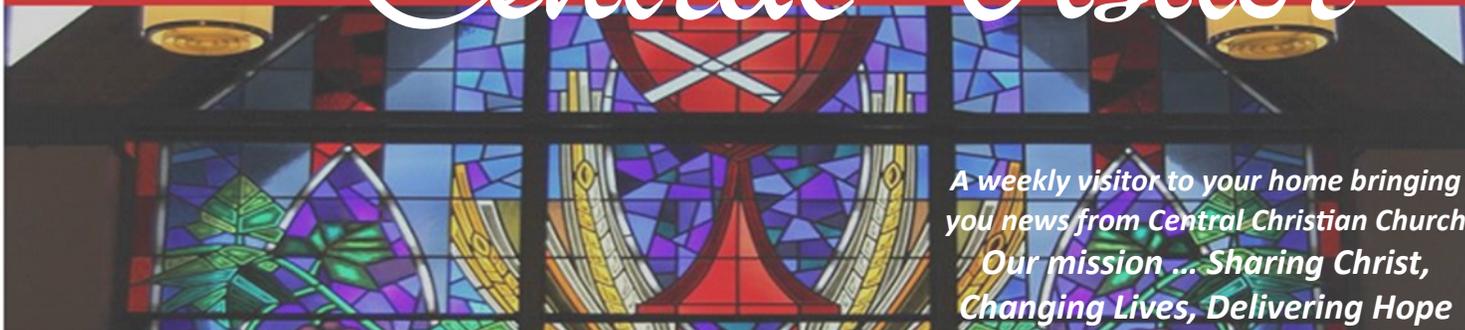


# The Central Visitor



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, July 3, 2019

No. 27



**“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.

### Save the Date: Financial Peace University is coming



Another 10-week Financial Peace University class is coming this Fall at Central! It will be held on Mondays from 6 – 8 p.m. beginning on September 9 and concluding November 4. You can register online by visiting our website ([www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org)) or calling the church office (428-4336). Cost of the class is \$109 per person (or couple).

### BINGO & ICE CREAM SOCIAL COMING UP!

All Central women are invited to Dorcas’ annual fun evening at a local senior living facility. We will meet at **Imboden Creek Gardens (185 W. Imboden Dr.)** again this year on Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 p.m. to play bingo with residents, enjoy ice cream and make new friends. It will be fun to visit with Central member residents of Imboden, who will receive personal invitations.

Let us know that you’re coming so we have plenty of ice cream! Mark your calendars for July 16<sup>th</sup> and make your reservation by contacting Sandy Garver by July 12<sup>th</sup> at 877-0800 or [revrag@comcast.net](mailto:revrag@comcast.net).

### Greeters Needed for 2nd Service this Sunday!

If you would like to and are available to greet people for the 2nd service this Sunday, July 7th, please call the church office.

### Thank You from Nancy Ellen Taylor and Family

We have the best church family. Thank you all so much for the cards, visits to Ron while he was in the hospital, and generosity and out pouring of love and support with your kindness and prayers during this difficult time with the loss of my husband and our Dad. A special thank you to Gail and volunteers for the delicious luncheon.

-Blessings, Nancy Ellen, Ken Taylor, & Kathy Lucas

### **SUNDAY, July 7, 2019**

WORSHIP AT 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

**Promise #4: God Values  
Closeness and Relationship**

Text: 2 Sam. 7:8-18 & Luke 1:30-33  
Tina Miller

### Chalice Class

Title: *Workism*

Focus: According to researchers, more and more Americans are finding identity, worth, and community primarily in their jobs. What is driving this trend, and how is it changing our culture? How should Christians align our desire for meaningful work with our devotion to God?

Next Week: *Preschool Education*



### New Address

Andy and Janine Boehme have moved to Georgia. They wanted to share this information with Central. We will miss them but wish them all the best!

Andy and Janine Boehme  
(and family)  
237 Mountain Brook Drive  
Ringgold, GA 30736



### **Counting On You**

**Sunday, June 30, 2019**

Worship Attendance ..... 284  
Sunday School & Small Groups.....54

Enjoy this information from Alyssa Chirco's article published on *ParentingSquad* website

**Beyond the Fireworks: Fourth of July History for Kids**

1. Read About the History of America's Fight for Independence. Challenge your children to read the Declaration of Independence, or, better yet, read it with them and help them figure out what it really means.
2. Use Multimedia to Learn More. Go online and explore topics such as July 4th, American Revolution, or Thomas Jefferson. Historical movies or television shows are a fun way to introduce kids to history.
3. Play Games. Visit family-friendly websites to find lots of online games and printable activities.
4. Be Creative. Learn about the American flag by making American flag crafts.
5. Get Up Close and Personal. Visit a local museum or historical site to learn more about what the American Revolution was like in the city where you live.

Fireworks and backyard barbecues are still my favorite part of the Fourth of July holiday, too, but, this year, let's all make sure that we take a little time to remember why we're celebrating in the first place!



***Mountaintop Experiences: Friend or Foe?***

Mountaintops are clearly romanticized in our culture. The adulation and reverence paid to mountaintops is certainly pervasive. Nearly all references to mountaintops are positive. We speak of “mountaintop experiences” after all – which represent moments of great inspiration on our journey through life and are easily contrasted with the fear of having to traverse a “dark valley.” Higher, in this case, is definitely better.



Songs of all varieties can't seem to praise the mountaintop enough. In our national hymn, *America the Beautiful*, we revere the “purple mountain majesties” that soar “above the fruited plain.” *The Sound of Music* ends with the uber-dramatic and climactic *Climb Every Mountain*, as the von Trapp family joyfully marches to freedom from the Nazis. The Motown classic *Ain't No Mountain High Enough* equates the size of the mountain to the intensity of love we feel when we have finally found “the one.” Even the tear-jerking *Go Rest High on that Mountain* by Vince Gill compares the mountaintop to the kingdom of heaven and the location of eternal life. Mountaintops represent our greatest inspirations, the best of our emotions and intentions, and the truest desires of our heart.

In scripture, perhaps not unsurprisingly, big moments often occur on mountaintops. God gave Noah the rainbow sign on Mt. Ararat. Abraham was spared his son's life on Mt. Moriah. Moses received the 10 commandments on Mt. Sinai. The temple in Jerusalem was built on Mt. Zion. Jesus withstood Satan's temptations on a mountaintop. He was transfigured on a mountaintop, and he ascended into heaven from a mountaintop.

The reality, however, is that mountaintops are dangerous. They are difficult to traverse. They can be scary, as the higher we climb, the more dangerous the fall. Mountaintops can reveal our weaknesses, insecurities, and vulnerabilities. For all of the uplifting moments that occur on mountaintops in scripture, we also remember that Jesus was crucified on Mt. Calvary.

In Exodus 19, the basis of our sermon this past Sunday, Moses converses with God on a mountaintop. Among other things, God tells Moses that if any of the people touch the mountain, they will die (19:12). Clearly these words represent the mountains-as-dangerous motif more than that of mountains-as-places-of-joy-and-euphoria. With a slightly larger context, it begins to make sense. The people had just come into freedom after generations of being slaves in Egypt. God had just set them free and delivered them from danger to

(continued on page 3...)

safety by means of a miraculous crossing of the Red Sea! Yay God!!! But God wants them to know that with freedom comes not just privilege and luxury, but rather responsibility as well. That is why the words God speaks to Moses from the mountaintop are these: "If you (the people) obey my voice and keep my commandments, you will be my treasured possession..." With freedom comes the responsibility of being faithful to God's Word and that word and seeking to build new communities based on the commands God will give. These commands will essentially fall into two main categories: 1) honor God – the God who saves, delivers, and gives life; and 2) treat others with dignity, grace, and respect, or, as Jesus would later put it, love the Lord your God and love your neighbor as yourself.

With blessings come responsibilities. God blesses us and we, in turn, respond with our faithfulness; being living expressions of those blessings in how we live as we journey forward. That is serious business and should not be taken lightly, but it is our responsibility to the one who blesses us. God blesses us freely *and* we are held accountable to those blessings. Just as mountaintops are both idyllic, majestic, and inspirational *and* dangerous and thus should be treated carefully and respectfully.

Blessings... Michael

### **Summer at Central: Back in Time**

*During the summer months, we will be going "Back in Time" to the Old Testament!! We will explore the earliest roots of our faith and examine how the basic building blocks of the story of salvation are still ones on which to build a spiritually strong life today. During June, our focus will be The Five Promises of God.*



July 7 Promise #4: "God values Closeness and Relationship" Tina Miller

July 14 Promise #5: "God Inspires" Tina Miller

### **Stay Connected this Summer!**

With the coming of summer vacation, we understand that many will be traveling at different times over the next several months. Wherever your travels may take you, we pray for your safekeeping. We also hope you will remember to stay connected with us, both when you are in Decatur or "on the road." You can do that by:

- Coming to worship when you are in town. We'd love to see you and hear about your adventures
- Watching our traditional service via the "Live Streaming" feature on our website. [Click here.](#)
- Following our Facebook pages daily!
- On our church's main page ([click here](#)), we will provide regular updates of what's happening at Central.
- On our contemporary page ([click here](#)), we will also be posting video highlights of each week's service.

Wherever your travels take you, we want you to feel connected to your church family at Central!



### **Sunday (7)**

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

### **Monday (8)**

9:00-Good Samaritan  
12:30-Women's Book Club, Panera

### **Tuesday (9)**

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café  
9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 207  
5:30-Women's Book Club, Panera  
7:00-Millikin Heights, Disciples Room

### **Wednesday (10)**

### **Thursday (11)**

10:00-Al-Anon, 240  
4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café  
7:00-Chancel Choir

### **Friday (12)**

### **Saturday (13)**

### **Sunday (14)**

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

### **Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes...?**

Do you have a new address? Did you change cell phone numbers? Did you decide to change your email address? What about changes for the prayer list, including members of military or those in assisted living or nursing homes? Remember to call the church office with any changes to your information so that we can stay in touch.



**Serving Schedule—Sunday, July 7, 2019**

**Imboden Creek:**

Kevin Wilmot & Tom Spry

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Kim Maple & Shirley Swarthout

**Deacons:**

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

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 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 - Al & Chris Fagin

10:30 -

**Acolytes:**

10:30 - Kellan Niles-Cox & Zedekiah Auten

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Jim Bednar

10:30—Jim Hinze

**Preparation of Communion:**

Sid & Krista Rohrscheib, Emily Rohrscheib, Jane Latshaw

**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:**

July 8 N/A

July 9 8:30-12:00—Gretchen Kirby

July 10 8:30-12:00—Debbie Hoffert

July 11 8:30-12:00—Nancy Taylor

July 12 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  
 David Williams.....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  
 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

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

