



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, September 16, 2009

No. 37

## Homecoming Picnic This Sunday

If you have not reserved your place at the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary homecoming picnic this Sunday following the 10:45 service, please phone the church office (428-4336) today! We hope you will attend, and we need your reservation for an accurate count. Special recognition will be presented in various categories, including our Homecoming King and Queen!

## FunTimers Trip to Curtis Orchard

FunTimers of all ages can sign up this Sunday for a trip to Curtis Orchard in Champaign on Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will leave the church at 10:30 a.m. and should arrive back in Decatur at approximately 3:30 p.m. While at the orchard, we will eat lunch in the famous Flying Monkey Café, have time to shop in the gift shop and bakery and have opportunities to taste (as well as purchase) several different varieties of apples. We will also enjoy presentations on Bees and Pollination, Apple Processing and Apple Cider making, along with delicious samples of apple donuts and cider. You can pick out some pumpkins or walk the orchards, if you wish, and we'll get to see some beautiful fall colors as we travel. The tour and orchard are completely handicap accessible! Cost for this trip is \$5 for the tour plus the cost of your meal ordered at the café. Sign up beginning this Sunday in the Friendship Center.

## Ladies Night Out – Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Members and friends are Central are invited to Ladies Night Out on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. at Pastabilities Italian Grill. It's always an enjoyable time as we gather for a fun evening of laughter, fellowship and great food. Invite a friend to join you and sign up this Sunday in the Friendship Center.

## Music Opportunities at Central Christian Church

Singers are needed for our **Central Singers**, a ladies group that meets on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon. We love to sing together and we assist in worship about one time a month.

Ringers are needed for **Chancel Bells**. We meet on Thursday evening at 6:00 p.m. We prepare music to share in worship several times throughout the year. We will begin the new semester on October 1.

You are welcome to join **Jubilee!** We meet on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. This group of energetic young adults meets to prepare music of a variety of styles to share in worship about once a month.

**Chancel Choir** welcomes new members to come and rehearse on Thursday evening from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. We sing every Sunday in worship.

Contact **Don Martin** if you are interested in any of these groups.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009**

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

**Disciples From  
the Beginning**

Text: Luke 5:1-11

Charles Watkins

## Election This Sunday

In your bulletin this Sunday will be a ballot on which to mark your choices for trustees, deacons, elders, and permanent honorary officers emeriti. The Nominating Committee's slate was printed in *The Central Visitor* week before last. You may vote for the entire slate by marking the box near the top of the ballot or mark the box for each individual nominee. Place your ballot in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office on your way to the church picnic on the west lawn.

## Chancel Choir Sponsors Concert

The Chancel Choir is sponsoring an afternoon concert on Sunday, October 4 at 4:00 p.m.

The concert will feature members of Chancel Choir singing old favorites from church music repertoire. Invite you friends to enjoy this inspirational concert. A freewill offering will be taken to help support an upcoming choir tour to Canada.



**Central Youth**  
**Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:30-4:00 p.m.**

Youth Grades 6-12 will take a 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Road Trip to the Dedication of the Hostetler Monument near Lovington. After the ceremony we will stop for ice cream before returning to Decatur.

**The Results Are In!**

We ordered large pizzas from seven local pizza places and voted on the best delivered pizza in Decatur! Drum roll... The winner was Godfather's Pizza on North Main in Decatur. Pizza's were judged by delivery time, temperature, presentation, taste, and crust. Sloans and Dominos tied for second with Pizza Factory placing third.

**CROP WALK 2009**

Central Youth will participate in the Decatur CROP Walk on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> in Fairview Park. A sponsor table will be available in the Friendship Center Sundays, September 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>. You may also sponsor our youth team on the CROP website at [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org)

**Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**GAME NIGHT**  
**5:00-7:00 p.m.**

Game table fun, Wii on the Great Hall screen, and board games your parents used to play! Yes, there will be snacks and you are invited to bring a 2 liter of your favorite soda.

**Don't Forget**  
**We are on Facebook**

Search for Central Christian Church Youth or send **Pastor Robert** a message on Facebook and you will receive an invite to become a fan of the youth page.

**Charles's Column**

Elder Joseph Hostetler (1797-1870) was one of the best known and most industrious of the early leaders and reformers in what is now the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He was born into a German-speaking farm family of "Dunkards" in Kentucky in the Ohio River Valley, an Anabaptist group closely related to today's Church of the Brethren. Starting as a teenager and continuing for the rest of his life he was involved in converting thousands of Disciples in Kentucky, Ohio, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Illinois.

Dr. Hostetler, farmer, physician, and evangelist, made his way to Decatur in 1832, began preaching in the old log courthouse on Lincoln Square and organized his followers into a Disciples of Christ congregation in 1834. The following year he donated two acres of land at the corner of Wood and Water Streets for the construction of our congregation's first meeting house. It was twenty feet square and built of hewn logs.

Having launched our congregation and having given it a home, he moved on to found many congregations across the Midwest. At his death in 1870 he was buried next to his first wife Elizabeth in Keller Cemetery one mile south of Lovington, IL. Over the next century the stone which marked his grave was broken and reduced to a little pile of rubble. This summer Central Christian Church of Decatur in celebration of its 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary erected a new monument over Elder Hostetler's grave, and this Sunday at 2:00pm following the picnic on our west lawn, we will have a brief service of remembrance and dedication for the new monument.

If you would like to participate in this dedication this Sunday, here are directions to Keller Cemetery. The grave of the founding pastor of Central Christian Church, Elder Joseph Hostetler, is twenty-four miles from our church.

Leaving Central, take Eldorado (US 36) east 14.4 miles to the edge of LaPlace at the intersection with Illinois Route 32.

Turn right (south) on Route 32 South to Lovington.

Follow Route 32 South through Lovington and stay on Route 32 for one more mile beyond the south edge of the village. Keller Cemetery is on your right, bordered by a white iron fence.

Turn right at the northeast corner of the cemetery, and take the second entrance to the cemetery on your left. The Hostetler grave is near the north edge of the cemetery next to the iron fence. Look for the gold mums and the new head stone marking the grave.



*Charles Watkins*

**This is the last Sunday**  
**to sign up for the Study Groups!**  
**Stop by the table**  
**in the Friendship Center!**

## News From the Pews....

Congratulations to **Scott & Christy Denney** of Springfield, IL on the August 25<sup>th</sup> birth of their daughter **Addison Elise**. Addison is also welcomed home by her big brother, **Parker** and proud grandparents, **Bill & Joyce Hawks**.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of **Bob & Phyllis Logan** following the September 13<sup>th</sup> death of their son-in-law, *Russ Santee*, husband of their daughter, **Debbie Santee**, both of Wisconsin.

**Marianna Holl** is now residing at the nursing home in Clinton, IL. You can send notes and cards to her at:

Liberty Village of Clinton  
1 Park Lane West  
Clinton, IL 61727

## Not Too Late to Join CCC Bowling League

The Central Christian Church Monday Night Mixed Bowling League begins Monday, September 21st at 5:00 p.m. at Spare Time Lanes. Our non-sanctioned league will play for 16 weeks. The cost is \$9.00 per night plus shoes if you need them. Our goal is fun and fellowship. You need not be an exemplary bowler to join us. The league is open to all high school youth and adults. Substitute bowlers are also be needed. If you are interested in joining us, please call **Ron Oliver**.

## Spirit of Christmas Workshop Crews

Sign up this Sunday to help with our Spirit of Christmas outreach ministry for 2009. Through the generosity of our congregation we plan to help between 90-100 people this Christmas. We will be partnering with Webster Cantrell Hall, Decatur Township and the Phoenix Alternative School for teen moms, which is housed on our campus. During November and December we plan to have four crews organized to help shop for gifts, sort gifts, wrap gifts and deliver the gifts. Over the next few weeks we hope to add your name as a member of one or more of our workshop crews. The Christian Action and Community Service Department will host an organizational *Spirit of Christmas Party* on in October for all crew members. Be a part of the Spirit of Christmas at Central this year!

## Notes of Thanks Received

The family of Wayne Mellinger sincerely thanks everyone who so kindly and lovingly expressed sympathy and condolences at the time of Wayne's death. A special thank you to those who made the memorial service so healing, and a special thanks goes to all the committee who prepared a delicious lunch for our family.

**Edith, Mel & Cathy**

**Rudi Descaro** is enjoying retirement. Thanks for the deluxe reception presented by Shirley & Steve Swarhout. Thank you all for the cards, gifts, a nice poem from violinist, Deonne Orvis, and many hugs and handshakes.

Tell your friends as they shake your hand, that they just shook the hand, that shook the hand, that shook the hand of Abraham Lincoln (via a church caretaker, a Postal supervisor, and an Illinois Congressman.)



## Sunday, September 20, 2009

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
Music: 8:15 Offertory-Marilyn Ward & Marilyn Mertz, Piano Duet  
10:45-Offertory-Jim Walker, Clarinet; Marilyn Mertz, Piano  
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Liz Campbell  
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.  
9:30-Sunday School  
9:30-Jubilee! Rehearsal  
12:00-All-Church Homecoming Picnic, West Lawn  
1:30-Youth to Hostetler Monument

## Monday (21)

5:00-Bowling, Spare Time Lanes

## Tuesday (22)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study  
7:00-Dorcas, home of Joan Smith

## Wednesday (23)

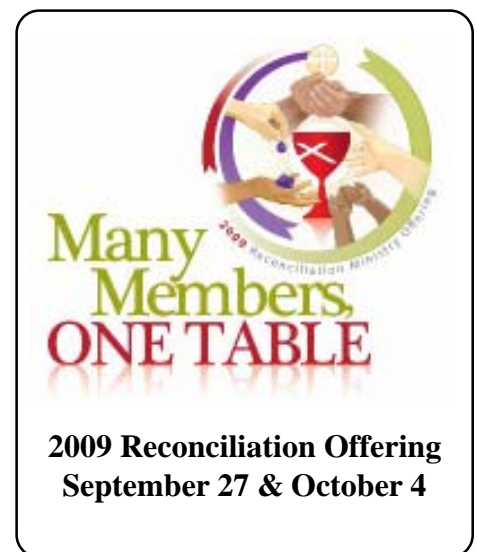
12:00-Central Singers

## Thursday (24)

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

## Friday (25)

6:00-Millikin Family Weekend, Great Hall & Disciple Room



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## Serving Schedule—September 20, 2009

### Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Becky Johnston, Keith Backes

### 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 3 - Dennis Downey, Capt., Debbie Downey, Tina Canfield, Paula Hovey, Connie Schabowski

10:45 - Team 8 - Pamela Ferguson, Doug Soebbing, Donna Strong

### Greeters:

8:15 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Dave & Christy Hanson

10:45 - Bob & Carol Bischoff, Bruce & Felicity Williams

### Parish Nurse:

 Liz Campbell

### Acolytes:

8:15 - Julia Funk

10:45 - Alexis Econie

### P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Greg Carter

10:45 - Keith Backes

### Fellowship Coffee Hosts:

 Gene & Sandy Garver

### Preparation of Communion:

Jean & Judson Pease, Carrie & Steve Funk, Maxine Koenig

### Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Bruce Williams

Sunday School and 10:45 service - Keith Backes

10:45 service only - Brett Swallow

### September 23 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Joanne Gustin, Betty McKown

### West Entrance Hosts:

Sept. 21 9:00-12:30 - Florence Bolin  
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong

Sept. 22 9:00-12:30 - Sandy Garver  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*

Sept. 23 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith  
12:30-4:00 - Ruby Agnew

Sept. 24 9:00-12:30 - Evelyn Sperry  
12:30-4:00 - Charlotte Lyon

Sept. 25 9:00-12:30 - Yvonne Purcell  
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  
Sean Beal ..... Childcare Provider  
Shelly Messmore ..... Preschool Director  
Trudy Garland, Regina Rhodes ..... Preschool Teachers  
Wendy Jalley, Jennifer Van Dyke ..... Preschool Teachers  
Kay Villarreal, Robin White ..... Preschool Teachers  
David Flanders ..... Caretaker Supervisor  
Dean Hadden ..... Caretaker  
Charles Wallace ..... Caretaker

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## Counting On You

### September 13

Worship Attendance ..... 268

Sunday School Attendance ..... 57



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

PERIODICAL  
POSTAGE  
PAID

