



# The Central Visitor

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

Vol. LXXXII

Decatur, Illinois, November 4, 2009

No. 44



## Farewell, Decatur Concert

**Leslie Peart**, Central's organist for the last twelve years, will complete his outstanding service to our congregation on November 15 with a *Farewell to Decatur Concert* at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Be sure to be on hand to say "thank you" and "good-bye." Leslie will be retiring to Corpus Christi, Texas, on November 18. Invite your friends and neighbors to hear Leslie's farewell concert on November 15.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2009**  
WORSHIP AT 8:15 AND 10:45  
**More Than All the Rest**

Text: Mark 12:38-44  
Charles Watkins

## Welcome New Members



Welcome to **Ken & Julie Jacoby** who became members of Central by Transfer of Membership on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Elderberries to Meet Wednesday, November 11<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 on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Great Hall. The menu this month will be turkey breast, stuffing, roasted vegetables, cranberry salad, and apple spice custard cake. The food is lovingly prepared by Central's own volunteers. Cost for the meal is just \$4 per person (the best deal in town). Following lunch, our own **Mike Bryant** will be sharing his experiences in a recent Bike Ride Across Wisconsin. To sign up, you will need to call the church office (428-4336) or mark "Elderberries" next to your name on the Friendship Pad this coming 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, November 9<sup>th</sup> so don't delay, reserve your place at the table today!

## Share the Blessings

The witness of faithful stewards in our congregation continues as additional giving cards arrive in the church office. The final appeal of this campaign is being prepared, and the church urgently needs to hear from each and every member who plans to support the mission and ministries of our congregation in 2010. The total giving estimated for next year by 191 members and friends now stands at \$517,066. It will take \$816,000 to operate our church in 2010, so we still need a card from you. Please do your best for your church this week.



## Fellowship Sunday, November 15

November 15 we will celebrate with our traditional Thanksgiving potluck in the Great Hall following second service. Please bring a side dish to share, and Fellowship Department will provide the turkey and dressing.

To make your reservation, write "Fellowship" next to your name on the friendship pad on Sunday, November 8, or call the church office, 428-4336. Please make your reservation promptly, so we can be sure to have a place set for you.

## Choir Silent Auction coming! Sunday morning November 15 & 22

You may have heard the choir is singing its way on another mission trip this summer! We hope you will help support your choir in their auction fund raiser.... More information coming soon.

## Central Youth

**Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
6-8 p.m.  
Ninth Annual  
Indoor Golf Tournament**

Central Youth grades 3-5 and 9-12 are invited to our Ninth Annual Indoor Golf Tournament. A special course will be designed especially for our junior golfers. Bring a friend!

### **Summit Informational Meeting**

Youth registered for Summit 2009, will meet for a brief instructional meeting on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at Noon. We will cover our travel schedule and the list of items needed for the event. Please, let Pastor Robert know if you are unable to attend.

facebook

Name:  
Central Christian  
Church Youth  
Status:  
Invite your friends  
to the Indoor Golf  
Tournament...



### **Unplug the Christmas Machine Workshop Saturday, November 14 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Lunch Provided**

Saturday, November 14, Prairie Avenue Christian Church is presenting a 4 hour workshop to help people plan a more rewarding Christmas holiday.

Participants will be given a chance to examine their current practices, define their values, create a fantasy Christmas, then combine all their insights into a workable plan for the coming holiday season.

For more information call Pastor Jason Butterick at 428-3327.

## Charles's Column

I wonder if you know that Central's celebration of the Feast of All Saints is known and emulated across North America. Beginning in 1993, our congregation has published annually a booklet *For All the Saints*. The Christian Church Foundation and Church Extension in Indianapolis have frequently requested copies of this publication to share with other congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The little booklet highlights special gifts to the congregation, and especially memorial gifts. It also records the many clever ways that members of our church have figured out to continue their Christian witness beyond the span of their years—bequests, charitable remainder trusts, annuities, and gifts to community and church foundations designated to benefit Central Christian Church. Since they have remembered their church beyond their own time, it seems urgent that we do not forget their benefactions. Since last All Saints Day, members have left our congregation over a third of a million dollars to strengthen its ministries for generations to come. They did not forget us in their wills, and we must not forget them.

The little booklet also includes Central's policy on undesignated wills and bequests. It's important to remind everyone that if any leave an undesignated estate gift to Central, there is a plan and procedure in place that will distribute their gift in thirds: one-third to the Permanent Memorial Fund (an endowment fund invested by the Trustees of our congregation), one-third to the Building Fund, and one-third to mission outreach both global and local. The printed policy in the booklet describes how a task force is formed from the World Outreach Department and the Christian Action and Communion Service Department to allocate the third of each undesignated bequest to mission partners in Decatur and around the world.

But the policy also provides for those who do not want their gifts divided according the policy. The largest gift from a member's estate in the last year was designated so that the entire amount went into the Permanent Memorial Fund where only the investment income will be used for the day-to-day operations of our congregation's ministries. Being designated in the will for a single purpose meant that the gift was not divided. Gifts in the last year have been designated also to support our music ministry and to support named college scholarships.

Each of us can continue our witness of faith beyond our lifetime. The *For all the Saints* booklet is just a reminder of the many ways we can keep our values alive after we are gone. I hope you enjoy this year's colorful publication, funded by the Board of Trustees of our congregation, and that you will give some thought to what you want to do to declare your faith to future generations at Central.

*Charles Watkins*

## Spirit of Christmas 2009

Plan now to participate in Central's *Spirit of Christmas* by either "adopting" one or more persons to share your spirit of giving with gifts that you provide, or by giving a cash donation to the program by marking your check made payable to the church with Spirit of Christmas. We are anticipating sharing with 90 children and adults from Webster-Cantrell Hall, Decatur Township Assistance, the Phoenix II alternative school. Gift tags will be available in the Friendship Center beginning Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. All gifts should be returned to the church, wrapped and tagged, no later than Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> when they will be dedicated during our morning worship.

## News From the Pews.....

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of *Patricia Stearns*, following her death on October 30<sup>th</sup>.....and to **Marilyn Ward** and family on the November 1<sup>st</sup> death of her daughter-in-law, *Lisa Ward*.

## Mission Trip to Slidell, Louisiana – March 14-20, 2010

Plans are gearing up for our Mission Trip to Slidell, Louisiana next spring, March 14-20<sup>th</sup>. During our week in Louisiana, we will be helping to blitz build a community center at First Christian Church, continuing work that will begin in February. If you are interested in participating in this exciting opportunity, please contact **Pastor Gretchen** for more information (428-4336 or gbarron@cccdisciples.org). A planning and orientation meeting will be scheduled in November.

### *Sunday, November 8 - Purchase Central Christian Church Commemorative Items*

Order Mike Bryant Prints in the Friendship Center  
(Fundraisers for the 2010 Choir Trip)

Purchase Bookmarks (\$10), Hookmarks (\$12), Cookbooks (\$15) and Note Cards (\$10 for 12 Assorted Cards) in the West Entrance  
(Fundraisers for the 175th Anniversary Committee and Dorcas Disciples)

## Now Showing at Just Flicks: *Twelve Angry Men*

The Just Flicks film series continues on November 8<sup>th</sup> with another great selection. *Twelve Angry Men* (1957) is a classic of American cinema. Rotten Tomatoes film review website says, “Sidney Lumet’s directorial debut is a snapshot of the American judicial system in action. Twelve average New York males convene in a very small jury room on a very hot day in order to reach a verdict in a murder trial. Almost everyone wants to vote guilty and get on with their lives except for Juror No. 8 (Henry Fonda), a conscientious citizen who insists on establishing reasonable doubt. Firm opinions weaken and reverse; voices get raised, the clock ticks, and a ghetto kid’s life hangs in the balance.”

Central’s own **Judy Beaman** will lead our discussion, and we can look forward to hearing several fascinating tidbits from her. The show starts at 6 p.m. on Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at First Presbyterian Church in Decatur.

## Emergency Fund Assists Several Families this Fall

As unemployment in our area remains above 10%, through your generous gifts to the Central Emergency Fund we have assisted several individuals and families in need. We have helped folks stay in their homes, keep their power on, purchase the prescription medications they need, and travel to medical appointments and job interviews. Much of the assistance we have provided has been given in partnership with other congregations (First Presbyterian, First Lutheran, First United Methodist and Prairie Avenue to name the most recent) and various social service agencies. Without these partnerships, we would have turned away several larger requests simply due to the lack of available funds. And yet, we are not always able to help. Your gifts to the Emergency Fund may be given at any time during the year by simply designating your gift. If you have questions, concerns or comments about the Central Emergency Fund, please contact **Pastor Robert**.



## Sunday, November 8, 2009

8:15 and 10:45-Worship Services  
Music: Offertory-Brittney McClarey, Vocal; Steve McClarey, Piano  
10:45 Anthem-Chancel Choir  
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  
9:15-12:00-Preschool Book Fair, Preschool Wing  
6:00-Just Flicks, First Presbyterian  
6:00-8:00-Youth Indoor Golf

## Monday (9)

9:00-Volunteers to Good Samaritan Inn  
3:00-Fully Devoted Study, Disciple Rm  
5:00-Bowling, Spare Time Lanes  
6:30-Boy Scouts, Disciple Room & Great Hall  
6:30-LTQ Class, 290

## Tuesday (10)

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207  
10:00-Pastors’ Staff Meeting, Senior Pastor’s Study

## Wednesday (11)

12:00-Elderberries Lunch, Great Hall  
12:00-Central Singers  
2:00-Acts Bible Study, Disciple Room  
5:30-Stewardship Dept., Disciple Room  
5:45-Study Groups Dinner, Great Hall  
6:30-MCCOCP, Disciple Room  
6:30-Study Groups, Welcome Center & Parlor

## Thursday (12)

10:00-Alanon, 212  
6:00-Chancel Bells  
7:00-Chancel Choir

## Saturday (14)

7:30-Elders’ Breakfast, Disciple Room

## Counting On You

### November 1

Worship Attendance ..... 304  
Sunday School Attendance ..... 64

**Serving Schedule—November 8, 2009**

**Elders:**

8:15 & 10:45 - Scott Hawbaker, Larry Thicksten

**Communion to Shut-Ins:**

**Deacons**

Gail Prince  
Larry Prince  
Dean Simcox  
Sue Simcox  
Richard Ward  
Cathy Ash  
Jim Ash  
Christine Lyman-Harm  
Azalee Berner  
Warren Berner

**Elders**

Janet Lyman  
Connie Bordner  
Patt Kuhns  
Dick Cain  
Jo Carter  
Mary Jane Oliver  
Cindy Soebbing  
Robert Garrett  
Becky Johnston  
John McClarey  
Alternate: Julie Martin

**Deacons:**

8:15 - 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  
10:45 - 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:**

8:15 - 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

**Greeters:**

8:15 - Jim, Pamela & Jarrett Bednar, Barbara Beyer  
10:45 - Brett, Kelly & Ashley Swallow, Dee Hill

**Fellowship Coffee Hosts:** Mike & Gerri Munos Family

**Acolytes:**

8:15 - Brad Munos  
10:45 - Rachel Ash

**P.A. Operator:**

8:15 - Donna Dash  
10:45 - Jim Hinze

**Preparation of Communion:**

Carole Holbrook, Ann Harshman, Kim Miller, Yvonne Purcell, Nancy Taylor

**Van Drivers:**

8:15 service and Sunday School - Andrew Fulk,  
Sunday School and 10:45 service - Jon Backes,  
10:45 service only - Brett Swallow,

**November 10 Visitor Mailing Crew:** Ruby Agnew, Joanne Gustin

**West Entrance Hosts:**

Nov. 9 9:00-12:30 - Mary Boyle  
12:30-4:00 - *Help Needed*  
Nov. 10 9:00-12:30 - Joy Adams  
12:30-4:00 - Ellen Sheffer  
Nov. 11 9:00-12:30 - Virginia Griffith  
12:30-4:00 - Marilyn Ward  
Nov. 12 9:00-12:30 - Dee Hill  
12:30-4:00 - Evelyn Sperry  
Nov. 13 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
Sean Beal .....	Childcare Provider
Shelly Messmore .....	Preschool Director
Trudy Garland, Regina Rhodes .....	Preschool Teachers
Wendy Jalley, Janet Langston .....	Preschool Teachers
Jennifer Van Dyke .....	Preschool Teacher
Kay Villarreal, Robin White .....	Preschool Teachers
David Flanders .....	Caretaker Supervisor
Dean Hadden .....	Caretaker
Crystal Thicksten .....	Caretaker
Charles Wallace .....	Caretaker

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**Central Christian Church**  
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650 West William Street  
Decatur, IL 62522-2326

PERIODICAL  
POSTAGE  
PAID

