



# The Herald

Volume XXXXXIX,  
No 5



## PENTECOST OFFERING — May 28 THE PENTECOST OFFERING — BUILDING A LIFE OF FAITH

“I know the plans I have for you,  
says the Lord,  
.... to give you a future with Hope.  
Jeremiah 29:11

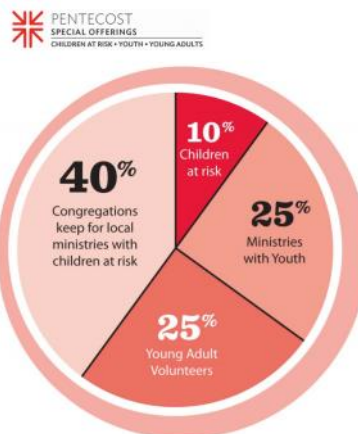
### Inside this issue:

Pastor writes/VBS	2
CE News	3
Session news	4
Birthdays/ Confirmants/Manna from Seven	5
Youth News/Choir Appreciation/ Farrington Grove	6
Calendar	7
Church Happenings	8

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a churchwide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. 40% of the Pentecost offering will be kept by our congregation with the distribution to be decided at a later date.

Each year on Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birthday of the church. The Holy Spirit remains with us still, connecting us with the church of the past, continuing to inspire the church of today, and *pointing us to the church of the future.*

In the book of Jeremiah, Jeremiah shares the statement: “I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord ... to give you a future with hope”. These words reminded the Israelites that, despite their experience of the present, God’s gesture, thoughts and plans for them — and for us — are peaceful, abundant and hopeful. We celebrate that God offers more than we can plan.



# The Herald

---

## From the Pastor's Desk

Last Sunday it felt as though we all belonged to a winning team. We had a good Sunday school hour. Lots of folks attended worship. The choir was in good form. Valeri Kershaw delivered a hilarious and thoughtful Children's Moment. The preacher preached shorter than usual. We got to perform a baptism. And we received three confirmands into active membership. Win, win, win, win! Study after study reveals that the most common reason people visit a church for the first time is that a trusted friend invited them. When we have such a vital church life, with meaningful worship well presented, what is keeping you from inviting friends to visit Central?

Church consultant and writer Lyle Schaller likens a congregation to a forest. Annually, every tree in it grows one year older. A few die. But are we planting seedlings to replace them? I know a few of us worry about the long-term financial situation of our church as our older, mostly better-off members enter their heavenly reward. Others worry about the viability of the choir or the Sunday school. I believe that if we focus instead on growing the church, spiritually and numerically, all these other concerns will take care of themselves.

Please pray that God will show you whom to invite to visit Central. Please pray for the bravery and the tact to extend that invitation. Thank you!



### Vacation Bible School at Central!

Vacation Bible School will be happening again at Central this summer! This year we will be learning about working together to care for God's creation using "ReNew, the Green VBS" program, a curriculum created by Sparkhouse. This program will be open to Central families and our entire community for children ages 4 through 5th grade. It will be held daily from 9:30am to 12pm here at the church.

Registration link is available in the e-news or contact Ellie ([ellie@thcpc.org](mailto:ellie@thcpc.org))

Volunteers are needed to help with activities, snack prep and setup/cleanup. Please contact Ellie ([ellie@thcpc.org](mailto:ellie@thcpc.org)) or the church office to volunteer.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator

### **Sunday School Updates**

Sunday school continues for children, youth and adults and will run through May 21. Children continue studying the practice of “Love God, Neighbor, Enemy” from the PCUSA curriculum “Follow Me”. Older youth have been invited to join in the “Congregational Vitality” class that Pastor Mike is leading.

### **New Breakfast Bible Study**

Pastor Mike Riggins has started and had wonderful interest and attendance so far at a new breakfast Bible study. The group meets at Grand Traverse Pie Co. in Terre Haute at 9am on Monday mornings. They cover the passages on which he will preach each following Sunday. Please contact Mike with questions about the study.

A reminder that our nursery is also fully open and is staffed on Sunday from 9:15-11:30. Babies and toddlers are welcome during the Sunday School time with the preschool age group meeting in the attached classroom. During worship children ages 3 and younger may go to the nursery while our older children ages 4 to 1st grade are invited to come to worship and then join our adult leaders for children’s worship in the lounge. Children in 2nd grade and older are encouraged to remain in worship with their adults following the children’s moment. Activity bags for all ages are located in the back of the sanctuary.

### **Parent’s Night Out**

Our next Parent’s Night Out is coming up on Friday, May 12, 2023 at 5:30pm. All children and youth and their friends are invited to attend for a night of fun and fellowship. Save the date and make plans for your children to attend while you enjoy a night to yourself!

If you would like to volunteer to help prepare food or chaperone our Parent’s Night Out events contact Ellie Templeton ([ellie@thcpc.org](mailto:ellie@thcpc.org))

### **Readers needed for Pentecost**

The Worship Commission is seeking those who are somewhat proficient in a language other than English to participate in a reading during our May 28 Pentecost worship service. Readers will be provided with the reading ahead of time should practice be needed. Please contact Alan Harder with questions or to volunteer ([anharder96@gmail.com](mailto:anharder96@gmail.com))

### **Graduation Sunday**

Graduation Sunday will be held on Sunday, June 4 2023 during worship. Please make sure Ellie or the church office have the name of graduates in your family, we want to recognize them!

# The Herald

## Session Notes from April for the May Herald

Session met on April 12 to hear reports and conduct routine business. Highlights from the meeting appear below.

### Reception of confirmands

Christian Educator Ellie Templeton presented Henry Conner and Ethan Kershaw and reviewed the work they

had done to learn about the Bible, PCUSA polity and history, and Central. During the process they met together with parents and prayer partners for wonderful discussion. The boys shared their moving faith journey projects and were asked the membership questions, which they answered in the affirmative. A motion to accept Henry Conner and Ethan Kershaw into membership was approved with a resounding hallelujah and they signed the membership register. In a called meeting on Sunday, April 23, session met with

Mackenzie Racop. She too described her moving faith journey and answered the membership questions. All three were received into membership with joy during worship on April 23.

### Pastor's Report:

In addition to his written report, the pastor raised several issues for consideration.

- The church has received a bequest from the estate of former member Dale McKee to establish the Dale and Nancy McKee Endowment Fund, with the fund's income to be used for educational purposes. There will be a more public announcement with the McKee family in attendance in the future.
- Pastor Mike reported that his recent study leave concentrated on reading and discussion about ways to reach the "nones" and "nons" in today's world. He cited polling statistics and opened a discussion about what we do, who we can be, and what we will need to keep and what we will need to change to grow in spirit, mission, membership, and attendance.

### Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Bruce McLaren presented the report and provided updates.

Operating Fund Summary	Month of March	Balance Sheet Summary	3/31/2023
Beginning of Month	\$55,860.73	Current Assets	\$747,605
Income	\$24,766.87	Fixed Assets	\$5,093,693
Expenses	\$28,647.60	Short Term Liabilities	\$4256
End of Month	\$51,980.00	Long Term Liabilities	\$163,287
		Net Worth (Fund Balance)	\$5,673,795

**Mission:** The commission is considering ideas that grew from discussions during the Lenten series. Session approved a motion for the commission to proceed with asking for monetary donations to support Manna from Seven's purchase of toiletry/oral hygiene items in a consistent fashion. The commission is also gathering more information on prototype housing pods for the homeless, designed by Rose Hulman students, that would work with bicycles. Operation Heart has now fully repaid the loan from session and is closed. Thanks to all those who helped with the project.

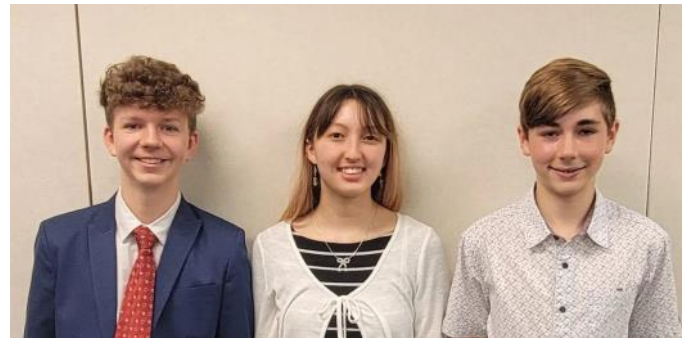


## May birthdays

- 1—Mary McLaughlin, Melinda Modesitt
- 2—MacKenzie Racop
- 5—Scott Racop
- 7 — William Seo, Luanne Tilstra, Victor Tilstra-Smith
- 8—Paul Ekstrom
- 9—Jon Harder
- 10—Ella Glenn, Maddison Judge
- 12—Jean Shutt
- 13—Danielle Payne, Christopher Spencer
- 18—Becky Payne
- 19— Matt Glenn, Jennifer Skelton

## Congratulations to our Confirmands!

We experienced a blessed and joyous Sunday in April! On Sunday, April 23 we celebrated the confirmation of three young people in our church. Henry Conner, Ethan Kershaw and MacKenzie Racop all chose to be confirmed and become members of Central Presbyterian church. They each spent time in a year long confirmation class deepening their understanding of the Bible, Jesus and their faith



and also what it means to join the Presbyterian church. We welcome and celebrate each of them in their membership at Central and desire to continue to bear witness to Christ in all aspects of their lives. Congratulations!

## Support for Manna from Seven

You may know Manna from Seven as a weekend food pantry. It is much more than that. It provides hair cuts as well as laundry service and so much more for our less fortunate neighbors. Manna from Seven spends around \$250 weekly to provide quarters (and detergent) so our less fortunate neighbors can launder their clothes. That is a lot of quarters!

Please help by dropping your quarters into the little green donation box in Fellowship Hall. Donations of egg cartons and plastic grocery bags are also being collected in Fellowship Hall to aid in Manna's food distribution efforts. Thank you for your donations!

### Highpoint Youth Updates

Our youth group continues to meet regularly at Central or one of our partner churches and is considering several possible options for mission work and possibly a trip this summer.

**Youth Sunday** will be held on Sunday, May 14 here at Central and we are excited to have members of the youth group and our church leading worship. Please make plans to attend!

Thank you to our youth director, Tim Ghogle, for his continued leadership of this group!



### The Farrington Grove Chorale Concert

The members of the Farrington Grove Chorale wish to invite you to their spring concert. The Chorale is conducted by Dr. Mark Carlisle and accompanied by Mrs. Susan Farris. The Chorale includes 22 singers and are all members from this area.

The Chorale will present four spring programs. The first will be on **Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The second on **Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church of North Terre Haute, 2944 E. Hall Avenue. The third performance will be held at Memorial United Methodist Church, 2701 Poplar Street, on **Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 7:00 p.m. The last performance of the spring series will be on **Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 1807 Poplar Street at 7:00 p.m.

The concert will include a variety of styles of music from light ballads to an eclectic selection of acapella sacred music. There will be something for everyone to enjoy in the beautiful settings.



### Choir Appreciation Reception

The worship commission will be hosting a choir appreciation gathering in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 7 at 9:30am. Light refreshments will be served and we invite all to come and celebrate our wonderful choir.

*Please note that Sunday School will start at about 9:45 on that Sunday so that all can enjoy the celebration.*





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Monday Bible study 9:00	2	3 Bible study & brew 7:30	4 Women's Book Club 2:00	5 	6
7 Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Youth 6:00	8 Monday Bible study 9:00	9 	10 Deacons Session 7:00 5:00	11	12 Staff meeting 11:00	13
14 Mother's Day Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30	15 Monday Bible study 9:00	16 Commission/ Committee meetings	17 Bible study & brew 7:30	18	19 	20
21 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30	22 Monday Bible study 9:00	23	24 Bible study & brew 7:30	25 Seekers & Searchers Bible study 10:00	26	27
28 Worship 10:30	29 Office closed 	30	31 Bible study & brew 7:30			

Central Presbyterian Church  
125 North Seventh Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47807

Phone: 812-232-5049  
Fax: 812-232-5040  
Email: CPCOffice@thcpc.org

## The Herald

---

**Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.**

**Rev. Mike Riggins, Pastor**

**Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator/Communication Coordinator**

**Sarah Kelsheimer, Church Secretary**



### Church Happenings

#### **Women's Book Club**

The Women's Book Club will meet this month on Thursday, May 4 beginning at 2 p.m. The book to be discussed is Maid by Nita Prose. All who are interested are welcome.



The church will celebrate Graduation Sunday on June 4th. Please make sure the church office has your graduate's information if they will be graduating from high school or college this year. Thank you!



*Next Herald  
Deadline —  
May 25, 2023*