

# 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, April 24, 2019

No. 17



## Miracles Happen!

This Spring, our focus at Central Christian will be Miracles. They are expressions of the resurrection and new life that we celebrated at Easter. Miracles, however, are not just something done *for* us, but *with* us. The miracles in the New Testament are not just other-worldly expressions of power. They are meant to reveal new ways that we are to think about our lives and how we are to live in the world in way that our faith is our defining characteristic. Miracles don't necessarily happen all around us. But they can, when we engage our lives, and the world in which we live, with faith in the abundant gifts that God has placed at our disposal.

|      |                                |   |                    |
|------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 4/28 | John 6:1-14                    | Feeding of 5,000                                    | Tina Miller        |
| 5/5  | John 9:1-7                     | Healing of a Blind Man                              | Michael E. Karunas |
| 5/12 | John 5:1-9                     | Healing of a Lame Man                               | Michael E. Karunas |
| 5/19 | Matthew 14:22-33               | Walking on Water                                    | Michael E. Karunas |
| 5/26 | Luke 17:11-19<br>Mark 10:46-52 | Healing of 10 Lepers<br>Healing of Blind Bartimaeus | Scott Woolridge    |
| 6/2  | Acts 16:16-24                  | Exorcism of Demons                                  | Michael E. Karunas |

**SUNDAY, April 28, 2019**  
 WORSHIP AT 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.  
**Miracle Conduit**  
 Text: *John 6:1-14*  
 Tina Miller

**Heart and Soul Talent Show**  
 Tuesday April 30, 7:00 p.m.  
 Friendship Center at Central Christian Church

The talent show gives an opportunity for each of the Heart and Soul singers to perform as a soloist or in a small group. They have a great time sharing their talent. This is always a fun evening and very rewarding for everyone. Please bring your best friends.

**DMH Hospice Looking for Volunteers**

DMH Hospice volunteers work with patients and families in a 35 mile radius surrounding Decatur. They help out in many ways: Providing companionship for patients, respite for caregivers, running errands, delivering supplies and making phone calls, light meal preparation or light housekeeping. Prior to becoming a volunteer, individuals must complete a brief interview, undertake background check, and attend hospice training. For more information contact Whitney Glosser at 876-6785.

**Counting On You**  
**Sunday, April 21, 2019**  
 Worship Attendance ..... 475  
 Sunday School & Small Groups.....70

THANK YOU to all adults and youth who helped make this year's Easter Egg Hunt a success! Families enjoyed cookies, juice, and coffee while little ones "hunted" eggs. Everyone had a fun time, and visitors complimented us for our hospitality and generosity!

Thanks again!

Peace,

Tina Miller



**ATTENTION THOSE SEEKING HIGHER EDUCATION!!!**

Be sure to complete and return a scholarship application by May 1.

**Easter Lilies**

If you have not picked up your Easter lily, they are in the Disciples Room.

***You are Invited...***

You are invited... to an open house in the next week. The Capital Campaign planning committee has been meeting regularly since the winter and is ready to make an initial report to you, the congregation. Actually, there will be two (2) opportunities to attend the open house. The same material will be shared both times, so you need not attend both (unless you want to). The open houses will be:

**Sunday, April 28 from 12 – 1 p.m. in the Disciples Room**  
**Monday, April 29 from 6 – 7 p.m. in the Connection Café**



For the last several decades, Central has undertaken continuous triennial (3-year) capital campaigns in addition to the annual stewardship campaign. The *stewardship campaign*, held every Fall, supports the *operating budget* of the church. This budget follows the calendar year. The *capital campaigns* begin in June every three years, so as not to conflict with the Fall stewardship drive. Gifts to the capital campaign, also known as the "*building fund*," support voted-upon projects that support that improvement of our building. It is because of these capital campaigns that Central has been able to keep a building that is in tremendous shape, while making significant upgrades along the way. There is not a single Disciples of Christ in the country, of which I am aware, that voluntarily undertakes such thoughtful and conscientious actions. The entirety of the credit for this tradition goes to my pastoral predecessors, Bill Nichols and Charles Watkins, and to you, the members past and present who have supported it.

During the 2013-2016 campaign, themed "*Blueprint for Growth*," we laid the foundation of the major renovation to the Friendship Center and West Entrance, as well as repair the roof over the Administration wing, the steps at the Tower entrance, and the sound and lighting in the sanctuary. During the most recent (2016-2019) campaign, "*Pathways to Possibilities*," we not only began paying back the debt we incurred for the 2016 renovation of the Friendship Center and West Entrance, we continued our upgrades of the sound and lighting in the sanctuary.

Oh.. and perhaps the best part of these capital campaigns is that *10% is always dedicated to outreach*. Which means that since 2013, Central has donated over **\$100,000** to the Decatur area!

The current capital campaign planning team is excited to share with you its proposed plan for 2019-2022. Team members include Gregg Foltz (congregational president), Dale Ford (president of the Trustees), Paul Gorden, Sandy Garver, Theresa Fulk, Roberta Gorden, Doug Soebbing, and Jeannie Backes. They, and I, will be presenting on both dates:

- A goal for the campaign (in terms of overall dollar amount to be raised over 3 years)
- A breakdown for how the funds will be spent, including
  - \* A portion for the reduction of the debt incurred in 2016;
  - \* A portion allocated for "new improvements;"
  - \* Along with 10% to outreach (of course!)
- A theme for the campaign.

*Minister's Article continued on page 3...*

I know I speak on behalf of the entire team when I say that I hope you can all make it to one of the Open Houses next week. Again, the dates are:

**Sunday, April 28** from 12 – 1 p.m. in the **Disciples Room**  
**Monday, April 29** from 6 – 7 p.m. in the **Connection Café**



Blessings... *Michael*

### WE APPRECIATE OUR STAFF!

Dorcas Disciples will host a Staff Appreciation Luncheon on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon in the Great Hall. Individual invitations have been sent to preschool, Baby Talk and church staff. Staff Guests: Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> by completing the bottom portion of your invitation and placing it in the Dorcas mailbox in the church office. Dorcas ladies will meet for a brief meeting at 11:15 a.m. prior to the luncheon. Please make your luncheon reservation by Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> by contacting Nancy Ellen Taylor at 872-9174 or [xstr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:xstr@sbcglobal.net).

REMEMBER! All Central ladies are invited to be Dorcas Disciples and a special invitation goes to our Contemporary Service women. If you have questions about Dorcas, please contact Sandy Garver at 877-0800 or [revrag@comcast.net](mailto:revrag@comcast.net).

### Good Samaritan Inn

Volunteers from Central Christian will prepare and serve lunch at the Good Samaritan Inn on **Saturday, May 11**. The Good Samaritan often serves 250 or more people each day. The crew needs 5-6 workers 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. for food prep, and 12-14 people for serving 11 a.m.-1 p.m. And all workers are invited to stay and enjoy lunch after the serving line closes! Dave Wagner and Shirley Swarhout head up Central's volunteer team. Please let one of them know if you can help, or sign up at the church office, 428-4336.

### Food Collection

The food collection for May 5th will be cereal and canned tomato products. As always the shopping cart is located in the Connection Café for your convenience.

### Chalice Class

Title: *Self-Improvement Shows*

Focus: Self-improvement reality shows have been a staple of television for many years. Why are these shows so popular? What assumptions do they make about what it means to live a good life? How do we engage with these shows as Christians?

### Preschool Sunday May 5!!!

On Sunday, May 5th, the **8:00** and **9:00** services will be as normal, with Michael preaching. At **10:30** however, we are inviting our preschool families to join us for worship and giving a special invitation to the families with children in our church. There will be a slightly **extended children's message**, after which the children will be dismissed for a special program. We will also include a special recognition of our preschool teacher and board members. Michael will still tie in the theme from the sermon series in the **invitation to discipleship** so that if you're only attending 10:30 worship that day, you won't be missing out on that week's portion of the *Miracles Happen* series. After 10:30 worship, families of children from both the church and the preschool will be invited to lunch in the Great Hall with **special entertainment** to follow.

### **Sunday, April 28th**

8:00-Traditional Worship Service

Music:

Anthem- New Life

9:00-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall

9:00-Fellowship Coffee

9:00-Youth Sunday School Classes

9:15-Adult Sunday School Classes

10:30-Traditional Worship Service

12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal, Great Hall

12:00-Capital Campaign Open House, Disciples Room

12:00-Mission Trip Meeting, Connection Café/Disciples' Room

2:00-Millikin Women Concert, Great Hall

4:00-Spring Concert

### **Monday (29)**

5:00-Veterans, Disciples Room

5:30-Spanish Conversations Class, 240

6:00-Women's Lent Group, Great Hall

6:00-Capital Campaign Open House, Connection Café

### **Tuesday (30)**

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café

8:00-ChristCare Stitchers Retreat, Disciples Room/207

10:30-Staff Meeting, Conference Room

6:30-Heart & Soul, Choir Room & Connection Café

7:00-Heart & Soul Talent Show, Friendship Center

### **Wednesday (1)**

Scholarship Applications Due

10:15-Chapel, Friendship Center

10:30-Minister's Meeting

### **Thursday (2)**

10:00-AI-Anon, 240

1:00-Artwork Committee, Connection Café

3:00-Rally & Volunteer Training for VBS, Great Hall

4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café

5:30-Spanish Conversations Class, 240

6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples' Room

6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207

7:00-Chancel Choir

### **Friday (3)**

### **Saturday (4)**

### **Sunday (5)**

PreSchool Sunday Service

8:00-Traditional 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

12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal, Great Hall

6:00-Youth Group Talent Show, Great Hall

### **In the Hospital...**

#### **DMH:**

Bob Bischoff

Jeff Hunter

#### **St. Mary's:**

No One

**Serving Schedule—Sunday, April 28, 2019**

**Elders:**

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

**Deacons:**

8:00 - Team 1 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Gail Prince, Debbie Hoffert, Al & Chris Fagin, Pamela Bednar, David Wagner  
 10:30 - Team 2 - Christine Lyman-Harm, Janet Lyman, Dale Ford, Jeannie Rade, Erik Harm, Kathy Kauzlarich, Ron Oliver, Steve Swarouth, Cindy Grabowski, Janelle Beedle, Tom & Diane Ritter, Paul Gorden, Roberta Gorden, Thomas Karunas, Linda Helton

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Moran, Bobby Munos  
 10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Matthew Swarouth, Gretchen Kirby

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Donna Dash & Jerry Bean  
 10:30 - Karen Baird & Mark Kincaid

**Acolytes:**

10:30 - Mackenzi Sargeant & Alyssa Bottom

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Greg Carter  
 10:30 - Keith Backes

**Ride Share Drivers:**

8:00 & 9:00 Services & Sunday School - Andy Fulk 763-6624  
 Sunday School and 10:30 service - Brett Swallow 876-7205

**Main Entrance Door Hosts:**

April 29 8:30-12:00—Carol Bischoff  
 April 30 8:30-12:00—Judy Ford  
 May 1 8:30-12:00—Suzie Miller  
 May 2 8:30-12:00—Karen Penn  
 May 3 8:30-12:00—Roberta Gorden

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 e-mail: [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto: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” Gain .....Organist  
 Kathleen Dudley.....Administrative Assistant  
 Yvonne Boyd.....Administrative Assistant  
 Monica Hernandez.....Nursery Attendant  
 Cheryl Williams.....Nursery Attendant  
 Chloe Jancosek .....Nursery Attendant  
 Hannah Brimmer .....Nursery 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 Wright .....Lead 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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