

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, September 1, 2021

No. 35

Small Group Invitation

To coincide with our new sermon series – “All Hands on Deck” (September 5 – October 3) – we are inviting everyone to be part of a small group experience for 5 weeks. The groups will meet for one (1) hour each week and follow a uniform “curriculum” that will be based on the themes of the sermons. The intention of these small groups is to have everyone join us in: a) thinking about the strategic plan in concrete ways; b) share any ideas you have that we could work into the strategic plan before we formally embrace it. These small groups offer an opportunity not only to engage with the strategic plan, it is a chance to spend a little more time in God’s Word and... an opportunity to get to know one another a bit better as well! Here are the small group leaders and the dates and their times their groups will meet:

George and Linda Virgil

Sundays 9/12 – 10/10 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Rm. 240

Judy Ford and Sandy Garver

Mondays 9/13 – 10/4 5:30 – 6:30 Connection Cafe

Karen Wade

Tuesdays 9/7 – 10/5 6:45 - 7:45 p.m. Connection Café

Randy and Deb Trei

Thursdays 9/9 – 10/7 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Connection Café

Bruce and Liz Campbell

Thursdays 9/9 – 10/7 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Room 212

Financial Peace University Coming to Central!

Planning for the future is hard when you’re still paying for the past! Listen—there’s a better way! Join our Financial Peace University class, and we’ll learn how to beat debt and make a plan for the future together. Our own Gerri Munos will be leading this nine week class. Join us here at **Central Christian Church** starting **Monday, September 20, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.** You can sign up fpu.com/1139844.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 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

All Hands on Deck - Introduction

Text: Mark 2:1-12
Michael E. Karunas





Food Collection for NECF

Food collection for the shopping cart for September 5 will be cereal, canned tomatoes, & canned or bagged beans. Thanks.



Serving Schedule—

Sunday, September 5, 2021

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Vicky Woolridge & Jeannie Backes

9:00 - Jeannie Backes

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 1 - Donna Dash, Cpt., Carolyn Sunderlik, Dianne Devore

10:30 - Team 6 - Mark Kincaid, Susan Bryant

Greeters:

8:00 - Donna Dash, Carolyn Sunderlik

10:30 - Carrie & Steve Funk

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Pat Penhallegon

10:30 - Mike Kirby



Psalms Expedition

Last Summer, my Friday Thoughts videos were compiled to a series called *Psalms Expedition*. Each video was different. We journeyed through the Psalms and spoke about them meditatively. We found life application points and looked at how we might apply our lives to the Bible and live out the theme. These are actions we can take with us and actively use. I spoke about insights I learned in thinking upon the passages.

Every successful expedition begins with planning and preparation. Psalms Expedition was no different. Part of expedition planning involves determining a question you want to answer. For this expedition, our primary question was:

“How might my life be changed for the better after having learned about this Psalm?”

Am I inspired?

Am I encouraged?

Can it help me grow in fellowship with God and others?

I began the series with a brief look at Psalms' background information in Friday Thoughts video one. Here's some of what I covered in that video.

The book of Psalms is the largest book in the Bible. It is made up of 150 Psalms, 2,461 verses, and 43,743 words. The Book of Psalms is in the middle of the Bible. Psalm 103:1-2 are in the most middle-point of Scripture with 15,500 verses before and 15,500 verses after them.

Psalm 103:1-2

“Bless the Lord, O My soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits.”

The Central Figure in the Psalms is God and three names for God are used in the Psalms.

- Elohim (344 times): Depicts God as the Omnipotent (almighty, all-powerful God) Creator.
- Yahweh (676 times): This is a personal name of the covenant God of Israel. Yahweh refers to God as the self-existing, covenant God.
- Adonai (53 times): This name signifies, honor, majesty, and sovereignty. Adonai refers to God as the Sovereign Ruler.

Regardless of which name for God is used in the Psalms, the Passages call for humanity to praise the Lord. Hymns play an important/dominant role throughout the book.

The Psalms have been called religious, lyrical poetry. They speak of emotion and reveal feelings of fear, doubt, tragedy, triumph, joy, and hope. They display creative and artistic forms of pattern, design, unity, balance, harmony, and variation.

We read about the needs of God's people and about God's mercy and goodness in the Psalms. They provide support, comfort, sometimes warning,

(continued on page 3...)

and they proclaim God's law as a guide for right living, direction, and true prosperity. They reflect healthy, good morality, wisdom, and philosophy for life.

These are just some of the reasons I chose to journey through the Psalms last Summer. I hope you take a few minutes and look at these videos in your spare time (links below). My prayer is that you are encouraged to spend time in thanksgiving. Thank God from the inner most parts of your being for his never-ending compassion and mercy that saves and sustains us for living a life of prayer and praise.

May the peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

Tina Miller

- #1 <https://fb.watch/7Dv28ohxf7/>
- #2 <https://fb.watch/7DuZyotRvW/>
- #3 <https://fb.watch/7DuThoWVNe/>
- #4 <https://fb.watch/7DuNVipJH/>
- #5 <https://fb.watch/7DuHmy1oBM/>

College Students' 2021-2022 Addresses

If you have a college student in your household (or family), we'd love to know their new address for the 2021-2022 academic year. Please send addresses to us so we can stay in touch. Here is one to note:

Thomas Karunas
McKinney Hall N209
1907 4th St.
Charleston, IL 61920

In Sympathy We Mourn

We mourn with Chere and Steve Peters the passing of their father, Howard Cravens. Howard was a long-time member of Central before moving to Peoria to be closer to his daughter in his last years. He loved Central and will be laid to rest here on Thursday, September 2. A visitation at 11 a.m. will precede a service for Howard in the sanctuary at 12 noon. Howard was 99 years old and just a few weeks' shy of his 100th birthday. He joined Central in 1959.

We also mourn with the Bischoff family on the loss of Brandon Bischoff, grandson of Bob & Carol Bischoff, who passed away last week. Brandon was 28. The visitation will be this Thursday, September 2, from 1:00—3:00 PM at Brintlinger & Earl funeral home.

Please join us in prayer for these two families.

SAVE the DATE for DORCAS DISCIPLES MEETING!

All Central women are invited to start the Dorcas program year on Tuesday, September 21st at 6:00 p.m. in the Disciples Room. Enjoy fellowship and refreshments and learn about our Christmas donation ministry. Dan Watkins, Executive Director of God's Shelter of Love, will share how "Careage House Cares" for our community's homeless women and children. Come together to explore our mission to Share Christ, Change Lives, and Deliver Hope. RSVP by Friday, September 17th to Nancy Ellen Taylor at xstr@sbcglobal.net or 217-872-9174. Contact Sandy Garver at revrag@comcast.net or 217-877-0800 for more information about Dorcas Disciples. Hope to see you Sept. 21st!



Sunday (5)

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live & Live Stream
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live & Live Stream
- 4:00-Youth Group

Monday (6) - Labor Day Church & Office Closed

Tuesday (7)

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 207
- 9:30-Card Ministry, 240
- 5:00-Elder Planning
- 6:45-Small Group—Wade, Conn. Café

Wednesday (8)

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

Thursday (9)

- 10:00-Alanon, Disciples Room
- 10:00-Small Group—Trei, Conn. Café
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 5:30-Small Group—Campbell, 212
- 7:00-Choir, Choir Room

Friday (10)

Saturday (11)

Sunday (12)

Imboden Creek Worship

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall & Facebook Live & Live Stream
- 9:15-Small Group—Virgil, 240
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live & Live Stream
- 4:00-Youth Group



Happy Birthday!! (9/5-9/11)!

Marty Heick, David Miller,
Doug Soebbing, John Wagner,
Julie Martin, Avery Martin,
Kelly Hildum, Jim Ferreebee,
Andrea Shartzter, Don Boyd

Counting On You

Sunday, August 29, 2021

Total worshipping online = 104
Total worshipping in-person = 162

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Michael E. KarunasSenior Minister
Tina Miller Associate Minister
David MartinYouth Director
Ben Hawkinson Interim Director of Music
Cordelia "Dee Dee" Gain..... Organist
David Williams Organist
Kathleen Dudley..... Administrative Assistant
Yvonne BoydAdministrative 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

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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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