

# 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, May 29, 2019

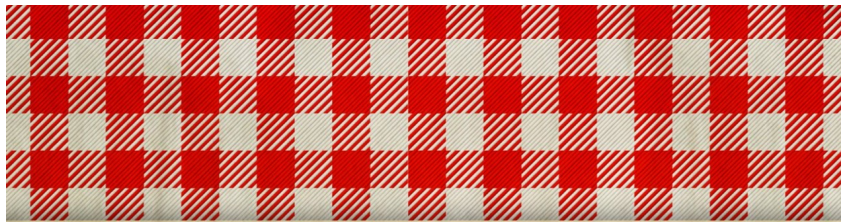
No. 22



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### **ALL CHURCH PICNIC at HOLY CROSS!**

Bring the kids and a side dish or dessert. 2 large inflatables, games.  
FOOD: grilled hot dogs & chips, ice Cream. Connections!



## VBS ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

HOT DOGS  
INFLATABLES

GAMES  
ICE CREAM

Central Christian Church  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
First Lutheran Church

June 9, 2019 | Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
6-7 pm | Bring a side dish or dessert



### **SUNDAY, June 2, 2019**

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

### **The Real Justice League**

Text: Acts 16:16-23

Michael E. Karunas

### **Let's Celebrate Central's Art Treasures!**

Central will host a Greater Decatur Chamber of Commerce After Hours Event on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Come connect with community members as you browse the iconic art in our sanctuary and main level renovated areas. Enjoy refreshments as you learn more from Central hosts about the displayed artwork and celebrate our connections with community.

### **Vacation Bible School June 17-21**

Hard copy registration forms are available at the Welcome Center at Central Christian Church and online.



### **Counting On You**

Sunday, May 26, 2019

Worship Attendance ..... 216

Sunday School & Small Groups.....66

**Thank you, CCC!**

Dear Pastor Tina & Central Christian Family,

Thank you so much for inviting us to be a magical part of your Preschool Sunday event! I had an absolute blast sharing some new magic with your congregation! Everyone seemed excited for the magic, and they were a pleasure to perform for. It was a pleasure to attend your service and feel welcomed by many familiar faces. It is great to see a community church with a fun-loving congregation plugged in and looking to grow. We look forward to serving you again!



Magically yours,  
Justin "Amazing"  
Dudley & Kathleen,  
aka "Mrs.  
Amazing" :)

**Illiopolis  
Christian Church's  
Fried Chicken  
Dinner**

Sunday, **June 2nd**,  
2019, from 11:00  
AM — 2:00 PM.  
Adults \$10.00, Kids  
age 4-10 \$5.00, Ages 3 and under  
free! Fried chicken, mashed  
potatoes, gravy, corn, slaw, dessert,  
& drink. Carryout available until  
1:30 PM.



**Spanish Conversations Class**

Spanish Conversations Class is on a break for the summer. Classes will resume in September, with a specific date TBA.



***Good Wins Out in the End***

I would consider myself an avid reader, but not a fanatic reader, as are some who seem to devour books. My two sisters, both of whom are teachers, keep their local libraries in business over summer vacations, reading nearly a book a day for weeks on end. I'm not *that* kind of reader, but I do like to read and have a propensity for "true" stories. Against the back wall in my 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary classroom, for example, was a bookshelf containing nothing but magazines. In particular, there was a stack of Reader's Digests (many of you remember that diminutive-sized periodical). In every issue, there was a feature called "Drama in Real Life." These were tales of harrowing escapes or near-disasters, individuals braving the elements or overcoming great odds to live to tell their stories. During free time, I remember bringing a stack of Reader's Digests to my desk and reading only the "Drama in Real Life" feature in each one, carelessly disregarding whatever else might have been in this issue.

Today my reading tastes have matured, but I still enjoy true stories. Moreover, I like ones that present real obstacles and conflicts that aren't easily resolved. I don't mind the main character suffering great pain, for that is the stuff of life for all of us, but I do appreciate an ending that is hopeful and shows how characters are stronger, wiser, and "better" people for having endured whatever it is that lay behind them.

I doubt that I am alone. We, as a society, have always enjoyed happy endings to our stories – be they in print or film, big screen or television. We want the "good guy" to win in the end and for good to triumph over evil, and I do not believe this is by accident. We want to know there is justice in the universe. We would be without hope, were the things we suffer not part of a higher plan or purpose. Our faith depends on a God who is ever-powerful and all-mighty, choosing, in the end, that the good and the just will prevail over all else.



That is the theme of the final sermon in our *Miracles Happen* sermon series this Sunday. Acts 16:16-23 gives us a parable that translates well to our 21<sup>st</sup> century ears. A young woman is held against her will in a situation we would rightly call human trafficking. She is used by her captives because of an ability she has which they manipulate to make themselves money. It is a sophisticated form of prostitution, but it is prostitution nonetheless. The Apostle Paul, acting on behalf of Jesus Christ, performs a miracle and sets her free. As a result, the girl's captives bring suit against Paul for costing them money, but cloaking their public complaint in ways that make themselves sound noble, while at the same time stirring up prejudice among the masses. In the end, God wins. *Good* wins. *Justice* wins. Because the miracles of God



not only bring immediate benefit to their primary recipients, they restore *our* faith in a God who forever stands on the side of justice and never on the side of those who would misuse and mistreat others for whatever reason, let alone their own personal gain. It is a story in scripture that is easily overlooked because it stands directly between two more popular ones, but it is an important one that should not be forgotten, as it is a story of our time – for *all* time, and I look forward to looking at it more closely with you this Sunday.

Blessings... Michael

### Central Celebrates Pentecost!

In our church, we celebrate Pentecost as the birth of Christ's church. We observe Pentecost each year by giving special gifts to support the birth and growth of new congregations. By "planting" new congregations, we help our new church movement continue to "take root!"

Each year, half of this offering stays in our local region to start and uphold new churches. The other half is used across the United States and Canada to support the recruiting, assessing, training, and coaching of new church leaders at events like Leadership Academy.

Our church planters remain committed to answering God's call ... to serve their neighbors, spread the gospel, and make more Disciples, but they need our nurturing and generous support through the 2019 Pentecost Offering, which we will collect at Central on June 2 and 9.

We can help our new church movement continue to "take root, bear fruit ... and grow more Disciples every day!" Please give generously to this year's Pentecost offering.

### Chalice Class

Title: *Rachel Held Evans and Jean Vanier*

Focus: The recent deaths of prominent Christian figures Rachel Held Evans and Jean Vanier lead us to reflect on their respective legacies. What are their legacies? How can their witness inspire us to live lives worth remembering?

Next Week: *Fantasy and Faith*



with Chancel Choir of Central Christian Church

PRESENTS  
Season Finale Concert

**Peace In My Soul**

**Saturday, June 1st**  
3:00 p.m.

**Central Christian Church**  
650 W. William St.  
Decatur, IL  
217-428-4336

Heart & Soul is a choir for people with special needs. Their program offers a variety of music all presented with great enthusiasm and heartwarming charm.



### **Sunday (2)**

#### **Pentecost Offering Received**

- 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-Worship Service
- 12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal, Great Hall
- 12:00-Mission Trip Meeting, Conn. Café

### **Monday (3)**

- 5:00-Veterans, Disciples Room

### **Tuesday (4)**

- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:00-ChristCare Stitches, 207
- 9:30-Card Ministry, 240
- 10:30-Staff Meeting
- 6:00-Heart & Soul, Choir Room/Conn. Café

### **Wednesday (5)**

- 10:30-Ministers Meeting
- 4:00-Intentional Worship Meeting, Great Hall

### **Thursday (6)**

- 10:00-Al-Anon, 240
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 6:30-Decatur Needle Arts
- 7:00-Chancel Choir

### **Friday (7)**

### **Saturday (8)**

### **Sunday (9)**

#### **Pentecost Offering Received**

- 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-Worship Service
- 12:00-Praise Team Rehearsal, Great Hall
- 12:00-"A Walk Down Memory Lane"

### Food collection for June 2nd: Cereal



### **In the Hospital...**

#### **DMH:**

Jean Booher, Ron Taylor, Jim Taylor, Byron Perry, Jill Heick

**St. Mary's:**  
No one

**Serving Schedule—Sunday, June 2, 2019**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Brett Swallow & Connie Bordner

**Imboden Creek:**

Penny Rutherford & Janet Lyman

**Deacons:**

8:00 - Team 3 - Sid & Krista Rohrscheib, Jane Davis, Mike Munos, Bob Muschal, Pat Penhallegon, Bobby Munos, Becky Johnston, Carolyn McCall

10:30 - Team 4 - Jeannie Backes, Matthew Swarthout, Jon French, David Martin, Mike & Gretchen Kirby, Mark Beal, Doug Soebbing, Roger Rutherford, Ron & Gwen Miller, Seth Martin, Pam Ferguson, Brittney Moran, Pam Larrick, Shelby Baum

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos, Brittney Moran, Bobby Munos

10:30 - Team 10 - David Martin, Capt., Matthew Swarthout, Gretchen Kirby

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Jerry & Susie Bean

10:30 - Glen & Jody Featherstun

**Acolytes:**

10:30 - Peyton Swarthout & Luke Karunas

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Donna Dash

10:30—Jim Hinze

**Preparation of Communion:**

Ed & Joy Adams, Betty Chapman, Claudia Curry

**Ride Share Drivers:**

8:00 & 9:00 Services & Sunday School - Mark Beal 433-6081

Sunday School and 10:30 service - Kevin Wilmot 875-7767

**Main Entrance Door Hosts:**

June 3 N/A

June 4 8:30-12:00—Gretchen Kirby

June 5 8:30-12:00—Suzie Miller

June 6 8:30-12:00—Karen Penn

June 7 N/A

**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**

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  
 Kathleen Dudley.....Administrative Assistant  
 Yvonne Boyd.....Administrative Assistant  
 Monica Hernandez.....Nursery Attendant  
 Cheryl Williams.....Nursery Attendant  
 Hannah Brimmer .....Nursery Attendant  
 Jennifer Van Dyke.....Preschool Director  
 Angela Moore.....Teacher Assistant  
 Paula Partain.....Teacher Assistant  
 Lisa Coates.....Preschool Teacher  
 Kay Villarreal.....Preschool Teacher  
 Sharon Renfro.....Preschool Teacher  
 Diana Murray.....Preschool Teacher  
 Stephanie Nihiser.....Preschool Teacher  
 Lora Wright .....Lead Caretaker  
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker  
 Vernon Wimberly.....Caretaker  
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker  
 Kamaria Collins.....Caretaker

<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

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