



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

Decatur, Illinois, February 14, 2007

No. 7

## Concert This Sunday

The most prestigious post in the world of church organists is almost certainly the position as Organist and Director of Choristers at Westminster Abbey where every British monarch has been crowned since William the Conqueror in 1066. The concert artist who holds this eminent position is James O'Donnell who will perform on the John and Margaret Diller Memorial Organ in our church sanctuary this Sunday afternoon, February 18, at 4:30 p.m. A free-will offering will be received during this concert to help with the cost of this exciting event.



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2007**

**WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45**

**Transfigured**

Text: Luke 9:28-43a

Charles Watkins

## You Are Invited to an Awards Dinner Honoring Roy O. Schilling

Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, the Decatur Breakfast Club and the Sertoma Club of Decatur are presenting the *Service to Mankind Award* to **Roy Schilling** at a dinner in his honor in the Great Hall at Central Christian Church. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:00 p.m. This event is open to the public and is \$15 per person. Call in your reservations to Bill Haebich, 877-6679 by February 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Registration Deadline for the March Mission Trip is This Week!

We are rapidly coming to the time when we need to let officials in Indianapolis and New Orleans know how many will be participating in the mission trip on March 10-18th. If you are thinking about going or planning on going and have not yet turned in your registration form, **PLEASE DO SO BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16!** An informational/planning meeting is scheduled for all registered participants on Thursday, February 22 at 6 p.m. in the Parlor. If you have questions, please contact **Pastor Gretchen** at the church office at 428-4336 or e-mail her at [gbarron@cccdisciples.org](mailto:gbarron@cccdisciples.org). Registration and information packs are available for this trip and the one to Slidell, LA (June 23-July 1) in the Friendship Center. 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 are available. You will also need to purchase your own meals during travel times. Let us know **THIS WEEK** if you are able to participate in the March trip!

## Ash Wednesday Service

Ash Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, begins the holy season of Lent with its forty days of preparation for Easter. An opportunity to begin the Lenten season with individual meditation, prayer, communion, and ashes will be offered in the sanctuary from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Resources for meditation and prayer will be available as you enter the sanctuary and as you are ready, you may come up to the Lord's Table to receive communion and you may choose to receive the sign of the cross in ashes on your forehead. A more structured, liturgical service will be led from 5:30-6:15 with a final opportunity at the end to come forward to receive communion and ashes. Childcare for young children will be provided during the 5:30 service.

## Ladies Night Out Rescheduled!

Due to this week's blizzard, Ladies Night Out has been rescheduled for next Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Join us 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! Laughter and door prizes guaranteed! Sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center.

## Central Youth

**Sunday, February 18th**  
1-3 p.m.  
**Ice Skating**  
**Grades 3-12**

Meet at the Decatur Civic Center for Ice Skating. Bring \$4 admission and \$1.50 for skates if you need them.

**Sunday, February 25th**  
3-5:30p.m.  
**Grades 3-12**

**Game Night at the Church**  
Join a chess match, 9-ball pool game, or ping pong game. Bring a friend. We will serve pizza. Bring 50cents for soda.

**Remember to check out**  
**the CCC FORUM**  
**for Coming Events**  
**& Announcements**

**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!

## Public Education Forum, March 4

The Peace & Justice Task Force invites you to attend a panel discussion and forum addressing the current challenges facing public education on Sunday, March 4 from 4-6 p.m. in the Great Hall. We have invited a panel of Central members who are currently involved in public education in a variety of roles, from superintendent to student, to share their thoughts. After their brief presentations we will open the floor for a moderated discussion. Join us as we begin an honest conversation about the challenges facing our education system.

## Charles's Column

Early in this year, let's review what we're about, what are the vision, mission, imperative, and covenant that guide our denomination and its congregations.

### **The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

**In our quest to embody Christian unity, led and empowered by the Holy spirit, we believe God calls us:**

#### **OUR VISION**

**To be a faithful growing church, that demonstrates true community, deep spirituality and a passion for justice. (Micah 6:8)**

#### **OUR MISSION**

**To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving, and serving from our doorsteps "to the ends of the earth."**

(Acts 1:8)

#### **OUR IMPERATIVE**

**To strengthen congregational life for this mission**

(Ephesians 4:11-13, 15-16)

To accomplish this, we shall

- Become the Good News
  - Nurturing faith
  - Practicing and teaching the spiritual disciplines
  - Fostering Disciples identity
  - Renewing congregational life
  - Developing leaders
- Share the Good News
  - Emphasizing ministry with children, youth, young adults and families
  - Doing evangelism
  - Establishing new congregations
  - Creating ministries with older adults
- Serve from "our doorsteps to the ends of the earth"
  - Engaging in ministries of reconciliation, compassion, unity and justice

#### **OUR COVENANT**

**In accepting our Vision, Mission and Imperative, we affirm our need to:**

- be an anti-racist/pro-reconciliation church
- strengthen relationships among all manifestations of the church
- share mutually and more fully the stewardship of God's gifts of our life in Christ encourage our growing diversity within our church family and community
  - work with our many ecumenical and global partners to heal the brokenness of the body of Christ and the human community.

Adopted by the General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
July 2000

## One Church One School Ministry Volunteers Needed

Central's ministry in partnership with Prairie Avenue Christian Church and Hope Academy Accelerated School continues to grow. Currently, nine volunteers serve as mentor-tutors for students in Kindergarten through Eighth grade. If you have some free time between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., you may be a great help to the school as we work to help each student reach their full potential and achieve at their ability. Contact **Pastor Robert** if you are interested in volunteering.

## News From the Pews....

Congratulations to **Shane & Rene Garver** on the birth of their twins, **Peyton Edward** and **Paige Rene**. The babies were born on their late great-grandmother **Elsie Garver's** birthday, February 6. Proud grandparents are **Gene & Sandy Garver**.....and to **Crystal Thicksten** and **Tony Reider** of Shelbyville on the February 2<sup>nd</sup> birth of their son Tony James Nelson Reider. Big sisters are **Allyson Thicksten** and **Alisha Reider**. Grandfather is **David Thicksten**; great-grandparents are **Lawrence & Sally Thicksten**. "T.J." arrived on Grandma Sally's birthday!

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of **Shamari Fluker** (Hope Academy 5<sup>th</sup> grader) who died February 8 after a lengthy battle with cancer.....to **Ski Mrozinski** and family following the sudden death of his wife **Ernestine Mrozinski** on February 13.

## Note of Thanks Received

We would like to thank everyone for their prayers of healing for Christopher.

His ankle is progressing nicely and he hopes to be weight bearing by the end of March.

**Connie Bordner, Christopher & Family**

## FunTimers, Mark Your Calendars!

FunTimers, that fun-loving group of folks at least 55 years young, are now able to sign-up to attend our day trip to The Little Theater on the Square in Sullivan on Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will leave from the church at 11:30 and enjoy lunch at the Old School Market in Sullivan before taking our seats to enjoy a delightful afternoon of Rodgers and Hammerstein classics in "Some Enchanted Evening". Enjoy over 46 of the best loved songs from *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I*, *Oklahoma!*, *Carousel*, *South Pacific* and *State Fair*. Tickets are \$23 each and you must register and pay in advance. A sign up sheet is in the Friendship Center or you may call the church office at 428-4336. We should arrive back in Decatur around 5 p.m.

## Public Education Forum – March 4th

Supporting the availability of quality education for all children has always been one of the values of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The Peace & Justice Task Force invites you to attend a panel discussion and forum addressing the current challenges facing public education on Sunday, March 4 from 4-6 p.m. in the Great Hall. We have invited a panel of Central members who are currently involved in public education in a variety of roles, from superintendent to student, to share their thoughts. After their brief presentations we will open the floor for a moderated discussion. Join us as we begin an honest conversation about the challenges facing our education system.

## Central Young Adults Begin Winter/Spring Session

Our Young Adult group (18 yrs. – 30 Something) have begun meeting weekly on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8 p.m. at Robert & Teri Bushey's home. Our gatherings include finger foods, beverages, engaging discussion and lots of laughter. We respect busy schedules and understand that you may not be able to attend every week so, don't let that keep you from attending when you are able. If you have questions, contact **Pastor Robert**.



## Sunday, February 18, 2007

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
9:00-10:15-Parish Nurse Jane Latshaw  
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.  
9:30-Sunday School  
11:15-Children's Worship, 250  
4:30-**James O'Donnell Concert**,  
Sanctuary

## Monday (19)

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

## Tuesday (20)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,  
Senior Pastor's Study  
5:30-Stewardship Dept., Disciple Room  
5:30-Stephen Ministry Training, 290  
6:00-Ladies Night Out, Pastabilities  
6:30-Young Adults, Bushey's house  
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room  
6:30-Preschool Parent Meeting,  
Great Hall

## Wednesday (21)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 280  
12:00-Central Singers  
1:00-4:00-Banner Committee, 207  
4:30-5:30-Ash Wednesday Meditation  
5:30-Ash Wednesday Service  
6:15-Serving From the Heart Study,  
Disciple Room  
7:00-Peace & Justice Meeting

## Thursday (22)

10:00-Alanon, 212  
5:45-Chancel Bells  
6:00-Mission Trip Meeting, Parlor  
6:30-Christian Education Dept.,  
Disciple Room  
7:00-Chancel Choir

## Friday (23)

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

## Saturday (24)

5:30-Roy Schilling Reception  
6:00-Sertoma Awards Dinner for  
Roy Schilling, Great Hall

**Serving Schedule—February 18, 2007**

**Elders:**

8:15 & 10:45 - Tom Spry, Mary Jane Oliver

**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 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Ruby Agnew, Willie Birkhead, Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos

10:45 - Team 10 - Bill Blank, Marilyn Blank, Bob Harmon, Billie Harmon

**Greeters:**

8:15 - Norma Mason, Barbara Beyer, Steve & Juanita Ballance

10:45 - Barb Tyler, Claudia Curry, Brett, Kelly, Ashley Swallow

**Fellowship Coffee Hosts:** Mike & Gerri Munos Family

**Parish Nurse:** Jane Latshaw

**Acolytes:**

8:15 - Sam Funk

10:45 - Avery Martin

**P.A. Operator:**

8:15 & 10:45 - Greg Carter

**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 - Doug Soebbing

10:45 service only - Karen Baird

**February 21 Visitor Mailing Crew:**

Marge Karl

**Hosts:**

Feb. 19 9:00-12:30 - Judy Ford

12:30-4:00 - Dee Hill

Feb. 20 9:00-12:30 - Barbara Beyer

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

Feb. 21 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman

12:30-4:00 - Sally Thicksten

Feb. 22 9:00-12:30 - Evelyn Sperry

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

Feb. 23 9:00-12:30 - Yvonne Purcell

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 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

The Central Visitor (USPS 098-520) is published weekly by Central Christian Church, 650 W. William, Decatur, IL 62522. Periodical Postage paid at Decatur, IL.  
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Central Visitor, 650 W. William St., Decatur, IL 62522.

**Counting On You**

**February 11**

Worship Attendance ..... 216  
 Sunday School Attendance ..... 71



**Central Christian Church**  
**(Disciples of Christ)**  
 650 West William Street  
 Decatur, IL 62522-2326

PERIODICAL  
 POSTAGE  
 PAID

