



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, July 26, 2006

No. 28

Becoming God's People, A Healing Journey

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Illinois and Wisconsin will meet in regional assembly November 10-12 at the Wyndham Hotel, Lisle, Illinois. All Disciples in the region are invited to register and attend. Forms are available in the Friendship Center by the church office. Deadlines for discount reservations are in October, but it's important to get on your calendar now.



The focus of this assembly is on our mission imperative to become an anti-racist reconciling church. We will gather in a suburb of Chicago where many of our minority membership congregations are located. The assembly offers an opportunity to celebrate and embrace the diversity in our church and strike another blow against racism in ourselves and in our church structures and practices.

Ladies Night Out August 15th

Women and friends of Central are invited to join together for Ladies Night Out on Tuesday, August 15th at 6 p.m. We'll gather at O'Charley's in Forsyth for a wonderful evening of fun, fellowship, great food, door prizes and laughter! We have the North Room reserved. We will order off the menu and have separate checks (15% gratuity will be added). Bring your grown daughter, or mother or friend for a great evening out. Sign up at the Women's Ministry table in the Friendship Center so we can confirm our reservation! See you on the 15th!

Central Youth Visit the Windy City

Nine youth and three adults from Central (pictured below) journeyed to Chicago for a walking tour of the north end of Michigan Avenue including a visit to Fourth Presbyterian Church, one of the oldest structures on the Magnificent Mile, and a trip to the 94th floor John Hancock Center Observatory. The youth had lunch at Navy Pier, experienced a round trip on a Metra Commuter Train, visited the First Christian Church in Gurnee, IL and Six Flags Great America.



SUNDAY, JULY 30, 2006
WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00
Bearing With One Another
Text: Ephesians 4:1-6
Charles Watkins

Welcome New Member



Welcome to **Louise Dial**, who became a member of Central Christian on Sunday, July 16 by transfer of membership. Louise is retired from teaching with Decatur Public Schools.

Sunday Breakfast Club Menu Sunday, July 30th

The SBC main dish for this week is French Toast Sticks & 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 summer. Donations are accepted each week to help offset the costs of the breakfast.



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 August 2nd. We will enjoy supper and swimming. Last Chance on August 17th.

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.

Feeding the Hungry

Central Youth will help serve lunch at the Good Samaritan Inn on Saturday, August 19th. We will gather at the church at 10:30 a.m. and transport supplies to the inn. We will be working with our Hunger Relief Team until 1:30 p.m.

Charles's Column

I am happily surprised that you are reading this issue of *The Central Visitor*. Actually, the surprise is that it got published and mailed at all, because the two main dynamos on our ministry team that oversee production of the weekly newsletter are not in the office today.

Valerie Rozanski, who has served in the front office of our church for almost twenty-one years, had surgery on Tuesday and is now recuperating at St. Mary's Hospital. Valerie is the team member who gathers all the information and articles for *The Central Visitor*, edits them, lays them out, makes them all fit in the allocated spaces. Each week by Tuesday morning, Valerie has the preliminary draft ready for other members of the team to look at. At staff meeting, we work out what has to be added, what cannot be included, what will run later. Then on Wednesday morning, Valerie makes up a PDF file of the newsletter and JPG files of any photographs and sends them by electronic mail to the William Street Press which prints and folds the issue by noon that day.

Pat Beals, who has served in the front office of our church for nine years, is returning from her youngest daughter's wedding in Hawaii this week-end, is also usually busy with the newsletter on Wednesday, printing the mailing labels in zip code order to affix to your copy. Pat recruits and enlists volunteers to help stick the labels on the newsletter, sort them according to post office regulations, fill out the bulk mailing paperwork, and box them all up to be taken to the U.S.P.S. facility on Mound Road.

So with both Valerie and Pat away from the office, it is a wonder that you have this issue in hand. This good outcome is a result of Valerie's working a week ahead so that nearly all of this issue was completed before she entered the hospital. Also central to this success is **Sara Field**, one of our most diligent volunteers, who has mastered all the intricacies of preparing the mailing and paperwork prior to its arrival at the post office.

I invite you to celebrate with me the faithful and dedicated work of staff and volunteers in producing our weekly newsletter throughout the year. I invite you to join me in praying for Valerie's speedy recovery following surgery on her birthday this week. Sending her a card would be a good idea. I invite you to join me in congratulating Pat on a wonderful wedding and in thanking her for all the extra duties she will assume while Valerie recuperates.

We have an amazing ministry team here at Central including custodians, secretaries, musicians, and pastors. Most of this team has now been together for nearly nine years. All of us are proud and grateful to serve you and God in this congregation.

Charles Watkins

Camping Trip Registrations Due by Sunday

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 and are due back by July 30th. Contact Pastor Robert with questions.



News From the Pews.....

Congratulations to **Amy & Jonas Cutler** of New Hampshire, following the July 17th birth of their daughter, **Adelei Grey**. Her big sisters are **Casey** and **Ari**, proud grandma is **Sally Force** and great grandfather is **Bud Bissey**.

FunTimer's on the Go to Rockome Gardens!

The FunTimers, Central's on-the-go group of adults age 55+, will travel to Arcola's Rockome Gardens on Friday, August 11th. We'll spend time at the current exhibit, *Passing on the Comfort: A Traveling Quilt Exhibit from the Mennonite Central Committee*. This exhibit features 18 quilts and comforters sent to the Netherlands nearly six decades ago to provide aid and comfort to those fleeing the ravages of war. The display tells the story of a woman and her family, whose home was used as a "safe house" by the Dutch resistance movement during and after World War II. We will also eat lunch at the new "Days Gone By" restaurant which recalls the 1940's era and spend casual time in the beautiful gardens and many quaint shops, exhibits and demonstrations. Shops and exhibits include a Soda Fountain, Candy store and Bakery, a Five & Dime, Blacksmith, Saw Mill, Fishing Pond, Farm House, Schoolhouse and train and buggy rides. The Amish Farm Market will also be open that day. Admission to the Gardens is just \$4 for seniors. Lunch is on your own but you receive a 20% discount with a current church bulletin (which we can arrange!). The van will leave Central at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, August 11th and will return before 5 p.m. Sign-ups to reserve your place on the van begin this Sunday in the Friendship Center. You won't want to miss this fun trip!

Health Education Workshop – August 9th!

Wednesday, August 9th, at 10:30 a.m. in the Disciple Room, there will be a presentation about Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) by Kathy Heer, Executive Director. Through Kathy's fun and humorous talk, you will learn about services that are available through VNA as well as current funding and "signs and symptoms" of a good candidate who could benefit from VNA services. This event is free and open to the public and will last approximately 1 hour. Please plan on attending this informative presentation. You won't want to miss it!

Note of Thanks Received

I want to thank all the ministers for the visits and prayers for Jean, and everyone that served her communion each month through the years. She really looked forward to that. I also want to thank Rev. Whitaker for being her friend and confidant and for delivering a heartfelt memorial service. A special thank you to all the ladies and gentlemen that prepared and served a delicious luncheon for us after the service.

May God Bless You All, **Mary Wherry & Family**



Sunday, July 30, 2006

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services
Music: 8:00 Offertory-Central Singers;
Marilyn Ward, piano
10:00 Offertory-Matthew Swarthout,
saxophone; Marilyn Ward, piano
10:00 Anthem-Chancel Choir; Matthew
Swarthout, saxophone;
Marilyn Ward, piano
8:45-Sunday Breakfast Club, Great Hall
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Jane Latshaw
9:00-Sunday School
2:00-4:00-Roe Skidmore 90th Birthday
Open House, Disciple Room

Monday (31)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics,
Great Hall/Heritage Center
4:00-Aerobics, 290

Tuesday (August 1)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,
Senior Pastor's Study
4:00-Aerobics, 290

Wednesday (2)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
12:00-Central Singers
1:15-POP ChristCare, 218
4:00-Aerobics, 290
5:30-Youth Wednesday Night Special,
Pastor Robert's house

Thursday (3)

10:00-Alanon, 212
4:00-Aerobics, 290
6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (4)

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

Evangelism Seeds

Jesus wants to live within us
to give us life abundant. He
wants to live through us to give
abundant life to others. Invite
someone to worship this week.

Serving Schedule—July 30, 2006

Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Carol Graham, Larry Pepper

Deacons:

8:00 - 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
10:00 - 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:

8:00 - Team 2 - Don Tankersley, Capt., Carl Boline, Frances Heiserman, Becky Johnston
10:00 - Team 7 - Karen McFadin, Chad McFadin, Jon French, Jane French, Clyde Booher

Greeters:

8:00 - Dottie Scholes, Debbie Seaberg, Jim & Pamela Bednar
10:00 - Azalee & Warren Berner, Jan & Ron Dobbs

Parish Nurse: Jane Latshaw

Acolytes:

8:00 - Sarah Funk
10:00 - Sean Beal

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Jim Bednar
10:00 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

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

Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams
Sunday School and 10:00 service - Keith Backes
10:00 service only - Brett Swallow

August 2 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Sara Field

Hosts:

July 31 9:00-12:30 - Carol Charlton
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
Aug. 1 9:00-12:30 - Judy Ford
12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford
Aug. 2 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong
Aug. 3 9:00-12:30 - Shirlee Johnson
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
Aug. 4 9:00-12:30 - Bonnie Sauer
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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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
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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Counting On You

July 23

Worship Attendance 323
Sunday School Attendance 77



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PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID

