



Church Hours are 8:00 a.m. till 12:00, 12:00-1:00 lunch, and from 1:00-3:30 p.m. If you have special needs please call ahead.

Pastoral Theme for 2007: "Growing Spiritually Healthy Christians"

Dr. Lonnie S. Southern & Rev. Vicki Southern Co-Pastors
 Rev. Jim Whitaker, Minister Emeritus
 Sunday School is 9:00 a.m. Worship is 10:15 a.m. each Sunday.
 Editor of the "Visitor" Sheryl Nagle
 Our church phone is (217) 824-8181. All guests are welcome!

Davis Memorial Christian Church
 1500 W. Franklin St.
 Taylorville, IL 62568
 Phone: (217) 824-8181
 Email: Church Office dmccs@ctitech.com
 Return Service Requested

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 Taylorville, Illinois



"THE VISITOR"
Davis Memorial Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

December
 17,
 2007



Christmas Services

4th Sunday of Advent: Christmas Sunday—December 23rd

9:00 am Kid's Club
 9:00 am Adult Sunday School
 10:15 am Worship Service (featuring the Chancel Choir)

Christmas Eve—December 24th

7:00 pm Candlelight Communion

Southern's Stirring

By the time you read this I expect to have had thyroid surgery and be at home, recuperating. I have waited for this surgery for 3 weeks now, the first scheduled date having been cancelled at the last minute.

How appropriate to be waiting (however impatiently) during Advent – the season of waiting and anticipation; the season of preparation. I have had to wait for this surgery until I became healthier, giving my body time to get stronger and be well of this cold and cough. Some of you are also waiting – for health to return, for loved ones to arrive, for giving or receiving a special gift, for the birth of babies.

Waiting is a good teacher. It focuses your attention on what is important in your life – on what God is calling you to notice. It sets aside all of the less important aspects as you concentrate on that which keeps you waiting - and as you prepare for that important event.

Waiting is, after all, the purpose of Advent. We anticipate the birth of the Christ Child – and that can't be rushed. It takes time to contemplate what His birth means to us, and to prepare our hearts and lives to receive Him. There are few truly important events in life that we don't spend time preparing and waiting for – weddings, educations, careers, births, financial commitments like homes and cars, vacations. And there is no more meaningful or important event to wait for than the birth of our Savior.

Author Isabel Anders, in her book Awaiting the Child, says "active waiting . . . is not a passive stance or, least of all, an ex-

cuse for inaction . . . Such waiting is a readiness to respond . . . to God's breaking in through other people to stir us to action. Just as a line of faithful people, a continuous genealogy, brought Christ to earth, joined to the human family through Mary – we too are connected to God's acts in the future through our waiting and preparing our hearts for Christ's coming again. We have not yet seen all that our Lord will do. . ."

May God bless you in this last week of Advent as you prepare to welcome our Savior.
God's peace, Vicki



Let it snow

Let it snow
Let it snow

REMINDER



Remember that the articles for the next "Visitor" will be due at noon on Monday, December 31st.



Statistics for December 16, 2007

Attendance: 66

General Fund: \$1865.00

Preschool: \$53.00

Christmas: \$5.00

Outreach Christmas Project: \$230.00

(Weekly giving needs to meet expenses-
\$3292.72)



Thought for the Day

It's easy to identify people who can't count to ten. They're in front of you in the super-market express lane.



Serving Sunday, December 23, 2007

Greeters—

Elders— Jonathan Newlin, John Forbes

Diaconate— Sandy Hendricks, Matt Morrison, Angie Morrison, Nancy Honn, Charlotte Davis, Steve Craggs

Jr. Diaconate— Elyse Hendricks, Erynn Hendricks

Comm. Prep.— Carol Daugherty

Comm. Clean-up— Ethel Steele, Jean Steele

Sound Tech— Chris Miller, Nicole Newlin



Sandy Montgomery, Roger Jones, Whitey Griffiths, Maddie Tucker, Emma Mackey, Eileen Wareham, Jim Keel, Wilma Tolle, Margaret Porter, Christy Lowe, Carol Daugherty, Frances Wirtanen (friend of Lonnie & Vicki), Terry Smith, Ben Spencer

Serving our Country: Josh Brummett (Iraq), Nick DePue, (Iraq), Zachary Younker (Iraq), Caleb Sexson (Fort Gordon, GA)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

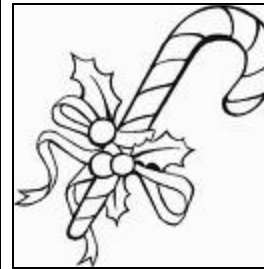


Mary Burke	December 21
Barbara Humphrey	December 21
Noel Hellman	December 21
Evelyn Stalets	December 22
Mary Berck	December 24
Sandy Montgomery	December 26
Angela Collins	December 26
Jim Montgomery Jr.	December 27
Cliff Steele	December 28
Angie White	December 29
Alysha Newlin	December 29
Fred Steffen	December 31
Marli Hergett	December 31
Janet Montgomery	January 1
Linda Berck	January 1

John & Marion Forbes	December 22
David Sr. & Janet Hendricks	December 31
Kenneth & Sandra Montgomery	December 31
Jeb & Heather Odam	December 31



Outreach Christmas Project



To brighten the holidays for some of our community neighbors, the DMCC Outreach Committee plans to distribute Kroger gift certificates to as many homes as we can. The committee, of course, would appreciate any donations to help with this worthwhile project. If you would like to make a donation, please designate on your offering envelope "Outreach Christmas project". Thanks in advance for helping to make the season bright.

Men's Bible Study

The men will not meet for their Bible Study for the remainder of December. They will begin again on January 8th.



Leader Transition Workshop



We will hold our Leader Transition Workshop on Saturday, January 5th at 9:00 a.m.



“Flock Talk”

Tillie Vaughn has recently been admitted to the Taylorville Care Center for therapy.

Kids' Club

There will be no Wednesday evening Kids' Club meetings on December 26th and January 2nd. The next Wednesday evening meeting will be on January 9th. The Sunday Kids' Club AM Edition will continue on each Sunday.



5:02 Youth Meeting



Jan. 9 — 5:02 p.m.
Meeting

Inclement Weather

If inclement weather is pending, please listen to WTIM Radio (97.3) or call the church office (824-8181) and listen to the answering machine to see whether Worship Service will be held here at DMCC. Often our parking lot and church are more accessible, so a decision may be postponed until the last minute. A decision will be made after consultations with Clergy, Moderator and Property Chairs.



Note: If school dismisses early or is cancelled due to the weather, Kids' Club will not meet that evening. If you have any doubts, please call the church office. If no one is there, please listen to the message on the answering machine.

Co-Pastor's Vacation



The Co-Pastor's will be on vacation beginning on December 26th through January 2nd. If there is a pastoral emergency, please call Mick Sullivan (824-8767) or Mary Dooley (824-5538).

No Newsletter Next Week

There will be no newsletter next week because of the Christmas Holiday. We will issue an abbreviated newsletter the following week (New Year's). The week of January 7th, we will be back on schedule with your weekly newsletter.



Office Closed



The Church Office will close at noon on December 24th and all day on December 25th. It will re-open on December 26th at 8:00 a.m. It will also close at noon on December 31st and all day on January 1st. It will re-open again on January 2nd at 8:00 a.m.



Have a Merry Christmas from the DMCC Staff:

Jimmy *Sheryl* *Jane*
Jarissa
Janet Montgomery *Lana* *Vicki*
Lonnie

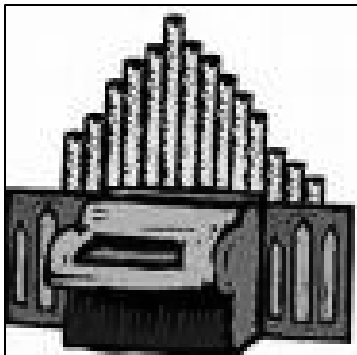
You are invited to hear
PAUL FLECKENSTEIN

In a New Year's Eve Pops organ concert

8:30pm
Monday, December 31, 2007

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
650 West William Street
Decatur, IL 62522

Free admission open to the public



MOMENT FOR MISSION

Working to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals

In September 2000, 189 countries signed a declaration committing to a specific agenda for reducing global poverty. The agenda included eight Millennium Development Goals, which today guide the efforts of nearly all organizations working toward the common goal of improving the health and well-being of people around the world by 2015.

Global Ministries supports these goals, which are:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Create a global partnership for development with targets for aid, trade and debt relief

(Source: Global Ministries News)

Kids' Club Needs Volunteers

Kids' Club Sunday Morning is experiencing an increase in attendance, which is wonderful...however, in order for this program to continue to succeed, we are in **great need of leaders/teachers**, for Sunday Morning and for the Wednesday evening program.

Kids' Club teaches the same workshop on the same topic for three (3) weeks, to a different age group each week. So, we are looking for individuals who can and will **commit to spending three weeks at a time** leading/teaching Kids' Club Sunday Morning or the Wednesday evening program. All teaching and workshop materials are provided.

Our topic schedule for 2008:

Epiphany—December 30—January 20

Beatitudes—January 23—February 10

Parable of the Talents—February 13—March 2

The Last Supper—March 5—March 23

Parable of the Sower—March 26—April 13

The Great Commandment—April 16—May 4

The Mustard Seed—May 11—June 15 (Summer/Sundays only)

Jesus "I Am" Statements—June 22—July 27 (Summer/Sundays only)

Parable of the Great Banquet—August 3—September 7 (Summer/Sundays only)



Please contact Stacy Barnes at 824-6400, Dana Montes' at 824-4683, or Janet Montgomery at 824-7384, if this is your calling or if you would like **more information about this rewarding opportunity**. Thank you!



Meals on Wheels

Our church is responsible for Meals on Wheels the week of December 31-January 4. There will be no delivery on January 1 so we will just need to fill 4 days with volunteers. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please remember this important community ministry.

God Bless You

God Bless You, Dave Hixenbaugh for your work in removing our snow.