

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, September 25, 2019

No. 39



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Caramel Apples & Popcorn for Sale!

CCC Preschool will be taking orders for THE famous Del’s caramel apples and popcorn between all services on Sunday, Sept. 29th, in the Friendship Center. Pickups will be on Sunday, Oct 6th, same place. These treats are wonderful and are being sold in conjunction with the “Apple Unit” lessons being taught at this time in our Preschool. “An apple a day...” You know the rest.



Ordination Gifts for Tina Miller

An exciting event will occur at Central Christian Church on Sunday, Nov. 3rd, 2019. Our own Tina Miller is being ordained as a Minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and her service of ordination is being held here. One of the traditions of the ordination service is that the sponsoring congregation (Central Christian Church) presents the candidate with gifts that represent the signs of the office of minister. These will include a robe, stole, Bible or meaningful book, and communion symbols (chalice and bread plate). We want to give everyone the chance to contribute to these gifts, for we know that many in the church have been blessed personally by Tina’s ministry here. If you would like to make a donation to help with the purchase of these gifts, simply mark on your check (or envelope) “Tina’s Ordination Gifts.” If you have questions or would like to speak with Michael more about this, you may contact him at (mkarunas@cccdisciples.org).

Thanks To You...

To my Pastors and Central Family,
My heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, cards, and words of comfort at the time of Kent’s death.

-I. Jean Booher



SUNDAY, September 29, 2019

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

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP AT 9:00 a.m.

A Need to Be Seen

Text: Luke 13:10-17

Michael E. Karunas

Preschool News

This week the preschool classes all talked about fall! They started looking for fall changes outside from leaf changes to temperature changes. The 4’s and Pre-K classes also started their apple units while the 2’s and 3’s classes finished up their farm units. Both the church and preschool have begun taking orders for Del’s caramel apples and popcorn. All profits go into our scholarship fund.

*Jennifer Van Dyke
Director*

Chalice Class

Title: Amazon Fires



Focus: The number of fires burning in the Amazon has increased by 84 percent since last year. What is causing these fires, and how are they affecting our planet? What can we do about this global crisis?

Next week: World Communion Sunday

Counting On You

Sunday, September 22, 2019

Worship Attendance 280

Sunday School & Small Groups.....76

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 20, 2019
Youth and Family Hayride
 Blue Mound, IL

October 26, 2019
Central Celebration & Picnic
 Activities 10 am -12 noon
 Lunch 12 noon -1pm

Inflatables
Cotton Candy
Mobile Zoo
Glitter Tattoos
Chipmunk Show
Vendors

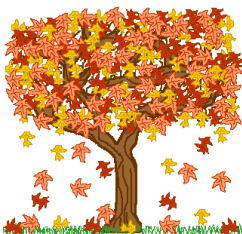


Menu for 3D Meal on October 9th

Pasta with meat sauce, tossed salad, garlic bread.
 Dessert is Cinnamon Coffee Cake.
 Entertainment will be at 11:30, by our own Don Martin and Mike Waltenberger. Lunch will be served at 12:00. Reservations are due by Friday Oct 4th.

Caregiver Helpful Info

The Macon County Health Department sends out a Caregiver Advisory Newsletter which contains news and information for those who are caregivers. It has a list of support groups and meeting times. This newsletter is available on the circular desk in the Welcome Center.



“We Invest in People!!!”

Next week, we will begin our annual stewardship sermon series. Honestly, in all my years of ministry (21 in all), I can't remember looking forward to an October-stewardship-emphasis as much as I do this one this year! For the first 3 weeks of October, every year, our worship focus is the ministry of the church and why we should support it with our finances. At the end of that time, we invite you to submit “Estimate of Giving” cards indicating an amount you think you can support the church in the coming year. The council then uses that information to present a budget to the congregation for its approval at a congregational meeting in December.

This three-week focus is therefore very important in the life of the church, but we also want to be creative in the ways we approach this topic so as to inspire one another to continue to be generous, for it is only through generations of generosity at Central that we are able to do the many wonderful things that we do.



With that in mind, this is what we have planned this year (and why I am looking forward to the next month so much). Our theme for Stewardship 2020 is “**God's Work, Our Hands.**” We will be telling **Stories of Generosity.** These stories will reveal how we, at Central, invest in people, which is, after all, what Jesus did. In undertaking his ministry, Jesus didn't start a church or draft a constitution and by-laws. He *invested in people.* So it is with our gifts. When we give to the church, we are investing in the transformation of people. Throughout these three weeks, we will hear stories of how our collective generosity has led to that transformation and helped support it.

- 10/6 John 4:3-4, 7-15, 23-29, 39 Pastor Michael preaching
We will hear a testimony from Luke Kirby (a scholarship recipient) about how college has been transformational for him. He says that he provided a service to others through an opportunity at college, but he feels it had a much bigger impact on himself! We will also hear from two of our high school youth and how participating in Central's mission trips have shaped their faith.
- 10/13 Matthew 10:1-15 Pastor Michael preaching
Central member Ellen Damery will present a testimony about what preschool has meant to her children and David Martin and Brittney Munos will discuss how church camp has changed the youth of our congregation.
- 10/20 Mark 5:18-20 Pastor Michael preaching
We will hear testimonies from those in our wider community about how Baby Talk and Good Samaritan Inn (two of our community partners) have helped transform the lives of those in our community.

(continued on page 3...)

You will hear more about our Stewardship 2020 campaign in the coming two weeks, but I wanted to state here that even though we can't see the impact of every dollar that we give in faith to the ministry of the church, these stories (and many others like them) remind us that when we invest in people, ripple effects can be felt that extend far beyond our reach on our best days and in the most perfect of worlds.

Blessings... Michael



Welcome New Members!!!

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome George and Pearl to the Central family! They transferred their membership on September 22nd at the 8:00 service. The Jones have been attending Central regularly since they moved to Decatur earlier this year from Chatanooga, TN. Pearl is originally from Decatur, but George and Pearl have spent many of their most recent years in the south (South Carolina and Tennessee). They are delighted to be in Decatur and immediately found a

family at Central. We are so happy to welcome them!

Congratulations Brian and Stephani!!!

Brian and Stephani Bottom welcomed Lyndzi Frances Bottom to their family, born on September 20th. Lyndzi was 7 lbs, 15 oz at birth and 20 inches long! Congratulations! We all celebrate God's gift of new life in the Bottom family and our church family.



Freedom Sunday this Sunday



Every year on the last Sunday of September (this Sunday this year), Freedom Sunday is observed by many churches around the globe. This is a day when awareness is brought to the practice of human trafficking. Human trafficking can take many forms – from indentured servitude (not just a practice of the distant past) to sex trafficking. It is present in countries across the globe and even in our own county. This Sunday, we will be providing information about human trafficking on

handouts and other printed information in the Welcome Center (for traditional worship) and on the hospitality table (for contemporary). We will also be bringing awareness to this issue, and praying for God's spirit of liberation, during worship.

Embodying the Call - Reconciliation Offering This Sunday

We are the body of Christ and all of us are members of this one body. As a church body, we have been on this journey that is pro-reconciling and anti-racist for 20 years. This journey is difficult. God is in all and through all in spite of our differences. We have different origin stories. God remains in the midst of all of us. When we stand with those who desire to provide for their families in an environment that is safe and full of opportunity, we embody Christ's love for our neighbor. **Reconciliation Ministry** is your mission of embodiment to love one another as Christ loves us. Your generosity fuels our granting programs, youth and young adult leadership development, and Regional and General Ministry outreach toward building beloved community through advocacy, intentional conversation, and action. Thank you for your generosity!



Sunday (29)

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 (30)

5:00-Veterans, Disciples Room
5:30-Bowling, Spare Time Lanes
5:30-Spanish Conversations Class, 240
6:00-Financial Peace University, Great Hall/Disciples Room

Tuesday (1)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:00-Christcare Stitchers, 207
9:30-Card Ministry, 240
10:30-Staff Meeting, Conference Room
11:30-Kiwanis Meeting, Great Hall
1:00-MU Class, 240
5:30-Nominating Committee, Conf. Room
6:00-Women's Group, Great Hall
6:30-Heart & Soul Choir, Choir Room/
Connection Cafe

Wednesday (2)

10:15-Chapel, Friendship Center
10:30-Ministers' Meeting
6:30-Book Study, 240

Thursday (3)

10:00-AI-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 (4)

Saturday (5)

Morning-Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

Sunday (6)

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
4:00-Youth Group



Serving Schedule—Sunday, September 29, 2019

Elders:

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

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, Linda Helton

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 - Greg & Jo Carter
 9:00— Fulk family
 10:30 - Dennis & Ronda Spencer

Acolytes:

10:30 - Jane & Emmy Osman

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash
 10:30—Larry Pepper

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 - Brett Swallow 433-7488

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30—Linda Virgil
 9:00—Theresa Fulk

Hospitality:

9:00—Fulk family

Tech:

9:00—Jodie Walwer & Mike Tanzyus

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

Main Entrance Door Hosts:

September 30 8:30-12:00—Karen Baird
 October 1 8:30-12:00—Gretchen Kirby
 October 2 8:30-12:00—Suzie Miller
 October 3 8:30-12:00—Karen Penn
 October 4 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
 Hannah Brimmer.....Social Media Coordinator
 Maddie Genz.....Nursery Attendant
 Cheryl Williams.....Nursery Attendant
 Kattina WilliamsNursery 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 WrightLead Caretaker
 Jim Denzer.....Caretaker
 Andrew Evans.....Caretaker

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