

# Messenger

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VOLUME LVII - Weekly Publication

February 2, 2009

**Morning Watch**  
*Sundays 9:00 am*

**Christian Education**  
*Sundays 9:15 am*

**Traditional Service**  
*Sundays 10:30 am*

**Fellowship Hour**  
*Sundays 11:30 am*

## Staff

**David P. Turner**  
*Senior Minister*

**Renita Lewis Whitaker**  
*Office Manager*

**Anthony Shackelford**  
*Custodian*

**Sue Taylor**  
*Music Director*

**Dan Oliver**  
*Bell Choir Director &  
Director of Audio/Visual*

**Lois Sutherland**  
*Organist*

**Jenny Garner**  
*Nursery Care Provider*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP PROGRAM

On Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be starting a program especially for our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Led by Susan Aebker, this 4-6 week program will introduce our kids to the various components of the Traditional Worship Service. Each week, the kids will sit through more of the service, and then leave to talk with Susan about the parts they've seen. They will learn about the importance of the various components of the service and how it all fits together to help us all grow in our relationship with God. For those students planning to go through Pastor's Class before Easter, this will be a great lead-in to that class! If you have any questions about this program, please contact Susan Aebker or Melissa Moody.

## LENTEN BOOK STUDY: *Unbinding the Gospel*

On Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., Rev. David Turner will lead a study of the book *Unbinding the Gospel*, by Martha Grace Reese. Each class will last approximately 1 hour. This is the book that has made an amazing impact on many churches in the short time it has been in print – including our own. Our Elders have studied it and one Sunday School class is just finishing it up. For those who haven't had an opportunity to read and discuss *Unbinding the Gospel* (and for those who have but need a refresher), this is your chance. The new 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition also includes a 40-day prayer journal – perfect for our 40 day journey through Lent. Our last night will be April 8<sup>th</sup>, the Wednesday of Holy Week. Babysitting will be provided. See Rev. Turner if you have any questions – and put those Wednesday nights on your calendar right now!

## ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES



Since the Middle Ages, Christians in the Western Church have observed Ash Wednesday (the seventh Wednesday before Easter) as the first day of Lent. On this day worshipers receive ashes on the forehead as a reminder of their sorrow for their sins. On Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the beginning of the Lenten season with two identical services at noon and 6:00 p.m. Join us as we focus on our most basic need as sinners - forgiveness.

## CYF STATE RETREAT

The week-end of March 13 – 15, 2009 is the biennial CYF State Retreat. The Retreat will be held at Hiram College. Our own Hannah Bentley is currently serving as a State CYF officer. Central's CYF members are reminded to have their registration forms including the section requiring a parent's review and signature and your \$60 fee (Check made payable to Central Christian) turned in to Mary Lou Pence by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Everyone's forms will be compiled as we need to send all of Central's registration forms and fees to the State office at one time. Forms were distributed at a CYF meeting or you can download another one from the Christian Church in Ohio website. Questions - call Mary Lou Pence (434-8157). Once we have a firm headcount, arrangements for transportation will be scheduled.



## Serving In February

**Deacon Captain:** Mark Sigman

**Deacons Serving:** Scot Burnett, John Willman, Andrew Green, Ann O'Diam, Karen Smith, Tammy Turner, Andree Flynn, Laura Seaman, Brad Kassner and Bill Wollenhaupt.

**Deacon Prep/Clean Up:** Karen Smith and Andree Flynn

**Acolyte:** Lorraine Manda

**Elders for Communion**

**Feb 8<sup>th</sup>** Merle Kidd and Terry Sigman

**Feb 15<sup>th</sup>** Charles Bentley, Sr., and Chuck Bentley, Jr.

**Lay Leaders**

**Feb 8<sup>th</sup>** Rob Wheeler

**Feb 15<sup>th</sup>** Tim Green

**Fellowship Hour**

**Feb 8<sup>th</sup>** Lydia Group

**Feb 15<sup>th</sup>** World Outreach/Social Concerns

## Wall Calendar

The wall calendar located outside of the church office lists the scheduled activities of the church ministries. To get your activity listed on the wall calendar, please contact the church office.

## The Week Ahead

<b>Sunday, Feb 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	Morning Watch
	<b>9:15 am</b>	Christian Education Crusaders Class Max Lucado Class Unbinding the Gospel Class
	<b>10:30 am</b>	Traditional Service Godly Play
	<b>11:30 am</b>	Fellowship Hour
	<b>11:40 am</b>	Bethany Choristers
<b>Monday, Feb 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	Faith Finders/Seekers
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	Chi Rho and CYF
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Quilters Lift Touch Portraits
	<b>12:30 pm</b>	Senior Fitness Class
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	Outreach Ministry
<b>Tuesday, Feb 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	Executive Board Meeting
<b>Wednesday, Feb 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:30 pm</b>	Senior Fitness Class
	<b>1:30 pm</b>	Joanna Group
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	Kettering Toastmasters
<b>Thursday, Feb 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	Laudate Ringers
	<b>7:30 pm</b>	Chancel Choir
<b>Saturday, Feb 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	Scrapbook Ministry

## Executive Board

The Executive Board is scheduled to meet next Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Lyon at 429-4672.

## Joanna Group

The Joanna Group will meet on Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m., in the Meeting Room. Read: Luke 1:1-80. Bring paper goods for Mercy Manor and a can food for our food pantry.

## Food Pantry

Last week we were able to feed **3** families thanks to you. Let's continue to feed the hungry in our community by donating. Food Pantry Hours: Every Monday and Wednesday from 1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

## Members & Friends

<b>Hospitalized</b>	- Merle Ryan (Kettering) Jim McNulty (Upper Valley-Troy) David Lyon (Home)
<b>Hospice Care</b>	- Bob Ball (Home) Pat Farnsley (Home)
<b>Home Care</b>	- Ruby Kreider Kathy Anderson Thelma Harman Robert and Frances Mayes Earline Grice Regina Kempton Norma Kirkland Marian Herron Bob and Jean Thompson Doyle Ware Lillian White
<b>Autumn Health Care</b>	- June Tate
<b>Harborside Healthcare</b>	- Jim and Eleanor McNulty
<b>Liberty Retirement Home</b>	- Ed Bausman
<b>Lincoln Park</b>	- William Warren
<b>Summersville</b>	- Marjorie Barkalow Eugene Griffith
<b>Spring Creek</b>	- JoAnn Reichbauer
<b>Sycamore Glen</b>	- Anne Walters
<b>Trinity</b>	- Garnia Moses
<b>Waterford Retirement</b>	- Mary Rothenbuhler

**Our Sympathy and Prayers** are with the family of William Terry Clifford (*father of Rusty Clifford*) who passed away on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Arrangements are pending at the time of this publication.

## Sanctuary Flowers

The Sanctuary Flowers on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup> were given by Rex and Carol Strine in celebration of their 56<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

## Pray for...

*Bob Ball  
Peggy Bradshaw  
Izzy Roberts  
Jim McNulty  
Rex Strine  
Virginia Perkins  
New jobs  
Peace in the world  
Peace in Middle East*

## Worshiping at Central

Sunday, February 1, 2009

<b>Christian Education</b>	19
<b>Nursery/Godly Play</b>	19
<b>Morning Watch</b>	18
<b>Traditional Service</b>	<u>127</u>
<b>Total Worship Attendance</b>	<b>164</b>

## Thank You!

Thanks to all who visited me in the hospital, prayed for me, wished me well or brought food for the occasion of my pacemaker replacement.

**Thanks again,  
Jud Parkhurst**

The CYF sends a BIG thank you to the family of Sarah Wilhiot who hosted the annual Super Bowl party. The food and fellowship were terrific. Many thanks to Steve, Karen, Sarah, Rachel, and Becca.

**Mary Lou Pence**



## Pastor's Class

Pastor's Class will begin on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> and through Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday). It is for youth in grades 5 – 8 and others that might like to participate. We will meet in the pastor's office each Sunday from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., and will cover a wide variety of topics including baptism, communion, and what it means to be both a disciple and Disciple of Christ. Baptisms will take place on Easter morning. To sign up, please contact David Turner or the church office. **Mark your calendar:** The Pastor's Class Heritage Trip to Indianapolis, IN is May 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. More details in upcoming Messengers.

## Meeting with Church Extension

Rev. Dr Bill Bass and Rev Gilberto Collazo from the Board of Church Extension visited Central Christian on Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Rev Collazo delivered the message at worship and then Dr. Bass and he met with two committees simultaneously for an information session. The Financial Management Committee met to hear some facts and procedures regarding a loan for a new roof for our Sanctuary and Chapel. The Sanctuary Study Committee, appointed by the Executive Board at its January meeting, met to hear suggestions and have discussions on how to consider our basic mission and opportunities for improvement in our facility to support our mission. One of the major emphasis was the focus on what the mission of our congregation is, and how we can meet it.

## St. Vincent Needs Our Help

World Outreach is collecting items to take to St. Vincent. We will be delivering them in early February. Right now they are in need of:

Men and woman XXL coats	Infant coats
Twin bedding	Pillows
Blankets	Towels

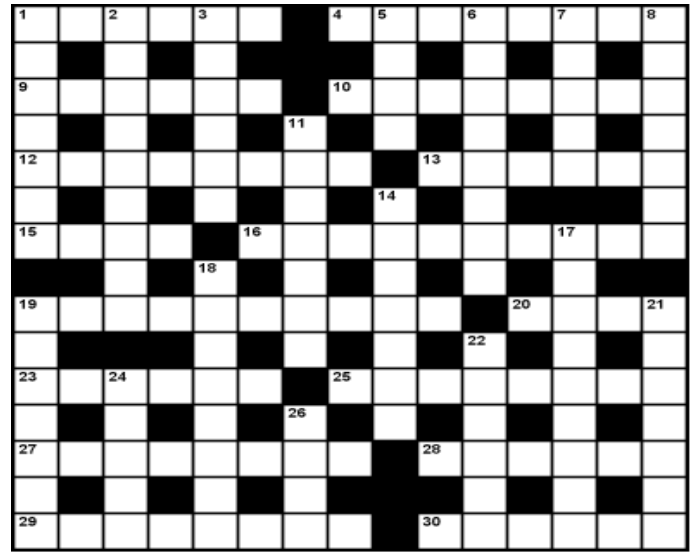
If you have any questions, please contact Beth Bentley at [mbzbentley@yahoo.com](mailto:mbzbentley@yahoo.com). Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

## What Is Lent?

It is forty days of stripping down to the living essentials;  
It is forty days of facing truth about one's self-indulgent evasions;  
It is forty days of fellowshiping with Christ in the desert;  
It is forty days of rejoicing in God's mercy and forgiveness.



## Biblical Crossword Puzzle



### Across

- 1 Express sorrow (6)
- 4 Anticipated (8)
- 9 God with judge people with this (6)
- 10 Sore ants (anag); In the White House? (8)
- 12 Kept confined (8)
- 13 Times Peter denied Christ (6)
- 15 Noah became this by faith (4)
- 16 Last book of the Bible (10)
- 19 God's angels (10)
- 20 Mix up (4)
- 23 Thin length of material (6)
- 25 It never comes (8)
- 27 Soothed (8)
- 28 Money lender (6)
- 29 Counted (8)
- 30 Rigid sheets of metal (6)

### Down

- 1 A dimension of God's love (7)
- 2 Himalayas, for example (9)
- 3 Gain, reach or arrive at (6)
- 5 Sesame worked! (4)
- 6 A faithful minister of Christ (8)
- 7 Mother in law of Ruth (5)
- 8 Sun sets in this sky (7)
- 11 Retaliation (7)
- 14 Scripture is profitable for this (7)
- 17 Magicians couldn't do this for Pharaoh's dreams (9)
- 18 Jerusalem - how her house is left (8)
- 19 Disease of cattle (7)
- 21 When Jesus comes these will be with Him (7)
- 22 Fragment of food (6)
- 24 Booms (anag) (5)
- 26 Not there! (4)

Contact church office for answers



## Thoughts for the Week

Fame and fortune ought to add up to more than just fame and fortune.

The deepest wisdom man can attain is to know his destiny is to aid and serve.

Daring your soul to go farther than it can see is faith.

## **The Last Word...**

by David P. Turner

It's been a little over two years since Tammy and I attended the second of two standing-room-only workshops by Martha Grace Reese on her book *Unbinding the Gospel*. Since then, our elders have studied the book, our Evangelism ministry is utilizing her ideas in its plans and an adult Sunday school class is currently reading and discussing the book. Needless to say, it is having an impact.

Our Evangelism ministry was planning to coordinate an all-church study of *Unbinding Your Heart* (the companion devotional/study guide to *Unbinding the Gospel*) during Lent. Then, this past September, Martha Grace Reese called me directly to ask if our church would like to join a group of churches that would be planning through the year (with her help and the help of a coach) to study *Unbinding Your Heart* in the fall. We agreed and the planning is already underway.




The group of churches in which we are a part include three Presbyterian Churches from Ohio and one other Disciple's congregation in California. I have had two conference calls – one with Martha Grace Reese and the other with our coach, Cathy Townley. They will help us and the other churches to work towards the maximum participation of our members in the fall. The churches with which they are currently working have 85% to 125% of their regular Sunday attendance participating in the E-vent (the "E" is for Evangelism). Our next step is to offer another chance to study the original book (*Unbinding the Gospel*) during the Lenten season to anyone that would like to learn

more – and to those who might help facilitate small group discussion during the E-vent in the fall. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of *Unbinding the Gospel* includes a 40 day prayer and devotional section.

On Wednesday evening, February 25<sup>th</sup>, we will begin a six week, 40 day study that will finish on Wednesday of Holy Week (April 8<sup>th</sup>). Not only will this study help us to be better prepared for launching our congregation-wide E-vent in the fall, but it is also a wonderful way to pray, study and prepare for Easter.

God is already working in our church in powerful ways. Once we made our goals less about institutional survival and more about sharing the Gospel in real and meaningful ways, the very things that cause anxiety in any church began to turn around. Attendance, new members and offerings have all increased. However, we understand this is the result of seeking to be the church Christ has called us to be. As Jesus said, "Seek ye FIRST the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33)

What can YOU do to "seek first the Kingdom"? You can pray daily for your church and its leaders. You can plan to participate in our Lenten study of *Unbinding the Gospel*. And, when fall begins to draw near, you can offer your prayers, support and help as we undertake not just an E-vent, but a transforming and revitalizing church-wide sabbatical – seeking first the things of the kingdom. It is going to be an amazing year.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
<h1>HEBRUARY</h1>						<table border="1"> <tr><td colspan="7">March 2009</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	March 2009							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
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<b>1</b> 5:30 pm CYF Super Bowl Party  5:30 pm Chi Rho Super Bowl Party	<b>2</b> 9:00 am Quilters Life Touch Portraits  12:30 pm Senior Fitness Program	<b>3</b> 7:00 pm All Ministry Meetings Worship Ministry Naomi Group	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Life Touch Portraits  12:30 pm Senior Fitness  7:00 pm Inventors Council	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Life Touch Portraits 9:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 pm Laudate Ringers 7:00 pm Property Meeting 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	<b>6</b> 9:00 am Life Touch Portraits	<b>7</b> 2:00 pm Garner Gathering																																																	
<b>8</b> CYF District 8 Rally  1:30 pm Oakcreek Nursing Home  3:00 pm Walnut Creek Home	<b>9</b> 9:00 am Quilters Life Touch Portraits  12:30 pm Senior Fitness  6:30 pm Outreach Ministry	<b>10</b> 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting	<b>11</b> 12:30 pm Senior Fitness  1:30 pm Joanna Group  7:00 pm Kettering Toastmasters	<b>12</b> 9:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  6:30 pm Laudate Ringers  7:30 pm Chancel Choir	<b>13</b> 	<b>14</b> Happy Valentine's Day  9:30 am Scrapbook Ministry  1:00 Cheers																																																	
<b>15</b> <i>As you mind your earthly duties, keep heaven in mind.</i>	<b>16</b> 9:00 am Quilters  12:30 pm Senior Fitness Program	<b>17</b> 1:00 pm Lydia Group	<b>18</b> 12:30 pm Senior Fitness	<b>19</b> 9:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  6:30 pm Laudate Ringers  7:30 pm Chancel Choir	<b>20</b> <i>God gives enough grace for each trail we face.</i>	<b>21</b> <i>The Bible contains vitamins for the soul.</i>																																																	
<b>22</b> 	<b>23</b> 9:00 am Quilters  12:30 pm Senior Fitness Program  7:00 pm CWF Meeting	<b>24</b> 7:00 pm Elders Meeting	<b>25</b> 12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service 12:30 pm Senior Fitness 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm Unbinding the Gospel Kettering Toastmasters	<b>26</b> 9:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  6:30 pm Laudate Ringers  7:30 pm Chancel Choir	<b>27</b> <i>If you walk with God, you won't run with the world</i>	<b>28</b> 																																																	



### Sunday Activities

9:00 am	Morning Watch	10:30 am	Traditional Worship / Godly Play
9:15 am	Christian Education	11:30 am	Fellowship Hour
	Crusaders Class	11:40 am	Bethany Choristers
	Max Lucado Class	12:00 pm	Faith Finders/Seekers
	Unbinding the Gospel	6:30 pm	CYF and Chi Rho

