

# 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, March 24, 2021

No. 12

## We Celebrate the Gift of Life!!

The past two Sundays have given us good reason to celebrate! On March 14, Clint and Christen McLeod (along with big brother Calvin and big sister Charlee) presented their son Crosby for dedication to God and to the church. Then, the following week (this past Sunday), Trent and Brittney Moran presented their daughter Blair for dedication as well. And this was on Blair's first birthday! What a great gift of life these two children and their wonderful families represent!



## SUNDAY, MARCH 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.

## *Deliver Hope*

Text: Romans 5:1-5

Michael E. Karunas

## Easter Lilies

Central will be selling Easter lilies on Sunday, March 28th. Each lily is \$15.00. You may email the church office [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org) or call (217-428-4336) to reserve your lily and mail or bring in a check or cash. Lilies may be picked up after Easter worship services with a drive-through from noon to 1:00 PM on April 4th. If you are unable to make the pickup time, they may be picked up from the church on Tuesday, April 6th or Wednesday, April 7th (the church is closed on Monday April 5th) in the Connection Café.



## CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

650 W Williams St Decatur IL

[cccdisciples.org](http://cccdisciples.org)

7:00 PM  
IN-PERSON

**MAUNDY  
THURSDAY**

The Passion Story  
Retold

5:00 PM  
ONLINE

**GOOD  
FRIDAY**

The Passion Story  
Retold

8:00 AM  
9:15 AM 10:30 AM

**EASTER  
WORSHIP**

Livestream &  
In-Person

**COVID-19 Update**

With more and more people in our area receiving the COVID-19 vaccine, and possibly due to the warmer Spring weather, we are experiencing increasingly larger numbers of people coming back to in-person worship and other in-person activities. For example, we are happy to announce that our nursery is open again. Our youth group is meeting in person, along with other Sunday school classes, small groups, and committee meetings. We are able to make accommodations for most any in-person group that would like to meet, not including ones serving food. That said, we want everyone to know we are still abiding by our distancing guidelines, check-in procedures, and requiring masks unless seated in pre-determined seating areas. Thank you for coming back! We love seeing you! And thank you for your cooperation.

**Happy Birthday!!****(3/28—4/3)!**

Luke Kirby, Tatum Little,  
Calvin McLeod, Christen McLeod,  
Josie Morelli, Samuel Rutherford

**Easter Offering to be Received****March 28th & April 4th**

The Disciples Easter Offering, received by most congregations on March 28 and April 4, 2021, supports several of the general ministries of the Christian Church. Your gift supports college students in leadership development programs, global mission partners, health and social service ministries, the formation of new congregations, support for pastors and chaplains, and so much more. Please consider giving generously.

**Confessions of Faith on Palm Sunday**

In the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), baptism takes place by immersion after someone has confessed their faith in Jesus the Christ. When children are born, they are dedicated to God, as we have seen twice in the last two weeks with the dedications of Crosby McLeod and Blair Moran. One of the important lines in the dedication service reads: *"We look forward to a later point in this child's life when they will confess their faith in Christ and be baptized in his name."* Once that child reaches early teenage years, we invite them to take a class called Faith Quest which helps them formulate their faith for the first time. As part of the Faith Quest experience, we pair each youth with an adult Faith Companion. This is a Christian adult other than their parent who serves as an early mentor and guide as the youth begin their faith journey.

Over the past eight years, Faith Quest has culminated with Palm Sunday and Easter. On Palm Sunday the youth have confessed their faith. On Easter, they have been baptized. This year, given COVID-19, has been understandably different. Yet we hope to keep the spirit of the Faith Quest the same. To that end, here is what we have planned.

The 8:00 a.m. services the next two weeks will be typical. There will be no confessions of faith or baptisms at those services. On Palm Sunday (3/28), ten youth will make their confessions of faith. Five will take place at 9:15 and five at 10:30. These confessions will occur at the end of the sermon and before communion.

- The youth will be called forward with their Faith Companions
- Each Faith Companion will briefly introduce their student
- The youth will then, collectively, answer a few questions from me
- Then, each will step to the lectern and deliver their first faith statement
- The youth confessing their faith at 9:15 will be:  
Jordan Lindsey, Julina Lindsey, Kate Neumann,  
Kaycee Neumann, and Nola Redden
- The youth confessing their faith at 10:30 will be:  
Luke Karunas, Reese Mahannah, Kaedon McCoy,  
Josie Morelli, and Peyton Swarthout

Each of the youth will be baptized at the 10:30 service in the weeks that follow:

- April 4 (Easter) – Jordan and Julina Lindsey, Reese Mahannah, Kaedon McCoy, Josei Morelli, Peyton Swarthout
- April 11 – Luke Karunas, Nola Redden

Note: Kate and Kaycee Neumann will be baptized on Easter by their grandmother, a Disciples pastor, at the church she serves in Quincy. Two more youth, Hannah and Declan Kilday, will make their confessions of faith and be baptized at the 10:30 service on April 18.

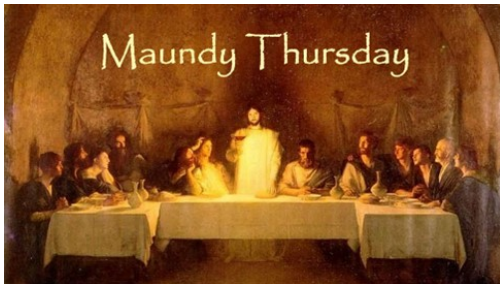
We share this information so that you can make your plans to attend worship and/or support these youth accordingly.

Blessings - Michael



### Maundy Thursday

Make your plans to attend worship on **Maundy Thursday (Thursday, April 1) at 7:00 p.m.** You may attend in person or online. The service will be the dramatic re-telling of the Passion Story of Jesus as told by the Gospel of Mark. The word passion means "suffer", and the Passion Story tells of the suffering and death of Jesus which precedes Easter. Communion will be taken as part of the dramatic re-telling.



As our Maundy Thursday Passion Story is told, the sanctuary will become ever darker until the service ends with the burial of Jesus. When we re-convene on Easter Sunday, we will begin worship with a dramatic recitation of the resurrection of Jesus (Mark 16:1-8). The troupe of storytellers who will present the Maundy Thursday Passion Story from Mark are:

Karen Wade	Donna Rutherford	Angie Horvath
Shirley Swarthout	Mary Jane Oliver	Betty Thorp
Janet Lyman	Wayne Rutherford	Michael Karunas

### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

#### Available Online and at the Welcome Center

Higher education is important and valuable. It opens possibilities and helps students discover and foster unique gifts and talents and demonstrates a person's willingness to make an investment in his/her own future! Central Christian Church supports those pursuing higher education and we understand the challenges of meeting its cost. Scholarships are open to all high school graduates as well as anyone who is currently attending a college, university, technical school, vocational school, or planning to attend one during the 2021-2022 academic year.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DATES:**

**Available: March 26, 2021**

**Return Deadline: May 1, 2021 @ 3 pm**

[www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org) (to be posted under the Resources and News tabs)



### **Sunday (28) - Palm Sunday**

#### **Faith Quest Confessions of Faith**

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 11:30-Picnic/Box Lunch pickup
- 1:00-Mark's Gospel rehearsal
- No Youth Group

### **Monday (29)**

- 1:00-Dorcas planning committee, C. Café
- 5:00-Mark's Gospel group, Disc. Room

### **Tuesday (30)**

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:00-Christcare Stitchers, Disciples Room
- 5:30-Women's Group, Disciples Room

### **Wednesday (31)**

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

### **Thursday (1) - Maundy Thursday**

- 10:00-Alanon, Disciples Room
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 7:00-Maundy Thursday Service, Sanctuary

### **Friday (2) Good Friday**

- 5:00-Good Friday service, online

### **Saturday (3)**

- 9:00-Visioning Team, Great Hall

### **Sunday (4) - Easter**

#### **Faith Quest Baptisms**

#### **Easter Bag hand-outs**

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Live Stream
- No Youth Group

### **NURSERY NEWS**

The nursery is open for the 9:15 am and 10:30 am church services. Please call church office to request nursery service for the 8 am service.

### **Counting On You**

**Sunday, March 21, 2021**

Total worshipping online = 192

Total worshipping in-person = 197



**Sunday, March 28th, 2021**

**7:45-9:30 teams**

Front table: Donna Dash, Dianne Devore, Carolyn Sunderlik

Ushers: Karma Lynn Carpenter, David Martin,  
Pat Penhallegon

**9:30-11:30 teams**

Front table: Gregg & Linda Foltz, Kim Maple, Brett Swallow

Ushers: Gretchen Kirby, David Martin, Ron Oliver,  
Doug Soebbing

Elders: Jan Dobbs, Linda Virgil

PA: 8:00 David Martin

10:30 Mike Kirby

Selling Lilies: 8:00 - Jane Davis, 10:30 - Mary Jane Oliver



**OPEN NURSERY CARE STAFF POSITION**

Are you happy, energetic, and patient? Do you have good communication skills? If so, I have the perfect opportunity for you! We are looking for individuals who want to engage with infants and toddlers as part of our nursery care staff. The position includes minimal hours (five to twelve hours per month): perfect for college students. Please pass this along to anyone who might be a good fit for the position. Send resume' to Tina Miller (tmiller@cccdisciples.org). Thanks in advance!

**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](mailto: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" 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.

**Church Office Hours as of**

**March 15th, 2021:**

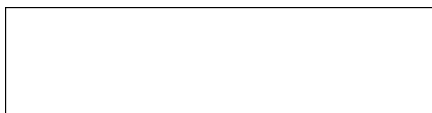
**Monday through Friday**

**8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

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