



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, June 17, 2009

No. 24

Celebrating 175 Years of Weddings

The 175th Anniversary Task Force invited members to submit photographs from weddings at Central over the last century and three-quarters. The photographs have been made into a slide show which is running in the Friendship Center each of the next two Sundays and at the June 21 Fellowship Dinner following second service in the Great Hall. Enjoy and celebrate 175 years of beautiful weddings at Central Christian Church.

Homecoming is September 20

The climax of the 175th anniversary celebration at Central will be the Homecoming Picnic on September 20. Start now to invite your family and friends who live away from Decatur to make travel plans for our Homecoming Celebration 175!



FunTimers on the Go to Rockome Gardens

Plan now to attend the June 25th FunTimers (for ages 55 & older) outing to Rockome Gardens in Arcola, in the heart of Illinois Amish country. We'll gather and leave the church at 10:30 a.m. Our adventure will begin with a delicious lunch in the Rockome Gardens Restaurant (menu selections run between \$6-\$10) and enjoy an afternoon of leisurely walks through the gardens. Attractions and demonstrations include a haunted cave, a train ride, broom-making, fire-starting, wire-bending, a potter, soap-making and more, all included in the admission fee of \$5 per person. We'll return to Decatur before 5 p.m. Sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center!

Welcome to the Digital World for Parents

Parents, guardians, and caregivers of any age children are invited to explore the digital world of the internet on **Thursday, June 25th from 6-8 p.m.** in the Friendship Center. Many young adults, children and youth are considered Digital Natives because they have experienced the internet and digital technology all of their lives. Parents are called Digital Immigrants because they often speak and understand a different language than their digital native children. In an effort to help parents and their children communicate and to expose both the benefits and the dangers of the social networking electronic world (Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, Blogging, Texting, etc) **Pastor Robert**, a digital immigrant, will host a hands-on workshop to help us build bridges of communication with our digital natives. Please, sign up in the Friendship Center or by contacting **Pastor Robert** at rbushey@ccd-disciples.org

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2009
WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00
Calming Our Storms

Text: Mark 4:35-41
Charles Watkins

Fellowship Sunday Lunch

This month's Fellowship Sunday lunch is *this* Sunday, June 21, in the Great Hall following second service. Bring your family and enjoy this fellowship time with your Central church family. If you haven't yet made your reservation, call the church office, 428-4336, *today!*

Rome: Paul & the Underground Church Sundays at 9 a.m.

Children in grades Pre-K – 6th grade are invited to join our Christian Children's Fellowship Sundays at 9 a.m. in the Great Hall. CCF meets in the Great Hall each Sunday in June, July and August from 9-9:45 a.m. CCF will include a light breakfast, we will learn about ancient Rome and Paul, have crafts and games. On Sundays June 21st, July 19th & August 16th we will go out for breakfast together. Parents are welcome to stay for breakfast and volunteers are welcome to help with the weekly activities.

Vacation Bible School is Coming!

Bring your children and grandchildren to VBS from 5:00-8:00 p.m., Sunday, August 2 through Thursday, August 6. We need your help to make this year's VBS a success! Please call the church office, 428-4336 to register your child and contact **Katie Powers** to volunteer.



Central Youth

Wednesday, June 24th
CCC Kids to
Weldon Springs
11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Children grades 3-8 join us for the afternoon at Weldon Springs State Park! We will enjoy a picnic lunch, hiking the trail, and visiting the old school house. Bring \$3 for ice cream from the concession stand. Sign up this Sunday, email Pastor Robert at rbushey@cccdisciples.org or RSVP on the CCC Kids Club Facebook Page.

Wednesday, June 24th
Central Youth
Grill & Chill

Youth grades 6-12 are invited to Pastor Robert's home from 6-8 p.m. for Supper from the Grill, Swimming and Yard Games.

Miracle Day 2009

Central Youth will participate in Miracle Day activities on August 29th right here in Decatur. We will be painting, fixing porches, pulling weeds, etc. for folks who are unable to do the work themselves and live near Prairie Avenue Christian Church. Save the date on your calendar today!

Bequests Boost Building Fund

Two generous bequests are making it possible to complete restoration of the Kirkland Bell Tower without borrowing any money and have brought commitments to the 2009-2012 *Building on 175 Years of Serving* capital campaign beyond the goal.

Louise Armentrout provided in her estate plan a large gift designated for the building fund and earmarked by her family for restoration of the tower. **Inabell Kirby** named Central as the beneficiary of an annuity. When the money was received, it was divided according to the church's policy on undesignated bequests, adding one-third of her gift to the building fund.

These two gifts which total more than \$66,000, when combined with the \$30,000 commitment of an anonymous donor for renovation of the basement restrooms and the 163 giving cards pledging \$421,270 to the current three-year campaign bring the total gifts planned for the building fund through 2012 to \$517,861 which is 104% of the \$500,000 goal.

Many thanks to all donors both in heaven and on earth who are supporting Central's efforts to house Christ's ministry and mission in beautiful and effective facilities.

Take-Out Dinner for Miracle Day – Sunday, July 12th

The World Outreach Department is sponsoring a Take-Out Dinner on Sunday, July 12th as a fund-raiser for Miracle Day in August. Tickets are \$8 per meal and include ½ Broasted Chicken, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Bread & Butter (cooked by Nelson's Golden Glow Catering). Generous slices of both Chocolate and Vanilla Texas Sheet Cake will also be sold for an additional \$1 each. Tickets may be purchased in the Friendship Center beginning this Sunday! Meals may be picked up in the West Entrance following 2nd service. Drive-up service at the West Entrance will operate between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Help us reach our goal of selling at least 250 Chicken Dinners for Miracle Day by telling your friends and family. If you would like to sell tickets at your service organizations and workplaces, speak with **Pastor Gretchen**. Plan to purchase your tickets this Sunday!

A Fun Time at Paul's Puttin' Place – Saturday, June 27th

Young Adults and Families with Young Children are invited to a fun afternoon at Paul's Puttin' Place on Saturday, June 27th. We'll gather at 3 p.m. to chase the little ball around the miniature golf course and join together for a potluck picnic supper following. Guaranteed fun for the entire family! Group admission rates are \$3.25 for adults and \$2.25 for children. Bring one or two potluck dishes to share along with your own table service and beverage. Sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday!

Register for the General Assembly

Registration is now open for the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) July 29—August 2, 2009 in Indianapolis. Central may send nine voting representatives (not including clergy who vote by virtue of office) and as many non-voting representatives as will attend. The floor of the assembly including participation in assembly debate as well as all assembly meal events and exhibits are open to voting and non-voting representatives alike. To learn more about General Assembly, and to register and reserve a hotel room, follow the link on our website at www.cccdisciples.org

News From the Pews....

Congratulations and Happy Anniversary wishes to **Reeder & Frances Miller** on their 60th wedding anniversary on June 12 and to **Bill & Claudine Nichols** on their 60th wedding anniversary on June 15.

Deborah Wray proudly announces that her daughter, **Tabitha Knerr** graduated June 12th from the University of Chicago with a Masters of Divinity and a Masters of Public Policy. Last Sunday, June 14, she was ordained at the Iglesia Del Pueblo Disciples Christian Church in Hammond, Indiana.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Sue Burkham, Jack Dixon** and family following the June 14th death of Sue's grandson, *Tyler Yount*.and to **York & Katie Powers** following the June 17th death of York's mother, *Carlotta Gordon-Powers* of Aurora, Illinois.

Note of Thanks Received

Thank you for the kind and flattering words in the sermon on June 7. Kevin and I wanted to say it is a privilege to be able to make a personal mission into a career. We feel blessed. We also want to say we were basking in the glory of so many staff who diligently and dedicatedly work day in and out, through the ups and downs, with children who have very difficult lives. The work they do is not easy and the rewards are often slight. Many others deserve the recognition for these graduates' success.

We also wanted to say what an honor it is to be associated with the congregation at Central. Central is very generous in supporting the mission of Webster-Cantrell Hall financially, by volunteering and by serving on the board. The honor is magnified by knowing how involved Central members are in fulfilling God's word by their service, careers, volunteerism, and stewardship. What a blessing to be associated with such a wonderful congregation.

Sincerely,

Kevin Morrison-Otis & Kevin C. Otis

Mission Trip to Slidell, Louisiana – October 24-31!

Central Christian Church members and friends are making plans for a Mission Trip to Slidell, Louisiana this fall, October 24-31! We have been asked by **Johnny Wray**, former Director of Week of Compassion, to be part of a Blitz Build which will construct a new Community Center on the property of First Christian Church of Slidell. The new building will provide housing for continuing volunteers who come to the area to assist in the rebuilding following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and will assist the congregation in vital outreach and ministries to the community. Plan now to be a part of this exciting mission opportunity in October. See **Pastor Gretchen** for more information. You can read the story of this church's transformation and learn more about the mission trip, following the links on our website www.cccdisciples.org.

There's a Study/Prayer Group for You!

If you are interested in continuing in/or joining a prayer and study group similar to the Unbinding Your Heart groups, a sign up sheet is available in the Friendship Center or you may call the church office, 428-4336 to notify us of your interest. We will have Sunday morning groups, Wednesday night groups, and if enough interest, a week day group. Please let us know!



Sunday, June 21, 2009

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-Kaylene Beal, French Horn; Brenda Clark, Piano
10:00 Anthem-Chancel Choir, French Horn, Organ
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Clinic
9:00-Sunday School
9:00-CCF, Breakfast Out
12:00-Fellowship Sunday Lunch, Great Hall

Tuesday (23)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
5:30-Peace & Justice, 280
5:30-VBS Training, Disciple Room

Wednesday (24)

9:00-Baby Talk, 240
11:30-4:00-CCC Kids Club, Weldon Springs
12:00-Central Singers
6:00-8:00-Youth, Robert & Teri Bushey's house
6:30-Jubilee!, Choir Room

Thursday (25)

10:00-Alanon, 212
10:30-Fun Timers, Rockome Gardens
6:00-Welcome to the Digital World, Friendship Center
7:00-Chancel Choir

Saturday (27)

3:00-Young Adults & Families, Paul's Puttin' Place & cookout at Nelson Park

Counting On You

June 14

Worship Attendance 266
Sunday School Attendance 63

Serving Schedule—June 21, 2009

Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Lois Whitaker, John Graham

Deacons:

8:00 - 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
10:00 - 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:

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos
10:00 - Team 10 - Bill Blank, Capt., Marilyn Blank, Lucy Acheson, Dick Cain, Sue Ann Cain, Rosie Doore

Greeters:

8:00 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Dave & Christy Hanson
10:00 - David & Katie Miller, Carroll & Doris Little

Acolytes:

8:00 - Bobby Munos
10:00 - Joshua Bushey

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash
10:00 - Jim Hinze

Preparation of Communion:

Ed & Joy Adams, Betty Chapman, Chloe & Robert Hoaglin

Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams
Sunday School and 10:00 service - Doug Soebbing
10:00 service only - Karen Baird

June 24 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Joanne Gustin

Hosts:

June 22 9:00-12:30 - Gail Prince
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
June 23 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
June 24 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith
12:30-4:00 - Ruby Agnew
June 25 9:00-12:30 - Evelyn Sperry
12:30-4:00 - Charlotte Lyon
June 26 9:00-12:30 - Yvonne Purcell
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
Shelly Messmore Preschool Director
Trudy Garland, Wendy Jalley Preschool Teachers
Jennifer Van Dyke, Kay Villarreal Preschool Teachers
Robin White Preschool Teacher
Rudi Descaro Caretaker
David Flanders Caretaker
Dean Hadden Caretaker
Charles Wallace Caretaker

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