

# 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, December 4, 2019

No. 49



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## Children's Craft Workshop

This SATURDAY

9-11 am

All children 4 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome.

Nursery care available for three years and under.



## FAITH TALK AT HOME

Count up to Christmas: HOPE

Set aside a special family time to light a Christmas candle.

As you do, say these words together with your children:

Hope, peace, joy and love—

Jesus brought these gifts to earth,

And soon we'll celebrate his birth!

Talk together about:

What is hope?

Tell about a time when something you hoped for came true.

How does trusting Jesus give you hope?

Before you blow out the candle, read this verse or recite it together:

"Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." -Luke 2:11

**SUNDAY, December 8, 2019**

WORSHIP AT 10:30 a.m.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

***From Darkness to Light***

Text: Isaiah 9:2-7

Michael E. Karunas

## Preschool News

Our preschool students and staff returned from Thanksgiving break this week and got right to preparing for Christmas. As you walk our hallways, you will see Christmas trees and lights. Our students are learning Christmas songs and making gifts to give to others. It's a wonderful time to be filled with love and joy, and we are so happy to be a part of the Central Christian Church family during this holiday season!

*-Jennifer Van Dyke, Director*

## Chalice Class

**Title:** Deception and Truth

**Focus:** Differing concepts of truth and deception have always shaped our cultural and political conversations.

During this time of Advent, what can we learn from the birth narratives of Jesus about both truth and deception? As Christians, how do we recognize deception and embrace truth?

**Next week:** Oppression and Justice





### Coffee Carafes Available

Central Christian Church has 8 carafes for a Bunn Coffee Maker. They are free to a good home. Call the church office if you are interested.

What  
once  
was  
**L** Now is  
**FOUND**  
**S**  
**T**

### Lost and Found Items

Did you lose something? We may have found it! Lost and Found is located in the church office. Please contact us to see if we might have your lost item. Items remaining unclaimed by December 16th will be donated.



### Let Central Celebrate with You!

Are you celebrating a milestone birthday or anniversary or other achievement? Let us know! We love sharing good news, praise reports, and special pictures on our Welcome Center screens!



### Giving in Advent

This Advent at Central, there will be three (3) different ways you can participate in the “season of giving,” and we want you to be aware of what each of those ways are so that your donations are directed in a way that brings you the most meaning and fulfillment.

### Christmas Gift Cards

From 12/1–12/15, we will be collecting donations to the new “Christmas Gift Card” program. Every year, our pastors are made aware of families in our own congregation and our immediate community who need extra help providing the Christmas they dream of for their loved ones. If you contribute to this program, the pastoral staff will use the funds to purchase grocery, gas, and shopping gift cards. They will then distribute them to families who could use a “helping hand” this Christmas season. If you would like to contribute, mark “**Emergency Fund – Gift Cards**” on your check or envelope, and if you know of someone who could benefit from such a “helping hand,” please let Michael, Don, or Tina know.

Note: when making financial contributions online, follow these easy steps:

- 1 - Go to [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org) and click on “GIVE” in the upper right corner
- 2 - Under “My Donation” when given the option to “choose a fund” select “other”
- 3 - In the field offering the option to provide more detail, type: *Emergency Fund – Gift Cards*

### Special Offering for our Regional Church

On Sundays 12/15 and 12/22, we will be collecting a special Christmas Offering for our regional church, the Christian Church in Illinois and Wisconsin. Funds to this offering will be used to support our wider regional programming, including church camp and region-wide spiritual retreats which members of our congregation regularly attend. Special offerings can be found in the sanctuary and in the 9:00 worship space.

Note: when making financial contributions online, follow these easy steps:

- Go to [www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org) and click on “GIVE” in the upper right corner Under “My Donation” choose “Christmas Offering.”

### Mitten Tree

A mitten tree was placed in the Connection Café as of December 1 and will be the place to make donation of winter hats and gloves for children and youth. All items given here will be donated to Dove and Northeast Community Fund, our partners for this event. By December 22, these items will be transported from Central, so if you would like to contribute here, please make sure your donations are submitted by then.

Blessings... Michael

**NO Just Flicks movie on December 8th**

## Update on Congregational Meeting

At the annual congregational meeting, held at 12:00 p.m. on December 1, both items of business passed with an affirmative vote. Those business items were the congregational budget for 2020 and the nominating committee's report for church leaders for the coming year. If you would still like to see a copy of either the budget or the report, please stop by the Welcome Center (or email [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org)).

## Thank you, Volunteers!

The beautiful service of The Hanging of the Greens has been a tradition at Central for decades. The service prepares our sanctuary, and more importantly, our hearts and minds for the coming of our Savior. Thank you to all who participated in this service on Sunday. The Tuesday and Saturday before the service are also inspirational times as 25-30 members of our congregational family come together to prepare every wreath, tree, and flower for Sunday. New friendships are made and hugs, laughter, and fellowship shared. Thank you one and all for your love and dedication to Central. All praise and glory to God our Father. We are so blessed.

-Your Worship Committee

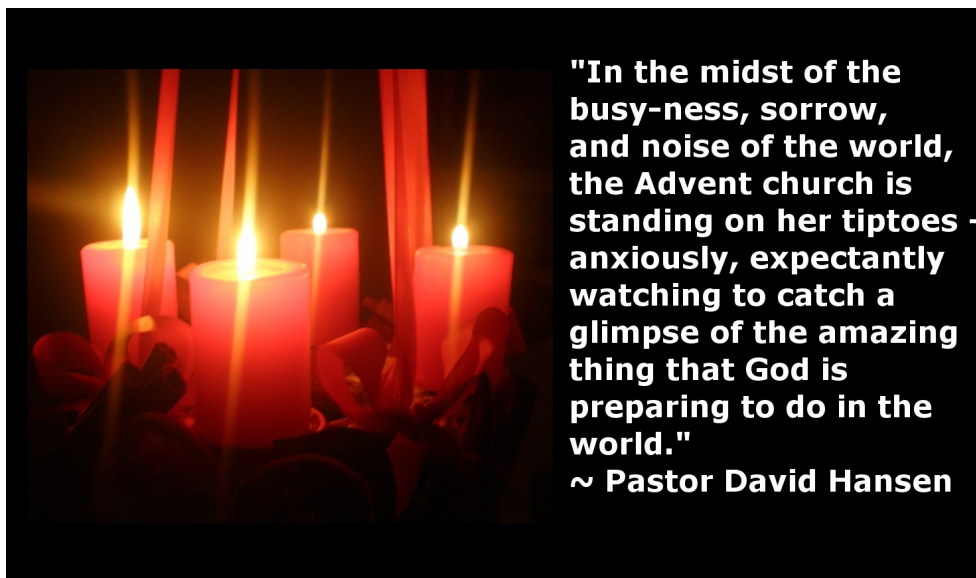
## Greeters Still Needed!

Greeters are needed before the 8:00 and 10:30 services. Greeters arrive 15 minutes before the service and stand at the bottom of the steps by the main entrance. Your job is to welcome members and guests. If you are currently serving as greeter and want to change your schedule, please call the church office. If you would like to become a greeter, please let the office know.

## Heart and Soul Carol Sing

### **Tuesday December 17, 7:00 in the Great Hall**

Please come and bring your friends to share in the music of Christmas presented by Heart and Soul. There will also be a time of carol singing for you to enjoy. Refreshments and fellowship will follow.



### **Sunday (8)**

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  
NO Just Flicks

### **Monday (9)**

9:00-Good Samaritan  
12:30-Women's Book Club, Panera  
5:30-Bowling, Spare Time Lanes  
6:00-Girl Scouts, Troop #3262, Disc. Room

### **Tuesday (10)**

9:00-Christcare Stitches, 207  
5:30-Women's Book Club, Panera  
6:30-Heart & Soul Choir at Primrose  
7:00-Millikin Heights, Disciples Room

### **Wednesday (11)**

10:15-Preschool Chapel, Friendship Center  
10:30-Ministers' Meeting  
5:00-Elders' Meeting, Disciples Room  
7:30-Chancel Choir w/ Orchestra

### **Thursday (12)**

10:00-Alanon, 240  
6:00-Brass Choir, Chancel  
7:00-Chancel Choir

### **Friday (13)**

### **Saturday (14)**

### **Sunday (15)**

### **Come Home for Christmas/Symphony Sunday**

8:00-Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary  
9:00-Come Home for Christmas Brunch, Friendship Center  
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-Come Home for Christmas Lunch, Great Hall  
NO Praise Team rehearsal  
3:00-Youth Group Caroling  
4:00-Youth Group Christmas party, Great Hall

### **Counting On You**

**Sunday, December 1, 2019**

Worship Attendance = 292

Sunday School & Small Groups = 67

**Serving Schedule—Sunday, December 8, 2019**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Andy Fulk & Mark Beal  
 9:00 - Mark Beal

**Deacons:**

8:00 - Team 1 - Gene & Sandy Garver, Gail Prince, Debbie Hoffert,  
 Al & Chris Fagin, Pamela Bednar, David Wagner  
 9:00 - Matt Walwer  
 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

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 2 - Becky Johnston, Capt., Bruce Campbell, Liz Campbell  
 10:30 - Team 7 - George Virgil, Capt., Linda Virgil, Jon & Jane French

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Norm & Darla Lienemann  
 9:00 - Gay Helgemo  
 10:30 - Jon & Jane French

**Acolytes:**

10:30 - Zedekiah Auten & Peyton Swarthout

**P.A. Operator:**

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

**Preparation of Communion:**

Ron & Jan Dobbs, Karen Penn, Becky Johnston

**Ride Share Drivers:**

8:00 & 9:00 Services & Sunday School - Andy Fulk 454-9838  
 Sunday School and 10:30 service - John Baird 429-5651

**Liturgist:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Claudia Quigg  
 9:00 - Laura Chapman

**Hospitality:**

9:00 - Deb Trei

**Tech:**

9:00 - Jodie Walwer & Mike Tanzyus

<b>Sunday School Classes</b>	<b>Floor</b>	<b>Room</b>
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:**

December 9 8:30-12:00 - Sandy Garver  
 December 10 8:30-12:00 - Janet Gray  
 December 11 8:30-12:00 - Debbie Hoffert  
 December 12 8:30-12:00 - Nancy Taylor  
 December 13 8:30-12:00 - Cindy Soebbing

**Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**  
**650 West William Street Decatur, Illinois 62522**  
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**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  
 Gabrielle Coulthard.....Nursery Attendant  
 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

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