

The Central Visitor



Vol. XC

Decatur, Illinois, May 16, 2018

No. 19

Welcome 101

Have you been attending Central Christian for a while and interested in learning more about us?

Would you like to hear about ways you can plug in and connect to what's happening here?

Would you like a tour of our building and discover the wonderful ministries happening here?

If so, then we'd love to have you join us at **"WELCOME 101."** This is a **90 minute** info-gathering hosted by our ministerial staff here at Central. We will meet in the Connection Café for an hour and then go on a **walking tour of the building**. We will offer two (2) options (you need not come to both, but to the one that best fits your schedule.) Please reserve your place at this event by contacting the office (428-4336 or central@cccsdisciples.org).

Tuesday, May 22, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 24, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

At "WELCOME 101" you will:

- *Meet the ministerial staff*
- *Learn about our **core values** as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*
- *Discover ways you can plug into our committees and **ministry opportunities***

Special Offering May 20 & 27

Sharing Abundantly in Every Good Work

God equipped the disciples to "step out" into the world to share the good news about Jesus Christ at the first Pentecost. So we celebrate Pentecost by collecting a special offering to equip our church to step out into God's world, starting new churches, welcoming connections with other faith communities, and equipping new church planters to lead new congregations.

The Pentecost Offering will be received at Central on May 20 and 27.

Please share abundantly in this good work!

SUNDAY, May 20, 2018

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

Stepping Out

Text: Acts 2: 1-6

Michael E. Karunas

Artwork Open House

Please meet in the Connection Café on Sunday, May 20th, immediately following second service at 11:30 a.m. for a Friendship Center Artwork Open House. Artwork Committee members will share information and answer questions regarding the latest design for the capstone of our renovation which will be installed on the wall above the Welcome Center desk.

Volunteers Needed

Central needs volunteers to work at a computer looking up replacement values of church inventory. Please contact Lora Wright at central@cccdisciples.org or 428-4336.

Food Collection

The food collection for June 3rd is tomato products such as pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, ketchup etc. As always, the shopping cart is located in the Connection Café. Donations will be delivered to the Northeast Community Fund. Thank you for your generous giving.

Counting On You

Sunday, May 13, 2018

Worship Attendance 289

Sunday School & Small Groups.....69

GRADUATION SUNDAY

MAY 20th

ALL SERVICES

Please join us as we give honor where honor is due! We will recognize all students and graduates from the 2017-2018 school year.

TO OUR STUDENTS

Celebrate all your accomplishments and remember that learning never stops as new experiences and relationships will help guide you along the way to success.

When I say, "success", I am thinking of the success that God defines in the Word; *He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.* Micah 6:8

While you enjoy the summer and prepare for the next school year and season, be sure to remember the basics of reading the Word, prayer, and faithful attendance to the house of God. You will never go wrong doing the right thing!

May God add His richest blessings,

Tina Miller

Youth Group

endoftheyearparty

Sunday, May 20th

4 p.m.

Fairview Park

Graduation Party

Seth Martin & Bob Munos invite you to open house on

Sunday, May 20th

2 - 4 p.m.

Disciples Room

Minister's Article

"The Gospel Embodied"

This weekend we wrapped up our sermon series "The Great Exchange" based on stories in John 20. After Jesus' resurrection, he appeared to his followers in different ways. We spent a week each on the figures of Peter, John, Mary Magdalene, the disciples (as a group) and the disciple Thomas (in particular). Ultimately, we noted that John closes his gospel by commenting that Jesus did "many other things" that are not contained in this book (the gospel / bible) because no book in the world could hold *everything* Jesus did and said were indeed everything recorded.

It is true, and something we often experience at a funeral service. After family and friends come forward to speak words of eulogy for the deceased, I will often say something to the effect that "even if we stayed here all day and night, we wouldn't have enough time to convey what this person meant to us." How do we accurately report what our dearest loved ones mean to us? How do we accurately report the full weight of Jesus' life on earth? We don't. We can't. Which means that we don't know everything Jesus said and did and will always have unanswered questions to the historical life he lived. But what *is* recorded in scripture is enough to believe.

My mother's role in my life is a living illustration of this truth for me. From an early age, I found it much easier to open up to mom. I loved my dad and knew he loved me. But he wasn't overly warm and didn't always express emotions of compassion very easily. But mom??? She was warmth personified. Mom was a "hugger" – not afraid to be physical like that. And every time I left the house, whether it was for long trip or a day or evening out, mom would drop whatever she was doing, walk to the front door, and hold my cheeks in her face, smile, and whisper to me "be careful." Even today, as I near the age of 50, before she hangs up at the end of phone conversation, mom will say in hushed tones, "Slow down and get your rest." When I reached the high school and college years and asked my parents for advice about possible summer jobs, my mom was always a proponent of "do-what-you-love-the-money-will-follow." She wanted me to find work that would bring me happiness, regardless of how much it paid. My father, on the other hand, was of the "how-will-you-pay-for-it?" school of thought. He consistently reminded me of the reality that there is a cost to everything in life. When it came to sharing, I wasn't necessarily afraid to open up to my dad, but I honestly looked forward to sharing my insecurities and vulnerabilities with mom.

I don't intend to make my mother out to be a saint. She and I are both too honest for that kind of implication. There were many times when she didn't have the answers I was looking for. Or when she couldn't offer explanations that would have been helpful. But I have never doubted her love for me. And in the last analysis isn't that a personification of John's Gospel? For God so *loved* the world... Love is the essence of the Gospel. Communicating love is essential. Having unlimited answers and explanations is not. Which is why John reminds us that there were "many other things" Jesus did which are not written down. To remind us that there will always be empty spaces that our answers and explanations can't fill. But everything John gave us in his 21 chapters on Jesus' life is enough: enough to generate faith in us. Similarly, all the love my mom has shown me – and continues to show me – is enough to embody the spirit of the Gospel and sustain that faith in me.

Blessings – **Michael**

Trip to Gilead June 3rd

Last November, Rev. Rebecca Anderson came to lead a storytelling workshop and then she preached on Sunday at all of our services. She has started a new church that meets on Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. and based on storytelling (two members from the church tell stories and one of the pastors tells a biblical story). Michael is organizing a trip to Chicago on **Sunday June 3** to attend a Gilead storytelling church service.

The plan:

- ⇒ Leave at 12:30 p.m. (no later than 1:15 p.m.)
- ⇒ Arrive by around 4:00 p.m. (stretch legs etc...)
- ⇒ Attend worship at 5:00 p.m.
- ⇒ Visit with Rebecca (grab some dinner somewhere)
- ⇒ Then either return home or stay the night

The cost will be minimal (just what you would want to spend on food, offering and whether or not you stayed the night. If interested, please contact central@cccdisciples.org.

Volunteers Needed for Service at Good Samaritan Inn

Volunteers from Central Christian will prepare and serve lunch at the Good Samaritan Inn on Saturday May 19. 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.

Churchgoers Hitting the Road

Central Christian Church has 20 seats for a 2pm matinee of *Hello Dolly!* Wednesday, June 20, at Little Theatre-On the Square in Sullivan. Please sign up in the Friendship Center or call the church office (428-4336). Tickets are \$35. Bus will leave church at 10:30 am-we'll eat at Yoder's before the show. Questions? See Don.

Chalice Class

Title: *Discerning Reality*

Focus: In recent months, a new technology has allowed users to generate false videos of subjects doing or saying something they have not said or done. What are the possible consequences of this technology? As people of faith, how can we discern what is real in the midst of altered realities?

Preschool News

This is the last week of school for our 2 year old students. They will spend the day Thursday at the zoo. The 4 year old class will also go to the zoo on Thursday. The Pre-K class is planning their trip to the zoo on Friday. We are all praying for good weather!

The 3's classes are doing a unit on animal clinics. Maybe we will get a visit from Mrs. Renfro's dog Remi who is a therapy dog in training!

Jennifer Van Dyke
Director



Sunday, May 20, 2018

Music:

Offertory-Thomas Karunas

Anthem-*The Ground*

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

11:30-Artwork Open House, Connection Café

2:00-Munos & Martin Graduation Party, DR

4:00-Youth Group End of the Year Party

Monday (21)

6:00-Finacial Peace University, Disciples' Room

Tuesday (22)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207

11:45-Preschool Staff Meeting

4:00-BT: End of the Year Party, Great Hall

4:00-Delta Kappa Gamma, Disciples' Room

5:30-Spanish Class, 240

6:00-Welcome 101, Conf. Room & Conn. Café

6:30-Heart & Soul, Choir Room

Wednesday (23)

9:00-PS: Last Day of School, Disc. Rm & G. Hall

6:30-Welcome 101, Connection Café

Thursday (24)

10:00-Al-Anon, 240

11:30-St. Mary's Widow Support, Benny's Grill

11:54-CINC, Disciples' Room

4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café

5:30-Spanish Class, 240

6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples' Room

6:30-Welcome 101, Connection Café

7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (25)

Saturday (26)

1:00-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal, G. Hall

Sunday (27)

8:00-Worship Service

9:00-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall

9:00-Fellowship Coffee

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, May 20, 2018

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Zach Martin, Keith Backes

Outreach Communion:

Laura Chapman	Judy Ford
Pat Ash	Mary Jane Linton
Penny Rutherford	Cindy Soebbing

Deacons:

8:00 - Team 3 - Sid & Krista Rohrscheib, Jane Davis, Charlotte Ballance, Bob Muschal, Pat Penhalegon, Bobby Munos, Brad Munos, Becky Johnston, Carolyn McCall

10:30 - Team 4 - Jeannie Backes, Matthew Swarthout, Jon French, David Martin, Zach Martin, Mark Beal, Doug Soebbing, Roger Rutherford, Ron & Gwen Miller, Seth Martin, Pam Ferguson, Brittney Munos, Luc Longcor, Pam Larrick, Shelby Baum, Dave Sheffer

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 1 - Charlotte Ballance, Capt., Bob & Karen Keller
10:30 - Team 6 - Mark Beal, Capt., Mark Kincaid, Susan Bryant

Greeters:

8:00 - Al & Chris Fagin, Ed & Joy Adams
10:30 - Dennis & Ronda Spencer

Acolytes:

10:30 - Kaeden McCoy, Reese Mahannah

P.A. Operator:

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

Preparation of Communion:

Carrie & Steve Funk, Marci & Steve Baumann

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:

May 21	8:30-12:00 - Carole McClarey
May 22	8:30-12:00 - Katie Miller
May 23	8:30-12:00 - Judy Ford
May 24	8:30-12:00 - Evelyn Sperry
May 25	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" Gain	Organist
Ashely Sparks.....	Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Boyd.....	Administrative Assistant
Charla Stone.....	Nursery Attendant
Cheryl Williams.....	Nursery Attendant
Melissa Gillis.....	Nursery Attendant
Jennifer Van Dyke.....	Preschool Director
Angela Moore.....	Director Assistant
Lisa Coates.....	Preschool Teacher
Kay Villarreal.....	Preschool Teacher
Sharon Renfro.....	Preschool Teacher
Samantha West.....	Preschool Teacher
Paula Partain.....	Teacher Assistant
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	280
Nursery (Birth - 5 years old)	1R	150

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