

# 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. XCI

Decatur, Illinois, October 9, 2019

No. 41



**"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.

**Sunday, October 13, 2019**  
6:00 p.m.  
First Presbyterian Church  
Karma Carpenter  
Discussion Leader

**Director:**  
⇒ Yojiro Takita  
**Starring:**  
⇒ Masahiro Matsui  
⇒ Tsutomu Yamazaki  
⇒ Ryūko Hiroasu  
**Year released:** 2008  
**Running time:** 2 hours 10 minutes

## Just Flicks, this Sunday, October 13th- "Departures"

*Departures* tells the story of an unemployed cellist who returns to his hometown and finds work as a traditional ritual mortician. This job exposes him to cultural taboos against people who work in the mortuary field.

- *In Departures, life and death are two expressive movements of one musical piece. Neither is taken as a polar opposite of the other; they dance rhythmically, like the ebb and flow of the ocean tide.* Antonio Sison, National Catholic Reporter.
- *Departure's cynicism, ironically, is what makes the optimism of its last act so moving.* Charlotte O'Sullivan, London Evening Standard.
- *All three actors are skilled in communicating difficult emotions just with their faces and in bringing to life the gentle humor that leavens this very affecting movie about death and letting go.* Kelly Jane Torrance, Washington Times.

## SUNDAY, October 13, 2019

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

**Stories of Generosity:  
God's Work, Our Hands**

Text: Mark 5:18-20  
Michael E. Karunas

## Preschool News

This week our 3 year old students began working on Halloween decorations. They sang songs about pumpkins, spiders, and scarecrows. The 4's classes took a field trip to the fire station Monday and then learned more about fire safety throughout the week. The Pre-K class split their time between talking about fall and fire safety. They made pumpkin pie dip on Tuesday.

Jennifer Van Dyke  
Director

## Chalice Class

**Title:** Divorce

**Focus:** How have conversations about divorce changed in the past several decades? How can the church engage with this issue and minister compassionately to those who have experienced a divorce?

**Next Week:** Preppers and Faith



## Counting On You

Sunday, October 6, 2019

Worship Attendance ..... 330  
Sunday School & Small Groups..... 69

**"Gratitude"**

This past week, I was in Chicago for an annual clergy gathering I have attended since 2009. Actually, it was in Darien, a southwest suburb off I-55 at the Carmelite Retreat Center and the national home of the Shrine of St. Therese. Former Central pastor Charles Watkins and former Central interim pastor Herb Knudsen were founding members of this clergy study group over 25 years ago. Every fall, Disciples clergy from different parts of the country gather to discuss mutually agreed-upon books on some aspect of pastoral ministry and reflect on papers written on some theological aspect of ministry written by one or more of the members. The topic of this year's gathering was *Preaching and Worship*, but instead of reading reflection papers, we all submitted actual sermons we had preached, and then we discussed each, in turn, as a group.



Each of us was instructed to submit a sermon in written and/or audio and/or video format for the group to listen to/read/watch. Thanks to Wayne Rutherford, I was able to submit all three! I chose to offer one of my most recent sermons, from September 15. (*If you recall, this was when I spoke of the parable of the sheep and the goats, spoke of my experiences after Hurricane Katrina, and brought a milk crate with me to use as a prop during the sermon. If you're interested, [click here](#) for the video.*) At our gathering last week, each of us listened as – for 30 minutes – the others in the group offered feedback on our sermons. I appreciated how my colleagues offered things for me to think about – where my sermon was “too busy;” where I could have spent more time unpacking what I was trying to say; suggestions for how to develop a stronger conclusion.

Mostly, my colleagues (who had all watched the sermon video of that sermon in addition to reading the text) wanted to talk about my memorization. One of them said, as my time was wrapping up, “I’ll bet your congregation really appreciates you.” I was puzzled. “What do you mean?” I replied. “I’ll bet they enjoy knowing that every time they show up for worship, they know their preacher shows them how much he respects them by the effort you give to the preaching moment.”

I most definitely feel appreciated *by* you, but as I drove home to Decatur, I also thought of how much I am appreciative *of* you!!! I am grateful for the freedom and the encouragement you give me to explore the biblical texts and their presentations in new and creative ways, and I’m grateful for the ways you are willing to follow me in that journey. I’m honored that you allow me to move throughout the worship space – away from the pulpit – and experiment with how the Word of God can be embodied in the way it is received. I am thankful for your attentiveness – how you come to worship ready to listen – and for

(continued on page 3...)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR  
ALL YOUTH AND FAMILY  
HOT-DOG ROAST AND HAYRIDE  
at the RITTER'S HOUSE**

**Sunday, October 20  
5-7:30pm**

512 S. Lewis Street  
Blue Mound, IL

**Bring a dish to share and lawn chairs.**

Meet us there or ride the bus.  
Church bus leaves Central at 4:30 pm and will return at 8 pm.  
Call the church office and let us know if you plan to ride the bus!  
217.428.4336

**October 26, 2019  
Central Celebration & Picnic  
All Indoors!**

Activities 10 am -12 noon  
Lunch 12 noon -1pm

- Inflatables**
- Cotton Candy**
- Mobile Zoo**
- Glitter Tattoos**
- Chipmunk Show**
- Vendors**

**Susan Smith Memorial Service**

A Memorial Service for Susan Smith will be held in the chapel at Central Christian Church on Saturday, October 19, 2019, at 12:00 p.m. Susan passed away a year ago, and she is buried in Salem Cemetery, next to her mother Dorothy. Her cousins would like to gather now to remember and honor Susan with a service.



your courage to engage with me as, together, we work our way through God's wondrous and wonderfully complex and intricate Word.

It is true that I work harder to prepare for the Sunday sermon, at age 50, than I ever did at age 30. It is true that I try to give you my best effort each week, but it is also true that I am equally thankful for the effort you give every Sunday morning – bringing your listening, your energy, and your presence – to the preaching moment, and it is furthermore true that I cannot imagine preaching anywhere else but in the environment of Central Christian, week after week, in which I'm able to now. I honestly do not believe that you would receive the effort from me that I give on Sunday mornings, were it not for the effort you bring yourselves. So, thank you!

Blessings... Michael

### College Care Ministry

Several of our young adults might be "out of sight" on a regular basis around the church while they are in college, but we don't want them to think they are "out of our minds". We want to let them know we have them in our hearts as well as our prayers while they are gone, so we are going to be sending them regular notes, cards, etc. ... and 2x a year, a care package. That is where we need help from you the congregation. We will have a donation box by the front desk in early October for things you feel might give a college kid a smile. Ideas might be candy, pens, Post-it notes, gift cards, fun things from the dollar store, devotional book, anything really that doesn't have to do with studying! The 1st care packages will be sent out by the end of October. Any questions- please contact Gretchen Kirby, 217-433-8099. Also, please let us know if you know of a college student who would be blessed by receiving one of these care packages.

### The Good Samaritan Volunteer Opportunity

The Good Sam needs volunteers for Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup>. We need 6 to 8 for prep (8:00am), and 12 to 14 for serving (11:00am to 1:00pm). The sign-up sheet will be available on the Welcome Center desk.



The Journeyman continue their book study this week, **Finding Your Way Back to God**. Is there something you wish you had in your life but don't, or wish you understood about your life but can't? Have you ever had one of your major desires fulfilled but then found that the fulfillment wasn't enough, leaving you with more longing and dissatisfaction? In our study, we'll find meaning in those questions and Godly understanding in the answers! It's not too late to purchase books or to join the conversation! Join us on Tuesday, 7am or Thursday, 4:00pm.



### **Sunday (13)**

8:00-Traditional Worship Service  
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  
12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal, Great Hall  
4:00-Youth Group  
6:00-Just Flicks, First Presbyterian Church, "Departures"

### **Monday (14)**

#### **Columbus Day– Preschool Closed**

9:00-Good Samaritan pickup  
12:30-Women's Book Club, Panera  
5:30-Bowling, Spare Time Lanes  
5:30-Spanish Conversations Class, 240  
6:00-Financial Peace University, Great Hall/Disciples Room

### **Tuesday (15)**

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café  
9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 207  
9:30-Card Ministry, 240  
10:30-Staff Meeting, Conference Room  
1:00-MU Class, 240  
5:00-Nominating Committee, Conf. Room  
5:30-Preschool Board Meeting, Disc. Rm.  
6:00-PSC, Conference Room  
6:30-Heart & Soul Choir, Choir Room/ Connection Café

### **Wednesday (16)**

10:15-Chapel, Friendship Center  
10:30-Ministers' Meeting  
2:30-Prayer Shawl Ministry, Disciples Room  
5:00-Church Council Business Meeting, DR  
6:30-Book Study, 240

### **Thursday (17)**

10:00-Al-Anon, 240  
4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café  
5:15-Personnel Committee, Conference Room  
6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples Room  
7:00-Chancel Choir

### **Friday (18)**

5:00-Wedding Rehearsal

### **Saturday (19)**

12:00-Memorial Service, Chapel  
4:00-Wedding, Sanctuary

### **Sunday (20)**

8:00-Traditional Worship Service  
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  
12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal, Great Hall  
4:00-Youth Group Hay Ride

**Serving Schedule—Sunday, October 13, 2019**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - David Wagner & Kevin Miller  
 9:00— Kevin Miller

**Deacons:**

8:00 - Team 1 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Gail Prince, Debbie Hoffert,  
 Al & Chris Fagin, Pamela Bednar, David Wagner  
 9:00— Kim & David York  
 10:30 -Team 2 - Christine Lyman-Harm, Janet Lyman, Dale Ford,  
 Jeannie Rade, Erik Harm, Kathy Kauzlarich, Ron Oliver, Steve  
 Swarthout, Cindy Grabowski, Janelle Beedle, Tom & Diane Ritter,  
 Paul Gorden, Roberta Gorden, Thomas Karunas, Linda Helton

**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 - Al & Chris Fagin  
 9:00— Maxine Koenig, Barb Leihser, Cheryl Zollinger  
 10:30 - Suzie Miller

**Acolytes:**

10:30 - Julina & Jordan Lindsey

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Pat Penhallegon  
 10:30—Jim Hinze

**Preparation of Communion:**

Julie Martin, Hazel Perry, Linda Shambaugh

**Ride Share Drivers:**

8:00 & 9:00 Services & Sunday School - Mark Beal 433-6081  
 Sunday School and 10:30 service - John Baird 429-5651

**Liturgist:**

8:00 & 10:30—Kim Maple  
 9:00—Paul Gorden

**Hospitality:**

9:00—Deb Trei

**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:**

October 14 8:30-12:00—Sandy Garver  
 October 15 8:30-12:00—Carol Bischoff  
 October 16 8:30-12:00—Karen Keller  
 October 17 8:30-12:00—Carolyn McCall  
 October 18 8:30-12:00—Gail Prince

**Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
**650 West William Street Decatur, Illinois 62522**  
**Telephone (217)428-4336 FAX (217)428-1700**  
**www.cccdisciples.org**  
**e-mail: [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto: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” Gain .....Organist  
 David Williams.....Organist  
 Kathleen Dudley.....Administrative Assistant  
 Yvonne Boyd.....Administrative Assistant  
 Hannah Brimmer.....Social Media Coordinator  
 Maddie Genz.....Nursery Attendant  
 Cheryl Williams.....Nursery Attendant  
 Kattina Williams .....Nursery 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 Wright .....Lead Caretaker  
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker  
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker  
 Toby Jones.....Caretaker  
 Donté Morgan.....Caretaker

The Central Visitor (USPS 098-520) is published weekly by Central Christian Church, 650 W. William, Decatur, IL 62522.  
 Periodical Postage paid at Decatur, IL.  
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Central Visitor, 650 W. William St., Decatur, IL 62522.



PERIODICAL  
 POSTAGE  
 PAID

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
 650 West William Street  
 Decatur, IL 62522

