



# The Herald

Volume XXXXXIX,  
No 8



## Back to School at



Central  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS -  
AUGUST 6 10:30AM**

Bring your backpack to worship to receive a blessing for  
the new school year



**CHURCH PICNIC AT DEMING PARK, LIONS  
SHELTER - AUGUST 27, 5PM**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF & PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST- SEPT 17TH, 9:30AM**



**PARENT'S NIGHT OUT - SEPT 22, 5:30-9PM**



**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES BEGINS  
- SEPT 24 9:30AM**

Childcare available for babies and toddlers



**Church Picnic**  
Sunday, August 27 at 5pm  
Lions III Shelter in Deming Park.

A main course of fried and baked chicken as well as drinks will be provided by Church Life. We invite all to attend and bring a side and/or dessert to share. Bring your lawn chairs. We hope to see everyone there for an evening of food and fellowship!

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator

### Sunday School Updates

We are excited to be gearing up for a fun and faithful year of Sunday School at Central!

On Sunday, September 17 we invite all to the annual Sunday School Kickoff Breakfast at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall.

Pancakes, sausage and fruit will be served by the Christian Nurture commission and we will gather for a time to fellowship as we prepare to begin the new Sunday school year.

We will begin Sunday School for all ages on Sunday, September 24 at 9:30am.

Elementary and youger age children will meet together in Fellowship Hall, Middle and High school youth will meet in the youth room upstairs and adults are invite to attend class in the lounge with a new class led by Pastor Mike about congregational vitality and the “Canoeing the Mountains” text he has recently been sharing.

Nursery care will be available for our younger children ages birth to 2 years.

### Blessing of the Backpacks

Blessing of the Backpacks was held Sunday, August 6th during worship. We enjoyed celebrating the new school year during the Children’s Moment in worship and sharing a message of “You Matter” to God and to each other. We wish all of our students and teachers who have returned to the classroom as very blessed school year!



### Hiring Childcare workers

Central is seeking high quality childcare providers for our nursery on Sunday mornings and during weekday evening church events.

Applicants should be 18 years of age or older. Pay is \$15 per hour.

Please contact Ellie (ellie@thcpc.org) for more info or an application.

### United Campus Ministries BBQ Fundraiser

Central will once again partner with UCM in support of their annual BBQ Fundraiser. The Annual UCM BBQ will begin at 11:30 and run through 2:00 on September 10, 2023 following Holypalooza! Tickets are for sale online, at the UCM center, or through a UCM board member. Visit <https://ucm.betterworld.org/> for tickets and more information.

# The Herald

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## Salt Shakers, 2023-2024

The Salt Shaker dinners began at Central almost 15 years ago! Traditionally, we have mixed a different group of 7 – 9 people several times a year at a host's home to share a meal. Participants have been shaken up each time so they get to be with someone different. It is a great way to meet new people and learn new things about old friends.

If there is sufficient interest, we will again create a schedule for gatherings during 2023-24.

- Fellowship, not stress, is the first priority! As we have in the past, we will develop the schedule with a designated host and guests. The host will supply the entrée and will assign other dishes to guests. Hosts should feel free to adapt this in any way that they'd like.
- To simplify the gatherings, we'd like to encourage hosts to plan an evening that makes sense for them. Traditional dinners are always fun but feel free to experiment. If it works better for you and your guests, you could put on a pot of chili, have people come just for coffee and dessert, or go on a picnic. It is certainly fine for a group to meet at a restaurant for a Dutch treat dinner.

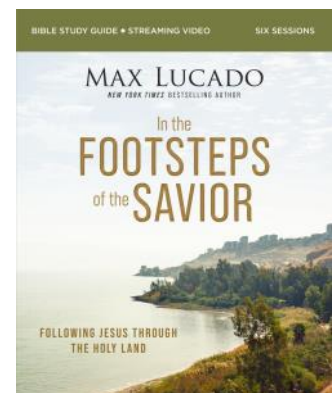
So that we can work around busy times of the year, we will set up hosts and guests for three gatherings.

- Fall—mid-September – November
- Winter—January – March
- Spring—April - June

If you'd like to be involved in Salt Shakers this year, sign up on the sheet near the coffee counter no later than Wednesday, September 13. Hosts (and you'd host only once), non-hosts, singles, couples, and alternates are all encouraged. If there is sufficient interest, the schedule for the year will be finalized and sent to those involved. It is truly a wonderful way to get to know your church family.

## New study for the Seekers and Searchers group

Our Seekers and Searchers group meets monthly on the fourth Thursday at 10am. We will begin a new study for our September meeting. The study chosen will be Max Lucado's "In the footsteps of the Savior" which is a video series with a study guide. Study guide cost is \$11 per book and can be ordered through Ellie. The group will meet next on September 24 at 10am in Fellowship Hall. We invite all to join!



## Session Notes from August for the September Herald

Session met on August 9 to hear reports and conduct routine business. Highlights from the meeting appear below.

### **Featured Report: Christian Nurture Commission**

Corrine Foree reviewed the commission's annual report and provided information about the upcoming youth and adult Sunday School year. Because of the ages and numbers of our children, there will be some flexibility in their programming this year. Session approved the motions from the commission for the curriculum, the teachers, and plans for the service offering.

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

Treasurer Bruce McLaren presented the report and provided updates about our statements.

<b>Operating Fund Sum-</b>	<b>Month of July</b>	<b>Balance Sheet Summary</b>	<b>7/31/2023</b>
Beginning of Month	\$39,998.75	Current Assets	\$839,297
Income	\$39,286.42	Fixed Assets	\$5,093,693
Expenses	\$25,838.22	Short Term Liabilities	\$4136
End of Month	\$53,446.95	Long Term Liabilities	\$156,362
		Net Worth (Fund Balance)	\$5,772,492

**Pastor's Report:** There will not be a Holypalooza service this year.

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

**Church Life:** The church picnic will be held at 5:00 on Sunday, August 27, at the Lions III shelter in Deming Park. Chicken will be provided.

**Facilities:** Tom Bogigian reviewed the cost estimates for major repairs. Facilities and finance work closely together to plan for major expenditures.

**Nominating:** The committee will begin work in October.

**Commissioner to Presbytery:** Alan Harder will attend the August 19 meeting.

## World Communion Sunday



World Communion Sunday is Sunday, October 1st. As has been tradition at Central, the Worship Commission invites all to bring a favorite bread, particularly those with an international tie or flavor. They will be used during communion and also during the Fellowship hour. Look for more information in the bulletin and enews in the coming weeks.



Scout Sunday

## Scout Sunday

Scout Sunday will be held on Sunday, October 8th. We will give special recognition to those involved with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts during worship. If you are a current or former member of a scout group please make plans to attend worship that Sunday and celebrate and be recognized for your scout involvement.

## Commission and Committee Chairs —

“It is time again for commissions and committees to consider and submit budget requests to Interpretation and Support for consideration in forming the budget for 2023. The discussions should begin at your September meeting and submitted by October 1. Without the help of each, Interpretation and Support can not consider and respond to the needs of Central in an effective manner. If you need to confirm the budget request submitted last year and the budget approved for your committee or commission, please contact Sarah in the office.”

## September Birthdays

- 2—Barbara Schmitt
- 13—Larry Clinkenbeard, John Ragle
- 15 — Jon Ford, John Whalen
- 18— Grant Racop
- 21 — Carol Ennis, Eunice Pate
- 24 — Julian Moulton
- 29 — Henry Connor





## **Highpoint Youth News**

### **Youth group kickoff dinner**

The Highpoint Youth will kickoff their year on Sunday, September 10 with a dinner at 6pm. All youth and their families are invited to attend. We will be discussing our theme and plans for the upcoming youth year, celebrating youth accomplishments and more.

The youth will meet at Central on September 17 and September 24. Plans are in the works for a lock in, service project, PYOCA youth retreat and more for this fall!

### **Youth Group Meals**

If you are interested in providing a meal for youth group meetings during the month of September or October please contact Ellie. Youth group meets at 6pm and meals can be simple. A vegetarian option is always appreciated.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Worship 10:30	4 Labor Day 	5	6 Bible study & brew 7:30	7 Women's Book Club 2:00	8	9
10 Choir 8:45 Worship 10:30 UCM BBQ Highpoint Youth Kickoff 6:00	11 Monday Bible study @ Grand Traverse 9:00	12	13 Deacons meet 5:00 Session 7:00	14 	15 Staff meeting 9:00	16
17 Choir 8:45 Sunday school breakfast 9:30 Worship 10:30	18 Monday Bible study @ Grand Traverse 9:00	19 Tuesday Commission/Committee meetings	20 Bible study & brew 7:30	21	22 Parents' Night Out 5:30	23 
24 Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30	25 Monday Bible study @ Grand Traverse 9:00	26 	27 Bible study & brew 7:30	28 Seekers & Searchers Bible study 10:00	29	30

Central Presbyterian Church  
125 N. 7th Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47807

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

## The Herald

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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/Communications Coordinator**

**Sarah Kelsheimer, Church Secretary**



## Church Happenings

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

The Women's Book Club will be meeting on September 7 at 2:00 in the church fellowship hall. All women of the church are invited to attend. The book to be discussed is *A Place for Us* by Fatima Farheen Mirza.

### **Women's Bible Study**

The 2023 Bible study will occur from 10:00 to 11:30 am on Thursday, September 28. The discussion will be on *In the footsteps of the Savior* by Max Lucado. All women are welcome. Please see Ellie if you are interested in purchasing a study guide.

*Next Herald  
Deadline —  
Sept. 26, 2023*