



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, April 22, 2009

No. 16

Dinner for Eight

The Shepherding Department wants to sign you up for Dinner – Dinners for Eight! The dinners provide a unique opportunity for Central members and friends to get to know each other in a relaxed, informal atmosphere, usually in the host's home. Sign ups begin this Sunday. Once you've signed up, you will receive a letter which tells you which group you are assigned to and who will act as your host. Members of each group decide the best date and time to meet and who will bring which dinner items. The groups are asked to meet one time for dinner in May, June, or July. When you sign up, be sure and let us know if you are willing and able to host one of the group gatherings. For more information, contact **Pastor Gretchen**. Sign up this Sunday for Dinner for Eight.

3rd Sunday Luncheons

Just a reminder that the Fellowship Department will be preparing Sunday Dinner the **THIRD** Sunday of each month. It's too early to sign-up for the May 17th luncheon, but we encourage you to mark the third Sunday of each month on your calendar and plan to share fellowship and a meal with your church family!

Prayer Service – May 3rd

The Unbinding Your Heart Prayer team invites you to a brief prayer service on Sunday, May 3rd at 9:30 a.m. We will meet in the West Parking Lot as we dedicate and burn the Prayer Requests that were placed on the Prayer Wall during Lent. Although the Prayer Wall will be removed from the Friendship Center next week, please note that the Prayer Team will continue to receive prayer requests. Prayer Request forms will be in the Pew Pockets in the Sanctuary and Balcony. The prayer team will continue to hold these requests up in prayer.

Quaker Singers to Sing at Central

Singing Quakers from Friends University, in Wichita, Kansas, will be in concert at Central on **Wednesday, May 13**. This is a select vocal organization of 90 voices with a reputation for high musical quality. They tour annually and have performed at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall in New York City. **Organist Anna Jeter** will also be featured.

This group of 79 singers will need places to stay. **Please consider hosting two or more students for the night**. Besides a bed, they will need breakfast in the morning and a sack lunch for the road. These times of interaction with students are very rewarding. For more information contact **Don Martin**.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2009
WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45
In Their Presence!

Text: Luke 24:36b-48
Gretchen Barron

Dorcas Assembling Health Kits

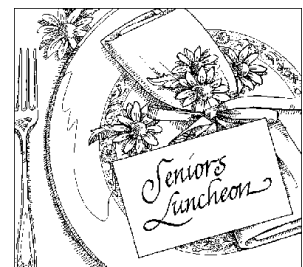
When the Voice of God Surprises Us is the theme for Dorcas Disciple Women on Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00 p.m. We will meet in the Disciple Room to assemble Health Kits. Thanks to all who brought in wash cloths and hand towels.

Reminder: We are short on hand towels to complete kits, so please bring one or two hand towels with you to the meeting.

Diaconate Sponsors Annual Senior Members Luncheon

Saturday, May 2nd, the Deacons are honoring Central's senior members, who have attained the age of 70 or better, with a reception at 11:30 a.m. in the Disciple Room and a luncheon at noon in the Great Hall. Spouses are also invited to attend.

If you did not receive an invitation and are eligible, or if you did receive one, but have not yet responded, please call the church office, 428-4336.





Youth Column

Central Youth
Saturday, April 25th
9-10:30 a.m.

Youth are needed to help put the finishing touches on the new recycling center. Dress for painting.

Sunday, April 26th
Cardboard Recycling after
Both Morning Worship
Services

Central Youth will help members unload their cardboard for recycling at our new Recycling Center.

Sunday, May 3rd
6-7:30 p.m.
Heifer Ranch Trip Meeting
ALL Youth attending the Heifer Ranch Trip need to be present as we make plans for our June trip.

Deadlines are Nearing for Camp!

Shalom - High School
June 8-13th

Before May 4th \$125

Koinonia - Jr. & Middle School
June 22-27

Before May 18th \$125

8th Grade Conference
Finished 8th Grade
June 14-20

Before May 12th \$125

ADDaM Camp - High School
June 21-28

Before May 18th \$125

More info at
www.cciwdisciples.org

Cardboard Recycling Has Returned to Central!

Just in time for Earth Stewardship Sunday, Central Youth will be on hand this Sunday after worship to help unload your flattened cardboard at the new Cardboard Recycling Center located on the northwest corner of the parking lot. This project is NOT a fundraiser. The recycling center is for cardboard ONLY and will be open for you to deposit your cardboard every Sunday morning with the exception of instances of heavy rainfall. All cardboard collected will be recycled by the Dove/Macon Resources recycling partnership. Acceptable items include: packaging boxes, cereal boxes, tissue boxes, paper towel tubes, and corrugated cardboard. Non-acceptable items include: magazines, paper, styro-foam or plastic packaging, or fast food containers with food scraps in them.

Mother's Day Breakfast for Dove, Inc.

The CACS Department is planning to sponsor a Mother's Day Breakfast on **Sunday, May 10th** from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Great Hall. The breakfast will be catered by Dove's Fresh Start Catering and is a fundraiser for Dove, Inc. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be available in the Friendship Center beginning Sunday, April 26th for \$7 per person. Central was one of the founding congregations for Dove which will complete 39 years of service for Decatur in July. Dove, Inc. changes the lives of approximately 5,000 people a year through a diverse offering of programs and activities for those in need. Dove, Inc. combines the power of over 900 volunteers, more than 60 member congregations, and a diversely talented staff to offer these services. Support Dove, honor motherhood, and share in food and fellowship on Sunday, May 10th.

Scholarship Applications Available

The **Walter & Inabell Kirby Scholarship** is awarded 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 minister, teaching or nursing. If no qualified applicants apply in these designated fields, the scholarship is opened to all applicants.

The **Cocoa "Coke" & 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 vocation school to learn a trade.

Applications for the above scholarships are available at the church office and are due back by **May 24th**. The awards are based primarily upon academic achievement and financial need, however, participation in church, school and community activities are considered as well.

Note of Thanks Received

Heartfelt thanks to the ministers for their visits during my stay in the hospital. Their presence was greatly appreciated and truly comforting.

A special thank you also to the Central Christian Church congregation for the prayers and thoughtfulness. God bless you all. **-David Bottom**

News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of **Sid Rotz**, who passed away on April 17.....to **Sue Burkham, Jack Dixon** and family following the April 20th death of her mother, **Louise Armentrout**.

CourtWatch Seeking Volunteers

Macon County CourtWatch is a citizen-led effort to engage the justice system and community to promote victim safety and offer accountability in domestic violence and sexual assault cases. Volunteers observe court proceedings to objectively describe how our courts are meeting the needs of the victims in these cases. Volunteers average four hours per month in court observation. An informational meeting for those interested in this project is scheduled for Thursday, April 30th at 10 a.m. at the Dove Shelter lower conference room at 302 S. Union St.

In Memoriam

During the first quarter of 2009, Central received special gifts honoring the memories of **Saundra Alexander, Lyle & Minnie Campbell, Barbara Flanders, Nancy Hawbaker, Patricia Haynes, Virginia Jackson, Calvin Jobe, Inabell Kirby, David Stoddard, Mildred Upchurch, Robert E. Ward, and Mary Ann White**. We are grateful for the lives of these whose memories are honored here at Central and for those who have given memorial funds honoring them. Memorial gifts to Central in the first quarter total \$6,350.

Gifts to the church honoring the memories of friends and family members are always welcome and appropriate. Each gift is recorded at the church and acknowledged to the family. Memorial gifts are used for special needs approved by the Church Council and in consultation with family members.

Counting On You

April 19

Worship Attendance 313
Sunday School Attendance 62

During the first quarter of 2009, Central received gifts for the General Operating Fund of \$172,780 which is \$17,485 below the giving goal for the quarter.

Expenses to operate the church in the first quarter were \$190,286 which is \$14,352 under budget. The cost of carrying on our church's ministries in the first three months of 2009 exceeded total income by \$17,506.

All mission outreach commitments for the first quarter of the year both locally and globally were paid in full.

Gifts to the *Preserving our Past, Assuring Our Future* capital campaign in its final quarter were \$27,059 bringing total giving for the building fund over the last three years to \$508,000, exceeding the three-year goal. Giving to our outreach partners' capital needs also exceeded the \$50,000 tithing goal. Congratulations!

Your regular and generous giving keeps Central going! We're counting on you! Be sure to do your best for your church, so that your church can do its best for God. Detailed monthly financial reports for the congregation and for the Board of Trustees are always available on the counter in the Friendship Center by the church office. You can pick up a copy and see exactly where the congregation stands financially.



Sunday, April 26, 2009

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: 8:15 Offertory-Central Singers
10:45 Offertory-Ladies Trio
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Clinic
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
11:15-Children's Worship
2:00-Millikin Children's Choir Concert

Monday (27)

6:00-LTQ, Great Hall
6:30-Boy Scouts

Tuesday (28)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting
3:30-H2O Volunteers, Hope School
5:30-Evangelism
7:00-Dorcas, Disciple Room

Wednesday (29)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 240
12:00-Central Singers
6:00-Jubilee!, Choir Room
6:15-Unbinding Group, Parlor

Thursday (30)

10:00-Alanon, 212
3:30-H2O Volunteers, Hope School
6:00-Chancel Bells
7:00-Chancel Choir

Saturday (2)

11:00-Senior Members Reception,
Disciple Room
12:00-Senior Member Luncheon,
Great Hall

SAVE THE DATE!
Vacation Bible School
"Crocodile Dock"
Sunday, Aug. 2-Thursday, Aug. 6
5:00-8:00 p.m.



Serving Schedule—April 26, 2009

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Randy Brooks, Mike Holbrook

Elders Serving Hospital Communion:

St. Mary's Hospital: Janet Lyman

Decatur Memorial Hospital: Keith Backes

Deacons:

8:15 - Team 3 - Mike Holbrook, Capt., Charlotte Ballance, Jarrett Bednar, Greg Carter, Jo Carter, Megan Carter, Jane Davis, Andy Fulk, Theresa Fulk, Christy Hanson, Dave Hanson, Sherri Hood, Brittney Munos, Larry Otis, Debbie Seaberg, Connie Shields, Max Sperry

10:45 - Team 4 - Kevin Otis, Capt., Ed Acheson, Lucy Acheson, Jeannie Backes, Louise Boline, Shirley Brooks, Sue Ann Cain, Claudia Curry, Debbie Foster, Larry Foster, Jon French, Melinda Hawbaker, Scott Hawbaker, Bob Linton, David Miller, Katie Miller, Alex Otis, Andrew Otis, Kevin Ann Otis, Gary Rutherford, Roger Rutherford, Doug Soebbing, Bruce Stoddard, Carol Stoddard, Donna Strong, Kevin Wilmot

Ushers:

8:15 - Team 2 - Don Tankersley, Capt., Brenda Tankersley, Frances Heiserman, Becky Johnston, Betty Scott, Dave Scott

10:45 - Team 7 - Jon French, Capt., Jane French, George Virgil, Linda Virgil, Ed Voice, Jean Voice

Greeters:

8:15 - Charlie & Nicole Ropp, Frances Heiserman, Ann Harshman

10:45 - Dale & Judy Ford, Larry & Betty Chapman

Parish Nurse: Mary Jane Linton

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Bill & Mary Alice Rule

Acolytes:

8:15 - Brad Munos

10:45 - Alexis Econie

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Jim Bednar

10:45 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

Evelyn Sperry, Ann Carnock, Gregg & Linda Foltz, Carol Graham

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Keith Backes

10:45 service only - Richard Ward

April 29 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Joanne Gustin

Hosts:

Apr. 27 9:00-12:30 - Judy Ford
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Apr. 28 9:00-12:30 - Dee Hill
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Apr. 29 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Apr. 30 9:00-12:30 - Darla Lienemann
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

May 1 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

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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
Jane Latshaw Parish Nurse Coordinator
Katie Beal Childcare Coordinator
Joanne Frady, Sean Beal Childcare Providers
Lindsey Compton, Hannah Fitch Childcare Providers
Shelly Messmore Preschool Director
Trudy Garland, Paula Gruen Preschool Teachers
Wendy Jalley, Jennifer Van Dyke Preschool Teachers
Kay Villarreal, Robin White Preschool Teachers
Rudi Descaro Caretaker
David Flanders Caretaker
Dean Hadden Caretaker
Charles Wallace Caretaker

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