



The Herald

Volume XXXXXX,
No 5



PENTECOST OFFERING — June 19 THE PENTECOST OFFERING — BUILDING A LIFE OF FAITH

“I am coming to you.”

John 14:18b

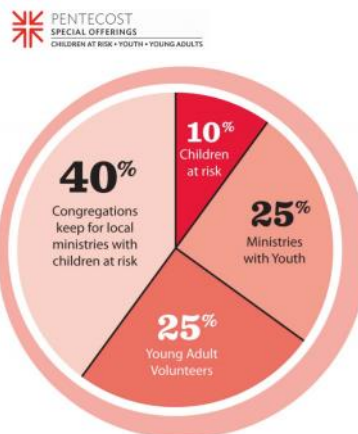
The Pentecost Offering unites us in a churchwide effort to support young people in Christ and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. 40% of the Pentecost offering will be kept by our congregation with the distribution to be decided at a later date.

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.

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From the Pastor's Desk

Report from the Strategic Planning Task Force

We began meeting in February. Most, if not all, of us have read a book by Tod Bolsinger, entitled Canoeing the Mountains, Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory. It speaks of the changing landscape for the American church and the challenges this poses.

Using this and other books and articles we have come to the realization that Central ought to consider making changes in our life and ministry. We do not yet know what changes we might recommend. We will see where the Spirit leads us.

We have agreed that the existing Central Presbyterian Church mission statement is well-crafted and see no need to change it. We do, however, want to lift it up before the church. It reads: "We are a community of believers, called by God to grow in the knowledge and teaching of Christ, to share the love of Christ with all, and to respond with compassion to the needs of our changing world."

And we have agreed to a brief vision statement: "Worship, Love, Serve". We hope every person associated with CPC will memorize this.

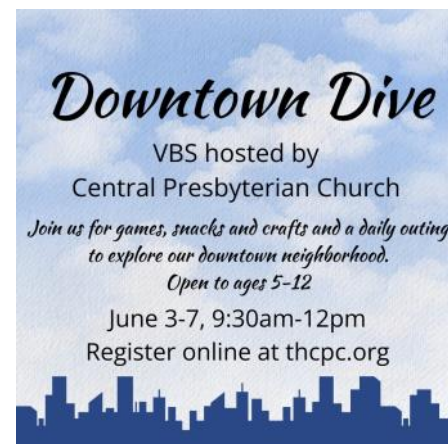
We plan to let these statements guide every facet of our work.

Please do not hesitate to contact any member of the task force with your ideas and questions. We are: Tom Bogigian, Andrew Conner, Jill Conner, Alan Harder, Connie McLaren, Mike Riggins, Phil Smith and Luanne Tilstra.

"Downtown Dive" VBS at Central

We are so excited to be offering a VBS program this summer at Central! Our program is called "Downtown Dive" and we will be meeting at Central each day to "dive" into a scripture and then theme our day around activities, snacks and a daily outing to a downtown destination (Children's Museum, Swope Art Museum and others).

Our program will take place June 3-7 from 9:30am to 12pm and is open to children ages 5 -12. This is a free program, registration is required. Registration info is available online at thcpc.org/special-events/



Volunteers needed for VBS!

Volunteers are critical in hosting a fun and safe VBS week for our children! Your help is needed with activities, chaperoning and more. Volunteer sign up is available online at thcpc.org/special-events/ or contact Ellie.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator

Sunday School Updates

Sunday School at Central for this school year is wrapping up. Final meetings in classrooms took place on Sunday, May 5. Children will meet as a group on May 12 and again on May 19 to prep for Teacher Appreciation that will take place during worship on May 19.

Thank you to all of our teachers who have supported me and our kids, youth and adults this year. Linda Riggins, Tisha Glenn, Beth Christ and Corrine Foree continue to do a fantastic job of leading our elementary age children. Jill Conner has helped to lead youth and adult Sunday School all year and Mike has also led adult Sunday School quite a bit. Thank you everyone!

Nursery care will continue to be available during worship time through the summer for our younger children ages birth to 2 years. Our nursery workers will also assist with Children’s Worship beginning on May 26 through the summer. I will work with them and be providing story and activity resources each week for the children. Both of our nursery workers are Elementary Ed. majors at ISU and are excited to help with this program.

Favorite Things Party

The Christian Nurture commission invites all ladies of Central and their friends to a “Favorite Things” party on Saturday, May 18 at 10am in Fellowship Hall. Please bring two of your favorite things (\$10 or less per item) for a fun gift exchange. Exchange ideas might be lip balm, tea, hand lotion or another small favorite item you think others would enjoy. Light refreshments will be served. Please save the date and make plans to attend this fun and festive time of fellowship celebrating ladies!



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 19 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)

Grad info for 2024

Graduates Graduation Sunday is planned for June 2, 2024 at Central. We are compiling info about all of our graduates to share that Sunday. This is for all high school, college, trade program and other post-secondary graduates. Please send info about degree(s) earned, future plans etc. to Ellie (ellie@thcpc.org). Thank you!

Highpoint Youth

Our Highpoint youth group will hold its annual Youth Sunday service on Sunday, May 5 at Centenary UMC. Many Central youth will be involved and it is always a special Sunday recognizing graduating seniors and celebrating all of our youth. We are working on ideas for social gatherings and activities throughout the summer. We hope to keep the youth well connected while being mindful of everyone’s availability and schedule in the busier summer months. We continue to be thankful for Tim Ghogle and his leadership of this group.

We are also seeking adults to join the Youth Design Team. This team works to help direct the youth group and provide ideas for faith, fellowship and service projects. If you would like to serve please contact Ellie.

Farrington Grove Chorale Concerts

The FGC has several concerts coming up!

This semi-professional chamber choir has several Central members including Mike Riggins, Bruce McLaren, Alan Harder and Luanne Tilstra. The group is led by Mark Carlisle, Central's music director.



Concerts are scheduled for:

Friday, May 3, 7pm at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church

Monday, May 13, 7pm at Unity Presbyterian Church



Friday, May 17, 7pm at Memorial United Methodist Church

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





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

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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/Communication Coordinator

Sarah Kelsheimer, Church Secretary



Church Happenings

Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will meet this month on Thursday, May 1 beginning at 2 p.m. All who are interested are welcome.



The church will celebrate Graduation Sunday on June 2nd . 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 28, 2024*