

# 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. XCII

Decatur, Illinois, November 25, 2020

No. 47



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### **Coronavirus Update from 11/19/2020**

As you well know, Macon county is experiencing a significant rise in COVID-19 cases and virus-related hospitalizations and deaths. Given that the Illinois Department of Public Health, in light of this data, has encouraged houses of worship to move to virtual worship only, we have decided to comply. Therefore, beginning Sunday, November 29 and continuing until further notice, Central Christian will suspend in-person worship and move back to online worship only.

This decision was not easily made. Since this pandemic began, we made the choice to take the safest option available to us. With the impact the pandemic is currently having on our hospitals’ census and the staff called upon to serve the needs of patients — to say nothing of the adverse impact the virus is having on the population in general — we believe this is the safest option and wisest decision to make. (To view the original email from Michael, click [here](#)).



### **November 29th Volunteer schedule**

Front table check-in: Donna Dash & Christine Lyman-Harm  
Elders - David Wagner  
PA - David Martin



### **Happy Birthday!!**

### **Birthdays this coming week (11/29-12/5)!**

Christina Campbell, Shane Garver, Chad Jennings,  
Piper Rutherford, Alex Sparks, Megan Swim, Jean Voice,  
David York

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020**

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP LIVE  
STREAMED ON  
WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG  
AT 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP ON  
FACEBOOK LIVE  
AT 9:15 a.m.

### ***God Saves us “From”***

Text: Isaiah 64:1-4, 5b-7, 9  
Michael E. Karunas

### **Hat & Glove Donations**

The CACS committee is collecting hats and gloves in all sizes for Dove, Inc. this year. Dove has teamed up with the Salvation Army and the Northeast Community Fund to most efficiently meet the high volume of need for assistance this year. Please drop off hats and gloves at the church. **Place them in the black trunks located at the top of the stairway in the Friendship Center before Friday, December 4th.** Thank you!

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER** An FYI - giving statements will be mailed this

week via USPS. This statement will include all gifts received through October 31st. If you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact the church office.

*Note: As of this printing, all worship for the foreseeable future is online only. This includes Christmas Eve. Should that change, and we offer in-person options, we will make that known.*

### Advent Week 1

#### **Saturday, November 28**

Advent bag pick-up (West Entrance)

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Family bag includes:

- Prayers for Decorating for Christmas
- Advent candle-lighting liturgies
- Advent Prayer Chain materials
- Candy Cane Story and candy cane
- Christmas Eve candle

2 children's bags (for families w/children) include:

- Nativity cradle (one per family)
- Ornament craft kit
- Calendar and door hanger

#### **Sunday, November 29**

"God Saves us 'From'"

Worship Services 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Mark 13:24-37

Isaiah 64:1-9

*Special music by vocal ensemble*

#### **Anytime during the Week**

- Recite the Prayers for Decorating for Christmas as you put up your Christmas decorations at home
- Light the first Advent candle as a household and recite the liturgy from the Advent book
- Begin assembling your daily Advent Prayer Chain and decorate your tree with it
- For those with children's craft bags, spend time as a family doing the crafts together
- Send us ([central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org)) a picture of your household in front of your Christmas tree

#### **Anytime during the Month of December**

- Stop by the Church and take a family picture or selfie in front of our NEW outdoor Christmas tree outside the West Entrance

#### **Friday, December 4**

Deadline for bringing hats and gloves to church (donated to DOVE)

#### **Saturday, December 5**

Be sure to watch Millikin University Vespers Concert online.

7:00 p.m.

(<https://millikin.edu/>)

### Advent Week 2

#### **Sunday, December 6**

"God is With Us"

Worship Services 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Mark 1:1-8

Isaiah 40:1-6, 8-11

*Special music by David Williams*

#### **Sunday, December 6**

Be sure to watch Millikin University Vespers Concert online.

2:00 p.m.

(<https://millikin.edu/>)

#### **Tuesday, December 8**

- Hope in the Holidays 6:00 p.m.  
*For those who find the holidays to be a time when feelings of grief or loss are particularly acute, join us for a virtual-only service of remembrance, hope, and candle lighting.*

#### **Anytime during the Week**

- Read the Candy Cane Story and enjoy a candy cane
- Light the second Advent candle as a household and recite the liturgy from the Advent book
- Continue assembling your daily Advent Prayer Chain and decorate your tree with it
- Send us ([central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org)) a picture of your household in front of your Christmas tree



### Advent Week 3

**Sunday, December 13**

“The Light Comes to Save Us”

Worship Services 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

John 1:6-8, 19-23

Isaiah 60:1-3

*Special music by men’s and women’s choruses*

*Contemporary service begins playing Christmas music*

Come Home for Christmas

- Drive by the church between 11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. to pick up a To-Go Box Christmas Dinner. R.S.V.P.’s required by **December 10**.

Menu: Fried Chicken, Hash Brown casserole, Peas and carrots, croissant, and a cupcake for dessert.

**Monday, December 14 – Friday, December 18** 6:30 p.m.

Visit our church facebook page every evening at 6:30 p.m. this week to hear one of our church staff reading a favorite Christmas story.

**Tuesday, December 15**

Women’s Christmas Craft Night 5:30 p.m.

(By reservation only: [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org))

**Anytime during the Week**

- Light the third Advent candle as a household and recite the liturgy from the Advent book
- Continue assembling your daily Advent Prayer Chain and decorate your tree with it
- Be on the lookout for a “Christmas Greetings from Your Central Church Family” video

### Advent Week 4

**Sunday, December 20**

“We Celebrate the Light”

Worship Services 8:00 a.m., 9:15 a.m., 10:30

a.m. John 1:1-5, 10-14

Isaiah 9:2-9

*Special Music by Thomas Karunas and brass ensemble*

**Anytime during the Week**

- Light the fourth Advent candle as a household and recite the liturgy from the Advent book
- Continue assembling your daily Advent Prayer Chain and decorate your tree with it



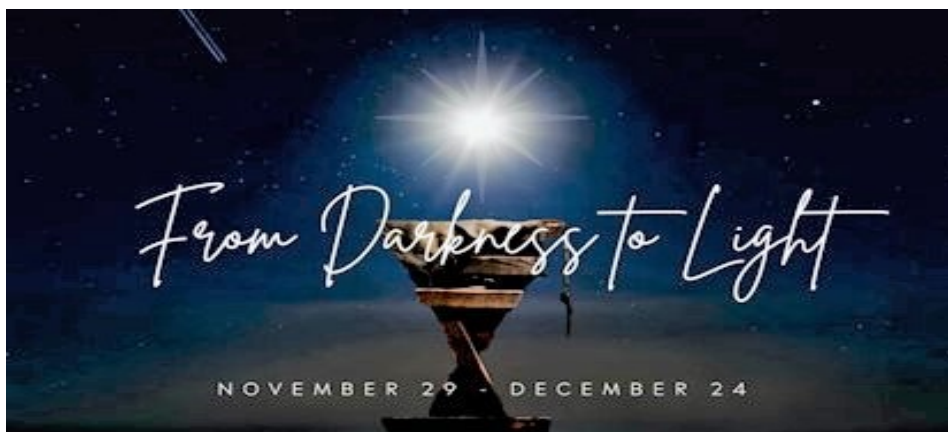
### Christmas Eve

Worship Services

5:30 p.m. Contemporary

7:00 p.m. Traditional

- Use the Christmas Eve Candle from the advent bag if you are worshipping at home
- Be on the lookout for a “Christmas Eve at Central” video



### Sharing the Journey Continues

Sharing the Journey, a prayer group that talks about the sermon, will continue to meet through Advent. The group meets on Zoom Sundays from 6:30-7:30pm.

To join us for any Sunday, simply contact the church office for the Zoom link or email Scott and Vicky at [svwoolridge@gmail.com](mailto:svwoolridge@gmail.com).

**Nominating Committee Report 2020**

Early every December we vote as a congregation to approve both the Nominating Committee’s report as well as the proposed operating budget for the coming year. On Sunday December 13, we will have a drive-through congregational vote. According to our congregation’s by-laws, we are to publish the Nominating Committee’s report in *The Visitor* two weeks prior to the meeting. It is also important for us to make copies of the proposed budget available. This year, copies of the budget can be found inside the West Entrance doors. Feel free to stop by the church and pick one up. What follows is the Nominating Committee’s report – the proposed list of trustees, elders and deacons with terms of service beginning on 2021.

Officers: President: Brett Swallow

Vice President: Kim Maple

Secretary: Sandy Garver

Treasurer: Steve Swarouth

Elders: Jeannie Backes, Jan Dobbs, Gretchen Kirby, Diana Ritter, Matthew Swarouth, David York

Trustees: Pamela Bednar, Pat Penhallegon

Deacons

- 1) Tom Ritter, class of 2021-2023
- 2) Due to the fact that during the pandemic customary communion practices have been altered, the Nominating Committee proposes that all deacons (with the exception of *Jon French, Seth Martin, Mark Beal, Kathy Kauzlarich, Janet Lyman, Yvonne Purcell, Al Fagin, Chris Fagin, Julie Martin and Bobby Munos*) be extended for one extra year. This means the class of 2020 now becomes the class of 2021, the class of 2021 becomes the class of 2022 and the class of 2022 becomes the class of 2023. Those exceptions (in *italics*) will continue in their existing class.

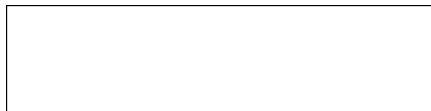
Blessings... Michael

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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” Gain .....Organist  
 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 Williams .....Nursery Attendant  
 Kattina Williams .....Nursery Attendant  
 Paula Partain.....Preschool Staff  
 Lora Wright .....Lead Caretaker  
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker  
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker  
 Toby Jones.....Caretaker

**Temporary Church Office Hours as of**  
**November 23rd, 2020:**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

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