

Messenger

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VOLUME LVI - Weekly Publication

October 13, 2008

FALL FUN FESTIVAL

When: Saturday, October 18th
Where: Central Christian Church
1200 Forrer Blvd.
Kettering, Ohio 45420
Phone: 254-2649
Time: Begins at 4:30 p.m.
Cost: Advance - \$5 adults, \$3 children (3-12 years) \$15 max immediate family.
At door - \$6 adults, \$4 children, \$20 max immediate family.



Schedule of Events

4:30 - 6:00 Dinner Served
5:00 - 7:00 Hayrides, scarecrow building, cornhole, crawl box pumpkin maze
5:00 - 8:00 Bonfire w/hot & cold drinks, s'mores and toasted marshmallows
5:30 - 6:30 Cookie walk, pumpkin decorating, sack races and crafts
5:30 - 7:30 BINGO with prizes for adults and children
Menu: sloppy joes, hot dogs, chips, homemade macaroni and cheese, baked beans, apples with caramel sauce, pies and brownies

**Bring lawn chairs for more comfortable seating around the fire.
Don't miss out on this opportunity for family fun – Bring a Friend!**

CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY!!!

All children are invited to a Halloween Party on Sunday, October 26th. All children up through fifth grade are invited to attend this party hosted by Central's C.Y.F. The party will include games, food, stories and so much more! Please plan on wearing your Halloween costume and arriving at 3:45 PM. Parents and other members and friends are invited to watch the kick-off parade of costumes. The party activities will follow with children being served a hotdog dinner at about 5:30 PM. After dinner, the kids will Trick or Treat the halls of Central. Parents can pick up their kids at 6 PM. Questions - please call Mary Lou Pence (434-8157) or Lisa French (296-9245). We hope to see all of Central's children at this FUN event!



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

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 19th Steve and Pam Bowser

Oct 26th Lynn and Darlene Rogers

Lay Leaders

Oct 19 Doug Pence

Fellowship Hour

Oct 19th Christian Education (Youth)

Oct 26th Max Lucado Class

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.



The Week Ahead

Sunday, Oct 19th	9:00 am	Morning Watch
	9:15 am	Christian Education Crusaders Class Max Lucado Class Unbinding the Gospel Class
	10:30 am	Traditional Service Godly Play
	11:30 am	Fellowship Hour
	12:00 pm	Faith Seekers/Faith Finders
Monday, Oct 20th	6:30 pm	Chi Rho and CYF
	9:00 am	Quilters
	12:30 pm	Senior Fitness Class
Tuesday, Oct 21th	7:00 pm	Christian Ed. Meeting (Youth) Property Meeting
	1:30 pm	Lydia Group
	Wednesday, Oct 22nd	12:30 pm
Thursday, Oct 23rd	7:00 pm	Experiencing God Kettering Toastmasters
	9:30 am	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	6:45 pm	Laudate Ringers
Saturday, Oct 25th	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir
	1:30 am	Cheers

Food Pantry

Last week we were able to feed **6** families. Many thanks for your donations. Let's continue to feed the hungry in our community. Pantry Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Our Food Pantry is in need of the following items:**

Canned mix vegetables	Bread	Canned fruit
Hot Dogs	Rice	Bologna
Spaghetti	Canned meats	Peanut butter
Cereal	Jelly	Canned milk

Please place your donation on table located in Narthex.



Members & Friends

Home from Hospital	- Bettie Smith
Hospice Care	- Pat Farnsley Home
Home Care	- Ruby Kreider Thelma Harman Robert and Frances Mayes Earline Grice Norma Kirkland Marian Herron Caryl Rentz Mary Rothenbuhler
Arbors at Dayton	- Wanda Riggs
Autumn Health Care	- June Tate
Harborside Healthcare	- Jim and Eleanor McNulty
Oaks of West Kettering Summersville	- Virginia Moore Margarie Barkalow Eugene Griffith
Spring Creek	- JoAnn Reichbauer
Sycamore Glen	- Anne Walters
Trinity	- Garnia Moses

Sanctuary Flowers: The sanctuary flowers on Sunday, October 12th were given by Brenda Shoup in memory of parents, Bill and Shirley Martin.

Our Sympathy and Prayers are with the family of John Klopstein who passed away on Monday Oct 12th. Funeral service will be held on Friday, October 17th at 12:00 p.m. at Baker, Hazel and Snider Funeral Home, 5555 Philadelphia Drive with visitation beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Rummage Sale Update

A big THANKS to all those who donated items for the Rummage Sale! We made \$2,207.77 to go towards the Disciples Homeland Missions. We appreciate all the help from our church members who worked tirelessly to make the sale a success.

Jane Bernard, CWF President

Blanket Sunday

Donations are still being accepted for Blanket Sunday. You can place your donation in the offering plate or mailed to the church office. Your donation will make a world of difference in the lives of a family or community. Thank You!

Worshiping at Central

Sunday, October 12, 2008

Christian Education	25
Nursery/Godly Play	22
Morning Watch	21
Traditional Service	134
Total Worship Attendance	177

Our Offering (Operating Fund)

Sunday, October 12th	\$3,578.00
2008 Offering to Date	\$226,619.00
2008 Expenses to Date	\$225,380.00

Help needed, please!!!

The C.Y.F. needs a little help with their planned Children's Halloween Party. We need 3 or 4 extra helpers for the event. The youth will be wearing costumes so volunteer helpers are encouraged to also. Additionally each C.Y.F. youth is hosting a game or activity and we're making many of these things. Listed below is a short list of items we would greatly appreciate having donated. If you are able to volunteer or donate something, please respond to Mary Lou Pence by this Sunday, October 19th. The items needed include:

- ☺ 5 pieces each orange and white poster board.
- ☺ Halloween decorations – stuff we can borrow for the afternoon
- ☺ 15 to 20 empty 2 liter bottles with caps.
- ☺ 3 gallons of apple cider
- ☺ 4 dozen hotdog buns
- ☺ 1 bottle of catsup
- ☺ 10 cans of vanilla frosting
- ☺ 10 tubes of decorator frosting – assorted colors.
- ☺ 2 large bags of black and orange M & M's
- ☺ 2 bags of candy corn
- ☺ Halloween Trick or Treat candy – to be passed out.

New Book Study on Sundays Mornings



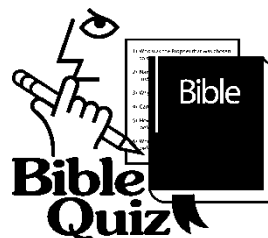
Beginning next Sunday, October 19th, Larry Merkle will begin teaching a new Sunday school class Martha Grace Reese's book Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism. Larry recently moved back to the Dayton area from Terra Haute, Indiana where he was an assistant professor at the Rose-Hulman Institute 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 writes this about the book: "When I unexpectedly got the book in the mail with instructions to read it before the Elders' Workshop at General Assembly and saw "the E-word" in the title, I thought "Oh, no." But I read it, loved it, loved Martha Grace Reese's workshop, and enthusiastically endorsed the minister's idea to use the book as a discussion topic among the elders of CCC in Terre Haute. The idea for this class had its genesis when I noticed that the elders of CCC in Kettering had done the same thing and *something* possessed (I mean led) me to mention the connection to David. Unbinding the Gospel talks about Martha Grace Reese's four-year research project on "the E-word" (evangelism) in which she studied over 1000 mainline congregations. In it, she talks about how most congregations are doing evangelism right now -- most of which turns out to be both unpleasant and ineffective -- but also about what she learned about the fun and joy of faith sharing from the few

continue on next column

mainline congregations that are doing it successfully. The book has 10 chapters, less than 150 pages, and is easy to read (except maybe that optional chapter on statistics). I envision a casual conversation (seminar) format -- sitting around the table(s) in the fellowship hall, drinking coffee, and exchanging ideas. Child care is available during the Sunday school. Books will be available for the first class which will meet at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays.

God's Memory Lapse

Our memory bank can churn up some bad stuff occasionally. There you are, not quite asleep, when suddenly a past sin pays a painful visit. The ugly details of bad decisions and actions can leave our spirit in a shambles. How should we handle this haunting problem? First, we need a visit with God, who knows just how to deal with our painful memories. He has a unique ability to forgive and forget, if we're sincere in our request for reconciliation. As Micah 7:19 says, God "will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea." Corrie Boom had the right idea. She said God buries our sins in the sea and puts a sign on the bank saying, "No fishing allowed!" After we accept God's forgiveness, we must forgive ourselves and move on into the future God has for us. St. Paul's words to the Philippians are relevant for Christians struggling with past sins: "One thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).



In this Bible word search find the following names

Matthew - John - Jesus - Timotheus - Stephanas - Paul
Luke - Peter – Mary – Mark – God – James.

T I M O T H E U S
S A N A H P E T S
W X W Z R L D P M
L U K E R T E P A
S B T T H O N D R
Z E E Y N T M O K
P P M Z H A T G J
X A W A O L U A P
S U S E J Y R A M



The Last Word...

by David P. Turner

Last Friday night, Tammy and I went to the Pumpkin Festival in Bradford, Ohio – something she had done many times as a child. She told me about the confetti before we arrived, but I honestly didn't believe it could be how she described. I assumed it would be like every other small town festival I've ever been to. But she was right. It was like nothing I've ever experienced before.

Here's how it works: Main street of Bradford is lined with food vendors, trinket sellers and even a small midway (where confetti is NOT allowed), but every half a block or so is a booth with volunteers selling brown paper bags of confetti (one for \$2 or two for \$3). The object – and I'm not making this up – is to throw confetti at the other festival attendees.

At first, I assumed the confetti was mainly for the kids and no one would bother a grown-up like me. And the first half an hour or so, while it was still relatively early, I may have only had a handful or two of confetti thrown my way. An hour or two later, it was a different story. By the time we left Bradford, there was probably two inches of confetti in the street and enough confetti on (and in!) my clothes and hair that I'm still finding pieces of it all over the house.

The good people of Bradford having been throwing confetti at each other for 80 years now. I noticed one vendor who had never been to the Pumpkin Festival before. He was just staring at the crowd and muttering, "I've been going to festivals and street fairs for years and have never seen anything like this!" I had to agree.

Even kids who appeared to be 3 or 4 years old would run out into the street and throw handfuls of confetti at our knees

and then run squealing back to their parents. No one was safe. At one point when someone dumped a handful on my head, I opened my mouth to laugh and spent the next couple of minutes spitting out little pieces of confetti.

Later, as I thought about the fun we'd had I realized, for at least a little while, the attention was taken off of the usual shopping, eating and entertainment and put back where it should be – on the community. I'm sure those selling plastic toys, silver jewelry and corn dogs weren't too happy everyone's attention was focused on covering each other in confetti and not on their wares – but I found it oddly refreshing. I think the folks of Bradford, Ohio might just be on to something.

One of the things I have always loved about the church is the way it also brings together the most improbable collections of people. We may not throw confetti (although we might want to consider it as a fundraiser...); we exist in order to live and love joyfully. The church isn't a social club (as Groucho Marx used to say, "I wouldn't want to be a part of any club that would have ME as a member."). The church isn't a business enterprise or an entertainment venue. As the old Sunday school poem reminds us – "the church is the people."

This weekend, many of us will be enjoying spending time with other Disciples from across Ohio at the Regional Assembly in Columbus (there's still time to register!). Many will also be attending our Fall Festival on Saturday night (see the front for details). And then, on Sunday morning, we'll all join together in joyful worship and fellowship together (with everything but the confetti). I look forward to being with you there.