

# The Central Visitor



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

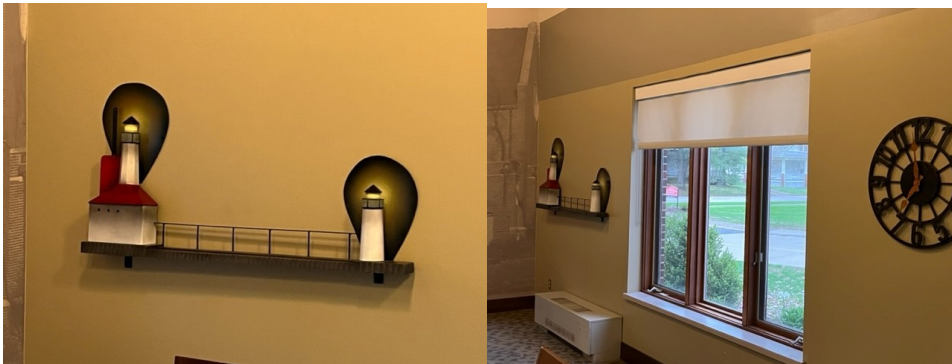
Vol. XCIV

Decatur, Illinois, April 27, 2022

No. 17

## New Artwork in Connection Café

Stop by the west wall of the Connection Café and see our new artwork. It is a commissioned piece in memory of Lawrence Turner. It represents Jesus as the Light of the World. Lawrence, who collected lighthouses in his lifetime, was a faithful member of the Thursday Journeymen men's bible study and it seemed fitting to display this artwork in the café, where the Journeymen met every week.



## CREATE: A three-part women's event

**PART 2 May 2, 6-7:30 pm**

**Join us for a fun time of connection and creating.  
You don't have to be an artist or a crafter to participate.**

Spiritual Creativity can be scary and doable – even for those who consider themselves lacking artistic ability. Humanity is made in the image of God, the Ultimate Creator! Humans are made to reflect our Creator's character and commissioned to conduct his purposes in the world. If God is The Creator, then we as His creation can create and we have the responsibility to live creatively and to live out our commission in creative ways! That could take the form of art, painting, sculpting, sewing, dance, poetry, literature, presentation, architecture, music, or theatre. It could also take the form of daily living: the art of navigating life!

**Come and create ways to share life.**

## SUNDAY, MAY 1, 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

## ***Getting Unstuck from Shame***

Text: John 21:15-19  
Michael E. Karunas



## **Happy Birthday!! (5/1 - 5/7)!**

Judy Ford, Debra Fulk-Clark,  
Andrew Heick, Nancy McAfee,  
Brenda Tankersley, Sarah Andrews,  
David Sheffer, Richard Postlewait,  
Alison Chumbley, Jennifer Hartwig,  
Ronda Burcham, Mark Beal, Nick Baum,  
Steve Turner, Guiliana Morelli,  
Mike Tanzyus, Jim Fitzpatrick,  
Vicki Fitzpatrick

**Spring Events for Children,  
Youth, and Families**

Sunday, May 15

12:00 p.m. – All-church picnic with outdoor games and activities

Sunday, May 22

8:00, 9:15 and 10:30 services – Graduation Sunday. We will celebrate the end of the school year for all students of all ages!

**Upcoming Concerts at Central**

Saturday, April 30, 2022, 3 p.m.

**Millikin Children's Choir**

Sunday, May 1, 2022,

2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

**Millikin University Spring Concerts**

2 p.m. – Mothers and Mentors concert, Millikin Treble Choir

6 p.m. – Spring Sing, University Choir, Collegiate Chorale, Millikin Bass Choir

Sunday, May 15, 2022,

3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

**Opus 24 Spring Choral Concerts**

**WE CELEBRATE OUR CHURCH STAFF!**

Dorcas Disciples (all mission-focused Central women) will host a Staff Appreciation Luncheon at 12 noon on May 17<sup>th</sup> in the Great Hall. Disciples will gather at 11:15 a.m. for a brief business meeting and then celebrate the dedicated service of our church staff with a yummy lunch at noon. Ellen Damery, Preschool Director, will give us a quick report on the fall restart of our terrific preschool!

Please RSVP by Monday, May 9th to Nancy Ellen Taylor at 217-872-9174 or [xstr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:xstr@sbcglobal.net) to make sure we have enough delicious food.

Hope to see you May 17th!

**The Sacredness of Breath**

At last week's council meeting, Donna Dash shared a meditation on how the presence of God is eternally with us. Whether it's Jeremiah 1:5 – who reminds us that we were called and claimed by God even before we were born – or Psalm 139:7-10 – which says there is no place on earth where it is possible to flee God's presence – there is ample scriptural evidence for this fact. Yet, the words Donna shared offered a different perspective and one that I wanted to share here.

*There was a moment when Moses had the nerve to ask of God what God's name was? God was gracious enough to answer and the name given is recorded in the original Hebrew as YHWH. Over time we've added an "a" and an "e" to the YaHWeH – presumably because we have a preference for vowels. But scholars and rabbis have noted that the letters YHWH represent breathing sounds, or aspirated consonants. When pronounced without the intervening vowels, it actually sounds like breathing. YH (inhale). WH (exhale).*



*So a baby's first cry - its first breath – speaks God's name. A deep sigh calls out the name of God. A groan or gasp that is too heavy for mere words does this. Even a non-believer – or a not-yet-believer – simply by breathing speaks the name of God. Likewise, a person leaves this earth with their last breath; when God's name is no longer filling their lungs. And when we can't utter anything else, when all words fail us, a simple breath calls out the name of God. Being alive means we are speaking God's name constantly. In sadness, we breathe heavy sighs. In joy, our lungs feel almost like they will burst. In fear, we hold our breath and have to be told to breathe slowly to help us calm down. When we're about to do something hard, we take a deep breath to find our courage. When we think about it, breathing gives God praise – even in life's hardest moments. All of us – always and everywhere – waking or sleeping, working or resting – have the name of God on our lips.*

Blessings – Michael

**Save the Date! Women's Celebration!**

Mark your calendars for May 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. We will be celebrating women and quilts in the Great Hall that evening. Ticket sales will begin in several weeks between services; six dollars for adult meals, four dollars for children's meals. Watch The Visitor in the upcoming weeks for more information. Hope to see you there!

### Meet our New Custodians

After conducting interviews for several months, we finally have our custodial team filled! First, we welcome Cheri Russell, who has actually been with us for two months now (red shirt below). Cheri lives near the church and has been a life-long resident of Decatur. She previously worked at Millikin and has 3 children and 14 total grandchildren. She will primarily work in the late-morning through late-afternoon. Jenny Goodman (blue shirt below) lives on the east side of town and is also a life-long Decatur resident. She will primarily work late-afternoons and evenings. She has twin daughters, age 20, both of whom work at Caterpillar. Sam Hawkinson has lived in the west end since moving to Decatur two years ago from Arizona. He has a degree in electrical engineering technology with a focus on alternative energy. He is the brother of our choir director, Ben Hawkinson, and will work primarily weekends and mid-day during the week. Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself to, and welcome, our new custodians.



### Small Groups this Week

*If you're in a small group, let us know what your small group's focus is for the 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 information before attending, let us know ([central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org)).*

#### CREATE: Session 2 (5/2)

Disciples Room at 6:00 PM

All women are invited to this 3-part event focused on spiritual creativity.

#### Tuesday Journeymen (men's bible study)

Connection Café at 7:00 a.m.

Conversation led by Brian Maple, Jim Fitzpatrick, or Pastor Michael

#### Thursday Journeymen (men's bible study)

Connection Café at 4:00 p.m.

Conversation led by Paul Gorden or Jack Dixon

#### 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 (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
- 2:00-Millikin University Concert– Millikin Women, "Mothers & Mentors"
- 4:00-Youth Group
- 6:00-Millikin University Concert– Millikin Men, University Choir, Collegiate Choir, "Spring Sing"

#### **Monday (2)**

- 6:00-CREATE: Part 2

#### **Tuesday (3)**

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R
- 9:30-Card Ministry, 340
- 11:00-Support Staff Meeting

#### **Wednesday (4)**

- 10:00-Ministers' Meeting

#### **Thursday (5)**

- 10:00-Alanon, 340
- 1:00-DAR, Disciples Room
- 3:00-Decatur Needle Arts, Disc. Room
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 5:00-Koinonia, 412
- 6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples Room
- 7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

#### **Friday (6)**

- 3:00-Scholarship Deadline
- 6:00-Women's Celebration Meal

#### **Saturday (7)**

#### **Sunday (8)**

#### **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**

#### **CORRECTION**

**Sunday, April 17, 2022**

Total worshipping online = 137  
Total worshipping in-person = 337

#### **Counting On You**

**Sunday, April 24, 2022**

Total worshipping online = 135  
Total worshipping in-person = 226



**Serving Schedule — Sunday, May 1, 2022**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Gretchen Kirby & Krista Rohrscheib  
9:15 - Krista Rohrscheib

**May Prep Deacons:** Carrie & Steve Funk, Linda Zinn

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Charlotte Ballance & Carolyn McCall  
10:30 - Roberta Gorden & David Wagner

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 1 - Donna Dash, Capt., Carolyn Sunderlik,  
Dianne Devore  
10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Gretchen Kirby

**Greeters:**

8:00 - George & Pearl Jones  
10:30 - Dale & Judy Ford

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Jim Bednar  
10:30 - Keith Backes

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e-mail: [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org)

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  
Kattina Williams ..... Nursery Attendant  
Abigail Smith ..... Nursery Attendant  
Bri Lockwood ..... Nursery Attendant  
Andrew Evans ..... Caretaker  
Jenny Goodman ..... Caretaker  
Sam Hawkinson ..... Caretaker  
Cheri Russell ..... 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.



**Food Collection for Northeast  
Community Fund for May**

For May 1st, we are collecting donations of cereal. Please put your donations in the shopping cart in the Connection Café. Let's fill the cart!  
Thank you for your generosity!

**Prayer Request Text-In!**



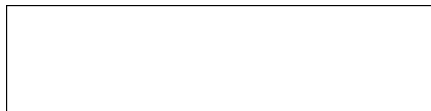
Have a prayer request? Text "PRAY" (all caps) to 217-212-2173, or use the QR code to the left. "PRAY" is the only word you should type. Your phone then sends you a link to the prayer request form to fill out. We would love to pray with you and follow up, if you wish.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Now available online ([cccdisciples.org](http://cccdisciples.org) or snap QR code to right) and at the Welcome Center.



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