



THE CENTRAL CRIER

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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VOLUME 31, ISSUE 5

MAY 2016

Pastoral Musings:

In 1983, during my first spring in Galesburg, I was struck by the beauty of all the flowering trees. They are not as common where I grew up. Once again, I am struck by their beauty and see that Spring is now fully upon us. I am struck by the wonderful blessing our creator has given us and feel compelled to give thanks.

Along with the flowers and the trees, the grass has been growing. I purchased a lawn mower and now have mowed my new lawn for the first time. Being the owner of this house has its benefits, but it also comes with obligations and duties. This, too, is a reminder of what our creator has given us. God has called us to be partners in creation—to be faithful caretakers of the wonders of this world. We have an obligation to keep these wonders of creation safe for future generations.

As time goes by, it becomes increasingly clear that we have the power to cause great devastation to the wonders of creation and to the wellbeing of our neighbors all over the world—the same neighbors we are commanded to love as ourselves. As individuals and as members of society, it is imperative that we take all necessary steps to protect that which God has left in our charge. If we don't, we are like the foolish servant who dug a hole and put in it the one talent with which he was trusted. (Matthew 25.14 *et seq.*) We won't have to be cast into "the outer darkness where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth" because we will have brought it to where we already were.

Your fellow servant,

Sterrett

***** **CENTRAL PAST** *****

The 2nd Sunday Giving began in March 2016 and will be repeated each month. This allows an opportunity for our congregation to show our continued support of our building. We encourage everyone to go that extra mile of giving on that Sunday to help in our restoration. Our April contribution was \$377. Good job!!

***** **CENTRAL PRESENT** *****
Community Foundation

Questions continue to arise concerning the two Community Foundation funds. One, the Endowment Fund, is a fund where only the interest can be used for building preservation and maintenance. The other fund at the Foundation, to be known as the Building Preservation Fund, is similar to a checking account where money can be withdrawn from the account, including the principal, by the Trustees to pay for building maintenance and preservation. Either of these funds is suitable for memorials.

Sincerely,
The Trustees

PILL BOTTLE COLLECTION

Working through our Mission Committee, Central Congregational Church has teamed up with the First Congregational Church of Evanston to collect empty pill bottles. We will send the bottles to Evanston and they will forward them on to Malawi. The Doctors there do not have bottles to dispense their prescriptions in but put them in paper towels or any other like materials. Please remove the labels from the bottles. A container has been set up in the South Room for the collection of the bottles.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Philippians 4:6

AS REQUESTED BY THE CHURCH FAMILY

Darrell Phillips, Don White, Scott Dane, Sue Chase, Helen Lannholm, The Continued Prosperity of our Community

Pray also for Our Homebound Members and Friends: George and Barb Waldorf, Kay Coe, Tammy Dell, Maggie Goad, Maxine Pillsbury, and Arlene Safford.

Pray for all God’s Children.

Please remember those listed here in your prayers. As a faith community we have been instructed to pray for one another and to bear one another’s burdens and we are grateful for the opportunity to show love for one another in this way. In the same way, each of us is encouraged to let Reverend Collins or the church office know when we have need for the prayers of the congregation such as a hospitalization, loss or other life transition or circumstance.

Pastor’s Schedule

Reverend Sterrett Collins is available Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from noon to 2:00 and by appointment. To set an appointment please call 343-5145.

Coffee Fellowship

If you would like to support our coffee fellowship, but prefer not to serve, you may donate financially to the Worship/Hospitality group and have others serve for you.

Child Care is available during the worship service

MARY ANN "MOTHER" BICKERDYKE DAY CELEBRATION

In 2013 the Illinois legislation officially designation the second Wednesday of May as the "Mother" Mary Ann Bickerdyke Day Again this year Pam Johnson will portray Mother Bickerdyke in her performance "A Story of Compassion and Determination." Joining her as Mary Allen West will be Gail Massinda. This year the parlor will be packed with living history presentations of everyday life as it happened in homes to support the men and boys away at war. Featured activities include quilt making, knitting, preparing personal momentos for the soldiers, details of the role of horses in the war effort, and much more, all featuring a Galesburg/ Knox County connection. All presenters will be in period dress. The South Room presenters will be available from 5:30-8:00 on May 11th with Pam and Gail giving their presentation at 6:30. Everyone is encouraged to attend in support of this courageous woman and her connections to the First Congregational Church. .

Bake Sale

A bake sale will be held in conjunction with the Mother Bickerdyke event on the evening of Wednesday, May 11. Please bring your baked goods by noon that day. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. See Rhonda Murmann for questions.

UPCOMING IMPORTANT EVENTS IN JUNE

RAILROAD DAY EVENTS

Dr. Simon Cordery will give presentations about the railroad industry in Illinois at 10:30 and 1:30 on Saturday, June 25th. Dr Cordery is a History professor at WIU and chairs that department as well. He is the chair of the nominations committee of the National Railroad Hall of Fame, and the author of the recently published book, The Iron Road in the Prairie State: The Story of Illinois Railroading. He will discuss the important history of the railroad industry in Illinois, from original failure to unprecedented success to near-extinction and then unexpected renaissance. A book signing will follow the presentations.

Tours of our church will also be available at 9:30, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 and finally at 2:30.

Railroad Days Food Booth

One of the events Central will sponsor during Saturday, June 25 Railroad Days, is a food booth held from 10 a.m.– 3 p.m. Hamburgers, brats, chips and drink will be offered for \$6.00. If you can help that day, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Questions? See Rhonda Murmann.

Preservation Update

Now thru fall is going to be a very busy time for the building preservation effort. On June 21st and 22nd we will be having a series of community meetings asking for ideas on community need and how our building might fit those needs. There will be 5 meetings over the two days focusing on schools, NFP, government, business and general ideas. Please join and let your voice be heard. We will need helpers to be greeters and registration table people. Please call the church if you are willing to help.

CONGRATULATIONS

Special congratulations goes to Arlene Safford who will be celebrating her 95th birthday on May 9th. We hope she has a wonderful day with many more to follow.



CONGRATULATIONS



Special congratulations should be extended to Bob and Liz King on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. We hope you enjoy many happy years ahead.

May Birthdays

1 – Kathleen Ridlon
 3 – Hillary Hankins
 5 – Jean Browning
 9 – Arlene Safford
 13 – John Maddrell
 14 – Priscilla Newcomer
 21 – Larry Brown
 27 – Charlotte Downin
 31 – Nancy Templeton

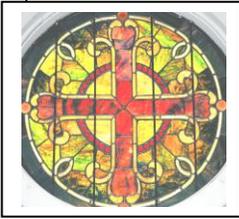


May Anniversaries

1 Ed and Monica McGraw
 25- Bob and Liz King



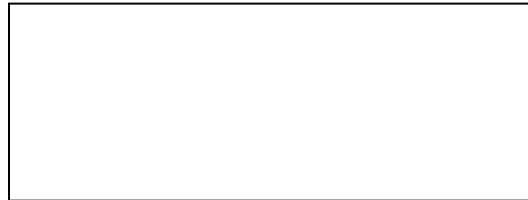
~May 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Ushers Head Usher: David Griffith Bob Kimble, Bob Johnson 10:30 Worship Service Greeter: Ann Ehler Worship Leader: and Karla Johnson & Communion Coffee Hour: Steve & Rhonda Murmann	2 6:00 DCFS 6:30 Preservation meeting	3 6:30 Rock Church	4	5 12:00 National Day of Prayer	6	7
8 10:30 Worship Service Greeter: Worship Leader: Jody Lafollette Coffee Hour: Jim & Jean Browning	9	10 6:30 Rock Church	11 5:30-8:00 Mary Ann Bickerdyke Event	12 5:30 KPCK free Community Meal	13	14
15 10:30 Worship Service Greeter: Worship Leader: Craig Conolly Coffee Hour: Clarence & Brenda Sargeantt	16	17 6:30 Rock Church	18 6:00 Meeting Worship/Hospitality 6:30 Ministry Group meetings 7:30 Leadership Meeting	19	20	21
22 10:30 Worship Service: Greeter: Clarence & Brenda Sargeant Worship Leader: Rhonda Murmann Coffee Hour: Harvey & Nancy Templeton Quarterly meeting during coffee hour	23	24 6:30 Rock Church	25	26 5:30 KPCK free Community Meal	27	28
29 10:30 Worship Service: Greeter: Worship Leader: Teresa Sanford Shipplett Coffee Hour:	30	31 6:30 Rock Church				



Central Congregational Church
“The Church From The Square”
60 Public Square
Galesburg, Illinois 61401

The Central Crier (USPS 706-860) is published monthly by the Central Congregational Church, 60 Public Square, Galesburg, IL. Periodical Postage paid at Galesburg, IL. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Central Congregational Church, 60 Public Square, Galesburg, IL 61401

Jesus Loves You!



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST, CENTRAL
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF GALESBURG
STRIVES TO BE A WARM AND VIBRANT FAITH COMMUNITY
THAT WELCOMES ALL, WITHOUT EXCEPTION,
EMBRACING AND LIVING OUT DAILY THE BIBLICAL
IMPERATIVE TO LOVE GOD AND OTHERS

Central Congregational Church

“The Church *From* The Square”

Reverend Sterrett Collins office hours: noon to 2:00 Tuesday and Thursday or by appointment

Reverend Collins E-mail: collinsmoksa@aol.com

Church office hours: 8:00am - 12:00pm Monday – Friday

Call 343-5145 or email centeral1898@gmail.com to set up an appointment.

Our address: Central Congregational Church, 60 Public Square, Galesburg, IL 61401

Web page: galesburgchurch.org



Gathered in 1837, Replanted September 12, 2010
Central Congregational Church is a member of the:
National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
Midwest Association of Congregational Christian Churches