

# 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. 39



## Aubrey Hawkinson to Perform at Central

Praised for her polished, graceful stage presence “with a lush sound... [and] a delicate sensibility” (Singerpreneur magazine), mezzo soprano **Aubrey Hawkinson will perform at Central on Saturday, November 5 at 4:00 PM.**

She grew up in Mesa, AZ, where she went on to get her undergraduate degree in Flagstaff. She is the co-founder of Hawkmore Lyric Opera Company and producer of its inaugural staged production. Her most recent performances include concert soloist for Sedona Academy Chamber Singer’s production of *Considering Matthew Sheppard* as well as concert soloist for various local Illinois groups including the Decatur Muni Band. Prior to moving to Decatur, Aubrey performed widely in the Los Angeles and Phoenix areas. Aubrey holds a Bachelor’s Degree in vocal performance from Northern Arizona University, and a Master of Music Degree in voice performance and pedagogy from Westminster Choir College. She is currently an Adjunct Professor of Voice at Millikin University and U of I Springfield.

## Welcome to our World

With joy and thanksgiving we celebrate with Matt, Danielle and big sister Olivia Patricio the birth of August Matthew (Auggie). Auggie was born on August 15. The family is planning a dedication for him on February 5, 2023 when they will have family in town.



## Elderberries Holiday Meal, Nov. 9th

The next Elderberries program will be November 9th at 11:30 AM. Menu: Chicken cordon bleu, loaded mashed potatoes, taffy apple salad, scalloped corn, pumpkin surprise, and ice cream. We’ll have a speaker, gifts, and possibly a visit from someone special! Make sure to RSVP **NO LATER THAN NOV. 3RD** (if you would like to eat) due to needing to pre-order the entrée. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center, or you can call (217-428-4336) or email ([central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org)) the church office. Looking forward to some great fellowship and food!

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 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

## ***More Questions Than Answers***

Text: Luke 12: 13-21  
Michael E. Karunas



## **Happy Birthday!! (10/30—11/12)**

Carol Bischoff, Connie Bordner,  
Jahala Demoulin, Bob Linton,  
Mark Linton, Larry Pepper,  
Bryan Rutherford, David Shields,  
Linda Virgil, Mike Holbrook,  
Jeannie Backes, Sheila Hall,  
Luc Longcor, John Baumann,  
Carolyn McCall, Diana Ritter,  
Evelyn Sanders, Nolan Murray,  
Kaeden McCoy, Elijah Ross

**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](mailto: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.

We are 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 16, 2022**

Total worshipping online = 146  
Total worshipping in-person = 157

**Sunday October 23, 2022**

Total worshipping online = 103  
Total worshipping in-person = 192

**A Case for Rest**

Recently I read a book describing the value of rest. It is called *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal and Delight in our Busy Lives* and was recommended by a friend who probably knew that I could benefit from taking the topic to heart. Admittedly, I do a better job of attacking the next project on the "to do" list than I do taking a break and simply resting. Perhaps I should not have been surprised that the book spoke to me, in particular were these words the author shared:

*The story is told of a South American tribe that went on a long march, day after day, when all of a sudden they would stop walking, sit down to rest for a while, and then make camp for a few days before going any farther. When asked if they didn't realize they could cover more ground if they kept up a quicker pace, they explained that they needed the time of rest for their souls to catch up with them.*



In a culture that celebrates busy-ness, I wonder how many of us would benefit by incorporating a similar practice into our lives – allowing our souls to "catch up" with the rest of us that is forever on the go. That illustration reminded me of another one, from the Taoist tradition, which teaches that it is *only* by resting and waiting that we are able to see all things clearly.

*A student went to the teacher asking for guidance on what path to take in life. Instead of answering, the teacher asked the student to walk down the hill to the river below and fill a glass jar with water. The student did so and brought the jar to the teacher, who calmly set it down on the ground. Then he motioned the student to sit down opposite him and directed the student's gaze toward the murky water swirling in the jar between them. For nearly an hour, the two stood staring at the muddy water from the river in the jar. For awhile, the water swirled. Then it stopped moving. Over time the water began to separate, and finally, after more than an hour, the silt settled on the bottom, leaving crystal clear water sitting on top. The message was clear. Only by waiting and resting can things that at first seem cloudy and obscured be seen clearly.*

Our culture glorifies busy-ness to the point that success is thought to be hand in hand with it. We are inundated with messages that remind us that successful people are busy people. The food industry, for example, is all too happy to encourage us to be busy with unlimited "eat-on-the-go" options. Yet, not only did God rest on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of creation, it was only on the 7<sup>th</sup> day –the day of rest – that God "saw that everything was good." It is only in our moments of rest, that we can truly see with clarity the goodness that exists around us. So however we do it, let us make rest a part of the rhythm of our lives. We're sure to be better off because of it.

Blessings – Michael

## Two Opportunities for Your Participation

On November 1 from 8:00-10:00 a.m. at the Decatur Club, the chamber will host a "Pancakes and Politicians" event – "Come and hear from the candidates bringing change to central Illinois!" Tickets are \$15.00 per person and can be purchased by visiting [decaturchamber.com](http://decaturchamber.com).

Additionally, Rev. Scott Woolridge, currently serving as interim minister of FCC Springfield, is inviting all Disciples to that congregation on Sunday afternoon, November 6. At 2:00 p.m., there will be a 90-minute program on the history and identity of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Alex Ruth, whom we heard preach at Central on September 18 and current associate minister of our region, will be the keynote speaker. Scott says about the event: *We value openness and diversity. We believe we all bring godly gifts to share. We are a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world, ready to meet the challenges of today.*



## Get Ready for Dorcas Disciples' Fall Meeting!

It's time for all interested Central women to gather on November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the Great Hall. We'll hear a Dove "Clothing Room Close-up" report from Kathy Walters and then enjoy a yummy soup and sandwich dinner (\$5). We'll have an opportunity to share personal family holiday traditions and contribute to our Christmas donation recipient – Central's Preschool. Please RSVP by Thursday, November 11th to Nancy Ellen Taylor at 217-872-9174 or [xstr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:xstr@sbcglobal.net). to make sure we have enough delicious soup! Contact Sandy Garver at 217-877-0800 or [revrag@comcast.net](mailto:revrag@comcast.net) for more information about Dorcas Disciples. Hope to see you November 15<sup>th</sup> and **DON'T FORGET TO EMAIL SANDY YOUR FAMILY HOLIDAY TRADITIONS!**

## FOOD COLLECTION FOR NORTHEAST COMMUNITY FUND

Northeast Community Fund will be putting together food baskets for Holiday meals. So, besides cereal (always needed), consider boxed stuffing mix, instant mashed potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, & any other non-perishable foods you would like to contribute. Our collection day will be Nov. 6. Let's fill that grocery cart again!!! God Bless You! Thank you for your kindness.

## In Sympathy We Mourn

- We grieve with Pat and David Ash the passing of their son, Jim Ash. Jim passed away last week in Tennessee. A memorial service for Jim is being planned for Saturday morning at Central. The exact time is yet to be determined. Please keep David and Pat and their family (Jim's sister Susie (Stephen) Turner and daughter Rachel Ash) in your prayers.
- We also grieve with the family of Doris Matey, who passed away on October 9th, 2022. She joined Central with her sister Joan Bird in 2019, and Doris had been on our Outreach Communion list. Doris' services are being held Saturday in Lapeer, MI. Thank you for keeping her family in your prayers.

## Out of sight but not out of mind

We have several young adults from our church who are away from home at school. Would you like to help the church keep in touch with them so they know they are still in our hearts? Please reach out to David Martin at [demartin@cccdisciples.org](mailto:demartin@cccdisciples.org) or Gretchen Kirby at [gretchenkirby66@gmail.com](mailto:gretchenkirby66@gmail.com) if you would like to help with this ministry or have any questions.

## **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

## **Monday (31)**

1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open

## **Tuesday (November 1)**

7:00-Journeyman, Connection Café  
9:15-Prayer Group, Ramp Room  
9:30-Christcare Stitches, 3R  
9:30-Card Ministry, 340  
5:30-Millikin Heights, Disciples Room

## **Wednesday (2)**

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

## **Thursday (3)**

10:00-Alanon, 340  
10:00-DAR, Disciples Room  
3:00-Decatur Needle Arts, Disciples Room  
4:15-Journeyman 2, Connection Café  
5:00-Koinonia, 412  
5:30-Christian Ed, 340  
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

## **Friday (4)**

## **Saturday (5)**

Time TBA- Funeral for Jim Ash  
4:00-Aubrey Hawkinson recital, Sanctuary

## **Sunday (6) - All Saints Day!**

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 (7)**

1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open  
5:00-Elder planning

## **Tuesday (8) - General Election Day**

7:00-Journeyman, Connection Café  
9:15-Prayer Group, Ramp Room  
9:30-Christcare Stitches, 3R  
5:30-Women's Book Club, Panera Bread

## **Wednesday (9)**

10:15-Preschool Chapel, FC  
11:30-Elderberries meal & program  
1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open  
1:30-Prayer Shawl ministry  
5:00-Elders

## **Thursday (10)**

10:00-Alanon, 340  
4:15-Journeyman 2, Connection Café  
5:00-Koinonia, 412  
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

## **Friday (11)**

## **Saturday (12)**

8:00-Good Samaritan opportunity

## **Sunday (13)**

## **Imboden Worship**

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

**Serving Schedule — Sunday, October 30, 2022**



**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Dick Cain & Matthew Swarhout  
9:15 - Dick Cain

**October Prep Deacon:** Donna Dash

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Carolyn McCall & need help  
9:15 - Randy Trei  
10:30 - Jeannie & Keith Backes

**Ushers:**

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

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Dianne Devore & Carolyn Sunderlik  
9:15 - Jodi Van Uytven  
10:30 - Bob & Mary Jane Linton

**P.A. Operator:**

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

**Liturgist:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Janet Lyman  
9:15 - Cheryl Zollinger

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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, November 6, 2022**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Bruce Campbell & Kevin Wilmot  
9:15 - Bruce Campbell

**November Prep Deacons:** Kim Miller & Yvonne Purcell

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Charlotte Ballance & Carolyn McCall  
9:15 - Ellen & Ryan Damery  
10:30 - Cole Shartzter & Kevin Wilmot

**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 - Donna Dash & Karen Penn  
9:15 - Randy & Deb Trei  
10:30 - Need help

**P.A. Operator:**

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

**Liturgist:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Shirley Swarhout  
9:15 - Isabella Karunas

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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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