



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

Decatur, Illinois, January 24, 2007

No. 4

## Join us For Ladies Night Out!

Valentines Day may be February 14<sup>th</sup> but save Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> for Ladies Night Out, this month at Pastabilities, Decatur's Little Italy! Enjoy delicious Italian cuisine and the ambience of an Italian villa as we gather at 6 p.m. for an evening of delicious food, great fellowship, and fabulous fun! Laugh-ter and door prizes guaranteed! Sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center.

## No One Will Be A Stranger at Central's Women's Retreat!

**Coleen Myers** writes... *"Last fall I was new to Decatur and Central Christian, and I was feeling a little lost because I didn't know anyone. So, the women's retreat was a wonderful way to solve that problem — when I got to the retreat that group of women welcomed me, included me and enveloped me in a joyful, fun time. They shared their stories with me, taught me some new games and made me feel at home. I came home from the retreat with new friends and the knowledge that I could now recognize several faces when I attended worship. I was no longer a stranger. If you are feeling like you don't know anyone, then the women's retreat is a perfect place to change that. Please, come join us!"* Registration forms are available for the Women's Retreat, February 23-24, 2007. Pick up a brochure in the Friendship Center this Sunday and make plans to join us. The deadline for registration is February 4<sup>th</sup>.



## Check Out the New CCC FORUM Online

A new online forum is available at <http://cccdisciples.informe.com> for Central members and friends. The forum is a web-based discussion and information-sharing place where you may connect with Central friends, discuss faith related issues, share prayer requests, find out about upcoming events, etc. Users must register by creating a username and password and entering an email address (you will NOT receive SPAM from the forum). Youth may also register and those thirteen and under will need a signed parental permission form provided by the forum before their username will be activated. The forum is monitored regularly for any inappropriate postings. Registered users may post topics, replies to other posts, participate in polls and join forum groups. Check out the site, register and join the discussions and sharing today. Contact **Pastor Robert** if you have questions or encounter any problems. Enjoy!



## SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2007

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

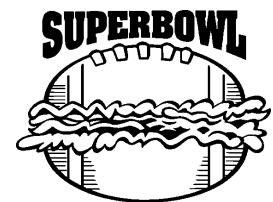
### God's Kind of Love

Text: I Corinthians 13:4-7

Charles Watkins

## Super Subs 2007

The Youth will be receiving orders for Super Bowl Subs again this Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Our foot-long Subs will sell for \$10 each on white or wheat bread with three meat choices and choice of toppings. Six-inch subs will be available for \$5. Order forms will be in the worship bulletin this week with delivery of our famous Subs on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. This annual youth fundraiser provides support for scholarships for programs such as Summer Mission Trip and activities.



## Evangelism Seeds

*"A soul is linked to a body. Evangelism is the same way. Sharing the mystery of God is a sacred gift contained in the practical structures of sermons and small groups, newcomers dinner parties and signs for the parking lots. The holy is encased in the pragmatic."*  
(from Unbinding the Gospel by Martha Grace Reese)



## Central Youth

**Winter Youth Party**  
**January 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**2-5 p.m.**

**Vine Street Christian Church,**  
**Arthur, IL**  
Youth grades 6-12. Camp reunion  
and rally for Church Camp 2007!

**February 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Sub Shop**

**10:30 a.m. - Noon**

We will assemble our famous  
Super Bowl Subs.

**Super Bowl Party**  
**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**5-8 p.m.**

Central Youth are invited to  
Pastor Robert's house for a  
Super Bowl Party. Bring snacks  
and goodies to share. Drinks will  
be provided. The game will be  
shown on an 8ft. x 8ft. screen.  
Check with Robert if you need  
directions or a ride.

**Coming Summer 2007**  
Camp Schedule is on  
the CCC FORUM

## Wisconsin Dells Trip

July 8-15

The Inn at Glacier Canyon  
Youth entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade -  
finishing 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Spend the week with your  
friends from Central!

Indoor/Outdoor Water Parks

Wisconsin DUKW Tours

And MUCH MORE!

Mark your Calendar Today!

## Charles's Column

Here's a cause that's not for everybody, but it's interesting to me. Last November after Church Council meeting, I made my way to the Decatur Public Library's Staley Conference Room for a meeting of the Local History Club of Decatur and Environs. The presenter that evening was David Kent Coy of Decatur whose most recent genealogical publication is *The Boy Preacher, Another Biography of Joseph Hostetler (1797-1870)*. I was interested that he cited as one of his primary research resources the web site of Central Christian Church where much of our congregational history written by **Al Johnson** and **Dennis Downey** appears online. A photograph of Pastor Hostetler which he circulated at the meeting was one which he downloaded from our web pages. You can also see the picture at two locations in our Heritage Center downstairs.

Joseph Hostetler came to Decatur in 1832 and organized what became our congregation in 1834, meeting for worship in the old log court house which stood on Lincoln Square and is now at the North Fork Historical Park of the Macon County Historical Society. He is the single individual most responsible for the founding of our church in Decatur. He was a farmer, a self-educated physician, and a spirited preacher of the "reformation" which took organizational shape the same year he arrived in Decatur on New Year's Day 1832 when Alexander Campbell's "Disciples," and Barton W. Stone's "Christians" joined hands and forces in Lexington, Kentucky, to become what we know today as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Dr. Hostetler donated two acres of land—a "hazel brush patch" (where the Orlando Apartments now stand at Main and Wood) on which our congregation's first meeting house was constructed. That twenty foot square log house of worship would now fit easily in the chancel of our sanctuary.

The founding pastor of our congregation left Decatur in 1836 to begin churches in Indiana and then returned to Central Illinois in 1861 where he died in Lovington in 1870.

David Kent Coy has located Dr. Hostetler's crumbling tombstone in the Keller Cemetery just south of Lovington. He is hoping that some of Dr. Hostetler's descendents and perhaps members of congregations he founded will join forces to erect a new monument for the grave of Joseph Hostetler.

As one of Elder Hostetler's successors in the pulpit of Central Christian Church, I want to support this project. If you have any interest in contributing to provide a new grave marker for Joseph Hostetler, you are welcome to join me. I will set up a Memorial Fund at Central where any interested member can contribute to this heritage project to honor the memory of the individual who founded our congregation. You can mark your check to Central Christian Church for "Hostetler Memorial Fund."

*Charles Watkins*

## Westminster Abbey at Central

Every British monarch since William the Conqueror in 1066 has been crowned in London's renowned Westminster Abbey. Next month James O'Donnell, the organist of that great church will appear in concert in our sanctuary on Sunday, February 18, at 4:30 p.m. A free-will offering will be received to assist with the expense of the concert. Be sure to invite your friends to attend the concert with you.

## News From the Pews....

Congratulations to **Mark & Monica Morris** of Tarpon Springs, FL on the January 13<sup>th</sup> birth of their daughter, **Mallory New**. Mallory is also welcomed home by her big sister, **Marina** and proud grandparents, **Phyllis & Carl Morris**.....and to **Kevin & Kim Miller** on the adoption of their daughter **Audrey Grace**, who was born January 16. Proud grandparents are **Suzie & Sam Miller**.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Rosie Doore** and family following the January 19<sup>th</sup> death of *Paul Anderson*.....and to the family and friends of *James Gentry* following his death on January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Birthday wishes to **Louise Armentrout**, who will be 95 on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Cards can be mailed to Louise at 3513 Gunnar Ct., Decatur, IL 62521.

## Thank You for Helping Raise Funds for DMH Family Lodge

Thank you for your donations of pop tabs. They are being collected for the DMH Family Lodge to make free housing possible for families with a family member in Decatur Memorial Hospital.

Tabs may be dropped off at Dove and pop cans go to Decatur Recycling, 1902 N. Water. Be sure to tell the people at Decatur Recycling that the cans are for DMH Family Lodge and they will keep track of the cash amount.

If you have any questions or need your tabs/cans picked up, call Jerry at 768-4536 or Don at 855-8291.

Thanks again, **Karen Browning**

Are you thinking about participating in the Mission Trip to New Orleans, March 10-18? Now is the time to get your registration form and deposit turned in! Forms are available in the Friendship Center!

## Hospitalized?

Whenever you enter any hospital, please phone the church so that ministers and elders can pray for you and visit you. New regulations to protect your privacy as a patient prohibit hospitals from notifying your pastors as they previously did. For the hospital to release this information requires your specific permission, and often your permission is never even requested, especially if you enter the hospital through the Emergency Room. Any time you are in the hospital more than forty-eight hours and no one from Central has visited you, you may be sure that the church does not know you are hospitalized. Help us provide good pastoral care!

## Counting On You

**January 21**

Worship Attendance ..... 241  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 49



## Sunday, January 28, 2007

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
Music: Offertory-Abigail Ackman, Flute;  
Marilyn Ward, Piano  
8:15 Anthem-Central Singers  
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Mary Jane Linton  
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.  
9:30-Sunday School  
11:15-Children's Worship, 250  
12:00-G.I.F.T. Group, Disciple Room  
2:00-5:00-Winter Youth Party, Vine  
Street Christian Church, Arthur, IL

## Monday (29)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall  
4:00-Aerobics, 290  
6:30-Bowling Banquet, Forsyth, IL

## Tuesday (30)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,  
Senior Pastor's Study  
4:00-Aerobics, 290  
5:30-Stephen Ministry Training, 290  
6:00-Shepherding Dept., Volunteer Rm.  
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room

## Wednesday (31)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280  
12:00-Central Singers  
1:00-4:00-Banner Committee, 207  
4:00-Aerobics, 290  
5:30-*Serving From the Heart* Study,  
Disciple Room

## Thursday (February 1)

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

## Friday (2)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall

## Saturday (3)

9:00-2:00-Emmaus Group, Great Hall,  
Kitchen, Sanctuary

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## Serving Schedule—January 28, 2007

### Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Mike Holbrook, Bruce Campbell

### Elders Serving Hospital Communion:

**St. Mary's Hospital:** Shirley Swarthout

**Decatur Memorial:** Kevin Wilmot

### Deacons:

8:15 - Team 1 - Gene Garver, Capt., Jared Carter, Bev Chapman, Merle Chapman, Jim DeZarn, Dennis Downey, Al Fagin, Chris Fagin, Sally Force, Sandy Garver, Dean Gray, Janet Gray, Joe Lewis, Brittney Munos, Gail Prince, Larry Prince, Dean Simcox, Sue Simcox

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, Erik Harm, Christine Lyman-Harm, Daniel Hinze, David Martin, Ernestine Mrozinski, Ron Oliver, Dave Phillips, Nita Phillips, Kelly Swallow, Steve Swarthout, Janet Thicksten, Larry Thicksten, Sally Thicksten, Kathy Thornton

### Ushers:

8:15 - Team 2 - Don Tankersley, Capt., Carl Boline, Frances Heiserman, Becky Johnston

10:45 - Team 7 - Karen McFadin, Chad McFadin, Jon French, Jane French, Clyde Booher

### Greeters:

8:15 - Bruce & Liz Campbell, Charlie & Nicole Ropp

10:45 - Ed & Jean Voice, Jeannie & Keith Backes

**Parish Nurse:** Mary Jane Linton

**Children's Worship:** Katie Powers

**Fellowship Coffee Hosts:** Bill & Mary Alice Rule

### Acolytes:

8:15 - Jarrett Bednar

10:45 - Jessica Brooks, Rachel Ash

### P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Jim Bednar

10:45 - Keith Backes

### Preparation of Communion:

Carole & Francis Songer, Bob & Phyllis Logan, Mary Waldmier

### Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - John Flanders

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Bruce Williams

10:45 service only - Richard Ward

### January 31 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Marge Karl

### Hosts:

Jan. 29 9:00-12:30 - Dorothy Keck

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

Jan. 30 9:00-12:30 - Darla Lienemann

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

Jan. 31 9:00-12:30 - Maxine Koenig

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

Feb. 1 9:00-12:30 - Shirlee Johnson

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

Feb. 2 9:00-12:30 - Bonnie Sauer

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

**Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
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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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