

## Central Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

P.O. Box 1459 • 219 E. Short St.

Lexington, KY 40507

(859) 233-1551 • fax: (859) 252-9287

www.centralchristianlex.org

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PERIODICAL

### HUB Returns this Fall



This Fall, Central's Education/Fellowship Ministry on Wednesdays will start back with dinner on September 9 and the first HUB class on the 16th at 6:45 to 7:45pm.

HUB Classes will include:

- \* Seadleaf: Non-Profit that exists to nourish communities by growing, cooking, sharing, and recycling food.
- \* Dr. Wilson Dickinson, professor at Transylvania University, teaching on Food and Faith.
- \* Rev. Jeannette Lucas teaching on Pain and Healing.

Other ministry opportunities include: Cultivating Mindfulness, KidsSing, and Handbells. Dinners will feature favorites from the spring as well as local caterers. Please RSVP with Sharon (ssamuell@centralchristianlex.org) at the church.

### World Communion Sunday Request

In an effort to further enhance our worship space on World Communion Sunday, October 4, the Worship decor team is seeking fabrics from around the world that we might borrow and use that day. Perhaps you have a tablecloth, a sari, a blanket, or a piece of fabric from another country that is distinctive to that culture or locale. We would like to incorporate such fabrics in our worship environment that Sunday to broaden our awareness of the larger world. If you have something to share, please contact Jennie Shirey at (859) 303-4194 by September 21.



### Sunday in Worship

September 13, 2015

8:30 a.m.

Rev. David Shirey,  
preaching  
Rev. Elizabeth King,  
leading worship

Bill Ogger, elder

11 a.m.

Rev. David Shirey,  
preaching  
Rev. Elizabeth King,  
leading worship

Connie Hubbard and  
Hank Sneed, elders

#### Connect:

Sunday services are broadcast live at 11 a.m. on WWTF-1580 AM and streamed on iHeart Radio. You may also listen to the sermon on our website at [centralchristianlex.org](http://centralchristianlex.org). Look for us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CentralChristianLex>.

Gina Cowden died on August 28 after a lengthy, valiant battle with cancer.

She was not alone in her dying.

Her family was there. Husband Rich and 14-year-old daughter Casey abided with their beloved wife and mother by day and by night. Gina's mother was at the bedside as were a dozen other family members—siblings, cousins, and in-laws.

Gina's church family was there, too. In force. Chad Snellgrove spent hours at the bedside, a visible, steadfast embodiment of pastoral care. Elizabeth King, ever vigilant of our church members' needs, alerted the staff of Gina's decline at our Monday staff meeting, led us in prayer for her, and coordinated our visits throughout the week. Sherri Phelps, who directs Casey in TeenSing, directed prayers heavenward for Casey's consolation. The elders, under the leadership of Steve Rice and Lynda Woodard, launched a comprehensive caring

initiative called "Central Connections" as part of which elder Vickie Batzka had developed a long-term caring relationship with the Cowdens. When Pastor Chad left Gina's bedside to pick up his girls, I received the baton of care from my colleague and joined the extended family in ICU to do my part in Central's expansive web of caring.

When Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night he was betrayed and arrested, he asked his disciples one thing: "Keep awake with me." They fell asleep. During our sister Gina's dying, let it be known that her family and church family stayed awake with her. We kept the faith. Together we accompanied her as she walked through "the valley of the shadow of death." In so doing, we blessed her and honored God.

On the Sunday after Gina passed into Eternal God's embrace, two acolytes processed down the aisle

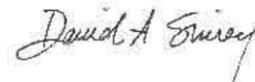
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### From David Shirey,

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during the opening hymn to light the candles on the altar representing the light of Christ: Lauren Townes... and Casey Cowden. As we sang "Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away," Casey lit the candle on the communion table. And as Michael Rintamaa played the majestic strains of the organ and we sang the words of the final verse, "O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be thou our guide while life shall last and our eternal home," Casey reached out and lit the tower candle on the table in memory of her mother.

It's hard to sing with a lump in one's throat, but I managed to croak that final verse, my eyes fixed on the Christ in the center of the stained glass window whose arms are outstretched to embrace us all, proud to be part of a congregation who had "stayed awake" with one of their own.



### Thank You, Demethra and Ruth

Demethra Sanders and Ruth Lawton have completed their service to Central Christian as Facilities Manager and Director of Finance, respectively. Each one deserves our gratitude for years of faithful and devoted service.

If you would like to contribute to a love offering that will be given to them, please send your check to Central Christian Church, in care of Lynn Gray. You are also encouraged to send Demethra and Ruth a card or note of appreciation. These may also be sent to the church office.

### We Welcome New Staff Member

We welcome Mollie Sawyer as our new Director of Operations & Finance. You may reach Mollie at the church office by email or phone at Director@centralchristianlex.org or (859) 233-1551.

### Lunch Bunch:

#### Meet and Eat with Mollie Sawyer

On September 23, at 12 p.m., you are invited to meet and eat with Mollie in the Commons Room. We will have space for twelve reservations and it will be first come, first served. Please make your reservation by calling Sharon in the church office (859) 233-1551. Lunch will be catered and will cost \$6.

### Adult Mission Trip to New Orleans Scheduled for November 1-7

Thanks to an outpouring of financial support from the Outreach Ministry and the Disciples Women's Time and Talent Auction, we are anticipating a very special Adult Mission Trip this year to New Orleans on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. We will be partnering with New Orleans Habitat for Humanity to rebuild housing in this recovering disaster area. We will be staying at Westside Christian Church (DOC). In addition to working hard, we plan to visit the Lower 9<sup>th</sup> Ward devastated by Katrina, the French Quarter, the World War II Museum, a unique local cemetery, and perhaps picnic on Lake Pontchartrain.

There is always meaningful work to be accomplished by our volunteers, with and without construction skills. Mark your calendar now for this opportunity! For more information, contact Steve Rice, (859) 260-8895.

The following gifts have been given to Central Christian Church:

*In memory of  
Bruce Cotton*

(for the Building Fund)

by

Palina Hurst  
Vivian Lafferty  
Ted Vimont

*In memory of  
Gina Cowden*

(for the Building Fund)

by

Don & Barbara Stephens

*In memory of  
Damon Kashar*

(for the Building Fund)

by

Barbara Kashar

*In memory of  
Jody McDaniel*

(for the Central Music Academy)

by

Gwen Tomblin

*In memory of  
Glenn Padgett*

by

Blanche Padgett and Family

*In memory of  
Patricia Wilkirson*

(for the Building Fund)

by

Bill McCord  
Jewell Sloan  
Dan & Betsy Stewart

### Funeral Ministry

When our members and friends turn to Central for the funeral service of their loved ones, we want to be as hospitable as possible. Toward that end, we are structuring the Funeral Ministry with two team of 25 persons to assist, bring food and clean up after receptions. For example, you may not be able to assist but be quite willing to provide food.

Having two teams on call will spread the demands of this essential ministry and serve the grieving families well. Please call Brenda Peterson or email [brendabpeterson@gmail.com](mailto:brendabpeterson@gmail.com) to let her know of your willingness.



### Bread For the World Offering of Letters

Bread for the World's annual Offering of Letters campaign engages churches and people of faith in writing letters to Congress. For 2015, the Offering of Letters focuses on feeding children in the U.S. One in five American children lives in a family that struggles to put food on the table. Access to nutritious food throughout the year is essential to children's health, learning, and growth.

There will be a table in the Gathering Area on October 4 and 11 with more information and the supplies needed to write letters to our elected officials. We will bring our letters forward during the offering time on October 18. Central Christian is a Bread for the World congregation. You can learn more about Bread for the World and issues of hunger by visiting the website [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).