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# Church Visitor



Central Christian Church, Enid, Oklahoma  
Phone: 233-1214 Fax Number: 233-1228

February 11, 2009 Vol. 73 No. 6  
website: [www.centralenid.org](http://www.centralenid.org)



## Central's Caring Caregivers

When you volunteer and show people the love of Jesus Christ, you will see the face of God in a way you have never seen before. You will benefit more than the people you help. The following shows the activities of the Caregiver's in 2008.

The Caregivers began a new program of delivering small casseroles to individuals who had been hospitalized, were bereaved or homebound. In the last six months, there were approximately 200 casseroles prepared.

The Isabelle Winter Memorial was utilized by the Caregivers to purchase 52 large print NRSV Bibles for the Chapel. They sponsored, paid for and celebrated birthday parties for four of our older homebound members. They conducted and reimbursed the church for 10 funeral dinners, donated \$240 to various church memorial funds, reimbursed the church \$600 for postage and paid \$240 for half the cost to repair the church's TV camera that they had originally purchased. At Christmas they purchased 50 devotional books and 25 ornaments which were distributed along with homemade cookies to various members and friends. They distributed Lilies at Easter and Poinsettia's at Christmas to nursing homes and to the homebound. The total of personal visitations made by Caregivers were 2,844 and they sent 825 cards through their card ministry. In 2008 Caregivers and friends provided meals on the weekends for the last five months of Robert Qualls life, enabling him to stay at home.

When asked why they do what they do, the Caregivers gave us the poem on the right:

### Each Life Affects Another

We may not always realize that everything we do affects not only our lives but touches others too. For a little bit of thoughtfulness that shows someone you care creates a ray of sunshine for both of you to share.

Yes, every time you offer someone a helping hand, every time you show a friend you care and understand.

Every time you have a kind and gentle word to give, you help someone find beauty in the precious life we live.

For happiness brings happiness and loving always brings love; and giving is a treasure that contentment is made of.

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## ...According to John

One of my favorite movies is “Field of Dreams” with Kevin Costner and James Earl Jones. There is a phrase that is used a lot during the movie. “If you build it, they will come” and that was true as Kevin Costner built a baseball diamond in his corn field which became populated by baseball stars from days gone by.



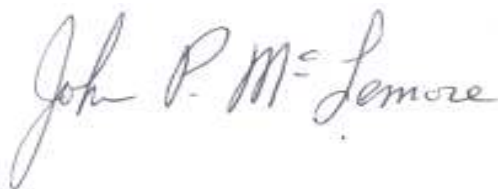
I suppose that motto is also true of new restaurants and retail stores, at least initially. ‘If you build it, they will come’. Sometimes I believe that we in the church have that same attitude. If we have the best Sunday School, after school events, traditional worship, youth programs or contemporary worship people will flock through the doors of the church. “If you build it, they will come”. Actually that is not true in church life, at least in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. You can build it, but they won’t come UNLESS they are invited and made welcome.

We can have wonderful traditional worship, and ours is pretty good, but people won’t automatically gravitate to our 10:15 a.m. service. THEY MUST BE INVITED. We are going to have a new alternative worship experience on Sunday evenings starting in March. It will involve praise music, audio visuals and the works, but people won’t attend just because “we built it”. They must be invited and made welcome.

I’ll never forget an experience I had at the First Christian Church in Purcell. A young couple who had a Disciple background came to church one Sunday. They had lived in the area a few years, but had never attended church. They had two small boys and decided they needed to get involved, so they “tried us out”. The family liked what they experienced and became very involved in our small congregation. Granted, they were not invited, but they began to invite. Within a year, four more families joined the church as a result of their invitations.

The church must provide a welcoming environment where God’s spirit transforms and heals, but others will not experience the wonder of such experiences UNLESS THEY ARE INVITED. We will build it and they will come, IF WE INVITE THEM. Invite someone to church and Sunday School this Sunday.

Grace and peace,



In case of an emergency please call Rev. McLemore any time at the office at 233-1214. If you are unable to reach him at the office, his cell phone number is (580)402-2522, or you can reach him by calling his home 233-4214.

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## SUNDAY'S STATISTICS

February 8, 2009

Chapel Service.....	42
Sanctuary Worship.....	241
Saturday Evening Worship.....	13

## VAN DRIVER SCHEDULE

February 15, Brian Meyer  
 February 22, Bret Whinery  
 March 1, Mack Allison

## Servers for WWNF Meals

February 18—Sooners Class  
 February 25—Crusaders Class  
 March 4—Genesis Class  
 March 11—Adult Bible Study

CHURCH VISITOR (USPS 112-800)  
 Published weekly except week of December 25.  
 By Central Christian Church  
 1111 W. Broadway, Enid, OK 73703-5897  
 Periodical Postage Paid at Enid, OK.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CHURCH VISITOR, 1111 W. Broadway

## WWNF Menu

Chicken noodles, bread, dessert

## Diaconate Schedule

February 15—Team 3  
 February 22—Team 1  
 March 1—Team 1

## EARLY SERVICE DEACONS:

February 15—Glenn & Linda Crabbs  
 February 22—Jay & Janet Lohmeyer  
 March 1—Jay & Janet Lohmeyer

## Current Lectionary

### Sunday, February 15, 2009

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

#### Readings:

2 Kings 5:1-14  
 Psalm 30  
 1 Corinthians 9:24-27  
 Mark 1:40-45

Color: Green



Our congregation is continuing to pray for other churches in our area. This week we have been asked to pray for **Carmen Christian Church**. Please keep them in your prayers this week.

~ Sunday ~ February 15, 2009 ~

~Horn of Plenty Sunday, sponsored by the CWF~

Chapel Worship .....	8:00 a.m.
Sermon .....	"The Thriving Church: A Place of Abundant Hope"...Rev. John McLemore
Scripture .....	Psalm 30
Sunday School .....	9:00a.m.
Sanctuary Worship .....	10:15a.m.

Elders: 8:00-Gail Novak 10:15-Willo Clark, Burl Bartlett

**Receive your Church Visitor by email.**



What are the benefits of receiving the Visitor by email? Receive your Church Visitor on Wednesdays! Get it in color! Save the church money! Call Kimberly at 233-1214. Tell her you'd like to receive the Church Visitor by email and give her your email address.

**Central Christian Church,**

We wish to thank your church for the prayers, visits and card.

We do appreciate the prayers before, during and after Johnny's surgery. He is recovering nicely. God had blessed us with such good friends.

Sincerely, The Johnny Brown Family

**The Cancer Support Group will meet on Feb. 26th at 4:00pm, not Feb. 19.**

**There will be a WORK DAY Feb. 21. Church members and parents of Kids Central are invited. See page 5.**

*Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.*

*~ St. Gregory Nazianzen*

**Friday-Sunday, Feb 13-15**

Chi Rho Midwinter Retreat

**Sunday, February 15**

8:00—Chapel Worship

9:00—Sunday School

10:15—Sanctuary Worship

5:00—Snack Supper

5:30—CYF

**Monday, February 16**

12:00—Noon Prayer Service

6:00—Quilter's Guild

6:30—Kicking Habits study

**Tuesday, February 17**

8:00—Single Women's Breakfast, Ramada Inn

10:00—LifeLong Learning

12:00—Noon Bible Study

2:00—Don Johnson Bible Study

**Wednesday, February 18**

**See WWNF Schedule!**

12:00—Single Men's Luncheon

7:30—Cabinet Meeting

**Thursday, February 19**

10:00—LifeLong Learning

3:00—Enid Senior Care

5:15—Kids Central PTA

6:30—Young Adult Gathering

**Saturday, February 21**

*All Church Work Day*

5:30—Saturday Evening Service

**Sunday, February 22**

8:00—Chapel Worship

9:00—Sunday School

10:15—Sanctuary Worship

4:00—Chi Rho

5:00—Snack Supper

5:30—CYF

**A NEW worship experience is coming in March.**



**Watch for more details!**

**Thank you , Thank you , Thank you!**

Our all-church bake sale netted well over \$1200 dollars. We are still receiving some donations as of press time. Thank you for both bringing baked goods and buying baked goods. You are making a difference.

**New Bible Study**

On February 24th, the Tuesday noon study group will begin a new study on Romans. There is an accompanying video. The class will meet from noon until 1 pm in the church library. More details to follow.

Also on the 24<sup>th</sup>, we will begin another new Bible study called "Discernment – acting wisely". Topics include: Discerning God’s presence in our midst and Discerning God’s presence in our work. The study also begins to answer the questions , “Where is God? How does God work in the world? “How should I respond to God?”

After this introductory class, the class will meet on the first and third Tuesdays at 2 pm in the church library. Each class will include a video and will last about 75 minutes.

**Welcome to Our Newest Members!**



**Don & Valarie Driscoll**  
Transfer of membership from the First Christian Church in Ordway, CO. They joined Sunday 2/8/09.

**Sandra Tipps**

She made her Confession of Faith on 1/25/09 and she was baptized on 2/1/09.

**Giving Report**

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	O/U BUDGET	Y/TO/D	GIVING	Y/T	DATE	BUDGET	O/U BUDGET
1-Feb	\$17,934.36	\$11,770.83	\$6,163.53	\$55,880.78	\$58,854.16				-\$2,973.38
8-Feb	\$11,494.04	\$11,770.83	-\$276.79	\$67,374.82	\$70,624.99				-\$3,250.17
15-Feb		\$11,770.83			\$82,395.82				
22-Feb		\$11,770.83			\$94,166.65				
<b>TOTAL</b>		\$47,083.32			\$94,166.65				

**Central Christian Church,  
Kids Central Work Day**

On February 21st we have jobs for everyone. And all skill levels and physical levels are welcome. We will paint a classroom on the first floor of the Education Wing that will be used as a second classroom for Kids Central. If we have enough volunteers, we will also begin to paint the basement floor hallway in the education wing.

We are also working outside on the grounds, so leaf rakes, trash bags, work gloves will all be helpful. Tell other members and encourage them to join us. We will serve coffee and doughnuts to all volunteers.

The work will start at 9AM and we plan to finish by noon.

**WWNF Schedule**

- 5:15pm—Meal: *Chicken noodles!*
- 5:30pm—Youth Choir
- 6:00pm—Chapel
- 6:00pm—JYF choir (grades 3 – 6)
  - CCF free play time (ages 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)
- 6:30pm—JYF bells (grades 3 – 6)
  - CCF art time (5yrs to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)
  - Adult Chancel Choir
  - Adult Class, Kicking Habits
  - Youth Group
- 7:00pm—CCF (ages 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)
  - JYF (grades 3 – 6)
- 7:30pm—Adult Hand bell Rehearsal

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## IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Updated 10 February 2009

All Caps reflects additions or changes

### **Please remember the following people as they deal with chronic illness:**

*Judi Heller, Debbie Nerich (Birdene Schoonover's granddaughter), L.V. Powell, Jerry Reinhart, Mason Brinley (Glenn & Linda Crabbs grandson)*

### **Please remember the following as they battle cancer:**

*Elbert Wheeler, Julie Bloom Schroeder (Steve Bloom's sister) Eric Koegel (Connie Koegel's son/ Cindy Worthington's brother), Marilyn Sommer (Virginia Spencer's daughter), Ann Herndon, Mary Simpson, Ann Riley, Brenda Brown, Edna Womack*

### **Please lift up the following in your prayers:**

*Leonard Edwards is facing health challenges at home*

*Stephanie Hayoz is recovering from major jaw surgery (Paul & Mickie's daughter)*

*Deloras Oringderff for health issues*

*Court Loomis is fighting serious health issues (Bud & Madge Loomis's son/Bob & Tess Gregory's son-in-law)*

*Albert "Lefty" Ramirez is struggling with his health (Terri Carpenter's 94 yr old uncle)*

*Jennifer Garrett Kirk continues to undergo medical testing (Sherry Garrett's daughter)*

*Shera Shirley as she recovers from knee surgery.*

*Katherine McLemore is suffering with side effects in her shoulder from a previous car accident. (John & Carolyn McLemore's daughter).*

*Lucille Teemley as she recovers from her hospital stay.*

*DELCEA BATTERMAN as she recovers from pacemaker surgery.*

*Virgil Tapp as he recovers from a hospital stay.*

*KIMBERLY DAMRON as she undergoes tests and medical evaluations.*

*VERA FRENCH'S daughter who had a stroke.*

*CYRILLA METTEE for health problems. (Cal Mettee's wife)*

*LAURA DEATHERAGE for health problems.*

*LARRY & LORETTA DRENNAN RICHEY for health problems.*

### **Prayers for those in the armed services:**

Joshua Avants in Iraq (friend of Barbara Baker)

Doug Carpenter (Caitlyn Castle's uncle)

Johnathan Hale to Iraq in Mar 09 (nephew of David and Sue Dell)

Caleb Holden (son of Robert and Carolyn Holden)

Brandon Kasper, Ft. Riley, KS (Don Johnsons grandson)

Ryan Maphet (grandson of Ron & Pat Maphet/nephew of Van & Natalie Schuermann)

Justin Ray Diel in Iraq (Vern Thornburgh's grandson)

Phillip Schwitz in Iraq (Judi Heller's cousin)

Kevin Vendetti in Iraq (nephew of Kids Central employee Kelly Straw)

Andrew Wiles in Italy (son of Roger and Catherine Wiles)

Paul K. Wiles (son of Roger and Catherine Wiles)

### **BASS**

Danny Baker (no visitors, prayers appreciated)

Bob O'Brien, 241

### **St. Mary's**

Hermine Woelke, 505

Melva Dean Vance, 576

Dauida Whitsitt, 527

DALE VANCE, 420

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## **Thank You for Your Faithful Support of the Easter Special Offering**

In 2008, YOUR CHURCH was among the Top 100 supporters of the Easter Special Day Offering. Thank you!

Your gifts to the Easter Offering are making a difference. Your gifts provided scholarships to the new church pastors and pastors working with intentional transformation projects to attend the Pastor's Conference. Your gifts sponsored missionaries in over 80 countries around the world. Your gifts provided leadership training through HELM. Your gifts supported the Council on Christian Unity as they hosted a consultation of becoming a multi-cultural and inclusive church. Your gifts supported the Search and Call Office, as they connect pastors and congregations. Your gifts helped to build a house, and to do so much more! Thank you!

In the coming days you will receive a peace lamp as an expression of our gratitude. The lamp is made in the Holy Land by the Taybeh Community. The lamp is the graphic for this year's Easter Offering as we celebrate Jesus call to "Go Light Your World". Please burn the candle during lent, as we celebrate the many ways our partnership is lighting the world and sharing the light of Christ.

With gratitude on behalf of my colleagues,

Rev. Dr. Todd Adams  
Associate General Minister & Vice President

## **Walk to Emmaus**

**What is it?... And what it is not.**

Walk to Emmaus is a gift God has prepared for you by the hands of many fellow believers in Jesus Christ who form the local Emmaus Community. They are from churches of many denominations in Northwest Oklahoma.

Walk to Emmaus is a 72-hour experience for ones who already have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and are active in their own congregation. While the purpose of Emmaus is to develop leaders for the local church, it is not a training seminar. While it is deeply scriptural and entails teaching, sharing and discussion, it is not a Bible course. And while it had unique and cherished moments of introspection and celebration, it is not a club, lodge or cult.

It is, primarily, an experience that immerses you in an outpouring of the grace of God in the form of love and encouragement from fellow Christians who have—like the two in Luke 24 after walking the road to Emmaus with Jesus—found “their hearts burning within them.”

The next Walks will be: Men #75 April 17-19, 2009 and Women #76 April 24-26 at Central. Application deadline is 3/13/09.



**This Sunday please remember to  
bring nonperishable food items  
for Horn of Plenty!!!**

## **KIDS KORNER**

**Our new Bible verse is: "Who do you say that I am? You are the Messiah, son of the living God."**

**Matthew 16:15-16**

★ Be sure to let me know about any ball games, school plays or programs you're in so I can come!!!!!!

★ In our Bible Bookmark Challenge, the girls had 14% Sunday. They lead the boys 2 – 0 so boys get busy and bring back those Bible bookmarks!!!!!! Don't let the girls thump you!!!!

★ BAPTISM CAMP IS COMING on March 13th and 14th. If you want to be baptized this Easter, you'll want to come to Baptism Camp. AND, if you were baptized last Easter, you'll want to come, too, since we didn't have Baptism Camp last year. I'll be sending out a card soon, but get this date on your calendars, okay???????

### **ACOLYTES– Feb. 15**

Kaylee Petersen, Sarah Johnson  
(Substitute: Casey Easter)

### **TEACHERS – Feb. 15**

John McLemore, 1st & 2nd (computers;  
Becky Meyer, 3rd & 4th (video); Carolyn  
McLemore, 5th & 6th (science)

### **KIDS TIME – Feb. 15**

Melissa, Sally, Molly, Brenna, Kinsey,  
Austin H.

## **Coffee Stains**

Hey ya'll. Hope all is well with you. I wanted to take a minute and publicly announce that we have a new member of our youth group!! Her name is Destiny and will be going to camp with us this weekend. If you happen to see Destiny in church go greet her and tell her your name. I am very excited to have her with us.

This weekend we will be going to Central Christian Camp for Chi Rho Midwinter. Pray for us as we strive to have a good time learning about God and the scriptures. Pray for the Director of the retreat, I am not sure if he knows what he is doing. (But I'm trying!)

I have one last announcement. James Lantz, one of Central's young adults, is officially on the Enid Enforcers football team. They play all kinds of places across the state. Way to go James! Congrats!

Celebrate life, there is no better gift...  
Peace, J Dubs



**This Sunday please remember to bring nonperishable food items for Horn of Plenty!!!**