



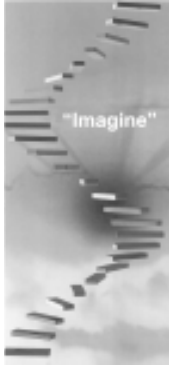
The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

Decatur, Illinois, September 26, 2007

No. 39



Can You *Imagine*?

Stewardship Chair **Kevin Otis** announced the beginning of the fall stewardship emphasis last Sunday under the theme *Imagine* and mailed you a letter on Monday, inviting you to consider forward steps in your spiritual life. This Sunday of the campaign, Inspiration Sunday, focuses on lifting our sights to imagine what we might achieve for God's work through our church. Next week you will receive your Giving Card for 2008, so let us begin now to pray about what we can do for God at Central next year.

FunTimers Trip to Curtis Orchard

FunTimers of all ages can sign up this Sunday for a trip to Curtis Orchard in Champaign on Thursday, October 18th. We will leave the church at 10:30 a.m. and should arrive back in Decatur at approximately 3:30 p.m. While at the orchard, we will eat lunch in the famous Flying Monkey Café, have time to shop in the gift shop and bakery and have opportunities to taste (as well as purchase) several different varieties of apples. We will also enjoy presentations on Bees and Pollination, Apple Processing and Apple Cider making, along with delicious samples of apple donuts and cider. The tour and orchard are completely handicap accessible! Cost for this trip is \$5 for the tour plus the cost of your meal ordered at the café. Sign up beginning this Sunday in the Friendship Center.



Chancel Bells Resumes

Chancel Bells will begin rehearsing on **Thursday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m.** We will prepare for involvement in the Hanging of the Greens service to be held on December 2. Please contact **Don Martin** if you are interested in joining this ministry.

Young Disciples to Gather for Dessert!

October gatherings for young adults (18-30something) are scheduled for Wednesdays, October 10th and 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the church. We will share desserts, light and meaningful discussions, laughter and prayer. Join us! Childcare will be provided. RSVP with **Pastor Robert** at rbushey@cccdisciples.org

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

Praise to the Lord

Text: Psalm 103:1-14

Charles Watkins

Sunday Lunch Bunch at Bennigan's

The Shepherding Department is sponsoring a Lunch Bunch outing on Sunday, October 7th. This month we will be going to Bennigan's, 2350 South Mt. Zion Road. We will meet at the restaurant as soon as possible following 2nd service, about 12:15 p.m. You do need to make reservations for this event, so please sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday and we'll welcome you as part of the bunch on October 7th!

CROP Walk – Sunday, October 7

You are invited to join the 2007 CROP Walk at Fairview Park on Sunday, October 7th at 2 p.m. The walk supports efforts to fight hunger locally and globally. Walkers raise pledges of which half remains in the Decatur Area. For more information, contact Rev. Sara Isbell at Grace United Methodist Church at 429-5374.

Remember Flu Shots

Tuesday, October 9

8:00-11:30 a.m.

in the Disciple Room



Central Youth

CCIW Miracle Day 2007 **Saturday,** **September 29th** **Camp Walter Scott**

We will leave from the Church at 6:00 a.m. and return by 8:30 p.m. Bring \$5 for a stop for supper in Effingham on the way home.

Sunday, September 30th **6-7:30 p.m.** **Regular Meeting**

Youth Sunday Worship
Assignments will be determined.
Contact Pastor Robert if you cannot attend and would like an assignment.

Youth Sunday Worship **October 28th** **It's Hard to be Humble** **Luke 18: 9-14**

ALL Central Youth grades 6-12 are encouraged to participate. Youth grades 3-5 are needed to help with ushering and greeting. Plan to be a part of Youth Sunday 2007!

All Church Hayride **Hayrides & More in Blue** **Mound**

Sunday, October 28th
Mark your calendar
and plan to attend!

Charles's Column

I am happy to report to you that at least two Central families are taking wonderful advantage of the Pension Protection Action of 2006. As you may recall from previous articles in the *Central Visitor*, Congress opened a window of opportunity for 2007 for those who are at least 70 ½ before the end of this year and have an Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

The law allows them to request their IRA administrator to make distributions directly to their favorite charities, including our congregation. This distribution can be counted against your required minimum distribution if you choose; it will not be counted as a taxable distribution to you; and you are allowed to make distributions to charity of up to \$100,000 in 2007, and the amounts contributed are excludable from your income for tax purposes. The combined impact of saving state, local and federal taxes is most dramatic for non-itemizers who can give tax-free dollars to charity, stretching their dollars by 25, 30 or even 35 percent.

This opportunity is scheduled to end on December 31, 2007, so you have three months left to make a decision that can significantly help your church for years to come. One Central family has made a gift from an IRA which pays their \$6,000 per year pledge for 2008, 2009, and 2010! Another family is making a gift which Central will place with the Christian Church Foundation to provide an annual income to our congregation forever. You might make gifts for the current or future Building Fund and/or Operating Fund campaigns.

At the age of 70 ½ you are required to take distributions from your IRA accounts, and you are required to pay taxes on the amounts you must withdraw. But if, instead of the required withdrawal, you direct your IRA administrator to pay the amount directly to Central (or any other charity of your choice), you never pay tax on that amount, but you can still exclude from your income the amount of this gift.

Yes, I realize that this can be a little confusing because it seems almost too good to be true. But you can get clarification on the Pension Protect Act of 2006 from your financial advisor, attorney, or accountant. Each of them understands this law that is set to expire at the end of this year.

Our friends at your Christian Church Foundation in Indianapolis are also prepared to help you understand and take advantage of this opportunity. You can read all about it at the Foundation website www.disciples.org/ccf and follow the link near the top of their home page. Or you can call the Foundation at (800) 668-8016, and they will send you the information. It is also possible to arrange a personal meeting with **Deborrah Wray**, the Vice-President of the Christian Church Foundation for our Great Lakes zone.

I am grateful to those who have already made these arrangements to benefit Central's future, and I will be glad for you to join them in making a difference for Central forever.

Charles Watkins

Cardboard Pick Up Successful

The Youth Cardboard Recycling Project's first round of pick ups was successful! We filled a five foot by eight foot trailer which was delivered to Decatur Recycling on Monday morning. Thanks to all who signed up and had their cardboard ready for us! We will advertise and sign up for our October date soon.

News From the Pews.....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Bill & Connie Bordner** and family following the September 21st death of Bill's mother, *Katharina Elizabeth Bordner*.

Congratulations to **Melinda & David Williams**, of Seattle, Washington, on the September 19th birth of their son, **Grant Michael Williams**. Proud grandparents are **Claudia & H.B. Curry**.

Central's Habitat House Dedicated!

Pictured are Unity Henry and her two children who received the keys to their new Habitat for Humanity home last Sunday. Many Central members and others from the community gathered to celebrate this special day the Henry family. Funding for this home was made possible by the generous donations of Central members who supported the 2003-2006 Capital Campaign, *Proud of our Past ... Focused on our Future*. The \$40,000 gift was presented to Habitat for Humanity in March 2006 and ground was broken in May 2006. To view a pictorial progress-report on the home from ground breaking to completion, visit our website at www.cccdisciples.org.



Miracle Day – September 29th

Please remember to keep Miracle Day and the more than 400 volunteers in your thoughts and prayers as we gather at Camp Walter Scott this Saturday, September 29th, for a day of work, worship, fellowship and miracles!

Notes of Thanks Received

Beloved Central,

Thank you so much for all your hospital visits, prayers, cards, flowers, and for sharing your food with us. You are so special.

May God bless all of you, **Dean & Joel Hadden**

Many thanks to the ministers and members of the church for their prayers and visits during my recent hospital stay. You are a very special community.

Sincerely, **Mildred Upchurch**



Sunday, September 30, 2007

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: 8:15 Offertory-Janice Mitchell,
Pianist
10:45 Offertory-Chancel Choir
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Jane Latshaw
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
11:15-Children's Worship, 250-270
12:00-Bill Nichols' Birthday Celebration,
Friendship Center
6:00-Youth Group

Monday (October 1)

6:30-Boy Scouts, Great Hall
6:30-CACS Dept., Disciple Room
6:30-CCC Bowling, PlaMor Lanes

Tuesday (2)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,
Senior Pastor's Study
11:45-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room

Wednesday (3)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 290
12:00-Central Singers
6:00-Faith Lessons, Disciple Room

Thursday (4)

10:00-Alanon, 212
12:00-Faith Lessons, Disciple Room
1:30-ChristCare, 290
6:00-Chancel Bells
6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (5)

9:00-Trustees, Disciple Room

Saturday (6)

8:00-12:00-Hunger Relief Task Force,
Great Hall Kitchen
11:00-Serving Team, Good Samaritan Inn

Counting On You

September 23

Worship Attendance 312
Sunday School Attendance 71

Serving Schedule—September 30, 2007

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Lois Whitaker, Bruce Campbell

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 - Ed & Joy Adams, Bill & Mary Alice Rule

10:45 - Ed & Lucy Acheson, Dale & Judy Ford

Parish Nurse:

Jane Latshaw

Acolytes:

8:15 - Julia Funk

10:45 - Andrew Otis

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Jim Bednar

10:45 - Jim Hinze

Fellowship Coffee Hosts:

Harold & Bess King

Children's Worship:

Teri Bushey

Preparation of Communion:

Charles & Juanita Reynolds, Connie Schabowski, Nancy Taylor

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Keith Backes

10:45 service only - Richard Ward

October 3 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Janet Gray

Hosts:

Oct. 1 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Oct. 2 9:00-12:30 - Rosie Doore
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Oct. 3 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

Oct. 4 9:00-12:30 - Shirlee Johnson
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Oct. 5 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

CH CH - What's Missing?

UR! We need your help! If you would be willing to host at the front desk one morning or afternoon a month, please call **Joan Smith**.

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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 Assistant
Pat Beals Administrative Assistant
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 Caretaker
David Flanders Caretaker
Dean Hadden Caretaker
Charles Wallace Caretaker

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