

# *The Messenger*

## *Central United Methodist Church*

*Joseph Easley, Senior Pastor  
300 Mary Street  
Evansville, Indiana 47710-1292  
February 2009*

### **INTRODUCING THE WARNEKE FAMILY**

It has certainly been a very busy new year for my family, as **Abby, Gideon** and I have moved our belongings and our lives here to Evansville, IN. We have certainly felt a very warm welcome to the family of Central and look forward to all that God has in store for us in the years to come. To give you a better understanding of who we are, and what we hope and pray God will do during our time with you at Central, a small bio seems to be in order.

I grew up in a family of five children, myself being the youngest, with two wonderful and deeply Christian parents. I was born in Wisconsin, spent most of my childhood in the Quad Cities region of Illinois, and my high school years in the northern panhandle of West Virginia. College years were split among four universities from the states of Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin. I graduated with a degree in Religion from Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin in the winter of 2002.

I did grow up in a Christian home and have been actively involved in the church my entire life. But it wasn't until my involvement with Young Life my freshman year of high school that I truly established a relationship with my Savior and Creator. Through the avenue of Young Life I grew deeply in my faith and felt the first heartstrings being pulled toward work in ministry. Through my college years and beyond I have been working for an organization based out of Loveland, CO, Group Workcamps Foundation. Through the past ten years of service with Group, I have had opportunities to serve in short term mission trips in over 31 different communities around the nation. I have a deep love for missions and this is the arena in which I met my wife, **Abby**, back in the summer of 2000.

For the past 5 ½ years I have been serving as the Director of Family Ministries at First Union Congregational Church in Quincy, IL. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time of service in Quincy, and had the opportunity to begin various new ministries and serve in all areas of the church. I felt God calling me to a new chapter and challenge in my life, and this move to Evansville seems to fall exactly into God's plan for me and my family.

**Abby** is an incredible mother and wife, and is excited to begin the role of being a stay at home mom for our 2 ½ year old, **Gideon** and our child to be born in mid-June. **Abby** grew up in Southern Missouri in the

small town of Cabool in a wonderful home. **Abby's** father is a pastor, and **Abby** has always been close to the church, and actively seeking His will for her life. **Abby** has a huge love and passion for missions, especially Africa. **Abby** was able to serve in Johannesburg, South Africa in the late summer of 2005 at a ministry taking in abandoned infants.

We have been happily married for the past six years and are very excited for this new chapter of our lives to begin. We have been praying and dreaming of this change for our family for quite some time, and it seems a bit surreal now that we are in the midst of it. I have been very excited and encouraged to see all of the wonderful ministries that currently exist at Central. I have had the chance to meet many of you, and look forward to more opportunities to share in ministry and in life with the family of Central.

Please know that my office door is always open, as well as our home if you would ever like to come and share what you would like to see happen at Central in the future.

I have many hopes and dreams for Central, and I am excited to see which ones God approves of, and which ones simply need to stay in my head and heart a bit longer. I pray that together we can build Central while adding lives and families to the Kingdom of God. Thank you once again for your sincere hospitality and welcome as we transition into this new chapter of our lives.

In His Grip,

*Michael Warneke*

**Home: 812-303-7871**

**Cell: 812-604-2458**

**Email: mwarneke@central-church.org**

### **REV. EASLEY AT EDUCATION EVENT FEBRUARY 4-6**

**Rev. Easley** is attending a continuing education event February 4-6. It is held in Daytona Beach. **Patti** is going with him, and they are staying over an extra day. They leave for Nashville Tuesday evening for an early Wednesday flight and will return Saturday afternoon. Call the church office for pastoral needs. The church staff and parish nurses will handle needs during this time. A pastor is on-call too.

**IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH**

- Feb. 1 **Communion**  
Sermon: "Announcement and Call of Good News"  
Scripture: Mark 1:14-20
- Feb. 8 Sermon: "God and Darwin—Faith and Science" Scripture: Job 38:1-11 & 39:1-4
- Feb. 15 Sunday of Valentine's weekend  
Sermon: "Christ and Cupid—Love and Romance"  
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13
- Feb. 22 Last Sunday after the Epiphany  
Sermon: "Glory Days"  
Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:1-12; Mark 9:2-9
- Feb. 25 **Ash Wednesday** Service at 7:00 p.m.  
Sermon: "A Call to Reconciliation"  
Scriptures: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

**SOUP SUPPER & ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE - FEBRUARY 25**

Lent begins on February 25, so we will again have an Ash Wednesday service that evening at 7:00 p.m. The choir will be singing, **Rev. Easley** preaching and we will use the mark of ashes. It is a good way to begin a spiritual journey during Lent. This year, we are also having a Soup Supper on this night. A variety of soup will be served in the Garden Room from 5:30 to 6:30 for just a free-will offering. If you are in the habit of coming to Welcome Wednesday anyway (beginning February 4), just continue coming to church that night for soup and worship. Welcome Wednesday resumes March 4, 11 and 18.



**LEAVING DOORS AT FOOT OF STAIRS UNLOCKED**

Please leave the doors at the foot of the stairs at the west entrance unlocked all the time. We are trying this experimentally. Since the two other sets of doors (on the far side of the elevator and at the main entrance to the Family Life Center) are both normally locked, it seems unnecessary to have a third set of locked doors coming in that entrance. If you see a reason that they should be locked, tell the church office or Trustees.

**YOUR SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOME**

The Trustees have placed a suggestion box in the Parlor. It is on the table in the corner to your left as you come in from the Mary Street main entrance. If you see a building problem or have an idea for an improvement, write it down and put it in the box or tell a Trustee. Suggestions on programs can be referred to the appropriate Team, Church Council Chair **Brandon**



**Daugherty** or Pastor. Suggestions related to staff should go to SPRC Chair **Libby Pittman** or any member of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee.

**WELCOME WEDNESDAYS BEGIN FEBRUARY 4**

Central UMC invites all people and ages to a series of 6 "Welcome Wednesdays" February 4, 11 and 18 and March 4, 11 and 18. A light meal will be served each night 5:15-6:00 p.m. at no charge, but a free-will offering is invited. Adults may choose from a beginners' introduction to the Old Testament, a book study on character and integrity entitled Deadly Viper Character Assassins (which may be of special interest to men) or crafts (including 3 weeks of quilting). Each night there will also be a cooking demonstration, activities for children, youth fellowship and open gym for adults.



Classes will skip February 25, but join us that night for a free Soup Supper (5:30 to 6:30) and our Ash Wednesday Service (7:00) to begin Lent.

Use the form below to sign up for meals and activities on the nights you will attend. Class sign up and meal reservations can be called into the office, but we need to know on meals by noon, Monday, of that week.

- 4:15-5:15 Study of The Bible from Scratch: The Old Testament for Beginners – Pastor Joe Easley, leading
  - 5:15-6:00 Meals:
    - Feb. 4     Feb. 11     Feb. 18
    - March 4     March 11     March 18
  - 6:00-7:30 Youth Group
  - 6:00-6:30 Cooking demo in Kitchen
  - 6:15-7:30 Chancel Choir
  - 6:15-7:30 Children's Choir & Crafts (5 yr. olds thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - 6:15-7:30 Stories, Songs and Crafts (kids ages 2 to 4 yrs.) (Childcare continues until 8:15)
  - 6:30-7:30 Study of The Bible from Scratch: The Old Testament for Beginners **Pastor Joe Easley**, leading
  - 6:30-7:30 "Deadly Viper Character Assassins" study on character and integrity **Michael Warneke**, leading
  - 6:30-7:30 Craft demonstrations:
    - Feb. 4 Recipe Scrapbook by Karen Moore
    - Feb. 11 Craft Demonstrations by Michael's
    - Feb. 18 Spinning/Weaving demo Kelly Kuchenbrod
    - March 4, 11 and 18 Quilting taught by Central Quilters
  - 7:30-8:15 Hand Bell Choir
  - 7:30-9:00 Open gym - pick-up basketball
- Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## MESSAGE FROM ISAAC ARTHUR

Hello Joe, I've received your mails and they really gave me an exciting and nostalgic moment, since suddenly Evansville seized my thoughts and emotions. And the signed Christmas Card—Whoa! that was just an amazing and profound way of showing your unflinching love to me. One of the pictures has found its way into my album and the other with signatures is at my bedside. Thanks so much for such a show of love and concern for me all this while. My best regards to all members at Central. I hope one day I'll be able to make it to Evansville with Constance. Thanks once again and may God richly bless you. (1-3-09)

## HELP US SAVE SALES TAX ON CHURCH PURCHASES

The Church is exempt from sales tax in nearly every case for purchases made by the church directly or for the church, if the purchaser has the proper form at the time of purchase. With the sales tax now 7%, this means saving 7 cents on every dollar, if you have a copy of the tax exempt form when you buy for the church. (This does not apply to food, since food is tax exempt anyway.) Contact Lisa or John in the church office before you go out to buy something for the church, and they can give you a copy of the form. John Robertson reports we could have saved \$167 in 2008 with this.

## UM MEN'S GATHERING – JULY 10-12

The 10<sup>th</sup> National Gathering of the United Methodist Men will be held July 10-12 at Belmont University in Nashville. Among the speakers will be Dr. Patrick Morley, founder of Man in the Mirror. Among the artists sharing music is Vince Gill. For more information go to their website: [www.gcummm.org](http://www.gcummm.org). A copy of UMMen is on the table near the east doors out of the Sanctuary.

## BOOK CLUB

There has been some interest expressed in doing a book club again. We would probably start with The Shack. If you think you might be interested, please call Nancy in the church office so we can explore dates and times.

## TRINITY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Trinity Sunday School Class will be beginning a new study on Sunday, February 1. We will be focusing on the fruit of the spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Through this study, the class should grow in fellowship, knowledge of God, and certainly knowledge of themselves. Please come and join us for this personal study led by Mike and Abby Warneke, as we begin our first topic on patience.

## DEADLY VIPER CHARACTER ASSASSINS

Join us during Welcome Wednesday's for a unique look at issues of integrity and character with a Kung Fu theme. We will be following along with the book Deadly Viper Character Assassins, written by Mike Foster and Jud Wilhite. Come and be part of a discussion on topics that we should talk about, but never seem to make it into our everyday conversations. No one wakes up one day and says to themselves, "I think I will ruin everything I hold dear to me today!" Sadly, too many men in our society do just that by not having accountability in their lives, helping them stay focused on the tough questions in life. Beginning Wednesday, February 4, start a journey toward healing, openness and accountability with others here at Central.

## Souper Bowl

America's teens are transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving through the Souper Bowl of Caring. Last year, youth across the nation collected over \$10 million for charities through participating in Souper Bowl of Caring. On Souper Bowl Sunday, February 1, 2009, our youth will collect one-dollar donations in large soup pots as worshippers leave church. The youth group will match the funds collected and donate the money directly to the Tri-State Food Pantry which stocks our food pantry here at Central. America's youth are working to make 2009 a record year for the Souper Bowl of Caring by raising millions for hunger and poverty-related charities across the country. We hope you will choose to get involved in this grassroots, youth movement that is truly helping to serve "the least of these."



The Child Care would like to remind the church members that you can receive a 30% discount on tuition in the preschool program. Child Care will also be offering a summer camp this year for children ages 6 - 11. If you or someone you know are interested please call Penny or Mary K in the Child Care office at 424-9461.

## A PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE FOR THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

I pledge allegiance to the health of the United World of the Universe and to the Earth on which we stand - One planet born of love - Indivisible with rights and responsibilities for all.

Written by Ginni Clemmons

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jasmine Jae Cummings
- 2 Margie Singer
- 4 Nancy Reid
- 5 Luna Wambach
- 6 Mary Ellen Hasenmyer  
David Wicker
- 7 Alexander Herring
- 10 Doris Klein  
Rebecca Morgan  
Diane Walker
- 11 Wesley Lynch  
Pam Owens
- 12 Ray Brower  
Elise Lynch  
Megan Tribble
- 14 Christa Marie Crow  
Susan J. Edminson  
Kira Pusateri
- 15 Carly Frazier  
Heather Morse
- 17 William C. Brenner  
Eleni Jackson
- 19 Remington Adams
- 20 Mark Georges
- 21 Ruth Cobb
- 22 Linda Henzman
- 25 Jeff Duncan  
Kristi Frazier  
Jean Walling
- 26 Art Barr
- 26 Deloris Gibson  
Barbara Johnson
- 28 Eric Millay  
Andrew O'Bryan



### 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY COIN TOTAL FOR SANTA CLAUS CAMPGROUND

The coin total collected all year for the Santa Claus Campground was \$476.15. Thanks to all who contribute for such a great cause.

**OUR SYMPATHY** is extended to **Bob East and his family** on the death of his sister Bonnie Moore of Cynthia on December 31....and to **Ron Counts'** and his family on the death, of his grandmother, Vera Marie Counts, January 9 at age 87. The funeral was January 12.

### DISHES FROM THE PAST.....

Would you like to have a "piece of the past"?

A few dishes monogrammed C.M.E. will be available for purchase (donation for kitchenette fund) in the Parlor for the next two Sundays, February 1 & 8. This will be a nice keepsake for you or someone in your family.



**Linda Eggleston**

## LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Our Lenten Devotional booklet will be written this year by members and affiliates of Central. If you have been contacted about writing a short devotional, please try to get it in soon. If you have questions about format, or if you are willing to submit a devotional but have not received instructions, please contact Nancy in the church office or through her e-mail ([nreid@central-church.org](mailto:nreid@central-church.org))

### PRAYERS DURING LENT

The Prayer Team plan to have prayer in the Narthex during Lent, from 2 –7 pm on Wednesdays. Wednesday was chosen because so many people are already involved at church that day and can stop by and offer a prayer. Day and time can be changed later if something works better.

Also as good stewards we chose it because the church will already be heated!  
Carol Crabtree

**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Devon Wiley!** Devon recently competed in the World Karate Competition in Florida, and he is now **3<sup>rd</sup> in the world** in his age and weight category. Devon is the son of Andrea and Danny Wiley and the grandson of **Art Barr**. Congratulations, Devon!






### TRUSTEES RECOMMEND

The Trustees met, surveyed and measured, and would now like to recommend that the Rack Shack be relocated to the stage in the Garden Room. The stage would be closed in with a wall, leaving the Garden Room basically the same. The Food Pantry serves the same people who would benefit with the household items the Rack Shack provides. Both places could be open at the same times in order to help in the best way possible. The Rack Shack is now at the opposite end of the church in the basement and must be entered on Mary Street. This area is not appropriate since the Child Care children are there at various times playing. The Rack Shack has been in the basement since it began, but we feel for everyone concerned it is time to move it. If you have questions, comments or concerns, please share them via email at [cromain@unitedevv.com](mailto:cromain@unitedevv.com) or by calling Connie Romain, Trustee, at 867-6000.

### CHRISTIAN'S PLEDGE

I will do more than belong; I will participate.  
I will do more than care; I will help.  
I will do more than believe; I will practice.  
I will do more than be fair; I will be kind.  
I will do more than forgive; I will work.  
I will do more than earn; I will enrich.  
I will do more than teach; I will inspire.  
I will do more than give; I will serve.  
I will do more than live; I will grow.  
I will do more than be friendly; I will be a friend.

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday   | Saturday   |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| <h1>FEBRUARY 2009</h1>   |   |   |   |    |  |  |
| <b>Services Every Sunday: 8:30 A. M. Contemporary Service 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Traditional Service</b> |   |   |   |   |  |  |
| 1<br>Communion<br>2:30 Sanders Bridal Shower – Garden Room   | 2<br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>4:30 Children's Ministry Mtg. – Hacienda<br>6:00 Trustee Mtg. - Ch. Office<br>6:00 CAJE Team Mtg. – Lib.  | 3<br>9:00 Church Staff Mtg.<br>10:00 Martha-Elizabeth – Lib.<br>3:30 Tutoring<br>6:15 Staff-Parish Mtg. – Lib.<br>6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group  | 4 11:00 Wednesday Friends – Trinity Room<br>4:00 Power<br>5:15 Welcome Wed. Meal*<br>6:00 Youth – Youth Room<br>6:15 Choir 6:30 Classes<br>7:30 Bell Choir, Open Gym  | 5<br>9:00 Quilting<br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>3:30 Tutoring<br>5:00 FLC rented for Basketball                          | 6<br>Staff Dress Down Day  | 7<br>9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground<br>12:00 N A Meeting - Library   |
| 8  | 9<br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>6:00 Executive Church Council - Library   | 10<br>9:00 Church Staff Mtg.<br>2:00 Small Accountability<br>3:30 Tutoring<br>5:15 Shalom Team Mtg. – St. Lucas<br>6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group | 11<br>4:00 Power<br>5:15 Welcome Wed. Meal*<br>6:00 Youth – Youth Room<br>6:15 Chancel Choir<br>6:30 Classes<br>7:30 Bell Choir, Open Gym                             | 12<br>7:30 JACC Mtg. – Library<br>9:00 Quilting<br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>2:00 Mary-Barb Brooks Cir.<br>3:30 Tutoring | 13   | 14<br><br>9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground<br>12:00 N A Meeting - Library |
| 15   | 16<br> <b>President's Day</b><br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>7:00 Bea Conder Circle – Hostess: Betty Jo Adams | 17<br>9:00 Full Church Staff Mtg.<br>3:30 Tutoring<br>6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group  | 18 11:00 Wednesday Friends - Trinity Room<br>4:00 Power<br>5:15 Welcome Wed. Meal*<br>6:00 Youth – Youth Room<br>6:15 Choir 6:30 Classes<br>7:30 Bell Choir, Open Gym | 19<br>9:00 Quilting<br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>3:30 Tutoring<br>5:00 FLC rented for Basketball                         | 20<br>12:00 MESSENGER DEADLINE   | 21<br>9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground<br>12:00 N A Meeting - Library  |
| 22<br>5:00 Shalom Dinner – St. Lucas   | 23<br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>6:30 CAJE Team Mtg. – Lib.   | 24<br>9:00 Staff Meeting<br>3:30 Tutoring<br>6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group   | 25<br>4:00 Power<br>5:30 Soup Supper<br>7:00 Ash Wednesday Service  | 26<br>9:00 Quilting<br>9:30-11:30 Food Pantry<br>10:00-1:00 Rack Shack<br>3:30 Tutoring   | 27   | 28<br>7:15 UMM Lenten Breakfast – Aldersgate<br>9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground<br>12:00 N A Meeting - Library  |
|  |   |   |   |   | <b>*Welcome Wednesday</b><br>4:15 Bible Study<br>5:15 Meal<br>6:00 Cooking Demo in Kitchen<br>6:15 Children's Choir & Crafts<br>6:15 Stories, Songs & Crafts<br>6:30 Bible Study<br>6:30 "Deadly Viper" Study<br>6:30 Craft Demonstrations |  |