

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. XCVI

Decatur, Illinois, May 8, 2024

No. 10

Preschool Sunday, May 12

In addition to May 12 being Mother's Day, we will also be recognizing our Central Christian Preschool during worship. This will include:

- A slide show on our all video monitors throughout the morning depicting the activities and adventures of our 2023-2024 preschoolers
- Written greetings and gratitude from our director, Melissa Miller, read during worship.
- The chance to purchase one of 20 canvas art paintings by our children (proceeds to benefit the preschool)
- A special offering collected during worship to support the preschool.

We are thankful for our preschool staff, our board members, our students and their families (of course) and all the support shown by our tremendous church members.



SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
IN-PERSON (SANCTUARY)
AT 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
AND LIVESTREAMED ON
WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
AND FACEBOOK LIVE
AT 10:30 AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
IN-PERSON (GREAT HALL)
AND LIVESTREAMED ON
WWW.CCCDISCIPLES.ORG
AND FACEBOOK LIVE
AT 9:15 AM

Scripture and Sermon for 5/12/2024

Text: Acts 3:1-10
"Words Matter Too"
Michael Karunas

Celebrate the End of the School Year!

On Sunday, May 19, during all three worship services, we will recognize all children/youth who are finishing the school year with a small gift during our Time for All God's Children.

We will also recognize our graduates that day and announce the recipients of the Central continuing education scholarships.

We're Having a
COOKOUT!



We hope you can join us for worship so we can celebrate with you!

On **Sunday, May 19**, you are invited to an end of the year cook-out, **from 4 - 6pm**. It will be hosted by Mike and Gerri Munos, at their home: 1672 West Harrison Avenue.

All hotdogs, burgers, buns, condiments, drinks, and table service will be provided. **Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.** You can bring some lawn chairs or blankets to sit on.

Please **RSVP by noon on May 17** to the church office (217-428-4336) or (central@cccdisciples.org). Reach out to David or Pastor Vicky with questions.



Happy Birthday!! (5/12 - 5/25)

Claudia Curry, John Flanders, Janet Gray, Bradley Munos, Claudia Evans, Robert Reed, Kelly Swallow, Zachary Martin, Danielle Patricio, Patti Swinford, Linda Zinn, Douglas Taylor, Marci Baumann, Julie Jacoby, Duff Knudsen, Samuel Andrews, Michele Bafford, Jaxon Flower, Kim York, Matt Moma, Julina Lindsey, Stephani Bellinger, Adam Glause, Melissa Miller

September 14th Golf Outing!

Help raise money for Central's pre-school. Here's what you can expect:

- **Moweauqua Golf Course** (shotgun start at 1:30 p.m.)
- **Food!** (barbecue-style sandwiches)
- **Prizes** for the top two foursomes (everyone will get something)

Here are the opportunities to support:

1) Play!!!

\$400 per foursome (sign up here – or pick up registration form at church)

Our goal is a minimum of 18 teams (but we can take up to 25-30)

2) Sponsor a hole!!

\$150 for a business

\$100 for an individual / family

We will contact you about submitting the wording for the hole-sponsor sign.

Good Sam Volunteering

Central Christian Church has Good Samaritan Inn volunteering coming up May 11th.

Workers are needed 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. to prepare the meal and 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. to serve lunch. We will need 6 people for prep and 8 people to serve.

If you would consider helping, with Dave Wagner, (217) 433-2367. New volunteers are always welcome!

Preschool Donations

The preschool is looking for donations for an end of the year party! They need the following:

100 hotdogs, 100 buns, 100 cookies, 100 individual bags of chips, 100 plates and cups, apple slices, carrots, ranch dip and lemonade.

They need the items by May 20th. Please reach out to Melissa Miller with any questions.

Counting On You

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Total worshipping online = 94
Total worshipping in-person = 250

Counting On You

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Total worshipping online = 138
Total worshipping in-person = 244

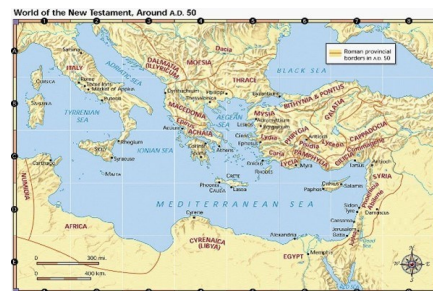
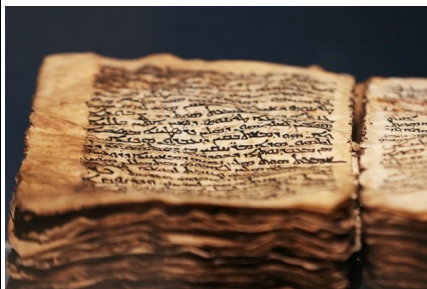
Minister's Article

Educational Opportunity – Overview of the New Testament

For six (6) weeks from the end of May through the end of June, I will offer a class entitled, Overview of the New Testament. The class will meet on **Thursdays from 5:00 – 6:15 p.m.** and will run from **May 23 through June 27**. All are welcome! We will look at such things as:

- *The political and economic world in which Jesus' ministry took place*
- *What the religious world was like in which Paul spread his message.*
- *How each of the 4 Gospels represents a distinct point of view*
- *And so much more!*

This will not be a "bible study" class in the traditional sense that we take a deep-dive into passage after passage. Rather, we will highlight and read many different scriptures throughout the New Testament as examples of the subject matter we'll be learning. This class is designed to help give background and context to the scriptures we cover during worship on Sunday mornings. Sign up at the Welcome Center at the church or by emailing us (central@cccdisciples.org).



Blessings – Michael

Did You Know...

Did You Know... that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has always promoted a spirit of cooperation with other Christians?

Undoubtedly the most important moment in our church's history – and one that even stands out as an integral one in the history of the United States – occurred in early August 1801. At that time, Barton Stone was serving as pastor of three very small, rural Presbyterian congregations in Kentucky. At that time, Presbyterians would celebrate communion four times per year. One of those times was in the summer – after the planting was done and before the fall harvest. Beginning in the late 1700s, Presbyterian congregations in Kentucky would gather together for the summer communion celebration. Several congregations would agree to meet at a particular church for worship and the sharing of the Lord's Supper together.

By 1801 this had turned into a multi-day affair. People would gather on Thursday, when they would set up their wagons and tents for the weekend. On Thursday and Friday there would be preaching (on the importance of the Christian faith and the ritual of communion). On Saturday everyone would sign their name to the Westminster Confession, which confirmed that one believed in the teachings of the Presbyterian church and was required in order to receive communion the next day. Finally, on Sunday, *(continued on page 3...)*

they would worship together and partake of communion. All this happened outside – as no congregational meeting house could hold that many people. But the people would sit in orderly make-shift rows and then come up in groups to partake of the bread and cup.

In August 1801, Barton Stone's congregation in Cane Ridge, KY was chosen as the site of the summer communion weekend. But something extraordinary happened. Estimates claim that as many as 30,000 people showed up and not all were Presbyterians. Methodist, Baptists, Lutherans and Episcopalians were also there. For two days different preachers from all denominations would take turns standing on tree stumps and preaching to the crowds, many at the same time (the crowds were so big). Stone claimed that the Holy Spirit rained over all the crowd, as people were "falling out" and testifying everywhere – often taking their place on a tree stump offering a witness to their faith moments after they had been convicted. For three days this happened and on Sunday, when it was time for communion to be served, Stone felt it irresponsible that only the Presbyterians receive the bread and cup. If the Holy Spirit of God could fall on all those who had gathered, Stone reasoned, how could he - a simple, human pastor – prevent them from receiving the bread and cup of salvation? Stone figured he could not do this, and made sure all were served that day.

That event would become the beginnings of what is known as the Second Great Awakening in the United States. Shortly thereafter, Stone (and others) would leave the Presbyterian Church to begin what would become the Christian-Disciples movement. And to this day, we (in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)), consider ourselves to be "Christians only, but not the only Christians." We believe that what unites us is far more important than what divides us. In any community where there is a Disciples of Christ congregation, chances are it readily works together with other churches to promote camaraderie among Christians and participates fully in local ministerial alliances and mission projects.

Have you registered for VBS Yet?

We hope you will register your children and grandchildren for our VBS – Hero Hotline, coming June 17-20.

Registration forms are available NOW and the deadline to register is May 20. There are paper forms available at church in the Friendship Center and in the Great Hall.

Both paper and electronic forms are accessible from our website, on the Youth Ministries page (under "Youth News and Events" section). You may also Text VBS2024 to 217-212-2173. Reach out to Pastor Vicky with any questions or to volunteer for VBS.

WE CELEBRATE OUR CHURCH STAFF!

All Central women are invited to help host Dorcas Disciples' annual Staff Appreciation Luncheon at 12 noon on Tuesday, May 14th in the Great Hall. Ladies will gather at 11:15 a.m. for a brief business meeting and then celebrate the dedicated service of our church and preschool staff with a yummy lunch at noon. Church staff will receive individual invitations. Please RSVP TODAY to Nancy Ellen Taylor at 217-872-9174 or xstr@sbcglobal.net to make sure we have enough delicious food. Hope to see you May 14th!



Sunday (12) Mother's Day & Do Good Donuts!

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online

Monday (13)

9:00-Good Sam Volunteering, Good Sam Inn
9:15-Prayer Group, Heritage Center
12:30-Woman's Book Club, Panera
1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
1:00-Golden K, Disciples Room
3:30-Décor Committee, Fireside Room

Tuesday (14)

7:00-Journeymen, Conn. Café
9:30-Christcare Stitches, 3R
11:15-Dorcus Meeting
12:00-Dorcus Staff Appreciation, Great Hall
5:30-Life Together Class, Disciples Room
5:30-Woman's Book Club, Panera

Wednesday (15)

1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
5:00-Church Council Meeting, Great Hall

Thursday (16)

8:00-Emmaus Reunion Group, 401
10:00-Alanon, 401
4:00-VBS Leadership Meeting, Conf. Room
7:00-Chancel Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday (17)

Saturday (18)

Sunday (19) Graduation Sunday!

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online
2:00-History of the Heartland Open House
4:00-Youth Cookout, Munos home

Monday (20)

9:15-Prayer Group, Heritage Center
1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room

Tuesday (21)

7:00-Journeymen, Connection Café
9:30-Christcare Stitches, 3R
9:30-Card Ministry, 411
10:15-Operations Committee Mtg., Conf. Rm.

Wednesday (22)

1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room

Thursday (23)

10:00-Alanon, 401
5:00-New Testament Class
7:00-Chancel Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday (24)

Saturday (25)

Sunday (26)

8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:15-Sunday School
9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online

Serving Schedule — Sunday, May 12, 2024

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Theresa Fulk, Susan Bryant
9:15 - Theresa Fulk

May Prep Deacons: Gretchen Kirby, Christine Lyman-Harm

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Troy Swinford, Gary Horvath
9:15 - Ron & Angie Ingram
10:30 - Kevin Wilmot, Christine Lyman-Harm

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 1 - Carolyn Sunderlik, Capt., Dianne Devore, Eileen Iverson
10:30 - Team 6 - Mark Kincaid, Donna Dash

Greeters:

8:00 - Debbie & Jim Hoffert
9:15 - Dave & Cheryl Zollinger
10:30 - Bob & Mary Jane Linton

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Donna Dash
10:30 - Keith Backes

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Janet Lyman
9:15 - Cheryl Zollinger

Nursery and Sunday School Schedule - Sunday, May 12, 2024

Nursery: Megan Schippert, Bella Karunas, Jolie Witts, Abigail Smith

Children's Sunday School: Stephani Bellinger, Julie Martin,
Christine Lyman-Harm, Ellen Damery



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(Disciples of Christ)**
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www.facebook.com/CCCDecatur

Serving Schedule — Sunday, May 19, 2024

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Karen Wade, Lea West
9:15 - Karen Wade

May Communion Outreach: Linda Rowden, Janet Lyman, Lea West,
Theresa Fulk, Angie Ingram, Tom Spry

May Prep Deacons: Gretchen Kirby, Christine Lyman-Harm

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Christine Lyman-Harm, Jim Fitzpatrick
9:15 - Ryan & Ellen Damery
10:30 - Rick Postlewait, Kent West

Ushers:

8:00 - Team 5 - Mike Munos, Capt., Gerri Munos, Brad Munos,
Brittney Moran, Blair Moran, Bobby Munos, Julia Munos
10:30 - Team 7 - George Virgil, Capt., Linda Virgil, Hugh & Linda Rowden

Greeters:

8:00 - Julie & Ken Jacoby
9:15 - Ryan & Ellen Damery
10:30 - Jeannie & Keith Backes

P.A. Operator:

8:00 - Krista Rohrscheib
10:30 - Mike Kirby

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Andy Fulk
9:15 - Greg Barnes

"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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