



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXIX

Decatur, Illinois, November 1, 2006

No. 44

Stewardship Campaign Winds Down

Central's fall stewardship campaign ends this week, as the Stewardship Department takes up the task of developing a budget for our church's mission and ministries in 2007. It is vital that every member and friend who plans to support our congregation's progress next year turn in a Giving Card by this Sunday. Will Central be able to sustain its current program, retain its present staff, and maintain its beautiful facilities one more year? The answer is up to you. Please complete your giving card this week, and let your church know that she can count on you!



Come to the Chancel Choir Dinner and Jamboree This Saturday!

Saturday, November 4 at 6:00 p.m. you will be served a dinner of pulled pork and all the fixin's. You will be joined at your table by choir members who will join you in the sing-a-long songs. We'll take a musical tour from New York to Colorado, singing songs from several different musical styles including Early American, Cowboy songs and John Denver favorites. We will be led in singing by **Manley Mallard** of Millikin University and a group of musicians that are sure to please. There will also be a guest appearance by **Joe Dowell** who in 1961 had a number 1 hit called *Wooden Heart*.

Invite your friends to enjoy this casual and fun evening in the newly renovated Great Hall. Get your tickets now from any choir member or the church office.

Disciples Class Sponsors "Take-Out" Dinner Fund Raiser

The Disciples Class is sponsoring a "Take-Out" Pork Chop Dinner on Sunday, November 5. The cost is \$7.50 per dinner, which includes a half pound pork chop, potato salad, baked beans, roll and butter. Home made desserts will be available at a nominal cost. The dinners will be available from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. All profits will support the Disciple Class sponsored scholarship fund.

Dorcas Disciples to Sell Notecards

This Sunday, Dorcas will begin the sale of Central Christian Church note cards. The cards will be available in packages of 12 for \$10. Proceeds of the sale will be divided among the Disciples Mission Fund, Dove, Inc., and the Central Christian mission trip experience. Stop by the main entrance table this Sunday!

Flu Shots Offered at Central

Mark your calendars! The Macon County Health Dept. is again offering flu and pneumonia vaccinations at Central on Tuesday, November 14 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Cost is \$30 for flu vaccine and \$42 for pneumonia vaccine. Medicare Part B is accepted.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2006

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

First Things First

Text: Mark 12:28-34

Gretchen Barron

Elderberries to Meet Wednesday, November 8th!

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, November 8th in the Great Hall. This month's menu is Baked Chicken & Dressing, Green Bean Casserole, Strawberry Pretzel Salad, Hot Rolls, Pumpkin Pie with Cool Whip. Cost for the meal is just \$3. Following the meal, Stuart Hawbaker will present a humorous program based on his weekly newspaper column, *The Call of the Week*. To sign up, call the church office (428-4336) or mark "Elderberries" next to your name on the Friendship Pad this Sunday. Reservations cannot be accepted after 5 p.m. on Monday, November 6th, so don't delay, reserve your place today!

All Church Thanksgiving Dinner

The Fellowship Department invites you and your family to an all church Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, November 19th, immediately following the 10:45 worship service. Turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, and beverage will be provided by the Fellowship Department. Each family is asked to bring a salad or dessert, that will serve at least 10. Mark your calendars today and plan to join your church family on November 19th.

**Central Youth
Sunday, November 5th
Indoor Golf!
5-7 p.m.**

For Youth Grades 3-12

We will rotate tee-times so that our younger youth golf at different times from our older youth. Special lighting effects, fog and even a glow in the dark hole await our duffers. Snacks will be provided and prizes too! Bring a friend and a putter if you have one.

**November 10-12th
Regional Assembly at the
Wyndham Conference
Center in Lisle, IL
Including a Pre-Assembly
Event at the Field Museum**
Contact Pastor Robert
for more details.

**Friday, November 17th
National Hunger &
Homelessness Awareness
Week
Box City**

Central youth will spend the night in cardboard boxes on the parking lot of Grace United Methodist Church. This event is sponsored by the Homeless Council Continuum of Care.

**Sunday, November 19th
Thanksgiving Basket
Project**

We will join with other youth to help fill 3000 Thanksgiving Baskets for those in need in our community.

EMAIL PASTOR ROBERT

If you didn't receive an email from me this week, then I do not have your email address. I am also online many nights between 9 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Yahoo Messenger. Email me rbushey@cccdisciples.org so that you will not be left out of future notices and become one of my IM friends.

Guest Column

Tom Spry, one of Central's elders, offered this devotion at a recent Elder's meeting. We thought you might enjoy Tom's thoughts!

Over the Labor Day weekend, Robyn and I had the pleasure of joining our daughter and son-in-law in sunny Florida. At first I resisted the trip by thinking that I had too much to do. After rational thinking, I thought surely I could have some quality family time and still have time to catch up on some reading. During the flight, I had my first opportunity to do some reading. Unfortunately, the first article I read raised my already tense state of mind, and changed the knowledge I have had since my childhood science class.

*Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter,
Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto*

For over 50 years, I have known that nine planets revolved around the sun, but no longer. Now a council of distinguished scientists have determined that Pluto does not meet the newly created criteria defining a planet and so can only qualify to be called a dwarf planet. A good night's sleep in Florida put me in a better frame of mind but it was the early morning walk along the beach with my family that made me realize my blessings and their source. The beautiful sunny sky, the warm gentle breeze, the pleasing sounds of birds singing and waves rushing to the shore, all made me remember the words in the book of Genesis: *God created the heavens and the earth. He formed the sky above, the oceans below, and the dry land between. He set the sun to preside over the day and the moon to preside over the night. He set the stars in the sky to light the earth.*

So it is of little importance whether there are 8 or 9 planets and whether Pluto is a planet or a dwarf planet or a cartoon character. What is important is that we remember that Christ is the center of the universe. Everything revolves around Him. He is the Center and the Heart of the Bible and of our lives. He is the source of our salvation and our many blessings of life.

Tom Spry

Central's Women are Invited to Explore "Circles of Growth"

Women and Friends of Central are invited to our 2007 Winter Retreat, February 22-23 at Camp One-Way (near Niantic). It may seem like a long way off but now is the time to block off this weekend on your calendar and save it for some well-deserved rest and relaxation, study and inspiration. Our retreat leader will be Sylvia Mill, Associate Regional Minister in Indiana, who brings many years of experience and great insight into issues of spirituality and community and global concerns. Through our theme, "Circles of Growth", we will explore our own spiritual journey which, like growth rings on a tree, tells the story of our lives and the ways we can reach out, from our abundance, to make a difference in the world. The cost for the 24-hour retreat is \$75 which includes all meals, lodging and program expense. Scholarship assistance is also available. Registration forms will be available soon. Mark your calendars and plan to join us in February at Camp One-Way!

News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Joanne Gustin** and family following the October 29th death of her husband, **W. Dale Gustin**.

Note of Thanks Received

Our daughter, Cathy Alexander, just completed her last week of radiation treatment following her surgery and chemotherapy. We want to thank you for all your prayers & concern.

Florence & Ed Cahan

One Church One School Update

Central's One Church One School ministry continues to be active with Hope Academy. Currently, nine mentor/tutors are linked with students from kindergarten through eighth grade. These volunteers meet with their child during school hours or volunteer in the Safety Net program after school to help them reach their full potential. Teachers, parents, students, and volunteers are all excited about these new relationships. Central members are also serving on three of the school's cadres which function as direction driving committees for the school.

We have been asked to provide four volunteers to help with Grandparent's Day activities on Wednesday, November 15th from 9-11 a.m. If you are willing to volunteer or would like to know more about our OCOS ministry, please contact Pastor Robert.

Just Flicks Film Series

Hotel Rwanda, the next film in the "Just Flicks" Film Series will be shown at 6:00 p.m. on November 12 in First Presbyterian Church. The film recounts the Rwandan conflict and resulting genocide in the 1990's.

Academy Award nominee Don Cheadle stars in the true-life story of Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager who housed over a thousand Tutsis refugees during their struggle against the Hutu militia in Rwanda. Rated PG-13 for violence, disturbing images and brief strong language.

A discussion will follow the screening, cosponsored by Central's Peace and Justice Task Force and First Presbyterian's Peacemaking Committee. Dessert and drinks will be available.

Register Now for Mission Trips in 2007

Registration and information packs are now available for our two 2007 mission trips to the hurricane-affected Gulf region, March 10-18 and June 23-July 1. Both groups will travel to the New Orleans area to assist individual families with the reconstruction of their homes. Tasks may include roofing, dry wall installation, painting, general cleanup and more. There will be a job for you to do, regardless of your physical ability or knowledge/experience. Cost per participant is \$250 to cover travel, lodging and meal expenses, and scholarship will be available. You will also be responsible for purchasing your own meals during travel. Now is the time to plan ahead to participate in this life-changing experience!



Sunday, November 5, 2006

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-Trio: Connie Bordner,
Karen Driver, Tami Longcor
10:45-Anthem-Chancel Choir
9:00-10:15-Parish Nurse Cindy Soebbing
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
11:30-1:00-Disciples Class Take Out
Dinner Fund Raiser, Great Hall
5:30-Youth

Monday (6)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
6:30-CCC Bowling, PlaMor Lanes

Tuesday (7)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,
Senior Pastor's Study
12:00-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room
1:15-POP ChristCare, 218
5:30-Stephen Ministry Training, 290
5:30-Stewardship Dept., Disciple Room
6:00-Young Adults, Bushey's house
6:30-Beta Sigma Phi, 207

Wednesday (8)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280
12:00-Elderberries Lunch, Great Hall
12:00-Central Singers
1:30-Low Vision Support, Disciple Rm.
5:30-Women's Retreat Planning,
Disciple Room

Thursday (9)

10:00-Alanon, 212
11:30-4:30-DFTA, Great Hall
1:30-ChristCare, 290
5:00-Job Study, Great Hall
7:00-PrairieLand Investors, 212
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (10)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall

Saturday (11)

7:30-Elders' Breakfast, Disciple Room

Evangelism Seeds

"Will you look back on life and say, 'I wish I had,' or 'I'm glad I did'?" (Zig Ziglar) Invite someone to church this week – you'll be glad you did!

Serving Schedule—November 5, 2006

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Shirley Swarthout, Felicity Williams

Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Lois Whitaker, Pat Ash

Deacons:

8:15 - 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, Dean Simcox, Sue Simcox, Rebecca Smart

10:45 - 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:

8:15 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Ruby Agnew, Betty Beebe, Willie Birkhead, Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos
 10:45 - Team 10 - Bill Blank, Marilyn Blank, Bob Harmon, Billie Harmon

Greeters:

8:15 - Roe Skidmore, Frances Heiserman, Darla & Norman Lienemann
 10:45 - Randy, Shirley, Jessica Brooks, Mary Boyle

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Mike & Gerri Munos Family

Parish Nurse: Cindy Soebbing

Acolytes:

8:15 - Brittney Munos, Sarah Funk
 10:45 - Sean Beal

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash
 10:45 - Larry Pepper

Preparation of Communion:

Jan & Judson Pease, Claudia Curry, Kevin & Kim Miller

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Ed Adams
 Sunday School and 10:45 service - Kevin Wilmot
 10:45 service only - Brett Swallow

November 8 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Ruby Agnew, Helen Hufford

Hosts:

Nov. 6 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
 Nov. 7 9:00-12:30 - Darla Lienemann
 12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford
 Nov. 8 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith
 12:30-4:00 - Marilyn Ward
 Nov. 9 9:00-12:30 - Roy Schilling
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
 Nov. 10 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
 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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Counting On You

October 29

Worship Attendance 279
 Sunday School Attendance 75



Central Christian Church
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 650 West William Street
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