



# *The* Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXX

Decatur, Illinois, October 3, 2007

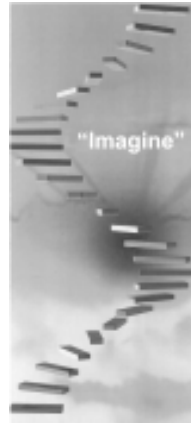
No. 40

## **Farewell for Herb Knudsen**

You are invited to attend a farewell worship service and reception honoring the ministry of the **Rev. Dr. Herbert Knudsen** who has been regional minister and president of the Christian Church in Illinois and Wisconsin for the last ten years. The farewell will be at First Christian Church, 401 W. Jefferson Street, Bloomington, IL at 3 p.m. on Sunday, October 21.

## **Gratitude Sunday**

Our congregation is now in the second week of its annual fall stewardship emphasis. On Monday this week, the Stewardship Department mailed to all contributing members of our church a Giving Card for 2008. Rather than presenting our cards in worship on a single Sunday this year, each of us is invited to complete as soon as possible a Giving Card for operating our congregation's mission and ministry next year. If you didn't get your card in the mail, we will have one for you in the pew pocket or in the church office this Sunday. Please complete your card as soon as you can and send it or bring it to the church. At the end of the campaign on Victory Sunday October 21, we hope to publish a list of the names of each person who has completed a Giving Card. We want your name to be on that list.



## **Sunday Lunch Bunch at Bennigan's**

The Shepherding Department is sponsoring a lunch bunch outing on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> service, at about 12:15 p.m. If you would like to lunch with the bunch this coming Sunday, please call the church office (428-4336) with your reservation by noon Friday!

## **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 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 handicapped accessible! Cost for this trip is \$5 for the tour plus the cost of your meal ordered at the café. Sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2007**

**World Communion Sunday**

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

**Discerning the Body**

Text: I Corinthians 11:23-29

Charles Watkins

## **Flu Shots Offered at Central**

The Macon County Health Dept. is again offering flu and pneumonia vaccinations at Central on Tuesday, October 9, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 in the Disciple Room. Medicare is accepted.

## **Elderberries Meet October 10<sup>th</sup>!**

If you are at least 55 years young, we invite you to join Elderberries for a wonderful meal, program and delightful fellowship together on the second Wednesday of each month. We will meet on Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Great Hall. This month's menu is Spaghetti and Meatballs, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread and Pineapple Upside-down Cake. The food is lovingly prepared by volunteers in our own kitchen. Following the meal, we will have some "surprise activities." Come and enjoy our time together and learn something about yourself and others! To sign up, you will need to call the church office (428-4336) or mark *Elderberries* next to your name on the Friendship Pad this coming Sunday. If you think you would like to come but are not yet sure, please go ahead and make a reservation. We would rather have food leftover than not have prepared enough for everyone. Reservations need to be made before 5 p.m. on Monday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, so don't delay, reserve your place at the table today!



## Central Youth

**Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**5:30 p.m.**  
Short Meeting  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Just Flicks Flim**  
***Over the Hedge***

**Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Cardboard Pick up Day**  
1:30-3:30 p.m.

**Youth Sunday Worship**  
**October 28<sup>th</sup>**  
***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 28<sup>th</sup>**  
Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

## Next Cardboard Pick Up Date Set

The Youth Cardboard Recycling Project will pick up on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:30-3:30 p.m. All you need to do is collect your cardboard, sign up in the Friendship Center for Curbside Pick up and we will do the rest.

## Charles's Column

As we approach World Communion Sunday this week, I am finding new value in this symbolic effort. On the first Sunday of October since 1936, Christian communions have approached the Lord's Table within their own traditions but with a heightened awareness of all the other believers in all the other churches around the world. Of course, as Disciples, Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, and Lutherans, we can easily take the day for granted since in our churches we have communion every Sunday regardless. But this Sunday all those Protestant churches who normally celebrate Holy Communion only on the first Sunday of the month or only on the first Sunday of the quarter are receiving the bread and cup alongside us.

There was a time when I thought that wasn't good enough. As a young pastor, I worked to develop a community-wide ecumenical communion service for the first Sunday in October in Shryock Auditorium on the campus of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Methodists, Presbyterians, United Church of Christ folk, Lutherans and Disciples actually closed our church buildings on the first Sunday morning in October and came together on "neutral" non-denominational territory at SIU. But even in that effort, the divisions among us were almost impossible to overcome. For example, the Lutherans could have only wine in their cups, while the Methodists could not accept that. In planning the service, we had to make sure the Lutherans all sat together and received the elements correctly prepared for them. In addition, the Lutherans could receive communion only if were consecrated by an ordained Lutheran pastor. It was humorous to see how we made that work. The Presbyterians couldn't take communion unless ordained clergy were at that table, and our Disciples elders were not adequate to their purpose. So this marvelous symbol of our unity in Christ called loud attention to all the ways in which we disagree and are not united. Our Disciples ecumenical officer Robert Welsh has written movingly about the "pain of the Table." Our most profound expression of Christian unity is at the same time a powerful demonstration of our disunity.

But I now have new appreciation for that hampered and labored display of unity in Christ. As I observe the painful and deadly divisions among sects of Islam in Iraq, I realize what a difference it would make if the clergy in each sect were exerting every effort to demonstrate mutual respect and love and unity in some visible way. Not that Christians can stand prideful before the devastations of sectarian violence. After all, Christians have been fighting each other, killing each other, burning one another at the stake, and verbally attacking each other for more years than Muslims have. Our bloody history of taking violent and murderous actions in the name of Jesus give us no cause for self-congratulation.

But World Communion Sunday gives Christians all around the globe the opportunity even in our denominational and sectarian divisions, to claim the unity that we share with other believers at the Table of the Lord. The more vocal and visible we are in this effort, the farther we move away from violence and hatred toward other Christians, and indeed toward other faiths.

I hope that you will join me at the Lord's Table this Sunday to advocate once again the unity of the Body of Christ, and the importance of saying even symbolically, that we know that all those who share the bread of life and the cup of salvation in whatever tradition are our sisters and brothers in Christ.

*Charles Watkins*

## News From the Pews.....

Congratulations to **Mettisa & Dan McLeod**, of Troy, Illinois on the August 10<sup>th</sup> birth of their daughter, **Isabelle Rae McLeod**. Big sister is **Emelia**, proud grandparents are **Nancy & David King** & great-grandparents are **Harold & Bess King**.



### Welcome New Members

Welcome to **Kent, Lea & Rachel West**, who became members of Central on Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup> by transfer of membership.

### To the Saints at Central

How do I find the words to tell you, my beloved friends, what my celebration meant to me. When the choir started singing my first anthem I was “befuzzled.” I looked at Claudine and saw her smiling and nodding her head up and down. Suddenly I KNEW. Our wonderful choir was singing one of my anthems. Then when they sang another one later in the service I was “flummoxed.” Don Martin and the choir are the best! Then when my magnanimous pastor preached a wonderful sermon based on my favorite hymn *Praise to the Lord* I knew I was blessed beyond believing. But it wasn’t over yet!

The reception with the theme “Around the World in 80 Years” in the Friendship Center allowed me to see dear friends I don’t get to see very much.

For everything my wonderful church, pastors, staff, magnificent choir and friends did for me, I thank you with all my heart. Thank you, dear people. I love you very much.

*Pastor Bill*

### CROP Walk – Sunday, October 7, 2007

You are invited to join the 2007 CROP Walk at Fairview Park on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Young Disciples to Gather for Dessert!

A gathering for young adults (18-30something) is scheduled for Wednesdays, October 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:rbushey@cccdisciples.org)



### Sunday, October 7, 2007

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
Music: Offertory-Matthew Swarthout & Marissa Weaver, Duet  
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Cindy Soebbing  
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.  
9:30-Sunday School  
11:15-Children’s Worship, 250  
12:15-Lunch Bunch, Bennigan’s  
2:00-CROP Walk, Fairview Park

### Monday (8)

9:00-Volunteers to Good Samaritan Inn  
5:30-Fellowship Dept., Volunteer Room  
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room & Great Hall  
6:30-CCC Bowling, PlaMor Lanes

### Tuesday (9)

8:00-12:00-Macon County Flu Shots, Disciple Room  
9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors’ Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor’s Study  
5:00-CADV meeting, Disciple Room

### Wednesday (10)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 290  
12:00-Elderberries, Great Hall  
12:00-Central Singers  
1:30-3:00-Low Vision Support Group, Disciple Room  
5:30-Operations Dept., Parlor  
6:00-Faith Lessons, Disciple Room  
6:30-Young Disciples, Parlor

### Thursday (11)

10:00-Alanon, 212  
1:30-ChristCare, 290  
4:30-Evangelism Dept., Volunteer Room  
6:00-Chancel Bells  
7:00-Chancel Choir

### Saturday (13)

7:30-Elders’ Breakfast, Disciple Room

### Counting On You

#### September 30

Worship Attendance ..... 333  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 72

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## Serving Schedule—October 7, 2007

### Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Jan Dobbs, Janet Lyman

### Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Jan Baird & Larry Otis

### 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 3 - Dennis Downey, Capt., Debbie Downey, Kim Downey, Ryan Downey, Tina Canfield, Paula Hovey

10:45 - Team 8 - Dean Hadden, Doug Soebbing, Donna Strong

### Greeters:

8:15 - Jim & Pamela Bednar, Rita Woods, Barbara Beyer

10:45 - Howard & Marguerite Cravens, Donna Strong, Sid Rotz

### Parish Nurse:

Cindy Soebbing

### Acolytes:

8:15 - Brad Munos

10:45 - Avery Martin

### P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Donna Dash

10:45 - Larry Pepper

### Fellowship Coffee Hosts:

Don & Brenda Tankersley

### Children's Worship:

Katie Powers

### Preparation of Communion:

Carroll & Doris Little, Jan Patrick, Hazel Perry, Yvonne Purcell

### Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Kevin Wilmot

10:45 service only - Brett Swallow

### October 10 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Ruby Agnew

### Hosts:

Oct. 8 9:00-12:30 - Mary Boyle  
12:30-4:00 - Ken Davis

Oct. 9 9:00-12:30 - Carl Morris  
12:30-4:00 - Ellen Sheffer

Oct. 10 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith  
12:30-4:00 - Marilyn Ward

Oct. 11 9:00-12:30 - Charlotte Lyon  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Oct. 12 9:00-12:30 - Harold & Bess King  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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