

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. XCII

Decatur, Illinois, June 17, 2020

No. 24



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COVID-19 Updates – Coming Back to Central

Thank you to the over 50 who responded to the survey sent out last week about "coming back" to in-person activities. Results can be made available for those who would like them, but for the time being, we are pleased to announce that we are preparing for the resumption of in-person activities at Central! We are anticipating:

- 1) Beginning the week of June 29, small groups and committees will be able to meet in the building again, and the worship spaces will be made available at designated times during the week for family prayer and vigil time.
- 2) Beginning the week of July 5, we will resume in-person worship.

Having said this, three (3) other points are significant to make here: first, there will be guidelines for how to use the building that are based on CDC guidelines and (obviously) different than how we all interacted with the building, and one another, prior to March 22. Secondly, we will not be able to come back to all three (3) services right away, due to cleaning in the sanctuary. The schedule for which services will be in-person will be forthcoming. Lastly, and most importantly, we will be continuing the live-streaming of all three services regardless of our in-person worship schedule. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact central@cccdisciples.org.

Congratulations, Jennifer and Kay!!

A generous donation was made personally by members of the Central Christian Church Preschool Board to the Preschool Scholarship Fund to recognize and honor the dedication and years of service

to the students and their families given by Jennifer Van Dyke and Kay Villarreal. May all the years ahead bring them great joy and relaxation! Best wishes on your next adventure!

SUNDAY, June 21, 2020
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LIVE STREAMED
ON WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
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.
A Hero is.... Honest!
Text: 2 Samuel 12: 7-14
Michael E. Karunas

Dear Central Christian Church,
I just wanted to say thanks a lot for the card & gift card. I'm really grateful to have people like you guys in my life. I'm thankful for everything you guys have done for me and my family! Stay safe and enjoy your summer!
Love, Unique Hess



Thank you guys so much for the card and gift card. We really appreciate it a lot!! Have a great summer break and stay safe and 6 feet apart! Hope to see you guys soon! I love you guys and miss you guys do for us! I've been keeping up with church watching the live streams and reading the Bible with Janelle! Have a awesome break. I love and miss you guys a lot. Hope to see you soon.
Love, Amila Bradfield



Text Giving Now Available

Giving by text is the newest way to make contributions to Central. If you are already familiar with online giving through Central's website, you will find the process is similar:

1. Text "GIVE" to (217) 212-2173. You will receive a secure link to www.ShelbyGiving.com, which directs your contribution to Central.
2. Choose "Give Now" and follow the prompts to select the fund, donation amount, and your payment information, then tap 'submit.'

The system will automatically save your personal information and payment source, so you do not need to re-enter it when you make subsequent gifts. Many people prefer to donate by writing a check or, for those who use online banking, by setting up direct payments from their bank. Like online giving, direct payments from your bank can be one-time or recurring donations.

****Special Designation Keywords****

If you would like to text and give to a fund other than the General fund, there are "keywords" you can use to specify which fund you want to give to. You can text in this format- ("dollar amount" "keyword"). For example, if you wanted to give \$25.00 to the Youth fund, you would text "25 Youth" to our text-to-give number.

Here are the keywords:

- Building** (building fund 2019-2022)
- Concerts** (concert fund)
- Contemporary** (Contemp. worship)
- COVID19** (COVID 19 emerg. fund)
- Emergency** (emergency fund)
- General** (general operating fund)
- Memorial** (please include name)
- MusicMinistry** (music min. fund)
- OtherProvide** (other- please note)
- Pentecost** (Pentecost offering)
- Preschool** (ask for specific funds)
- Youth** (youth ministry)

Prayer of Hope in a Time of Uncertainty

Pastoral Prayer offered during online worship

14 June 2020

Almighty God, Hannah, our ancestor in faith prayed to you from a broken, grieving heart. She prayed to you from a place of agony and hurt, and we may feel ourselves in a similar situation. When we think of all that we are facing right now – the first global pandemic in 100 years; a weaker economy, more fragile stock-market, and higher jobless rates than we've seen in recent memory; racial tensions, simmering for generations, now boiling over (as things too often ignored are bound eventually to do); we may find ourselves praying to you, like Hannah did, from a grieving, broken heart;

Or maybe we find ourselves praying from an angry heart; or a fearful and worried heart. We may feel a conflicting mixture of emotions that keeps us up at night and which doesn't let us experience moments of grace during the day. We may feel inspired to want to do something, shout something, say something – but also paralyzed by the enormity of the situation and the lack of impact any one word or action might have.

But like Hannah we come to you, and we trust that you will do for us what you did for her – that you will hear our prayer. That you will remember us for the people we are; the struggles we are facing, and the feelings we are experiencing. We trust that you will do for us what you did for her, honor the intentions of our heart; transform our confusion into clarity; bring rest to our restlessness; and hope to our despair. We trust that you can do for us individually – and for our world collectively – what none of us by our best intentions, efforts, and accomplishments could ever do on our own.

And so we come thanking you for holding all of us. On this Flag Day for our country, we thank you for the privileges and freedoms we have in living in the country we do represented by the flag as a symbol varied in meaning for us all, and yet we thank you all the more for the privilege and freedom we find in being held by you! Hold all of us, we pray. Hold our spoken words and our unspoken thoughts. Hold our confessions and our confusion; and maybe, held together in your arms, if not always in each other's, our eyes will see – together – a way forward that is not visible to us now. This we pray in the name of Christ, our way through darkness to light. Amen.

Blessings... Michael

In Sympathy We Mourn

We grieve with Blake Murray the passing of his step-father Charles Hess last week. Charles was from Sullivan, and Blake and he were quite close. We also grieve with Emmy Williams the passing of her twin sister, Rose Miller, last week. Emmy expressed, understandably, great grief but also gratitude for the fact that Central sent Rose *The Visitor* each week, which she enjoyed receiving. Join us in keeping these families in your prayers.



Sunday (21) - Happy Fathers' Day!!

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

Monday (22)

OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday (23)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - NOON

Wednesday (24)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - NOON

Thursday (25)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - NOON

Friday (26)

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday (27)

Sunday (28)

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

Ladies: if you're interested in the Wednesday Zoom meeting with Tina, email her at tmiller@cccdisciples.org for more information.

JUNE 22, 23, & 24!
VBS will be posted on Facebook Live and YouTube every morning at 9 am.

Please email: tmiller@cccdisciples.org for prep. materials.

Day 1: Parable of the Sower and the Seed (Luke 8:4-15)

Big Idea: I can listen to Jesus
Memory Verse: Psalm 119:105
Your Word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Day 2: Jesus Walks on Water (Matthew 14:22-36)

Big Idea: I can focus on Jesus
Memory Verse: Proverbs 3:5
Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

Day 3: Jesus Chooses His Disciples (Luke 5:1-11, 27-32)

Big Idea: I can follow Jesus
Memory Verse: Romans 8:39
Neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Prayer List Updates

We have a prayer list! Please remember to call the office (217-428-4336) or email us (central@cccdisciples.org) with prayer list updates so that we may keep that list as updated as possible.

Work In Progress

From Your Office Staff-
Hi Central! We are so excited to see you soon!
Our phones have been recently changed to Voice Over Internet Phones (VOIP). Almost everything is sounding great, but sometimes, when you call the office, there is a slight lag in the time between speaking and hearing. Thanks in advance for your patience with us as we resolve this matter. We are not intentionally talking over you- the lag time makes it sound like we are. Looking forward to talking with you, Kathleen & Yvonne



Special Online Resources from The Upper Room Publication Online
Visit www.upperroom.org/covid-19 for a list of all resources specific to the pandemic, along with special articles, daily prayer at 11:00 AM Central Time, "Every New Morning" with daily video, "Freedom From Worry" ecourse, other half-price ecourses, a prayer wall, and other free resources.

Counting On You
Sunday, June 14, 2020
Total worshipping together online = 361

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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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" GainOrganist
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 WilliamsNursery Attendant
Kattina WilliamsNursery 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 WrightLead Caretaker
Jim Denzer.....Caretaker
Andrew Evans.....Caretaker
Toby Jones.....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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