



Central Connections

175 years... and still a frontier church

Volume 42 Issue 15

A Sign of God's Kingdom in the Heart of the City

August 26, 2007

Scripture

September 2

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Psalms 81:1, 10-16

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 9

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

September 16

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10



Central Christian Church

Rev. Linda McCrae

701 North Delaware

Indianapolis, IN 46204

317/635-6397

pastor@indyccc.org

<http://indyccc.org>

Worship: Sundays @ 10:30am

Study: Sundays @ 9:00am

Study: Wednesdays @ 6:30pm

Imagine experiencing in the course of a few days:

- The Royal Drummers of Burundi
- A lecture on the dialogue in the 1920s between Carl Jung & Wolfgang Pauli
- An exhibition of works by Indiana artists that focus on protecting the environment
- An interactive play exploring racism and sexism through the lives of May Wright Sewall and Madam C.J. Walker
- A Family Peace Hike

That and much more was possible in last year's Spirit & Place Festival, and this year Central Christian Church is going to be part of it.

Spirit & Place is an amazing opportunity that Indianapolis offers, and one that it seems a lot of people still don't know about. Now in its 12th year, the mission of Spirit & Place is "to serve as a catalyst for civic engagement and enduring change through creative collaborations among the arts, humanities, and religion." It does so by mobilizing the community. Organizations partner together and invite the public in to hear, see, think, be moved, inspired and challenged.

This year, over the course of 17 days (November 2-18), 71 events will take place in our city with Spirit & Place. Two of them will be organized and hosted by Central, as part of our 175th anniversary celebration. Each year's festival has a theme, and this year it's *Living Generously*. We in the church know something about that! And we're hoping to share a bit about it with our neighbors.

On Wed., Nov. 7, we will host a panel discussion entitled "Small Change, Huge Difference," in which we will explore the ways the small actions of individuals make a difference in the world. Panelists are Eugene White, superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools; Carol Cosby, who has worked for years with the Mother-to-Mother Program and involving people in the legislative process; and Johnny Wray, who heads up Disciples Week of Compassion ministry. (continued on page 3)

Then on Sat., Nov. 17, we will present “Home,” a readers theater/musical presentation written by our own James Giessler and Tim McGinley exploring the search for a spiritual home for those not always readily accepted - those affected by war, poverty, AIDS, homosexuality, and more. Home offers a chance to hear the stories—to glimpse, if only for a moment, the lives of others who may be radically different from us and who may sit next to us in a pew on Sunday..

Later in September we'll have program guides for the Spirit & Place Festival. We'll also be looking for volunteers to help with our two events! I hope you'll mark your calendars now for this unique opportunity.

Blessings, Linda

Remembering Lillian Starost

Lillian Starost was born on July 4, 1916 in Claremont, New Jersey. She came with her family to Indianapolis at a young age, and lived her for the great majority of her life. She was a member of Central Christian Church for over 50 years.

Lillian was an accomplished musician, who played the violin and cello. She loved to perform, often with her sister Helen. Professionally they played in Indianapolis, Chicago, and New York. Lillian also performed on the radio and television. At Central, they used to play on Sunday mornings before services in the parlor and after services in the fellowship hall. Lillian's other devotion of years and decades was to public education, and specifically to the Indianapolis Public Schools. She taught music and mathematics, then served as Assistant Principal and Principal of three elementary schools. She touched the lives of hundreds of children.

Lillian was deeply loved by her family. She had a wonderful relationship and companionship with her sister and brother-in-law, Helen and Bill Speicher – and with their daughter and grandchildren. One of our church members remembers their fond relationship, and how Bill would relate stories from the past and Lillian would “correct” him, till you weren't quite sure which story to believe.

We remember Lillian as someone who loved people and was always happy to see them. She had a sweet smile and personality. People liked being around her, even if they didn't know her well. She was humorous – one of our church members said, “She had a twinkle in her eye that said, this isn't all there is to this story – stay tuned.” She is remembered at church sitting in the pews with Bill & Helen and always greeting people with her warm smile. She was someone with a rosy outlook on life who could put you at ease quickly. She was very easy to talk to and made you feel like you were important to her. It was obvious she enjoyed her life and was thankful for the many, varied experiences she'd had.

We thank God for the gift of Lillian Starost and commit her to God's unending love and care.



To Jim Keown and Brenna Riley for stepping in to pick up our food pantry order from Gleaners.

To Lydia Brasher and Caroline Fisher for helping in the food pantry distribution when several volunteers were scheduled to be elsewhere.

Thanks to Lee Brunner and Missy Smith for organizing the new Food Pantry space.

Thanks to Newell Williams for sharing his wonderful stories and perspective of Central's history.



Regardless of our politics, we remember and pray for the families of those who died in military service since the last newsletter. We also remember the countless innocents from every nation who have died in war whose names we will never know.

Eric D. Cottrell, 39
Alun R. Howells, 20
Juan M. Lopez Jr., 23
Paulomarko Pacificador, 24
Sean P. Fisher, 29
Shawn D. Hensel, 20
Steven R. Jewell, 26
Christopher Johnson, 31
Jackie L. McFarlane Jr, 30
Stanley B. Reynolds, 37
Robert R. Pirelli, 29
Princess C. Samuels, 22
Zandra T. Walker, 28
Kamisha J. Block, 20
Paul B. Norris, 30
Willard M. Powell, 21
Jonathan W. Edds, 24
Michael S. Fielder, 35
Sandy R. Britt, 30
Donovan D. Witham, 20
Rickey L. Bell, 21
Jeremy P. Bouffard, 21, Ar
Phillip J. Brodnick, 25, Army
Corporal, Aug 22, 2007
Edgar E. Cardenas, 34, Army
Private 1st Class, Aug 22,
2007
Derek A. Dobogai, 26

New Leadership at Central

During the past two months many leadership positions have been filled and the Cabinet is complete! The Cabinet is the group that carries the responsibility of considering, initiating and coordinating the activities and programs of the congregation. If you have ideas, suggestions, energy, or interest in any area of the church's ministry, please see the appropriate leader! They are listed below:

Christian Education:	Greta Slater
Community Outreach:	Glenda Survance
Evangelism:	Bill Ball
Finance:	Mary Hays
Membership:	Steve & Twyla Cecil
Property:	Terry Bradbury
Stewardship:	Pat & Deborah Carrithers
World Outreach:	Carolyn Higginbotham
Worship/Music:	Leon Riley
President of the Christian Women's Fellowship:	Mary Schilling
Moderator:	Greg Nickel
Vice-Moderator:	Mindy Hamm
Secretary:	Kerry Armstrong
Treasurer:	Jim Keown

Other groups providing important leadership, and their chairs, are:

175 th Anniversary Committee:	Phyllis Crocker
Building Committee:	Jerry Butt
Capital Campaign Committee:	Delbert Crocker
Strategic Planning Committee:	Jennifer Riggs

A big THANK YOU to all those who are serving these ministries this year!

What About the Student Pastor??

We realized recently that, although it was reported to the board in mid-July, we have not informed the congregation of the outcome of our search for a student pastor.

Unfortunately, the timing of our budget process at Central and the timing of the student associate search process do not fit well together. By the time we were sure that we could fund the position, most candidates had already found a placement. A few interviews were conducted, but those persons accepted other positions as well.

We are grateful for the good work of the Student Pastor Search Committee – Bill Ball, Nancy Beals, Carrel Crouter, Julie Miller, and Marilyn Porter – and sorry that we will not be calling a student associate this year.

What Did She Say???

Operating the sound system during worship at Central Christian Church is an important ministry. Being able to clearly hear words of scripture, the wonderful sermons at Central, the voice of the worship leader — these are as much matters of *accessibility* as are the elevator, the lighting, and other means which make the worship experience available to us.

We need one or two more volunteers to share in rotating the responsibility of working with our Sunday morning audio gear. No technical knowledge is needed. The system is simple. Any of our three volunteers would be happy to answer questions or, better yet, to train you any Sunday morning!

For more information, contact Sandy in the church office (635-6397) or Leon Riley (255-7213).

Leon Riley

“Secularism and Religion in Global Perspective” is the theme of the 2007-2008 Butler Seminar on Religion and World Civilization. The first session of the series will be Tuesday, September 18 from 7-9pm in the Krannert Room of Clowes Memorial Hall on the Butler campus. The speaker will be Dr. Evert van der Zweerde, a philosopher and culturologist who teaches at Radboud University in the Netherlands. His lecture is entitled “Does Christianity have a future in Europe?”



Congregational Planning Retreat

A congregational planning retreat will take place on Sunday afternoon, September 23. It will begin with lunch, immediately following worship, and end by 4pm. ALL ARE INVITED!!!! This is the opportunity to have input into the programs, projects and ministries of Central during this coming year. More details will be forthcoming, but please put it on your calendars now.

Statistics for August

	Attend	General	Building	Special Day	Designated Funds
8/5/07	90	4792	685	38	20
8/12/07	100	2944	355	85	157
8/19/07	124	3657	130	153	417
8/26/07	105	<u>2864</u>	<u>1260</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1150</u>
		14257	2430	276	1744

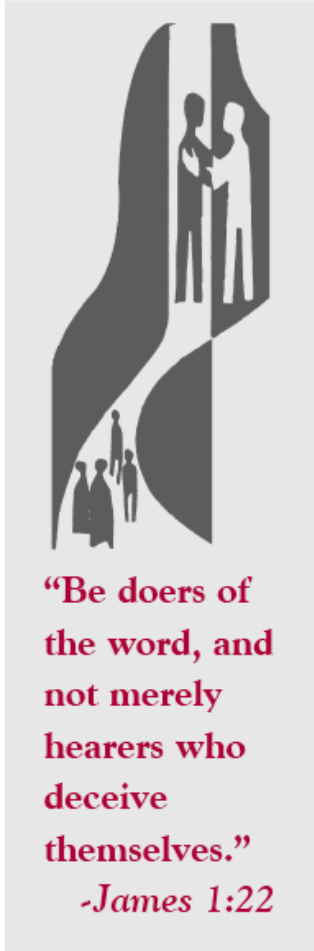
Paul J. Flynn, 28
 Joshua S. Harmon, 20
 Michael A. Hook, 25
 Nathan C. Hubbard, 21
 Garrett I. McLead, 23
 Jason L. Paton, 25
 Jessy G. Pollard, 22,
 Tyler R. Seideman, 20
 Matthew L. Tallman, 30
 Omar E. Torres, 20
 Corry Paul Tyler, 29
 Adrian M. Elizalde, 30
 Michael J. Tully, 33
 David A. Heringes, 36
 Matthew S. Medlicott, 21
 Joshua L. Morley, 22
 Tracy C. Willis, 21
 Rogelio A. Ramirez, 21
 James S. Collins Jr., 35

“In war, there are no unwounded soldiers.”

Jose Narosky

The test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children.

Dietrich Bonhoffer



Fellow Church Members...

As many of you know, the primary election in May did not go very well. It was a difficult day for our community and we are working hard at the Election Board to make sure it does not happen again. Will you help? We need inspectors, who are the “boss” of a voting location (called a precinct). Inspectors must attend training, pick up materials, and set up the polling location to be ready for voting. The compensation is \$110, and this is a great way to raise funds for important projects, including the Anniversary committee. You can learn more at our website, see below.

Thanks so much!

Beth White

AKA, your County Clerk

“We want YOU!”

By: Beth White,
Marion County Clerk

Democracy is hard work.

Let me say that again: Democracy is hard work, and **it’s not a spectator sport.**

In Marion County, we need over 4,000 people willing to work on Election Day. The day will begin early at 5AM and won’t end until 7PM or later. Workers will receive little pay and even less acclaim.

And I am asking you to be one of them.

Why?

Because the city of Indianapolis has a long and proud tradition of civic engagement and volunteerism. Whether it be a massive spectacle requiring thousands of volunteers like the 500 Festival or a small group spending Saturdays maintaining their local park, we live in a community that “walks the walk.” We live in a great city that has a great future ahead, and leadership of that city will be determined by our democratic process.

I cannot do the work of Democracy alone.

I am asking that you volunteer to work Election Day by calling (317) 327-5100 or finding us on the internet at www.indygov.org/election07.

Yes, Democracy is hard work, but what could be more important?



Save Saturday, October 13 on your calendar. We will be gathering at CTS to celebrate our history with the Disciples Church in the Congo. We will be gathering to hear from Rev. Bonanga Elik, the head of the Disciples church in the Congo. We will be gathering to celebrate our future and on-going relationship with the Congo. Watch for more information!

Cheryl Cloar, Regional Ministry Intern



blankets for Riley Children's!

Kneedles for Charity are on a summer holiday hiatus but will start up again Sunday, September 16th, after church. We will begin this gathering by celebrating and taking pictures of our completed

For more information contact Deborah Carrithers 317-566-0501 or dwcarr454@yahoo.com, or Jan Fairringer, jfairringer@churchextension.org

Deborah Carrithers.



All parents of children who are currently attending or will be attending Worship and Wonder this fall - or anyone who might be interested in Worship and Wonder in any way - are invited to an orientation session on Sunday, September 9th, after worship in the parlor. A light lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Debbie Abbott @ 974-1290 or debbieabbott@hotmail.com. Be ready to take your shoes off and share in a special worship service with your children.



Heartland Film Festival

October 18 - 26, 2007

Indianapolis, Indiana

<http://www.heartlandfilmfestival.org/>

Horse Sense

The clergyman Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887) went to buy a horse. The horse's owner declared, "This horse is perfectly sound. He can go at any gait, walk, pace, trot or gallop. He will work any place you put him, and he will stand without hitching. He will never bite nor kick. He is gentle, yet full of spirit. He goes when you want him to go, and he stops when you want him to stop."

Beecher looked the horse up and down with great admiration. Then he said blissfully, "Oh, if only that horse were a member of my church."

Footprints IN THE SAND



Try this craft at the beach, at the park or in your own sandbox at home. It will remind you whose footprints we should follow.

What you need:

- Plaster of Paris
- Sand (beach, park or sandbox)
- Small shells (optional)
- Water
- Small bowl
- Stick, toothpick or skewer (optional)



What you do:

1. Find some moist sand by digging down a little.
2. With a bare foot, make a footprint in the sand.
3. (Optional) Place shells face down on the toe imprints as toenails.
4. Follow the plaster of Paris directions for mixing the dry plaster with water in bowl.
5. Fill the footprint with the plaster and smooth the surface.
6. (Optional) Using a stick, toothpick or skewer, write "Direct my footsteps" (Psalm 119:133) or "Follow Me" (John 10:27).
7. When dry, place the foot in your garden, yard or room.
8. Remember to turn the foot over to remind yourself of whose footprints we should follow, and that we are never alone.

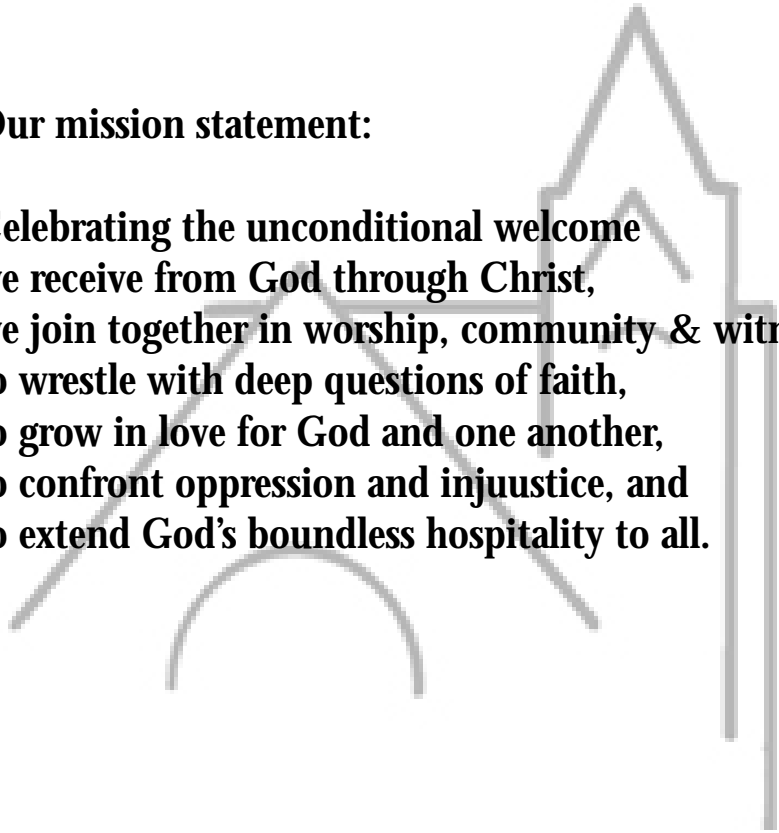
Newsletter submissions may be left in the church office or by eMailing
Crusader@indyccc.org.

We welcome articles, notes of congratulations or concern, biographical sketches... anything for the good of the church family.

Deadline for
next newsletter
September 9, 2007

Our mission statement:

Celebrating the unconditional welcome we receive from God through Christ, we join together in worship, community & witness to wrestle with deep questions of faith, to grow in love for God and one another, to confront oppression and injustice, and to extend God's boundless hospitality to all.



Central Christian Church
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Indianapolis, IN 46204

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Newsletter Mailed

**August 30
Vol. 42, Issue 15**