

The Central Visitor



Vol. XCIII

Decatur, Illinois, August 4, 2021

No. 31

School Supply Drive

Dear Church,

This year Christian Ed will be collecting school supplies for Ben Franklin school. For the next three Sundays there will be the black trunks in the Friendship Center for you to put your supplies in. There is also a list of school supplies that are needed. Help the Christian Ed dept make this a success for the kids. Thank you for your help.

Blessings,
Janet Lyman,
CE Chairperson

Supplies Needed:
24 pack of crayons
Colored pencils
Washable Markers
Dry Erase markers
Glue sticks

Pencil boxes and pouches
2 pocket folders (paper and plastic)
1 inch 3 ring binder
Clorox Wipes
Gallon zip lock bags
Sandwich zip lock bags

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 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 #5 -
Everything's Better On the Water*
Text: Mark 4:35-41
Michael E. Karunas

Back to School Sunday

Save the Date

Sunday, August 22, 2021

Sunday School 9:15-10:15 AM

Classrooms for:

K - 5th Grade

6th - 12th Grade

Bible Presentations to 3rd graders.

All services.

30 Awesome End of Summer Bucket List Ideas for Kids

1. Create another world outside with chalk
2. Have a picnic lunch in the backyard
3. Sit outside and paint
4. Make homemade popsicles
5. Have a dance party
6. Catch fireflies
7. Roast marshmallows & make s'mores
8. Pick fruit at a local farm
9. Visit a farmer's market
10. Blow the biggest bubble ever
11. Create a backyard obstacle course
12. Have an outdoor tea party
13. Paint rocks from the backyard
14. Go on a nature hike
15. Spend a day at the pool
16. Keep a journal of birds seen in the backyard
17. Build a fort outside
18. Make a sunset smoothie
19. Go for a family walk
20. Ride bikes as a family
21. Spend the day in pajamas (and jump on the bed!)
22. Play with water balloons
23. Build a hopscotch
24. Make homemade applesauce
25. Imagine clouds are animals
26. Go to the zoo
27. Use nature to make art
28. Have a parade in backyard
29. Find books about school at the library
30. GO BACK TO SCHOOL SHOPPING!

(Excerpted from
heartofdeborah.com, posted by
inspired-motherhood.com, posted on
7/27/2017 by Lauren Gaines)



Dear Church,

Sunday, August 22, is our annual "Back to School Sunday". Summer is winding down, the children, youth, and college students are heading back to school, and we are kicking off our Fall season at all three services.

After a time away, it is good to come back together and remember who we are and what we believe. We are united under the Gospel of Jesus Christ as one body. We have common beliefs, purposes, and goals, and spending time together strengthens our bonds, drawing us closer together and helping each of us to sharpen our faith "...as iron sharpens iron." (Proverbs 27:17 NIV)

Our fellowship as believers is never intended to be exclusive—indeed we welcome all who wish to join us. We encourage you to invite your friends, neighbors, and family members Sunday, August 22, as we prepare for the season to come.

In the early church, connections were an integral part of growing the church and bring people to Christ. It is our desire to follow this example, leading people to Jesus through our time together as a church body. To that end, the Fellowship Committee is serving a fellowship dinner directly after the 10:30 service. Everyone is invited to come!

As we come back together after summer break, it is our fervent prayer that we will be of "one mind" and will seek not only to reengage in the church but also to remind ourselves of the hope that we have and the privilege that we share to worship freely which is denied to so many around the world.

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

Faith in 60 Seconds

Last Spring, we introduced a challenge to everyone: Describe why you are a Christian in 60 seconds. Why we believe in Christ and not something (someone) else? As people have taken up that challenge and shared their testimonies in worship, we have then published their words in *The Visitor* the following week. One of our elders, Linda Virgil, offered her faith in 60 seconds this past Sunday. Here is what she said:

Why am I a Christian? The fact that I was born into it is a major contributing factor. But then, the question becomes ---why do I continue to embrace Christianity? I continue because Christianity shows me that love is the ultimate reality. It further promises that one day I will live with God in perfect love. It is Christianity that proclaims that "God is Love" or "Love is God" -- whichever way you want to say it! I know of no other faith that has love at its core in the same way Christianity does. Christianity has offered to me the perfect example of what love looks like in the life and actions of Jesus.

When life throws me a curve and becomes almost too painful to bear, as it certainly has for me, or when I'm challenged to be the loving person God wants me to be, I can turn to Jesus. I can look at his life and listen to his teachings. He tells me that, if I am to live in love, I am to be patient, I am to be kind, I must not insist on my own way, I am to believe, I am to trust ---all the attributes of love Paul describes in I Corinthians 13. It is Christianity that tells me that love for God and love for my fellow man is what I must strive for if I am to know God, have a
(continued on page 3...)

meaningful relationship with him and therefore find meaning in my life. Jesus does not tell me that love will always be easy, but it does tell me that love is all that really matters, and I've learned that when I sacrifice in the name of love, forgive in the name of love, or engage in all the other many facets of love, God will always be with me, loving me, forgiving me, guiding me, as I continue my journey on this beautiful planet he has created for me and for you. That is why I am a Christian.

In Sympathy We Mourn

In sympathy, we mourn with the family of Dorothy "Dottie" Scholes, who passed away on July 16th. Dottie was a member of Central Christian Church for 42 years, having joined in March of 1979.

We also mourn with the family of Joan Bird, who passed away on August 2nd. Joan was a member of Central for 61 years, having joined in October of 1960. Please join with us in prayer for the families of these two ladies.

Bottle Cap Sorting

The Journeymen will be hosting their first bottle cap and lid sorting event this Sunday, August 8 immediately after the 10:30 service. This will be a combined event with the youth, including a light lunch. All men and youth of Central are invited to participate. If you have any questions, reach out to David Martin at demartin@cccdisciples.org.



Sunday (8)

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live & Live Stream
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live & Live Stream
- 12:00-Bottle cap sorting

Monday (9)

- 12:30-Women's Book Club, Panera
- 5:00-Elder Planning
- 5:30-Women's Book Club, Panera

Tuesday (10)

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 207
- 10:00-Support Staff Meeting
- 7:00-Millikin Heights

Wednesday (11)

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

Thursday (12)

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

Friday (13)

Saturday (14)

Sunday (15)

- 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!! (8/8—8/14)!

John Baird, Al Fagin, Mark McAfee, Duane Potter Sr., Mary Lou Stanley, Paul Boline, Maria Jacobs, Jane Osman, Arlone Dalluge, Carmen Dunn, Larry Wade, Josiah Agar, Baron Wilcoxon



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



Counting On You
Sunday, August 1, 2021
Total worshipping online = 129
Total worshipping in-person = 182

**Serving Schedule—Sunday,
August 8, 2021**



Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Jeannie Backes
& Gretchen Kirby
9:00 - Gretchen Kirby

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 2 - Becky Johnston, Capt., Bruce Campbell
10:30 - Team 7 - George Virgil, Capt., Linda Virgil

Greeters:

8:00 - Jim & Pamela Bednar
10:30 - Jan Dobbs

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Pat Penhallegon
10:30 - Mike Kirby

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Michael E. Karunas Senior Minister
Tina Miller Associate Minister
David Martin Youth Director
Ben Hawkinson Interim Director of Music
Cordelia “Dee Dee” Gain Organist
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 Williams Nursery Attendant
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.



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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