

Messenger

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VOLUME LVII - Weekly Publication

March 9, 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

GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE – BLANKET SUNDAY

Simona and her family in La Bombita, received CWS Blankets while staying at a nearby shelter—and recovery assistance when they returned home. In the Dominican Republic, Hurricane Noel left more than 80 people dead, destroyed more than 700 homes, and damaged 16,000 more. In La Bombita and other severely affected communities in the west and southwest, Church World Service provided water, food, medical care, CWS Hygiene and School Kits, and lightweight, water-resistant CWS Blankets, as well as other supplies from local Dominican churches and individuals. With CWS support, there are approximately 35 families with the construction of new housing and 120 families to repair their homes. Some 450 families received seeds, tools, and agricultural supplies to revitalize their crops and food production. Residents lost many possessions and even friends and relatives, but many now express a sense of hope for the future. That's what the Blankets+Offering is all about. This Sunday, March 15th, is Blanket Sunday. Please support CWS Blanket Program by donation \$5.00. Make your check out to CWF (Christian Women Fellowship). Be a tool for a better tomorrow.



COME JOIN THE PARADE!



Your Evangelism Committee has decided to participate in several community events (parades, festivals, etc.) in order to promote Central Christian Church. The first parade will be on Saturday, April 18th, The Bellbrook Sugar Maple Festival. The Evangelism Committee will be meeting on Monday, March 23rd at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in assisting is invited to attend. We will be entering a vehicle and walking unit with CYF and Chi Rho. For further information, contact John Brown at 439-0727.

BIBLE SUNDAY



A long-honored tradition at Central Christian is the Sunday when our Kindergarteners and our High School Freshmen get new Bibles. This year, Bible Sunday will take place on Sunday, March 22nd during the Traditional Service. If you have a child who is in Kindergarten or is a Freshman this year, please contact Melissa Moody (626-6503) or via email at mmoody5409@yahoo.com so that we can make sure we have a Bible for every child. We look forward to seeing all of you at this service!

Serving In March

Deacon Captain: Joe Albrecht
Deacons Serving: Scot Burnett, Don Wilcox, Shirley Wilcox, Barbara Moody, John Will man, Tammy Turner, Brad Kassner, Laura Seaman, Matt Pence, Calle Burnett, Tiffany Zimmerman and John Corbin
Deacon Prep/Clean Up: Brad Kassner and Laura Seaman
Acolyte: Nicholas Bond and Christopher Willman
Elders for Communion
Mar 15th Steve and Pam Bowser
Mar 22nd David and Margaret Lyon
Lay Leaders
Mar 15th Molly Gross
Mar 22nd David French
Fellowship Hour
Mar 15th Christian Education (Youth)
Mar 22nd Max Lucado Class

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

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Sunday, Mar 16th | 9:00 am | Morning Watch |
| | 9:15 am | Christian Education Crusaders Class Max Lucado Class Christianity/World Religions |
| | 10:30 am | Traditional Service Godly Play |
| | 11:30 am | Fellowship Hour |
| | 11:40 am | Bethany Choristers |
| | 12:00 pm | Faith Finders/Seekers |
| Monday, Mar 17th | 12:15 pm | Pastor's Class |
| | 9:00 am | Quilters |
| | 12:30 pm | Senior Fitness Class |
| Tuesday, Mar 18th | 7:00 pm | Bible Study |
| | 1:00 pm | Lydia Group |
| | 7:00 pm | Executive Board Meeting |
| Wednesday, Mar 19th | 12:00 pm | District 8 Meeting |
| | 12:30 pm | Senior Fitness Class |
| | 7:00 pm | Unbinding the Gospel Christian Ed. Mtg. (Youth) |
| Thursday, Mar 20th | 9:30 am | Prayer Shawl Ministry |
| | 6:30 pm | Laudate Ringer |
| | 7:30 pm | Chancel Choir |
| Saturday, Mar 21th | 4:00 pm | Wedding |

Worshipping at Central

Sunday, March 8, 2009

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| Christian Education | 23 |
| <hr/> | |
| Nursery/Godly Play | 15 |
| Morning Watch | 21 |
| Traditional Service | <u>126</u> |
| Total Worship Attendance | 162 |

Members & Friends

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Hospitalized | - Elwood Byrkett (MVH) |
| Hospice Care | - Pat Farnsley (Home) |
| Home Care | Kathy Anderson Thelma Harman Robert and Frances Mayes Earline Grice Regina Kempton Norma Kirkland Marian Herron Bob and Jean Thompson Merle and Dorothy Ryan Doyle Ware Lillian White |
| Autumn Health Care | - June Tate |
| Harborside Healthcare | - Jim and Eleanor McNulty |
| Liberty Retirement Home | - Ed Bausman |
| Lincoln Park | - William Warren |
| Summersville | - Marjorie Barkalow Eugene Griffith |
| Spring Creek | - JoAnn Reichbauer |
| Sycamore Glen | - Anne Walters |
| Trinity | - Garnia Moses |
| Waterford Retirement | - Mary Rothenbuhler |

Sanctuary Flowers

The Sanctuary Flowers on Sunday, March 8th were given by Bettie Smith, Melanie Jackson and Family in memory of Rev. Dr. Harry E. Smith.

Memorial Fund

General Fund

In Memory of Robert Ball

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cochoy

Music Fund

In Memory of Veda Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Cochoy

Please Pray for

Elwood Byrkett
Rex Strine
Tina Quall
Izzy Roberts
Our new president
Family and peace for all mankind
Jamie and family
Mary Davidson
Tony Shoup
David Sipple
Gabby Erby
Lora Davidson
Diane Kiger
Cindy Taylor



Spring Cleaning 2009

Second Notice: Spring cleaning 2009 has begun. Please discard all items of no further use to the mission of Central. Please tag/mark all remaining items with 1) organization responsible; 2) name of knowledgeable person, and 3) date to be discarded. Untagged items will be discarded on the first dumpster day of May 2009.

Chi Rho Spring Cleaning

This Sunday after church the Chi Rho will have a pizza party and spend some time spring cleaning the Chi Rho room. We will be meeting until 1:00 p.m., after church and will not be having our regularly scheduled evening meeting. All the Chi Rho youth are encouraged to be there to help decide a new arrangement for the room. See you there!

Christian Education Meeting

(Youth)

The next Christian Education Meeting for Children & Youth will be Thursday, March 19th from 7 - 8:30 pm in the church library. We will be picking this year's Vacation Bible School program, as well as start planning for the 2009-2010 year. If you would like to get involved in helping to develop the future of our church, please feel free to join us! Please contact Melissa Moody with any questions, comments or suggestions.



When you shop at GFS and let them know you belong to Central Christian we get money back. Consider shopping at GFS for your parties supplies. For more details contact Jane Bernard at 901-4788.

Christianity & World Religions

Larry Merkle will lead an adult Sunday School class on Christianity and world religions. He will be using Adam Hamilton materials titled: Christianity and World Religions: Wrestling With Questions People Ask. This study covers the five main religions of the world including: Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, the Muslim faith as well as Christianity. This is a great opportunity to learn why we believe as we do and to learn what others believe as well. The class will be held in the small classroom next to the meeting room on Sundays at 9:15 a.m., beginning on March 15th. Additional books were ordered and are available to anyone who wishes to attend the class.

Unbinding The Gospel

Join us on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., as Rev. David Turner lead the 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 2nd Edition also includes a 40-day prayer journal – perfect for our 40 day journey through Lent. Our last night will be April 8th, 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! **PS:** New books were ordered and are available to anyone who wishes to attend the class.

Your Help Is Needed

Jud and Dotty Parkhurst have extended their hand to help a neighbor who needs the following items:

Exercise Bike
Sewing Machine
Carpet or Area Rugs

For more information as to why these items are important, please call Jud or Dotty Parkhurst at 293-8402.



On Friday, March 27th, guess you will be 74 years old?

Nobody but, Janice Charline Glover.

Happy Birthday Friend - Belah.

(Everyone please wish Charline a Happy Birthday)

A Christian

Several years ago, a preacher from out-of-state accepted a call to a church in Houston, Texas some weeks after he arrived; he had an occasion to ride the bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, 'You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it.' Then he thought, 'Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and keep quiet.' When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, and then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, 'Here, you gave me too much change' the driver, with a smile, replied, 'Aren't you the new preacher in town?' 'Yes' he replied. 'Well, I have been thinking a lot lately about going somewhere to worship. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. I'll see you at church on Sunday.' When the preacher stepped off of the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole, held on, and said, 'Oh God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter.' Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read. This is a really scary example of how much people watch us as Christians, and will put us to the test! Always be on guard -- and remember -- You carry the name of Christ on your shoulders when you call yourself 'Christian.' Watch your thoughts; they become words. Watch your words; they become actions. Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

Easter Flowers

This Sunday we will begin taking orders for Easter Flowers in memory or honor of loved ones.



The Last Word...

by David P. Turner

I have never been very good at directions. In fact, I can pull into a gas station, fill up my gas tank, and then get back on the road again going in the wrong direction. It happens to me all the time. But since Christmas I now have the aid of a GPS (Global Positioning System) that will gently remind me (in a British accent, no less), that I had better turn around as soon as possible.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had something similar to help us out in other parts of our lives? Wouldn't it be nice if we could be warned before making some bad choice or going down some wrong path? The good news is that we do have something like that. You might even describe it as a Spiritual Positioning System (SPS).

An SPS works a little bit like a GPS. The way I understand it, a GPS unit uses multiple satellites so someone using the system can be located in space using triangulation. In order to triangulate a position, the computer needs at least three or more different reference points. Without these multiple reference points, a GPS unit can't make the proper calculations.

Your Spiritual Positioning System works in much the same way, In that God also speaks in multiple ways

(you just don't need to a computer to figure it all out). In the book *Experiencing God*, Henry Blackaby explains that God speaks through the Bible, through prayer, through circumstances and through the church. If you discover you are receiving the same signal from all four sources, you'd better stop and pay attention; God has something important to say to you. Sometimes the message God is sending is something along the lines of: "If there is any way to make a u-turn, please do so immediately."

The fact is there are forces at work both within us and without that can easily lead us into all kinds of trouble, suffering and pain. But fortunately, U-turns are allowed. In fact, that is the very definition of repentance: a turning toward God.

The Good News is that even if you have been ignoring God's signals, you can still tune in and stay tuned in at any time. God is speaking to you. But even more importantly, if you feel lost and afraid, God is also waiting for you – not to punish you or tell you, "I told you so," but to roll out the red carpet, embrace you in love, and say with the joy of a father, "Once you were lost, but now you are found. Enter into the joy of your master and never be lost again."