



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, August 5, 2009

No. 31

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

It's time to reserve your place at this month's Fellowship Sunday lunch! The World Outreach Department will present a short program on mission that Central supports, and the Fellowship Department is cooking up taco salads and a cool summer dessert. 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 important, so we can be sure to have plenty of food and a place set for you.

## **Elderberries to Meet Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>!**

If you are at least 55 years young, we invite you to join the Elderberries for a wonderful meal and program and delightful fellowship together on the second Wednesday of each month. We will meet Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Great Hall. The menu this month will be Chicken Cordon Bleu, Wild Rice, California Blend Vegetables, Applesauce, Rolls/Butter and Sherbet & Cookies. The food is lovingly prepared by Central's own volunteers. Cost for the meal is just \$4 per person. Following lunch, **Roy Schilling** will be sharing his knowledge on Wind Mills and Wind Energy. To sign up, call the church office (428-4336) or mark "Elderberries" next to your name on the Friendship Pad this 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 left over than not have prepared enough for everyone. Reservations need to be made before 5 p.m. on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> so don't delay, reserve your place at the table today!

## **Volunteers Needed for Decatur Celebration Parking 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 call the church office at 428-4336 or speak with **Pastor Bushey**.

## **Macaroni & Cheese Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

In response to the immediate needs in our community, the Christian Action and Community Service Department is sponsoring a Summer Food Collection for the Northeast Community Fund food pantry to help replenish their stock of some items in high demand. This Sunday we invite you to bring **Macaroni & Cheese** in 7-10 oz. boxes. We will collect the items in a shopping cart that you will find at the West Entrance. You may also donate food or money directly to the pantry by calling 429-5846.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2009**

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

**Being Angry Without Sin**

Text: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Charles Watkins

## **Make Sure YOU are Part of Our 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 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 in available slots between 1:30 and 8 p.m. on those days.

You can make an appointment by calling the church office (428-4336) or clicking on the link on our webpage at [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org). Those who are ill, shut-in or deployed military personnel are invited to submit a candid photo (nothing with a copyright, please) for the directory as well. 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.



## 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. Register this Sunday in the Friendship Center!

### 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.

## Charles's Column

Because of my deadline for having items ready for this week's issue of *The Central Visitor*, I am writing to you from Indianapolis at the conclusion of the 2009 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) July 29—August 2, 2009.

For well-written and accurate reports on what happened at the assembly, please look at our denomination's web site [www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org). There you can see the entire business docket. On another page you can see the results of the Assembly's actions to approve, not approve, or refer each item. You can find summaries of sermons, speeches, and events.

If you are interested further, you may visit the web site of our Disciples' independent journal of news and opinion at [www.disciplesworld.org](http://www.disciplesworld.org). You can even subscribe to the magazine online!

If you don't want to know exactly what happened and all about the business of our church, you can continue here for a personal and opinionated view. As I have told you before, I attended the very last International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) and the very first General Assembly of our restructured Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada in Kansas City in 1968. I was a callow youth filled with wonder and awe at the worship, politics, and procedures of a mass gathering of 12,000 Disciples from across the continent in which every single Disciples member present had privileges of the floor whether they were voting representatives or not. It was so exciting.

After forty-one years and eighteen General Assemblies, not so much. In those days I was acutely aware of old codgers wandering the exhibit hall and lamenting how things just weren't the same. I promised myself I would never be one of those. And yet, here I am. This year there is no printed docket including general unit reports, business items, worship service orders, hymns, lists of participants, the fully amended *Design of the Christian Church* and all the special rules of the assembly, neatly bound in a book about the size of the Decatur phone book. I never realized how much I would miss it until it was gone.

This year our Assembly went "green" with no printed docket at all, but all of its contents provided on CD-ROM. Some of us don't read hundreds of pages on the screen so well. So I printed out all that I would need—more than a ream of your paper and Jesus's copier toner. Repeated across 3700 congregations and 6000 representatives in attendance, I wonder just how green that idea is. And the PDFs I printed carried no page numbers, which made keeping up on the floor a little difficult. Mutter, mutter, mutter.

And yet there were moments of insight and inspiration at the Assembly. Moderator Newell Williams gave an historical reflection on distortions of the original Campbell-Stone spirituality that told the story of my life. I am richer and more committed to our "nifty, little church," than ever. Thank you for allowing me and my ministerial staff colleagues to attend the assembly. God bless you and the Disciples of Christ!

*Charles Watkins*

### 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 8–11 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. Volunteer by calling the church office, 428-4336 or sign up in the Friendship Center this Sunday.

## News From the Pews....

Congratulations to **Eric & Purnima King**, of San Francisco on the August 2<sup>nd</sup> birth of their daughter, **Reagan Elizabeth**. Proud grandparents are **Rick & Tina King**.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to **Marylu Lyman** and family following the August 1<sup>st</sup> death of her brother, *George Bellinger* of Atlanta, Georgia.....and to the family of **Sarah Fenton** following her August 2<sup>nd</sup> death in Arizona.

## Two Mission Trips Planned to Slidell, Louisiana

The Fall Mission Trip is still on for October 24-31 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.

## 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, 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, I invite you 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.

For more information contact: Lynne Maisel, Program Coordinator, The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County, 217-429-3000.



## Sunday, August 9, 2009

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
Music: Offertory-Alex Otis, Soprano;  
Rachel West, Piano  
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Clinic  
9:00-Sunday School  
9:00-CCF, Great Hall  
9:00-Jubilee! Rehearsal

## Monday (10)

9:00-Volunteers to Good Samaritan Inn

## Tuesday (11)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting,  
Senior Pastor's Study  
5:00-CADV, Disciple Room  
6:00-MCCOCP, Disciple Room

## Wednesday (12)

9:00-Baby Talk Parents, 240  
9:00-1:00-CCC Kids Club,  
Rock Springs Bike Ride  
12:00-Elderberries, Great Hall  
5:00-Preschool Board, 290  
5:15-175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Task Force,  
Disciple Room  
6:00-Youth, Robert & Teri Bushey's  
house

## Thursday (13)

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

## Saturday (15)

8:00-Hunger Relief Task Force, Great  
Hall Kitchen  
9:30-Community Meeting with the Fed-  
eral Reserve, Decatur Civic Center  
11:00-Hunger Relief Serving Team,  
Good Samaritan Inn

## Counting On You

### August 2

Worship Attendance ..... 227  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 43

**Serving Schedule—August 9, 2009**

**Elders:**

8:15 & 10:45 - John Graham, Jane Watkins

**Communion to Shut-Ins:**

<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Elders</b>
Mike Holbrook	Bruce Campbell
Charlotte Ballance	Mary Jane Oliver
Jarrett Bednar	Kevin Miller
Jane Davis	Jo Carter
Andy Fulk	Claudia Quigg
Theresa Fulk	Scott Hawbaker
Sherri Hood	Keith Backes
Debbie Seaberg	Mark Beal
Connie Shields	Mike Holbrook
Max Sperry	Randy Brooks

**Deacons:**

8:15 - 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

10:45 - 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:**

8:15 - 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 - Jim, Pamela & Jarrett Bednar, Rita Woods

10:45 - Dale & Judy Ford, Howard & Marguerite Cravens

**Acolytes:**

8:15 - Bobby Munos

10:45 - Rachel Ash

**P.A. Operator:**

8:15 - Greg Carter

10:45 - Jim Hinze

**Preparation of Communion:**

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

**Van Drivers:**

8:15 service and Sunday School - Andy Fulk  
 Sunday School and 10:45 service - Jon Backes  
 10:45 service only - Karen Baird

**August 12 Visitor Mailing Crew:**

Ruby Agnew, Joanne Gustin

**Front Door Hosts:**

Aug. 10 9:00-12:30 - Mary Boyle  
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
 Aug. 11 9:00-12:30 - Sandy Garver  
 12:30-4:00 - Ellen Sheffer  
 Aug. 12 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith  
 12:30-4:00 - Marilyn Ward  
 Aug. 13 9:00-12:30 - Judy Ford  
 12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
 Aug. 14 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**  
**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
Trudy Garland .....	Preschool Teacher
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

