

The Central Visitor

A weekly visitor to your home bringing you news from Central Christian Church
Our mission ... Sharing Christ,
Changing Lives, Delivering Hope

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No. 35



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DORCAS is ON THE MOVE!

Our first Dorcas meeting of the 2019-2020 program year is Tuesday, September 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Disciples Room. Join in the fun of getting to know each other better, and be inspired by learning about the good works of Webster-Cantrell Hall. We'll learn about this year's timely programs, listen to a relevant devotion, and enjoy delicious refreshments. We sincerely welcome all Central women to join in the fellowship of Dorcas Disciples. RSVP to Nancy Ellen Taylor at xstra@sbcglobal.net or 620-5639 by Friday, September 13th. For more information about Dorcas Disciples, contact Sandy Garver at 877-0800 or revrag@comcast.net.

Join the Conversation

Beginning **Wednesday September 11, 6:30 – 7:30** and continuing through Thanksgiving, come explore your spiritual development through reading, reflecting, and sharing. We will use the book **Falling Upward** by Fr. Richard Rohr, available at www.cac.org, or your favorite book seller. The book also has an accompanying work book that we will be using. Join us in Room 240 for conversations and more. Questions? Contact Don Martin.

Women's Group
6-7:30 pm in the Great Hall

9.03
10.01
11.05
12.03

*Cultivate: The process of living from the heart
Be inspired in your time with God as we go deeper into relationship with Him.
We'll explore writings on topics ranging from enjoying God, savoring, freedom, and identity.*

Central Christian Church 650 W. William Street central@cccddisciples.org

SUNDAY, September 1, 2019

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

Text: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Michael E. Karunas

Spanish Conversations Class

Spanish Conversation Class will resume after Labor Day. Watch the Visitor and bulletin for specific dates.

Food Collection

The food collection for September 8th will be cereal. The shopping cart is located in the Connection Café for your convenience.



Just Flicks: The Citizen, September 8th, 6:00 PM, First Presbyterian Church

Call it what you will – chance, luck, fate. It all seems to be on Ibrahim Jarrah's side when he wins the U.S. Green Card Lottery. Unfortunately for Ibrahim, he wins this on Sept. 10, 2001. The events of 9/11 will shape his journey for the American Dream in unimaginable ways. Perseverance and courage will become his most important attributes in becoming a U.S. citizen. "The Citizen" was inspired by true events. Rated PG-13, 2012.

Counting On You

Sunday, August 25, 2019

Worship Attendance 282

Sunday School & Small Groups..... 72

ATTENTION MEAL DELIVERY TEAM

Two Central Christian Church families are expecting babies!

We'll bless these families with one meal a day for 5 days after baby comes home. **The meal delivery program is part of Central Loves Babies!** Central Loves Babies is our newborn program. Here are opportunities we provide:

-A visit from one of the pastors when you are in the hospital shortly following the birth of your baby, including a prayer for your Newborn.

-Five meals brought to your home by members of the church during your first few weeks at home following your baby's delivery.

-A rose and cross (for you to keep) placed on the communion table at church.

-A Newborn Visit when your baby is about three weeks old by Claudia Quigg, early child-hood specialist, who is trained to observe newborns and learn with parents about their unique competencies.

-A Blessing of your baby and Service of Dedication scheduled at your convenience during a regular worship service.

-An opportunity to collaborate with others at Central to provide a spiritual home for your child.

-A follow-up visit by Claudia Quigg around the first birthday of your child with information that can assist in navigating year two of your child's life.

WOW! What a great start to the Autumn season here at Central! Back to School Sunday was well attended. Children and school leaders were celebrated and blessed. Sunday School attendance was high too! Eleven children and five youth started off the year learning about God and growing in connections with each other. 22 youth & 16 adults enjoyed the ropes course and miniature golf at Overlook Adventure! Remember to keep our children and youth in your prayers as we journey through this school year!

"Stories of Generosity"

These last two months witnessed one of the more joyful parts of our ministry here at Central. Every time we undertake a 3-year capital campaign, we designate 10% for outreach in the Decatur community. With the end of the 2016-2019 campaign earlier this summer, the Trustees recently made \$46,000.00 available for further distribution as local outreach.

The Christian Action Community Service committee, Tina, and I then invited to a meeting the executive directors from six (6) Decatur organizations with whom Central has had a long-standing connection. This took place in July, and the organizations represented were Baby TALK, Good Samaritan Inn, DOVE, MAX, Oasis, and Webster-Cantrell Hall. Over 90 minutes, we listened to the directors answer three questions:

What is the biggest need you face as an organization in Decatur?

How might a gift from us positively impact the work you are doing?

If we were connected with you in a way that went beyond financial contributions, what would that look like from your perspective?

The conversation was very revealing. We learned just how much non-profit organizations depend on *undesignated* financial gifts. Given the many strings attached to grants, non-profits often have trouble funding much needed projects that fall outside of grant guidelines. We also spoke about volunteer opportunities which we hope to pursue in the coming months. Finally, each organization identified specific and tangible projects for which they would appreciate financial support. On August 20, the CACS committee met again and decided to distribute Central's 2016-2019 campaign outreach funds as follows:

To Baby TALK, toward the purchase of a new van

To Good Samaritan Inn, for the salary of one case manager for one year

To DOVE, toward the purchase of security doors at the women's domestic violence shelter

To MAX, toward the furtherance of their ability to meet the immediate needs of Decatur residents

To Webster-Cantrell Hall, toward the creation of a play-therapy room

To Oasis, toward the purchase of an outdoor serenity garden.

One particular request caught my attention. It came from Oasis Executive Director Jeff Mueller; he shared this story about why such a green space in the Oasis neighborhood is important.

Last fall, Oasis implemented a new activity called "Get Out!" as an opportunity for healthy socialization. We loaded 12 Oasis "guests" into a van and headed to the park. We played basketball and horseshoes and ate snacks. Occasionally, I looked around to ensure everyone was enjoying the experience. Time and time again a Misti G. was absent from the mix. She sat quietly alone on a small patch of grass. As I approached her, I saw tears falling down her cheeks. In an outreached palm she proudly displayed her "lucky" find – blades of grass. As we sat and talked, I learned she had recently been released from prison; that

(continued on page 3...)

she has two young daughters in the foster care system; that she has been abused by most men in her life; and that she dreams of being a counselor. Misti said she was crying because she had forgotten the feel and smell of grass, which freedom provides. Her tears were those of joy and reminded her of happier days.



We thank you for your gifts to the capital campaigns here at Central. Some of your donations will help Oasis develop their own “green place” in their own neighborhood. We hope that you never doubt that your gifts to the church are thoughtfully and prayerfully shared, and in a way that connects you to the needs of the wider world – and to the people who bear them.

Blessings... Michael

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 sign up at www.fpu.com/1093777. Cost of the class is \$109 per person (or couple).



Central Christian Church Brass Choir is set to begin a new season.

We will begin rehearsals on Thursday, September 5th, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Disciples Room. The Brass Choir provides music in worship 4-5 times a year. Please consider dusting off your instrument and getting your lips in shape so you can join the fun of preparing and performing music in praise of God. Questions? Contact Don Martin at the church or David Bottom 855-4849.

Bell Ringers

We have an opportunity for bell ringers to join forces with the ringers at First Baptist church to form a complete bell choir under the direction of Mike Waltenberger. Rehearsals will be at the First Baptist Church, 1320 Arbor Drive on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm – 6:45pm. Questions? Contact Don Martin.



The Central Christian Church Praise Team will participate in the Pana Labor Day Parade, on Monday, September 2, at 10 am. Parade route begins at the corner of Second and Poplar and ends at

Kitchell Park! **Come praise God and watch the parade!**



Sunday (Sept. 1)

- 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
- NO Youth Group

Monday (2)

**Labor Day Holiday
Church and Offices Closed**

Tuesday (3)

- 1st Day for Central Preschool!!**
- 7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
- 9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 207
- 9:00-PEO Meeting, Connection Café & Chapel
- 9:30-Card Ministry, 240
- 10:30-Staff Meeting, Conference Room
- 1:00-MU Class, 240
- 6:00-Women’s Group Kickoff

Wednesday (4)

- 10:15-Chapel, Friendship Center
- 10:30-Ministers’ Meeting

Thursday (5)

- 10:00-Al-Anon, 240
- 4:00-Journeymen 2, Connection Café
- 6:00-Brass Choir, Disciples Room
- 6:30-Decatur Needle Arts, 207
- 7:00-Chancel Choir

Friday (6)

Saturday (7)

Sunday (8)

- 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
- Youth Group meets
- 6:00-Just Flicks, First Presbyterian Church
“The Citizen”

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

Serving Schedule—Sunday, September 1, 2019

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Shirley Swarthout & Liz Campbell
9:00— Liz Campbell

Imboden Creek Worship:

Brett Swallow & Dick Cain

Deacons:

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

9:00—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 3 - Dennis Downey, Capt., Jim & Pamela Bednar

10:30 -Team 8 - Pamela Ferguson, Capt., Doug Soebbing

Greeters:

8:00 - Jim & Debbie Hoffert

9:00—Cheryl Zollinger

10:30 - Dick & Sue Ann Cain

Acolytes:

10:30 - Luke Karunas & Kellan Niles-Cox

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Greg Carter

10:30—Mike Kirby

Preparation of Communion:

Jean & Judson Pease, Susan Bryant, Donna Dash

Ride Share Drivers:

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

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

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30—Keith Backes

9:00—Paul Gorden

Hospitality:

9:00—Cindy Grabowski

Tech:

9:00—Jodie Walwer & Mike Tanzyus

Main Entrance Door Hosts:

September 2 N/A

September 3 8:30-12:00—Gretchen Kirby

September 4 8:30-12:00—Suzie Miller

September 5 8:30-12:00—Karen Penn

September 6 8:30-12:00—Roberta Gorden

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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” GainOrganist
David Williams.....Organist
Kathleen Dudley.....Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Boyd.....Administrative Assistant
Cheryl Williams.....Nursery Attendant
Hannah BrimmerNursery Attendant
Kattina WilliamsNursery Attendant
Jennifer Van Dyke.....Preschool Director
Paula Partain.....Teacher Assistant
Lisa Coates.....Preschool Teacher
Kay Villarreal.....Preschool Teacher
Amber Marshall.....Preschool Teacher
Diana Murray.....Preschool Teacher
Stephanie Nihiser.....Preschool Teacher
Lora WrightLead Caretaker
Jim Denzer.....Caretaker
Andrew Evans.....Caretaker
Kamaria Collins.....Caretaker

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