

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, July 29, 2020

No. 30



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Two Important Announcements about Worship at Central! **8:00 a.m. In-Person Worship to Resume**

Beginning on Sunday, August 16, we will be offering 8:00 a.m. in-person worship again. The check-in procedures will be the same as for the 9:15 and 10:30 in-person services. You will still need to come in through the West Entrance doors, *no earlier than 7:50 a.m.*, and be checked-in by the front door hosts. For those not coming back at 8:00 a.m., we will continue to live-stream that service. We will therefore have three (3) online options and three (3) in-person options beginning August 16.

Calling all Volunteers

Currently, we have a team of 17 volunteers who have agreed to help us to staff the check-in table and with front door hosting responsibilities as we come back to in-person worship, but we would like to invite more volunteers to join the group! Anyone who has previously served as a greeter or usher, or anyone for that matter, is especially invited. Again, this new team of volunteers is taking the place of our previous practices of "ushering" and "greeting" as we learn to operate in a world changed by COVID-19. We are envisioning two (2) shifts on Sunday morning, beginning August 16.

Shift 1 will be 7:45 – 9:30

Shift 2 will be 9:30 – 11:30

Responsibilities include: greeting at the front (west entrance) door; taking temperatures; signing participants in; and leading people in and out of the worship space (either sanctuary or Great Hall). Please contact the office (central@cccdisciples.org, 428-4336) if you are interested.

SUNDAY, August 2, 2020

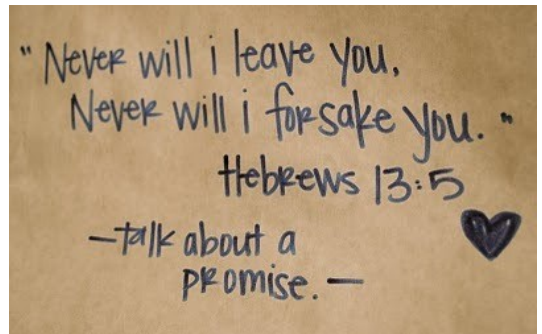
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LIVE
STREAMED ON
WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
AT **8:00 a.m.**

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP ON
FACEBOOK LIVE
AND IN-PERSON - GREAT HALL
AT **9:15 a.m.**

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LIVE
STREAMED ON
WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
AND IN-PERSON - SANCTUARY
AT **10:30 a.m.**

Look to the Witnesses

Text: Hebrews 12:1-2
Tina Miller



VIRTUAL ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

- Craving for a dose of wildlife? You're in luck! [San Diego Zoo Kids Corner](#) brings you half-hour virtual "funshops" filled with trivia, arts and crafts, humor and exciting activities. Visit intriguing animals at the San Diego Zoo and San Diego Zoo Safari Park, as well as other zoos and aquariums around the world, and learn fascinating wildlife facts.
- Go birdwatching! The [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#) has various live bird cams which offer a virtual window into the diverse and intimate world of birds. Get up close and personal with barred owls, red-tailed hawks, Bermuda petrels and more.
- Encounter otters, moon jellies, sharks, African penguins and other fascinating sea creatures with [Monterey Bay Aquarium's live cams](#).
- [SeaWorld San Diego](#) invites you to explore the world of animals and nature with a wide array of free online resources. Revel in the wonders of wildlife through the *Saving a Species* series from ShamuTV, check out Animal Bytes for quick, fun facts about some of the most interesting creatures in the animal kingdom, and browse Animal InfoBooks for details about animals, environments, conservation issues and more.
- Check out a live webcam featuring the [world-famous sea lions of PIER 39](#) in San Francisco. Find out how they came to live at Pier 39 after the 1989 earthquake and discover fun sea lion facts.

(excerpted from <https://www.sandiegofamily.com/things-to-do/best-of-family-fun/best-online-activities-for-kids>)

Joseph: Genesis 37-50; God's hand revealed

Joseph's life was full of bizarre situations. Yet, God is shown Sovereign. Joseph experienced favoritism, jealousy, hatred, and betrayal. He was thrown into a pit, sold into slavery, falsely accused, and unjustly imprisoned. Through all of it, he was a person of high morality and integrity. He always tried to do the right thing and eventually, he was successful. In fact, he became the second in command under King Pharaoh of Egypt. While he was in that position, he saved not only his immediate family, but the whole Israelite nation in Canaan from starvation.

We find Joseph's response to all his life experiences in Genesis 45 4-8:

So, Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

I can imagine there were times when Joseph felt overwhelmed by what he endured. God revealed his hand at work throughout Joseph's life and Joseph recognized God's work in all the bizarre circumstances. He gave God credit for safety and protection, and he honored God with his success.

As we look over our own lives, each one of us could point to peculiar occurrences and bizarre circumstances that really make no sense as we walk through them. Maybe you have experienced some of the things Joseph did.

I believe when you continue to be a person of integrity regardless of how strange your life seems, if you honor God and serve him with all you are and all you have, then you will have good success as Joseph did. You will see God's hand revealed as Sovereign.

Be encouraged this week to open your Bible and read about Joseph's life. Look for parallels between your life and Joseph's. Notice how Joseph responded to what he faced. See how God blessed Joseph for his proper response and know that God will bless you for your proper response too.

Tina Miller
Associate Minister
CE & Family Life
Central Christian Church
Decatur, IL

Emergency Fund Offering

This week and next, August 2 and 9, we will be receiving a special offering for the Emergency Fund at Central Christian Church. These resources make it possible for us to help with member benevolence and community people who have fallen on hard times. This Fund is especially important during this time when we are all affected by the pandemic. Please indicate your wish on the offering envelope or whatever electronic method of giving you choose. Thank you for considering a gift to the Emergency Fund.

Text Giving Now Available

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

- Text "GIVE" to (217) 212-2173. You will receive a secure link to www.ShelbyGiving.com, which directs your contribution to Central.
- 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. Text and online giving offer new ways that Central members and friends can contribute to the church's many ministries. 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.

A Word About Worship Schedules

From having read *The Visitor* over the years, you have undoubtedly noticed that we print a schedule of worship assignments for the coming week's worship service. Given that we are gradually introducing in-person worship again, in the midst of the ongoing pandemic, we wanted to share some important information with you.

- First, all existing schedules (deacons, greeters, liturgists, and ushers) have been temporarily suspended.
- Second, a new schedule has been made with some new volunteer titles (e.g. "Front Door Check-in"). This is the schedule that will be printed in *The Visitor* each week. For the foreseeable future, a smaller group of volunteers will be handling these new volunteer roles. Since not everyone on the original schedules published in early 2020 feels comfortable coming back to in-person worship, this was thought to be the most efficient way to proceed for the time being.
- Third, should we return to more "normal" Sunday morning practices, we may very well re-institute the schedules first published in early 2020.
- Fourth, should you be interested in helping out with these new in-person worship volunteer opportunities (and are not yet on the schedule), please let us know and we can add you to the roster of volunteers (central@cccdisciples.org).
- Finally, if you have any questions about anything at anytime, please don't hesitate to let us know.

August 2 Volunteer schedule

8:45 – 10:15

Front table – Janet Lyman, Christine Lyman-Harm, Gregg Foltz

Ushers – Cheryl Zollinger, Kathy Matherly, Paul Gorden

Elder – Gail Prince

10:00 – 11:45

Front table – Paul Gorden, Brett Swallow, Donna Dash

Ushers – Ron Oliver, Mike Munos

Elder – Gail Prince



Sunday (2)

8:00-Traditional Worship,
Live Stream ONLY

9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
& Facebook Live

10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary &
Live Stream

12:00-Praise Team rehearsal, G. Hall

Monday (3)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - 1 PM

Tuesday (4)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - 1 PM

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café

9:00-ChristCare Stitchers, Disciples Room

10:30-Support Staff Meeting, Conn. Café

5:00-Women's Group, Connection Café

Wednesday (5)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - 1 PM

10:30-Ministers' Meeting

5:30-Koinonia class, Connection Café

Thursday (6)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - 1 PM

10:00-Alanon, Disciples Room

4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café

Friday (7)

OFFICE OPEN 8 AM - 1 PM

Saturday (8)

Sunday (9)

8:00-Traditional Worship,
Live Stream ONLY

9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
& Facebook Live

10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary &
Live Stream

12:00-Praise Team rehearsal, G. Hall

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 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
 Paula Partain.....Preschool Staff
 Lora WrightLead Caretaker
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker
 Toby Jones.....Caretaker

Temporary Church Office Hours as of
July 20th, 2020:
Monday through Friday
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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