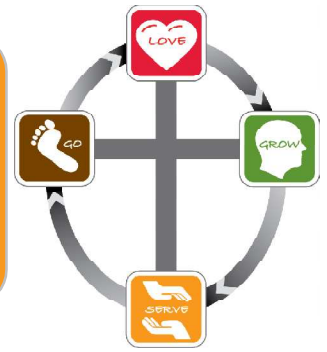


The TORCH

June 23, 2015



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

Dr. Rory Christensen,
Lead Minister
Tony Ross,
Creative Arts Minister
Evelyn Taylor,
Director of Children's Ministries
Jessica Pastirik,
Director of Involvement Ministries
Debby Evans,
Office Manager
Julie Happold,
Financial/Ministries Secretary

Sunday Worship

1st Worship: 8:15 a.m.
2nd Worship & Bible classes:
9:30 a.m.
3rd Worship & Bible classes:
11:00 a.m.

Get connected to Central Church of Christ today!

If you are new to Central Church of Christ, and want to explore how God can work in your life and get connected here at Central, we would like to invite you to our 1st Step Discovering Central Class. This two step experience will be on **July 12** at 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

If you are new to Central come to **Pizza** with the **Pastor**

If you have just started attending Central, you may have some questions. Come and meet our Lead Minister, Dr. Rory Christensen, and learn about Central and how to connect with others at Central. Bring your family and join us for pizza and conversation in the gym following our third service (12:30 -1:30 p.m.) on **Sunday, July 26**. We hope you join us.

Evangelism Training coming to Central!

Bill Allison of Cadre Ministries will be presenting EVANGELISM IS RELATIONSHIPS training workshop at Central Church of Christ on Saturday, August 22, 2015 (Part 1 of 2) and Saturday, September 12, 2015 (Part 2 of 2) from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.

A registration sheet can be found at the Welcome Center. Come be encouraged, equipped and energized! Any questions, call Jessica Pastirik at 815-673-1581 or email jpastirik@christiscentral.com

This training workshop is open to any adult member or regular attender of CCC. Pre-registration is a must so that we have ordered enough training manuals. Looking forward to all of us growing as disciplemakers! (*See insert on back of church calendar for more information.)



Vacation Bible School 2015!

July 20 – 24, 2015 * 9:00 a.m. till Noon**

For children 4 years through 8th grade.

Please be praying for kids and their families that will be coming, the leaders, the volunteers, how you will be able to serve, and God's will for this year's VBS.

Sign-up for workers will be on the bulletin board in south hallway. We are still in need of Crew Leaders, even those who can only give us a few days of the week.

Pre-registration can be done on line at christiscentral.com or there is a registration table in the foyer.

Fellow Coworkers,

Dr. Rory Christensen

This past week's trip to the Dominican Republic brought several moments that will live on as powerful memories and motivations over the upcoming weeks and years. One of the most impacting for me personally came during the home visit portion of our trip. I thought that for this month's note, I would share a bit of that experience, as well as the challenge that it left with me.

If you took a scan of the trip as a whole, you would notice that much of it was divided amongst the three churches started and supported by the Eastern Dominican Christian Mission (the mission work we support). At these locations we spent time encouraging believers, rejoicing at their progress, painting diligently, and putting on VBS's for the kids. However, on one evening in La Romana, we got to minister in a different way. Jovanny Baez, the minister at the La Romana church, arranged for us to go to some of the church members' homes to share our testimonies, share the Word of God, and to pray with them. And so, I went with my family and Kundry Furman (an excellent member of Central) to two different homes over the course of the evening.

While there is much I could say about the home visits—the testimonies given by Kate and Aubri (my daughters), and translated by Kundry, the hospitality we were shown, and the generosity given by those in extreme poverty—the part of the evening that really hit me was the prayer piece of it. I knew in advance that I would be asked to pray for them, and I thought that I would take a little bit different approach than I might normally have taken. Rather than praying spontaneously, I decided to pray a piece of one of my favorite prayers over them. It's a paragraph of a 1500-year-old prayer, written by St. Patrick (I put their name or family name in the blank): *Christ be with _____, Christ within _____, Christ behind _____, Christ before _____, Christ beside _____, Christ to win _____, Christ to comfort and restore _____, Christ beneath _____, Christ above _____, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love _____, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

When I prayed that prayer, the unexpected happened (something I couldn't anticipate). I prayed the same words I've prayed dozens of times. Only this time I witnessed firsthand as they made a tangible impact on those being prayed for. This prayer for Christ's presence proved powerful and effective; it brought encouragement and strength. And it left me with the reminder that prayers spoken and blessings received are powerful things.

That being the case, I thought I would give you the same challenge that the evening left me with. Write down a list of individuals in your family and church family. Choose a prayer like St. Patrick's, or one that you write, to pray as a blessing over them. Pray that prayer daily or weekly. But here's the catch: you have to pray and expect the unexpected. Prayers spoken and blessings received are powerful things.

Be bold. Stay faithful.

Rory

Thank you notes

The Family of Cindy Irving would like to thank everyone who helped with her funeral.

A special thank you to all those that made dishes for the funeral dinner and the Funeral Ministry Kitchen team.

Thank you also to Rory, Tony, Tom, and all those that prayed for mom.

--Verla Jesiolowski, Melissa, Ryan and Nicole, Amanda, Chad and Nicole Irving and grandchildren

The family of **Evelyn Rush** thanks you for your kind expressions of sympathy.

May God bless you!

5 things to remember on your summer vacation!

When you go on vacation this summer remember the following five things:

1. Our love and prayers go with you wherever you go.
2. Before you go on vacation, be sure to find a great church to attend on the Lord's Day wherever you might happen to be. If you don't know of a church where you're going, call the office and we'll be glad to help you.
3. Be sure to leave God's tithe and your offering with someone or make sure to turn them in to the Church Office for the Sunday(s) you will be gone. Don't step away from your God-given responsibility to support the work of God through your church.
4. Pray for your church family all summer long.
5. Know that you are MISSED and NEEDED here, so hurry home!

Involvement Ministries

Jessica Pastirik



- This isn't your typical "money class." *Financial Peace University* is practical, entertaining and fun!
- More than 1.5 million families and individuals have taken FPU.
- The average family completing the course pays off \$5,300 and saves \$2,700 in just 90 days. That's an \$8,000 change in position!
- Whether you're struggling to make ends meet or you're a millionaire, FPU has something for you.
- FPU is based on more than 800 verses of Scripture and is a proven plan that will work for you.

Financial Peace University

For 9 Thursdays

Starting September 3, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
\$93 Registration covers cost of materials.

Todd Galyen, Coordinator

To Register Contact:

Jessica Pastirik, Involvement Ministries (815) 673-1581

Summer Events Just for Youth!!

TNT (Tuesday Night Thing) is for any Jr. High and High School students from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. here at the church. The activities may be inside or may be outside depending on the weather. The dates for these are:

Tuesday, July 14

Tuesday, August 4

There will be a **Bible Study at the Missel Ranch** (Kevin/Misty Missel) for those in high school. The Bible study will meet at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 1 and meets weekly after that.

Look for the **Trip to Great America** packets that are out soon. Get a packet, save your money and get ready to have fun on Thursday, July 16. This is for anyone in 6th through 12th grade.



KID CENTRAL

Evelyn Taylor, Children's Director



First Bible Family Faith Celebration will be held on – Sunday, July 12, at 5:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

(Dinner will be served)

This celebration is for children going into Kindergarten in the fall. If you have a child this age and would like to be part of this celebration of your child moving from the preschool wing to the elementary wing and receiving their first Bible from Central. There is a parent and child class that families need to participate in, that will be held, Sunday, July 5, during the 9:30 hour in West 1. This class will be offered at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7. You only need to attend one class. Sign-up sheets for both classes will be at the welcome center.



BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO ARE GENEROUS,
BECAUSE THEY FEED THE POOR.
PROVERBS 22:9



Friday, July 10
Wet-and-Wild at
Central!
Starting at 1 p.m. till 3
p.m.
Come out for a fun
afternoon of the water
type.

We will have loads of water related activities for kids of all ages. (Preschoolers need an adult to stay with them.) All parents are welcome to stay and join in on the fun! There will be some wet snacks served too.

Mark your calendars and save the date for Wednesday, August 5. Kids 3rd-6th grades are invited to go to Aurora to Feed My Starving Children and pack food boxes to send to hungry children.

We will be leaving the church at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided. To learn more about Feed My Starving Children go to www.fmssc.org

Offerings collected in Children's Worship during the months of June and July will go with us to Feed My Starving Children, to help with the shipping costs of the food boxes we pack. (If you would like to donate for this outside of Children's Worship see Evelyn.)

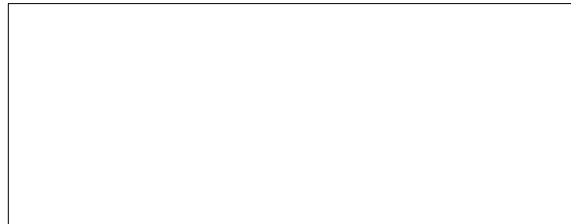
The Torch

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Congratulations!

Riley Reaska has graduated with a double major in Small Business Management- Entrepreneurship and Marketing from Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.

Statistics for May 24, 2015

1st Worship	86	
2nd Worship	290	
3rd Worship	143	Total 519
Bible classes	176	

Statistics for May 31, 2015

1st Worship	96	
2nd Worship	322	
3rd Worship	87	Total 505
Bible classes	177	

Statistics for June 7, 2015

1st Worship	89	
2nd Worship	195	
3rd Worship	125	Total 409
Bible classes	161	

Statistics for June 14, 2015

1st Worship	71	
2nd Worship	248	
3rd Worship	86	Total 395
Bible classes	161	

Statistics for June 21, 2014

1st Worship	84	
2nd Worship	266	
3rd Worship	144	Total 494
Bible classes	166	

Offerings



Offerings needed to meet Budget-Y-T-D for 2015:

\$289,110

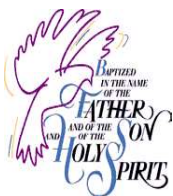
Offerings given to-date:

\$304,856

Financial Statement available at the Welcome Center or the office

Baptized:

Miley Vaughan
Nellie Bressner
Eliza Missel
Brett Rathbun
Katelynn Rathbun
David Rathbun
Alyssa Smith



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