



# The Herald

Volume XXXXXIX,  
No. 7

## Fifth Sunday Lunch

Our traditional Fifth Sunday Lunch will be hosted by the Church Life Commission on **Sunday, July 30** at



the church, following worship. This is always a fun and special Sunday and all are invited for lunch! Our meal this time will be a variety of salads.

Church life is asking for all to please bring a salad (think chicken, pasta, fruit, green, etc.) to contribute to the meal and/or a dessert if you would like.

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Join us at the  
**Church  
Picnic!**

Mark Your Calendars —

Sunday, August 27

Deming Park, Lions 3 Shelter

Look for more information in next edition of the Herald.

# The Herald



In recent weeks I have spoken in several forums about working with our elders to better prepare Central for the world we are in—and the world that is coming—rather than remaining content to minister as though we still live in a world that has all but disappeared. Central Presbyterian is a strong and wonderful congregation. But if we keep doing our work as we “always have” we will be choosing decline: declines in numbers such as worship attendance and offerings, and in the effectiveness of our ministries.

At last month's session meeting I presented the elders with a proposal. I want to convene our next strategic planning task force this fall—about a year earlier than the usual five-year cycle would dictate. With that group I want to do some guided reading on the post-modern world in which we now live, and on its impact on the church. Then we would focus our deliberations on planning for the short- and long-term. I envision the usual five-year plan as the short-term. By long-range I mean something more in the range of 25 years.

I honestly do not know what specific changes we may recommend. But I do know we will recommend *something*. *Over the past fifteen or so years I have watched friends in ministry serving churches across the country get burned out and discouraged. Many of them have retired early. They share a common refrain: they just could not figure out how to help their churches deal with the changes that surround them. Like most Presbyterian congregations, theirs dwindled and lost momentum.*

God willing, I still have a few years before my own retirement. I hope to work with our leaders to address the need to adapt to our circumstances. Linda and I truly love Central. It is a privilege to serve here. I feel an urgent calling to embark on this work for the sake of our church.

At our July 12 session meeting, I will ask the elders for their thoughts on my proposal. Perhaps our discussion will lead to taking a vote that evening. Perhaps we will feel called to give it another month. If you have thoughts about any of this, please speak with me and/or your friendly, neighborhood elder. Thank you!

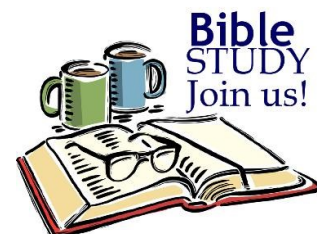


## Attention High School seniors and college students

Applications for the 2023/24 **Nancy and Dale McKee Family Scholarship** for the benefit of a member of the Central Presbyterian Church will be available at <https://wvcf.org> from July 1 - August 30, 2023 at 2 PM. This scholarship requires that you are a member (or regular attendee) of Central Presbyterian Church. The scholarship is available to all traditional and non-traditional students.

## Bible Study and Brew continues!

With the new month we resume meeting at the Terre Haute Brewing Company. Join us at 7:30 pm! This is a smart, congenial group. Try us once and you just might keep coming! (We don't meet the week session meets.)



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator

### **Summer Children's Worship**

During the summer we will continue to have nursery care for babies and toddlers during worship. I am also working with our nursery staff to lead a more casual children's worship time in the downstairs playroom with a story and craft each week as well as playtime. This will continue to be open to our kids ages 4 through 1st grade. Children will attend worship as usual then leave after the Children's moment and be escorted downstairs by myself or another assigned adult. Please pickup your children in the preschool playroom following worship. This program will begin June 4 and will run through August.

A reminder that our nursery is also fully open and is staffed on Sundays this summer from 10:15-11:30. 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 preschool classroom. 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.

### **Vacation Bible School**

Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 12 here at Central. We welcomed a wonderful group of about 20 kids from our church as well as the 14th and Chestnut Community Center. We spent the week learning about caring for our environment and how God's love is a seed in us, helps us to grow strong roots in our faith and to grow to support our communities and take care of our earth. We welcomed guests from ReThink Inc. here in Terre Haute and also Moonglade Animal Adventures. It was a really fun week and we thank all who participated, volunteered and donated items to make the week a success.

### **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!

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## Session Notes from June for the July Herald

Session met on June 14 to hear reports and conduct routine business. Highlights from the meeting appear below.

### **Pastor's Report:**

In addition to his written report, the pastor proposed advancing our strategic planning by one year. There were five goals in the last plan and four have been fairly well accomplished, although formal evaluation has not occurred. The remaining goal—to broaden our demographic—was not tasked to any one group so has not been addressed intentionally. However, it fits well with the reading he has been doing. He noted that at some point in the future, we will have failed as leaders if we do not address the issue. Comments were generally in favor of an annual review of any strategic plan (the current one is posted on the church web site) and of follow-through.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Bruce McLaren presented the report and provided updates. As is usual, revenue falls off during the summer months. Expenses are under control.

Operating Fund Sum-	Month of May		Balance Sheet Summary	5/31/2023
Beginning of Month	\$61,268.45		Current Assets	\$842,395
Income	\$21,746.82		Fixed Assets	\$5,093,693
Expenses	\$28,324.51		Short Term Liabilities	\$4168
End of Month	\$54,690.76		Long Term Liabilities	\$159,772
			Net Worth (Fund Balance)	\$5,772,148

### **Reports and Action Items from Committees and Commissions:**

**Christian Nurture:** The commission discussed the Pyoca retreat and is considering changes. Blessing of the Backpacks will be on August 6, and Sunday School will resume in September.

**Facilities:** Repairs have been completed for the water line to the triple sinks in the kitchen. We are in the process of switching our Internet Service Provider to Joink and should have improved service at a better cost.

**Worship:** Alan Harder reviewed the results of the commission's study of sanctuary lighting, concluding that although aesthetics could be improved, there is no pressing need for change. The commission will continue to work closely with Facilities.

**Mission:** The committee proposed that a \$500 donation from local benevolence be directed to Manna from Seven. Session approved the motion. We have received a \$1000 grant from the presbytery for the same purpose. The first SAWS ramp build has been completed and a second is to be scheduled. Thanks to Steve Mead for continuing his work in both areas.

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**Personnel:** All staff performance reviews have been completed and the pastor will provide a summary report at the next session meeting.

**Commissioner to Presbytery:** In addition to his written report, Alan Harder shared additional information from the meeting, noting that the sermons had been given by pastors of churches affected by the spring tornados. Rev. Dawn Black from the Sullivan church can direct hands-on and monetary contributions for tornado relief. It was a very good in-person meeting.

**Other comments:**

We celebrate our graduates and note the church's long support of young people through church connections.

Youth Sunday was a joy and confirmed the value of intergenerational connections.

Information about participating in the Alzheimer's walk will be referred to the Mission committee.



Dear CPC Family,

Thank you so much for your love and generosity. These things make me confident in my ability to take on this next step in life. You have all supported me my whole life. You have raised me to be the person I am today and I hope I can make you all proud. Thank you for the scholarship and for all that you've done for me.



Love, Maxine



The primary goal of Manna from Seven is to satisfy the immediate need of hunger during the weekend hours of offering food, both perishable or non perishable that can be taken home and prepared at a later date. The foods are given freely.

All members of the Manna from Seven, and subsequently, any volunteers working with us, will offer this food service with the utmost respect and dignity given to all that come to us, and free of any discriminatory behavior.

*All church members —*

*We couldn't accomplish God's mission of serving and empowering those in need without your continued support by helping with laundry support. Thank you — God bless all.*

*Mike Cahill, secretary*



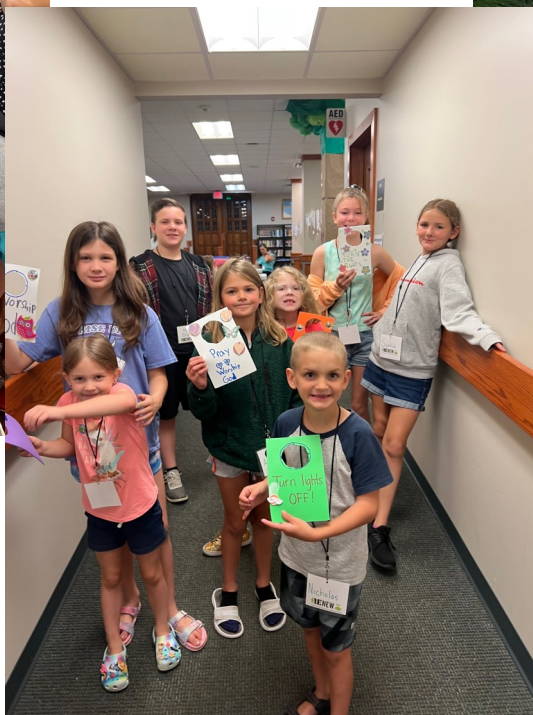
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## July Birthdays

3— Travis Rubey, Katie Salmeron  
4—Jack Darke  
5—Cheryl Moles  
8—Megan Rader  
9—Steve Templeton  
13—Susan Hoffman  
14—Andrew Green  
15—Carla Bailey  
17—Enzo Woodruff, Mia Woodruff  
20—Mary Horneker, Connor Scanlon  
24—Kirsten Ford, Steve Mead  
25—Kathy Hogan, Leanne Holder  
27—Mimi Templeton, Harrison Whitaker  
29—Niles Newton  
31—Ethan Kershaw



## VBS Fun



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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Worship 10:30	3 Monday Bible study 9:00 Summer walking group @ ISU stadium 5:00	4 Office closed. 	5	6 Women's Book Club 2:00 High Ground Men's Group 7:00	7	8
9 Worship 10:30	10 Monday Bible study 9:00 Summer walking group @ ISU stadium 5:00	11	12 Deacons 5:00 Session 7:00	13 High Ground Men's Group 7:00	14 Staff meeting 9:00	15 
16 Worship 10:30	17 Monday Bible study 9:00 Summer walking group @ ISU stadium 5:00	18 Church meeting night	19 Bible study & brew 7:30	20 High Ground Men's Group 7:00	21	22
23 Worship 10:30	24 Monday Bible study 9:00 Summer walking group @ ISU stadium 5:00	25 	26 Bible study & brew 7:30	27 Seekers & Searchers Bible study 10:00 High Ground Men's Group	28	29
30 Worship 10:30 5th Sunday carry in following worship	31 Monday Bible study 9:00 Summer walking group @ ISU stadium 5:00					

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

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

**Rev. Mike Riggins, Pastor**

**Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator**

**Sarah Kelsheimer, Church Secretary**

## Church Happenings

### Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will be meeting on July 7 at 2:00 in the church fellowship hall. The book, *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus will be discussed.

It's a 5th Sunday month—so that means a carry in dinner!!!! Our Church Life Commission will be hosting the lunch on July 31. Please bring a salad to share.



*Next Herald  
Deadline —  
July 27, 2023*