



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

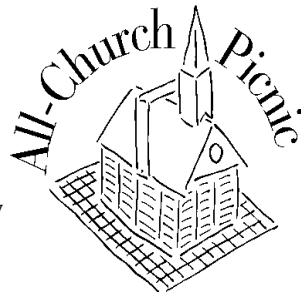
Decatur, Illinois, August 16, 2006

No.33

You're Invited to the All Church Picnic

Sunday, September 10th – noon

We hope you're making plans to attend the annual All-Church Picnic at noon on Sunday, September 10th. The year's festivities include great fellowship and food (gilled pork barbecue sandwiches, hot dogs, cole slaw, baked beans, chips, cookies and bars); games for the young and young at heart (moon bouncer, bubble wands, sidewalk chalk and more) and great, mellow saxophone music by our own Matt Swarhout. Dress casually for worship and stay for the celebration! We've put in our order for beautiful weather and now all we need is YOUR RESERVATION! You can sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday or call the church office (428-4336) and let us know how many chairs to set up for you and your family. The church picnic is also an excellent opportunity to invite friends, neighbors and co-workers to experience the Central Difference! Invite them to come for worship and stay for the picnic and include them in your reservation!



Handmade Greeting Cards Workshop

Back by popular demand, anyone interested is invited to a Handmade Card Workshop on Wednesday, August 30th at 6:30 p.m. in the Great Hall. Each participant will create at least 4 cards (examples are on display in the Friendship Center). Please bring sharp scissors and a glue stick or other adhesive. All other supplies will be provided. Donations of any size are welcome to help cover the cost of materials. Childcare will be provided for young children in the nursery, if needed. Sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday!

Ladies, You Are Invited

The Dorcas group would like to extend an invitation to women in the church to come to the first meeting for 2006-2007 on Tuesday, August 22. The meeting, held this month in the home of Ruth Ewing, begins at 7:00 pm. Participants who attended the **Mix in '06** will be sharing experiences and highlights of the event held in Indianapolis this past June. Dorcas monthly gatherings provide women at Central opportunities for fellowship, service, and community involvement. For more information, please contact the church office.

Gaither Homecoming Concert Friday, October 6, 7:00 p.m. Assembly Hall, U of I, Champaign, IL.

This Gaither Homecoming Tour features the talents of the Gaither Vocal band, Signature Sound, Russ Taff, Ben Speer, the Isaacs, Mike Allen, Jessy Dixon, Jeff and Sheri Easter, Ivan Parker and Lynda Randle.

A group of ten tickets will qualify for a group rate. Please register your interest by signing up in the friendship center or calling the Church Office. For more information contact Don Martin.

SUNDAY, August 20, 2006
WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00
Making the Most of Time

Text: Ephesians 5:1-2, 15-20
Robert Bushey

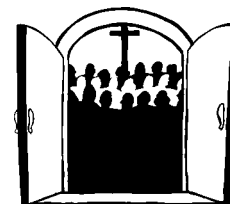
Sunday Breakfast Club Menu - Sunday, August 20th

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

Congregational Meeting

The congregation will meet on Sunday, September 10 at noon at the all-church picnic for the purpose of electing executive officers, trustees, deacons, elders, and deacons emeriti. All members are invited to attend and cast a ballot. The list of nominees was

published in last week's issue of *The Central Visitor*. Additional copies are available in the church office.



Congregational MEETING

Evangelism Seeds

Don't measure your possibilities by what you think you can do but by what you think God can do. Invite someone to church this week!

Youth Column

Central Youth

Saturday, August 19th 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 10:30AM and transport supplies to the inn. We will be working with our Hunger Relief Team until 1:30PM.

Six Flags Discount Tickets

Planning a late summer trip to Six Flags in St. Louis? Pastor Robert has discount coupons that are valid through September 30th. The coupon reduces park admission to \$30.99 (plus tax) per person at the gate.

Sunday School Teachers Needed!

The Christian Education Department needs two teachers to team teach the grades K-2 Sunday School Class beginning on Promotion Sunday, September 10th. Curriculum and supplies are provided. Classes begin at 9:30AM and meet for 45 minutes before joining with the other grade levels for a closing session and parent pick up. If you are interested in helping with our grades K-2 Sunday School class, please contact Pastor Robert.

Parent's of College Students

If your son or daughter is moving away from Decatur to attend a college or university this fall, please notify the church office 428-4336 or email pbeals@cccdisciples.org with their campus address and we will send *The Central Visitor* to them every week. College students love mail from home!

Robert's Reflections

Very soon the sea of yellow school buses that carry our children to and from school will fill the streets of our community and the distinct sound of the school bell will ring through halls filled with young minds eager to learn. Neatly organized and decorated rooms, quiet for almost three months, will fill with teachers and students beginning the routine of school once more. Yes, it is time for our community to go back to school.

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting Ms. Gloria Davis the new Superintendent of the Decatur Public Schools and I was impressed by her optimism for our schools. I was encouraged by her desire that our community speak with "one voice" a common message to parents and students that all children are expected to attend school and that all children are capable of success in school. Recently, the rate of truancy and dropouts has been unacceptable in our community and I have to agree with Ms. Davis that the school district cannot achieve solutions to these problems without the support of the entire community. Residents, businesses, civic organizations, and faith communities play a significant role in the success of education whether secular or parochial.

I have also been encouraged by the development of the One Church One School Ministry that I introduced to you in May as school was recessing for the summer break. Eleven churches are now linked with schools across the community in exciting new ways. I am delighted by a partnership that we are developing with members of Prairie Avenue Christian Church as we develop our ministry with Hope Academy. Together, we have more than 20 volunteers ready to assist the school as needs are made known to us. We are already beginning to volunteer at the school as community members of the school's staff cadres or small interest groups and by helping with the book fair. Soon, tutoring and mentoring opportunities will be made available as well. And, all of this does not account for the dozens of volunteers from Central who give of their time and talents to other schools throughout the area!

Central has always valued education and has been a supportive partner for education in our community for many years. Our tradition of support for education continues this school year through the ministry of Central Christian Preschool with our new director Ms. Shelly Messmore, and by providing the facilities for the Baby Talk STEPS & Pre-Kindergarten classes, English Second Language and Richland Community College GED classes, an early childhood education class from Millikin University and the Decatur Public School's Phoenix II Alternative School for teenage mothers who are at risk of dropping out of school due to their pregnancy. Back to school means a very busy building everyday at Central Christian Church!

As we send off our college students attending schools away from the area and go back to school as a community, let us keep our students, faculties and staffs in our daily prayers, let us join our voice to those encouraging our young people to strive for learning and growth, and let us do our part by supporting our schools.

Peace & Joy,
Robert

One Church One School Opportunities

We have begun working with the staff of Hope Academy and we have opportunities for volunteers from Central including helping with the school book fair, tutoring, homework assistance, and helping with the school clothing room. Central's OCOS Ministry will meet on Wednesday, August 30th at 6:30PM at Hope Academy. If you are interested in joining this exciting new ministry, please speak to Pastor Robert.

Note of Thanks:

Thank you all for your cards, calls, flowers, gifts and visits, and most of all your prayers following my recent hip surgery. I truly felt your love and support. God bless you all and I will see you soon.

Valerie Rozanski

Dinner for Eight Sign Ups

Dinner for Eight Groups are gatherings of Central adult members or friends (usually eight, give or take a few) that gather in someone’s home to share a wonderful dinner, fellowship and a time of getting to know one another. Usually the host family agrees to prepare the main course and others bring side dishes. We are now signing people up for a group that will meet once in either September, October or November. If you would like to host a group or do telephone calling to the group members, you may mark that preference on the sign up sheet. Stop by and sign up this Sunday – we promise you will enjoy the fellowship ... and the dinner!

Regional Women’s Retreat

All women are invited to attend the Southern Illinois Women’s Retreat at Camp Walter Scott on September 23-24th. The theme is “Friendship and Faith”. Retreat leaders Rebecca Zelensky and Melissa Meers will guide participants as they explore the ways in which these two powerful forces come together in our lives. Cost for the full retreat is \$60.00 which includes two nights and 5 meals. Limited participation options are also available for a reduced fee and are spelled out on the registration form which is located on the ledge by the church office. Deadline for registration is September 14th. See Pastor Gretchen for additional information.



Fifteen adults and a couple of young stowaways enjoyed the Fun Timers trip last week to Rockome Gardens. The beautiful summer day was spent exploring the many exhibits, enjoying a delicious lunch, and leisurely strolling the lovely gardens. Watch for plans to be announced soon for another Fun Timers trip this fall!

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| Counting On You | |
| August 13 | |
| Worship Attendance | 311 |
| Sunday School Attendance | 55 |



Sunday, August 20, 2006

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-Leslie Peart, organ;
Carol Graham, piano
10:00 Anthem-Chancel Choir
8:45-Sunday Breakfast Club, Great Hall
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Clinic, Lucy Acheson
9:00-Sunday School

Monday (21)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
4:00-Aerobics, 290

Tuesday (22)

9:00-ChristCare Stitches, 207
10:00-Pastors’ Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor’s Study
11:45-Fit Lunch Club, Disciple Room
4:00-Aerobics

Wednesday (23)

12:00-Central Singers
1:15-POP ChristCare, 218
4:00-Aerobics
5:30-Stephen Ministers Informational Meeting, Parlor

Thursday (24)

10:00-Alanon, Room 212
4:00-Aerobics
6:00-Baby Talk Pre-K Parent Meeting, DR
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (25)

8:00-Wellness Walk

Being Hospitalized?

If you or a member of your family enter the hospital, please phone the church office. Central sends a visitor to each local hospital almost every day, and we want to call on you to extend our encouragement and support. Rules designed to protect your privacy make it difficult for the church to know when you are hospitalized, so please notify the church office.

Serving Schedule—August 20, 2006

Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Cindy Soebbing & Bruce Williams

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 Baid, 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 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Ruby Agnew, Betty Beebe, Willie Birkhead, Gerro Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos

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

Greeters:

8:00 - Bev & Merle Chapman, Alice & Warren Brooks

10:00 - Jeannie & Keith Backes, Felicity & Bruce Williams

Parish Nurse: Lucy Acheson

Acolytes:

8:00 - Jarrett Bednar

10:00 - Erik Harm

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Jim Bednar

10:00 - Larry Pepper

Preparation of Communion:

Bob & Chloe Hoaglin, Carole Holbrook, Carrie & Steve Funk, Jan Sperry

Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - John Flanders

Sunday School and 10:00 service - Doug Soebbing

10:00 service only - Ron Oliver

August 23 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Marge Karl, Sara Field

Hosts:

Aug 21 9:00-12:30 - Alice Brooks

12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Aug 22 9:00-12:30 - Barb Flanders

12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Aug 23 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith

12:30-4:00 - Ruby Agnew

Aug 24 9:00-12:30 - Evelyn Sperry

12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Aug 25 9:00-12:30 - Yvonne Purcell

12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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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
Katie Beal Childcare Coordinator
Joanne Frady, Debra Fulk Childcare Providers
Shelby Larrick, Childcare Providers
Shelly Messmore Preschool Director
Trudy Garland, Janet Langston Preschool Teachers
Kay Villarreal, Robin White, Wendy Jalley Preschool Teachers
Rudi Descaro Custodian
David Flanders Custodian
Dean Hadden Custodian
Charles Wallace Custodian

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