

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. XCIV

Decatur, Illinois, August 24, 2022

No. 32

Backpack Sunday—August 21, 2022

We celebrated going back to school on Sunday, August 21, by blessing the backpacks and offering a prayer for all students and teachers and school staff. Along with the prayer card we included a button with the words, “You are loved”, that can be attached to backpacks or tote bags. If you were not able to join us in worship, you are welcome to come and pick up your prayer card and button from the Welcome Center. Your church family is holding you in our prayers.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 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

***Walk By Faith: Get by with a little
help from your friends***

Text: Hebrews 11:23-29
Michael E. Karunas



Small Groups this Week

If you're in a small group, let us know what your small group's focus is for the week, and we'll let others know about it! 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).

Sundays - Ecclesia

(mixed Sunday School class)

Room 340 at 9:15 a.m.

Reading through the Seasons of the Spirit curriculum.

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 4:00 p.m.

Conversation led by Jack Dixon or Paul Gorden

Thursdays - Koinonia

(mixed small group)

Room 412 at 5:30 p.m.

Discussing Tony Evans book "Kingdom Disciples" (focus on leading a Christ-centered life and sharing faith with others).



School Supply Donations

Christian Ed Dept will be collecting school supplies for Franklin/Grove school.

The supplies that are needed are: Crayola crayons, washable markers, colored pencils, glue sticks, bottles of white glue, and ear buds. The black trunks will be placed in the Friendship Center for you to place your supplies. We will be collecting supplies during August and deliver to the school in early September. Thank you.

Minister's Article

Preschool Updates: Classroom Volunteers

The Central Christian Preschool will be re-opening its doors on Tuesday, September 6. After a two-year hiatus, we will begin this new version of the preschool by offering one 3's class and one 4's/5's class. According to the most recent update from our director, Melissa Miller, the 4's/5's has reached maximum enrollment and is entirely full!! There are still openings in the 3's class, but the preschool will be opening with over 20 students! We are excited about welcoming these families and students into the Central community. Whether they are members of Central or have faith communities elsewhere, we want them to feel at "home" every time they are here.

The preschool board is comprised of 7 church members and 2 parents. Due to the fact that neither our director nor anyone else on our board has gotten to know any of the parents very well, we will start the year without the 2 parent representatives. We will seek to add them sometime during the coming months. The rest of the preschool board is configured as follows (dates indicate when their term of service ends): Mike Munos, president (2023), Gretchen Kirby, secretary (2024), Julia Zmucki, treasurer (2025), Debbie Hoffert, volunteer liaison (2024), Ellen Damery (2025), David King, property liaison (2024 or 2025), and Carrie Funk (2024) .

As volunteer liaison between the preschool and the congregation, Debbie Hoffert will be sharing periodically ways for members to be involved in the hands-on support of the preschool. Here is one such volunteer opportunity:

*The Preschool Board is really excited about the reopening of Central's Preschool on September 6th. We are starting with two classes. Our new Director, Melissa Miller, would like to have a **volunteer from the church in each class during the first two weeks of school**. After that, she will welcome parent volunteers. Volunteers are needed from 8:30 to 11:30 on Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday in the three-year-old class and Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday in the four-year-old class. You may choose to volunteer one day, two days or all days.*

*Also, a **Family Fun Night is scheduled for September 28th** and three greeters are needed to assist / direct parents from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. If you are interested in helping, please contact Debbie Hoffert at hoffertdebbie@comcast.net or 217-875-7651.*

Blessings – Michael

Food Collection for September 11th. Donations are down.

For over 10 years, each month CACS (Christian Action Community Service) department of CCC has collected hundreds of boxes of cereal and cans of non-perishable food for Northeast Community Fund. Your generosity has provided much needed food to our community. Recently our grocery cart has not been filled each month, but the need continues.

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the September collection date will be Sept. 11. As usual, your donations can be placed in the grocery cart in the Connection Cafe at any time. Let's FILL THE CART again!!!

Thank you very much.

Why youth group is important to me. -David Martin

As we get ready for the new school year, I have been reflecting on my time as part of the Central youth group. I have been a part of the youth group for over half of my life. Seven years as a youth participant, three years as a volunteer, and I am starting my seventh year as the youth director. It is safe to say that the youth program at Central has had a significant impact on my life. First and foremost, my faith has grown and been shaped through my experiences and opportunities as a part of youth group. Growing up with a dad who worked at the church and a mom who was involved in seemingly everything, I never felt like my faith was truly a part of me. I would go to the youth events and I would have a good time hanging out with friends, but I never thought of my faith as a part of me. It wasn't until I went to college that I realized how much my life had been shaped through my time in youth group. The people I chose to surround myself with shared my core beliefs that I realized were shaped in my time at Central. While I may not have realized what was happening at the time, the more I look back, the more I see the ways that Central and the youth group impacted my life.

The second way that this program has had a positive impact on my life is through the relationships I have built through the years. The two closest friendships that I have both started at Central. Through all my years at school and baseball teams that I have played on, these two friendships have been constants. I also value the relationships that I have built all around the state through the regional youth events like camp, Summit, and Midwinter. It is very comforting to know that no matter where we go, or what events we are at, I know that there are people that care for me and the youth at Central and are always willing to help. Whether it is a call/text or a visit, there are leaders that have helped me grow personally, professionally, and spiritually. That is such a blessing because I know that these same people that have supported me are excited to be a support system for all of the youth in our group.

It is really important to me that the youth at Central are provided a place where they can feel comfortable to learn, grow, and develop relationships along their faith journey. We have been blessed by youth leaders, church staff, and a congregation that share that same goal and are always there to help our youth. With all of that said, we are all excited for this upcoming year!

Welcome to our World

We celebrate with Sarah (Rohrscheib) and Keaton Miller the birth of their son, Ellis Hugh Miller. He was born on July 27 and brings joy to everyone, especially to his grandparents, Sid and Krista Rohrscheib.



Sunday (28)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
& Facebook Live & Live Stream
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
& Facebook Live & Live Stream
4:00-Youth Group

Monday (29)

1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open

Tuesday (30)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:15-Prayer Group, Connection Café
9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R

Wednesday (31)

9:00-Preschool Meet the Teacher
1:00-DOVE Kids' Clothing Room open
4:00-Preschool Host Orientation, C.C.
5:00-Preschool Meet the Teacher

Thursday (Sept. 1)

10:00-Alanon, 340
3:00-Decatur Needle Arts, Disciples Room
4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
5:00-Koinonia, 412
7:00-Chancel Choir, Choir Room

Friday (2)

Saturday (3)

Sunday (4)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, Great Hall
& Facebook Live & Live Stream
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
& Facebook Live & Live Stream

2nd Monday

Good Samaritan Volunteering

The second Monday of each month, volunteers from CCC help prepare and serve lunch at Good Samaritan Inn. Shifts to work are 9:00a.m. - 11:00a.m. to prepare and 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m. to serve (standing for 2 hrs). It's very rewarding work and much appreciated. If this appeals to you and you have the time to give, call or text Judy Ford at 217-433-1585.

Counting On You

Sunday, August 21, 2022

Total worshipping online = 124
Total worshipping in-person = 220



Serving Schedule — Sunday, August 28, 2022

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Jeannie Backes & Charlotte Ballance
9:15 - Charlotte Ballance

August Prep Deacons: Nancy Hanover, Jean & Jud Pease

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - George & Pearl Jones
9:15 - Ellen & Ryan Damery
10:30 - Jeannie & Keith Backes

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 - Andy & Theresa Fulk
10:30 - Bob & Mary Jane Linton

P.A. Operator:

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



Happy Birthday!! (8/28-9/3)

Jo Carter, Jared Carter, Andrew Otis, Terrie Potter,
Donna Rutherford, Madeline Bishop, Joy Adams,
Steve Funk, Vicky Woolridge, Lea West,
Lauren McLeMore, Eleanor Pritts, Barb Leihser,
Deb Trei, Anderson Fultz, Jack Van Uytven

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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
Kattina Williams Nursery Attendant
Abigail Smith Nursery Attendant
Andrew Evans Caretaker
Jenny Goodman Caretaker
Sam Hawkinson Caretaker
Cheri Russell Caretaker

"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.



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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