



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

Decatur, Illinois, February 28, 2007

No. 9



Lenten Devotional Booklets

At the Ash Wednesday Service, the Worship Department provided complimentary copies of *Fellowship of Prayer*, our denomination's collection of daily meditations for Lent by Tom Bandy. Additional copies are now available for you on the devotional table in the narthex.

Benefit Concert

Westminster Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a concert to benefit Habitat for Humanity on March 11, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at Westminster featuring contemporary Christian vocalist **Mark Harris**. All proceeds from the concert go to the local affiliate of Habitat. Tickets are \$10 each. Call Westminster Presbyterian (217) 428-6603.

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 mins) 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, MARCH 4, 2007
WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45
Debts, Sins & Trespasses?

Text: Matthew 6:11-15
Robert Bushey

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.**

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, newcomer's dinner parties and signs for the parking lots. The holy is encased in the pragmatic."

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



Central Youth

Sunday, March 4th
2-5 p.m.

Central Youth Grades 3-5
& 6-8

Storyteller's Theatre's
Production of Thumbelina
Decatur Civic Center Theatre
\$5 per person

Remember to Check out
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!

Robert's Reflections

The successes and failures of our public education system have been in the news headlines both locally and nationally often during the past several years. Debates have raged over topics like No Child Left Behind legislation, school violence, vouchers, boundaries, funding reform, dropout prevention, consolidation, teacher contracts, parental involvement, curriculum reform models, standardized testing and the list could probably fill the rest of this page at least. While not one of us can honestly say that we have all of the answers to the challenges that face our schools, all of us can engage in healthy and honest dialogue as we collectively search for the answers to the growing set of questions about education in our community. After all, as a community we desire quality educational opportunities that assist our youth to reach their full potential as productive citizens, caring parents and skilled leaders of the future.

The Peace & Justice Task Force has organized an opportunity for our congregation to share in an honest and healthy conversation about our schools to be held on Sunday, March 4th from 4-6 p.m. 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. Our panel includes:

Wayne Honeycutt – Superintendent of Sangamon Valley School District

Linda Zinn – Principal of South Shores Elementary School

Nancy McAfee – Elementary Teacher at Hope Academy Accelerated School

Angelique Morgason – Middle School Teacher at Stephen Decatur Middle School

Dennis Downey – Student Teacher Supervisor & Retired High School Teacher

Jared Carter – Senior Student at MacArthur High School

After brief presentations from our panel, sharing what they perceive are the greatest challenges facing public education today, we will open the floor for a moderated discussion. I hope you will join in this time of conversation.

Sunday morning, we will conclude our sermon series on The Lord's Prayer. Through this famous prayer, Jesus taught his closest followers how to develop an honest and healthy conversation with the Almighty God. I do hope that you will join us as we continue our Lenten journey together.

Peace & Joy,
Robert

Pastors' Class for Baptism & Church Membership

The 2007 Pastors' Class for Baptism and Church Membership, for youth 6th grade and up, will meet in March. Three two-hour sessions have been scheduled:

10 a.m.-Noon on Saturday, March 10th – *The Word of Life*

3:00-5 p.m. on Sunday, March 18th – *Who Are the Disciples?*

10 a.m.-Noon on Saturday, March 31st – *Living Our Faith*

The class taught by our pastors will be held in Room 290 (Nichols Education Wing). Baptisms for those participating will be scheduled for Easter Sunday. If you have not received information in the mail and you are interested in participating, please contact **Pastor Robert** at 428-4336 or rbushey@cccdisciples.org as soon as possible.

News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Dorothy Keck** and family following the February 22nd death of her sister-in-law, *Edna Keck Barth* (92) of California.

Notes of Thanks Received

We would like to thank the ministers and all our Central family for your continued prayers and support.

Bob & Phyllis Logan

Dear Central Friends,

Thank you so much for all the lovely cards celebrating my birthday. I truly enjoyed them all.

Louise Armentrout

To Shirley Swarhout and members of the choir who served the delicious Sertoma Club dinner, Neil Baird, John McClarey, custodians, secretaries, and all who attended the dinner and program, I extend my humble and sincere thanks for providing me with such a pleasant evening.

Roy O. Schilling

Dear Family at Central Christian Church,

We thank you for sharing your sympathies at this time of our great loss.

Thank you for the wonderful service, the lovely cards, beautiful flowers, generous donations and delicious food. And most of all, thank you each and every one for sharing in our mother's life. She loved you all so dearly.

Many blessings to you.

The Mrozinski Family



Twenty-four participated in last week's 3rd Annual Central Women's Retreat at Camp One-Way near Mt. Auburn! It was a time of refreshment and renewal for all. More photos will be posted on Central's website soon at www.cccdisciples.org.

Counting On You

February 25

Worship Attendance 301
Sunday School Attendance 75



Sunday, March 4, 2007

- 8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
- Music: Offertory-Jan Baird & Lucien Smith; John Baird, Piano
- 10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir; Karen Driver, Soprano; Janice Mitchell, Piano
- 9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Jane Latshaw
- 9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
- 9:30-Sunday School
- 12:15-Sunday Lunch Bunch, Tuscany
- 2:00-Youth to Storyteller Theatre
- 4:00-Peace & Justice Education Discussion, Great Hall

Monday (5)

- 8:00-Wellness Walk/Light Aerobics, Great Hall/Heritage Center
- 4:00-Aerobics, 290
- 6:00-Mission Trip Meeting, Parlor
- 6:30-MCCOCP, Disciple Room

Tuesday (6)

- 9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
- 10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
- 12:00-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room
- 4:00-Aerobics, 290
- 5:30-Stephen Ministry Training, 290
- 6:30-Young Adults, Bushey's house
- 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-Banner Committee, 280
- 4:00-Aerobics, 290
- 5:30-*Serving From the Heart*, Disciple Room

Thursday (8)

- 10:00-Alanon, 212
- 4:00-Aerobics, 290
- 5:30-Fellowship Dept., Disciple Room
- 5:45-Chancel Bells
- 6:30-CIOP, 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

Serving Schedule—March 4, 2007

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Kevin Wilmot, Barb Tyler

Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Mike Holbrook, Wayne Honeycutt

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 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 - Al & Chris Fagin, Bill & Mary Alice Rule

10:45 - John & Carol Graham, Dan & Nedra Brintlinger

Parish Nurse: Jane Latshaw

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Don & Brenda Tankersley

Acolytes:

8:15 - Brad Munos

10:45 - Jessica Brooks, Rachel Ash

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Greg Carter

10:45 - Keith Backes

Preparation of Communion:

Becky & John Flanders, Pamela Bednar, David Flanders, Joan Stewart

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Ed Adams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Kevin Wilmot

10:45 service only - Brett Swallow

March 7 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Janet Gray

Hosts:

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

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

Mar. 6 9:00-12:30 - Darla Lienemann

12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford

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

12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

Mar. 8 9:00-12:30 - Pat Ash

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

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

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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