

# Messenger

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VOLUME LVI - Weekly Publication

September 29, 2008

**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*



Please join us this Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> for CYF's COOK OUT - in lieu of Fellowship Hour. We'll serve up hotdogs, hamburgers, and brownie sundaes. The cost is \$5 per person with children under 12 years old only \$2 each. So plan on staying for a fun-filled time of fellowship.

## CENTRAL'S 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FALL FUN FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars for a fun-filled evening as we celebrate the culmination of a wonderful summer together at Central's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fall Fun Festival. This year's event will be held on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:30. We will once again be serving dinner in the Fellowship Hall followed by fun fall activities for young and old. Inside there will be a door prize, BINGO with prizes, and crafts. Outside there will be a bonfire with marshmallows and s'mores, corn hole, a hayride, scarecrow building, pumpkin decorating, a crawl box pumpkin maze, a cookie walk, and sack races. Following is the planned schedule of events:

**4:30 – 6:00** Dinner Served

**5:00 – 7:00** Hayrides, Scarecrow Building, Corn Hole, and Crawl Box Pumpkin Maze

**5:00 – 8:00** Bonfire with Hot & Cold Beverages, S'mores, and Marshmallows

**5:30 – 6:30** Cookie Walk, Pumpkin Decorating, Sack Races, and Crafts

**5:30 – 7:30** BINGO with Prizes for adults and children!

Dinner options will include sloppy joes, hot dogs, chips, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, apple slices with caramel sauce, and for dessert - brownies and pies. Each family will be encouraged to think of one of the ways God has blessed them, write it on a fall leaf and place it on our tree of blessings in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner tickets can be purchased in advance: \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ages 3 to 12. There will be a \$15 maximum charged per immediate family. Tickets will be available for sale after both Morning Watch and Traditional Worship services on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> or can be purchased at the church office October 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>. Alternately, tickets will be sold at the door for \$6 for adults and \$4 for children age 3 to 12, with a \$20 maximum charged per immediate family. This event has been a favorite for those who have come out in previous years. Please invite friends and neighbors to join us for an evening of fun and fellowship for everyone. If you wish to sit comfortably around the fire pit, please bring lawn chairs to supplement the bales of straw that will be scattered around the fire. This event is sponsored by Christian Family Life and Christian Education Ministries. If you have questions please contact Sara Bond at 885-7989.



## Serving In October

**Deacon Captain:** Lisa French

**Deacons Serving:** Barbara King, Jim King, Tom Giles, Shirley Wilcox, Don Wilcox, Andrew Green, Joe Albrecht and David French.

**Deacon Prep/Clean Up:** Lourdes Giles and Laura Nolan

**Elders for Communion**

**Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** Doug and Mary Lou Pence

**Oct 12<sup>th</sup>** David and Margaret Lyon

**Lay Leaders**

**Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** John Mohr

**Fellowship Hour**

**Oct 5<sup>th</sup>** CYF Cookout

**Oct 12<sup>th</sup>** Technology

## The Week Ahead

<b>Sunday, Oct 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	Morning Watch
	<b>9:15 am</b>	Christian Education Crusaders Class Max Lucado Class
	<b>10:30 am</b>	Traditional Service Godly Play
	<b>11:30 am</b>	CYF Cook Out
	<b>12:00 pm</b>	Faith Seek/Faith Finders
<b>Monday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>3:30 pm</b>	CYF Progressive Dinner
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	Chi Rho
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Quilters
<b>Tuesday, Oct 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:30 pm</b>	Senior Fitness Class
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	All Ministry's Meeting Worship Ministry Naomi Group
<b>Wednesday, Oct 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>1:30 pm</b>	Joanna Group
	<b>12:30 pm</b>	Senior Fitness Class
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	Experiencing God Deborah Group Kettering Toastmasters
<b>Thursday, Oct 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	<b>6:45 pm</b>	Laudate Ringers
	<b>7:30 pm</b>	Chancel Choir
<b>Saturday, Oct 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00 am</b>	Scrapbook Ministry

## Executive Board Members

As you know, we cancelled the September Executive Board meeting as a result of safety concerns associated with the lack of traffic/street lights and downed trees resulting from the storm. We are rescheduling the October meeting to Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00. That means that those who are responsible for October devotions will be giving the devotions that night; that is Christian Education: Children and Youth and Technology. If you are unable to attend, please find someone who is willing to step in for you for devotions. If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Lyon at 429-4672.

## Wall Calendar

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



## Members & Friends

<b>Hospice Care</b>	- Pat Farnsley Home
<b>Home Care</b>	- Ruby Kreider Thelma Harman Robert and Frances Mayes Earline Grice Norma Kirkland Marian Herron Caryl Rentz Mary Rothenbuhler Robert Clayton
<b>Autumn Health Care</b>	- June Tate
<b>Harborside Healthcare</b>	- Jim and Eleanor McNulty
<b>Heartland of Beavercreek-</b>	Beulah Stockdale
<b>Oaks of West Kettering</b>	- Virginia Moore
<b>Summersville</b>	- Margarie Barkalow Eugene Griffith
<b>Spring Creek</b>	- JoAnn Reichbauer
<b>Sycamore Glen</b>	- Ann Walters
<b>Trinity</b>	- Garnia Moses



**Sanctuary Flowers:** The sanctuary flowers on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> were given by Charles Bentley, Sr., in memory of parents, Charles and Margaret Bentley.

**Happy Birthday:** On Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, Merle Ryan will celebrate his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday.

**Rededication of Faith:** On Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, Jean Knee presented herself to the Lord in rededication of faith.

**New Member:** On Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, Doug Garybush reunited with Central Christian through transfer and rededication of faith.



## Memorial Fund

Godly Play

In Memory of Nella Lee Shellabarger

Anonymous

## Worshiping at Central

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Christian Education	26
Nursery/Godly Play	17
Morning Watch	23
Traditional Service	<u>129</u>
<b>Total Worship Attendance</b>	<b>169</b>

### Our Offering (Operating Fund)

Sunday, September 28 <sup>th</sup>	10,409.00
<b>2008 Offering to Date</b>	<b>213,110.00</b>
<b>2008 Expenses to Date</b>	<b>216,407.11</b>



## Visitors and New Members Brunch

The Membership/Evangelism committee served a brunch on September 21, 2008 to all the visitors and new members from the past year. Dan Oliver shared his personal faith testimony with our guests and Rev. Turner gave a brief history of the Disciples Church and closed with prayer. The brunch was a huge success. Thank you! **Joan Norman**

**Chair of Membership/Evangelism**

## New Adult Sunday School Class

Beginning Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, Larry Merkle will begin teaching a new Sunday school class. Larry recently moved to the Dayton area from Terra Haute, Indiana where he was an assistant professor of computer science and software engineering at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. Larry is a long time Disciple of Christ and has led or been a part of many book studies and Sunday school offerings. He brings a love for teaching that Central Christian is sure to enjoy. Larry will be facilitating an informal gathering that will meet in the fellowship hall for a study of the book, Unbinding the Gospel by Martha Grace Reese. This book is the study that the elders embarked on last year and is about evangelism and building relationships in the church community. This book is part of a three part series by Martha Grace Reese. Rev. David Turner will be using her second book, Unbinding Your Heart as a study during Lent. This is a great opportunity to prepare for this study. Child care is available during the Sunday school. Books will be available for the first class which will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays.



World Communion Sunday is October 5<sup>th</sup>. Christians around the world join together at the Lord's table to partake of the sacrament. Consider what an amazing table the Lord's table is! In a sense it stretches around the whole earth. Catholic Christians, Coptic Christians, Orthodox Christians, Reformed Christians, Lutheran Christians, Baptist Christians, Anglican Christians, Methodist Christians, Evangelical Christians, Christians who worship in churches bearing names we may never have heard of, will gather in their place of worship and do what Christ asked his friends to do: Remember him! 'This do,' he said, 'in remembrance of me.' Then he broke bread as a reminder of his sacrificed body and lifted up the cup holding the wine representing his blood. The sacrament is a vivid symbol of Christ's sacrifice and loving concern for each of us. How could we ever forget him? Remember, also, as we gather as Christ's family around that table of grace that we are brothers and sisters in Christ with Christians around the whole world. 'In Christ there is no east or west; In him no south or north; But one great fellowship of love, Throughout the whole wide earth.'



The Stewardship Campaign for support of Central Christian Church during 2009 is now underway. The official kickoff for this year's campaign was September 28<sup>th</sup>. All members and friends of the church will soon be receiving a letter with an *Estimate of Giving Card* enclosed. This year's continuing theme is "People with a Vision – Flourish" as we continue toward the vision and goals set forth by Central's Executive Board. The Stewardship Ministry and the Executive Board members are delighted with the response that has been shown with your financial support for accomplishing that vision. During the first eight months of 2008 we have seen an increase in membership as we promote *individual spirituality, church community involvement, and social justice*. The Stewardship Ministry fully understands these times of economic stress that have hit many of us in this geographic area. However, we also understand that God has promised to take care of us if we place His church and a love for others in the forefront of our financial planning. Remember God owes us nothing, but has given us everything! We pray for your continued generous support of the Central Christian program for 2009. Upon receipt of the above mentioned letter, we would appreciate your early return of the *Estimate of Giving Card* containing your financial commitment to Central Christian during the coming year.

**Terry Sigman**  
**Stewardship Chair**

## Count Your Blessings

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;  
Count your gains instead of your losses.

Count your joys instead of your woes;  
Count your friends instead of your foes.

Count your smiles instead of your tears;  
Count your courage instead of your fears.

Count your full years instead of your lean;  
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.

Count your health instead of your wealth;  
Count on God instead of yourself.



## Thoughts for the Week

*When all is said and done,  
did you say more or done more.*

*When in the dark follow the Son.*

**BIBLE:**

*Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth.*

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

by David P. Turner

A few years ago, a major study was done on the ethics and morals of the American people. Some 24,000 Americans participated. What researchers discovered was very interesting. For instance, their data showed that older participants tended to be slightly more ethical than their younger counterparts, but only slightly. Other things, such as income level, education, marital status and occupation all turned out to make no difference.

On the other hand, almost at the top of the list of things that determine a person's moral conduct was the level of their religious commitment. The survey suggested active church people do tend to be considerably more ethical than the average person – even when it comes to the little things in life.

It turns out that there was only one factor that ranked higher than religious faith as a predictor of ethical behavior. The article said, "Only the amount given to charity was a better predictor of how closely each person's behavior corresponded to his or her beliefs." In other words, a person's use of money and the willingness to give it generously are the best predictors of a person's ethical behavior in other situations. The more tightly people hold on to their money the less likely they are to make decent and honorable decisions in all of the other things in their daily life.





Now this finding was apparently very surprising to the researchers who did the survey. But it shouldn't be.

The Bible has been saying essentially the same thing all along. Where we put our treasure becomes that which we value the most. If we put our treasure into more selfish pursuits, then we soon come to think our wants and needs are more important than anything or anyone else.

However, if we put our treasure into the things of God – into the service of God's kingdom and into the well being of his church and his people – suddenly our affections turn in a different direction. Remember, Jesus didn't say, "your money will follow your heart" – which is what would seem like common sense, but rather, "your heart will follow your money." Invest your treasure in the work of God and your heart and soul and even your actions will be caught up in the holiness of God.

Our giving, at church and elsewhere, has far reaching effects – not only because of what it can accomplish for others and for God, but also for what it can do for us.

Central Christian Church has a vision of being a church whose primary goals are to help people connect with God in a life transforming relationship, connect with each other in a loving community of faith, and use our resources and gifts in reaching out to a broken world with love. If that is a vision you share, please consider how you will do your part in continuing to make it a reality in 2009. Your giving really does make a difference.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
 <h1 style="margin: 0;">OCTOBER</h1>																																																														
<p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;"><b>Sunday Activities</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">           9:00 am Morning Watch            9:15 am Christian Education            Crusaders Class            Max Lucado Class         </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;">           10:30 am Traditional Worship / Godly Play            11:30 am Fellowship Hour            12:00 pm Faith Seekers            6:30 pm Chi Rho &amp; CYF         </td> </tr> </table>			9:00 am Morning Watch 9:15 am Christian Education Crusaders Class Max Lucado Class	10:30 am Traditional Worship / Godly Play 11:30 am Fellowship Hour 12:00 pm Faith Seekers 6:30 pm Chi Rho & CYF	<b>1</b>  12:30 pm Senior Fitness  7:00 pm Inventors Council	<b>2</b> 9:00 am CWF Rummage Sale 9:30am Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30 pm Laudate Ringers 7:00 pm Human Resources Mtg 7:30 pm Chancel Choir	<b>3</b>  9:00 am CWF Rummage Sale	<b>4</b>  9:00 am CWF Rummage Sale																																																						
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