sarah's Daughter's Banquet such a success. Special thanks to **Keith and Jeannie Backes** and the Fellowship Department; the men of Central who served; **Jane Watkins**, our MC; **Mark Beal** on the sound and light controls; **Jan Dobbs** and **Allison Chumbly**, our backstage managers; Our models – **Donna Strong, Melinda and Mallory Hawbaker, Shirley and Jessica Brooks, Ginger Flanders, Angelique and Terra Morgason, Pat Ash**, and **Rachel Ash**; Kohl's Department Store and of course, everyone who came and enjoyed. Thank you one and all! Photos are available on Central's website at [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org).

## Desserts and DVD

Central's Peace & Justice Task Force invites you to our next film in our series on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall. The film is *Fish Can't Fly* and is 80 minutes long. Taking a secular point of view, the documentary explores the lives of gay men and women of faith as they recall their journeys to put their sexuality and spirituality in harmony. The Rev. John Biedler, minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur, will be our guest discussion leader for the evening. Desserts will be provided during the film.



## Sunday, May 21, 2006

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
Music: 8:15 Offertory-  
10:45 Offertory-  
10:45 Anthem-  
9:00-10:15-Parish Nurse Jane Latshaw  
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.  
9:15-Senior Breakfast, Great Hall  
9:30-Sunday School  
11:15-Children's Worship, 250  
2:00-Baccalaureate Service for  
MacArthur High School, Sanctuary

## Monday (22)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall

## Tuesday (23)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
9:30-3:00-Fun Timers, Arthur, IL  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,  
Senior Pastor's Study  
11:45-Fit Lunch Club, Disciple Room  
1:15-ChristCare, 218  
6:00-Dorcas, The Tuscan  
6:30-NWRAPS Meeting, Great Hall

## Wednesday (24)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280  
12:00-Central Singers  
2:00-8:30-Pictorial Directory Pictures,  
Rooms 270, 280, 290  
5:30-Stephen Ministers Potluck,  
home of Dave & Pat Ash  
6:30-One Church One School Meeting,  
Disciple Room

## Thursday (25)

10:00-Alanon, 212  
2:00-8:30-Pictorial Directory Pictures,  
Rooms 270, 280, 290  
6:00-Chancel Bells  
7:00-Chancel Choir

## Friday (26)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall  
2:00-8:30-Pictorial Directory Pictures,  
Rooms 270, 280, 290

## Counting On You

### May 14

Worship Attendance ..... 381  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 95

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## Serving Schedule—May 21, 2006

### Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Mary Jane Linton, Chris Fagin

### Deacons:

8:15 - Team 3 - Mike Holbrook, Capt., Charlotte Ballance, Jane Davis, Andy Fulk, Sherri Hood, Paula Hovey, Bob Keller, Karen Keller, Debbie Seaberg, Connie Shields, David Shields, Max Sperry  
10:45 - Team 4 - Jeannie Backes, Jordan Backes, Katie Beal, Mark Beal, Louise Boline, Mary Boyle, Shirley Brooks, Jon French, Dee Hill, Louellen Lusk, Karen McFadin, David Miller, Katie Miller, Janice Mitchell, 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 - Becky Johnston, Virginia Griffith, Larry & Gail Prince  
10:45 - Randy, Shirley, Jessica Brooks, Mary Boyle

**Fellowship Coffee Hosts:** Don & Brenda Tankersley

**Children's Worship:** Kim Miller

**Parish Nurse:** Jane Latshaw

### Acolytes:

8:15 - Brittney Munos  
10:45 - Avery Martin

### P.A. Operator:

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

### Preparation of Communion:

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

### Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams  
Sunday School and 10:45 service - Doug Soebbing  
10:45 service only - Karen Baird

### May 24 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Sara Field, Marge Karl

### Hosts:

May 22 9:00-12:30 - Sara Field  
12:30-4:00 - Ken Davis  
May 23 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
May 24 9:00-12:30 - Barb Flanders  
12:30-4:00 - Ruby Agnew  
May 25 9:00-12:30 - Evelyn Sperry  
12:30-4:00 - Lilabelle Traylor  
May 26 9:00-12:30 - Yvonne Purcell  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

**Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
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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  
Katie Beal ..... Childcare Coordinator  
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.



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**(Disciples of Christ)**  
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PERIODICAL  
POSTAGE  
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