



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, July 22, 2009

No. 29

## Sign Up This Sunday to Help Make Miracles Happen!

Miracle Day this year is using a format developed by Operation InAsMuch for use in neighborhoods across the country. It takes its name from the words of Jesus reported in Matthew 25:40, "In as much as you did it to one of the least of these ..." One of the sites is here in Decatur, in the Prairie Avenue neighborhood. As volunteers gather that day in our city, we will serve elderly and low income homeowners by helping with tasks such as window repairs, steps or porch repairs, painting, yard clean up, flower planting, installing or servicing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, mattress turning, and hauling away unwanted items or debris. Additional projects include sewing lap robes and walker bags for nursing home residents, preparing meals, transporting food and drinks to work sites, inspecting bicycles and childcare for younger children. Registration forms are in the Friendship Center. Donations are always needed. Volunteers are encouraged to bring tools needed for their projects. Information and volunteer registration forms are also available on our website at [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org). See Pastors **Gretchen** or **Robert** for more info.



## Welcome New Member

We welcome **Bill White**, who joined the church family of Central Christian, by transfer of membership, on Sunday, July 19.

## Ten Days 'til Crocodile Dock VBS, August 2-6

Join us for Crocodile Dock as we learn about God and one another!

**DAY 1** - God is with us.

**Bible Story:** God speaks to Moses in a burning bush. Exodus 3:1-4:17

**DAY 2** - God is powerful.

**Bible Story:** God sends the plagues on Egypt. Exodus 7:1-10:29

**DAY 3** - God keeps promises.

**Bible Story:** God spares the Israelites at Passover. Exodus 11:1-12:42

**DAY 4** - God gives us life.

**Bible Story:** Jesus dies and comes back to life. Matthew 27:11-28:10

**DAY 5** - God cares for us.

**Bible Story:** The Israelites cross the Red Sea. Exodus 14:1-15:21

Register your children! Invite your neighbors! Come and grow with us! Register by calling the church office today, 428-4336.

**SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2009**

**WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00**  
**Fragmented Abundance**

Text: John 6:1-15

Robert Bushey, Jr.

## New Church Directory Won't Be Complete Without YOU!

Do you ever see people in church and wonder what their names are? Have you ever heard an announcement regarding a member and wished that you could put a name with a face? Are you new to our church and wish that you had something to help you identify those you see? Help is on the way! We are producing a NEW pictorial directory for our church. There is no cost to you or the church to have your picture taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8"x10" color portrait and directory for participating. You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after you are photographed. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. Our new church directory won't be complete without YOU! Make an appointment NOW for your family photographs. Remaining photography dates are July 28 and 29 and August 17, 18, and 19. Appointments will be scheduled between 1:30 and 8 p.m. on those days. Check your calendar and make your appointment online at [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org) or this Sunday morning in the Friendship Center. Those who have not made an appointment this week will receive a phone call (from a 419 area code) to assist you in scheduling your photo session.

## Central Youth

### Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> CCC Kids to Rock Springs for a Bike Ride

9:00 a.m. - Noon

Children grades 3-8 join us for a morning bike ride at Rock Springs. Bring your own lunch and your bike. Sign up by emailing Pastor Robert at [rbushey@cccdisciples.org](mailto:rbushey@cccdisciples.org) or RSVP on the CCC Kids Club Facebook Page.

### Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> Central Youth Grill & Chill

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

### Miracle Day 2009

Central Youth will participate in Miracle Day activities on August 29<sup>th</sup> 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. Sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday!

### Summit 2.0.0.9

Summit for youth grades 7-12 will be held November 20-22, 2009 at the Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, Illinois. Mark your calendars today. Registration forms are available at [www.cciwdisciples.org](http://www.cciwdisciples.org) and should be returned to the church office before September 1<sup>st</sup> with a check payable to Central for \$75 which includes meals & lodging. See Pastor Robert for more information or questions.

## Robert's Reflections

Two weeks ago I traveled to our nation's capitol with Teri, the boys and my parents for a quick visit to the National Mall to see the monuments and memorials built to honor the achievements and the sacrifices of many of our fellow Americans. My father served our nation in the Army in Korea during the Korean War in the 1950's. He had never had the opportunity, along with my mother, to see the memorial built to remember his comrades whose lives were cut short in a war that has often been called "the forgotten war" on the heels of victory at the conclusion of WWII. On his birthday, my father was moved by the images of faces from every branch of service laser-etched into the wall of black granite and the slightly larger than life statuary of a patrol making their way through the uneven terrain of the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. I am glad to have had the opportunity to travel with my parents and two of their grandchildren to see and experience a taste of Washington, D.C.

While I was in D.C, I also had the opportunity to have a follow-up meeting at the Federal Reserve Board as we make plans for their visit to central Illinois on August 15<sup>th</sup>. I met with senior officers of the reserve who write policy for the Board of Governors and will likely make the trip to Decatur. I shared our plans for the morning including the public meeting at 9:30 a.m. at the Civic Center Auditorium. Residents from across central Illinois will have an opportunity to engage the reserve officers in dialogue and ask for their commitment to help our communities as we work to grow jobs in our community, to provide affordable, adequate and accessible housing for all of our residents, and to provide quality education opportunities for all residents. Decatur is within the Chicago Region of the reserve banking system and we are all too familiar with the power of our state's largest city. I was encouraged by my recent meeting and I believe that Decatur will be heard on August 15<sup>th</sup>. More than that, I am encouraged by the reserve's commitment to an ongoing relationship with Central IL Organizing Project and the communities we serve.

As a member congregation of CIOP we have an incredible opportunity as a faith community to live out our call to work for God's justice and to stand alongside our neighbors who have lost their jobs, houses, and hope in many cases due to the products they were sold. We have an opportunity to share our resources beyond dollars and material possessions. We have an opportunity to share our presence, to be in solidarity with those who need the hopefulness that a life of faith brings. As a host congregation we need to be present on August 15<sup>th</sup>. I pray that you will consider joining us at the Civic Center and that you will reserve your ticket in the Friendship Center this week.

Peace & Joy, *Robert*

### 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 to construct a new Community Center on the property of First Christian Church of Slidell, to provide housing for continuing volunteers who come to the area to assist in the rebuilding following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and assist the congregation in outreach and ministries to the community. Speak with **Pastor Gretchen** for more information.

## News From the Pews....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Edwin & Maria Jacobs** and family following the July 10<sup>th</sup> death of Edwin's brother, *Clayton Jacobs* of Indianapolis.

## Tickets Available for Federal Reserve Visit

August 15<sup>th</sup> is a day of opportunity for Decatur and surrounding Central IL communities. The Federal Reserve has committed to ten such visits to mostly larger metropolitan areas and ours is the smallest in population. It is important that our voices are heard as it is very unusual for these Washington insiders to get outside of the political sphere of D.C. and hear our concerns, see firsthand the impact their decisions make or do not make on our communities, and to be held accountable for their recent expenses of more than \$1 Trillion dollars of taxpayer money to rescue large financial institutions. William Grieder, bestselling author of *Secrets of the Temple* covering the Federal Reserve's power in DC and award winning journalist for The Nation and Washington Post will be our keynote speaker. If you would like to know more about the Federal Reserve and/or how their visit may impact our community, You are invited to a brief 15 minute presentation during the Sunday School hour in the Great Hall at 9:15 a.m. on July 26<sup>th</sup> or August 9<sup>th</sup>. And, even more importantly, sign up in the Friendship Center for one of our free tickets to the Community meeting at 9:30 a.m. on August 15<sup>th</sup> at the Decatur Civic Center.

## Looking for Mentors! Mother Mentors!

The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and BabyTALK are looking for volunteer mentors for their Mentoring Mothers program for teen mothers, many of whom are students at some time in the Phoenix Alternative program which meets on our second floor. The mission of the project is to positively impact the lives of pregnant or parenting youth in Decatur and Macon County by providing female adult support and guidance. And, by providing young mothers with consistent, caring mentors, they will learn to become independent, successful individuals and parents.

### What does a mentor do?

Encourage mothers to complete high school and continue with their education or obtain gainful employment; help teens set and achieve personal, academic, parenting, and career goals; build support systems and friendships with young mothers; and make a difference!

By committing to spend a little time with these young mothers you can really make a difference in their life. Relationships matter. For more information contact: Lynne Maisel, 429-3000, Program Coordinator, The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County.

## Counting On You

### July 19

Worship Attendance ..... 304  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 48



### Sunday, July 26, 2009

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services  
Music: 8:00 Offertory-Jubilee!  
10:00 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Clinic  
9:00-Sunday School  
9:00-CCF, Great Hall  
9:00-Jubilee! Rehearsal  
9:15-Kitchen Orientation for Elderberries Teams, Great Hall Kitchen

### Tuesday (28)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,  
Senior Pastor's Study  
1:30-8:00-Church Directory Pictures

### Wednesday (29)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 240  
1:30-8:00-Church Directory Pictures

### Thursday (30)

10:00-Alanon, 212  
7:00-Chancel Choir

## Young Adults/Young Families Afternoon at Sun & Fun!

Young Adults and Families with Young Children are invited to join together this Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. for an afternoon of water fun at Sun & Fun Swim & Golf Club (off Arbor Drive on the north side of town). Admission to the pool is \$5 per person. Bring your own picnic supper or purchase from the concession stand and we'll enjoy our evening meal together as well. Let us know you plan to come by calling the church office (428-4336) or e-mail **Pastor Gretchen** at [gbarron@cccdisciples.org](mailto:gbarron@cccdisciples.org).



---

---

## Serving Schedule—July 26, 2009

### Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Connie Bordner, Randy Brooks

### Elders Serving Hospital Communion:

**St. Mary's Hospital:** Elder Lawrence Thicksten

**Decatur Memorial:** Elder John Graham

### Deacons:

8:00 - Team 1 - Gene Garver, Capt., Bev Chapman, Merle Chapman, Dennis Downey, Al Fagin, Chris Fagin, Sally Force, Sandy Garver, Dean Gray, Janet Gray, Gail Prince, Larry Prince, Dean Simcox, Sue Simcox

10:00 - Team 2 - Richard Ward, Capt., Cathy Ash, Jim Ash, Neil Baird, Debbie Bateman, Philip Bateman, Azalee Berner, Warren Berner, Dale Ford, Judy Ford, Erik Harm, Christine Lyman-Harm, Daniel Hinze, David Martin, Julie Martin, Ron Oliver, Aaron Osman, Betsy Osman, Dave Phillips, Nita Phillips, Brett Swallow, Kelly Swallow, Steve Swarthout, Janet Thicksten, Kathy Thornton, Kent West, Lea West

### 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 - Donna Dash, Frances Heiserman, Norman & Darla Lienemann

10:00 - Glen & Jody Featherstun, Judson & Jean Pease

### Acolytes:

8:00 - Bobby Munos

10:00 - Joshua Bushey

### P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash

10:00 - Keith Backes

### Preparation of Communion:

Diane & Robert Reed, Bill & LeEtta Bass, Jane Latshaw

### Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - John Flanders

Sunday School and 10:00 service - Keith Backes

10:00 service only - Karen Baird

### July 29 Visitor Mailing Crew: Joanne Gustin

### Hosts:

July 27 9:00-12:30 - Betty Scott

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

July 28 9:00-12:30 - Darla Lienemann

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

July 29 9:00-12:30 - Rosie Doore

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

July 30 9:00-12:30 - *Help Needed*

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

July 31 9:00-12:30 - Sally Force

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

**Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
**650 West William Street Decatur, Illinois 62522**  
**Telephone (217)428-4336 FAX (217)428-1700**  
**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  
Kathy Beube, Trudy Garland ..... 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

The Central Visitor (USPS 098-520) is published weekly by Central Christian Church, 650 W. William, Decatur, IL 62522. Periodical Postage paid at Decatur, IL.  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Central Visitor, 650 W. William St., Decatur, IL 62522.



**Central Christian Church**  
**(Disciples of Christ)**  
650 West William Street  
Decatur, IL 62522-2326

PERIODICAL  
POSTAGE  
PAID

