

The Central Visitor

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

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No. 8



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Jessa Wilcoxon Awarded Tenure at Millikin

Prof. Jessa Wilcoxon, who regularly attends the 9:00 service with her family and teaches arts technology at Millikin University, has been awarded the designation of tenured faculty at Millikin University! Jessa came to Millikin in 2016 to launch the Arts Technology major and now oversees it and the Arts



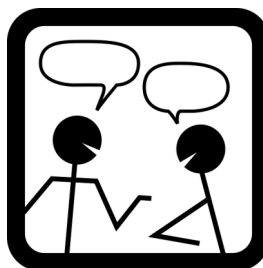
Administration Major as Department Chair after successfully building the Graphic Design track at Greenville University, where she was an Associate Professor of Digital Media. In addition to teaching digital media at Greenville University, Wilcoxon has also taught in graphic design and interactive media at Arkansas State University as a Visiting Professor of Graphic Design and at the University of Memphis as a Graduate Instructor. Pictured here with her husband Travis (biology professor at Millikin) and their two sons, Baron and Braylon, they are an integral part of our new contemporary service. Congratulations Jessa!

Cookies for Troops

Operation Enduring Support is collecting Girl Scout Cookies to put in packages being sent overseas to our military. We will be packing 150 boxes on March 30th. There is a red box in the Connection Café for the cookies. Thank you for your generosity. -Carol Bischoff

Beginning Conversational Spanish Class

We are hosting another Beginning Spanish Conversations Class. This class will start on Monday, March 16th, and will run every Monday night from 5:30 - 7:00 PM until the summer in room 240. For more information, call the church office at 217-428-4336.



SUNDAY, March 1, 2020

WORSHIP AT 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

The First Spiritual Practice: Worship

Text: Psalm 95:1-7

Michael E. Karunas

Preschool News

This week our 2 year old students sang lots of songs about bears and had a teddy bear picnic. The 3 year old students practiced recognizing and writing their names through lots of fun art, songs, and games. The 4 year old students began their unit on healthy living. They had pretend grocery stores in their classrooms, and, with the help of their teachers, they prepared healthy snacks. Our Pre-K Class learned about dental health this week and are taking a brisk hike at Rock Springs as a reminder that we always need to find ways to keep our bodies healthy.

Next week we start in-house registration. On March 9th, we will start public registration. We have programs available for children ages 6 months through 5 years. If you know anyone who may be interested, please have them call the church for more information.

*-Jennifer Van Dyke
Director*

Counting On You

Sunday, February 23, 2020

Worship Attendance = 315

Sunday School & Small Groups = 66

15 Ways to Connect with Your Child in 5 Minutes or Less

(excerpted from <https://www.mother.ly/child/15-ways-to-connect-with-your-child-in-5-minutes-or-less>)

1. Gather your child in your lap and read a short story.
2. Offer a heart-felt hug and be the last to let go.
3. Give full, undivided attention to your child.
4. Meet their strong emotion with empathy.
5. Play a game of Tic Tac Toe or Hangman or have a drawing contest.
6. Have an impromptu dance party.
7. Tell each other jokes.
8. Play a game.
9. Have special connection time before bed.
10. Roughhouse and wrestle around a bit.
11. Visit their world.
12. Do a chore together and make it fun.
13. Become journal buddies.
14. Get outside.
15. Break out the photo albums.



The Season of Lent

Face. F-a-c-e. A four letter word with at least that many meanings and connotations. As a noun, “face” represents our identifying mark. Like snowflakes or stripes on a zebra, no two faces are alike. Our face is uniquely and singularly us! Now, there may be things about our face that we don’t like. Things we wish we could change or that we try to cover up, but our face bears the imprint of God – who created each of us with a loving touch and delights in our individuality.

As a plural noun – faces – we may think of crowds. Faces *in* the crowd. Faces that *make up* the crowd. Faces (plural) shows that we are part of something bigger than ourselves. Each of us is one part of many; each face shares a common humanity with all the others, yet faces in the crowd can sometimes get lost in the crowd, like a stadium full of spectators. The sea of humanity is so large that it becomes easy to lose the individuality of any one, particular face.

As a verb, “face” can refer to our posture and position; how and in which direction we are standing. To face is to look at; to see; to gaze upon – as when we face the mirror and see our reflection in it, but “face,” as a verb can also mean “to confront;” to “call things for what they are;” not to deny the truth but to admit and accept it, no matter how difficult that might be.

The season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday this week (February 26), is the period of time in the church year that encompasses the seven weeks prior to Easter. The word “Lent” comes from a word that means the “lengthening of days,” which happens in the Springtime. Lent is an opportunity for us to walk with Jesus as he made his journey to the cross- to listen to him; watch him; pay attention to him. It is the goal of every Lenten season that we, through this intensified and intentional focus, grow in our ability to let go of our will and trust more in God’s.

The season of Lent is therefore all about the word “face.” It’s about facing the cross – seeing and gazing upon the sacrifice of Christ; his death and resurrection. It’s about confronting our own sin – from which Jesus died to save us. Sin is about “missing the mark” of perfection; failing to adequately live by God’s Word and Will. The vast majority of sins are committed not because we mean to, but rather in spite of that fact that we don’t. We certainly don’t try to miss the mark, but even in spite of our best efforts, we fall short of the glory of God.

Lent is about confronting this reality; accepting that we are part of a crowd – a common humanity, whose nature it is to do the very thing we shouldn’t do and to fail to do the very thing we should. Lent is about not hiding our face in the crowd and hoping we don’t have to admit this truth. Rather it is about accepting the responsibility that we all have – as unique individuals – to examine ourselves and admit our need for Christ; his forgiveness; his grace. No one can do that work for us but us, and Lent is God’s invitation to accept this important and saving work.

I hope it will be a priority for you to make worship and the activities at Central
(continued on page 3...)

taking place between now and Easter (April 12) a priority in your life. This season of the year reminds us like no other of our brokenness; our need for Christ; and our desire to keep facing the cross throughout our life of faith. For as the old hymn tells us, it is "In the cross, in the cross," that our individual souls will find their true home and ultimate rest.



Blessings... Michael



Happy 102!!!

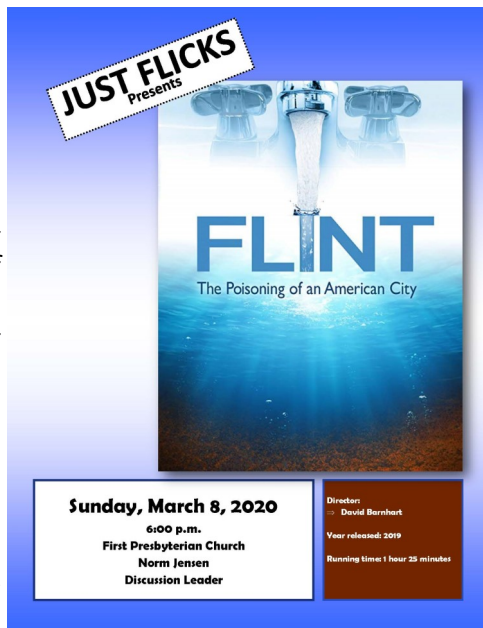
Irwin Soliday turned 102 this week! What a wonderful milestone! Happy Birthday, Irwin. He is pictured here at his 102nd birthday celebration with his daughter and son-in-law Larry and Debbie Foster.

Coming Soon: Special Worship Opportunities

Sunday March 1, 4:00 p.m. – Evensong at Central Christian Church. This service will be presented in collaboration with six churches and will include readings from scripture and poetry, a meditation by Michael Karunas and the music of a combined choir with singers from First Presbyterian, First Lutheran, Holy Cross Lutheran, First United Methodist, St. Peter’s AME and Central Christian churches. The service is designed to lead us into the season of Lent.

Just Flicks presents: “Flint: The Poisoning of an American City”

On Sunday, March 8th, at 6:00 PM, “Flint: The Poisoning of an American City” will be shown at First Presbyterian Church, presented by Just Flicks. From the website: “*Flint: The Poisoning of an American City*” traces the timeline of the city’s interaction with the Flint River – from the continued abuse and neglect of both city infrastructure and environmental regulations, to subsequent population decline, through to Michigan’s 2013 appointing of outside emergency managers. This poisonous mix of factors created a crisis which has gone on for five years, resulting in record high levels of lead in the drinking water of the city. The film intersperses with area residents (including parents, social workers, educators, pastors, and experts on water and health) with testimony at congressional and other oversight committee hearings to demonstrate how 100,000 people have been poisoned by lead, an irreversible affliction. No timeline exists for the remediation of the situation.” The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program funded the making of this film. Norm Jensen, a faithful Just Flicks attendee and a retired biology professor at Millikin University, will serve as our discussion leader. As always, we serve refreshments before the film.



Food Collection

The food collection for March 1st will be canned soup and cereal. The shopping cart is located in the Connection Café for your convenience.

Sunday (March 1)

- 8:00-Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 9:00-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
- 9:00-Fellowship Coffee
- 9:00-Youth Sunday School Classes
- 9:15-Adult Sunday School Classes
- 10:30-Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
- 12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal
- 4:00-Youth Group
- 4:00-Evensong Service, Sanctuary
- 6:00-Woolridge Lenten Study Group, C. Café

Monday (2)

Preschool In-House Registration, 8:00 AM-Noon

- 6:00-Girl Scouts Troop #3262, Disciples Room

Tuesday (3)

Preschool In-House Registration, 8:00 AM-Noon

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:00-Stitchers, 207
- 9:30-Card Ministry, 240
- 10:30-Staff Meeting, Conference Room
- 1:00-Martin Lenten Study Group, 240
- 4:00-Marketing/Evangelism, Conference Rm.
- 5:30-Miller Lenten Study Group, 240
- 6:30-Heart & Soul Choir, Choir Room & Connection Café

Wednesday (4)

Preschool In-House Registration, 8:00 AM-Noon

- 10:15-Preschool Chapel, Friendship Center
- 10:30-Ministers’ Meeting

Thursday (5)

Preschool In-House Registration, 8:00 AM-Noon

- 10:00-Alanon, 240
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples Room
- 6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207
- 7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (6)

Preschool In-House Registration, 8:00 AM-Noon

- 1:00-Private event, Disciples Room

Saturday (7)

- 8:00-Traditional Worship Service, Sanct.
- 9:00-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
- 9:00-Fellowship Coffee
- 9:00-Youth Sunday School Classes
- 9:15-Adult Sunday School Classes
- 10:30-Traditional Worship Service, Sanct.
- 12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal
- 4:00-Youth Group
- 6:00-Just Flicks, First Presbyterian Church, “Flint: Poisoning of a City”

Serving Schedule—Sunday, March 1, 2020

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Kim Maple & Andy Fulk
 9:00 - Andy Fulk

Imboden Worship:

Tom Spry & Claudia Quigg

Deacons:

8:00 - Team 1 - Pamela Bednar, Al & Chris Fagin, Gene & Sandy Garver*, Debbie Hoffert, Gary Horvath, George & Pearl Jones, Gail Prince, David Wagner
 9:00 - Marci Baumann
 10:30 - Team 2 - Pam Ferguson, Dale Ford, Roberta Gorden, Erik Harm, Thomas Karunas, Kathy Kauzlarich, Christine Lyman-Harm*, Janet Lyman, Audrey Miller, Ron Oliver, Jeannie Rade, Steve Swarthout

Ushers:

8:00 -Team 4 - Hazel Perry, Capt., Jerry & Susie Bean, Karen Penn
 10:30 - Team 9 - Kim Miller, Capt., Audrey Miller, Ron Oliver, Bill Modlin

Greeters:

8:00 - Jerry & Susie Bean
 9:00 - Baumann family
 10:30 - Dale & Judy Ford

Acolytes:

10:30 - Luke Karunas & Peyton Swarthout

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Pat Penhallegon
 10:30 - Keith Backes

Preparation of Communion:

Larry & Michele Bafford, Christine Lyman-Harm*

Ride Share Drivers:

8:00 & 9:00 Services & Sunday School - Mark Beal 433-6081
 Sunday School and 10:30 service - Kevin Wilmot 875-7767

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Mike Kirby
 9:00 - Cheryl Zollinger

Hospitality:

9:00 - Baumann family

Tech:

9:00 - Jodie Walwer & Mike Tanzys

Sunday School Classes	Floor	Room
Koinonia	2	212
Ecclesia	2R	240
Chalice	2	207
6th grade - 12th grade	2R	280
Kindergarten - 5th grade	2R	230
Nursery (Birth - 5 years old)	1R	150

Main Entrance Door Hosts:

March 2 8:30-12:00 - Mary Jane Oliver
 March 3 8:30-12:00 - Gretchen Kirby
 March 4 8:30-12:00 - Suzie Miller
 March 5 8:30-12:00 - Karen Penn
 March 6 8:30-12:00 - Roberta Gorden

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www.cccdisciples.org
e-mail: central@cccdisciples.org

Michael E. Karunas.....Senior Minister
 Don Martin.....Minister of Music
 Tina Miller..... Associate Minister of CE & Family Life
 David Martin.....Youth Director
 Cordelia "Dee Dee" GainOrganist
 David Williams.....Organist
 Kathleen Dudley.....Administrative Assistant
 Yvonne Boyd.....Administrative Assistant
 Hannah Brimmer.....Social Media Coordinator
 Gabrielle Coulthard.....Nursery Attendant
 Maddie Genz.....Nursery Attendant
 Cheryl WilliamsNursery Attendant
 Kattina WilliamsNursery Attendant
 Jennifer Van Dyke.....Preschool Director
 Paula Partain.....Teacher Assistant
 Lisa Coates.....Preschool Teacher
 Amber Marshall.....Preschool Teacher
 Diana Murray.....Preschool Teacher
 Stephanie Nihiser.....Preschool Teacher
 Kay Villarreal.....Preschool Teacher
 Lora WrightLead Caretaker
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker
 Toby Jones.....Caretaker
 Donté Morgan.....Caretaker

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