

The Central Visitor



Vol. XCVI

Decatur, Illinois, July 31, 2024

No. 15

August 18 is Bless the Backpacks Sunday



As a new school year begins soon, we want to offer a blessing to everyone who is going to school – children of all ages, and teachers and all school staff.

On Sunday, August 18, you are invited to bring your backpack or school bag to worship (all 3 services) and we will have

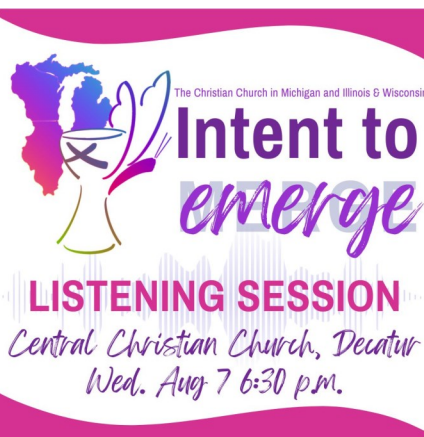
a small gift for you to attach to your backpack or bag, as a reminder that you are loved by your church family.

Important Roundtable Conversation on August 7

Since 1968, Central Christian Church has been part of the Illinois-Wisconsin Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). There is a proposal being discussed that would merge the Illinois-Wisconsin region with the Michigan region. The vote to merge our two regions is slated to take place at the biennial regional assembly in October 2024.

Prior to that, however, the regional staff of Illinois-Wisconsin (which has also been providing leadership assistance to the Michigan region for the past year) is hosting several Listening Sessions. The purpose of these sessions is to share more information about the nature and purpose of this merger, as well as solicit feedback from us.

All are welcome to the Listening Session held here at Central on Wednesday, August 7 at 6:30 p.m. No RSVP is necessary. Simply come if you can.



SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 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 8/4/2024

Text: John 1:35-41

"No Such Thing As A Dumb Question"
Michael Karunas



Happy Birthday!! (8/4 - 8/17)

John Baird, Susan Bryant, Sue Burkham,
Al Fagin, Dale Ford, Andy Fulk,
Mark McAfee, Ron Oliver, Darla Otis,
Jud Pease, Duane Potter Sr., Mary Lou
Stanley, Mickie Wilmot, Maria Jacobs,
Jane Osman, Mat Cox, Kellan Niles-Cox,
Carmen Dunn, Larry Wade, Josiah Agar,
Baron Wilcoxon, Kaycee Neumann,
August Patricio, Laura Chapman,
Mary Lynn Feltes

September 14th Golf Outing!

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

- **Moweaqua 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)

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.



Here are birthdays that would have been announced in our last newsletter.

Birthdays from 7/21-8/3

Susie Bean, Jan Dobbs,
Glen Featherstun, Thomas Harm,
June Moutray, Brittney Moran,
Connie Shields, George Virgil,
Dena Luthy, Brian Maple,
Ray McKeever, Matt Clark,
Zach Sargeant, Janet Downs,
Jane Watkins, Carol Ater

We hope you had (or will have) a fantastic day celebrating you!

Counting On You

Sunday, July 28, 2024

Total worshipping online = 73
Total worshipping in-person = 206

Counting On You

Sunday, July 21, 2024

Total worshipping online = 39
Total worshipping in-person = 207

Minister's Article

Red-Letter Days

When something important is coming up on the calendar, a commonly-used metaphor labels that a Red-Letter Day. Maybe it's an interview of some kind; or an important meeting with a co-worker, client or school administrator; or perhaps a task that would seem insignificant to many, but to you it means everything. With the upcoming football season getting closer each passing day, fans of all variety of teams know which games on their team schedule are red-letter ones; the games so important they could make or break the season. Red-letter days are the most influential ones in determining what kind of journey we will have.

In the bible, the **red-letter** words are the ones that Jesus spoke. That is, some versions of the bible have printed the words of Jesus in literal red letters. In the Gospel of John, many of them are spoken in the second person (whether singular or plural), as though Jesus is speaking them directly and personally to us. His **red-letter** words are not ones of criticism, shame and judgment, but ones of encouragement, support and grace; words only able to be spoken by a loving inner-parent whose purpose it is to help us accept the gift of God that we are to the world. But they are also words of challenge. They inspire us to imagine the Kingdom of God dwelling among us and to participate in the building of it. In this sense, the **red-letter** words are not just for us, but for the world through us.



For the month of August, we will explore some of Jesus' red-letter words and days we are calling Red-Letter Days. The information we cover on these August Sundays are meant to start us off on the right foot as we kick-off another academic and church-program year.

August 4	There's No Such Thing as a Dumb Question Memory Verses – John 1:38-39a	John 1:35-41
August 11	Enough is Enough Memory Verses – John 1:50-51	John 2:1-11
August 18	The Commandment of Greatness <i>(the Great Commandment from another perspective)</i> Memory Verses: John 10:11, 16	John 10:11-16
August 25	Oh Freedom! Memory Verses (John 12:24; 15:2b)	John 11, 12, 15 (selections)

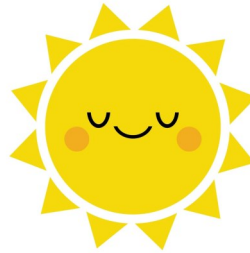


Women's Retreat

You are invited to join us for the Regional Women's Fall Retreat at Walter Scott Camp and Learning Center, September 28-29. Come and enjoy the fellowship of other women, receive inspiration from the stories of women in the Bible, engage your creativity and enjoy the beauty of nature. Watch for more information.

Sunshine School Supplies for Teachers

Thanks to everyone who donated to the Sunshine School Supplies for Teachers! We appreciate your generosity and support for local teachers and students.



Northeast Food Pantry Donations

Thank you Central for your generous donations to Northeast Community Fund Food Pantry this month. A special thank you to Vacation Bible School for the many food items that were collected during VBS week. Your contributions helped to boost our monthly weight to a total of 214 pounds of nonperishable food items. The items were delivered on July 8.

The next food collection for the pantry will be August 4. Here are some suggestions: peanut butter, canned chicken and tuna, pasta, canned tomatoes, cereal, canned fruits & vegetables, canned beans, dried noodles, broth, and soup. Please, be sure to check the expiration date and make sure your items have not been opened or partially used.

The shopping cart is in the Connection Café. Let's fill the cart on August 4th!



Sunday (4)

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

Monday (5)

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

Tuesday (6)

7:00-Journeymen, Conn. Café
9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R
9:30-Card Ministry, 411

Wednesday (7)

1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
1:30-Prayer Shawl, Connection Café
5:00-Christian Ed, Connection Café
5:00-Contemporary Worship, Fireside Room
6:00-Millikin Heights Meeting, 401
6:30-Listening Conference, Great Hall

Thursday (8)

10:00-Alanon, 401
12:00-Support Staff Meeting, Conf. Room
7:00-Chancel Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday (9)

Saturday (10)

Sunday (11) Do Good Donuts Sunday!

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

Monday (12)

9:00-Good Sam. Volunteering, Good Sam. Inn
9:15-Prayer Group, Heritage Center
12:30-Women's Book Club, Panera
1:00-Golden K, Disciples Room
1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
3:00-Elder Planning Meeting

Tuesday (13)

7:00-Journeymen, 401
9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R
4:30-Women's Book Club, Panera

Wednesday (14)

1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
4:00-Dorcas Meeting, Connection Café
5:00-Elders, Great Hall

Thursday (15)

8:00-Emmaus Reunion Group
10:00-Alanon
7:00-Chancel Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday (16)

Saturday (17)

Sunday (18)

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

Serving Schedule — Sunday, August 4, 2024

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Janet Lyman, Tom Spry
9:15 - Janet Lyman

Aug. Prep Deacons: Nancy Hanover, Jud & Jean Pease

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Jim Fitzpatrick, Bobby Munos
9:15 - Louis & Laura Kappler
10:30 - Rick Postlewait

Ushers:

8:00 -Team 3 - David King, Capt., Nancy King
10:30 - Team 8 - Tom & Diana Ritter, David Sheffer

Greeters:

8:00 - Eileen Iverson, Karen Penn
9:15 - Louis & Laura Kappler
10:30 - Jan Dobbs, Suzie Miller

P.A. Operator:

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

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Keith Backes
9:15 - Theresa Fulk

Serving Schedule — Sunday, August 11, 2024

Elders:

8:00 & 10:30 - Krista Rohrscheib, Theresa Fulk
9:15 - Krista Rohrscheib

Aug. Prep Deacons: Nancy Hanover, Jud & Jean Pease

Offering Deacons:

8:00 - Christine Lyman-Harm, Gene Garver
9:15 - Rod & Laurie Damery
10:30 - Marty Heick, Dave Phillips

Ushers:

8:00 -Team 4 - Hazel Perry, Capt., Karen Penn, Charlotte Ballance
10:30 - Team 9 - Kim Miller, Capt., Suzie Miller, Audrey Miller

Greeters:

8:00 - Charlotte Ballance, Donna Dash
9:15 - Dave & Cheryl Zollinger
10:30 - Dale & Judy Ford

P.A. Operator:

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

Liturgist:

8:00 & 10:30 - Gretchen Kirby
9:15 - Marci Baumann

Nursery and Sunday School Schedule

Sunday, August 4

Nursery: Bella Karunas, Abigail Smith, Jolie Witts

Children's Sunday School: Stephani Bellinger, Gretchen Kirby,
David Martin, Julie Martin

Sunday, August 11

Nursery: Rachel Miller, Abigail Smith

Children's Sunday School: Stephani Bellinger, Christine Lyman-Harm,
Julie Martin, Deb Trei



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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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