



The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, September 30, 2009

No. 39

Share the Blessings

Watch your mail next week for a mailing from the Stewardship Department which will include a reservation card for the all-church dinner following the 10:45 service on Share the Blessings Sunday, October 18.

Chancel Choir Concert This Sunday, October 4th

The Chancel Choir is sponsoring an afternoon concert this Sunday, October 4th at 4:00 p.m. The concert will feature members of Chancel Choir singing old favorites from church music repertoire. Invite your friends to enjoy this inspirational concert. A freewill offering will be taken to help support an upcoming choir tour to Canada.

Choir Tour Fund Raiser - Tailgate Rummage Sale - October 10

Central Christian Chancel Choir is planning a Tailgate Rummage Sale on Saturday, October 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Items large and small will be sold at bargain prices. A hot dog lunch can also be purchased for \$2. All funds raised will support a planned choir tour to Canada.

If you have items you would like to donate to the sale, choir members will be accepting them at the church Friday, October 9, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please price your articles before delivery to the church.

Many Members, One Table

"We are the Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's table as God has welcomed us." ~Dr. Sharon Watkins, General Minister and President & 21st Century Vision Team

This Sunday, Christians around the globe will proclaim, celebrate and remember the Lord Jesus at the Lord's Table during World Communion Sunday. The table is a central image to our understanding of as faithful Disciples. The table is the place where we are drawn together as invited and welcomed guests. The table is a place of invitation, conversation, and transformation. The table is where we are called to become the gift of reconciliation! Your gift to the Reconciliation Ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will invite and empower others to come to the table and become the gift of reconciliation. We will receive our Reconciliation Special Offering this Sunday October 4th. Envelopes are provided in the pews and/or you may mark your check Reconciliation. Thank you for your support of the 2009 Reconciliation Offering.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009

World Communion Sunday

WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45

The Bread of Life

Text: John 6:25-35

Charles Watkins

Ladies Night Out – October 6th

Members and friends of Central are invited to Ladies Night Out on Tuesday, October 6th, 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.

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 22nd. 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 and 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. 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 this Sunday in the Friendship Center.

Central Youth

Youth Hunger Awareness & Faith in Action Weekend Serving at

**Good Samaritan Inn
Saturday, October 3rd
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Help serve a hot meal to those without resources for food in our community. Be at the Good Samaritan at 11 a.m. to help.

Fasting Opportunity Saturday, October 3 through

Sunday, October 4

Youth are invited to join Pastor Robert in a 24 hr. fast as we covenant to prayerfully consider how hunger affects millions everyday in our world and how we may impact changes to eliminate hunger as children of God. The fast will begin after we serve at Good Samaritan and end before or after (your choice) the CROP Walk on Sunday. Adults are encouraged to prayerfully join us in support.

**CROP WALK 2009
Sunday, October 4th
2 p.m.**

Central Youth will participate in the Decatur CROP Walk on Sunday, October 4th in Fairview Park. Registration forms are available at the church. Every youth participant must have a signed waiver to participate. A sponsor table will be available in the Friendship Center this Sunday.

**Sunday, October 11th
6-8 p.m.
Weiner Roast**

**Sunday, October 18th
6-8 p.m.
"It Was 1970 Something"
Disco Night**

Charles's Column

What do you think when you hear that your church has spent \$50,000 more on Christ's mission of witness and service than it has received in the first eight months of 2009?

Do you think: **"O my, the church is spending way too much money!"**

You need to know that of twelve departments that operate our church week-to-week, only one department has spent more than the amount budgeted for the first two-thirds of the year. The one over-spending department is the Stewardship Department which has spent \$118 over its budget for the "Share the Blessings" Campaign now under way to secure commitments to support the church in 2010. Your gift of \$118 could wipe out that deficit.

Do you think: **"That's so much money, such a huge deficit, that I can't really help."** The secret of supporting our amazing church is that each of us does what we can. Yes, it takes a million dollars a year to support our church's operating fund and building fund needs each year. But if you look at our current operating deficit, it amounts to \$143 for each contributing family. If each of us gave an additional \$143 this month, the operating deficit could be wiped out. And the building fund is in good shape. Capital projects now in progress are being paid out of your contributions to the building fund, and the church has borrowed no money from bankers in the last six years. The church has no mortgage debt. So the current operating deficit is well within our ability to wipe away with your generous response.

Do you think: **"This deficit is insurmountable, and we should cut staff (our largest budget item) immediately."** The current operating deficit is not the biggest we have faced before, but it is larger than any we have seen since 2004. The church ended the year "in the black" in 2006 and 2007 and with a small deficit in 2008. This year's shortfall is worrying and difficult, but if we take it seriously and do the best we can, we can wipe it out before the year ends. If we over-react and cut staff now, it will be difficult and costly to replace staff in the future.

Do you think: **"Our congregation is well-managed and responsible in its spending, and I can help it through this rough patch with an extra gift I can afford."** There you go. You can and we must. Thank you for your generous support of Jesus's mission through Central Christian Church. May God bless you for your generous support!

Charles Watkins

Central's Online Community

At its core, the church's mission is to effectively communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world. Fad or here to stay, electronic communication is a current tool for the church as we offer the healing good news of God's love to a fragmented and hurting world. So, we are doing our best to share God's love beyond Sunday in the 21st Century through online communities.

If you are currently using Facebook, you are welcome to become a fan of the Central Christian Church Decatur IL page. Thirty-nine folks have already become fans! From the page you may receive updates on events, the ability to RSVP for events, join discussions, and even follow a pastor's weekly blog. Here's the best part, outside of an internet connection, it is free. Central's Facebook page also tweets on Twitter. For Twitter users, you may also request to follow Central at <http://twitter.com/cccdccatur> If you have questions about Facebook or Twitter you are welcome to contact **Pastor Robert**.



*You Are Invited
to a
"Surprise" Retirement Reception
for John Flanders
Sunday, October 4th
2:00-5:00 p.m.
in the Great Hall*

Notes of Thanks Received

We would like to thank our friends and family at Central for all of the cards and anniversary wishes that were given to us.

Bill & Mary Alice Rule

I am forever grateful for all the prayers and visits from (*Lee Staley*) mom's friends and ministers. She loved you all so much.

Connie Staley Colcord

Dear Members of Central Christian Church,

We were touched by the number of people who came in the rain to the dedication of Dr. Josephus Hostetler's grave marker in Kellar Cemetery. We thank the members of your congregation for their dedication and completion of this project. Dr. Hostetler obviously was a man of good deeds, your church being the most important work he did. As the last direct descendents of Josephus, we appreciate your efforts.

Thank you,

Barbara, Tom and Anne Hostetler

Get Your Flu Shot

Central's parish nurses are sponsoring a Flu Clinic for the Macon County Health Department on Thursday, October 8 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the Disciple Room. No appointment is needed, and the cost for the season flu immunization is \$20. Vaccine for the H1N1 flu is not yet available. Additional cost for the Pneumococcal Vaccine is \$50 for those over age 65 who have never had the pneumococcal vaccine. Those under 65 years of age should have the recommendation of a physician to receive this vaccine.

Transportation needed

One of Central's regular van passengers needs a ride to Imboden Gardens following the first service each Sunday. If you are able to offer a ride, please phone the church office 428-4336.

Sunday, October 4, 2009

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services
Music: Offertory-Central Singers; Leslie Peart, Organ; Tom LeVeck, Violin
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir; Leslie Peart, Organ; Tom LeVeck, Violin
9:00-9:45-Parish Nurse Clinic
9:15-Fellowship Coffee, Friendship Ctr.
9:30-Sunday School
9:30-Jubilee! Rehearsal
9:30-Fully Devoted Study, 212
2:00-CROP Walk, Fairview Park
2:00-5:00-John Flanders "Surprise" Retirement Reception, Great Hall
4:00-Choir/Solos/Ensembles Concert, Sanctuary

Monday (5)

3:30-Fully Devoted Study, Disciple Rm
5:00-Bowling, Spare Time Lanes

Tuesday (6)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207
10:00-Pastors' Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor's Study
11:45-Staff Lunch, Disciple Room
6:30-Ladies Night Out, Pastabilities
6:30-Beta Sigma Phi, Disciple Room

Wednesday (7)

12:00-Central Singers
2:00-Acts Bible Study, Disciple Room
5:15-175th Anniversary Task Force, Disciple Room
5:45-Study Groups Dinner, Great Hall
6:30-Study Groups, Disciple Room, Parlor
7:30-Table Tennis, Great Hall

Thursday (8)

8:00-11:00-Macon Co. Health Dept. Flu Vaccinations, Disciple Room
10:00-Alanon, 212
5:00-Peace & Justice, Disciple Room
6:00-Chancel Bells
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (9)

1:00-4:00-Rummage Sale Donations Accepted, Parlor

Saturday (10)

7:30-Elders' Breakfast, Disciple Room
9:00-3:00-Tailgate Rummage Sale, west parking lot

Serving Schedule—October 4, 2009

Elders:

8:15 & 10:45 - Mary Jane Oliver, Bruce Campbell

Elders Serving Imboden Creek Living Center:

Claudia Quigg & John McClarey

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 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Munos

10:45 - Team 10 - Bill Blank, Capt., Marilyn Blank, Lucy Acheson, Dick Cain, Sue Ann Cain, Rosie Doore

Fellowship Coffee Hosts: Mike & Gerri Munos Family

Acolytes:

8:15 - Sam Funk
10:45 - Rachel Ash

P.A. Operator:

8:15 - Jim Bednar
10:45 - Larry Pepper

Preparation of Communion:

Carroll & Doris Little, Connie Ogden, Jan Patrick, Hazel Perry

Van Drivers:

8:15 service and Sunday School - Andy Fulk
Sunday School and 10:45 service - Doug Soebbing
10:45 service only - Richard Ward

October 7 Visitor Mailing Crew:

Joanne Gustin

West Entrance Hosts:

Oct. 5 9:00-12:30 - Marylu Lyman
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
Oct. 6 9:00-12:30 - Sandy Garver
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
Oct. 7 9:00-12:30 - Joan Smith
12:30-4:00 - Donna Strong
Oct. 8 9:00-12:30 - Carole Songer
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*
Oct. 9 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, Regina Rhodes Preschool Teachers
 Wendy Jalley, Jennifer Van Dyke Preschool Teachers
 Kay Villarreal, Robin White Preschool Teachers
 David Flanders Caretaker Supervisor
 Dean Hadden Caretaker
 Crystal Thicksten 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.

Counting On You

September 27

Worship Attendance 268
 Sunday School Attendance 29



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

PERIODICAL
 POSTAGE
 PAID

