



The Messenger

Central

United Methodist Church

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August 2010

HEAR WORSHIP STUDY REPORT AUGUST 15 AFTER 9:30 SERVICE

On **August 15** we will have **one worship service at 9:30**, so that everyone has an opportunity to hear an important presentation by the Worship Study Task Force. Please mark the schedule change on your calendar and plan to be in worship that day and stay for the presentation. It will start about 10:35 or shortly after the Postlude concludes. Adult classes can choose that day to either not meet or meet at 8:30. We will hold Children's Sunday School at 10:35.

The decision to create a Worship Study Task Force was made in May 2009. It was one of two task forces recommended and created to look at long-term issues of importance to Central Church. [*The other was the Long-Term Financial Task Force, which has already addressed some issues, continues to work on others and plans its final report soon to the Church Council.*] This was part of **“a strategic, long-term process to envision the kind of worship experience we want to offer, in order to meet the spiritual needs of new generations and reach currently unchurched people, while continuing to sustain and enrich the relationship with God of our present members.”** In a March 2009 challenge to the Church Council, I observed: “There is a clear spiritual thirst in the generation of American youth and young adults, currently in their teens to early thirties. They are interested in genuine connection— with God, with people, and with human needs. But the world they experience is different from the one I know or experienced at their age... I would like us to begin systematically exploring what we will offer in worship to reach this age.” The Church Council assigned the task force to explore:

What kind(s) of services do we want to offer? What is the best schedule for those services? Etc. This should not be confined to the two current options we have but think more creatively what would be best?... What are needs now—which are undoubtedly different from those in 1999-2000 when the current services and schedule was developed?

The task force was a diverse slice of Central members, more than a dozen total, most volunteering to serve. It has held 15 to 20 meetings, looked at written material and on-line resources, and visited worship services at several other area churches. It looked at a variety of issues related to improving the current services. It considered whether we need 1, 2 or more services. It looks at a wide variety of possible Sunday schedules to meet the current and future needs of Central United Methodist Church, in order for it to remain a vital congregation reaching new people with the Gospel and bringing them

into the Fellowship of Christ. It also considered the unique history of Central and how a new schedule could enhance strong traditions in fellowship, adult Sunday School classes and children's ministries.

I was not a part of the task force but began attending—as did Nancy Reid—in April, when staff that were not already on it were asked to join. By then the task force had some recommendations but was still considering three schedule options. It spent two meetings, with input from every member, carefully envisioning the effects (pro and con) of each option on all aspects of congregational life, on all groups and ages. Care was taken to give more time and opportunity for fellowship, have fewer conflicts with Sunday School time and add quality time for children's Sunday School with all the kids there the same time. After a few days to reflect on this and pray, another meeting was held with further dialogue, and then each person stated which of the three options was best in their opinion and why they believed so.

Now the church must consider the report and decide whether to approve its recommendations. Deciding what worship model and schedule to adopt is very important and will help shape our future. Almost equally important to **what** we decide is **how** we decide it. Our congregation can become stronger with a process that values: honest inquiry, looking at all sides of the issue, listening with respect to all ideas, openly expressing our own opinions in a non-judgmental manner, working as a team to try to find the best solution and then pulling together to give whatever decision is made the best chance to work.

Worship, including its style and time, is something about which people feel strongly—and rightly so, since it is personal and meaningful. Please share what is important to you. Also listen to what is important to other Central members. The final decision needs to take into account all members of the Central family. We also need to consider what will help us to reach new people, since “The mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” Admittedly, none of us know for sure the best strategy to do that. We need to pray for guidance, work together to blend our various insights in common purpose, and be open to new ideas emerging through the process. Let us be guided in this by the “Great Things” that Jesus taught: “Love God with your whole self and your neighbor as yourself, serve others as you would Jesus, and make disciples for Christ and the Church.

Your Pastor,

IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

- Aug. 1 Communion
Final in Series: "The Greatest Hits of Jesus"
Sermon: "Our Mission? The Great Commission"
Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20
- Aug. 8 Mike Warnekepture: , Tyler White, Alexis Blythe-Meece
Danielle Meece lead worship & report on their Sweet Sleep mission trip to Uganda
- Aug. 15 Worship at 9:30 AM (one service this Sunday)
Start of Sermon Series on 1 Corinthians 12-14:
"God's Crazy Idea, Part 2: The Church"
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:1-13
Sermon: "God from Whom All Blessings Flow"
10:30 Children's Sunday School (no adult classes)
10:30 Worship Study Task Force Report-Sanctuary
- Aug. 22 Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31
Sermon: "God's Wondrous Gift of Interdependence"
- Aug. 29 Service Sunday (Special Schedule; No Sunday School)
8:45 AM Service Send-Off
(brief time of dedication & prayer)
9:00 AM Groups depart to serve, until approximately Noon
6:00 PM Service Celebration

SERVICE SUNDAY

Please join your church family as we take our worship to the streets on Sunday, August 29. We will be hosting our first ever Service Sunday here at Central and there will be opportunities for the entire church to get involved and serve our community as our form of worship that Sunday morning. The morning will begin with a Service Send-off taking place at 8:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by our Service Sunday time in the community from 9 to noon. We will gather again in the evening in the sanctuary at 6 p.m. to have a Service Celebration in which we will praise God together and share stories and testimonies about all that God did during our time of service together.

Beginning Sunday, August 15 you will have an opportunity to sign up for the service team of your choice in the bulletin. We will repeat this process on the August 22 as well to get a better idea for our planning for each of the events. We will need people willing to carpool to the different service opportunities and we hope that everyone will take part in some way as this Sunday draws near. A few samples of the service that may be offered are as follows: city park clean up, work on the grounds of the Santa Claus Campground, bottled water distribution in the downtown area, making prayer bears and prepping for the Shalom Meal at the church, helping work at Frog Follies and possibly some fellowship, worship and craft time at Holiday Village. We will have more details to follow as our first Service Sunday rolls around at the end of August. We pray that you will find a way to be involved and invite a friend or neighbor to join with us during this exciting Sunday.

CHILDREN'S DEVOTIONAL

The Children's Team is planning to create an Advent Devotional for our children. If you would be willing to help with this project, please contact **Nancy** in the church office.

BRING BOXES FOR PANTRY AUGUST 1

This month's "First-Sunday Collection" item is "**B**oxes." On August 1, bring in staple food in boxes (e.g. macaroni & cheese) for our pantry. You may also give by cash or check (to "Central UMC" noting "Food Pantry").

VISION 2012 HALFWAY POINT UPDATE (Edited slightly from presentation in worship July 2010)

Congratulations to all members of Central!! We have reached the halfway milestone in our Vision 2012 Campaign. This is a cause for celebration and I hope you will join me in rejoicing for what God has given to us to give to our Church. We started this capital campaign in 2008 with a goal of raising \$1.1 million. The leadership team of our church felt this was a realistic goal that would pay off our existing debt from prior construction, including what was just being finished on the Family Life Center, and add the position of a Director of Outreach Ministries to help our church grow.

Our initial pledges reached just over \$900,000. Due to a death of some members and pledge adjustments, our total pledge amount is now \$883,131; but with everyone praying and working together, we can still realize our goals. If you agree that these are worthy goals, you are invited to join us in our quest if you have not already done so! We still have a long way to go to be debt-free here at Central; but we are so much closer than we were at the start of this campaign. With pre-campaign giving and contributions to date, we have received a total of \$509,283.38 toward our goal. While we are making definite progress in our commitment to reduce our debt, it is important to remain faithful and diligent in our giving. If you are new to Central and want to join in this ambitious and worthy cause, please know that it is not too late to make a pledge. If you are currently participating in our 4-year campaign, we ask that you prayerfully consider whether you are doing all God is leading you to do to sustain, support and build our congregation.

We have made definite progress and are thrilled with our accomplishments through the first two years of our campaign. During the first year, we significantly reduced our debt in both interest payments and principal, and our Director of Outreach Ministries joined the staff at Central. In the second year, we continued making progress by utilizing Vision 2012 contributions to work toward our goals. In December 2009, we celebrated when we made the final payment on a loan from Old National Bank that was originally \$1.2 million; we have made significant progress on paying back our Endowment Fund loan that has been reduced from \$550,000 to \$385,000. Our Director of Outreach Ministries continues to expand the missions of our Church and we share in the support and missions of the conference.

These are major achievements and we can rejoice with a sense of pride in what we have done. But we must also remember the job is not finished. Our children and grandchildren deserve to know that we have answered the call to serve our Lord through Central United Methodist Church and its missions.

Given by Linda Tribble, Leader of the Vision 2012 Bridge Team

WILLIAM MPERE-GYEKYE FAREWELL-AUGUST 29

Rev. William Mpere-Gyekye has decided to return to Ghana at the end of August, when he completes his year of Clinical Pastoral Education residency at Deaconess. He had considered doing further work here for another year or more, but he decided he is ready to get back to home, family, friends and ministry there. When he returns, there will be a memorial service for his mother, who died this spring. Since there is not another international student coming in who will need the car Central donors got for him, he has decided to return it to be resold by the church. With those proceeds, we will help him ship back a library of books he acquired. He already has his plane ticket to return, but if some unforeseen expense comes up before he leaves we will help him with that. The remaining funds will be donated to a mission project with the Methodist Church in Ghana. August 29 will be his last day here. We will have a farewell for him at 6:00 p.m. that evening, when we re-gather for praise and sharing after our day of serving.



NEW PLAQUES IN FAMILY LIFE CENTER

On July 11, new plaques to hang in Central's Family Life Center were unveiled to remember **Charlotte and Marion Nolte** and to honor **Bob Romain, Jr.** for their "gifts" that let us build the Family Life Center less expensively. **Charlotte Nolte** left her estate to the church, and she was the sole inheritor of the estate



of her sister who died 10 months earlier. Ultimately, when all the proceeds from the combined estates came in, these were over \$500,000, which by church policy went to the Endowment Fund, which in turn loaned the money to build the

FLC. Borrowing it that way and paying only 5% interest was a good deal for the building program, and this generated steady income for Endowment and no loss of principle during a period when many other investments lost value. The meeting room in the FLC has been named in their honor and a plaque placed beside each of the two doors into the room which reads:

"The Nolte Room, named in memory of sisters **Charlotte and Marian Nolte**, lifelong members, whose generous Endowment Fund bequests helped make the Central United Methodist Church Family Life Center a reality."

Bob Romain used his time, talent and tools, working himself and guiding other volunteers who did much of the finish work on the FLC, and saved us at least \$200,000. A plaque across from the kitchen reads:

"In Appreciation of **Robert Romain, Jr.** for his dedication, expertise, hard work and leadership during construction of this Family Life Center for Central United Methodist Church."

JOIN CENTRAL'S KOMEN RACE TEAM

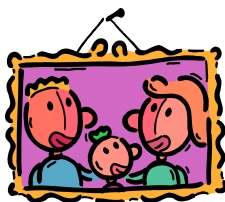
The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure returns to downtown Evansville on Saturday, September 25. Central UMC has once again formed a team to join in the fight against breast cancer. Last year's team of 33 registrants was impressive. Let's try for even more participants this year by asking your family and friends to register as members of the Central United Methodist Church team. Events include the Survivor Recognition Program at 8 a.m., the 5K run/walk at 9 a.m., and the one mile family walk at 9:30 a.m. Online registrations are encouraged by 1) registering at www.komenevansville.org, 2) clicking on "Register for 2010 Race" on the right-hand side of the screen, 3) clicking on "Join an Existing Team." Paper registration forms will be available at church during August for those who would rather not register online. Registration fee is \$25 (ages 12 and under \$15). Timed participants must pay an additional \$5. If you cannot participate during the run/walk on September 25, there are still numerous ways to donate. Registration deadline for our team is September 10, 2010. Contact our team captain **Ruth Randall** (425-0326 or randall5356@insightbb.com).

ORGANIST SOUGHT BY CENTRAL UM CHURCH

Central UMC seeks an organist to play for its 10:30 worship service. Salary is \$6,500+, depending on education, experience and the amount of vacation to be taken. Applicants may bring or send a resumes to Central UMC, 300 Mary St. IN 47710, jeasley@central-church.org or fax to (812) 424-3575.

DIRECTORY PICTURES BEING TAKEN

Please keep your appointment for pictures for a new church directory, being taken August 13-14 and 23-25. Every household pictured will get a free 8x10 portrait and a directory; families may also buy additional prints. Call **Linda Sanders** (471-3044), if you have any questions.



POWER/TUTORING

POWER/Tutoring will resume on August 10. If you are able to help a child with homework for an hour or so on a Tuesday or Thursday, or if you able to help with a meal on a Wednesday night, please contact **Nancy** in the church office.

ENDOWMENT FUND TAKING MISSION REQUESTS

The Governing Board of the Endowment Fund will be meeting in mid August to decide how to distribute the fund's earnings from the past year (July 2009-June 2010). The by-laws assume these (ca. \$40,000) will be divided half and half between "Property Maintenance" and "Service to Others," with some leeway to vary that division within limits in special circumstances. The Board of Trustees will decide the use of Fund A, but the Board decides the allocation of Fund B. It welcomes suggestions from members and requests from local mission groups. Such written requests need to be at the church by August 10.

SANTA CLAUS CAMP

Summer Camp at Santa Claus continues to be a life changing experience! This year we were able to send 10 kids to camp from our Power Program and they all had amazing weeks. It was a new experience for a couple of kids, and a repeat experience for the others. All of them have already told me they want to go back next year and one of them (who has been going for several years) has been asked to lifeguard next year! I am so proud of him. I know that summer camp is, in general, a great experience for kids. However, for some it is truly the best week of their lives. We had one this year who had such a great week that he absolutely glowed when I picked him up. He loved his counselors, the music, the food, and he loved being made to feel special. It was a week with no drama, no arguments with neighbors, and no worries about food and bills. I don't know for sure that he quite understands a commitment to Christ, but I do know that he saw it in others at camp. So thank you to this church for making camp scholarships a part of my budget and thanks to those who gave gifts to help cover what my budget did not. I can count on many of you to make sure that no child ever has to miss camp because of a budget crunch and I want you to know it is appreciated!

Nancy

COSTUMES

We are in the process of building a stage to be used in Children's Sunday School for our drama rotations. To complement our stage, we will be looking for costume items such as capes, hats, crowns, masks, etc. If you have such items, please leave them for **Nancy** in the church office!



THE UM YOUTH HOME will be having its 1st Annual Bowl-A-Thon on Saturday, September 11 2:00 p.m. at Arc Lanes, 4901 Monroe Avenue, Evansville. Entry Fees: \$25 per adult (age 18 and up) \$15 per child (age 17 and under) A maximum of 6 individuals per lane. At least one adult entry must bowl on each lane. Your entry entitles you to: two games of bowling, shoe rental, t-shirt, pizza and drink, trophies and random prize drawings. Contact: UMYH (812) 479-7535 for an entry form.

MISSION THANKS

We are blessed by Central Methodist people who care about others. By bringing small items to the Mission drop off, we touch a lot of people who need you. Thank you. Please keep the items coming.

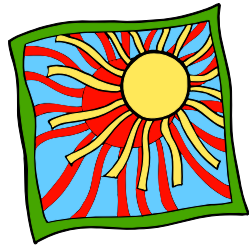
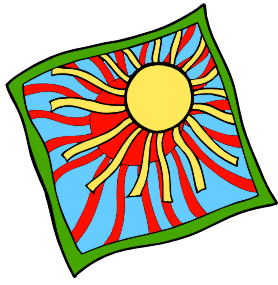
PAM, KATIE AND CLAY BOYLLS would like to thank the church for all the love and support during Mark's illness and passing.

THANKS for all the prayers, cards, calls, visits and encouraging support during my mother-in-law's illness, hospice stay and death on July 17th. It is a precious thing to feel the prayers and know people care during a difficult time. Central you are wonderful.

Lisa Miner

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Polly Flener
Mattie Woods
- 4 Brenda Miller
- 5 Doris Thompson
- 6 Amy Huey
Joy Mundy
- 7 Emily Adams
- 8 Matthew Schreiber
- 9 Barbara Brooks
Flossie Wilson
- 10 Joseph O'Bryan
Nicole Mitsopoulos
Grace Patterson
- 12 Susan Herring
- 14 Pam Dugan
Gideon Warneke
- 16 Kristy Broyles
Alicia Deig
Lynn Kratzer
Alicia Pittman
Mary Lou Robertson
- 17 Matthew Dillow
Cameron Ferris
Andrew Pfender
Connie Romain
- 18 Hal Bootz
Daniel Romain
- 20 Libby Pittman
- 21 Judy Boettger
- 22 David Wegner
- 24 Nellie Truitt
- 25 Anna Schreiber
- 26 Velma Berry
Harold Pittman
Gloria Simmons
Chelsea Vonhor
Ray Yonts
- 27 Jeffrey Romain
- 28 Robert Jarrett Jr.
Mark Schmitt
Letta Fraccaro
Quentin Martin
Stan Schmitt
- 31 Jacob Dillow
Penny Kane
Stephanie Orth
James Patterson



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS SCHEDULE

- August 1--Jennifer Willis
August 8--Melissa Counts
August 15--Amanda Schreiber
August 22--Josh and Amy Barron
August 29--Beth Hatt

UGANDA SUNDAY

Our Sweet Sleep Team will be sharing about their journey to Uganda on Sunday, August 8 during both services and during the Sunday School hour. Please come and hear about the impact this group had in Kampala, and most importantly the impact this trip had on the lives of those that had the honor of being a part of this incredible experience. During the Sunday School hour all are invited to the Garden Room to hear some more in depth stories about the kids that we met, and the orphanage where we worked. Thank you once again for the incredible support of Central in helping our team get to Uganda and back. We are hoping to take part in another trip to Uganda during July of 2011, so please come on the 8 and find a team member to talk about if this experience is something you would like to add to your life experiences in the coming year.

YOUNG ADULT OPPORTUNITIES WHITE WATER RAFTING IN WEST VIRGINIA

Our small groups will pick up again in September, but for the mean time all are invited to our volleyball nights on Wednesday evening.

The men of the church are invited to consider going rafting in West Virginia this coming October. Please talk with **Mike** if you are interested in joining the group for some intense white water on the Lower Gauley this fall. The tentative dates for this trip will be October 2-4, which is a Saturday, Sunday and Monday. We will take in a Cliffside Canopy Tour on Saturday evening, raft the Lower Gauley River on Sunday, and drive our aching bodies back to Evansville on Monday, October 4, just in time to take in all that the Fall Festival has to offer. The base cost for camping, meals, the canopy tour, and rafting is \$276, and depending on the number of people traveling we will share the cost of fuel to and from West Virginia. The more the merrier, so invite a friend and let's make some incredible memories together.

WELCOME to **Lily Grace Minnich** born on July 19 to **Hillary and Andy Minnich** of Fort Wayne. Proud grandparents are **Mike** and **June Davis**; **Suzy Daugherty** is her aunt and **Sam, Clara and Ellen**, her cousins.

SENIOR CITIZEN'S LUNCHEON

There will be a Senior Citizen's Luncheon on Thursday, August 19 at 12 noon in the Trinity Room. Everyone is to bring a covered dish. The speaker will be our own **Bob Cerling**. Call **Velma**, 477-5871, with any questions.



GET READY! GET SET! BAKE!!!

The Nurture Team is sponsoring the first Central Methodist Church Pie Bake-off on September 19 at 11:30 a.m. The Compass Class will be serving a delicious lunch. There will be pie activities for children and even a pie throwing event! Rules for the pie contest can be found in the Narthex at the back of the church. All church members are invited to enter their favorite homemade pie/pies. There is a \$10.00 entry fee per pie. Enter as many pies as you like. The winning pie will be auctioned off. All proceeds will go towards the debt of the Family Life Center. Even if you don't bake, come and join in the fun.

VOLLEYBALL NIGHTS

We will be continuing our volleyball nights on Wednesday evenings during the month of August. Please join us in the Family Life Center from 6 to 8 p.m. on August 11, 18, and 25 for a great time of fellowship, exercise and even some laughter thrown into the mix.

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to **Barbara** and family on the death of **Clinton Beck** on June 30. Clint and Barb had been married 61 years and members of Central 24 years. A memorial service was held at Sunset Memorial Park on July 5....and to the family and friends of **Dorothy Bretz**, who died June 25. Dorothy was 97 years old and her father was L.B. Finke. She and her late sister **Peg Guard** grew up at Central. In retirement she and Glen returned to Evansville and to Central, where she was active until moving to Missouri five years ago to be near her son Gary. A memorial service was held July 10....and to the family and friends of **Mary Hahn** who died on July 2. She had been a member since 1965, but had found it difficult to attend after her husband Charles' death in 1994.... and to **Dave Randall** and his family on the death July 19 of his mother Eleanor, age 90, of St. Charles, MO, where she was an active member of First UMC. Funeral was July 26. The address for **Dave, Ruth and Nick** is 2815 Meadow Lark Ct. 47720.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August 2010</h1>						
Services Every Sunday: 8:30 A. M. Contemporary Service 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. Traditional Service						
1 Communion	2 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack 4:00 Mission Team - Library 5:00 Nurture Team – Ch O 6:00 Trustee Mtg. - Ch. Office 6:00 CAJE Team Mtg. – Lib 6:00 Staff-Parish Mtg. – Lib	3 9:00 Church Staff Mtg. 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	4 11:00 Wednesday Friends – Trinity Room	5 9:00 Quilting 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack 6:00 Chess Club - Trinity	6 Staff Dress Down Day	7 9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground 12:00 N A Meeting - Library 1:00 Bender Bridal Shower – Garden Room
8	9 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack 4:30 Outreach Mtg. - Trinity 5:00 Children's Ministry - Ch-O	10 9:00 Church Staff Mtg. 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	11 11:45 JNIA - Trinity 1:00 Mary-Martha Circle – Trinity Room 6:00 Volleyball - FLC	12 9:00 Quilting 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack	13 Directory Pictures	14 Directory Pictures 9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground 12:00 N A Meeting - Library
15 One Service 9:30 Worship 10:35 Worship Task Force Response Children's Sunday School	16 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack 7:00 Bea Conder Circle – Hostess: Jane Schmitt	17 9:00 Full Church Staff Mtg. 11:15 Literary Ladies – Kennel Club 6:00 Church Council - Trinity 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	18 11:00 Wednesday Friends – Trinity Room 6:00 Volleyball - FLC	19 9:00 Quilting 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack 12:00 Senior Citizens - Garden 6:00 Chess Club - Trinity	20 12:00 MESSENGER DEADLINE	21 – Central FLC 9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground 12:00 N A Meeting - Library 2:00 Wedding Shower – Trinity Room
22	23 Directory Pictures 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack 5:30 Flood of Justice – Ch-O	24 Directory Pictures 9:00 Staff Meeting 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group	25 Directory Pictures 6:00 Volleyball – FLC	26 9:00 Quilting 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack	27	28 9:00-12:00 Indoor Playground 12:00 N A Meeting - Library Frog Follies
29 Service Sunday 8:45 Service Send Off 9-12 Service Send Off 5:00 Shalom Dinner – FLC 6:00 Celebration Service Frog Follies	30 9:30-12:00 Food Pantry 9:30-12:00 Rack Shack	31 6:30 Emmaus Prayer Group		