

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, July 20, 2022

No. 28



Elderberries Meal—August 10th

Elderberries will meet again for fellowship and food on Wednesday, August 10th. It's going to be "Larry Wade Day", as he will provide the entertainment that day, it's his birthday, and his favorite meal will be served. Larry will be performing for the group in the Sanctuary at 11:30 a.m., and then we will move to the Great Hall for lunch. Larry recently placed 3rd in the Senior Division of the World Championship Old-Time Piano

Playing Contest in Oxford, MS. Please RSVP by calling or emailing the church office (217-428-4336 or central@cccdisciples.org) by **August 3rd** to let us know if you are staying for lunch to make sure we prepare enough food for everyone. The menu will be: fried chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, salad, roll, birthday cake, & ice cream.

Bringing Back Liturgists!

This month, we would like to bring back the role of Liturgist in our worship services. The Liturgist leads the congregation in the call to worship and offers the invocation at the beginning of worship. The Liturgist is a lay person (non-staff) and serves on a rotating basis. Prior to the Covid pandemic we utilized Liturgists like this on a weekly basis. When we moved to virtual-only worship in March of 2020, the Liturgist role was filled by a staff person and we've never stopped doing this. But now it is time to bring back the Liturgist! If you are interested in being on the Liturgist rotation, here is what you need to know:

- We have Liturgists for both traditional and contemporary worship. The traditional worship Liturgist serves at both the 8:00 and 10:30 services. The contemporary worship Liturgist serves at 9:15 only.
- Ministry staff will provide the Call to Worship. The Liturgist is asked to supply the prayer (Invocation).
- Everyone interested in serving as Liturgist is asked to attend an orientation meeting in early August (date TBD).

For now, if you are interested in serving as Liturgist, please let the office know (217-428-4336 or central@cccdisciples.org).

SUNDAY, JULY 24, 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**

Special Guest:
Ben McCloughan

There will be
no Visitor
newsletter
next
Wednesday,
7/27/22.

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).

Sundays - Ecclesia

(mixed Sunday School class)

Room 340 at 9:15 a.m.

Reading through the Seasons of the Spirit curriculum.

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 Jack Dixon or Paul Gorden

Thursdays - 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).



In Sympathy

- We mourn with the family of Zettie Stern, who was one of the residents of Imboden Creek to whom we brought communion weekly. She passed away on June 29th. She was 92 years old.
- We mourn with the Longcor and Renshaw families on the loss of Wayne Renshaw, the father of Tami Longcor and a long time member of Central (since 1988). Thank you for your prayer support for these families.

Guest Preachers

Over the next two weeks, we will be welcoming two guest preachers to fill the pulpit. Ben McCloughan (pronounced "McClone") will bring the message on July 24, and Vicky Woolridge will do so on July 31. While we are all more familiar with Vicky Woolridge, Ben is also a native of central Illinois and recently finished the same three-year School for Ministry that Vicky did.

I wanted to take this opportunity to strongly encourage you to attend worship these next two weeks. Ben and Vicky both feel deep calls to ministry and are exploring their own future ministry options, all while continuing other personal and professional endeavors. There is, perhaps, nothing we – the wider community of faith – can do that is more encouraging and supportive of those new to the ministry than to support what they are doing with our presence. I believe both Ben and Vicky are smart and thoughtful and will bring messages that will be helpful to all of us in our own personal lives of faith. And I also believe that their preaching to a supportive and captive audience will be the kind of thing that encourages their own ministerial growth.

Ben McCloughan is a service manager at Sunbelt Rentals in Springfield. He is also a part-time minister, serving central Illinois Disciples of Christ churches. A native of Virden, he recently graduated from the School for Ministry of the Christian Church in Illinois and Wisconsin, during which time he served as a ministry intern and staff member at First Christian Church Virden.



Vicky Woolridge is a life-long member of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and she and her husband Scott joined Central when they moved to Decatur ten years ago. Vicky graduated from Eureka College with a degree in religious studies and continued her studies in education, receiving her teaching certificate. She spent her career as a teacher of young children. She also recently graduated from the regional church's School for Ministry, having completed the 3 year program. She participated in an internship here at Central last year, where she provided worship leadership and created and led a small group for families. Vicky and her husband Scott have been married for 44 years. Their family includes two amazing grown daughters, one wonderful son-in-law, and 2 delightful grandchildren – Harrison (6) and Millie (7 months).

Blessings – Michael

Playground Work Day

We need about 4-5 volunteers to come and help wash the toys in the playground area on Thursday, July 28th, at 9:00 a.m. Please call or email the office if you can come help that morning.



Generosity Abounds!

Thanks to all those who attended the memorable July 12th Art Quilt Event to learn about Carol Garver's beautiful quilt-story of God's creation as told in the first chapter of Genesis.

We are thankful to those who so generously welcomed Carol, served and baked cookies for the reception, and to those who contributed overwhelming offerings to benefit Central's Preschool.

We invite all who could not attend the event and wish to add contributions to the Preschool to leave them in the Dorcas mailbox in the church office. Make checks payable to Central Christian Preschool.

Dorcas Disciples and Central's Preschool thank you for your support and generosity.

DOVE Clothing Room to Open at Central: Volunteers Needed

Dove will open their Children's Clothing Room at Central Christian in mid-August. The Room was formerly housed at Prairie Avenue Christian Church, and we are proud to have it now added to Central.

The Room will be open on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m., is open to the public, offering good, used clothing for children of all ages free of cost.

Dove volunteers will work the Room and Central is asking for volunteers to greet customers at the West Entrance to offer directions to the new facility.

If you are interested in helping in this valuable community ministry, please contact Sandy Garver at 217-877-0800 or revrag@comcast.net.

Drivers Wanted

If you are willing to be a volunteer who brings someone to and from worship (on either a regular or periodic basis), we would love to know who you are. Please contact the church office and let us know. You would need only to:

- Tell us which service you prefer to attend, and we would match you up with someone who would like to attend that service.
- Provide us a copy of your driver's license and proof of personal auto insurance.

Many thanks for considering. The people who want to come to worship but are unable to, *really* want to come, and this will no doubt be a blessing to them.

UPDATE: We have a driver for the 10:30 a.m. service! We still need a driver for 8:00 a.m. service.

The Secret Place Gets a Makeover

We have been notified that our next *The Secret Place* devotionals will be printed a little bigger than normal. Please be aware that the next issue will be larger.



Happy Birthday!! (7/24 - 8/6)!

Morris Birkhead (99th!!), Jan Dobbs, Leslie Johnson, Brittney Moran, Shaun Thomas, George Virgil, Dena Luthy, Bill Modlin, Zach Sargeant, Everley Schrock, Janet Downs, Jane Watkins, Rachel Ash, Glen Featherstun, Dale Ford, Andy Fulk, Dean Gray, June Moutray, Meagan Hinze, John Graham Jr., Mary Lynn Feltes, Isaac Hanson, Brian Maple, Kellan Niles-Cox, Ray McKeever



Sunday (24)

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

Monday (25)

Tuesday (26)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R
6:00-Concert Series committee

Wednesday (27)

4:00-Caretaker Staff Meeting

Thursday (28)

10:00-Alanon, 340
5:00-Koinonia, 412
6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples Room
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (29)

Saturday (30)

Sunday (31)

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

Monday (August 1)

5:15-Preschool Board Meeting

Tuesday (2)

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

Wednesday (3)

Thursday (4)

10:00-Alanon, 340
3:00-Decatur Needle Arts, Disc. Room
4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:00-Koinonia, 412
5:00-Christian Ed. committee, 340
6:00-Concert Series committee, C. Café
6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples Room
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (5)

Saturday (6)

Sunday (7)

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

Serving Schedule — Sun., July 24, 2022



Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Charlotte Ballance & Jan Dobbs
9:15 - Jan Dobbs

July Prep Deacons: Sid & Krista Rohrscheib

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Sid & Krista Rohrscheib
10:30 - David Martin & Tom Ritter

Ushers:

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

Greeters:

8:00 - Charlotte Ballance & Carolyn McCall
10:30 - Mary Jane & Ron Oliver

P.A. Operator:

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

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Michael E. Karunas Senior Minister
David Martin Youth Director
Ben Hawkinson 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

Serving Schedule — Sunday, July 31, 2022

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Paul Gorden & Diana Ritter
9:15 - Diana Ritter

July Prep Deacons: Sid & Krista Rohrscheib

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Debbie Hoffert & Gail Prince
10:30 - Dale Ford & Steve Swarhout

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 3 - Dennis Downey, Capt., Jim Bednar
10:30 - Team 8 - Tom & Diana Ritter, David Sheffer

Greeters:

8:00 - Gene & Sandy Garver
10:30 - Andy & Theresa Fulk

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash
10:30 - Mike Kirby

Counting On You
Sunday, July 17, 2022
Total worshipping online = 163
Total worshipping in-person = 237

"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.



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.

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