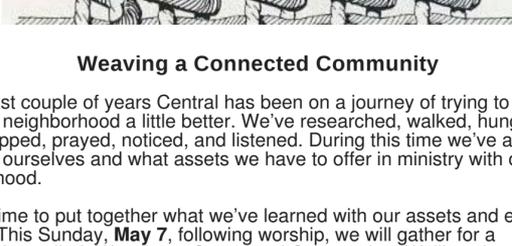




eConnections Weekly Update

May 5, 2017



Weaving a Connected Community

For the last couple of years Central has been on a journey of trying to get to know our neighborhood a little better. We've researched, walked, hung out, eavesdropped, prayed, noticed, and listened. During this time we've also looked at ourselves and what assets we have to offer in ministry with our neighborhood.

Now it's time to put together what we've learned with our assets and energy for ministry. This Sunday, **May 7**, following worship, we will gather for a conversation called "Weaving a Connected Community." We'll work to develop some of the ideas for ministry that have emerged along this journey – ideas like storytelling, visual arts, green activities, advocacy, partnering for our children, and more. The more minds, spirits, and voices we have contributing, the better!

So please join us in the Community Room (lower level) and bring a salad to share. There will be a nursery for our younger ones and a parallel activity for children and youth in the parlor.

A Note from Linda

Dear Friends,

We are in a season of departures. The last two Sundays we have said goodbye to our Learning Ministry Together (LMT) students from Christian Theological Seminary, Preston Becker and Alex Pittaway. This coming Sunday is Linda Bush's last Sunday with us as Student Pastor, though she will remain on staff through the summer and beyond that as a member of the congregation. On May 21, we must say goodbye to the Michel family as they move to Iowa where Jill will serve as pastor of First Christian Church in Coralville. And on June 30, Sandy Heidenreich will retire after serving for more than a decade as our Office Administrator.

While we celebrate the new phases of life that are ahead for each of these people, we also acknowledge the loss that these departures represent for us. We will miss them! Each person brings something particular that shapes the community, and we are grateful for all that these folks have brought. On May 21 following worship, we have the chance to express our gratitude for Jill and her family.

God is good! I look forward to celebrating with you in worship on Sunday.

Blessings,
Linda

Events This Weekend

Sunday, May 7

- **Lectionary Study Group** happens each Sunday at 9am. Join the conversation about the day's scripture.
- **Worship** in the sanctuary at 10:30am.
- **Weaving a Connected Community** Conversation and corresponding children's event will happen following worship.

To see a full monthly printable calendar of our meetings and events, [click here](#).

• Art Show - Tonight •

Come tonight!

From 6 – 9pm this evening Central is hosting an Art Show featuring the work of thirteen emerging artists who are graduating from the Herron School of Art and Design. The title of the show is "This to That". This – the process of art making and That – the variety of life experience, style, and medium including painting, illustration, graphic design, and ceramics. This event is another pilot from the Vision Implementation Team through which we are weaving connections with our neighbors, inviting them into our historic building where spirit and art connect.

• Worship & Wonder •

Look here each week to learn what story the Worship & Wonder children (3 years - 1st grade) will be hearing on Sunday.

May 7: The Ascension

Out and About

R. Kent Cook will be playing an informal piano recital at 7pm on Tuesday, **May 9** in the Eidson Duckwall Recital Hall on the Butler University campus. The recital is in preparation for an upcoming recording project, and he will be playing and talking about works by Schubert, Brahms, Soler and Turina.

If you have the evening free, please join Kent for a relaxing evening of beautiful piano music.



We thank those who enriched our worship service on Sunday, 4/30/17:

Greeters: Phil and Sue Allgood
Worship Leader: Riley Lopez-Shue
Acolytes: Ruth Beery and Elise Stambro
Children's Moment: Erin Leraris
Special Music: Sonya Yoder-Beery, violin; Danielle Hartman and Julie Miller, vocalists
Nursery Helper: Robin Beery
Worship & Wonder: Lisa Anderson and Jim Higginbotham
Young Disciples: Jill Michel and Joan Figueroa-Rivera
No Fellowship Host - sign up on Sunday
Offering Counters: Steve Martz and Maureen McCrae
Audio Technician: Bill Singer

Thank You

A grateful thank you for the emails, cards, telephone calls and prayers during my recent eye surgery and this time of recovery. It is a long process but I hope to have improved vision soon.

Jim Keown

• Engaging the Text •

Did you ever notice how one word or phrase of a scripture text captures your attention and won't let you go, even if the preacher is going in a different direction? We don't yet know what direction Pastor Linda will take when she preaches on John 14: 1-14 on Mother's Day, May 14. You can read on Central's [website](#), however, what captures the attention of 3 members of Central: Cindy gets captured by "the Father," Keith hears "do," and Bethany needs "Let not your heart be troubled." Read the text for yourself on the [website](#) and reflect on what the Spirit is saying to you.

• Let the Spirit Come! •

Put on some Red! Join us on Pentecost for a discernment and affirmation of spiritual gifts and ministries! We are a community of faith with many gifts, in the congregation and in the community and the world! Help us recognize them, in a "seminar" from noon to 2pm on **June 4**.

Thrift Store needs

Kitchen size trash bags
Large black trash bags

Free Clothing needs

Men's jeans
Men's shoes
Belts
Sweatshirts
Sweat-pants
T-shirts - size L and XL
Razors
Hotel size soap and shampoo

Food Pantry needs

Canned fruit
Canned greens
Canned soups
Boxed dinners
Kidney/chili beans
Diced tomatoes/tomato sauce
Beef stew
Condiments
Bars of soap
Grocery bags with handles

Elder and Deacon May Schedule

Deacons:

Pivots: Gina Cerimele/Chris Welborn
2nd: Ben Nickel/Cindy Henning
3rd: Deniese Degges/Tom Moit

Elders:

Carolyn Bradbury
Clark Williamson

UPCOMING PREACHING TEXTS

May 7: John 10:1-10

May 14: John 14:1-14

• Talking About Worship •

Happy Spring! It is a time of renewal in our gardens, in our city AND in our church family! We are growing, thanks be to God, and with growth comes opportunity—to meet new people, to start and support new programs, to expand our witness and share the good news with even more of our friends and neighbors. We've been working on efforts to reach out to our neighborhood, and I hope you'll be a part of that conversation on Sunday when we meet for "Weaving a Connected Community."

About three weeks ago we did a survey about expanding worship opportunities each week. The survey is part of our information gathering, and is one "data point" to inform decision-making going forward. It is not the only information being considered, but it is important to give everyone a chance to share thoughts. There will be plenty of time to analyze and digest the numbers, but for now, we want to share them with everyone.

So let's get to the numbers. A total of 128 people responded to the survey, both on-line and paper. For every question, there was "fall-off", meaning not everyone answered each question.

Q 1. Should Central offer a second worship opportunity every week?
Yes: 70.69% No: 29.31%

Q 2. What day and time would you prefer a second worship service to take place?
a) Earlier on Sunday 58.16%
b) Later on Sunday 19.39%
c) Another day of the week 22.45%

Q 3. Would you prefer a second worship service be a duplicate of the 10:30 service or would you prefer it take on a different style?
a) Duplicate of 10:30 51%
b) Different 49%

Q 4. Would you likely vary your attendance between services or would you consistently attend one service?
a) Vary attendance 52.73%
b) Consistent to one 47.27%

Q 5. How do you imagine a second worship service impacting our community?
a) Tremendously positive impact 20%
b) Slightly positive impact 44.76%
c) No change 5.71%
d) Slightly negative impact 25.71%
e) Tremendously positive 3.81%

Again, we are excited to continue this conversation, to keep hearing your voices and gathering information as we think about the impact our growth might have on worship. Thanks for being part of this conversation.

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE IS GROWING!

- **Our General Facebook Page** - <https://www.facebook.com/indyccc/>
- **Our Facebook Family Page** - <https://www.facebook.com/CentralIndyFamilies>
- **Our Church Website** - <http://www.indyccc.org>
- **Our Facebook Justice Network** - Central Justice Network
- **Our Twitter Account** - <https://twitter.com/indyccc46204>



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