

The Central Visitor



Vol. XC

Decatur, Illinois, September 26, 2018

No. 39

Financial Peace University to Begin October 8

Our first FPU class last Spring met with resounding success. Twenty-five people completed the class and reported to have paid off (collectively) \$54,000 of debt in just seven weeks!



We are both excited and proud to offer a second class. We believe this is important because:

- Nearly 5 Million people have taken an FPU course
- 81% of couples do a monthly zero-based budget after taking FPU
- 89% of FPU participants have at least a \$1000 emergency fund within 10 weeks

The class will be led by Mike and Gerri Munos, and Paul Gorden. It will be held on **Mondays** from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** beginning on **October 8** and concluding **December 3**. The class is open to all and there is a **cost of \$110** (for either a single or a couple). The cost is purely for the materials offered by FPU and well worth the investment. If you are interested in: a) registering for the class, call the church office (428-4336) and reserve your place; b) learning more about FPU before you register, feel free to contact Gerri Munos (munos5@comcast.net).

Last Chance for Pictorial Directory Portraits

If you didn't have a chance to sign up or would like your pictures retaken. This is the last opportunity to do so. Central has scheduled 2 additional days to get your pictures done! This is not just for members, but for everyone who is a participant in the life of Central. Every family who signs up will receive a free 8"x10" print as well as a copy of the directory. This will be our first pictorial directory in six years! This directory will have both a print version and an online version. Sign up any Sunday before or after worship in the Friendship Center or online. Simply visit our website (www.cccdisciples.org) and follow the prompts.

Portrait times are (please note some times may no longer be available):

- Monday	October 1	2pm - 9pm
- Tuesday	October 2	2pm - 9pm

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

SUNDAY, September 30, 2018

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

GenerosiTy

Text: *Luke 12:13-21; Luke 14:15-24*
Michael E. Karunas

Food Collection

The food collection for October 7th is boxed macaroni & cheese, hamburger helper, & canned tuna or chicken. As always, the shopping cart is located in the Connection Café.
Thank you for your generous giving.

Elderberries in October

Wednesday, **October 10** in the Great Hall.
Program at 11:30; Lunch at noon.

Join us as John Baird & Jo Carter share their hiking trip in France!

Then enjoy a delicious meal of Tortellini soup, Hot ham n' cheese sliders, Apple crisps with Caramel ice cream (all of this for only \$5). Don't forget to sign up on the pew pad on Sunday or call the church office by Monday, October 8.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ELDERBERRIES
BIG HOLIDAY MEAL NOVEMBER 14TH!**

Counting On You

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Worship Attendance 253
Sunday School & Small Groups.....69

GENEROSITY

I received a message from a friend this week. Actually, it was a message from his daughter. And truth be told, he is much more than a friend. He is a mentor. Someone to whom I have looked up and whose influence has reached across my life and ministry in many untold ways. His name is Joachim Hoffmann and for the two years I served as a missionary in East Germany in my early 20s, I lived with Joachim and his family in their downstairs apartment and worked as his sidekick in the St. Michael's parish in Magdeburg. I shadowed him as he taught Sunday School and bible studies. I sat next to him in the parish choir. I accompanied him on yearly trips the parish made with the senior citizens. I went with him as he made pastoral visits and attended synodical meetings. I discussed history and theology with him over cups of afternoon coffee. I watched soccer games with him in his living room in the evenings. And most recently, I read a message from his daughter about him. He has lung cancer. Diagnosed a few months after he buried his wife (and my "adopted mother") in 2017. He is dying.



Katharina informed me that Joachim was "sorting through some things" and he wanted to know, specifically, if I might like his communion set. The communion set that he carried with him on visits to the homebound; that he used for worship services in the German equivalent of nursing homes; that he took with him for special worship services when the senior citizens traveled to the mountains for their retreat each spring. Words cannot express how grateful I was to read those words and how overwhelmed I am to be offered such a gift.

But I am just as grateful that he chose to share this gift with me now. I knew that he was sick, but not how drastic his condition was. Katharina's message let me know that he was taking the time, while he still had it, thoughtfully and intentionally to give away the things that were meaningful to him. Such an action allowed me to respond and tell him "thank you" for what he has meant to me; "please forgive me" for not being a better friend and for not doing a better job staying in touch over the years; and "I love you."



But that's what generosity is all about. It is not just about giving. It is taking the opportunity to give something to someone intentionally, while we still have the time to do so. Such a thing can bring great joy – both to the giver and the receiver. Of course, we don't have to wait until we come face to face with our mortality, or until we move from one house to another and are forced to downsize to be thoughtful, intentional and generous.

This will be the theme of the next four (4) weeks in worship at Central. As we prepare for our annual fall Stewardship Campaign, our theme will be Generosity, with the T representing **time**, **talent** and **treasure**.



Please join us in celebrating two years of Contemporary Worship
10.7.2018
9 am
Great Hall Sanctuary

In early 2016, a group of ten people got together and discussed the possibility of starting a contemporary worship service here at Central Christian Church. It came to pass on October 2, 2016! The service has grown and changed since then. We still hold true to the original idea that a new worship style could be implemented to meet the needs of a group of people we were not reaching. That aim is still true. GOD IS GOOD!

We are thankful for the unending support and love expressed by the greater congregation at Central Christian Church!

Peace,

Tina Miller
 Associate Minister
 CE & Family Life



How do we spend our time? What do we choose to do with our talents? Where do we spend our treasures? We will explore these questions in greater detail as these next few weeks unfold. But as we prepare for this next month, I invite you to consider this thought: someone will always receive our time, our talent and our treasure. But there is much joy to be experienced – for both us and others – when we are thoughtful and intentional about who gets what. I'm grateful to God for Joachim Hoffman for many reasons. Not the least of them is the way he reminds me of this truth.

Blessings – *Michael*

Good Samaritan Lunch

Good Sam is coming up on the 20th of October. We need 4 to 6 people to help prepare at 8:00am to 11:00am, and 12 to 14 people to serve and clean-up after from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Everyone is welcome to stay after 1:00 to have a meal. Please sign-up at the Welcome Center, email central@cccdisciples.org or call the church office at 217-428-4336.

Chalice Class

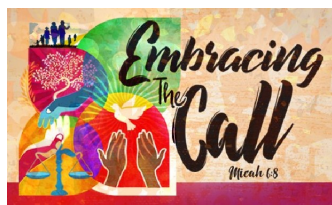
Title: *A Trip to Israel and Palestine*

Focus: Recently, FaithLink writer Alex Joyner spent ten days in Israel and Palestine. During his journey, he explored some of the main sources of tension preventing peace in the region. What are these sources of tension? How can people of faith promote a greater understanding of the reality of the conflict and the possibilities for peace?

Preschool News

Apples is the theme of the week! All the students are busy tasting apples and graphing which flavor they like best. Some classes are making applesauce while others are making apple pizzas. Books are being read about apples and one class has an apple scented sensory area. There are lots of apple art projects being completed and apple math games being played. Apples along with the brisk weather is a great way to kick off our first full week of autumn!

Jennifer Van Dyke
Director



Have you ever found yourself in the presence of someone who was greatly overwhelmed, and you felt powerless to ease their pain? Recently while participating in a meeting for a rally to highlight the plight of people living under the oppression of poverty, the moderator of the meeting was being criticized by the participants because he apparently made a decision without securing approval from the group. Because of this, the group felt left out and their emotions started getting reactive. Soon, I felt my own anxiety increasing. I took a deep breath and asked the group, "What do you need today?" Slowly, the tone of the meeting changed.

Through your giving to Reconciliation Ministry, our churches are hosting "One Bag of Tea" conversations where everyone's voice is valued; our Youth are leading and teaching faith-rooted activism; and our leaders are developing and participating in educational opportunities that promote justice that heals and love that binds us together with our God and neighbors. Please support Reconciliation Ministry offering being accepted September 30 and October 7.



Sunday, September 30, 2018

Music:

Offertory-Brass Choir

Anthem-*Simple Praise*

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

Monday (October 1)

11:00-Operations Meeting., Conference Room

2:00-Directory Pictures, 240

5:30-Spanish Class, DR

5:30-Bowling, Spare Time Lanes

6:00-Christian Ed Meeting, Conference Room

Tuesday (2)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, 207

9:30-Card Ministry, 240

1:30-Millikin Class, DR

2:00-Directory Pictures, 240

5:30-Bible Study, Great Hall

6:30-Heart & Soul, Choir Room & C. Café

Wednesday (3)

10:15-Chapel, Friendship Center

10:30-Ministers Meeting

Thursday (4)

10:00-Al-Anon, 240

4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café

5:30-Spanish Class, 240

6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples' Room

6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207

7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (5)

5:30-Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday (6)

7:00-Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast, Great Hall

4:00-Wedding

Sunday (7)

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

2:00-Homecoming Concert

4:00-Youth Group

6:30-Mark Performance, Great Hal

In the Hospital...

DMH:

Jim Ferrebee

St. Mary's:

Dave Flanders



Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

650 West William Street
Decatur, IL 62522

PERIODICAL
POSTAGE
PAID

Serving Schedule—Sunday, September 30, 2018

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Tom Spry, Mark Beal

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 & Judy Ford,
Erik Harm, Kathy Kauzlarich, Ron Oliver, Steve Swarthout,
Andy Fulk, Janelle Beedle, Tom & Diane Ritter, Paul Gorden,
Roberta Gorden, Thomas Karunas

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos,
Brittney Munos, Bobby Munos

10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Matthew Swarthout,
Gretchen Kirby

Greeters:

8:00 - Ken & Julie Jacoby

10:30 - Barb Tyler

Acolytes:

10:30 - Peyton Swarthout

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Greg Carter

10:30 - Mike Kirby

Preparation of Communion:

Judson & Jean Pease, Susan Bryant, Donna Dash

Ride Share Drivers:

8:00 & 9:00 Services & Sunday School - Mark Beal 433-6081

Sunday School and 10:30 service - Brett Swallow 876-7767

Main Entrance Door Hosts:

October 1 8:30-12:00 - Mary Jane Oliver

October 2 8:30-12:00 - Gretchen Kirby

October 3 8:30-12:00 - Suzie Miller

October 4 8:30-12:00 - Karen Penn

October 5 8:30-12:00 - Roberta Gorden

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
Melissa Gillis.....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
Samantha West.....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	280
Nursery (Birth - 5 years old)	1R	150

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