



Foto February...or Would That be Photo Phebruary?

This month we are snapping photos on Sundays for a church directory that will be available on your mobile device. All members and friends are encouraged to stop by the "Photo Spot" in fellowship hall after worship on the next three Sundays to have your picture taken by Warren Lynn or Rick Appel.

Information will be available to users after the "roll out" of the software later this year. Users will have a user name and password to access information at that time. Children and youth may be added with parental approval.

A Note from Linda

Dear friends,

I don't know about you, but I have really enjoyed worship the past several weeks as we have lifted up and celebrated the senses. This Sunday completes that series with a focus on hearing. I am pleased to let you know that Roger Roe will be preaching. Roger is a member of the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, so is especially "attuned" to the sense of hearing. Bob Riester will lead prayer and communion in Sunday's service.

These words of prayer written by John Howell might speak for us:

*Creator God,
It is in our lives that we become aware of your life.
It is in the rhythms of the world
that we hear your pulse, your breathing, your footsteps...
We hold a newborn child in our arms, and sense that we are embracing God.
We listen to music, and sense that we are listening to the language of heaven.
We dance, and sense that we have experienced the fullness of prayer...
We thank you for the lives you have given us,
for the senses which are ours through which to experience life,
and for our human souls which reach out toward you, even now...*

And now, very soon, Lent will begin. This is an interesting year for dates, in that the season begins on Valentine's Day and ends on April Fools Day. (Won't we have some fun with that?) Lent in the Christian tradition is a period of 40 days leading to Easter. That number is associated with the 40 years the Hebrew people spent in the wilderness as well as Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness following his baptism. Lent carries a tone of self-examination and reflection. For some it is a time to give something up, for others a time to add a spiritual discipline.

At Central our theme for Lent is "Re-Learning Community," as we seek from ancient texts and from one another guidance for our individual lives and the life of the communities of which we are a part. We might choose to give up something that prevents us from building community, or we might take on a practice that supports our life in community. In this spirit we will gather on Ash Wednesday, February 14, at 7pm in the sanctuary for a service in the style of Taizé, a community that is founded on a commitment to reconciliation. The contemplative tone of song, prayers, silence and ashes seems to me a perfect way to begin the season.

On the first Sunday of Lent, February 18, Jon Barnes will preach and Dawn Barnes will lead prayer and communion. Jon and Dawn are well versed in nurturing team at Central), and will bring their wisdom and experience to share with the congregation.

I leave today for Israel, in what promises to be a rich and deep and varied experience. I am praying for openness to receive all that is offered, and I welcome your prayers for safe travels, good health, and much learning. I look forward to rejoining you in worship in a couple of weeks!

Blessings,
Linda

This and That

Young Disciples is Central's programming for children 2nd through 5th grade. It meets weekly during the sermon time. Adults serve in two capacities - as leader with a provided curriculum and as assistant. How we meet our needs of our youth is critical to ongoing growth at Central. We currently have a small cadre of leaders and we want more! We are trying to recruit 25 adults to help in Young Disciples once a quarter. We hope that these 25 adults will mirror the make up of the congregation. Are you being called? Find out more March 4th following worship. Contact Erin Leraris (cyf@indyccc.org) with questions.

In the Disciples faith, we begin to think about **baptism** when youth are capable of making decisions for themselves (Central puts this at about 5th grade). We are planning a baptismal retreat for any who are interested in learning more about this rite of passage. Please let Erin Leraris (cyf@indyccc.org) know if you'd like more information.

Please remember to wear your **name tags** during worship and fellowship time so that new people will be able to learn your name.

Six members and staff of Central were recently certified in **CPR** and to operate the **AED** (Automated External Defibrillator). Another training will be offered in May or June if there is interest.

Events This Weekend

Sunday, February 11

- **Bible Study** in the conference room at 9am
- **Worship** in the sanctuary at 10:30am
- **Fellowship time** follows worship in the fellowship hall
- **Lunch** follows worship in the community room
- **Choosing a Bible** in the conference room at noon

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



Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. We seek to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development and the promotion of mission opportunities. This special offering will be received at Central on February 11 & 18.

Updates

Linda McCrae will be traveling to Israel February 9 to 19. In her absence, please contact the following people.

For pastoral concerns:

- Rick Appel (rappel12@gmail.com), elder on call
- Donna Prince (donna@sacredplaces.com), caregiver ministry coordinator
- Bethany Lowery (bethany.lowery@gmail.com), chair of the elders

For other matters:

- Mary Robinson (office@indyccc.org), Church Administrator
- Verity Jones (verity@truewill.us), Moderator

Celebrating One Year of Community Conversations

For Lent of 2017 we started a conversation. The plan was to highlight the text from which Pastor Linda would be preaching each week and invite about 3 persons from Central to reflect briefly on that text. These reflections have been posted each week on Central's [website](#) so that everyone can read, reflect and respond if desired. These reflections have created conversations that inspire, challenge, surprise, educate, and encourage community interaction with each other and with the sermon texts. Pastor Linda has used the reflections to inform her preaching and the Lectionary Bible Study Class has used them to enhance their listening to the Spirit as well. Some members report that these conversations have become an important part of their own spiritual discipline each week.

I want to thank everyone who has so graciously written a reflection on a text. This has definitely been a community project--and continues to be so. Now we are approaching Lent of 2018: One Year of Community Conversations! Our community has grown and new voices are yet to be heard. So the Conversation continues. For February 18, the First Sunday of Lent, we reflect on Genesis 9:8-17. Please check out the rainbow reflections by Susan, Roger and Edwin at <http://www.indyccc.org/sermontextconversation/> and join the conversation.

Gratefully,
Judith Hoch Wray

LAST CHANCE TO SIGN-UP FOR SPIRITUAL LIFE GROUPS

We will gather in small groups, following the guide of Henri Nouwen in his book, *Spiritual Formation: Following the Movements of the Spirit*, and share our questions and faith. As we discover how each other is sustained in our faith, we will find that we are not alone in our struggle and in our strengths.

Return the insert from your bulletin or email Dick Hamm (dhamm@ddi.org) by the 16th.

Groups will be forming after February 14 as follows:

Downtown: at the home of Debbie Abbot/David Licht, 1550 Carrolton Ave, Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Eastside: at the home of Julia Holloway, 828 North Graham, Mondays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Westside: at the home of Grace Gyor, 823 Garden Place, Plainfield, Fridays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Northside: the home of Bob and Kathy Riester, 4921 E. 69th St., Mondays, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

At the church: Sundays, Noon – 2:00 pm (including lunch)

The book can be purchased used or new at amazon.com for \$3.99-\$10.48. The Kindle version is @ \$9.49. You can purchase used copies on abebooks.com for \$5-\$15. If you are unable to purchase the book before your sessions begin, we will have them available for sale or free at the church office.

How to Choose a Bible to Buy

Need a Bible? Want a new Bible? Want to understand about different translations and whether or not your choice of translation matters? How do you choose a Bible wisely, whether you want to buy one or you just want to choose from your own book shelf?

On Sunday, **February 11**, after worship from noon to 1:30 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Judith Hoch Wray is offering a one-time-only class on "How to Choose a Bible." A few recommended Bibles will be available for sale (at a discounted rate for those who need it).

Bring your favorite Bible with you, if you wish. Bring your questions about Bible translations and about resources for Bible study, including about on-line translations and resources.

Lunch will be provided, with a \$7 donation requested but not required. Come to eat and learn. All are welcome.

Food Pantry Update

The food pantry served 46 households in January. These households represented 105 individuals with 8 being under the age of 5 and 9 over the age of 65. We served 13 Veterans last month. Our goal this year is to give more items to each household than we have given in the past. Please see the list of items below that are most needed this month. We also are in need of grocery bags with handles, but please NO MILK JUGS until further notice. We have all that we can store right now.

Thanks for your continued support of the food pantry.

- dried beans
- low sodium soups and vegetables
- Vienna Sausages
- spaghetti sauce
- soup of any kind
- greens
- Miscellaneous items such as condiments, jelly, mashed potatoes, etc.
- spaghetti sauce
- bars of bath soap
- toilet paper

Here at Central the sale of Equal Exchange makes a difference locally too. The sale of items on our coffee cart makes it possible for us to be a welcoming congregation by providing coffee for our fellowship time. The slight profits of the coffee cart are used to purchase the coffee we drink on Sundays. With our increased Sunday morning attendance, we need more people to shop at the coffee cart so we can continue to make this welcome possible. We urge you to shop regularly at our coffee cart on Sunday mornings!



We thank those who enriched our worship services on Sunday, **2/4/18**:
Greeters: Aly, Dawn and Jon Barnes
Acolyte: Jake Nickel
Worship Leader: Khaya Barnes
Worship and Wonder: Debbie Abbott and David Licht
Young Disciples: Kathy Ballard and Beth White
Nursery Helper: Kathy Knoblauch
Offering Counters: Kerry Armstrong and Jerry Nickel
Audio Technician: Rob Hartman

Thank you also to those who have **helped in the office** this week: Jackie Miller, Fran Van Maaren

Thanks also to their **donation of a freezer** that will support our new lunch program.

Trauma-Informed Community Workshop

As major institutions, churches serve all kinds of people. From those in the pews to those touched by outreach work, people need to be seen, heard, understood and cared for. We know that in 2018, all sorts of lives are touched by trauma and adversity. As a "people place," the more churches understand trauma and its biological impact, the more we can meet the needs of all of God's children.

In response to this, Erin Leraris will offer a 2 hour workshop on becoming a more trauma-informed community on **February 18** following worship. Her focus will be on youth, however it is applicable to all.

Please RSVP to Erin at Eleraris@yahoo.com. A free will offering will be taken to benefit the Children's Policy and Law Initiative.

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays and Anniversaries*

- 2/9**
Lee Brunner
Jenna Sears
- 2/10**
Karen Estle
Danielle Hartman
Stan Worth
- 2/11**
Carol Jeanne Nickel
- 2/12**
Hung Quoc Dao
Dan Moseley
Maggie Sears
Michael Sears
Sasha Sears
- 2/14**
Scotty Trinkle

UPCOMING PREACHING TEXTS

February 11
Psalm 85:8, Mark 4:1-20, Mark 7:31-37, Romans 10:8-17, Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22

February 18
Genesis 9:8-17

Thrift Store needs: Kitchen size trash bags, Large black trash bags, Men's belts, Warm gloves, Men's boots

Free Clothing needs: men's jeans, slacks, shirts, belts, shoes; women's jeans, bras; winter jackets, sweatpants, sweatshirts, hats, gloves, backpacks, tote bags

CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

- Our General Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/indyccc/>
- Our Facebook Family Page - <https://www.facebook.com/CentrallndyFamilies>
- Our Church Website - <http://www.indyccc.org>
- Our Facebook Justice Network - [Central Justice Network](https://www.facebook.com/CentralJusticeNetwork)
- Our Twitter Account - <https://twitter.com/indyccc46204>

