

The Central Visitor



Vol. XCIII

Decatur, Illinois, July 21, 2021

No. 29

Welcome Baby!

We celebrate with Ben, Aubrey, and Liam Hawkinson the birth of Eli Benjamin Hawkinson, born at 1:45 PM on July 19th, 8 lbs., 5 oz., and 21" long. Welcome to our world, Eli!



You are invited to the
ORDINATION
of Hannah Fitch

Sunday, August 1st
3:00pm

To be followed by light refreshments

First Christian Church
6400 N. University St. Peoria, IL 61614



Livestreamed at facebook.com/FCCPeoriaIL

Please refer to the Minister's article to see how you can contribute to a gift for Hannah.

Camp Walter Scott Back in 2021!!!

Our regional summer camping program is back in action in 2021! After taking a Covid year off, 2021 has seen a modified camp schedule (weekend instead of week-long camps). The shorter time has not diminished interest among Central youth or youth leaders. Bella and Luke Karunas, Brandon and Emily Brewer, and Sam Rutherford all joined counselors Andrew Rutherford and David Martin for a junior high/senior high camp this past weekend (pictured at right). Josie Morelli is scheduled to attend junior high camp later this month as well, which will be directed by Brittney Moran and Andrew Rutherford.

*A weekly visitor to your home bringing you news from Central Christian Church
Our mission ... Sharing Christ,
Changing Lives, Delivering Hope*

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2021

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
IN-PERSON (GREAT HALL)
AND LIVE STREAMED ON
WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
AND FACEBOOK LIVE
AT 9:15 AM

Summer Favorites #3 - Up North

Text: Deuteronomy 2:1-7
Michael E. Karunas

**Our West Elevator is up
and running again!**



Dear Friends,

I wanted to take this opportunity to send a note of thanks and appreciation to you as I move to my next ministry assignment here at Central Christian Church. I am grateful for the time I spent serving as your Associate Minister of Christian Education and Family Life and getting to know the volunteers and young families.

What an absolute joy it has been as we have broken bread together, both in the material and spiritual sense. Also, we have known great victories, and yes, even a few heartaches along the way, but those times have simply helped to magnify the joyful times so much more!

The words of the Apostle Paul to Philemon come to mind when I think of our service time:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. Philemon 1:3-6 (NKJV)

I trust that in this time of transition, that the sharing of your faith will become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. Rest assured that you will be in my thoughts and prayers. I will continue to encourage you and cheer for you as my role at Central Christian Church changes and my portfolio shifts to senior adults.

May the Peace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

Reverend Tina Parnell Miller

A Nurturing Congregation

What a blessing it is to be able to share the news of Hannah Fitch's ordination on August 1 at 3:00 p.m. at First Christian Church, Peoria! Though Hannah was not raised at Central and calls another congregation her "church home," we will certainly claim her as one of ours as well. From 2010 through 2015, she was an integral part of our faith family – first as a choir member, then as a youth intern, and finally as a staff person working with youth and young adults. She left us to answer the call to the ministry and began a long road that took her to the University of Chicago's Divinity School and which culminates with her ordination on August 1.

Though we are not hosting the ordination service, we have been asked to present Hannah with the gift of a stole. The stole is worn around the neck of clergy during worship. Our church will formally present Hannah with three (3) stoles at the ordination service.

*Note: If you would like to donate to this gift, simply give it during the regular offering collection (or send to the church) with the words "**Hannah's Ordination Gift**" on it. Whatever is donated over and above the amount required for the stoles will be given to Hannah as a **Love Gift**. If you would like to send your own card to Hannah, you may do so by sending it to: **Hannah Fitch, 1322 W. Belmont Ave., Unit 3W, Chicago, IL 60657***

But Hannah's is not the only ordination on our schedule. Sometime this autumn, Zach Martin will be ordained at Central. Of course, Zach did grow up in this congregation. This is his "home church." He was raised by Sunday school and youth group here. We were there to send him off to a Disciples of Christ college and later to Christian Theological Seminary (the alma mater of his mother and father). We have helped sponsor his call to ministry and supported him along the way. And we are proud and glad to serve as the host congregation for his ordination.

Of course, hosting Zach's ordination will not be entirely new to us. Not even two years ago, we hosted Tina Miller's ordination service as well. Tina joined our staff just as Hannah was leaving it. Though she was raised in other congregations, and we joined Tina toward the end of a vocational discernment that had begun years earlier, were the crucible in which she found her ultimate ordination home.

To be able to be so heavily involved in the ministerial formation of three people in such a short window of time is such a blessing! This is a credit to you, the congregation. To contemplate, undertake and complete the journey to ministry is one that involves a hard work, emotional vulnerability, and incredible faith and trust. Congregations that are able to provide the safe, loving, and nurturing environment in which ministerial candidates and work out these, and other, issues is a tremendous blessing to the wider church. I am proud and honored of Central for being one of those congregations, and I hope you join me in these feelings.

Blessings - Michael



Ben Hawkinson’s Faith in 60 (ish) Seconds

For the last two years, it has been a pleasure to call Central Christian Church our home. In March of last year, we, like many others, began to participate virtually at home. This choice has placed us in the odd position of being “attendees for years” and “new to you”. Please don’t be shy about introducing yourselves! We are pleased to connect with you, whether it be as old friends or for the first time.

As a musician, the Psalms have, naturally, held a special place in my heart. The 90th Psalm is one that I take particular comfort in. This might be surprising, as after the initial “Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another” this Psalm contains

some not-so-hopeful moments like, “All our days pass away under your wrath (v.9)”, and “We are consumed by your anger (v.7)” or “If we only knew the power of your anger! (v.11)”. But at the end of this Psalm is something that immediately catches the eye of a conductor of choirs - a repetition of text.

In music, we are constantly striving to find musical gestures that relate to natural speech. When we think about the times we naturally repeat a phrase, it is always for additional impact or an added intensity. In no other moment is another phrase repeated in this Psalm. The final verse reads, “May the beauty of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.” Our author, here, is Moses who having seen the wrath of God firsthand is seemingly most concerned about the work that God has set out for him. My inspiration from this Psalm comes from seeing this incredible figure, Moses, who experienced days far darker than any I’ve encountered set his sights on continuing the work of the Lord from one generation to the next.

God’s church, both the people and the physical sanctuary where we gather in weekly, stands on the efforts of those who have come before. The saints who have toiled before have handed to us the blessings of the work of their hands—work that persisted in days when times were difficult, and where God’s anger was made known. The comfort that Psalm 90 provides is not a promise that days will be easy, but rather God’s work in both times easy and difficult is an expression of the “beauty of the Lord our God”.



Sunday, July 25, 2021

7:45-9:30 teams

Front table: Sandy Garver, George & Pearl Jones
Ushers: David Martin, Mike Munos

9:30-11:30 teams

Front table: Janet Lyman, Christine Lyman-Harm
Ushers: Gretchen Kirby, David Martin

Elders: Gerri Munos, Krista Rohrscheib

PA: 8:00 - Jim Bednar
10:30 - Mike Kirby



Sunday (25)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
& Facebook Live & Live Stream
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
& Facebook Live & Live Stream

Monday (26)

Tuesday (27)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 207

Wednesday (28)

10:30-Ministers’ Meeting

Thursday (29)

10:00-Alanon, Disciples Room
4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:30-Koinonia, 212
6:00-Choir, Choir Room

Friday (30)

Saturday (31)

Sunday (August 1)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
& Facebook Live & Live Stream
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
& Facebook Live & Live Stream



Happy Birthday!! (7/25—7/31)!

Rachel Ash, Morris Birkhead,
Leslie Johnson, Brittney Moran,
Jeff Ryan, Shaun Thomas, George Virgil,
Christopher Potter, Mark Boline,
John Graham Jr., Trey Waldrop,
Makenna Bishop, Madeline Beyer,
Dena Luthy, Bill Modlin, Zach Sargeant,
Everly Schrock, Janet Downs

Counting On You

Sunday, July 18, 2021

Total worshipping online = 122
Total worshipping in-person = 187

Good Samaritan Inn Cookoff!



Join us for a night of food, music,
& friendly competition

8.10.21

Social 5:30 • Dinner 6pm
Hickory Point Golf
Course Pavilion



Competitive Tasting - Local Chefs
You Vote - Winning dishes served at Empty Bowl
Dessert Table • Wildflower Bakery



Silent Auction • Featuring Local Art & Experiences
Open Bar • Soda, Beer, Wine, Cocktails
Dessert Dash • Prizes




Emma Taylor Trio • Classic Jazz
90's Daughter (Duo) • Acoustic Set



21+ • Age Limit
\$75 • Individual
\$580 • Table of 8
Sponsorships • Available



 GoodSamaritanInn.org/cookoff • Director@GoodSamInn.org • 217-429-1455

Food Collection for NE Community Fund



The food collection for Aug. 1 for Northeast Community Fund will be the usual cereal, tomato products, and dried or canned beans. Thank you for filling the shopping cart in the Connection Cafe.

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www.cccdisciples.org
e-mail: central@ccd-disciples.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
Bri Lockwood.....Nursery Attendant
Carlee Phillips.....Nursery Attendant
Kattina WilliamsNursery Attendant
Lora WrightLead Caretaker
Jim Denzer.....Caretaker
Andrew Evans.....Caretaker
Toby Jones.....Caretaker

"Like" and "Follow" us on Facebook

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.



New Prayer Request Text-In!

Have a prayer request? Text "PRAY" (all caps) to 217-212-2173, or use the QR code to the left. We would love to pray with you and follow up, if you wish.

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