

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. XCIII

Decatur, Illinois, January 6, 2021

No. 1

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Important news: if you have not submitted your 2021 pledge to fund the operating budget but are still interested in doing so - the link to pledge online will be removed from the website at the end of the week. You can contact the church office anytime and request a pledge card via mail.

Also, 2021 offering envelopes were mailed last week. If you have not received yours by week's end, please contact the church office.

Thank you for your generous support!

New Koinonia Bible Study

The Koinonia Sunday School Class would like to invite you to join us as we begin a study on the Holy Spirit. The book we will be using for our study is entitled "Forgotten God" Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit, by Francis Chan. The study will last for approximately 6-7 weeks, and we will be examining the role of the Holy Spirit in our individual lives and the life of the Church. Our class meets in the Connection Café on Wednesday nights from 5:30 -6:45 pm except for the second week of the month, when we meet on Thursday nights. Our study will begin on Thursday, January 14. The cost of the book and workbook which accompanies it is about \$20.00. We follow Covid guidelines by following CCC's guidelines for being in the building and sit at least 6 feet apart. If you are interested, we would be delighted to have you join us, and for more information, please call Liz Campbell at 217-521-5995.

Thank you, Central!

Dear Central Friends,
Thank you so much for the cards I received last Fall for my 99th birthday and more recently the lovely Christmas cards and notes. It is so wonderful to be remembered at Central, my home church.
Blessings to all of you,
In Christian love,
Howard Cravens and family



SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2021

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LIVE
STREAMED ON
WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
AT 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP ON
FACEBOOK LIVE
AT 9:15 a.m.

Lord of My Heart, Give Me Vision

Text: Ephesians 1:15-19
Michael E. Karunas



Sunday, January 10th, 2021

Front table: Jeannie & Keith Backes
Elders: Paul Gorden
PA: David Martin



Parents and Children,

YOU GOT THIS!

We often hear those words, and while they are words of encouragement to give your best, I think those words can have even more meaning.

When we remember the words of the Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:13 (NIV), "I can do everything through him who gives me strength."

In other words, it is more like "you got this...through JESUS who gives you strength!"

As you begin this next part of your school year, whether you are learning at school, at home, online, or in-person, remember you are not alone. God is always with you. Your church family is cheering you on.

This world needs young people of character, integrity, and vision for a future with God's hand leading and guiding. We need people like YOU! Take a stand for your faith in your studies, social media, and family. You will be amazed at how the Lord will bless you as honor Him.

You and I both know schoolwork might be easy or not, but remember, with God's help, YOU GOT THIS!

School Year Blessings to you!

Pastor Tina



A New Heart for a New Year



Now that we have "laid 2020 to rest," faithfully and respectfully, we are ready to turn the page on the new year! Our first sermon series for 2021 is titled: "**A New Heart for a New Year**" and is based on a Celtic prayer called "Lord of My Heart." The prayer contains 5 specific petitions and each sermon of the series is based on one of those petitions. This series is the product of a collaborative effort among 5 Disciples of Christ pastors from around the country – David Emery (Tulsa, OK), Ike Nicholson (Littleton, CO), Michael Schwartzentruber (Lexington, KY), David Charlton (Shelbyville, KY) and myself. Here is a schedule of what to expect on Sunday mornings:

January 10	Lord of my Heart... Give me <u>Vision</u>	Ezekiel 36:26, Eph 1:17-20
January 17	Lord of my Heart... Give me <u>Light</u>	John 8:12-15
January 24	Lord of my Heart... Give me <u>Wisdom</u>	I Corinthians 18-29
January 31	Lord of my Heart... Give me <u>Courage</u>	Joshua 1:5-9
February 7	Lord of my Heart... Give me <u>Trust</u>	Jeremiah 17:5-8

We also put together a "virtual small group study guide" to go along with this series that includes Zoom interviews with 5 prominent people (mostly Disciples of Christ leaders) from around the country. Moreover, each week will include a spiritual challenge to accomplish sometime during the week that follows each sermon. More information will come next week about the virtual study guide and the spiritual challenges – and the Celtic prayer on which this series is based will be shared as well. Here is a the prayer on which the series is based:

(continued on page 3...)

Celtic Prayer – Lord of My Heart

Lord of my heart, **give me vision** to inspire me,
that working or resting, I may always think of you.

Lord of my heart, **give me light** to guide me,
that at home or abroad I may always walk in your way.

Lord of my heart, **give me wisdom** to direct me,
that thinking or acting, I may always discern right from wrong.

Lord of my heart, **give me courage** to strengthen me,
that amongst friends or enemies, I may always proclaim your justice.

Lord of my heart, **give me trust** to console me,
that hungry or well-fed, I may always rely on your mercy.

Lord of my heart, **save me from empty praise**,
that I may always boast of you.

Lord of my heart, **save me from worldly wealth**,
that I may always look to the riches of heaven.

Lord of my heart, **save me from military prowess**,
that I may always seek your protection.

Lord of my heart, **save me from vain knowledge**,
that I may always study your word.

Lord of my heart, **save me from unnatural pleasures**,
that I may always find joy in your wonderful creation.

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall me,
rule over my thoughts and feelings, my words and actions.”



Happy Birthday!! **(1/3—1/16)!**

Sharon Andrews, Philip Bateman, Kaylene Beal, Scott Bicknell, Emily Brewer,
Laura Brown, Henry Bryant, Douglas Cain, Ryan Cain, Bryce Chapman,
Brett Garver, Ty Hildum, Carole Holbrook, Cohen Irby, Vickie Jacobs,
Philip Johnson, Joyce Johnston, Karen Keller, Makaela Luthy, Audrey Miller,
Gwen Miller, McKegan Morgan, William Moutray, Dave Phillips, Sid Rohrscheib,
Penny Rutherford, Phillip Shambaugh, Charles Wagener, Braylon Wilcoxon,
Nicole Zinn



Sunday (10)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Live Stream
9:15-Contemporary Worship,
Facebook Live
10:30-Traditional Worship, Live Stream
12:00-Praise Team rehearsal, G. Hall

Monday (11)

Tuesday (12)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
10:30-Youth Staff Mtg.

Wednesday (13)

10:30-Ministers' Meeting
5:00-Elders, Zoom

Thursday (14)

4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:15-Brass Choir, Disciples Room
5:30-Koinonia, Connection Café

Friday (15)

Saturday (16)

Sunday (17)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Live Stream
9:15-Contemporary Worship,
Facebook Live
10:30-Traditional Worship, Live Stream
12:00-Praise Team rehearsal, G. Hall

Counting On You

Sunday, January 3, 2021

Total (online and worship leaders) = 320

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



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To "follow" click on the ellipse icon (...).
You will see a list of options pop up.

Find the option marked "follow" and click on that.

Temporary Church Office Hours as of
January 4th, 2021:
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