



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

Decatur, Illinois, April 25, 2007

No. 17

Ladies Night Out April 30th

Women and friends of Central are invited to join together for Ladies Night Out on Monday, April 30th at 6:30 p.m. We'll gather at Ruby Tuesday's (4405 E. Route 36) for a wonderful evening of fun, fellowship, great food, door prizes and laughter! You may order off the menu and will have separate checks. Dinner items average \$10-15 and a 15% gratuity will be added. Bring your grown daughter, mother or friend for a great evening out. You may sign up at the Women's Ministry table in the Friendship Center this Sunday or call the church office so we can confirm our reservation! See you on April 30th!

Tickets on Sale Now for the Sarah's Daughter's Banquet

Our 9th Annual Sarah's Daughter's Banquet will be Friday, May 11th at 6:30 p.m. You will want to be there for an evening packed with great food, fellowship and wonderful music from *4 Crying Out Loud*, a quarter from the Decatur Chordsmen. The \$6 tickets (\$3 for children ages 2-10) will be on sale this Sunday in the Friendship Center or through the church office. All women and girls (mothers, daughters, grandmas, sisters, aunts, cousins, friends) are invited and encouraged to attend.



Open House for Dove's New Facility

Mark your calendars now for the afternoon for Sunday, May 6th! During the hours of 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. that day, our Christian Action & Community Services (CACS) Department cordially invites our entire congregation to tour the Anna B. Millikin Home, which was given to Dove, Inc. on February 1st of this year. Soon renovations will begin for this home at 302 S. Union Street to serve as Dove's Domestic Violence Shelter, a safe place for women and children to live. Although this facility remains in excellent condition, valued at more than \$2 million, Dove is seeking financial support for a few needed improvements, including security screens for the windows, a fence for the children's play area, kitchen equipment, and a security system. As most of you know, Central Christian Church takes pride in the history of Dove, and during this open house you will be given an opportunity to pledge your financial support toward these improvements which will help Dove achieve its mission to coordinate efforts to address unmet human needs and social injustices. During this event we will also conduct a raffle, with proceeds to Dove, for two beautiful items made by the ChristCare Stitchers from *Ernestine Mrozinski's* fabric. For your enjoyment, dessert and entertainment will be provided during your visit.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2007
WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45
A Glimpse of Heaven

Text: Revelation 7:9-17
Charles Watkins

Bells in Motion Performs This Sunday

Bells In Motion will present their spring concert, *The Sounds of Bronze* at 4:00 p.m. this Sunday, April 29 at Central Christian Church. This concert marks the beginning of their tenth year. Bells in Motion is based in Springfield and is under the direction of their founder, Michael Lamb. In their years of presenting concerts, this group has become one of the premier bell choirs in America. They have toured the United States and Europe.

This concert will include a wide variety of music featuring pops arrangements and original compositions. Pieces will include *Toccata Ritmica*, *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, and *Stars and Stripes Forever*.

Tickets will be available at the door for \$10. Mark your calendar and invite a friend for an afternoon of great music.

Evangelism Seeds

"We understand anything better when we try to say it out loud. Could this be one reason Christ asks us to share our faith?"

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

Central Youth

Sunday, April 29th
3:45-5:30 p.m.

Central Youth Grades 3-5 & 6-12
are invited to attend the Bells in
Motion concert for FREE.

Summer Camp

It's Time to Register
for Summer Activities!
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!

Register Today!

MUSICAMP is Coming!

The MUSICAMP will be June 4-8
from 9:00-11:30 a.m. at the First
Baptist Church, 1329 Arbor Drive.

Again this year, we will combine
forces with First Baptist Church to
present Musicamp for children grades
K-6. Guest musicians will share their
art, and there will be singing and other
musical activities.

Registration forms are available in
the church office. If you have any
questions, please contact **Don Martin**.

Charles's Column

On January 28, 2007, during the coldest week Decatur has experienced in the last eleven years, the 1955 Kewanee boiler that heats the original sanctuary building, adult education wing and offices developed a leak. Since water in the boiler is under pressure, the leak increased in size as we pursued appropriate repairs, finally reaching a water loss rate of five gallons per hour.

We got the state-licensed asbestos abatement company to remove asbestos insulation from the affected area high on the back wall of the boiler, and welders successfully repaired the leak on February 5. We have been able to get through the winter with relatively minor disruptions to all the programs and ministries that are housed in our buildings.

Because this is the second time since 2003 that we have been threatened with catastrophic failure of the heating system in the dead of winter, the Property Department retained the services of a mechanical engineer to study our fifty-two year old hot-water boiler. Last week the Property Department received the engineer's detailed sixteen-page analysis of our boiler, its efficiency, and its life expectancy. The Department considered all the information provided, and agreed to recommend to the Church Council that the boiler be replaced this summer with two new steel 2 million BTU/Hour modulating boilers.

Besides providing heat at maximum efficiency, having the two boilers will give us some needed redundancy. In mild weather, only one boiler (half the size of our present one) will be needed to heat the building. Start up gas usage will be one-half of what is needed for the existing boiler. As the demand for heat increases, the second boiler will come on line. The engineer estimates that the annual operating cost of the proposed dual-boiler system will be \$14,124 rather than our current annual fuel cost of \$19,583. Of the four options considered, the option recommended by the engineer and chosen by the Property Department provides the lowest annual operating cost and greatest energy efficiency. When future costly repairs of our fifty-two year old boiler are figured in, the future savings are even greater.

Can we afford to make this change in our heating system? Obviously we cannot afford it from the operating budget of the church. What is proposed is that this heating project be included in the current 2006-2009 Building Fund Campaign. That probably means that one component of the present campaign will have to be delayed for a future campaign—the preventive maintenance of our stained glass windows. But as in our own homes, emergency projects sometimes displace desirable but less urgent ones.

At the end of the first year of the current three-year building fund campaign, there still remains \$312,411 in anticipated giving over the next two years which will be sufficient to complete most other projects already approved by the congregation. Your faithful giving to the building fund is vital to keeping our mission and ministry safely functioning in this amazing house of prayer. God bless you!

Charles Watkins

Blessing of Children Scheduled

A service of Blessing of Children and Dedication of Parents has been scheduled for Mother's Day Sunday, May 13th during both services. If you would like to be included in this service, please contact the church office at 428-4336 by May 1st.

News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Mike Sperry** and family following the death of his wife, **Janice Sperry** on April 19 to the family of **Harold Hawke** following his death on April 19 and to the family of **Thomas Binkley**, following his death on April 21.

Congratulations to **Jerry Andrews**, Macon County Health Department administrator, upon receiving the Distinguished Service Award at the 2007 Illinois Public Health Annual Awards Luncheon.

Note of Thanks Received

Thank you to Chloe Hoaglin, chairman and her excellent committee for the wonderful lunch in honor of the senior members of Central. The food was delicious, and the fellowship was most outstanding. God bless you all.

Barbara Tyler

Intergenerational Mission Trip Planned for This Summer!

A wonderful opportunity for spiritual growth is being planned for you for this summer! An intergenerational mission trip (for adults and youth at least 16 years of age) will leave for Slidell, Louisiana (New Orleans area) on Saturday, June 23rd. During the week in Slidell, participants will help rebuild homes which were destroyed in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. School will be out and this would be a fabulous opportunity for families with teenagers to work and grow together! The cost for the trip will be approximately \$250 and scholarships are available for Central members. For more information, pick up a registration pack in the Fellowship Center or speak with Pastors Robert or Gretchen. To see photos and read the stories of the participants who just returned from the trip to New Orleans, check out our website at www.cccdisciples.org.

Scholarship Applications Available

The *Walter and Inabell Kirby Scholarship* is awarded annually to a qualified applicant who is pursuing a career in music or international affairs. If no qualified applicants apply in these designated fields, the scholarship is opened to all applicants. The scholarship is awarded to a member of Central who is enrolled in a college or university or will be in the fall.

The *Roy O. & Rachel R. Schilling Scholarship* is awarded to a participating member of Central currently attending a college, university or trade school, or planning to attend one the following year. Preference is given to those who intend to enter into the fields of ministry, teaching or nursing. If no qualified applicants apply in these designated fields, the scholarship is opened to all applicants.

The *Cocoa "Coke" and Lilabelle Traylor Scholarship* is awarded annually to a deserving person who wishes to pursue a career in teaching. Preference is also given to those who intend to enter into public service such as the fields of ministry or nursing. If no qualified applicants apply in these designated fields, the scholarship may be awarded to a candidate who will attend vocational school to learn a trade.

Applications are available at the church office and are due back by May 7th. The awards are based primarily upon academic achievement and financial need, however, participation in church, school and community activities are considered as well.



Sunday, April 29, 2007

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: 8:15 Offertory-Central Singers;
Marilyn Ward, Piano
10:45 Offertory-Men's Chorus
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
9:00-10:15-Parish Nurse, Liz Campbell
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
11:15-Children's Worship, 250
4:00-**Bells in Motion**, Sanctuary

Monday (30)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
8:00-Baby Talk Hearing Test, Parlor
10:30-Dove Committee, Disciple Room
1:00-6:00-Y After School, 260 & 280
6:30-Ladies Night Out, Ruby Tuesday

Tuesday (May 1)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,
Senior Pastor's Study
12:00-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room
1:00-6:00-Y After School, 260 & 280
4:00-GED Graduation, Great Hall
6:30-Young Adults, Bushey house
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room
6:30-Beta Sigma Phi, 207

Wednesday (2)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 290
12:00-Central Singers
1:00-4:00-Banner Committee, 207
1:00-6:00-Y After School, 260 & 280

Thursday (3)

10:00-Alanon, 212
1:00-6:00-Y After School, 260 & 280
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room
6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (4)

8:00-Wellness Walk, Great Hall
10:00-Trustees Meeting, Disciple Room
1:00-6:00-Y After School, 260 & 280

Saturday (5)

8:00-5:00-Emmaus Group, Great Hall
& Sanctuary

Counting On You

April 22

Worship Attendance293
Sunday School Attendance 57

Serving Schedule—April 29, 2007

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Janet Lyman, Claudia Quigg

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 - Kevin & Mickie Wilmot, Larry & Gail Prince

10:45 - Dale & Judy Ford, Ed & Jean Voice

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Mike & Gerri Munos Family

Parish Nurse: Liz Campbell

Children's Worship: Kim Miller

Acolytes:

8:15 - Brad Munos

10:45 - Daniel Hinze

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash

10:45 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

Evelyn Sperry, Greg, Jo & Megan Carter, Gregg & Linda Foltz

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Keith Backes

10:45 service only - Richard Ward

May 2 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Janet Gray

Hosts:

Apr. 30 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*

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

May 1 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*

12:30-4:00 - Helen Hufford

May 2 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith

12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

May 3 9:00-12:30 - Shirlee Johnson

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

May 4 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*

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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