

# 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 24, 2021

No. 8

## Faith Quest 2021

Something really amazing is happening at Central this winter! Twelve (12) youth (grades 6 – 10) are taking "Faith Quest 2021." This is a class designed to help youth make their first public statement of faith. In our church, we baptize people after they make a confession of faith. Faith Quest helps teach the basis of our Christian faith, such that youth are equipped to make their first confession. This winter and early spring, Faith Quest is being held every other Saturday morning from 9 – 11:30 a.m. and is team taught by Christine Lyman-Harm, David Martin, and Pastor Michael. More details about when and how the youth will make their confessions of faith and when the baptisms will take place are forthcoming. This is the largest Faith Quest ever and... it's all being held within the proper parameters of COVID-19 guidelines. Here are some pictures of some of our great youth, hard at work.



## 2 Peter 3:18 ESV

*But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of  
eternity. Amen*

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN-PERSON  
(SANCTUARY) AND LIVE STREAMED  
ON [WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG](http://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.

## Share Christ

Text: John 1:29-36

Michael E. Karunas



## Sunday, February 28th, 2021

### 7:45-9:30 teams

Front table: Carolyn McCall, Gail Prince

Usher: Dianne DeVore, David Martin

### 9:30-11:30 teams

Front table: Gregg & Linda Foltz

Usher: David Martin & Ron Oliver

Elders: Jeannie Backes, Vicky Woolridge

PA: 8:00 Pat Penhallegon

10:30 Keith Backes

### UPCOMING EVENTS

The CE team will be in touch with information soon! Watch the Visitor, email, and Facebook posts.

#### March 27

In-person Craft Gathering!  
Look for more to come.



#### Easter week

Online story time  
The Central Christian Church staff will be online with an Easter story every night of Easter week!



#### June 11-12, 9 am through 12 noon

2-day, in-person VBS!  
Ages 5 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade  
Look for more to come!

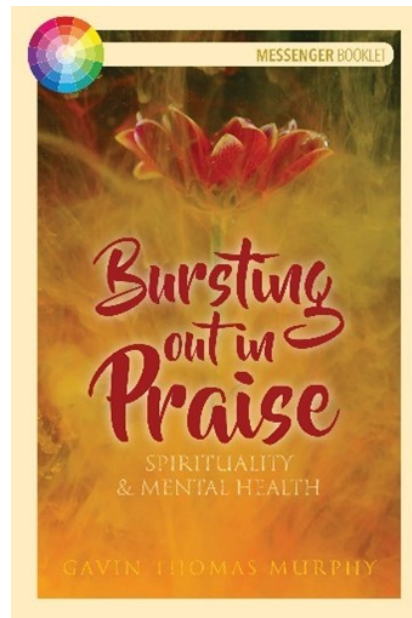


#### Happy Birthday!! (2/28—3/6)!

David Ash, Joan Bird,  
Becky Flanders, Jim Hinze,  
Myra Hinze, Becky Johnston,  
Yvonne Purcell, Veda Redden,  
Lucy Smith, Tom Spry

### Something Good to think and Pray about this Week

The devotional book I am using for 2021, in addition to daily scripture readings and questions for reflections, has a longer devotion for each week. It is printed under the title, "Something good to think and pray about this week." It is usually an excerpt from another publication having something to do with spiritual health. The submission for this week was from Gavin Thomas Murphy and his book, *Bursting Out in Praise: Spirituality and Mental Health*. As I read it, I thought it an appropriate reflection to consider during the Lenten season. I share it with you here:

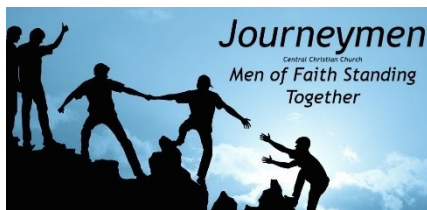


*Too many of us learn to "love" distress and anxiety. That is, we say it is just the way of work and the world and that we have to accept it. Just five minutes of silence seems pointless, we think. But the reality is that we get in touch with the "inner teacher" when we find times to be still in our day, connecting us with deep peace and balance. (Be still and know that I am God... Psalm 46:10). That stillness is available to be tapped into as we live in the moment: listening to others, being present to the tasks required of us, walking with a fresh breeze on our faces... The simple things, which become important the more we are aware of them.*

*In scripture we see how the Good Shepherd invites us to this kind of stillness. He calls us to rest awhile among the grassy meadows and flowing streams. He wants us to relax in his presence – to be nourished, strengthened and renewed. In his presence, we may turn from a closed fist of denial, frustration and turmoil to an open hand of acceptance, relaxation and serenity. And after the rest, we are invited to walk more closely with him; to be freer and more confident, and to be better able to navigate the often-hazy paths of life. It is true that we all need to work on maintaining balance in our lives, but we are not alone. And the good news is that there is room for all us in the presence of the Good Shepherd.*

Blessings - Michael





### **Journeyman Men's Bible Study begins NEW discussion topic**

Both groups are beginning a new study, Good Man or GODLY MAN? The focus will be on the Scriptural perspective of the characteristics and traits for becoming a Godly man. The Tuesday group meets from 7 – 8 a.m. The Thursday group convenes from 4 – 5 p.m. All men...ages 13 and above...are invited to join us!

### **Congratulations Audrey Miller!**

Audrey won a city-wide essay contest. She will read the essay at the Black History Program for the Human Relations Commission. The program will be held February 25th at 6:00 p.m. at the Decatur Civic Center Council Chambers. This will be broadcasted live on Comcast - Channel 18. It will also be streaming at DecaturIL.Gov.

The Miller family was also featured in the Decatur Herald & Review this week for some cross-country skiing. Here's the link to the article:

[https://herald-review.com/lifestyles/family/watch-now-seeking-fortunate-adventure-on-the-cross-country-ski-trails-of-decatur/article\\_2b83c75f-219d-5651-96b8-7aa0b98633e8.html#utm\\_source=herald-review.com&utm\\_campaign=%2Fnewsletter-templates%2Fdaily-head-lines&utm\\_medium=PostUp&utm\\_content=7d74f376c155d24e4919a9e15a60166437a54bf2](https://herald-review.com/lifestyles/family/watch-now-seeking-fortunate-adventure-on-the-cross-country-ski-trails-of-decatur/article_2b83c75f-219d-5651-96b8-7aa0b98633e8.html#utm_source=herald-review.com&utm_campaign=%2Fnewsletter-templates%2Fdaily-head-lines&utm_medium=PostUp&utm_content=7d74f376c155d24e4919a9e15a60166437a54bf2)



### **Week of Compassion offering to be received Sunday, Feb. 28th**

When you give to Week of Compassion, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world. Through sustainable development projects, our partners help provide life-giving water and other critical resources that help communities reinvent and reimagine what's possible. When water comes to a village, people are safer, healthier, and more free to pursue learning and growth opportunities. **Let love flow**, and share more than just water.



### **In Sympathy We Mourn**

In sympathy, we mourn with the family of Laura Jane Sperry, who passed away on February 18th. Her services were Monday the 23rd, here at Central. Please join us in prayer for her family.



### **Sunday (28)**

- 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

### **Monday (March 1)**

- 5:00-Mark's Gospel group, Sanctuary

### **Tuesday (2)**

- 7:00-Journeyman, Connection Café
- 9:00-Christcare Stitchers, Disciples Room
- 10:30-Support Staff meeting, C. Café
- 5:30-Women's Group, Disciples Room

### **Wednesday (3)**

- 10:30-Ministers' Meeting
- 5:30-Koinonia, Connection Café

### **Thursday (4)**

- 10:00-Alanon, Disciples Room
- 4:00-Journeyman 2, Connection Café

### **Friday (5)**

### **Saturday (6)**

### **Sunday (7)**

- 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

### **Counting On You**

**Sunday, February 21, 2021**

Total worshipping online = 318

Total worshipping in-person = 129



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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  
Paula Partain.....Preschool Staff  
Lora Wright .....Lead 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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