

The Central Visitor

*A weekly visitor to your home bringing you news from Central Christian Church
Our mission ... Sharing Christ,
Changing Lives, Delivering Hope*

Vol. XCI

Decatur, Illinois, February 13, 2019

No. 7

Welcome New Members!

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Josh and Megan Irby to Central Christian Church. Josh and Megan transferred their membership to Central this past Sunday at the 10:30 service. In addition, they brought their children, Cohen and Hayden, to be blessed and dedicated. Welcome Josh and Megan, Cohen and Hayden!!!



Sign-Up for Prayer Shawl Ministry

This Sunday, February 17th, (after the 8:00 and 10:30 services) there will be a sign-up table in the Friendship area for those interested in joining Central's Prayer Shawl Ministry. PLEASE stop by to learn more about this worthwhile and important group. If you enjoy knitting or crocheting and want to use your ability to serve God through your craft, then this is the ministry for you!!!

Joint Concert by Elite Energy and Heart and Soul!

Elite Energy Show Choir's
Spaghetti
DINNER
Spaghetti, Salad, Roll,
Drink, & Dessert
EAT IN OR TAKEAWAY
ONLY \$7
FEBRUARY 28TH, 2019 - 6PM
INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC BY EE - 7:30PM
CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH | 650 W WILLIAM ST

On Thursday, February 28 we will host the 2nd annual "Elite Energy Spaghetti Dinner and Concert with Heart and Soul." From **6:00 – 7:30 p.m.** a **\$7.00 spaghetti dinner** will be served in the Great Hall during which time Elite Energy singers will offer solos as dinner music. At **7:30 p.m.** Heart and Soul will sing a few of its favorite numbers, followed by a joint number with Elite Energy, where upon Elite Energy will sing songs from their competition show. Several of these songs are religious in nature and it's sure to be a concert worthy of inspiration and hope. If you wish to attend the Spaghetti Dinner, you can get on the list by contacting the church office. If you simply wish to attend the concert, you can come at 7:30. The 7:30 concert is free.

SUNDAY, February 17, 2019

WORSHIP AT 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

The Meaning of Compassion

Text: *Luke 10:25-37*

Michael E. Karunas

Week of Compassion Offering to be collected February 17 and 24

"Now to God be the glory, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine." Ephesians 3:20

All over the world, God's children struggle because they lack resources as basic as clean water and adequate food. Most of us have refrigerators filled with more food than we need and take our bounteous, clean tap water for granted. But God imagines a world in which food and water are plentiful and children are able to grow up healthy. Can we imagine a world like that? Week of Compassion is the arm of our church that reaches into every corner of the earth where there is suffering or need. They represent us to a hurting world. Every year in February, we have the opportunity to share our riches with those most in need through the Week of Compassion. Please consider making your gift on February 17 or 24.

Counting On You

Sunday, February 10, 2019

Worship Attendance 239

Sunday School & Small Groups.....92

Thank you for all who attended and served at the 2019 women's retreat. Sixty-two women from sixteen different churches of eleven denominations joined together for a weekend of reflection, education, and spiritual renewal.

ALL YOUTH OUTING

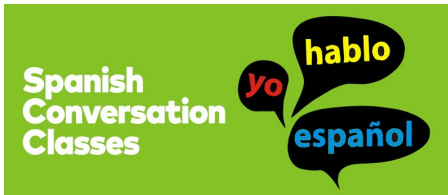
Blue Mound Community Center
Kindergarten -12th Grade
Sunday, February 17
4-6 pm

Bus will leave Central at 3:30 pm and return to Central at 6:30 pm.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Central Christian Church
Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 20
10 am



There is still time to join the Spanish Conversation Class! Every Monday & Thursday 5:30pm – 7:00pm. No need to register! Just come! Room 240. For questions, call Central Christian Church 217-428-4336.

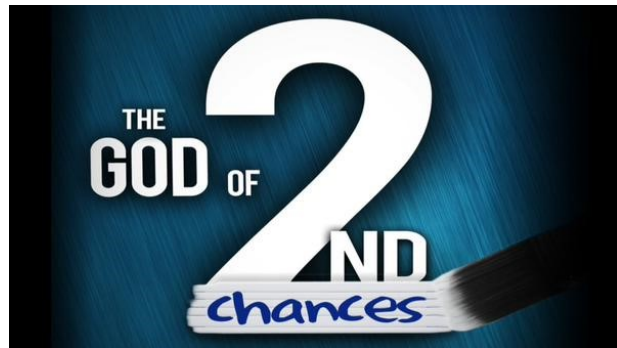
This and That

This past Sunday, our sermon theme was the story of Zacchaeus the tax collector. For our communion meditation, Janet Lyman offered a thoughtful meditation on the themes the story depicts. I thought I would share her words here as a mid-week devotion for us all.

Have you ever been at a parade where you couldn't see over the person in front of you? It isn't much fun needing to look around people just to get a good view. Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) had this problem so he climbed a tree to get a better view of Jesus coming into town. Imagine the surprise as the parade is going by and Jesus calls out to Zacchaeus to come down as he wants to come to his house. Zacchaeus was the chief tax collector. He had become rich from collecting taxes from every person in town whether they could pay or not. He knew that he had cheated the people and was afraid of what Jesus would say. But as he met with Jesus, he stated he was sorry for what he had done and confessed his sin. Jesus forgave him and, yes, Zacchaeus was a little man with a big problem. But once he met Jesus his life was changed. And so for us, it doesn't matter if we are short or tall, when we meet Jesus and confess our sin, our lives will change too.

Transitioning to Easter

There are just three (3) more weeks until the beginning of Lent. Lent is the 40-day season in the church year that precedes Easter. Lent begins this year on March 6 (with Ash Wednesday) and concludes on April 21 (with Easter). To carry us through to the beginning of Lent, our focus in worship will continue the theme of our first sermon series of the year – Refresh: New Beginnings 2019. We will explore three more stories where people were given a second chance in the way they thought about God, which led to a change in the way they lived for God.



February 17	The Good Samaritan <i>Who gets the second chance?</i>	Luke 10:25-37
February 24	The Prodigal Son <i>The older brother's second chance</i>	Luke 15:11-32
March 3	Calling of the First Disciples <i>The second chance we give ourselves</i>	Mark 1:16-20

Blessings—**Michael**

In Sympathy we Mourn

We grieve with Central member Shirley Swarhout the passing of her mother this past week. Anne Wilson passed away in Orleans, IN and was laid to rest this past Saturday. Please join us in keeping Shirley and Steve, and Matthew, and their families in your prayers.

Soup Sale Success!

Dorcas ladies send out heartfelt thanks to all those who purchased soup on Souper Bowl Sunday. More than 200 containers of yummy soup were sold! Your generosity helps make it possible for Dorcas Disciples to continue its ministry of serving others. THANK YOU!

Men's Bible Study to Begin New Book Study

Beginning the week of February 18, both Journeymen men's bible study groups (Tuesdays at 7 a.m. and Thursdays at 4 p.m.) will begin a study of the book "Fight" by Craig Groeschel. It is based on the character of Samson in the Book of Judges. This is a great opportunity to check out Journeymen if you've been thinking about it. The books cost \$5.00 and there are plenty still available. Feel free to contact Paul Gorden (fast2laps@icloud.com) for a copy of the book or any questions you may have about the study.

Directory Information

We are in the final stages of proofing the directory to be released this Spring. The final step is ensuring that the information printed is correct. However, there were many members who did not get their picture taken or fill out a sheet with their information. We are wanting to make sure that the phone, email and addresses we have on file are complete and accurate. We are asking all members to please contact the church if you believe any of your information needs updated. Please call 217-428-4336 or email central@cccdisciples.org by February 15, 2019.

Chalice Class

Title: *Pet Therapy*

Focus: Pet therapy is a popular resource in health care and other settings. What are the benefits of pet therapy? How are animals trained to aid in healing and comfort? What can Christians learn about compassion from therapy animals?

Preschool News

This week the preschool students practiced ways to show love and kindness towards another. They used their kind words, drew pictures for one another, and made each other Valentines! The 3 year old classes had a Valentine's Day party on Wednesday, complete with chocolate covered strawberries and sprinkles. The 2 year old class, 4 year old class, and Pre-K class will have their parties on Thursday. Their will be plenty of fun for everyone!

Kindergarten Screening was held Wednesday for children who attend Central Christian Preschool and live in the Decatur Public School District.

Jennifer Van Dyke
Director



Sunday, February 17, 2019

8:00-Traditional Worship Service
Music:
Offertory—Flute & Oboe
Anthem—*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*
9:00-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
9:00-Fellowship Coffee
9:00-Youth Sunday School Classes
9:15-Adult Sunday School Classes
10:30-Worship Service
10:00-Pack 35 Gold Banquet, Great Hall & Kitchen
10:30-Worship Service
3:30-Youth Group Outing, Blue Mound
4:00-FaithQuest, 240

Monday (18)

No School

5:30-Spanish Conversations Class, 240

Tuesday (19)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
8:00-ChristCare Stitchers Retreat, 207 & Disc. Room
9:30-Card Ministry, 240
10:30-Staff Meeting, Conference Room
6:30-H&S, Choir Room & Connection Café

Wednesday (20)

10:00-Manners Lesson for Pre-K, Connection Café
10:15-Chapel, Friendship Center
10:30-Ministers Meeting
5:30-Council Committee Meetings, Great Hall
6:30-Criminal Justice, 207

Thursday (21)

10:00-Al-Anon, 240
4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:30-Spanish Conversations Class, 240
6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples' Room
7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (22)

Saturday (23)

Sunday (24)

8:00-Worship Service
9:00-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
9:00-Fellowship Coffee
9:00-Youth Sunday School Classes
9:15-Adult Sunday School Classes
10:30-Worship Service

In the Hospital...

DMH:
No One

St. Mary's:
No One



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

PERIODICAL
 POSTAGE
 PAID



Serving Schedule—Sunday, February 17, 2019

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Kim Maple, Laura Chapman

Outreach Communion:

Shirley Swarthout, Gerri Munos, Liz Campbell, Judy Ford,
 Charlotte Ballance

Deacons:

8:00 - Team 1 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Gail Prince, Debbie Hoffert,
 Al & Chris Fagin, Dennis Downey, Pamela Bednar, David Wagner

10:30 - Team 2 - Christine Lyman-Harm, Janet Lyman, Dale Ford,
 Jeannie Rade, Erik Harm, Kathy Kauzlarich, Ron Oliver, Steve
 Swarthout, Cindy Grabowski, Janelle Beedle, Tom & Diane Ritter,
 Paul Gorden, Roberta Gorden, Thomas Karunas, Linda Helton

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 1 - Charlotte Ballance, Capt., Bob & Karen Keller
 10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Matthew Swarthout,
 Gretchen Kirby

Greeters:

8:00 - Jerry & Susie Bean
 10:30 - Dennis & Ronda Spencer

Acolytes:

10:30 - Mackenzi Sargeant, Alyssa Bottom

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash
 10:30 - Mike Kirby

Preparation of Communion:

Suzie Miller, Kim Miller

Ride Share Drivers:

8:00 & 9:00 Services & Sunday School - Mark Beal 433-6081
 Sunday School and 10:30 service - Doug Soebbing 875-1836

Main Entrance Door Hosts:

February 18 8:30-12:00—Carole McClarey
 February 19 8:30-12:00—Carol Bischoff
 February 20 8:30-12:00—Karen Keller
 February 21 8:30-12:00—Sandy Garver
 February 22 8:30-12:00—Yvonne Purcell

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
650 West William Street Decatur, Illinois 62522
Telephone (217)428-4336 FAX (217)428-1700
www.cccdisciples.org
e-mail: central@cccdisciples.org

Michael E. Karunas.....Senior Minister
 Don Martin.....Minister of Music
 Tina Miller.....Associate Minister of CE & Family Life
 David Martin.....Youth Director
 Cordelia "Dee Dee" GainOrganist
 Ashely Sparks.....Administrative Assistant
 Yvonne Boyd.....Administrative Assistant
 Monica Hernandez.....Nursery Attendant
 Cheryl Williams.....Nursery Attendant
 Chloe JancosekNursery Attendant
 Hannah BrimmerNursery Attendant
 Jennifer Van Dyke.....Preschool Director
 Angela Moore.....Teacher Assistant
 Paula Partain.....Teacher Assistant
 Lisa Coates.....Preschool Teacher
 Kay Villarreal.....Preschool Teacher
 Sharon Renfro.....Preschool Teacher
 Diana Murray.....Preschool Teacher
 Stephanie Nihiser.....Preschool Teacher
 Lora WrightLead Caretaker
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker
 Vernon Wimberly.....Caretaker
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker

Sunday School Classes	Floor	Room
Koinonia	2	212
Ecclesia	2R	240
Chalice	2	207
6th grade - 12th grade	2R	280
Kindergarten - 5th grade	2R	230
Nursery (Birth - 5 years old)	1R	150

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