

# The Central Visitor



Vol. XCVI

Decatur, Illinois, August 28, 2024

No. 17

## September 14th Golf Outing

Help us raise money for Central's preschool!

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 (you can pick up a form from the church, text GOLF to 217-212-2173, or sign up online [here](#))

### 2) Sponsor a hole!!

- \$150 for a business
- \$100 for an individual / family
- Contact the church office at [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org) (or call) for info
- We will contact you about submitting the wording/logo for the sign

### 3) Share!

- Tell your golfer friends/family
- Share the Facebook event on the church's Facebook page



## Exploring Avenues for Our Prayer Lives

Are you interested in freshening your prayer life? We all know there is not a "one size fits all" formula to experiencing a strong prayer life.

Melinda plans to share three avenues of prayer in three sessions. You may attend one or two or all three. Session one is on breath prayer. Session two is on prayer walking. Session three is on letter writing prayers. Each session will have a short information time followed by any questions /answers. Then we will practice and experience the type of prayer that is our focus. We will close with reflection remarks about the prayer experience.

We will meet Tuesday, 9/3, and then 2 Mondays - 9/9 & 9/16 in the Disciples Room from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. (Note that Labor Day is 9/2, so that is why the first meeting is on Tuesday.) No book purchase is required.

Please sign up in the friendship center or downstairs. If you only plan to attend a certain session, kindly place 1, 2, or 3 after your name. I will need to bring some supplies for the third session. If you have questions, feel free to email me at [melinda.mcdonald@cccdisciples.org](mailto:melinda.mcdonald@cccdisciples.org). Hope to see you soon!

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

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

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

## Scripture and Sermon for 9/1/2024

Text: Luke 1: 46-55  
**Melinda McDonald**



## Happy Birthday!! (9/1 - 9/14)

Marty Heick, David Miller,  
Donna Rutherford, Doug Soebbing,  
Matthew Swarthout, John Wagner,  
Julie Martin, Avery Martin,  
Dan Brintlinger, Lea West,  
Kelly Hildum, Jim Ferree,  
Andrea Shartzer, Don Boyd,  
Chris Monroe, Anderson Fultz,  
Linda Rowden, Peggy Carpunky,  
Lilliann Goodman, Rachel Miller

## Minister's Article



To all my church family who have been praying for my healing from surgery,

To the Card Ministry Club for the lovely card,

To Pastor Michael and all who checked on me,

And to Kathleen Dudley, who brought me a pocket prayer shawl when she visited me,

I thank you and ask God to bless you abundantly.

Jean Maggioncalda



A church member is looking to purchase a used car. If anyone has any leads, please feel free to let the church office know.



The women's book club meets the second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm at Panera. The September 10 book is *Take What you Need* by Indra Novey. We have a very relaxed discussion on the book as well as fellowship with each other. All are welcome to join us.

### Counting On You

**Sunday, August 25, 2024**

Total worshipping online = 149  
Total worshipping in-person = 247

### Counting On You

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**

Total worshipping online = 110  
Total worshipping in-person = 286

### **Prayer Survey**

During the month of September, our focus in worship will be Prayer. To help us prepare, we are asking everyone to fill out this short survey on prayer. Thank you for being willing to do so. Leave your responses with Kathleen Dudley in the church office.

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What is prayer? What is your definition of prayer?

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To whom am I more like to turn when I pray? (circle one)

God

Jesus

Holy Spirit

What name, or word, am I most likely to use when I pray to God?

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When do I pray? And how often do I pray?

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What do I tend to pray for?

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What does it look like when I pray? When I am praying, what am I doing?

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What am I likely to do, if I pray and nothing happens?

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What am I likely to do if I don't get what I pray for?

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Have you ever experienced God answering your prayer, but it wasn't in a way you had anticipated or expected? If so, would you care to share it?

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Have you experienced seasons or times in your life when it was hard to pray? Or when you could not pray at all? If so, would you care to share it?

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(continued on page 3...)

Have you experienced seasons or times in your life when it was easy to pray; when praying came naturally and easily? If so, would you care to share it?

Name (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Blessings – Michael

### Children and Youth Sunday School News

We will kick off a new Sunday School year on September 8, with some children moving into new classes. We will also be introducing new curriculum in each class. Families, please let Pastor Vicky know if you didn't receive the email (sent on Tuesday, August 27) with Sunday School info. Please note: there is NO Sunday School on September 1 (Labor Day weekend).



### Elderberries Program & Meal—September 11th Edition



Mark your calendars and get ready to enjoy a special 9/11 themed Elderberries program on Wednesday, September 11th, at 11:30 AM.

We will start in the Sanctuary, where Jane Cussins is going to play some beautiful patriotic pieces on the piano for us. Then, we will move downstairs to the Great Hall for our meal and some great fellowship time. After the meal, Pastor Michael will

come and share some pictures and thoughts about his recent visit to the 9/11 Memorial in New York city.

Menu: Italian pasta casserole with meatballs, tossed salad, Olive Garden breadsticks, and pineapple upside-down cake. Please make sure you **RSVP by Friday, September 6th**, so that we make sure we purchase enough food. This is a free meal, but free will offerings are always accepted gratefully.

### Northeast Food Pantry Donations

As the calendar turns to September, many children have returned to school. School supplies and other necessities for a successful school year have been purchased. With these extra expenses, some families in our community may be experiencing food insecurity and looking to food pantries for help.

The next food collection for Northeast Community Fund Food Pantry will be September 1, 2024.

Thank you Central for your generous donations last month that totaled 174 pounds of nonperishable food items. Here are some suggestions for September: peanut butter, canned chicken and tuna, pasta, canned tomato sauce, cereal, canned fruits, canned beans, dried noodles, broth, boxed mashed potatoes, 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.

### **Sunday (Sept. 1)**

#### **NO Youth Sunday School today**

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

### **Monday (2) - LABOR DAY**

**Church & Office Closed**

### **Tuesday (3)**

- 7:00-Journeymen, Conn. Café
- 9:30-Christcare Stitchers, 3R
- 9:30-Card Ministry, 411
- 5:30-Prayer Exploration w/ Rev. Melinda, DR
- 6:00-PEO IF, Fireside Room

### **Wednesday (4)**

- 1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
- 1:30-Prayer Shawl Ministry, Connection Café
- 5:00-Christian Ed, Connection Café
- 5:00-Contemporary Worship meeting, Fireside
- 6:00-Millikin Heights, 401

### **Thursday (5)**

- 10:00-Alanon, 401
- 3:00-Decatur Needle Arts, Disciples Room
- 7:00-Chancel Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

### **Friday (6)**

### **Saturday (7)**

### **Sunday (8)**

#### **Do Good Donut Sunday**

#### **6th-12th Sunday School resumes**

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

### **Monday (9)**

- 9:00-Good Sam volunteering
- 9:15-Prayer Group, Heritage Center
- 1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
- 1:00-Golden K, Disciples Room
- 3:00-Elder planning meeting
- 5:00-Preschool Board, Connection Café
- 5:30-Prayer Exploration w/ Rev. Melinda, DR

### **Tuesday (10)**

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

### **Wednesday (11)**

- 11:30-Elderberries Program & Meal
- 1:00-DOVE Children's Clothing Room
- 5:00-Elders

### **Thursday (12)**

- 10:00-Alanon
- 11:30-Visitation Group meeting, C. Café
- 12:00-Support Staff meeting
- 6:00-Concert Series committee
- 7:00-Chancel Choir rehearsal, Choir Room

### **Friday (13)**

### **Saturday (14)**

- 1:30-Preschool Golf Outing fundraiser, Moweaqua Golf Course

### **Sunday (15)**

#### **NO Youth Sunday School today**

- 8:00-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- 9:15-Sunday School
- 9:15-Contemporary Worship, GH & online
- 10:30-Traditional Worship, Sanctuary & online
- 4:00-Youth Group

**Serving Schedule — Sunday, September 1, 2024**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Charlotte Ballance, Susan Bryant  
9:15 - Charlotte Ballance

**Sept. Prep Deacons:** Carol Bischoff, Susan Bryant, Carolyn Sunderlik

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Jane Davis, Julia Munos  
9:15 - Ellen & Ryan Damery  
10:30 - Dale Ford, David Martin

**Ushers:**

8:00 - Team 2 - Bruce Campbell, Capt., Liz Campbell  
10:30 - Team 7 - George Virgil, Capt., Linda Virgil, Hugh & Linda Rowden

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Al & Chris Fagin  
9:15 - Ellen & Ryan Damery  
10:30 - Brett Swallow

**P.A. Operator:**

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

**Liturgist:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Tom Ritter  
9:15 - Pastor Michael

**Contemporary Snacks:** Ellen & Ryan Damery

**Nursery and Sunday School Schedule**

**Sunday, September 1**

**Nursery:** Rachel Miller, Lucy Rauch, Abigail Smith

**Children's Sunday School:** NO YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS WEEK

**Sunday, September 8**

**Nursery:** Lucy Rauch, Abigail Smith

**Children's Sunday School:** TBA



**Central Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)**

650 West William Street  
Decatur, Illinois 62522

Telephone (217)428-4336

FAX (217)428-1700

[www.cccdisciples.org](http://www.cccdisciples.org)

e-mail: [central@cccdisciples.org](mailto:central@cccdisciples.org)

[www.facebook.com/CCCDecatur](https://www.facebook.com/CCCDecatur)

**Serving Schedule — Sunday, September 8, 2024**

**Elders:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Linda Rowden, Tom Spry  
9:15 - Tom Spry

**Sept. Prep Deacons:** Carol Bischoff, Susan Bryant, Carolyn Sunderlik

**Offering Deacons:**

8:00 - Debbie Hoffert, Mike Munos  
9:15 - Angie & Ron Ingram  
10:30 - Mike Kirby, Ron Oliver

**Ushers:**

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

**Greeters:**

8:00 - Julie & Ken Jacoby  
9:15 - Angie & Ron Ingram  
10:30 - Dick & Sue Ann Cain

**P.A. Operator:**

8:00 - Bobby Munos  
10:30 - Luke Kirby

**Liturgist:**

8:00 & 10:30 - Shirley Swarthout  
9:15 - Greg Barnes

**Contemporary Snacks:** Angie & Ron Ingram

**“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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