

The Central Visitor



Vol. XCIV

Decatur, Illinois, October 12, 2022

No. 38



Fall Fun Extravaganza, 10/30!!

We are planning a Fall Fun Extravaganza Event Sunday, October 30 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

We will be inviting:

- All our Central Christian **Preschool families**
- All children from **Central** through grade 5
- All children from our **neighborhood** through grade 5

We are planning:

- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.** **Box lunches** on the lawn (or Great Hall if it is raining)
Games with prizes in the Café, Friendship Center, and Disciples Room
- 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.** **Trunk or Treat** outside in the parking lot

What's more:

- Kids can wear their **costumes** to worship!
- We will have **Teal Pumpkin Options** (non-candy treats)

We are looking for some volunteers to help make this a success. Primarily...

- We need **10-15 people to decorate their vehicle (car/truck)** with a Halloween theme and hand out candy / prizes to Trunk or Treaters. All vehicles will be lined up in a row in the West Entrance parking lot. We will provide the candy to hand out. We need YOU to decorate the trunk of your car or the bed of your pick-up (and feel free to dress up yourself as well).

If you are willing to volunteer your vehicle, please let us know by emailing (central@cccdisciples.org).

- We need **donations of candy and non-edible prizes** (dollar-store items). Some children are unable to have candy for one reason or another. Advertising our event as a Teal Pumpkin event lets those families know that their children are welcome.

*Bring donations of candy and simple prizes to the Friendship Center by **Sunday 10/23** (look for the big black chests at the top of the stairs).*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 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**

Text: Luke 17:11-19
Michael E. Karunas



Happy Birthday!! (10/9–10/29)

Pat Ash, Shirley Brooks, Bob Keller,
Linda Kuhns, Max Sperry, Mike Sperry,
Ashley Swallow, John McClarey,
Don Martin, Jane Latshaw, Joy Potter,
Shirley McKnelly, Haley Hanson,
Hannah Fitch, Derald Hartley,
Nancy Turner, Larry Bafford,
Charlee McLeod, Hailey Holt,
Pearl Jones, Jacob Monroe,
Kinley Neumann, Doris Matey,
Ryan Campbell

Small Groups this Week

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.

Study and lively discussion of scripture based on the "Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum.
All are welcome.

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 4:15 p.m.
Conversation led by Jack Dixon or Pastor Michael

Thursdays - Koinonia

(mixed small group)

Room 412 at 5:00 p.m.
Beginning September 29, we will be studying the Sermon on the Mount as it was originally intended- one cohesive, well-ordered message intended to challenge us to think differently about what it means to be a follower of Christ. Come be exhorted and equipped by the greatest sermon ever preached.

Counting On You

Sunday, October 2, 2022

Total worshipping online = 100
Total worshipping in-person = 205

Sunday October 9, 2022

Total worshipping online = 90
Total worshipping in-person = 209

Ministry in a Phygital World

At the beginning of 2022, our Public Relations and Evangelism Committee read a book called *The Phygital Church*. Written by Angee Byrd – Associate Minister for Communications for the Christian Church in Illinois and Wisconsin – the purpose of the book is to help churches navigate a new world (exacerbated by Covid) in which people are participating in a congregation's ministries both *physically* (in person) and *digitally* (online). One of the takeaways for me involved a church's posts to social media (for us at Central, this consists primarily of Facebook). Byrd suggests that when making posts, graphics are more likely to be viewed than plain text and video posts more likely to be viewed than mere graphics. Furthermore, "informational" videos are more valuable than "attractational" videos. Informational videos tell people about us, while attractational ones advertise things we are doing. It may seem counter-intuitive – *not* to emphasize invitations to join us. But in a world where people are inundated with advertisements, people take an invitation for granted. What is more compelling – the theory goes – is to put more content "out there" about who we are and then allow people to accept the implied invitation if and when they feel ready.

Currently, both our contemporary and traditional services are posted each week. Additionally, I post a 5 minute bible study every Thursday morning on the sermon text for that coming week. Recently our PR/Evangelism committee decided to produce three (3) videos that being posted in October. They are attempts to offer more "informational" content. I'm including the text for the first two here and the dates when they will be posted. If you're on Facebook, feel free to share these to your personal page.

(What We Believe – Communion: posted October 6)

I wanted to share with you today what we believe about communion. In some places, this is known as the Eucharist or the Great Thanksgiving. We call it the "Lord's Supper" or "Communion." First, we believe that communion should be celebrated every week. We believe the bible shows us that every time the first Christians gathered for worship, they broke break together. We also believe that the bread and cup are not the literal body and blood of Christ. They are symbols of his body and blood. But the spirit of Christ is really and truly present in our gathering around the table and breaking bread together. Finally, and most importantly, we believe that everyone is welcome to receive the bread and cup of communion. We believe this is Christ's table and not ours. It is our job to invite you, and connect you, to Christ, and not judge you for a reason why you shouldn't be connected to him. So whether you're a member of our church or not, you will always be welcome at this table, here. The only thing anyone required at our church is that you have a desire in your heart to draw near to the love and forgiveness of Christ. So come, join us for worship. You'll always be welcome at this table.

(What We Believe – Baptism: to be posted October 13)

I'm Michael Karunas, pastor at Central Christian Church, and I wanted to share with you today what we believe about baptism. First, we believe that the bible shows us that immersion was the original way people were baptized. So that is what we practice today. Immersion means the whole body submerged under water, which takes place here – in a what we call the baptistery.

(continued on page 3...)

Second, we believe that baptism comes after a person confesses their faith in Christ. So we do not baptize infants; rather, we wait until a person is old enough to articulate faith for themselves. There's no "magic" age when this happens, but, generally, it's sometime in their youth or young adult years, but it can also happen at any age. We also believe that baptism is a sign of God's promise to save you because of your faith that can encourage you throughout your life. Now... if you come to our church, having been baptized as an infant, that's okay. We respect God's work in your life in the past and accept other forms of baptism. And you don't have to be baptized again, by immersion. But this is how we understand and practice baptism for those raised in our church.

Blessings – Michael

Volunteers Needed October 15 at Good Samaritan Inn

Volunteers from Central Christian will prepare and serve lunch at the Good Samaritan Inn on Saturday, October 15th. The crew needs 5-6 workers 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. for food preparation and 12-14 people for serving lunch 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., and all workers are invited to stay and enjoy lunch after the serving line closes! If you can help, please sign up at www.cccdisciples.org/resources/events/ or click [HERE](#) or call the church office. A sign-up sheet will also be available at the Welcome Center. Dave Wagner, (217) 433-2367, and Shirley Swarthout, (217) 620-3246, head up Central's volunteer team. Please contact one of them if you have questions.



Chicago Violinist to Perform

Renowned violinist and orchestra leader, Anthony Kawalkowski, will perform at Central on Friday, October 21, at 7:00 p.m. His program is entitled, "The Music We Love" and his energy on stage and off is contagious. Tony was named after his uncle, who was a renowned musician in his own right and Tony's first teacher. Tony



also studied with Herb Miska, concertmaster of the Wayne King Orchestra, and George Perlman at the American Conservatory of Music. He has played for national and international dignitaries such as Pope John Paul II, Cardinal Bernadine, Cardinal Francis George, and Lech Kaczynski (former president of Poland). The concert is free, with any donations helping to defray expenses.

Thank you from the Stewardship Committee

THANK YOU to everyone who has submitted an estimate of giving card to support the 2023 Stewardship campaign - **Looking In, Reaching Out**. Your estimate of giving is important, as it helps the Finance Team determine the Operations budget for 2023. If you have not returned your card, you can drop it in the brass bowl in the narthex, submit your estimate of giving online or via text, or mail your card to the church. Blank cards are available in the Welcome Center, or you can contact the office and we will mail one to you. This Sunday (October 16th) is a special day - Consecration Sunday. We will celebrate the financial commitments we've received in support of Central's mission and ministry. Keith Backes' team will be providing yummy snacks after each service. Hope you can attend!

Sunday (16) - Consecration Sunday!

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, G.H. & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online
4:00-Millikin Fall Concert, Sanctuary
5:30-Youth Group Hayride @ Ritters'
6:00-Millikin Fall Concert, Sanctuary

Monday (17)

1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open
5:15-Preschool Board
5:30-"Looking In" small groups

Tuesday (18)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:15-Prayer Group, Ramp Room
9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R
9:30-Card Ministry, 340

Wednesday (19)

10:15-Preschool Chapel, FC
11:00-Prayer Shawl Knitted Hat Refresher, CC
1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open
5:30-Church Council Business meeting

Thursday (20)

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

Friday (21)

7:00-Violin Concert, Sanctuary

Saturday (22)

11:00-AENTA Health Fair, Great Hall
3:00-Funeral for Karen Baird

Sunday (23)

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 (24)

1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open

Tuesday (25)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:15-Prayer Group, Ramp Room
9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R

Wednesday (26)

10:15-Preschool Chapel, FC
1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open

Thursday (27)

10:00-Alanon, 340
4:15-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:00-Koinonia, 412
6:00-Concert Series committee, C. C.
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (28)

Saturday (29)

Sunday (30)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online
12:00-Fall Fun Extravaganza
4:00-Youth Group

Serving Schedule — Sunday, October 16, 2022



Elders:

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

October Prep Deacon: Donna Dash

October Outreach Communion Elders: Jeannie Backes, Charlotte Ballance, Jan Dobbs, Karen Wade

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Al & Chris Fagin
9:15 - Sandy Schultz
10:30 - Shelby Baum & Luke Kirby

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 4 - Hazel Perry, Capt., Karen Penn, Charlotte Ballance
10:30 - Team 9 - Kim Miller, Capt., Audrey Miller

Greeters:

8:00 - Julie & Ken Jacoby
9:15 - Randy & Deb Trei
10:30 - Brett Swallow

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash
10:30 - Keith Backes

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Pastor Michael
9:15 - Jodi Van Uytven

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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
Jenny Goodman Caretaker
Sam Hawkinson Caretaker
Cheri Russell Caretaker

Serving Schedule — Sunday, October 23, 2022

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Jeannie Backes & Charlotte Ballance
9:15 - Jeannie Backes

October Prep Deacon: Donna Dash

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Pamela Bednar & Gary Horvath
9:15 - Laura Moma
10:30 - Audrey Miller & Andrea Shartzter

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 5 - The Munos & Moran families
10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Gretchen Kirby

Greeters:

8:00 - Al & Chris Fagin
9:15 - Dave & Cheryl Zollinger
10:30 - Dick & Sue Ann Cain

P.A. Operator:

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

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Keith Backes
9:15 - Angie Horvath

"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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