



March 1, 2015

*A Worshiping Community  
Finding Purpose for Life  
Between Sundays*

**Upcoming  
@ Central**

Find out about these and other upcoming events at [www.centralpres.com](http://www.centralpres.com)

.....  
Adult Sunday School  
Sundays @ 9:45am  
.....

Central Christian School  
Dinner & Auction  
March 6, 6pm

Visit [www.ccsstl.ejoinme.org](http://www.ccsstl.ejoinme.org)  
for details  
.....

Town Hall Meeting  
Wed, March 11  
Dinner @ 5:30pm  
Meeting @ 6:30pm  
.....

Central Concert Series  
March 13, 7pm  
(See page 2 for details)

**EquipCentral**

Dinner @ 5:30pm  
Classes @ 6:30pm  
.....

**Menu for 3/4**

- Poppyseed Chicken & Noodles
- Chopped Salad
- Broccoli in Cheese Sauce
- Rolls & Butter
- Zebra Brownies

**The Amazing Chase | Spring Storm 2015**

There's a storm brewing on the horizon, but there's no need to rush to the store for bread and milk. No, as we near Easter it's once again time for Spring Storm, KidCentral's annual retreat. A rite of passage for more than 20 years for kids in grades 4-6, Spring Storm is one of Central's most enduring ministries.

The event has had a profound impact on many lives - campers, counselors, and interns alike. Friendships are formed, relationships are reconciled, and the Central community is strengthened. Many campers don't attend Central (and some may not attend any church), and Spring Storm is their first exposure to the gospel. Even for some campers who may have already heard the Good News many times, Spring Storm represents the first time they are doing so away from their family. It is not at all uncommon to witness new professions of faith!

Serving our kids as a counselor can be hard work. Long days, an unfamiliar bed, and a cabin filled with enthusiastic 5th graders can be a challenge. However, every year you hear counselors comment on how their own faith has been renewed or strengthened by the experience. Long-time volunteer and worship leader Pete Johnson summarizes the adults' experience well:

"Spring Storm is one of the highlights of my year. It is a kind of 'controlled chaos' that God uses to unsettle me, and then, through that awkward vulnerability, enables me to relate to the kids (as they are often experiencing the same thing!). The task is ALWAYS too big, but God ALWAYS shows up and shows me this is HIS weekend!

Kids are touched by his love, and the staff and volunteers are strengthened by witnessing God's power at work through their weakness."

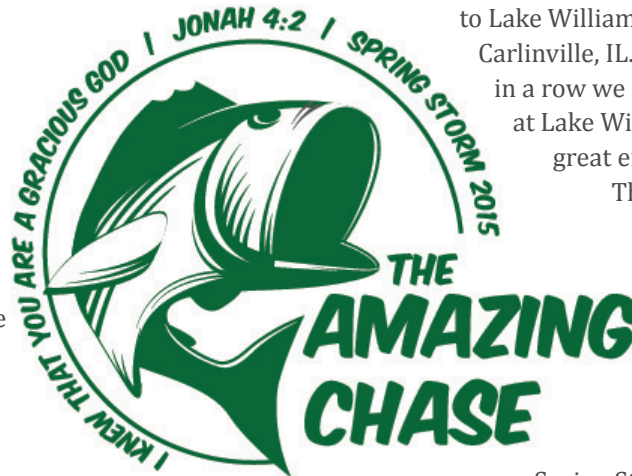
Pulling of an event of this scale is no easy task. Each year, more than 120 campers are ministered to by at least 40 adult and high school volunteers. Add-in a full worship band, arts and crafts supplies, materials for a variety of games and contests, and it takes a large trailer just to get all the supplies for the weekend delivered to the retreat!

This year, all that gear will once again be heading to Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, IL. This is the second year in a row we have held Spring Storm at Lake Williamson, and it offers a great environment for the kids.

The facility we use for worship and our large-group discussions is spacious, the food is plentiful, and there's a lot of room and options for the kids to burn off energy.

Spring Storm 2015, "The Amazing Chase," will be April 17-19. Our featured speaker this year is Central's own Jeremy Blythe, Director of Student Ministries. Jeremy will be helping the campers discover about the character and activity of God, and how he can use anybody to accomplish his purposes of redeeming all things and calling them to himself.

Registration material will be mailed out this week, and this year, you will also be able to fully register online. If you prefer this option, or would simply like to learn more about this awesome event, please visit [www.centralpres.com/springstorm](http://www.centralpres.com/springstorm). If you have any questions about Spring Storm, please contact Karen Brown (314-727-2777 or [kbrown@centralpres.com](mailto:kbrown@centralpres.com)).



## JAMES WARD IN CONCERT MARCH 13

Be sure to save March 13 on your calendars as you will not want to miss James Ward in concert at Central at 7pm. James Ward has been writing and performing thoughtful and powerful music for over three decades. Born in southern Illinois as the son of a Presbyterian minister, he has been fulfilling his calling as a composer, performer, and recording artist whose innovative music has been a widespread influence throughout the church and entertainment community. His 13 albums include several hit songs, and his setting of the hymn text "Rock of Ages" has been recorded by Buddy Green, opera singer Philip Webb, and the National Christian Choir. James comes to Central from Chattanooga, TN, where he is director of music at New City Fellowship Presbyterian Church, a cross-cultural congregation. You can learn more about the artist at [www.jameswardmusic.com](http://www.jameswardmusic.com).

### *Easter Sunday Worship Schedule*

Easter is one of the most popular times of the year for guests to attend church. A survey conducted by LifeWay Research showed Easter to have higher attendance than either Christmas or Mother's Day. But that research also revealed that as many as 20% of self-described Christians were unsure if they would attend an Easter worship service. A personal invitation to join you in celebrating Christ's resurrection could change someone's life.

#### **Easter Sunday**

7am | Sunrise service at Forest Park

8:15\*, 9:45, and 11:30\*am; 5pm | Worship at Central

*\* Please note schedule change for Easter Sunday*

## Make Someone's Easter Special

Easter a time when we receive many guests at Central. For some, it is the only Sunday this year they will attend church. Would you be willing to help make their experience a little better? There is a great need for additional help, particularly as parking attendants and greeters. Would you be willing to share a little bit of your time? Your presence might be just what God uses to get that "once-a-year" guest to come back the next week! If you are interested, please contact Todd Denholm (314727-2777 or [tdenholm@centralpres.com](mailto:tdenholm@centralpres.com)).

## Financial Central

For the month ending January 31, 2015, actual giving was higher than budget by ~ \$35,000. Actual expenses for the month finished lower than budget as well. As a result, 2015 is off to a solid start with an actual net deficit substantially lower than budgeted (see Table below). This is a great blessing and we give thanks to God for a solid start to the fiscal year, and we thank each of you for your ongoing generosity. Ministry happens here because you give!

### January 2015 Summary

	Budget	Actual
Giving	\$200,000	\$235,000
Expenses	\$445,000	\$353,000
Net	-\$245,000	-\$118,000

## Save The Date!

Central will be hosting another blood drive on May 13. The last one held here in the fall was a rousing success. Watch for more details to come in the next few weeks.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

Central's new campus security system has been installed and is now operational. If you lead a Bible study, small group, or committee that meets at Central at any time other than "normal business hours," please send an email to [security@centralpres.com](mailto:security@centralpres.com) so arrangements can be made.

## Missions Update: Jamal & Merna Middle East (Confidential)

- Praise God for safety and protection when sharing with the unreached.
- Pray for the discipleship training courses for new believers.
- Pray for teaching non-believers about Christ.
- Pray for Christian and other refugees displaced by the fighting. Tented living is challenging in harsh winter weather.
- Pray for great medical care and other needs for these people.

Thank you for all your prayers and financial support. This is a project with many great needs remaining to be addressed.

### Keep In Touch, Stay Up To Date With Your Church

**Browse** | [centralpres.com](http://centralpres.com)

**Like** | [facebook.com/CPCStL](https://facebook.com/CPCStL)

**Follow** | [twitter.com/CPCStL](https://twitter.com/CPCStL)

**Subscribe** | [centralpres.com/resources/contact-us](http://centralpres.com/resources/contact-us)

**Download** | [centralpres.com/gettheapp](http://centralpres.com/gettheapp)