



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, July 5, 2006

No. 25

CrossWalk America Community Potluck

Central will host the CrossWalk America walkers in Decatur for a Community Potluck Style Dinner on Thursday, July 20th at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall. The Rev. Eric Elnes, PhD, Co-president of the organization will speak at the dinner. The walkers are staying in the homes of church members from Central, First Congregational United Church of Christ and First Presbyterian Church while they are walking near Decatur. We have already received word that some folks from Bloomington churches will join us for the evening as well. Plan to join us and bring a dish to share, to welcome these sojourners for a compassionate gospel to Decatur. Visit their website for more information at www.crosswalkamerica.org

Elderberries to Meet Wednesday, July 12th!

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, July 12th in the Great Hall. This month's menu is barbecue pork sandwich, cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans, dessert and beverage. The food is lovingly prepared with the dedicated hands of Central volunteers. Cost for the meal is just \$3. Following the meal, our own **Alex Otis** and **Shelby Larrick** will share some of their favorite musical numbers with us. Both girls are in the Decatur Young Park Singers. You won't want to miss their energy, enthusiasm and musical gifts! 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, July 10th, so don't delay, reserve your place today!



Summer Lunch Club Tour of Central's Pipe Organ

The Summer Lunch Club for children grades entering 1st - finishing 5th toured Central's Pipe Organ and explored how air plays an important role in our worship services. Our many thanks are given to Central's organist **Leslie Peart** who led our exciting tour which included an opportunity for each child to play a pipe similar to those installed in the organ chambers, hands-on demonstrations of how the console functions, a walking tour of the three-story instrument and a video tour of the inside of the pipe chambers. SLC will meet for arts and crafts on July 12th from noon - 3:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2006
WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00

**Christ Comes
As One Unknown**

Text: Mark 6:1-6
Charles Watkins

All-Church Mission Luncheon on July 16th!

Everyone is invited to join the Honduras Mission Trip Participants for a Taco Salad Bar Luncheon at 11:15 a.m. (immediately following 2nd Service) on Sunday, July 16th. We'll share a delicious summer luncheon together, see pictures from the Honduras Trip and share in the stories and excitement of Central's members who recently spent eight days in Tegucigalpa, Honduras working with our Global Mission Partners, Bruce and Linda Hanson. Plan now to come and share in the excitement! Sign-ups begin this Sunday in the Friendship Center.

Sunday Breakfast Club Menu Sunday, July 9th

The SBC main dish for this week is Pancakes & Sausage. Along with our main dish, fruit, yogurt, cereal, milk, juice, and coffee are available each week. SBC serves breakfast from 8:45-9:15 a.m. in the Great Hall every Sunday during July & August. Donations are accepted each week to help offset the costs of the breakfast.



Summer Breakfast Club



Youth Column

Central Youth Wednesday/Thursday Night Specials

Central Youth (grades entering 6th - finishing 12th) are invited to Pastor Robert's home, for our next gathering on July 6. We will enjoy supper off the grill, and swimming. Future dates include July 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. Cost for the trip is \$35 per person. Registration forms are due back by July 9th.

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

Warren Buffet, billionaire investor and founder of Berkshire Hathaway last week became the most generous philanthropist in history. His announcement that he will give \$31 Billion to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation more than doubled the assets of the largest U.S. philanthropy. The "Oracle of Omaha" indicated that his decision about giving away most of his vast fortune was closely related to his investment decisions. The same thorough research and analysis that he uses in buying companies went into his choice of the Gates Foundation. He believes that the Gates Foundation can make better decisions about reducing inequities in the world and making a dent in the world's problems than he could personally make, and he saw no reason to set up a separate foundation when Gates is doing so well with the existing one. He trusts Bill and Melinda Gates, the world's wealthiest couple.

When you make a decision about philanthropic gifts, I hope you trust your church. Mr. Buffet's recent gift could operate our congregation's ministries for thirty one thousand years. But just on our own with our more humble means, we've worked effectively for one hundred seventy-two years, and we have a promising future of faithfulness in mission.

When you think about making a significant gift to the ministries of Jesus Christ through our church, you have at least three options. You can make a gift in your will to the **Permanent Memorial Fund** at Central, where it will be invested by our congregation's Board of Trustees for the benefit of the congregation. Currently the income earned by the Permanent Memorial Fund flows into the General Operating Fund of our church each year.

You can make a gift now or in the future to the **Community Foundation of Decatur** which accumulates and invests funds for a number of charities and benevolences in our town. Central was the first religious congregation to have a fund at the Community Foundation, thanks to the generosity of **Bob and Betty Campbell**.

You can purchase a gift annuity, paying you an income throughout your life, or make an outright gift to the **Christian Church Foundation** in Indianapolis with income earned by investing your gift flowing to Central for whatever purpose you designate. Central's Trustees invested \$90,000 with the Christian Church Foundation in 1998, and that fund has grown to \$103,000 while paying an income to the church.

Like Warren Buffett, you can turn to those you trust to make the most of your gift, whatever the amount. It is not necessary to give your entire fortune to Central, but some portion or percentage of your accumulated resources today or at some time in the future can strengthen the effectiveness of our church's ministries. And your gift in any amount to your church will be as fully appreciated and as gratefully received as Mr. Buffet's generosity.

Charles Watkins

Youth/Family 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, worship together 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. Site fees will apply for families bringing their own campers/tents. Forms are now available in the Friendship Center. Contact **Pastor Robert** with questions.



News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Marianna Holl** and family following the June 28th death of her husband, *Monte R. Holl*.....to **Mark & Nancy McAfee** and family following the June 28th death of Mark's father, *Lt. Col. Robert McAfee* of Carmel, Indiana.....and to **Betty McKown** and family following the June 29th death of her husband *Herschel McKown*.

Evangelism Seeds

Did you know that during the course of a year, barely one-third of all adults (in churches) make an effort to share their religious faith with others? Good News is for sharing! Invite someone to church this week.

New Power of Prayer Study Group to Begin!

The new POP Study, "The Jesus Attitudes", will begin on Wednesday, July 12 and continue until August 23. The group will meet from 1:15 to 3:00 p.m in Room 218. Books for the study will be on the counter by the office for those interested. This is a study of the Beatitudes as seen in Matthew and Luke. Through our readings and discussions, we will be introduced to the Beatitudes and learn how we can apply them to our daily lives. Weekly topics include "Who are these people, and why are they blessed; The Happy Sad; Great Rewards and other more. Everyone is invited to join us as we begin this new study together!

Habitat House Update

Look at the difference a few weeks can make! The Central Christian Church Habitat House now has a foundation, a sturdy floor and walls! In just a few short weeks, volunteers have made incredible progress on this home. Volunteers are always needed on site each Thursday and Saturday morning. If you are interested, just show up at the work site, 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**. We are also trying to schedule individuals or groups to take donuts or other baked goods and beverages to the work site on Thursday and Saturday mornings. Speak with **Pastor Gretchen** if you would like to volunteer in this way. Check our website at www.cccdisciples.org for more photos and updates on the progress!



Sunday, July 9, 2006

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-Pat Ash and Marilyn Mertz, piano
10:00 Anthem-Chancel Choir
8:45-Summer Breakfast Club, Great Hall
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Lucy Acheson
9:00-Sunday School
11:15-Friends of Central Luncheon, Great Hall

Monday (10)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics, Great Hall/Heritage Center
9:00-Volunteers to Good Samaritan Inn
2:00-8:30-Pictorial Directory Photos
4:00-Aerobics, 290

Tuesday (11)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
4:00-Aerobics, 290
5:00-CADV Meeting, Disciple Room
5:15-Nominating Committee, Parlor
6:30-Christian Education Dept., 290

Wednesday (12)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
12:00-Elderberries Lunch, Great Hall
12:00-Central Singers
12:00-3:30-Summer Lunch Club
1:15-POP ChristCare, 218
3:30-5:30-SLC Aftercare
4:00-Aerobics, 290

Thursday (13)

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

Friday (14)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics, Great Hall/Heritage Center

Counting On You

July 2

Worship Attendance 321
Sunday School Attendance 80

Serving Schedule—July 9, 2006

Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Jan Dobbs, Mary Jane Linton

Communion to Shut-Ins:

Deacons	Elders
David Miller	Julie Martin
Katie Miller	Kevin Otis
Charlotte Ballance	Larry Otis
Bob Hoaglin	Bob Smith
Jane Davis	Cindy Soebbing
Andy Fulk	Chris Fagin
Sherri Hood	Shirley Swarouth
Paula Hovey	Larry Thicksten
Bob Keller	Pat Ash
Karen Keller	Jan Baird
	Alternate: Carol Graham

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

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 4 - Ed Acheson, Capt., Carole Holbrook, Mike Holbrook, Carl Morris, Phyllis Morris, Betty Ann Roe

10:00 - Team 9 - Bruce, Carol, Allison, Jessica, Maggie Stoddard

Greeters:

8:00 - Ed & Joy Adams, Darla & Larry Otis

10:00 - Bill & Carol Charlton, Carroll & Doris Little

Parish Nurse: Lucy Acheson

Acolytes:

10:00 - Avery Martin

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Jim Bednar

10:00 - Larry Pepper

Preparation of Communion:

Brenda & Don Tankersley, Bill & LeEtta Bass, Pam Larrick, Jane Latshaw, Hazel Perry

Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - Andy Fulk
 Sunday School and 10:00 service - Bruce Williams
 10:00 service only - Karen Baird

July 12 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Ruby Agnew, Helen Hufford

Hosts:

July 10 9:00-12:30 - Mary Boyle
 12:30-4:00 - Ken Davis

July 11 9:00-12:30 - Carl Morris
 12:30-4:00 - Ellen Sheffer

July 12 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith
 12:30-4:00 - Marilyn Ward

July 13 9:00-12:30 - Roy Schilling
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

July 14 9:00-12:30 - Harold & Bess King
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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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
 Shelly Messmore Preschool Director
 Trudy Garland, Janet Langston Preschool Teachers
 Kay Villarreal, Robin White Preschool Teachers
 Rudi Descaro Custodian
 David Flanders Custodian
 Dean Hadden Custodian
 Charles Wallace Custodian

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