

The Central Visitor



Vol. XCIV

Decatur, Illinois, February 2, 2022

No. 5



Girl Scout Cookie Sales!

It's Girl Scout Cookie time again! On February 6th, some of our Girl Scouts will be selling Girl Scout cookies in the Friendship Center between services. Make sure to stop by and encourage them (and maybe get a box while you're there). Also, consider buying a box for the troops overseas, as we have a member who is helping to coordinate that mailing.

From the Finance Team

The Finance Team is excited to share the good news regarding the campaign to fund the operating budget for 2022. To date we've received 116 pledges totaling \$538,640, which is a 9.5% increase over 2021! Your generosity and faithfulness help us live out our mission to share Christ, change lives, and deliver hope. Thank you!



Thank you & Scouting Updates wanted

Thank you to Dennis Downey for the generous donation of updating the scholarship plaques!

Are there any Central Christian Church Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, or Cub Scouts who received the God and Country Award or the God in Community Award in the last fifteen years? If so, Please contact Dennis Downey. We would like to add your name to the appropriate awards plaques.

Dennis Downey's contact information:

217-877-4485

hptfd@aol.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2022

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

First Things First: The First Disciples

Text: Luke 5:1-11

Michael E. Karunas



Happy Birthday!! (2/6 - 2/12)!

Gene Garver, Bob Logan,
Janet Deakins, Jack Dixon,
Kent West, Paige Garver,
Peyton Garver, Rachel West Seidel,
Calvin Andrews, Peyton Swarhout,
Tom Ritter, Ryan Damery,
Amy Lester, Janet May Carpenter,
Christian Jackson, Clara Monroe

Prayer of Blessing

As I mentioned last week, this coming Sunday (February 6), we will be offering a prayer of blessing for all our incoming and continuing church leaders. Many have said to me that, due to one reason or another, they are not going to be able to there but will be watching online. So for all who will be watching online this Sunday, I wanted to share the words that will be spoken in the prayer. Those of you who will be in-person, this will be more of a sneak-peek. In addition to Pastor Tina and myself, congregational president Brett Swallow will play a role in leading the prayer.

Brett: Early in every calendar year, we pause during a Sunday worship service to offer special prayers for those elected by the congregation to serve in leadership roles. Last fall the nominating committee presented the names of trustees, elders, and deacons to you, the congregation, and you approved them to be some of our leaders for 2022.

Michael: In addition, there are those who have volunteered to serve as ushers and greeters in this coming year. All these leaders join the officers – and the other trustees, elders, deacons, ushers, and greeters continuing in their terms of service – and we would like to ask God's blessing on them as they prepare to lead us through the coming year. So whether you are beginning – or continuing – as an officer, trustee, elder, deacon, usher, or greeter, please stand:

Pastor Michael: *Let us pray... We thank you, O God, for those who have accepted special servant roles in your church. We have recognized gifts in them which can be put to great use in building up the body of Christ in our midst.*

Pastor Tina: *We pray that your holy spirit would be upon each of those standing here this morning. Bless them – and their household – in a special way. Give them humility and patience. Guide them to spiritual discernment. Help them prophetically see a vision for our future, and give them the courage and strength to take us there.*

Brett: *May they grow in their own spiritual health and wholeness this year – such that they may lead us to those same ends. And may all that they do – and all that they help us do – be pleasing to you. Amen.*

Pastor Michael: These are not the only volunteers, however, who lead us. There are many more who help us live out our ministry and mission every day. So if you teach Sunday school or lead a small group; if you visit the sick in the hospital; if you send cards through the card ministry or knit prayer shawls or serve at Good Samaritan Inn; fold bulletins or newsletters; prepare fellowship of bereavement meals or... if you give offerings and attend worship – please stand. The fact that we are all standing, makes sense. Because it takes all of us to be the hands and feet of Christ and it is important to acknowledge this work before God and to ask God's blessings up on it as well.

Brett: *Let us pray. Almighty God we rejoice that you have called us to serve with you and to use our gifts on your behalf in all the varied roles we play. Strengthen the commitment we have made to Christ, one another, and the*
(continued on page 3...)



Food Collection for NECF

The food collection for Northeast Community Fund for February will be cereal. Please put the donations in the grocery cart in the Connection Cafe by Feb. 6. As always, thank you for your generosity.



Serving Schedule — Sunday, February 6, 2022

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Jan Dobbs &
Karen Wade
9:15 - Karen Wade

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 3 - Dennis Downey,
Capt., Jim & Pamela Bednar
10:30 - Team 8 - Need help

Greeters:

8:00 - Charlotte Ballance &
Donna Dash
10:30 - Dick & Sue Ann Cain

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Jim Bednar
10:30 - Jim Hinze



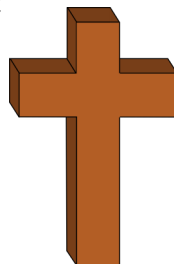
church. Uphold all of us with hope and encouragement – that we may endure every difficulty with patience.

Pastor Ting: O God, as we dedicate our service and our attention to you, may we learn each day to work together more cooperatively; care for one another more sincerely; and strive more ardently to strengthen connections at Central Christian Church – with Christ, with one another, and with the wider world. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Blessings – Michael

In Sympathy We Mourn

We grieve with the family of Eddreanna Lindsey her passing last Tuesday, January 25. Eddreanna had been hospitalized at DMH for many weeks and was just not able to overcome the illnesses that beset her. At present, we understand that a service will be held for Eddreanna in northern Illinois sometime in the future. This is where most of her family resides. We also understand there to be GoFundMe campaign underway to offset her funeral expenses. Any memorial monies donated in her name to Central will be used to support the family in the future as well. May we keep Courtney (her brother) and her children, Jordan and Julina, in our prayers.



Small Groups this Week

Let us know what your small group's focus is this week, and we'll let others know about it! If you would like to attend any of these groups, simply show up! If you would like more info before attending, let us know (central@cccdisciples.org).

Tuesday Journeymen (men's bible study) Connection Café at 7:00 a.m.
Conversation led by Pastor Michael on Luke 4:14-21

Thursday Journeymen (men's bible study) Connection Café at 4:00 p.m.
Conversation led by Paul Gorden (David Martin leading this week)

Koinonia (mixed small group) Room 412 at 5:30 p.m.
Discussing Tony Evans book "Kingdom Disciples" (focus on leading a Christ-centered life and sharing faith with others).



Sunday (6)

Girl Scout Cookie Sales

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 (7)

5:00-Elder planning
5:30-Dorcas Planning, Connection Café

Tuesday (8)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 407
5:30-Women's Book Club, Panera
7:00-Millikin Heights

Wednesday (9)

10:00-Ministers' Meeting
5:00-Elders, Disciples Room

Thursday (10)

10:00-Alanon, 340
4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:00-Christian Ed. Committee, 340
5:30-Koinonia, 412
6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples Room
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (11)

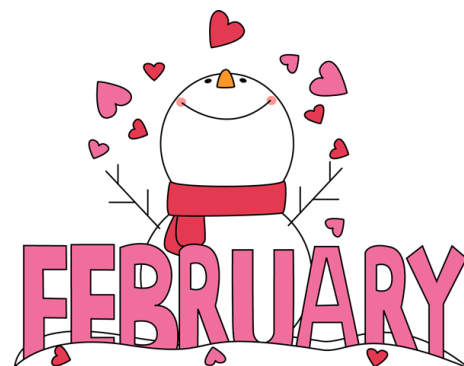
Saturday (12)

9:00-Faith Quest

Sunday (13)

Imboden Worship

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



Counting On You

Sunday, January 30, 2022

Total worshipping online = 144

Total worshipping in-person = 157

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 David MartinYouth Director
 Ben Hawkinson Interim Director of Music
 Cordelia "Dee Dee" Gain..... Organist
 David Williams Organist
 Kathleen Dudley..... Administrative Assistant
 Yvonne Boyd Administrative Assistant
 Kattina WilliamsNursery Attendant
 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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