



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, August 30, 2006

No. 35

Sunday School Promotion September 10th

All children and youth classes will be promoted to their new grade levels on Sunday, September 10th. Classes meet from 9:30 – 10:15AM with closing activities including snacks at 10:15AM. Parents are asked to pick up their children no later than 10:30AM so that our teachers may participate in worship.

Classes currently available:

Toddlers & Pre-K (Nursery) Mrs. Katie Beal & Co.

Kindergarten – Second (Rm 240) Mrs. Melinda Hawbaker

Third – Fifth (Rm 260) Mrs. Christine Lyman-Harm

Middle School (6-8 Rm 290) Mr. York Powers

High School (9-12 Rm 280) Mr. Mark Beal

A Teacher is still needed to team teach the Kindergarten – Second grade class. See Pastor Robert if you are willing to help.



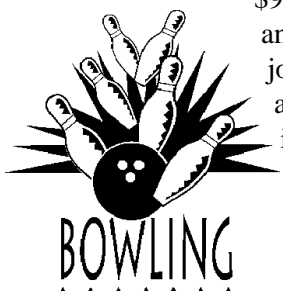
You're Invited to the All Church Picnic

Sunday, September 10th – noon

We hope you're making plans to attend the annual All-Church Picnic at noon on Sunday, September 10th. This year's festivities include great fellowship and food (grilled 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!

CCC Bowling League Sign-ups

Sign up this week for the Central Christian Church Monday Night Mixed Bowling League. Our non-sanctioned league will play for 16 weeks on Monday evenings beginning at 6:30PM on September 25th at Pla Mor Lanes. The cost is \$9.00 per night plus shoes if you need them. Our goal is fun and fellowship. You need not be an exemplary bowler to join us. The league is open to all high school youth and adults. Substitute bowlers will also be needed. If you are interested in joining us, please sign up the Friendship Center this Sunday, or call or email Pastor Robert at 428-4336 or at rbushey@cccdisciples.org



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2006

WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00

Doers of the Word

Text: James 1:17-27

Charles Watkins

Summer Hours Extended

This Sunday, September 3, will be the final Sunday of summer hours with worship at 9 a.m., Christian education at 10 a.m., and worship at 11 a.m. The regular fall schedule will resume on September 10 with worship at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. and church school at 9:30 a.m.

Join the Disciples Class in a New Study Beginning This Sunday!

The Disciples Sunday School class invites you to join us in a new study of "The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Growth for Ordinary People" by John Ortberg. This six-week video study starts September 3rd in the Disciples Classroom. Many of us enjoyed the study of Ortberg's "If you Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat." Come join us in this study of spiritual disciplines.

First Fall Concert

Internationally acclaimed pianist Aldo Mancinelli will present his annual Decatur concert on Sunday, September 10 at 4:00pm on the sanctuary Steinway at Central Christian Church. Mr. Mancinelli is a former artist-in-residence at Millikin University. His appearance at Central is made possible by the Lyle and Minnie Campbell Memorial Fund. The concert is free and open to everyone. Invite a friend to come with you!

Central Youth

Sunday, September 3rd

Central Youth will NOT meet over the Labor Day Weekend! Enjoy your time with family and friends!

Sunday, September 10th Central Youth Grand Prix

Youth grades 6-12 and their friends are invited to the CCC Youth Grand Prix at Pla Mor Recreation Center behind the bowling alley for Go-Karting fun. We will meet at the church at 5:30PM and return by 7PM. Bring \$3 and a friend.

Sunday, September 17th

Central High School Youth are welcome to attend the Peace & Justice film, *Crash* in the Great Hall at 6PM. The award winning film which is rated 'R' carries a strong message about the pervasiveness of racism in our society. Youth attending without parents present will need a permission slip signed by a parent or guardian. Permission slips will be available after Labor Day. A discussion session will be held after the film.

Sunday Breakfast Club Menu - Sunday, September 3rd

We will serve a continental style breakfast at 9AM Sunday, September 3rd for our last SBC for 2006. Thank you to **Louise Boline, Teri Bushey, Janet Lyman, Christine Lyman-Harm, Don Martin, Andrew Otis, and Darla & Larry Otis** for helping make SBC possible this summer!

Charles's Column

This week we are remembering with sadness the costliest and most powerful natural disaster in American history which set in motion the largest migration of American citizens since the Dust Bowl days. More than eighteen hundred people were killed along the gulf coast. A million people were displaced from their homes. A major American city lost half its population. The governmental response to this unprecedented disaster became a national disgrace

A bi-partisan congressional committee titled its report "A Failure of Initiative," and included the following conclusion: "The failure of local, state, and federal governments to respond more effectively to Katrina—which had been predicted in theory for many years, and forecast with startling accuracy for five days, demonstrates that whatever improvements have been made to our capacity to respond to natural or man-made disasters, 4 ½ years after 9/11, we are still not fully prepared."

Of course we also remember some exceptions to the shamefully inadequate response. First was the United States Coast Guard which within hours mounted dramatic roof-top rescue efforts that cheered us in our despair. I was especially proud of Texas governor Rick Perry and the City of Houston which opened arms and facilities to those who were fleeing the devastation of their home towns. People of good will across the country, charitable organizations, corporations and churches in particular have stepped up to offer what they could.

The White House late last week concluded a lengthy press statement with these words: "Rebuilding will take time. The one year anniversary is not a finish line."

That is an important message for us in the church. As press attention moves on, we must not forget. We cannot expect that someone else out there will make the proper response so that we don't need to do anything. We must keep the horrific images from one year ago vivid and fresh and look for new and better ways to extend our help.

Here at Central and in our region, task forces are developing plans for our next actions. Between now and the 2nd anniversaries of Katrina and Rita, you will have several opportunities to involve yourself directly in aiding the recovery along the Gulf Coast.

I know that as those opportunities develop in the coming year, you will respond with your usual generosity and enthusiasm.

Charles Watkins

Congregational Meeting

The congregation will meet at the all-church picnic at noon on the west lawn on Sunday, September 10 to cast ballots for the election of trustees, deacons, deacons emeriti, elders, and executive officers. All members are encouraged to attend and vote at the meeting.

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 by signing up in the Friendship Center or calling the church office, 428-4336. For more information contact **Don Martin**.



News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Karen & Don Browning** following the August 24th death of Karen's mother.....and to **Donna Dash** and **LeEtta & Bill Bass** following the August 25th death of Donna & LeEtta's mother, **Etta Dash**.

Dessert & DVD Series to Show *Crash*

A Sunday evening Dessert and DVD series is being co-sponsored by the Peace and Justice Task Force and the Peacemaking Committee of 1st Presbyterian Church. Each film will be followed by discussion. Please join us for our first film, *Crash*, on Sunday evening, Sept. 17, at 6:00, in the Great Hall. Rev. Jim Montgomery, pastor of 1st Pres, will lead the discussion following this film. Dessert will be provided. This first film in the series is an R rated film, and is not suitable for young children.

Mark your calendars for the coming events:

- Sept. 17: *Crash* (CCC)
- Nov. 11: *Hotel Rwanda* (1st Pres)
- Jan. 21: *Whale Rider* (CCC)
- Feb. 11: *Chocolat* (1st Pres)
- March 11: *Iron-Jawed Angels* (CCC)
- May 6: *Romero* (1st Pres)



Notes of Thanks Received

Dear Central Christian Church,

Thank you so much for sharing the Great Hall with the Winkleblack family. Our 60th Anniversary Celebration for my parents, Johnnie & Vonnie Turner was a great success. We had compliments galore about the beautiful Great Hall and how it was so accommodating for a celebration. I was proud to show off my beautiful church to family and friends.

We also want to thank the three custodians for their wonderful assistance with chairs and setting up the room for us.

What a great church and church family we have at Central!

Thanks again,
Marla Winkleblack and sisters

A special thanks to the ministers for their kind and caring visits.

Linn Cummins

Counting On You

August 27

Worship Attendance	340
Sunday School Attendance	86



Sunday, September 3, 2006

- 8:00 and 10:00- Worship Services
- Music: Offertory- Gretchen Barron, Soprano; Marilyn Mertz, Piano
- 8:45- Sunday Breakfast Club, Great Hall
- 9:00-9:45- Parish Nurse Clinic
- 9:00- Sunday School

Monday (4) Labor Day

Church & Office Closed

Tuesday (5)

- 9:00- ChristCare Stitchers, 207
- 10:00- Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
- 12:00- Staff Lunch, Disciple Room
- 4:00- Aerobics, 290
- 6:30- Beta Sigma Phi, 207

Wednesday (6)

- 9:00- Baby Talk Parents, 280
- 12:00- Central Singers
- 4:00- Aerobics, 290

Thursday (7)

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

Friday (8)

- 8:00- Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics, Great Hall/Heritage Center
- 6:00- Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday (9)

- 7:30- Elders' Breakfast, Disciple Room
- 8:30- Kitchen Task Force, Great Hall Kitchen
- 4:00- Sanctuary Wedding, Amanda Robinson & Jeff Jable

Evangelism Seeds

It's September! Kids are back to school, fall schedules are falling into place, new programs and classes are starting up at church, and we are getting back into our routines. This is an excellent opportunity to invite someone you know to come to worship at Central. Help them get their fall off to a great start with a new Sunday morning routine that could change their life!

Serving Schedule—September 3, 2006

Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Wayne Honeycutt, Shirley Swarthout

Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Larry Pepper, Larry Otis

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 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 - David & Rosalie Poland, Bruce & Liz Campbell

10:00 - Gary, Penny, & Bryan Rutherford

Acolytes:

8:00 - Sam Funk

10:00 - Jessica Brooks

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash

10:00 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

Charles & Juanita Reynolds, Maxine Koenig, Yvonne Purcell, Nancy Taylor

Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - Ed Adams

Sunday School and 10:00 service - Kevin Wilmot

10:00 service only - Karen Baird

September 6 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Sara Field

Hosts:

Sept. 4 **Labor Day Observed**

Church & Office Closed

Sept. 5 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman
12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford

Sept. 6 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

Sept. 7 9:00-12:30 - Shirlee Johnson
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Sept. 8 9:00-12:30 - Bonnie Sauer
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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

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