



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

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No. 5



Hear James O'Donnell

James O'Donnell is Organist and Master of the Choristers of renowned Westminster Abbey, and he will travel from London to play the sanctuary organ at Central on Sunday, February 28, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. A free-will offering will be received to help with the expenses of this concert.

James O'Donnell served for five years as Assistant Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral (Roman Catholic) before he was

appointed Master of Music at age 26. Under his leadership the cathedral choir consolidated its reputation as one of the finest choirs of its type in the world.

In January 2000 Mr. O'Donnell was appointed by Her Majesty Elizabeth II to direct the entire music program at Westminster Abbey and play the organ. He is also Visiting Professor of Organ at the Royal Academy of Music. Don't miss this concert!

Join us For Ladies Night Out!

Valentines Day may be February 14th but save Tuesday, February 13th 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.

Last Chance to Register for Central's Woman Retreat

This coming Sunday is the registration deadline for our Women's Retreat, February 23-24 at Camp One-Way (near Niantic). Central women and friends are invited to join us for a blissful 24 hours of rest, relaxation, study and inspiration. Our retreat leader will be Sylvia Mill 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 retreat is \$75, which includes all meals, lodging and program expense. Scholarship assistance is also available. Registration forms are in the Friendship Center. We hope you are planning to join us February 23-24!



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2007

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

Let Down the Nets

Text: Luke 5:1-11

Charles Watkins

Interested in participating in the Mission Trip to New Orleans?

If you are thinking about joining us for the March 10-18 mission trip to New Orleans, please let **Pastor Gretchen** know this week, either by calling the church office at 428-4336 or e-mailing her at gbarron@cccdisciples.org. We will have a meeting soon of all interested folks. Registration and information packs are available for both of the 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. (Scholarship will be available.) You will also be responsible for purchasing your own meals during travel. Plan now to participate in this life-changing experience!





Central Youth

February 3rd

Sub Shop

10:30 a.m.-Noon

All Youth are needed to help assemble our famous Super Bowl Subs.

Super Bowl Party
Sunday, February 4th
5-8 p.m.

Central Youth are invited to Pastor Robert's house for our annual 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.

Sunday, February 11th
Central Youth Grades 3-5
& 6-12
Bowling at Spare Times
Lanes.

Coming Summer 2007
Camp Schedule is on the CCC
FORUM

Wisconsin Dells Trip
July 8-15
The Inn at Glacier Canyon
Youth entering 6th grade
- finishing 12th 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

The bitter cold this week reminds us that life is truly fragile, that there is so much we cannot control at all, and that we depend on people whom we never meet to survive the winter.

When we get into the car to go about ordinary business, we have to give some thought to the real possibilities that we may need blankets, boots, and emergency provisions. I am still carrying a snow shovel in my back seat even though the snow falling on my way to church this morning was just a flurry. I notice that at this age, I am much more conscious of all that can go wrong just pursuing routine obligations and errands. I am not sure if it is experience that makes me want to be fully prepared for unexpected emergencies or the realization that I am not able to be in charge of circumstances around me.

There is so much beyond our control on these cold days. Besides the wind and the temperature, we cannot be sure how our furnaces and automobiles will respond in these extremes. This morning I received word from one of Central's excellent caretakers that there is a little trickle of water leaking from high up on the hidden side of Central's half century old boiler. No, it has nothing to do with last year's successful repairs around the bottom of the boiler, and it's not yet clear whether we have a big problem or a little problem. But just shutting down the boiler for repair in these temperatures puts a half dozen programs and much of our facility at risk. We really can't do without heat at the church for just one day when it is this cold. We have all been recently reminded what ice and wind can do in a single night and how dependent we are on having electricity.

And that reminds us of all those who work hard every day so that we have what we need to live and function in the depth of winter. We may not know personally one of those who generate power and maintain distribution systems and get food to the local markets. But we do know that if they did not do their jobs, our comfort and even survival could be called into question in just hours.

So I am feeling mortal and dependent these days. But I also notice that it is not dark when I drive home from work now, and that with February arriving this week, we have more than a third of winter behind us. Lent and Easter planning is already underway, and our poor shattered trees will begin to leaf out in several weeks. I am astonished at how faithful you have been to be in worship during this terrible weather. You, like the lengthening of daylight hours each day, are a bright source of warmth and hope in my life this winter.

Charles Watkins

Chancel Bell Ringers Needed

We are looking for people interested in handbell ringing to join **Chancel Bells** for the next session. We meet on **Thursday evenings from 5:45 to 6:45 in the choir room**. This session will begin on February 8 and continue to Palm Sunday and Easter. Prior experience is not required. The ability to count is helpful. Please contact **Don Martin** if you are interested in ringing bells with us.

News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Ed & Florence Cahan** and family following the January 20th death of her niece, *Carol Ivey* in Texas.



Bowling League Celebrates Sixth Season

The Central Monday Night Mixed League concluded the regular season and enjoyed our sixth League Awards Banquet on Monday, January 29th at the Forsyth Community Center.

The Spare Parts (**Judy Ford, Kelly Swallow** and **Robert Bushey**) were awarded First Place at the banquet, the Fools (**Brittney Munos, Sean Beal** and **David Martin**) finished in second place, and the Tootsie Rollers (**Ed & Lucy Acheson** and **Mark Beal**) tied with the Three T's (**Lawrence Thicksten, David Thicksten** and **Theresa Fulk**) finished in third place. **Bob Logan** swept the Men's High Scores with an average of 193, a high game of 267 and a high series of 680. **Judy Ford** was awarded the Women's High average of 145 and **Kelly Swallow** awarded the Women's High game of 200 and high series of 526. **Mark Linton** claimed the trophy for the 9 pin no-tap tourney overall high game with a perfect 300 score!



Congratulations to all of our bowlers for another great season of fellowship and fun competition! Thank you to **Ron Oliver** and **Bob Logan** for serving as league secretaries for the 2006-2007 season. The league looks forward to resuming play in September.

Note of Thanks Received

We want to express our thanks to our church family for all the prayers and support extended on Kent's behalf. It is such a comfort to be part of such a loving and caring church.

Sincerely, **Clyde & Jean Booher**

FunTimer's, Mark Your Calendars!

FunTimer's, that fun-loving group of folks at least 55 years young, will want to mark their calendars for our next outing to the Sullivan Little Theater on Friday, March 23rd. We will enjoy a delightful afternoon celebration of some of the best songs of the Twentieth century in the show Some Enchanted Evening: The Songs of Rodgers and Hammerstein. Save the date and save your pennies! Sign-ups will begin in February!

Evangelism Seeds

"If faith and church have changed your life, you'll want others to understand that there is no sin, no resentment, no bitterness, no wound, no fear, no illness, no loneliness that Christ cannot forgive, dissolve, heal, cure, fill. You'll want everyone to know that the God of infinity is there to lead them by the hand into forever. Nothing is more real than this good news." From Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism by Martha Grace Reese.



Sunday, February 4, 2007

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-John Baird, Piano;
Leslie Peart, Organ
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Lucy Acheson
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
5:00-Youth Super Bowl Party,
Robert & Teri Bushey's house

Monday (5)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics,
Great Hall/Heritage Center
6:30-C.A.C.S. Dept., Disciple Room

Tuesday (6)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,
Senior Pastor's Study
12:00-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room
5:30-Stephen Ministry Training, 290
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room
7:00-Beta Sigma Phi, 207

Wednesday (7)

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

Thursday (8)

10:00-Alanon, 212
4:00-Baby Talk Family Fun Night,
Disciple Room
5:45-Chancel Bells
6:30-CIOP Meeting, Great Hall
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (9)

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

Saturday (10)

7:30-Elders' Breakfast, Disciple Room

Counting On You

January 28

Worship Attendance 312
Sunday School Attendance 72

Serving Schedule—February 4, 2007

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Larry Otis, Chris Fagin

Elder Serving Imboden Creek Living Center: Julie Martin

Deacons:

8:15 - Team 3 - Mike Holbrook, Capt., Charlotte Ballance, Jarrett Bednar, Jane Davis, Andy Fulk, Theresa Fulk, Sherri Hood, Bob Keller, Karen Keller, Shelby Larrick, Charlie Ropp, Nicole Ropp, Debbie Seaberg, Connie Shields, David Shields, Max Sperry

10:45 - Team 4 - Kevin Otis, Capt., Ed Acheson, Lucy Acheson, Jeannie Backes, Jordan Backes, Louise Boline, Mary Boyle, Shirley Brooks, Jon French, Melinda Hawbaker, Scott Hawbaker, Dee Hill, Karen McFadin, David Miller, Katie Miller, Janice Mitchell, Alex Otis, Bryan Rutherford, Gary Rutherford, Roger Rutherford, Doug Soebbing, Donna Strong

Ushers:

8:15 - Team 3 - Dennis Downey, Capt., Debbie Downey, Kim Downey, Ryan Downey, Tina Canfield, Paula Hovey

10:45 - Team 8 - Dean Hadden, Doug Soebbing, Donna Strong

Greeters:

8:15 - Virginia Griffith, Becky Johnston, Dean & Sue Simcox
10:45 - Bruce & Felicity Williams

Parish Nurse: Lucy Acheson

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Penny & Gary Rutherford

Acolytes:

8:15 - Brad Munos

10:45 - Andrew Otis

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash

10:45 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

Suzie Miller, Jim & Myra Hinze, Mark & Nancy McAfee

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Kevin Wilmot

10:45 service only - Brett Swallow

February 7 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Help Needed

Hosts:

Feb. 5 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman

12:30-4:00 - Florence Bolin

Feb. 6 9:00-12:30 - Charlotte Lyon

12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford

Feb. 7 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith

12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

Feb. 8 9:00-12:30 - Gail Prince

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

Feb. 9 9:00-12:30 - Harold & Bess King

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, 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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