



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, July 29, 2009

No. 30

## 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, AUGUST 2, 2009**  
**WORSHIP AT 8:00 AND 10:00**

**Bread of Life**  
**for a Hungering World**

Text: John 6:24-35

Gretchen Barron

## Last Week to Sign Up to Help with August 29<sup>th</sup> Miracle Day!

This Sunday is your last opportunity to sign up to help with the August 29<sup>th</sup> Miracle Day. Miracle Day Volunteers from around the region will gather in Decatur to assist with home repairs and other projects in the Prairie Avenue neighborhood and around the city. 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. Some additional special projects will be taking place right here at Central Christian Church as teams gather to sew walker bags and lap robes for nursing home residents, prepare meals for neighbors and volunteers and create cards for overseas military personnel. We guarantee there will be a job and task for every skill level and physical ability. 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**.

## Make Sure YOU are Part of Our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Directory!

We do hope that you and your family are making plans to have your photograph taken and be a part of Central's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Directory. Our goal is to have every Central family represented in this book which will help us celebrate our past as well as our future! When you have your photograph taken, you will receive a FREE 8"x10" photo as well as your own personal copy of the new Directory. Three days of photography remain (August 17-19) so it's not too late to schedule your appointment between 1:30 and 8 p.m. on any of those days. You can make an appointment by stopping by the table in the Friendship Center this Sunday or calling the church office (428-4336) or clicking on the link on our webpage at [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org). If you have not yet scheduled an appointment, you may receive a phone call soon (from a 419 area code) to assist you in scheduling your photo session.



## Hunger Relief Team Needs You – August 15<sup>th</sup>

The Hunger Relief Team is scheduled to serve at Good Samaritan Inn on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Your help is needed. Volunteers are needed to help prepare meals in our kitchen from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m and to help serve meals at the inn from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. We will also be serving our guests from the Federal Reserve. You may volunteer by calling the church office or sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday.

## 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 6-8 p.m. for Supper from the Grill, Swimming and Yard Games.

### Miracle Day 2009

Central Youth will participate in Miracle Day activities on August 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.

## Gretchen's Gleanings ...

As we enjoy the last few weeks of summer break (at least for our school-aged children), and look ahead to a busy fall, it is good to pause and take note of the abundant blessings which have been given to us. A very big part of living a blessed life is learning to respond in ways that others will be blessed as well. The month of August gives Central members and friends multiple opportunities to "share the blessing" with others in our neighborhood and around the world. There is, in fact, a veritable smorgasbord of mission, outreach and educational opportunities available to us this month. Just in case you've missed them, here's a summary – check the Friendship Center to sign up or speak with one of the Pastors for more information. We invite you to participate in any or all!

**August 2-6<sup>th</sup>** – Vacation Bible School – share the blessings with the children of our church and neighborhood as they learn about God's love

**August 7-9<sup>th</sup>** – Miracle Day Fund-Raiser – Parking for the Decatur Celebration. This fund-raiser alone could help raise more than \$1500 for Miracle Day projects. Volunteers are needed.

**August 9<sup>th</sup>** – 9:15 a.m. – learn more about how the Federal Reserve and how their upcoming visit may impact our community

**August 15<sup>th</sup>** – 9:30 a.m. Community Meeting at the Civic Center with William Grieder.

**August 15<sup>th</sup>** – the Hunger Relief Team will be serving lunch at the Good Samaritan Inn.

**August 16<sup>th</sup>** – Mission Dinner in the Great Hall following Second Service. Hear about the work of Disciples of Christ around the world and learn some amazing things about what your offerings are accomplishing.

**August 16<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>** – Special Offering for Church World Service and the Tools of Hope and Blankets program.

**August 29<sup>th</sup>** – Miracle Day in the Prairie Avenue Neighborhood – volunteers and donations are still needed!

**Entire Month** – Summer Food Collections

**Entire Month** – Sign up for Slidell, Louisiana Mission trips for October 24-31, 2009 or March 14-20, 2010.

I challenge you to pick one or more items from this amazing list of opportunities and give yourself to it this month as you "share the blessings" of God!

Blessed to be with you - *Gretchen*

### Fellowship Sunday is August 16<sup>th</sup>!

Just a reminder that our monthly Fellowship Luncheon will be Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. The World Outreach Department has prepared a short informational program and the Fellowship Department is planning a delicious meal. Plan now to attend the August 16<sup>th</sup> lunch in the Great Hall following second service. To make your reservation, write "Fellowship" next to your name in the friendship register this Sunday or call the church office, 428-4336. Reservations are critical as we plan for food and seating.

### Volunteers Needed for Decatur Celebration Parking Fund Raiser for Miracle Day

Central youth and adult volunteers are needed to operate the parking lot at National City Bank at the corner of Eldorado Street and Main Street just two blocks from the Show Stage. Parking will be available for \$4 per car on Friday evening, Saturday after the parade and Sunday beginning at 11 a.m. during the event. Funds received will be used to support CCIW Miracle Day. If you would like to volunteer for a two-hour shift, please sign up in the Friendship Center or by contacting the church office at 428-4336.

## Summer Food Collection

Central Christian Church supports the Northeast Community Fund Food Pantry located at 831 N. Water Street. Each year, according to the director of the pantry the Rev. Jerry Pelz, the amount of food donated to the pantry drops during the summer months. In fact, in recent weeks the pantry has reported that they were out of food. In response to the immediate need, the Christian Action and Community Service Department is sponsoring a Summer Food Collection for the pantry to help replenish their stock of some items in high demand. We invite you to bring:



**Macaroni and Cheese** in 7-10 oz boxes on **August 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Canned Pastas or Stews** (chicken & dumplings, ravioli, macaroni & beef, Spaghetti O's) in 15-32 oz. cans on **August 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Peanut Butter** in 32 oz. or less size jars on **August 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Each Sunday, we will collect the items in a shopping cart borrowed from Kroger that you will find at the West Entrance. You may also donate food or money directly to the pantry by calling 429-5846. Help us fill our cart, and help some of our neighbors when they need it most!

## 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 one trillion dollars of taxpayer money to rescue large financial institutions. William Grieder, best-selling 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 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.

## Two Mission Trips Planned to Slidell, Louisiana – Take Your Pick Fall or Spring!

The Fall Mission Trip is still on for October 24-31<sup>st</sup> although our focus will change a bit. Participants on the fall mission trip will be working in the Slidell neighborhoods to help rebuild and repair private homes following the devastating hurricanes of recent years. In addition, Central members will be participating in a special Blitz Build of a new Community/Outreach Center at First Christian Church in Slidell from March 14-20, 2010. The new center will 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 or if you are interested in either or both mission opportunities.



## Sunday, August 2, 2009

8:00 and 10:00-Worship Services  
Music: Offertory-Rachel West, Piano

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

5:00-8:00-Crocodile Dock VBS

## Monday (3)

5:00-8:00-Crocodile Dock VBS

## Tuesday (4)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207

10:00-Trustees, Disciple Room

10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,

Senior Pastor's Study

5:00-8:00-Crocodile Dock VBS

## Wednesday (5)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 240

12:00-Central Singers

5:00-8:00-Crocodile Dock VBS

## Thursday (6)

10:00-Alanon, 212

5:00-8:00-Crocodile Dock VBS

6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207

7:00-Chancel Choir

## Saturday (8)

7:30-Elders' Breakfast Meeting,  
Disciple Room

## Counting On You

### July 26

Worship Attendance .....	264
Sunday School Attendance .....	56

## Central Has a Facebook Page

For those of you on Facebook, search for Central Christian Church Decatur IL and become a fan of our page. Events, discussions, photos and more will be posted on the page. Enjoy!

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## Serving Schedule—August 2, 2009

### Elders:

8:00 & 10:00 - Jo Carter, Dick Cain

### Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Jody Featherstun & 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 1 - Charlotte Ballance, Capt., Jim Bednar, Pamela Bednar, Jarrett Bednar

10:00 - Team 6 - Mark Beal, Capt., Katie Beal, Kaylene Beal, Sean Beal, Charlotte Lyon, Barbara Tyler

### Greeters:

8:00 - Virginia Griffith, Barbara Beyer, Dennis & Debbie Downey

10:00 - Larry & Betty Chapman, Brett, Kelly & Ashley Swallow

### Acolytes:

8:00 - Brad Munos

10:00 - Alexis Econie

### P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Jim Bednar

10:00 - Keith Backes

### Preparation of Communion:

Brenda & Don Tankersley, Mary Jane Linton,  
Connie Schabowski, Linda Shambaugh

### Van Drivers:

8:00 service and Sunday School - John Flanders

Sunday School and 10:00 service - Kevin Wilmot

10:00 service only - Ron Oliver

**August 5 Visitor Mailing Crew:** Joanne Gustin

### Front Door Hosts:

Aug. 3 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Aug. 4 9:00-12:30 - Gail Prince  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Aug. 5 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith  
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

Aug. 6 9:00-12:30 - Joy Adams  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Aug. 7 9:00-12:30 - Brenda Tankersley  
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

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**(Disciples of Christ)**  
650 West William Street  
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