



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

Decatur, Illinois, February 21, 2007

No. 8

Forum on Education – March 4th

The Peace & Justice Task Force invites you to attend a panel discussion and forum addressing the current challenges facing public education on Sunday, March 4th from 4-6 p.m. in the Great Hall. We have invited a panel of Central members who are currently involved 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.

ISAT Proctors Needed

Volunteers are needed to help out during the Illinois Standardized Achievement Test days at Hope Academy the week of March 12th. The ISAT tests allow accommodations for students with special needs to be aided by a trained proctor. Volunteers will be able to simply read a math problem to a student or have a student read out loud to them. We hope to provide several volunteer proctors during ISAT week, March 12-16. A brief training (30 minutes) will be provided by the school principal on March 6th at 4 p.m. at the school. If you have some free time between 9:30 a.m. and noon, 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.

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. Contact **Pastor Robert** if you are interested in volunteering to proctor or as one of our One Church One School Volunteers.

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 23rd. 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 return to Decatur around 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2007

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

Pray Then Like This

Text: Matthew 6:5-10

Charles Watkins



Lenten Sermon Series

We begin the season of Lent with a two-part sermon series on The Lord's Prayer. The first sermon on February 25 will focus on Matthew 6:5-10 with **Charles Watkins**. The second sermon on March 4 will focus on Matthew 6:11-15 with **Robert Bushey**. Come and consider in greater depth the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray whenever we gather.

The Sunday Lunch Bunch Debuts March 4th!

The Shepherding Department is hosting a new gathering opportunity on Sunday, March 4th. The Sunday Lunch Bunch will meet periodically following the second church service to enjoy lunch at an area restaurant. March 4th we will dine at Tuscany, 1099 West Wood Street. Make plans now to join many of your church family for lunch and fellowship on March 4th and don't forget to sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center!



Central Youth

**Sunday, February 25th
3-5 p.m.**

Central Youth

Grades 3-5 & 6-12

Join a chess match, 9-ball game, or Ping Pong game!
PIZZA will be served! Bring soda to share and a friend!

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

Summer Camp

**Genesis Camp Grades 2-3
June 4-6**

**Koinonia Camp Grades 3-8
June 25-June 30**

**ADDaM Camp Grades 8-12
June 24-July 2**

**Shalom Camp Grades 9-12
June 11-16**

Grades listed reflect current school year.

**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

This week as we mourn the death of *Ernestine Mrozinski* and celebrate her life, we recognize her long, strong commitment to the mission of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and service to the world. Ernestine was serving her second term as Secretary of our Church Council, ChristCare Leader of Central's ChristCare Stitchers, and previously served as President of the Congregation, Chair of World Outreach, and Vice-President for Mission and Service. In every role of service among us, she championed outreach giving, commitment to mission, and devotion to Christian service.

To honor her memory, let us remind ourselves of our congregation's mission:

The mission of Central Christian Church is to love God and through Christ serve others. This mission finds expression in deepening our spirituality, developing our capacity to serve, and reflecting the diversity of God's creation.

We believe that God is calling us to:

- ♦ **Deepen** the spiritual life and promote the intergenerational spiritual growth of our congregation.
- ♦ **Discover** ways to attract young families and encourage their fuller participation.
- ♦ **Diversify** our congregation by finding ways to meet the spiritual needs of all racial, socio-economic, and generational groups.
- ♦ **Develop**, strengthen, and support our youth ministry.
- ♦ **Demonstrate** good stewardship using our time, talent, facilities and our human, material, and financial resources.

adopted by the Congregation December 29, 2002

Chancel Choir Summer Tour

You are invited to join the Chancel Choir on their tour this summer. You may wish to join as a singer or as a non-singer. **The tour will begin on Saturday June 9 and conclude on Sunday June 17.** We will make stops at Woodhaven in Columbia, MO.; Country Club Christian Church, Kansas City; Augusta Christian Church; First Christian Church, Colorado Springs; Aspen Chapel; Evergreen Retreat Center and Evergreen Christian Church just outside of Denver; and Altoona Christian Church, Altoona, IA. There will be time for sightseeing, entertainment, a work project and lots of time on the bus for good conversation and fun. If you are interested please contact the tour committee members **Shirley Swarthout, Karen Driver, Connie Bordner, Bob Smith and John Baird or Don Martin.**

News From the Pews.....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of *Edith Fuqua*, who died on February 18.

Thank You, ChristCare Stitchers

Our family was recently blessed with beautiful twins, who now grow stronger each day they spend in Springfield's St. John's Hospital Neo-Natal Unit. Imagine how proud we were when we noticed that the babies' cuddly isolette blankets were made by the ChristCare Stitchers right here at Central. We sincerely thank all those involved in making the blankets that provide both physical and spiritual warmth for our special babies.

Rene, Shane, Sandy & Gene Garver

World Day of Prayer - March 2

Women and men in more than 170 countries and regions will celebrate World Day of Prayer on March 2. Local Decatur Church Women United will hold the service at the Church of the Brethren, 1306 N. Warren at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 2. *United Under God's Tent* is the theme used by women of Paraguay for the prayer service. For Abraham and Sarah, God was like a tent, protecting them in their call. It is also God's promise to us, and a call to work and to prayer together for people in need all over the world.

Note of Thanks Received

Wendy & Anh Jalley (Wendy is a Central Christian Preschool Teacher) would very much like to thank everyone for the prayers for Wendy's nephews, Noah Michael Tohill and Nathaniel James Tohill, who entered this world a few months too early. We regret to inform you that Noah Michael has left this earth and is now with the Lord.

Your continued prayers would be appreciated for the Ed Tohill family, especially for Noah's brother Nathaniel who is still in the Overland Park Neo-natal Intensive Care Unit, but getting stronger with every passing day. Thank you again for your continued prayers and God bless.

Evangelism Seeds

"Once you have a rich faith life and a healthy church, your questions shift from, "Why would I do evangelism?" to, "Oh, Lord, how can I help people see your face? Show me today, lead me to the ones you can reach through me. Let me be part of what you want to do next."

From *Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism* by Martha Grace Reese



Sunday, February 25, 2007

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: 8:15 Offertory-Central Singers
10:45 Offertory-Woodwinds
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-New Member Dinner, Great Hall
3:00-5:30-Youth Game Night

Monday (26)

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

Tuesday (27)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,
Senior Pastor's Study
5:00-Preschool CPR, 280
5:30-Property Dept., Disciple Room
5:30-Stephen Ministry Training, 290
6:30-Young Adults, Bushey's house
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room
7:00-Dorcas, Mary Jane Linton's

Wednesday (28)

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

Thursday (March 1)

10:00-Alanon, 212
4:30-Evangelism Dept., Volunteer Room
5:45-Chancel Bells
6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (2)

8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics,
Great Hall/Heritage Center
10:30-Dove Court Watch Project,
Disciple Room

Counting On You

February 18

Worship Attendance269
Sunday School Attendance 75

Serving Schedule—February 25, 2007

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Jan Baird, Mark Beal

Elders Serving Hospital Communion:

St. Mary's Hospital: Brett Swallow

Decatur Memorial: Carol Graham

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, Ron Oliver, Dave Phillips, Nita Phillips, Kelly Swallow, Steve Swarouth, Janet Thicksten, Larry Thicksten, Sally Thicksten, Kathy Thornton

Ushers:

8:15 - Team 1 - Charlotte Ballance, Jim Bednar, Pamela Bednar, Jarrett Bednar, Bill Fogerson, Nicole Ropp

10:45 - Team 6 - Maxine Koenig, Betty Chapman, Larry Chapman, Mark Beal, Katie Beal, Kaylene Beal, Sean Beal

Greeters:

8:15 - Betty Cox, Betty Ann Roe, Gene & Sandy Garver

10:45 - Glen & Jody Featherstun, David & Katie Miller

Parish Nurse: Mary Jane Linton

Acolytes:

8:15 - Jarrett Bednar

10:45 - Joshua Bushey

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 - John Flanders

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Keith Backes

10:45 service only - Richard Ward

February 28 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Marge Karl

Hosts:

Feb. 26 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*

12:30-4:00 - Ken Davis

Feb. 27 9:00-12:30 - Barb Flanders

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

Feb. 28 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith

12:30-4:00 - Ruby Agnew

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

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

Mar. 2 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 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.



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

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID

