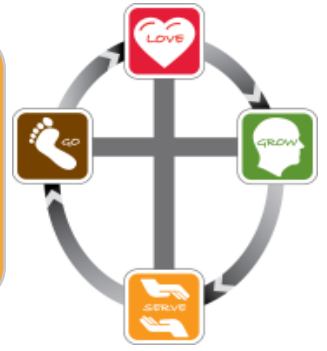


The TORCH

November 22, 2011



Central Church of Christ

WHERE WE...

 **LOVE**

 **GROW**

 **SERVE**

 **GO**

2001 E. Main St.

Streator, IL 61364

(815) 673-1581

website:

christiscentral.com

Emergency Phone:

257-1582

Staff

Charles Cline, Senior Minister
Evelyn Taylor, Children
Tony Ross, Worship
Ron Good, Exec. Minister
Rod Kreier, Interim Youth
Jessica Pastirik, Involvement
Debby Evans, Office Mgr.
Julie Happold, Fin./Min. Sec.

Sunday Worship

1st Worship: 8:15 a.m.
2nd Worship & Bible classes:
9:30 a.m.
3rd Worship & Bible classes:
11:00 a.m.
Student Ministries (6th-12th)
6:00 p.m.



No matter how long it's been since your loved one died, grief can make the holidays a painful time. But there is hope. Join us for an encouraging seminar that will help you survive the holidays and discover new reasons to enjoy them again.

The seminar features video interviews with counselors, grief experts and other people who have experienced the holidays after their loved one's death and who offer practical suggestions and reassurance.

The seminar will be held in the Upper Room on Tuesday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m.

You'll discover

- what emotions to expect during the coming days
- how to prepare for the holidays
- how to manage relationships and holiday socials
- how the holidays can help you heal

There is no charge to attend, and those who attend will receive a free book with over 30 daily readings providing additional insights and ideas on holiday survival. Childcare is available.

The group facilitators are Kevin and Misty Missel. Kevin and Misty credit the GriefShare program with helping them work through their own grief. Kevin was impacted as a teenager when he lost his father. In recent years, Kevin and Misty have experienced the death of a grandmother, two grandfathers, Kevin's mother in 2009 and their five-year-old son, Lucas, in 2010.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church office at (815) 673-1581.

Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, December 11

Following all morning services on Sunday, December 11, 2011, the congregation will vote on two items. The first item to be voted on (by members over the age of 16) concerns those who will be selected to serve in leadership for 2012. The ballot will include the names of the men who were nominated by the congregation, approved by the elders and who have accepted to serve as Elders or Deacons. The second item to be voted on is the 2012 proposed budget.

The proposed budget is published in this Torch and is also available on line. The proposed budget is also available at the entrance to the Worship Center or the kiosk at the church.

Three Christmas Worship Services

Over the past few years we've noticed that the Christmas Eve service has been jam packed to the point of being uncomfortable. To alleviate this, we are going to offer two Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. this year, along with one service on Christmas morning at 9:30 a.m. at CCC.

All three services will be identical, allowing the opportunity for everyone to spend time with family and to let our wonderful volunteers take a breath and relax.

Child care will be provided at the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service for ages birth through five-years-old but **NOT** for the 5:00 p.m. service. There will also be childcare provided for the Christmas Day service for birth through five-years-old. Children's bulletins will be available to older kids in the service.

There will be no Sunday School on Christmas Day.



Reaching out to families in the community of Streator

Operation Oakland Park (Operation O.P.) is a Christmas-gift outreach for families at Oakland Park Elementary School and is organized by the "Girlfriends" Women's Ministry Team at Central Church of Christ. This is CCC's second year of initiating Operation O.P. Our first year, 2009, was very successful, with 88 families being sponsored by our church. Oakland Park Elementary is a local school in our community where a majority of families have great financial needs. As a church, we have an opportunity to give clothing, food and gifts to children who will probably receive very little, if anything at Christmas-time this year. Even though we are reaching out to Oakland Park Elementary specifically, this will impact our entire community because many of the children in those families are different ages and attend other schools in our area.

Today, a Christmas tree will be decorated with various winter and Christmas ornaments. **If you are interested in sponsoring a family, please choose an ornament from the tree.** Each ornament will have a number on it which represents the number of children in that family. If you alone cannot provide gifts for a family with 2 or more children, consider sharing the opportunity of giving with friends, family members, a work group, your church small group, or a Sunday School Class.



It's a Boy!

Oliver Michael Snyder

Steven and Erica Snyder are the parents of a son, Oliver Michael Snyder, born on October 18, 2011. He weighed six pounds, 12 ounces and was 20 inches long. He is welcomed home by a sister, Lauren.

It's a Girl!

Elizabeth Anne Reel

Travis and Emma Reel are the parents of a daughter, Elizabeth Anne Reel, born on November 2, 2011. She weighed eight pounds and was 20 inches long.

Our Scouts are looking for a representative



Boy Scout Troop 775 and Cub Scout Pack 3775, chartered by Central Church of Christ, are currently looking for a Charter Organization Representative. This person will be the liaison and direct contact person between these two scouting units and the church. Some of the responsibilities of this liaison would be to help promote the scouting program and oversee the program on behalf of the church. These two scouting units have a long standing history with Central Church of Christ. Started back in 1993 by Sandy and Mike Sullivan with only a few boys, we have grown to over 60 boys and 15 adult leaders. If you would like more information and will be willing to help, please contact Bob Snedden 815-257-5375, Dave Lawless 815-674-6061, or Ron Good at the church.

Central Student Ministries

Rod Kreier



Youth sponsors meeting ... every Sunday night at 5:00 p.m. **There is NO meeting this Sunday, Nov. 27.**

Unite

Each week we come together as a community to worship together, learn together, and bear one another's burdens.

Sunday Nights at 6:00 p.m. in the Worship Center for all 6th-12th graders.

Jr. High and Sr. High Ignite

Ignite is our midweek Bible Study. Each week we come together for fun and study the word of God.

Wednesday evenings at 6:15 in the Lower Level of the Ministry Center. **No Ignite on Nov. 23.**



CCC to Ring the Bells for the Salvation Army

Central Church of Christ has committed to Ring the Bells for a full day for the Salvation Army at Walgreen's, Kroger, and WalMart on Saturday, December 17, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central has done this for a number of years and wants to carry on our commitment to help the needy in the Streator area. Many people ring the bells with a smile, but some have even chosen to do so with a flair. Some sang Carols, some dressed as Santa Claus, and some as Mr. and Mrs. Claus. No matter how you do it, it's all to help the Salvation Army care for the needy.



You can chose to give a special gift this year by signing up Sunday mornings at the sign up desk or calling the Office Monday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Involvement Ministries

Jessica Pastirik



Central will be hosting an Estate Planning Seminar on Saturday, January 21. This will be presented by Christian Homes, one of the missions Central supports. **There is no cost to you.** The seminar is about one hour in length.

The main content is covering the difference between a Will and a Trust in easy to understand language.

They will explain the difference between probate costs and estate tax.

They emphasize three important goals...

- First when all is said and done you want your heirs to be speaking to each other.
- The second goal is to avoid a long delay in the distribution.
- Third goal is have the maximum amount possible go where you want it to go.



Kid Central

Evelyn Taylor, Children's Director



Jr. Worship

Starting November 27 and running through December 25 we will be heading out on a Christmas **ADVENTure** to learn about Jesus coming to earth on the very first Christmas! If you have never tried Jr. Worship this would be a great time! Jr. Worship is for children K-5th grade and meets at 9:30 a.m. in

the fellowship hall.

Your children will be bringing home their **ADVENTure** folder! This folder has a page for each day of December 1—25 as we prepare for Christ's birthday. You can set aside a special time each day for you and your child to work on the page. This time will be special for you and your child. You will both learn about Christmas traditions that your family probably already does and how each one can remind us of Jesus. There will also be a CD in each folder with an Advent Calendar that you can do with your child. We hope these tools will help put the true meaning of Christmas into your home and family in a new fun way.

Your child will be asked to bring their folder each week to Jr. Worship and they will receive a sticker for each page completed and a point in December's Contest. Please have your child bring their folders back even if they have not completed each page, as there will be special things added to their folders each week.

Family Movie Night!

December 2 at 5:30 p.m. There will be dinner, games, crafts, prizes, a movie, and popcorn fun for the whole family. Come and learn like the "Little Drummer Boy" the true meaning of Christmas and what God wants for Christmas. Sign up at South Wing bulletin board.

Awana is in full swing and going strong! I would like to say a special thank you to the children who wore their uniforms Sunday for Awana Day and those who recited verses during services! Great job! Awana Clubs are for children three-years old through 5th grade. We meet on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 p.m. Children can join club at anytime during the year.



Children's Christmas Program is December 11

Join us at 6:00 p.m. for the Christmas Story told in a way that only children can share as we prepare for the coming of our Lord to the stable in Bethlehem! We will have presentations from Jumpin' Jungle, Beginners, Tot Music Central, Jr. Worship Kids, Elementary Sunday School Children, Awana Kids, and our SonShine Singers' Christmas production!

God sends a message to all fathers through Robert Amaya



Robert Amaya, right, an actor from the movie, "Courageous" with Tony Ross, our Worship Minister.



Photos by
Mark Smith

The last service was bilingual Spanish. Jim Bressner, left, was giving the communion meditation, assisted by Saul Gonzalez who spoke in Spanish.

A few thoughts from new attenders and some first time visitors...

"I enjoyed the service and speaker. I like that he had people related stories and was extremely interesting. Being new to the church, I am trying to take it all in."

"It was nice to see a perspective I could relate to completely."

"It was just wonderful. I even knew the people that greeted me at the door. The message really hit home. My dad left my family when I was fourteen. I wish every father could have heard this message."

"The speaker was very dynamic and passionate. You could tell it was from his heart. I was very impressed that church made people feel comfortable. It makes you want to come back."

"I felt very welcome by the person I ended up sitting next to in church. She even told me she would like me to come back again. I am definitely looking for a church. Thank you so much."

"I really liked it. Do you have that singing all the time? I really liked it and we definitely will be back. I've never seen a church like that."



"I have been coming for about a month now. I love my Sunday school class, that's why I keep coming back."

"You are the first church that has ever followed up. I have been looking for a church. And some churches say 'hi' when you come, but that is it. You guys really care."

The 2012 Leadership Ballot will include these men

The ballot will include the names of the men who were nominated by the congregation, approved by the elders and who have accepted to serve as Elders or Deacons.

The following men are currently serving as Deacons have been recommended by the Elders to serve another two-year term: Jeff Collins, Ryan Irving and Mike Pastirik.

Jeff Collins is involved in the Outreach and Involvement Ministry, Ryan Irving is involved as an Awana Leader and Children's Jr. Worship Leader and Mike Pastirik leads the Mission Ministry.

Our current Elders are George Smith, Jr., Todd Galyen, Tom Hallam, Roger Blakley, Jim Blalock, Jim Bressner, Bill Coats (on sabbatical) and Scott Palm.

Our current Deacons are Jeff Collins, Troy Dimmig, Ryan Irving, Mike Pastirik, Ryan Shinkey, Joe Skaff, Bob Snedden, Virgil Taylor and Jim Threadgill.

New Elder



Larry Evans

Wife's Name: Debby

Children's Names: Mary Ashlock and Michael

How many years have you been an active Christian: my entire life, I was raised in a Church of Christ

What Sunday School Class do you attend? I teach the Agape LifeTimers Adult Class

In what ministry at CCC are you currently active? Adult Class Teacher and Prayer Ministry

Are you presently active in a Small Group? No

What is your favorite ministry as a Christian? Teaching adults and leading small groups

Hobby: fishing, hunting, motorcycling

4 New Deacons



Bob Brown

Wife's Name: Krista

Children's Names: Robert, Ben, Bethany Soltis

How many years have you been an active Christian: 32

What Sunday School Class do you attend? None

In what ministry at CCC are you currently active? Worship, on the Praise Team

Are you presently active in a Small Group? No

What is your favorite ministry as a Christian? Worship and evangelism

Hobby: remote control airplanes, sports, dancing



Stan Tutoky

Wife's Name: Kathy

Children's Names: Sarah Wargo, Kristin Burns, Kayla Widmer, Steve Tutoky, Joe Kudrick, Sara Totoky

How many years have you been an active Christian: 21

What Sunday School Class do you attend? None on a regular basis

In what ministry at CCC are you currently active? greeting, communion preparation and serving, Bethlehem Walk

Are you presently active in a Small Group? Wednesday Night with Charles Cline

What is your favorite ministry as a Christian? Missions, I really enjoy using my time and talents helping those less fortunate

Hobby: building or rebuilding things with an engine and wheels



Kevin Missel

Wife's Name: Misty

Children's Names: Eliza, Isaiah, Micah, Jeremiah

How many years have you been an active Christian: 16

What Sunday School Class do you attend? Ralph & Laurie Cole's Adult Class

In what ministry at CCC are you currently active? GriefShare Leader, Internet Website and Facebook

Are you presently active in a Small Group? Monday Night Small Group with Tony Ross

What is your favorite ministry as a Christian? not sure

Hobby: coaching baseball, following politics



Mel McMeen

Wife's Name: Jacque

Children's Names: Mitch and Mollie

How many years have you been an active Christian: 18

What Sunday School Class do you attend? None

In what ministry at CCC are you currently active? None

Are you presently active in a Small Group? Monday Night Small Group with Jim Bressner

What is your favorite ministry as a Christian? evangelizing and giving to the needy

Hobby: golf, Fantasy Baseball/Football with friends

The Torch

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
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STREATOR ILLINOIS 61364
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 296
STREATOR IL
61364

Dated material

Return Service Requested

Baptized:
Erin Dickman
Luke Blakley
Maria Carpenter

Statistics for Nov. 13, 2011

1st Worship	228	
2nd Worship	509	
3rd Worship	162	Total 899
Bible classes	180	

Statistics for Nov. 20, 2011

1st Worship	96	
2nd Worship	309	
3rd Worship	131	Total 536
Bible classes	201	

Offerings



Offerings needed to meet Budget-Y-T-D for 2011:

\$611,143.82

Offerings given to-date:

\$573,349.88

Financial Statement available at the Welcome Center or the office



*Thank you Thank you
Thank you*

to the many volunteers who cooked, donated, served and cleaned up the Chili and Baked Potato Supper. Being surrounded by hearts so full of passion to serve is a true blessing. God Bless you all.

--Anita Nangle

In Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers go out to Kristina (Greg) Plymire Sr. and family at the loss of her daughter, Jennifer Nichole Taylor who passed away November 7, 2011.

Also, our prayers go out to Mary (Bob) Harrison at the death of her brother, Ronald Reese who passed away Friday, November 18, 2011.

We will publish in the "Torch" any of our church family's wedding announcements, birth announcements and wedding anniversaries if you give us this information. Please give it to the Church Office or email the information to Debby Evans at debby@christiscentral.com