

The Central Visitor



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

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Decatur, Illinois, April 8, 2020

No. 14



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COVID-19 Updates for Central

Earlier this month, we announced that we were cancelling all programming in the church building through March 30. It should come as no surprise that this date is now being extended. All church programming scheduled to take place within the Central Christian Church building are being suspended indefinitely. In particular:

The **Sanctuary Concert Series Organ Concert** scheduled for May 1 will be moved to the Fall.

Heart and Soul programming will be postponed until the Fall.

The **Opus 24** concert scheduled for May has been cancelled.

As soon as we are able to open the building to congregational and public events, we will do so. Be sure to tune in for online worship every Sunday for traditional worship at 8:00 and 10:30. [Click here](#). Be sure to visit our [church Facebook page](#) every Sunday for live worship at 9:00. Be on the lookout for new ways to connecting via Zoom. This past week Pastor Tina held a women’s group and a lunch meeting with children on Zoom, and every Wednesday at 10:15, the pastoral staff will lead a preschool chapel (15 minutes) that all young children will find interesting on the church’s Facebook (live) page.

Online Worship During Holy Week

On **Maundy Thursday (April 9) at 7:00 p.m.** we will be live-streaming a beautiful **Tenebrae** service in the sanctuary. This service will include communion (so have your elements ready) and will offer plenty of opportunities for personal meditation and reflection. It will last no more than **one hour**. This online experience can be viewed on the **website**. Here is the link to the live-stream page. [Click here](#). On **Good Friday (April 10) at 5:00 p.m.** we will be offering a **Facebook live** reading of the **Passion Story** by Pastors Don, Tina and Michael. The Passion Story begins with the conspiracy and betrayal of Jesus. It includes the last supper, the prayer in Gethsemane, the arrest and trial of Jesus, and his crucifixion and ends with his burial. It will be read from Matthew’s Gospel and will last approximately **30 minutes**. There will be no communion served. Here is the link for the church’s Facebook page. [Click here](#). We hope you can join us.

SUNDAY, April 12, 2020

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP ON FACEBOOK
LIVE AT 8:00 a.m.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP ON
FACEBOOK LIVE AT 9:00 a.m.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LIVE STREAMED
ON WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG

AT 10:30 a.m.

What’s Next???

Text: Matthew 28:1-10

Michael E. Karunas

Tina Miller is holding weekly Zoom meetings through our time of physical separation: Please email tmiller@cccdisciples.org for meeting ID numbers. Thanks and I hope to see you there!

ZOOM MEETING:
WOMEN’S GROUP
ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED
Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

This week’s topic:
From the Cradle to the Clouds.
Jesus Christ is King.
Is He YOUR Sovereign God?

ZOOM MEETING:
LUNCH AND SHARE FOR CHILDREN
ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO JOIN
PASTOR TINA
Thursdays at noon
This week’s topic:
Easter/Spring/New Life

Facebook Live—101

Question: What is a Facebook Live? How do I see it?

Answer: A Facebook Live is a quick way to take a video of yourself or something/someone else and share it with an audience on Facebook. It's quick to set up, easy to use and view, and you have the ability to control the size of the audience you want to be able to see the video. It's probably the easiest way to "Live Stream" something.

To view a Facebook Live post from Central: Log into Facebook. Click on the icon that looks like a magnifying glass ("Search"). Type in "Central Christian Church, Decatur, IL." This will give you options of pages to click on, but ours should be near the top. Click on our listing, and it will take you to our Facebook page. When the service begins recording (which will be VERY close to start time), you'll see a post pop up that says "Central Christian Church is live now," and you'll see the video playing. Click on it, and enjoy your worship experience!

Livestream 101

Question: How do I access the Live Stream of Worship?

Answer: Go to this website:

<https://www.cccdisciples.org/worship/live-stream/>

This link will go to Central Christian Church's live stream page on the website. When the service is being streamed (during service hours), you will see the video playing. Click on the box in lower right to magnify to full screen. Enjoy your worship experience!

Men Who Love Going to Church

Note: this subject matter is tailor-made for Father's Day, but I couldn't wait that long to share it. In light of our message this past Sunday – about setting an example with our actions – it seemed especially fitting.

Several years ago, on our summer vacation, I read the provocatively titled book "Why Men Hate Going to Church." As a man who didn't, in fact, "hate" going to church, I was immediately curious. The book's thesis was that congregational life, as currently constructed, favors activities and behaviors that women more than men are likely to find appealing. Certainly there was much to debate in the book's claims, but one statistical take-away for me had to do with the important role of fathers in the faith formation of their children. Among all possible family members, it was the father's faith involvement that was the strongest predictor of a child's likelihood to confess faith later in life. I was recently reminded of the book's thesis in this figure recently published by Baptist Press. It stated that in cases where the father is the first member of the family to participate in a faith community, there is a 90% chance the rest of the family will follow.

Now, I believe that a father's assertiveness in any family should not come as a result of compromising the mother's, and I absolutely believe that children benefit from having influential and involved fathers *and* mothers, but in light of our sermon this past Sunday, which focused on the power of leading by example, I am inspired by these powerful illustrations of that principle. They remind me of an article I read years ago about parenting and "quality time." According to the article, parents often feel they need to spend quality time with their children. In actuality, however, what children need more is to see their parents spending quality time with each other! A parent can tell a child that strong, stable marriages are important, but for a child to see the parents exemplifying that in their actions is far more influential.



This was the point of the sermon this past Sunday. When it comes to sharing our faith with others, leading by example is important. Where we go, what we do, and how we spend our time matters. Others will always be taking notice, and the best way for others to *want* to value what *we* value is to *see* what we value in our actions.

I believe a strong faith community needs strong family units, and that strong family units long for strong mothers and fathers, but in light of the research on the importance of a father's role in the faith development of children, I confess to feeling a special sense of joy when I see fathers coming to worship at Central

(continued on page 3...)

with their families – especially the younger ones (meaning, the fathers of young children). If there's a mission we could all adopt – a simple one that it is easy to fulfill – it would be to congratulate and encourage those fathers when we see them, because men who love going to church are setting a profound example for those closest to them, and they are sharing their faith in the loudest way possible... without ever saying a word.

Blessings... Michael

This Week in Central's History...

Since we are not advertising as many upcoming events at Central during this time of physical separation, we thought we would share with you a "look back" at significant things that happened this week in our shared history.

Did you know that:

- This week in 1980 Alice Virgil, Stacey Oliver and Lisa Campbell (among others) were baptized;
- This week in 1989 Morris Birkhead and his wife Wilma joined the church;
- This week in 2000 Bobby Munos was born, as was Mike Tanzyus' grandson Ian;
- Or that this month in 2007, the choir held a Broadway Comes to Central to prepare for it's upcoming summer tour?



Congratulations to **Mike & Gerri Munos** on the April 11th birth of their son, Robert James. Baby Robert is also welcomed home by his sister, Brittney and brother, Bradley....and to Aaron Tanzyus and Patricia Golladay, following the birth of their son, Ian Michael Tanzyus. Grandparents are **Michael Tanzyus and Diane Cunningham.**



Welcome To . . .
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Birkhead (Wilma) who were received into the membership of Central Christian Church on March 26, 1989. Morris and Willie reside at R #4, Box 359, 62521; phone 422-2457. Morris is retired from Staley's and Willie is a homemaker.

Choir Fundraiser
Broadway Comes to Central on Sunday April 22 at 6:00 p.m., presented by singers from Central and directed by Janice Mitchell. The evening will include a program of Broadway music from throughout the decades. Witness your choir members as you have never seen them (if you can recognize them)! Hear them sing like never before.
While you are being entertained you may choose from a variety of gourmet desserts prepared by Shirley Swarhout and help yourself to beverages. Relax and enjoy a wonderful evening of good music and good treats.
The event is sponsored by the Chancel Choir. Tickets are \$10 and proceeds will go to help with the costs of the Summer Tour.



Sunday (12) - Easter!!!

- 8:00-Traditional Worship Service, Facebook Live
- 9:00-Contemporary Worship, Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship Service, Live Stream

Monday (13)

CHURCH & OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday (14)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - NOON

Wednesday (15)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - NOON

Thursday (16)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - NOON

Friday (17)

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday (18)

Sunday (19)

- 8:00-Traditional Worship Service, Facebook Live
- 9:00-Contemporary Worship, Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship Service, Live Stream

Remember to
order your soup
by Thursday for
pickup/delivery
Saturday!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Request an email from tmiller@cccdisciples.org.

Higher education is important and valuable in today's society. A college education opens possibilities and helps students discover and foster unique gifts and talents. It also demonstrates a person's willingness to make an investment in his/her own future! Central Christian Church supports those pursuing higher education, and we understand the challenges of meeting its cost. Scholarships are open to all high school graduates as well as anyone who is currently attending a college or university, technical and vocational schools, or is planning to attend one during the 2020-2021 academic year. **Deadline: May 1, 2020 @ 3 pm**

Counting On You

Sunday, April 5, 2020

- (all numbers are approximate but reflect educated calculations of online worship attendance)
- 8:00 – 66
 - 9:00 – 106 (627 total views as of 4/6)
 - 10:30 – 170
 - Total – 336

Easter Offering 2020: Rejoice

April 12th, 2020

“This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalm 118:24 NRSV

Across the US, Canada, and beyond, Disciples are rejoicing in all that the Lord has made. This Easter, we rejoice together as one church, as the One Body of Christ. We rejoice in all that we accomplish together, and the work God accomplishes through us. Let us rejoice that the Easter Offering, through the Disciples Mission Fund, makes this ministry - and so much more - possible. Through the general ministries of our Church, lives are changed and our world is transformed. Will you rejoice with us and give to this special day offering? This Easter season, let us rejoice in all the ways our wider Church embodies the Spirit of Resurrection, through life-giving ministry. (Excerpted from Disciples Mission Fund flyer, Easter 2020.)

EGG GAMES

Here are a few ideas for outdoor egg fun!

- Egg Rolling: If you have a hill, have children stand at the top of the hill with an egg. On "go," have kids release their eggs and roll them down the hill. The first egg to the bottom is the winner.
- Egg Bowling: Have children line up behind a line. Place an egg about 10 feet away. One at a time, have children roll their eggs to see who can get their egg closest to the first egg.
- Egg Races: Form two lines, and set a finish line about 10 feet away. Give the first player in line an egg and a spoon. Players must place the egg in the spoon and race to the finish line and back—touching only the spoon. If someone drops the egg, he or she must begin again. Continue until everyone has run the course.

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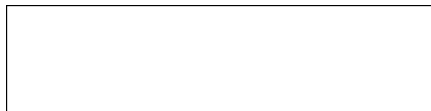
Michael E. Karunas.....	Senior Minister
Don Martin.....	Minister of Music
Tina Miller.....	Associate Minister of CE & Family Life
David Martin.....	Youth Director
Cordelia “Dee Dee” Gain	Organist
David Williams.....	Organist
Kathleen Dudley.....	Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Boyd.....	Administrative Assistant
Hannah Brimmer.....	Social Media Coordinator
Gabrielle Coulthard.....	Nursery Attendant
Maddie Genz.....	Nursery Attendant
Cheryl Williams	Nursery Attendant
Kattina Williams	Nursery Attendant
Jennifer Van Dyke.....	Preschool Director
Paula Partain.....	Teacher Assistant
Lisa Coates.....	Preschool Teacher
Amber Marshall.....	Preschool Teacher
Diana Murray.....	Preschool Teacher
Stephanie Nihiser.....	Preschool Teacher
Kay Villarreal.....	Preschool Teacher
Lora Wright	Lead Caretaker
Jim Denzer.....	Caretaker
Andrew Evans.....	Caretaker
Toby Jones.....	Caretaker
Donté Morgan.....	Caretaker

Temporary Church Office Hours:

Tuesday through Thursday, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Reminder: Please do not come to the church during these hours. These are the hours in which someone will be available to answer phone calls.

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