

The TORCH

March 25, 2008

Central Church of Christ

2001 E. Main St.
Streator, IL 61364
(815) 673-1581

website:
christiscentral.com

Emergency Phone:
257-1582

Staff

Butch Ringwald, Discipleship
Evelyn Taylor, Children
Chad Kennedy, Youth
Rick Jepsen, Worship
Debby Evans, Secretary
Jessica Pastirik, Secretary

Sunday Worship

1st Worship: 7:30 a.m.
2nd Worship & Bible classes:
9 a.m.
3rd Worship & Bible classes:
10:30 a.m.
Student Ministries (7th-12th)
6:00 p.m.

Whirlyball open to all "young at heart"

Once again this year, we are going to play **Whirlyball** in Chicago. Some call it a sport. Others call it a lesson in humility. It is a game where agility, speed, and strength are not used. Although it combines lacrosse, hockey and basketball with bumper cars, WhirlyBall has caused great athletes of every stripe to laugh and holler their way to a crushing defeat. The cost to go is \$16 plus money for food.

The event will be this Sunday, March 30. The church bus will be leaving at 3:00 p.m. The trip is open to the first 30 people (Jr. High age and up) who want to go. As of right now Jonah Dimmig, Larry Finney, Mike Knox, Brendan Dimmig, Jessica Stoens and Ryan Roudebush are going.

If you want to go, you must call the church office a reserve your spot before Sunday. Once the 30 spots are gone, there will be no more room! For those youth who do not go, there will be an activity here at the church.



Smart Discipline Program For Parents

Give us 2 hours ... We'll
give you kids that behave!

Tuesday, April 1,
6:30-8:30p.m.

Join us for this workshop of practical ways to work with your children. This workshop is for parents with children of all ages. The cost of this workshop is \$10 a person. This fee goes directly to the speaker, Dale Hancock. Childcare is provided with advance registration.

Get your Ladies Spring banquet tickets soon!

Ladies Spring Banquet Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the welcome center on Sunday, March 30 or from Martha Coats or Beckylynn Erschen during the week. The annual banquet will be held Saturday, April 5 at 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We are having a Cinco de Mayo in April celebration.

Rock River Christian Camp

is the place to be this summer

Super Early Bird Registration for Rock River Christian Camp has started and flyers are available at the welcome centers. If you register for a full week of camp before the end of April you get a Camp discount of \$20 with the church discount of \$10! You must register through Central to get the church discount. Office hours are Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

If you register by the end of May you get the Early Bird discount from Camp of \$10 and the church discount of \$5. So register early for the best deal.



Discipleship Ministry

Butch Ringwald



Are you diligently witnessing to others?

After Jesus arose from the dead, He commissioned His followers to "go and make disciples..." (Matthew 28:19 NIV) We see in the book of Acts, that the testimony of those first disciples had a great impact on the people they witnessed to. Many believed their testimony but others doubted. It is very difficult to continue witnessing, when those you talk to respond with doubt. But we must continue to diligently witness about Christ, because we do not know when they will turn from doubt to belief.

"Anne Rice is one of the most widely read authors in the world. Her bestsellers-most notably, her series of gothic books called "The Vampire Chronicles"-have sold over 100 million copies. After spending most of her adult life a self-described atheist, Rice converted back to Christianity in 1996. She has since focused her writing efforts on religious-themed works. Her newest book is entitled *Christ the Lord: The Road to Cana*. She recently allowed the readers of *Time* magazine to ask her whatever they

wished for an interactive piece called "10 Questions." When one reader asked about the reasons behind her conversion, Rice summed up her journey in these words:

*"Americans like to believe we turn to religion because of an accident or the loss of a loved one, but in my case it was simply the culmination of searching. I wrestled with a lot of theological questions, and then one afternoon, I thought, I love you-I want to come back to you."**

Your continued witness to a "doubter" could cause that person to wrestle with questions that will one day lead them to come to Christ. Let's continue our diligence as a witness of Jesus Christ.

*Brian Lowery, associate editor, *PreachingToday.com*; source: "10 Questions," *Time* magazine (3-17-08), p. 6, *PreachingToday.com*, (Carol Stream, Illinois; Christianity Today International) http://preachingtoday.com/illustrations/article_print.html?id=54206

Senior Minister Search Update

The Senior Minister search is continuing, with resumes arriving almost daily. The Search Committee is now pouring through over 30 resumes and beginning to call references, listen to sermons, and contact potential ministers.

There are some excellent prospects the committee is now working with to narrow down the choices to the person we believe God is calling to Central Church of Christ. The search committee consists of four elders and one minister. The committee is also mentoring three other men through this process to help them be better prepared for the future.

Although it may seem as though the process takes forever, the committee is working hard to ensure we are getting the person God wants here. Please continue to pray for the committee, for the Senior Minister God is calling to Central. Also pray for the men who are not called to Central that God will place them in the right ministry, in the right place for Him.



Our prayers and sympathy go out to the Dave (MaryKay) Eccleston family at the loss of his father, William Eccleston. He passed away Monday, March 17, 2008.

Jennifer "Jenny" Noonan died unexpectedly at her home in Reno, Nevada on Monday, March 17, 2008. She was a member here at Central before moving away. Please remember her family in your prayer. Her parents are Robert and Gloria Noonan and sister, Laura (fiance Brian McCormick). Friends and family attended services for Jenny here on Tuesday, March 25, 2008.

Our sympathy to the friends and family of Ruth Woodward who passed away, Monday, March 17, 2008.

Bring Rock River Pantry Days items to the welcome center by May 25



Frontline Ministries

Chad Kennedy



This Week's Schedule

March 30, Activities for Sunday
3:00 p.m. Leave for Whirlyball
6:00 p.m. SNT

Upcoming Events

April 19, FSM Host The Total Rec.
April 25-26, Jr. High Believe
April 27, CIY Deadline

We will be returning to Anderson, Indiana this year for CIY. We will be attending the week of June 9 -14. The total cost for the trip is \$350 and includes registration, transportation, food, and shirts for the week. A deposit of \$75 is due April 27.

We want to know what you are doing! There is a calendar at the welcome center each week at SNT. Please fill in when you have extra-curricular activities going on that you would like us to attend. The sponsors will then do their best to get to your activities.

Attention Parents

The April Parent Link should be available at the welcome centers this Sunday. If you would like it to be e-mailed to you, please e-mail Chad at chad@christiscentral.com.

Central's Athletic Ministry gears up for summer

The Athletic Ministry will be holding a meeting on March 30 in the chapel after the 10:30 service.

We are looking for anyone who is wanting to play in team athletic events throughout Streator. This could be golf leagues, softball, YMCA organized events, bowling, pretty much any sport event that you can organize a team for.

We are looking for anyone that would be willing to share their prayer faith by organizing prayer groups at sporting events throughout Streator, especially high school, jr. high, and grade school events.

We are looking for people or businesses that are willing to sponsor sporting teams or give donations for equipment for those who play sports in Streator.

So if you are moved by anything above, or if you just want to see what the ministry is going to be trying to do in the 2008 year, join us in the Chapel after the 10:30 service on Sunday March 30.

Any men interested in playing softball this spring/summer needs to contact Troy Dimmig, Chad Kennedy, or Rob Dickman before the 30th of March 2008.



Kid Central

Evelyn Taylor, Children's Director



Well we had a wonderful turnout for this year's egg hunt! There were 267 children register this year. When we took a head count we came up with 524 including those who were there helping with the hunt. Children went to six different game rooms and at each game heard about the resurrex-

ction of Jesus, the true meaning of Easter. Seeds were planted! Be sure to continue to pray for those seeds that the Lord will help them to take root and continue to grow. I would like to thank all who donated candy. Those who helped with set up, tear down, and run the game rooms. It was because of all those hands working together that this outreach to our community was possible.



Calling All Children's Workers!!!

This year's Children's Ministry Live Workshop is going to be in Bloomington at Eastview Christian Church, on Saturday, April 5! I know this is short notice, but please if you work in children's ministry this is a great workshop for you to attend. We will be leaving the church at 7:00 a.m. and be back around 4:00 p.m. There is no cost and they will serve us lunch! We need to register next week so please sign up on the sheet at the bulletin board in the foyer or call Evelyn this week to let her know you would like to go.





Baptized: Robert Noonan
 Gloria Noonan
 Brian McCormick
 Adam Irving

Prayer Partners

March 26. Deb Kelly, 27. Gwen Johnston, 28. Carol Yedinak, 29. Edith Patton, 30. Nancy Centko, 31. Brenda Dickman, April 1. ?, 2. ?

Statistics for March 23, 2008

1st Worship	72	
2nd Worship	337	
3rd Worship	324	Total 733
Bible classes	172	

Offerings



Offerings needed to meet Budget-Y-T-D for 2008:

\$139,635.60

Offerings given to-date:

\$132,123.38

Financial Statement available at the Welcome Center or the office

Leadership for Mar. 30, 2008

9 a.m. Worship

Elder: Dwight Galyen
 Deacons: Jim Threadgill, Harry Camp
 Serving: Jeff Horner, Mel McMeen, Lee Missel, Todd Pedelty, Gary Russow, Brian Schultz

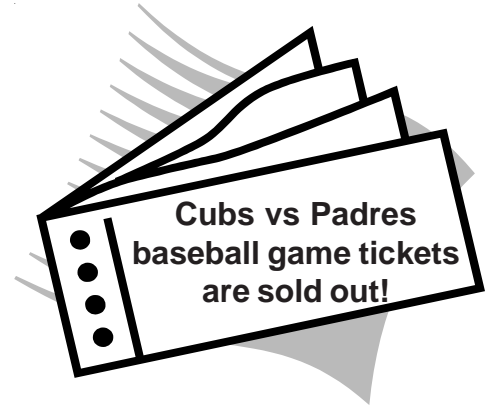
10:30 a.m. Worship

Deacons: Troy Dimmig, Dee Gaylord
 Serving: Mike Pastirik, Dale Ruff, Dave Strenzel, Terry Webster, Larry Birge, Jim Cashmer
 Welcome Center: Elsie Rieck
 Nursery: Connie Reaska, Carla Miller
 Toddlers: Mary Kay Eccleston, Dee Gaylord



Thank you to everyone who participated in the He is Risen Cafe on Easter morning. Wasn't it great to fellowship with our Christian brothers and sisters on Easter! Central has alot of talented bakers. Thank you for all of your donations.

Rejoice in our risen Lord!



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 US POSTAGE
PAID
 PERMIT NO. 296
 STREATOR IL
 61364

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
 2001 E MAIN ST
 PO BOX 535
 STREATOR ILLINOIS 61364
 PHONE: (815) 673-1581 FAX: (815) 673-1582