

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, February 10, 2021

No. 6



Welcome Cohen Brent Moma!!

With joy and thanksgiving, we celebrate with Matt and Laura Moma the birth of their son, Cohen Brent, born February 1st. Cohen entered the world at 8 lbs, 3 oz and 22 inches long. As the picture attests, mother and baby (and dad) are all healthy and happy! Looking forward to meeting Cohen Brent in person when the time is right.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021

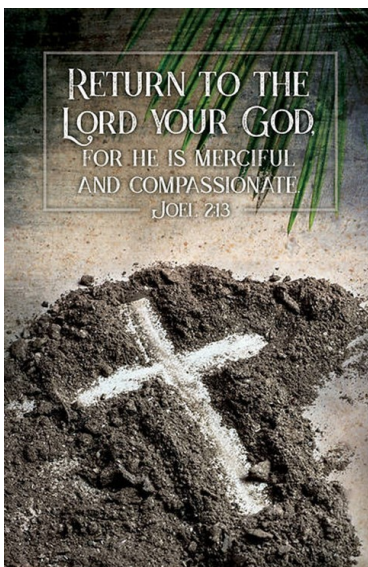
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN-PERSON
(SANCTUARY) AND LIVE STREAMED
ON WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
AT 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

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

Vision

Text: Psalm 127:1 & Proverbs 11:14
Tina Miller

Ash Wednesday, February 17



We will offer **one (1) service** for Ash Wednesday. It will be at **noon** (12:00 p.m.), **in-person only** and will last about 30 minutes. We will have self-serve communion (as normal during the pandemic). We will also be imposing ashes for those who wish to receive them. Pastors Don and Tina and myself will come to those where they are sitting and impose them on forehead or back of hand. We'll wear masks and use a q-tip to impose the ashes. For those who are uncomfortable with in-person worship, we are inviting you to drive by the church at **12:30 p.m. or 5:30 p.m.** and drive through the West Entrance. We will impose "**drive thru**" ashes and offer a **Lenten prayer** for you and your household as you drive through. If we are

not outside exactly at 12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. go ahead and form a line of cars. We will be there as soon as we can and will be present for **30 minutes** (so... from 12:30 – 1:00 p.m. and then from 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.). - Michael



Sunday, February 14th, 2021

7:45-9:30 teams

Front table: Donna Dash,
Carolyn Sunderlik

Usher: Karma Lynn Carpenter,
David Martin

9:30-11:30 teams

Front table: Linda Helton,
Diana & Tom Ritter

Usher: David Martin, Doug Soebbing
Elders: Kevin Miller & David York
PA: 8:00 Donna Dash/10:30 Mike Kirby

LOVE IS...

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8



Mark your calendar
February 21, 2021
Valentine's Craft and
Cookie Pick-up
Until 12:30

Items will be available for pick up after all three services.

If you cannot make a service, please drive up to the West Entrance after 11:45 am and we'll hand your bag to you.



Happy Birthday!!
(2/14—2/20)!

Debbie Bateman, Jody Featherstun,
 Pat Glasscock, Linda Hill,
 Gretchen Kirby,
 Linda Shambaugh,
 Matthew Walwer

S.W.O.T.

In this column space two weeks ago, I shared a partial re-cap from our first Visioning Team meeting on January 23. In it, I invited you – on behalf of the team – to reflect on the six-word mission statement: *Share Christ. Change Lives. Deliver Hope.* For those that responded to me or to Gregg Foltz, our Vision Team leader, thank you. Your responses have been noted. For those that have not, but would like to, there is still time; simply send them along with anything you might want to share upon reading this article.

One of the exercises the Vision Team undertook was called S.W.O.T. Analysis. This is an activity long used in the world of strategic planning that asks an organization to analyze itself through the lens of Strengths (S), Weaknesses (W), Opportunities (O), and Threats (T). Our facilitator Bruce Nims explained each of the areas of analysis as follows:

Strengths – This has to do with what's happening inside our congregation. Specifically...

- What do we really well at Central? What are we good at?
- What are our "super-powers?" What would people say we are known for?
- What capabilities do we have that could be used to succeed in the future?

Weaknesses – These also have to do with what's happening internally. Specifically...

- What are we not so good at? Where do we struggle?
- What deficiencies do we have that could cause us problems and limit our success?

Opportunities – This has to do with what's happening outside our congregation. Specifically...

- What's going on *in the world outside Central* (our neighborhood, our city, and beyond) that is promising for us?
- What trends can we take advantage of?
- What needs can we fill?

Threats – This also has to do with what's happening externally. Specifically...

- What's going on in the world outside Central, that bodes poorly for us in the years to come?
- What trends will challenge our success?

Again, we want you (the wider church) to feel part of this process as we undertake it. To that end, if you have things you'd like to share as you read through these questions, we'd love to hear them and add them to the ones we've already identified. Feel free to send your thoughts to me (mkarunas@cccdisciples.org) or Gregg Foltz (gfolzt55@gmail.com).

Blessings - Michael

"Telling Mark's Good News!" – Small Group Opportunity

As you know, I do a lot of memorizing scripture. What you probably don't know is what a deeply spiritual experience it is for me and how much it helps me grow in my own connection to scripture. I want to share the gift of memorizing and reciting scripture with you!!! Every week during Lent (February 17 – March 28), I will meet with all those interested for one hour. We will spend 6 weeks memorizing sections of the **Passion Story** of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Mark (**Mark chapters 14:1 – 16:8**). At the end of the class, **students will perform a memorized section of the story**. It will be filmed and the video will be shown the week before Easter. This has the potential to be an amazing gift – both to you, if you choose to participate, and to the whole church which will be able to see the videos during Holy Week. We will spend the 6 weeks of the small group picking our sections of the story to tell; memorizing; workshopping; discussing ways of acting out the words we memorize; and more!!! Each person will be responsible for as few as 10-12 verses (but can do more if they choose). I will work with however many are interested – from 2 to 12 or more. More details will be forthcoming on this class but for now, if you are interested, please email me (mkarunas@ccd-disciples.org). This class is designed to be in-person and we will meet in the Friendship Center where we can spread out (masks required as well – except when workshopping your memorized piece).



In Sympathy We Mourn

We mourn with the family of Madlyn Van Praag her passing on February 2. Due to Covid restrictions, the family will hold a private graveside service on February 12. Madlyn had 10 grandchildren... 60 great-grandchildren... and 8 great-great-grandchildren! What a legacy. Thank you for keeping her vast family in your prayers.

Free Virtual Women's Conference

You are invited to attend the free Virtual Women's Conference on February 19-20, 2021, hosted by the CCIW Disciples Women's Ministry Leadership Team. The theme is "New Times, New Wineskins". We will examine change, old practices, and move beyond our comfort zones to engage God in a new, refreshed spiritual wineskin.

To register for this free event, click on the link below:

<https://cciw-disciples.org/portfolio/new-times-new-wineskins/>

IRON SHARPENS IRON 2021 NATIONAL MEN'S ONE DAY EQUIPPING CONFERENCES
SPRINGFIELD, IL MARCH 20TH
Tabernacle Baptist Church - Decatur, IL 8:30 AM - 4:55 PM
Registration starts @ \$47 per man for groups of 10 or more.
RPMFM.ORG



Sunday (14)

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 12:00-Praise Team rehearsal, G. Hall
- 4:00-Youth Group

Monday (15)

Tuesday (16)

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 10:30-Support Staff Meeting, C. Café
- 5:30-Women's Group, Disciples Room

Wednesday (17) - Ash Wednesday

- 10:30-Ministers' Meeting
- 12:00-Ash Wednesday Service, Sanctuary
- 12:30-Drive-Through Ash Wednesday prayer and ash imposition
- 5:30-Drive-Through Ash Wednesday prayer and ash imposition
- 5:30-Church Council Comm.
- 5:30-Koinonia, Connection Café

Thursday (18)

- 10:00-Alanon, Disciples Room
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 6:00-Pastoral Support Comm., C. Café

Friday (19)

Saturday (20)

- 9:00-Visioning Team, Great Hall

Sunday (21)

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 9:00-12:30-Craft & Cookie pickup (after each service), West entrance
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 12:00-Praise Team rehearsal, G. Hall
- 4:00-Youth Group

Counting On You

Sunday, February 7, 2021

Total worshipping online = 307
Total worshipping in-person = 110

Love Word Search

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Find the hidden words.

K Y D S N G E G I P B E E E H
 U P A E M L G A A V E A B O N
 W R T V Q F P R R J A T P W E
 U E I E Z J R B R Z R E O P Z
 U N R I G H T E O U S N E S S
 N E B L B Q P P G F M H C J K
 N S Q E K E R S A V P P R P X
 E J E B C O P T N C M L C X Q
 R N S C V O N E T N X J J T C
 D P D O I E M D E R E F F U S
 Y N K U I O R I J E A L O U S
 R E I T R D J O N F L C G V K
 D R A K F E Z E A G X M K O F
 Z P Y Z D A S R R R L S R A W
 Q T K X B W R E V E N Y Y C N



- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Is PATIENT | Does Not Take Into Account A Wrong SUFFERED |
| Is KIND | |
| Is Not JEALOUS | Does Not Rejoice In UNRIGHTEOUSNESS |
| Does Not BRAG | REJOICES With The Truth |
| Is Not ARROGANT | BEARS All Things |
| Does Not Act UNBECOMINGLY | BELIEVES All Things |
| Does Not Seek Its OWN | HOPES All Things |
| Is Not PROVOKED | ENDURES All Things |

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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
 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 "like" hit the thumbs-up icon.
 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

February 1st, 2021:

Monday through Friday

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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 650 West William Street
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