

# Messenger

1200 Forrer Blvd., Kettering, Ohio 45420

Email: office@ccc-ket.org

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VOLUME LVI - Weekly Publication

November 17, 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**

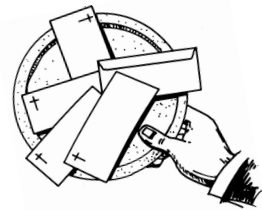
Organist

**Jenny Garner**

Nursery Care Provider

## 2008 THANKSGIVING OFFERING

For two centuries, Disciples colleges and universities have trained Disciples leaders to think clearly and rationally and to minister to the world around them. While those first instructors and students might not recognize modern campuses, those classic values live on in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Disciples undergraduate institutions serve nearly 27,000 students in a wide variety of settings – from a rural college town with several hundred students to a metropolitan setting with almost 9,000 students. Despite those differences, these schools all share a commitment to the church, emphasize spiritual faith and values, and cherish a commitment to a liberal-arts education. Your gift this Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> to the Thanksgiving Special Offering supports the training of our church's emerging leaders – an investment in our church's future.



## CYF's BAKED POTATO & SALAD BAR LUNCH

Please join us this Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> following the Traditional service for CYF's Baked Potato and Salad Bar lunch. This is a great opportunity to visit with friends and enjoy a hot potato and a crisp salad. The cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids 12 and younger. **Note:** The CYF is reminded to come to Morning Watch service so they can move to the kitchen to cook afterwards.



## ANNUAL HANGING OF THE GREENS



Following CYF's Baked Potato/Salad Bar Lunch will begin our Annual Hanging of the Greens. Join us as we make our church reflect the beauty of the holy season of Jesus birth by hanging the greens. The work of the church is made light by many willing hands! Please contact Sara Bond with any questions at 885-7989.

## ROUTINELY GRATEFUL

When a national day of thanksgiving was established on the fourth Thursday in November, it was not because that was a particularly thankful day. It was intentionally chosen precisely because of its arbitrariness to remind us to say "thanks" on a daily basis for the bounties God has bestowed upon our lives.



## Serving In November

**Deacon Captain:** Melissa Moody

**Deacons Serving:** Jenness Sigman, April Parcell, Barbara Moody, Jack Willman, Andrew Green, Ann O'Diam, Laura Nolan, Joe Albrecht, David French, Sean Green and Calle Burnett.

**Deacon Prep/Clean Up:** Ann O'Diam and Lourdes Giles

**Acolyte:** Aaron Moody

**Elders for Communion**

**Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>** Merle Kidd and Terry Sigman

**Nov 30<sup>th</sup>** Charles Bentley, Sr. and Chuck Bentley, Jr.

**Lay Leaders**

**Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>** David French

**Nov 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Fellowship Hour**

**Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>** Baked Potato/Salad Bar Lunch/Hanging of Greens

**Nov 30<sup>th</sup>** Evangelism

## 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

<b>Sunday, Nov 23<sup>rd</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>	Baked Potato/Salad Bar Lunch Hanging of the Greens
	<b>11:40 am</b>	Bethany Choristers
<b>Monday, Nov 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:00 pm</b>	Faith Seekers/Faith Finders
	<b>6:30 pm</b>	CYF Officer Training
	<b>9:00 am</b>	Quilters
<b>Tuesday, Nov 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:30 pm</b>	Senior Fitness Class
	<b>7:00 pm</b>	CWF Meeting
<b>Wednesday, Nov 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	Elders Meeting
<b>Thursday, Nov 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:30 pm</b>	Senior Fitness Class
<b>Friday, Nov 28<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Thanksgiving Day</b> (Church Office Closed)
		<b>Church Office Closed</b>

## Messenger Holiday Schedule

Due to the following three day holiday work weeks, the Messenger will not be published the weeks of:

**November 24<sup>th</sup>** - Thanksgiving

**December 22<sup>nd</sup>** - Christmas

**December 29<sup>th</sup>** - New Year

## Food Pantry

Many thanks for your donations. Let's continue to feed the hungry in our community. Pantry Hours: Mondays and Wednesday from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Donations can be placed on table located in Narthex.

## Members & Friends

**Hospice Care** - Pat Farnsley Home  
**Home Care** - Ruby Kreider  
 Thelma Harman  
 Robert and Frances Mayes  
 Earline Grice  
 Norma Kirkland  
 Marian Herron

**Autumn Health Care** - June Tate  
**Harborside Healthcare** - Jim and Eleanor McNulty  
**Heartland of Centerville** - Nancy Tossey  
**Liberty Retirement Home** - Ed Bausman  
**Oaks of West Kettering** - Virginia Moore  
**Summersville** - Margarie Barkalow  
 Eugene Griffith  
**Spring Creek** - JoAnn Reichbauer  
**Sycamore Glen** - Anne Walters  
**Trinity** - Garnia Moses  
**Waterfront Retirement** - Mary Rothenbuhler



**Our Sympathy and Prayers** are with the family of Caryl Rentz who passed away on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Funeral service was held on Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at Morris Sons Funeral Home in Kettering.

**The Sanctuary Flowers** on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup> were given by Robert Ball in memory of Beverly Ball.



**Central Christian,**

Thanks to all of you for your thoughts, prayers and cards upon my mother's death. The church was very important to her and she would appreciate the support you have provided me.

**Sue Taylor**



## Worshipping at Central

Sunday, November 16, 2008

Christian Education	24
Nursery/Godly Play	28
Morning Watch	22
Traditional Service	<u>142</u>
<b>Total Worship Attendance</b>	<b>192</b>

**Our Offering (Operating Fund)**

<b>Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup></b>	\$2,889.00
<b>2008 Offering to Date</b>	\$248,576.00
<b>2008 Expenses to Date</b>	\$251,581.00



## Lights In Restroom

You may have noticed that the restroom lights are now on timers. This was done both to conserve electricity and to improve safety. Each time you enter one of our rest rooms, make sure that the timer knob is set to the maximum time (fully clockwise). Do not turn the knob counterclockwise when leaving. Several times the fans and lights have been on with the room unoccupied. While there definitely will be a net cost savings with time, the improvement in safety is also an important motivation. With the timers, the probability of a fan motor overheating and starting a fire is reduced even more than with just relying on the circuit breakers. Thanks to the volunteer for installing them.

Thanks, Property

## Bethany Choristers

We had a great turn-out for our first Bethany Choristers rehearsal. Please join us (2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades) for brief rehearsal in the Bethany Choristers room between the Traditional Service and Faith Seekers/Finders.

## 2008 Christmas Basket Program

The Outreach Ministry has started working on this year's Christmas Basket Program. If you or someone you know are in need of some assistance this Christmas, please call the church office at 254-2649 to be considered as a participant in this program. This will be handled in complete confidence.

## UN Seminar

This winter five of Central's CYF young people will be attending the UN Seminar. This every other year trip is sponsored by the Regional office and high school juniors and seniors are eligible to attend. Students are required to research and write 2 papers on why they want to attend, what the UN stands for, etc. This winter Hannah Bentley, Monica Bentley, Alexis Garybush, Tim Green, and Matt Pence are preparing to go. They have all submitted their first paper and paid their deposit. Come December they will be required to research and write the second paper. In the coming week's we'll be spotlighting the thoughts of the CYF'ers who are working diligently to be able to attend the Seminar. They are asking for your support. Proceeds from upcoming fundraisers will help defer some of the costs for attendees. Additionally we'll also be asking the congregation to help sponsor those attending. Watch for details after Thanksgiving. Thank you.

## Church By-Laws

The By-Laws committee, chaired by Darlene Rogers, will meet in January to review and update the church by-laws. If anyone has any changes which you would like to have considered, please submit in writing and place in the Properties mail box clearly marked "By-Laws". Or you may submit by email to cdarlene@woh.rr.com.

## Thought for the Week

*Serving others is a way of thanking God.*

# Holiday Schedule

## Poinsettias

Beginning Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, we will begin taking orders for Poinsettias to be given in memory or honor of loved ones. The poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary December 21<sup>st</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>.



## Annual Children's Christmas Program & Carry-In Dinner



The Annual Children's Christmas Program & Carry-In Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. The dinner will start at 6:00 pm and the Children's Christmas Program will begin at 7:00 pm. Everyone is asked to bring a main dish to share. In addition, those whose last names begin with A - M are asked to bring a dessert. Those with last names beginning with N - Z are asked to bring a side dish.

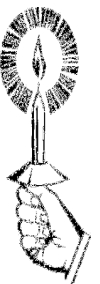


## Family Christmas Eve Service

&

## Traditional Candlelight Service

You and your family are invited to our Christmas Eve Services. Our Family Christmas Eve Service will begin at 5:30 pm. This contemporary service is designed with children in mind. We will sing carols and embrace the love of the season. Our Traditional Candlelight Service will begin at 7:30 pm. The choir will sing and the bells will ring as we celebrate the coming of the newborn King.



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

**by David P. Turner**

Sometimes we forget that the Thanksgiving holiday is not one of the high holy days of the Christian year. While there is still discussion about its roots, everyone agrees the celebration of Thanksgiving came about as the result of a government decree.

Regardless of its origins, however, Thanksgiving does connect us to the deepest currents of our religious tradition. Thanksgiving is about giving thanks for the rich bounty with which God has blessed us.

When you think about it, giving thanks is a very selfless thing to do – because to give thanks is to acknowledge that someone has done something for you that you could never do for yourself. True thanksgiving not only recognizes this, but also nudges us into action. It calls for a response.

I remember a conversation I had once with a Sunday School class about Jesus' instructions in the Sermon on the Mount not to be anxious about anything, but to trust in God who cares for us the same way he cares for the lilies of the fields and the birds of the air. Someone said, "Okay, it might be alright for us not to worry about those things, because we already have them – but what about the poor, homeless and hungry?"

I have to confess, at first I was stumped. What about those people? Do we stop worrying about our own needs only to begin worrying about the needs of others? And then I had one of those "Aha!" moments. Of course!

That is exactly how it works! Jesus never told us not to worry about the basic needs of our brothers and sisters. As a matter of fact – it's a natural progression. When we stop worrying about our own needs our eyes are opened to the needs of others.

God has given us everything we will ever need. As I once heard the teacher and evangelist Tony Campolo say, "It isn't God's fault that there are millions of starving people in the world – it's our fault. We have been given all the resources we need, we just haven't ever had the courage or the compassion to figure out how those resources might be spread around."

When the church turns in on itself, we forget God has blessed us to be a blessing. Instead of being thankful for the good things we do have, we ask, "So God, what have you done for us lately?" And then we wonder why things aren't going so well.

This Thanksgiving holiday, may we remember that the church (and each of us individually) functions less like buckets into which God pours his blessings – but more like conduits through whom God intends to bless the whole world. Indeed, when those blessings are passed on, God promises to multiply them!

Have a genuinely happy Thanksgiving – God is depending on it.