



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, June 7, 2006

No. 21

Agreements Approved

On May 30, the Property Department approved an agreement with Renaissance Roofing of Rockford for repair and replacement of various parts of the church roof including both tiled sections over the sanctuary and chapel and copper sections over parts of the educational and fellowship facilities. That same evening, the Department approved an agreement with Mid-Continental Restoration for restoration of the flaking limestone steps by the tower and the chapel and for tuck-pointing critical areas that were not able to be addressed fifteen years ago. Your support of the building fund makes it possible to begin this work this summer.

Join the Summer Lunch Club This Week

The Summer Lunch Club for children grades entering 1st - finishing 5th will meet at Central on June 15th for Bubbles and More! Our theme this Summer is *AIR it's Everywhere!* We will gather for lunch (provided) at noon. A brochure with each week's activities is available in the Friendship Center. 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 with advanced reservations. Children are not required to participate in every session to join SLC.

Disciples Class Begins New Study June 11th

The Bible records many instances when God asked people to walk with him. Perhaps the most unforgettable walk of all was Peter's walk when he stepped out of a boat one stormy night and walked on the water. In this study John Ortberg uses Peter's walk to illustrate an invitation to everyone who, like Peter, wants to step out in faith and experience more of the power and presence of God. The Disciples Class invites anyone interested to join us in this six-week study as we use video, scriptures and discussion to see where God is calling us "to walk on water." The sessions will be co-taught by **Coleen Myers** and **Randy Brooks**. The Disciples Class meets downstairs to the right of the Heritage Center each Sunday morning from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m.

Elderberries Meet Wednesday, June 14

Elderberries will meet at noon on Wednesday, June 14th in the Great Hall. The menu is meatloaf, fresh green beans and potatoes, tossed salad, rolls and butter and sherbet with a cookie! Cost for the meal is just \$3. Following the meal, volunteers from the Macon County Conservation District will present a program on Vintage Amusements and Sideshows! We will learn about 19th century circuses, magicians, and traveling medicine shows. To sign up, please call the church office (428-4336) or mark "Elderberries" next to your name on the Friendship Pad this coming Sunday. Reservations cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. on Monday, June 12th, so reserve your place today!

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2006
WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00
Here Am I
Text: Isaiah 6:1-8
Charles Watkins

It's Time for MUSICAMP 2006!

The 2006 MUSICAMP begins Monday, June 12 through Friday, June 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**.

Sunday Breakfast Club Menu Sunday, June 11th

Breakfast bagel sandwiches (egg, sausage or Canadian bacon, cheese)

Along with our main dish, fruit, yogurt, cereal, milk, juice, and coffee will be available each week. SBC will serve breakfast from 8:45-9:15 a.m. in the Great Hall every Sunday during June, July & August. Plan now to join us for SBC this summer.



Youth Column

Central Youth Wednesday/Thursday Night Specials Back for 2006

Central Youth (grades entering 6th - finishing 12th) are invited to Pastor Robert's home, for our next gathering on June 22nd. We will enjoy supper off the grill, and swimming. Future dates include July 6th and 19th, August 2nd & 17th. Central Youth will not meet on Sunday afternoons from June through August.

Chicago & Six Flags Great America Trip July 16-July 18

Plans are coming together for a fun trip to downtown Chicago and to spend the day at Six Flags Great America Amusement Park & Hurricane Harbor Water Park. We will leave on Sunday evening, July 16th and return late on July 18th. Details and registration forms will be available soon.

Decatur Celebration Parking

Central youth will park cars at National City Bank at the corner of Eldorado Street and Main Street during the Decatur Celebration. Speak to Pastor Robert or Don Martin to sign up for the hours you are available to work. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and will provide scholarships for summer activities.

Charles's Column

One week ago today on the east side of Indianapolis an entire Hispanic family of seven persons was murdered in their own home—grandparents, parents, and three children ages 11, 8 and 5. It was the worst mass slaying in that city in a quarter century.

Desmond Turner, 28, has been charged with seven counts of murder and seven counts of felony murder. He was with family members and a minister when he surrendered on Saturday evening at a Hardee's restaurant. CNN reports that when reporters asked why Turner showed up with a minister, Deputy Chief of Police Tim Foley said that Turner "may have had fear he would've been shot on sight."

Certainly I deplore this terrible crime and my heart goes out to the victims, their friends and relatives, and their entire shocked community. And my heart also goes out to that minister who on a Saturday night when most clergy are stewing about the coming morning, felt called to stand by the side of a man accused of a monstrous crime. And I am fascinated that some people think the presence of a minister can prevent the summary execution of a suspect by police.

In my years as a minister, I have never had to stand beside one arrested for multiple murders, and I am truly thankful for that. But I have had occasion to visit members of my congregations in jails, to stand beside them before judges when they were sentenced in courts, to stand up for them before authorities who were seeking to bring them to justice.

It's not a good feeling standing there looking up at the judge as sentence is passed, and I have sometimes felt judged myself, as though some kind of guilt rubbed off on me or if I had been a better pastor, this could have been prevented. But at the same time, like that minister in Indianapolis last Saturday night, I have always thought that it is my responsibility to stand beside sinners who seek my help. Worthy or not, we ministers are representatives of One who was himself executed as a public enemy. We believe that in heaven, Jesus pleads for us sinners and for our salvation. And so we ministers think we are obligated to go for Jesus when the call comes to stand and plead for a sinner. I just wish that it might have been possible that a minister's presence with the slain family could have prevented their cruel murders.

I hope that you live a godly, righteous, and blameless life all your days. But if you find yourself in any kind of trouble, I hope that you know your ministers are ready to answer your call, to stand with you and comfort you, and lend our office to your protection and defense as a member of Christ's body and a child of God.

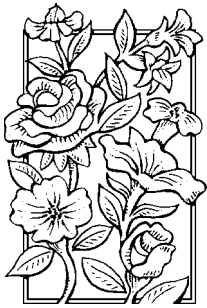
Charles Watkins

Youth Camping Trip, August 10-13 McCormick's Creek State Park, Spencer, IN

Youth grades 6-12 are invited to travel to Spencer, Indiana for a three-night, camping trip to McCormick's Creek State Park. We will hike, enjoy the swimming pool, play in the low falls of the creek, and enjoy a campfire each night. The cost is \$30 per youth. Families and friends are welcome to join us for the weekend with advanced reservations. Forms will be available beginning this Sunday. Contact Pastor Robert with questions.

Evangelism Seeds

Every day we come in contact with people who do not have a church home and might welcome an opportunity to learn more about yours. Neighbors, friends, co-workers, your hair stylist, the nurse at your doctors office, your child's teacher – you just don't know until you ask! Set a goal to speak to one person this week about church. Engage them in conversation, ask them what church they belong to and if they don't or if they are looking for something different, invite them to experience the Central difference! You won't know until you ask and you could introduce them to a whole new life in Christ!



Help Needed!

Do you love the beautiful flower beds that add so much to the attractive welcome to Central's campus? One of our devoted volunteers is no longer able to help maintain the flowers, and the burden of caring for all the growing things around the church is too much for our other volunteers. We need your help! If you can give one to five hours a week on a regular basis to help maintain the church flower beds, please call the church office 428-4336 or speak to **Sally Force**, who coordinates all grounds keeping at the church.

Building on a Firm Foundation!

It may not look like much now, but this picture shows that the foundation has been poured, the lumber is on-site and the Habitat Crews are ready to build the floor joists on the Central Christian Church Habitat House! Once the floor joists are installed, they will install the sub-floor and begin framing the house. Extra hands and volunteers are needed on the site each Thursday and Saturday morning. If you are interested in volunteering, you just need to show up at the work site at 1735 North 28th Street. Extra hands are always welcome to hammer, carry, clean and assist. No building experience is necessary. For more information, contact **Norm Lienemann**. Watch our website at www.cccdisciples.org for more photos and updates on the progress of the house!



Sunday, June 11, 2006

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-Michael Brown, Tenor; Carol Graham, Piano
10:00 Anthem-Chancel Choir; Becky Van Meter, Alto; Marilyn Ward, Piano
8:30-Summer Breakfast Club, Great Hall
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Jane Latshaw
9:00-Sunday School

Monday (12)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
9:00-Volunteers to Good Samaritan Inn
4:00-Aerobics, 290

Tuesday (13)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
4:00-Aerobics, 290
5:00-CADV, Great Hall
5:30-7:30-Baby Talk Program, Disciple Room

Wednesday (14)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
12:00-3:30-Summer Lunch Club
12:00-Elderberries Lunch, Great Hall
3:30-5:30-SLC Aftercare
4:00-Aerobics

Thursday (15)

10:00-Alanon, 212
4:00-Aerobics, 290
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (16)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
6:00-Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday (17)

8:00-Food Preparation for Good Samaritan Inn, Great Hall Kitchen
11:00-Hunger Relief Team Serves Meal at Good Samaritan Inn
3:00-Sanctuary Wedding, Kelly Horne & Jeremy Brown

Counting On You

June 4

Worship Attendance 327
Sunday School Attendance 93

Serving Schedule—June 11, 2006

Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Tom Spry, Larry Pepper

Communion to Shut-Ins:

Deacons

Dee Hill
Louellen Lusk
Karen McFadin
Janice Mitchell
Alex Otis
Andrew Rutherford
Bryan Rutherford
Gary Rutherford
Roger Rutherford
Jon French

Elders

Larry Chapman
Jan Dobbs
Kevin Otis
Wayne Honeycutt
Linda Kuhns
Brett Swallow
Lois Whitaker
Bruce Williams
Pat Ash
Connie Bordner
Alternate: Randy Brooks

Deacons:

8:00 - 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

10:00 - 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:

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Ruby Agnew, Betty Beebe, Willie Birkhead, Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos

10:00 - Team 10 - Bill Blank, Marilyn Blank, Bob Harmon, Billie Harmon

Greeters:

8:00 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Bill & Mary Alice Rule

10:00 - Jon & Jane French, Kathleen Harrington, Roy Schilling

Parish Nurse:

Jane Latshaw

Acolytes:

10:00 - Sean Beal

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash

10:00 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

Ed & Joy Adams, Bill & Carol Charlton, Bess & Harold King

Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - Andy Fulk

Sunday School and 10:00 service - Bruce Williams

10:00 service only - Ron Oliver

June 14 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Ruby Agnew, Helen Hufford

Hosts:

June 12 9:00-12:30 - Mary Boyle
12:30-4:00 - Ken Davis

June 13 9:00-12:30 - Carl Morris
12:30-4:00 - Ellen Sheffer

June 14 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith
12:30-4:00 - Marilyn Ward

June 15 9:00-12:30 - Jean Booher
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

June 16 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

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Central Christian Church
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