

The Central Visitor



Vol. XCV

Decatur, Illinois, January 4, 2023

No. 1

Sanctuary Sound Booth Under Construction in January

We ask for your patience, flexibility and understanding for two weeks in late January and/or early February. During that time the sanctuary sound booth will be under construction. This is part of the audio/visual improvements approved in our 2022-2025 Capital Campaign. Online worship will not be affected during that time. We will continue to livestream the 10:30 a.m. service. But in order for us to continue to live-stream, as well as have effective sound and lighting the in-person congregation, for the Sundays including in that construction time, the back 2-3 pews on the north side of the sanctuary will be roped off. We realize this might affect the way some experience worship and we thank you for your understanding and cooperation in advance.



From the Stewardship Team

Although 2023 white offering envelopes were ordered in early August, production was delayed, and they *just* arrived yesterday morning, January 3rd. Until we distribute them, you can submit your offerings in the usual manner using any envelope. We will be sure your gift is accounted for properly! We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your support. Look for more information coming soon about their distribution.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

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

What's Love Got to Do With It?

Text: I John 4:7-12
Michael E. Karunas



Happy Birthday!! (1/8—1/21)

Sharon Andrews, Karen Keller,
Dave Phillips, Sid Rohrscheib,
Felicity Williams, Carole Holbrook,
Audrey Miller, Joyce Johnston,
Ty Hildum, Nancy Hanover,
Gwen Miller, Alyssa Bottom,
Penny Kappler, Miles Kappler,
Cohen Irby, Parker Campbell



Minister's Article

The Big 4!

Who are you, God? Who am I? Why am I here? Where do I go next?

When it comes to finding meaning in life, these questions are the most popular — and most important — ones to ask. Many who have written on the spiritual life have maintained this. And these questions just happen to align with our congregation's answers from a survey we took at the end of 2022. In it, we asked: *If you could ask God one question right now, what would it be?* The answers collected reflected the essence of "The Big 4" questions above. So... as we kick-off a new year, we turn our attention back to the basic building blocks of faith. Join us — virtually or in person — as we provide answers to one of these questions each week. Here is what you can expect as we begin 2023 with "*The Big 4: Questions that Matter Most*"



January 8	Who are You, God?	I John 4:7-12
January 15	Who am I?	Psalms 8
January 22	Why am I here?	Ephesians 2:8-10
January 29	Where do I go from here?	Matthew 5:14-16

Blessings — Michael

In Sympathy



In Sympathy we mourn with Bill, Dave, and Mike Sheffer, sons of Ellen Sheffer, and the rest of the Sheffer family, upon the loss of Ellen Sheffer on December 23rd. Ellen was a part of the Chancel Choir and the Bell Choir at Central. She joined CCC on December 13th, 1964 (58 years). She was 83 when she passed. Thank you for joining us in prayer for the Sheffer family. Ellen's services are today (Jan 4th) at 1:00 PM, with visitation at 11:00 AM.

First Friday Senior Luncheons at the Salvation Army

Mark your calendars! The next First Friday Senior Luncheon at the Salvation Army will be Friday, January 6th, at noon. Located at 229 W. Main St. in Decatur.



Sock Drive

Did you know that socks are the most-needed but least-donated item to homeless shelters? Two of our Central members used their "\$10 Challenge" Funds to begin a continuing sock drive. Donations will be made to local shelters, nursing homes, and others in need. The donation basket can be found in the Connection Café.

Counting On You

Sunday December 24, 2022

Total worshipping in-person = 282

Counting On You

Sunday December 25, 2022

Total worshipping online = 177

Total worshipping in-person = 122

Counting On You

Sunday January 1, 2023

Total worshipping online = 229

Total worshipping in-person = 111

Preschool Wants Your Boxes!

If you receive any new large appliances at Christmas, the preschool would love to have 3-4 large boxes (refrigerator, stove, large freezer) to make some fun winter play areas in our classrooms. Please contact Melissa Miller at 309-825-6128 or preschool@cccdisciples.org or if you have a large box you would like to donate.



Millikin CDs for Sale

We have Millikin CDs for sale! The silver one in front is the 60 year compilation of Vespers for \$25 (comes with free ornament). The other CDs are compilations of local artists for \$15. Benefits from sales will go to local and national non-profits. The ornament is \$5 when purchased separately or with the \$15 CDs. The ornaments are made from a material that has seeds embedded in it, so you can enjoy them on your tree this year and then plant it. We will have the CDs for sale into January on Sunday mornings or during office hours.

Liturgists for 2023

We are always looking to add volunteers to our roster of liturgists to help lead worship for us. Liturgists are the ones who open worship by leading the congregation in a call to worship and then offering the opening prayer, called the invocation. If you are interested in being in the rotation of liturgists and have not already indicated that interest to us, please let us know. Simply contact central@cccdisciples.org and let us know if you prefer to serve at the traditional services or the contemporary service.

Contemporary Service New Deacons Meeting!

There will be a meeting for new Contemporary Deacons this Sunday, January 8, right after the Contemporary Worship Service.



Central's looking for volunteers... could you be the one we need?

There are many opportunities to serve at Central Christian Church. We have special opportunities for volunteers for projects from time to time, but some of the ongoing needs we have right now are for ushers, sound/PA workers, liturgists, readers for announcements (Contemporary Service), and hospital callers, to name a few. We also have several ministries that would welcome new members. There's a place for everyone at Central!

Sunday (8)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online
4:00-Youth Group

Monday (9)

9:00-Good Sam volunteer opportunity
9:15-Prayer Group, Ramp Room
12:30-Women's Book Club, Panera Bread
1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open
1:00-Golden K, Disciples Room
5:00-Praise Band Practice, Great Hall
5:00-Elder Planning

Tuesday (10)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R
5:30-Women's Book Club, Panera Bread

Wednesday (11)

10:15-Preschool Chapel, Friendship Center
1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open
1:30-Prayer Shawl Ministry, Connection Café
4:30-Dorcas Planning, Connection Café
5:00-Elders, Disciples Room

Thursday (12)

10:00-Alanon, 340
4:00-Lower Level Reno Comm., Conf. Room
4:15-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:00-Koinonia, 412
5:30-Brass, Disciples Room
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (13)

Saturday (14)

Midwinter Youth Conference

Sunday (15)

Midwinter Youth Conference

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online
4:00-Youth Group

Monday (16) - Church & Office Closed

Tuesday (17)

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

Wednesday (18)

10:15-Preschool Chapel, Friendship Center
1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open
5:30-Church Council, Disciples Room

Thursday (19)

10:00-Alanon, 340
4:15-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:00-Koinonia, 412
5:30-Brass, Disciples Room
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (20)

Saturday (21)

Sunday (22)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online
4:00-Youth Group
7:30-Millikin Collegiate Chorale Tour Finale

Serving Schedule — Sunday, January 8, 2023

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Charlotte Ballance & Theresa Fulk
9:15 - Theresa Fulk

January Prep Deacons: Gregg & Linda Foltz

Offering Deacons:

8:30 - Sandy Garver & Krista Rohrscheib
9:15 - Ellen & Ryan Damery
10:30 - Dale Ford & David Martin

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 1 - Donna Dash, Capt., Carolyn Sunderlik, Dianne Devore
10:30 - Team 6 - Mark Kincaid

Greeters:

8:30 - Charlotte Ballance & Donna Dash
9:15 - Deb & Randy Trei
10:30 - Dick & Sue Ann Cain

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash
10:30 - David Martin

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Janet Lyman
9:15 - Angie Horvath



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Michael E. Karunas Senior Minister
David Martin Youth Director
Ben Hawkinson Director of Music
Vicky Woolridge Pastor for Families
Don Martin Visitation Associate
Cordelia "Dee Dee" Gain Organist
David Williams Organist
Kathleen Dudley Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Boyd Administrative Assistant
Emily Elsea Nursery Attendant
Abigail Smith Nursery Attendant
Kattina Williams Nursery Attendant
Andrew Evans Lead Caretaker
Sam Hawkinson Caretaker
Cheri Russell Caretaker

Serving Schedule — Sunday, January 15, 2023

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Jeannie Backes & Kevin Wilmot
9:15 - Jeannie Backes

Outreach Communion Elders: Gretchen Kirby, Suzie Miller, Matthew Swarthout, Kevin Wilmot, David York

January Prep Deacons: Gregg & Linda Foltz

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Jane Davis & Gail Prince
9:15 - Hugh & Linda Rowden
10:30 - Mike Kirby & Ron Oliver

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 - Jim & Pamela Bednar
9:15 - Angie Horvath
10:30 - Bob & Mary Jane Linton

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Jim Bednar
10:30 - Mike Kirby

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Keith Backes
9:15 - Jodi Van Uytven

"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 to 217-212-2173, or use the QR code to the left.

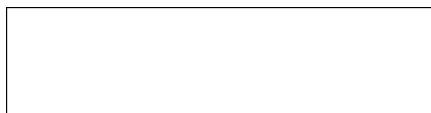
"PRAY" is the only word you should type.

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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