

August 30, 2024



The Herald

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5th Sunday Carry In Dinner

September 29 following morning worship



“Pies for Pyoca”

**Youth fundraiser
during carry in
Dinner.**

**Look for more in-
formation inside.**

The Herald

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator

Sunday School begins this month!

We are excited to begin another year of Sunday School at Central in September! The Christian Nurture commission will host our annual kickoff breakfast on Sunday, September 8 at 9:30am in Fellowship Hall. They invite all to attend and enjoy some food and fellowship as we celebrate the start of another great year! Sunday School classes for all ages will begin on Sunday, September 22 at 9:30am. Elementary children will meet in the upstairs classroom, middle school in the downstairs classroom (room 103), high school age in the youth room and adults in the upstairs lounge.

We will be introducing new curriculum and topics for everyone and are looking forward to a great year.

Thank you to our Sunday School teachers for their support of our program. Teachers this year for kids and youth are Beth Christ, Jill Conner, Corrine Foree and Tisha Glenn. Mike Riggins will be leading our first adult class through the fall.

We will also resume our Children's Worship lessons beginning on Sunday, September 8. Following the Children's moment in worship, children ages 4 through first grade may leave the sanctuary to join in on children's worship time led by Ellie Templeton or another designated adult leader. This group usually meets in the upstairs lounge room for bible lessons and activities. They may occasionally meet in the preschool room to be supervised by nursery workers if our adult leaders are not available.

A reminder that once Sunday School begins on September 22, our nursery is fully open and is staffed on Sundays from 9:15—11:30.

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 1:30 on September 8. 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.



5th Sunday Lunch

Church Life will host our annual 5th Sunday Lunch on Sunday, September 29 at Central following worship. They will provide a main course of pulled pork and drinks. They invite all to bring a side dish to contribute to the meal. Dessert for that day will be our "Pies for PYOCA" auction and all are invited to also bring a dessert to support this youth fundraiser event.

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FROM THE Pastor's Desk

I got a phone call today from a seminary friend. I've gotten substantially the same call twice before, from a couple of guys. This time, a woman called. Again and again she said, "I just can't do this anymore." She has served her session notice that she plans to retire by October 1.

She could not point to any one incident that caused her decision. It is a case, rather, of that proverbial straw that broke her back. Church ladies criticizing her outfits. Resistance among the elders against a new initiative she hoped might revitalize their congregation. Loss of worship attendance and giving. Older men adopting what she called the, "There, there little missy" attitude toward her--even some younger by far than she.

Before continuing I want to hasten to clarify that I do not feel stressed or frustrated. Not too badly, at any rate. I enjoy my work and usually look forward to coming into the church office.

But this latest friend to hand in her robe and stoles makes me very sad. So did it when another friend retired after an elder belittled his Mexican-American wife with horrible racist comments in the church parking lot. (This at perhaps the richest and most prestigious Presbyterian church in the USA.) So did it when another friend retired after a long-running argument over something that does not even bear mentioning.

This is *not* a plea for gentle, loving treatment. I already receive it from you. After six years among you I of course have a few strained relationships but the great majority of you make me feel welcomed and respected. Thank you!

No, the reason I am writing this is to urge us all--especially me--to continue to manifest the fruits of the Spirit as we serve God together. Thank you for reading to the end of this little essay!

Pastor Mike Riggins

Slide Scanning Project:

Alan Harder and Bruce McLaren have been editing some of their old 35mm slides and converting them to digital photos on their personal equipment. It has been an enjoyable process to preserve these memories. They would like to offer scanning and editing services to anyone in our church who might have old family photos or keepsake photos on 35mm slides that they would like to have converted to a more user friendly digital format. They will be here at the church on September 15, 22 and 29 from 2-4pm. They can scan and edit up to 16 slides per family and you should bring a thumb drive on which new digital photos can be saved. They will have hand viewers to go through your slides to select which ones to convert. Please reach out to Bruce or Alan with any questions.

How to be a welcoming church

As our church strives to be the best it can be, live fully as a Matthew 25 congregation and, of course, be welcoming of all, we want to share reminders and ideas about how to best welcome visitors to Central. These ideas come from a Presbyterian Outlook article. Full article can be found at <https://pres-outlook.org/2008/06/church-wellness-basics-on-welcoming/>.

"Be a friendly congregation in the Jesus way, namely open circles, treasuring the new and different. Tight huddles of longtime friends communicate the wrong message"

Questions to ponder: How do we excel in this area? How could we improve?

Share your thoughts and ideas with Mike or Ellie

Session Notes from August for the September Herald

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

Featured Report: Christian Nurture Commission

Corrine Foree explained the subcommittee structure of the commission and Ellie Templeton gave the Sunday School update. Session approved the commission's motion for the curriculum, teachers, and offering as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Because of quarterly giving patterns, July saw excellent revenue contributions. In the future, the revenue forecast of the budget may be revised to reflect this pattern.

Operating Fund Sum-	Month of July		Balance Sheet Summary	07/31/2024
Beginning of Month	\$44,034.70		Current Assets	\$914,081
Income	\$39,014.29		Fixed Assets	\$5,093,693
Expenses	\$26,988.03		Short Term Liabilities	\$4117
End of Month	\$56,060.96		Long Term Liabilities	\$135,135
			Net Worth (Fund Balance)	\$5,868,252

Communications: A revision of the greatly outdated church handbook is underway as are updates to the website.

Church Life: The next Fifth Sunday carry-in luncheon will be on September 29. Desserts that day will be auctioned as part of the "Pies for Pyoca" fundraiser.

Facilities: Session approved a motion to suspend the church's no-alcohol policy for the Osher Life-Long Learning Institute program (taught by member Luanne Tilstra) dealing with food chemistry, subject to consultation with our insurance agency. Installation of the replacement HVAC unit will be scheduled in September; the office areas have been comfortable this summer. A suggestion was made to replace the remaining traditional thermostat in the sanctuary with a programmable one to save energy during the week.

Worship: The video team is recruiting more operators to augment the three who currently do the service. Written instructions and training will be provided to anyone interested! Viewership is steady.

Mission: The committee would like to develop a plan for how best to respond to those in need, feeling it is wise to have a plan and an established process that the congregation knows. The question is how to be compassionate, sensible, and effective. Session reviewed their proposal for a care team. In general, the approach that is needed during the week is different from that needed on Sunday mornings. Training from social service agencies who can share their expertise will be vital, as will communication to the congregation. Session and the deacons will continue to ponder the issues.

Presbytery: The moderator of the General Assembly will visit in early September and the pastor will attend.

Other business: Elder Roger Nelson has resigned from session.



World Communion Sunday

World Communion Sunday is Sunday, October 6th. 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.

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 2025. 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 — Eunice Pate
- 24 — Julian Moulton
- 29 — Henry Connor



FALL '24

HIGHPOINT YOUTH

AUGUST

18 6:30 - 7:30 Ice-Crème Social + Family Night
25 6:00 - 7:30 Game Night @ Central

SEPTEMBER

1 *NO YOUTH NIGHT | Labor Day*
8 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ Central
15 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ Central
22 6:00 - 7:30 Mini Golf @ Bogey's
29 *NO YOUTH NIGHT*

OCTOBER

6 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ Unity
13 *NO YOUTH NIGHT | Fall Break*
20 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ Unity
27 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ Unity

NOVEMBER

3 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ St. Stephen's
10 *NO YOUTH NIGHT | Veterans Day*
17 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ St. Stephen's
22 - 24 **FALL YOUTH RETREAT @ PYOCA**
Register by Friday, Oct. 11th for early bird discount

DECEMBER

1 5:30 - 7:30 Movie Night @ Central
8 5:30 - 7:30 Youth Night @ Central
15 5:30 - 7:30 **CHRISTMAS FIESTA** @ Central

BREAK OUT SESSIONS

5:30 - 6:15 Middle School Session
6:15 - 6:45 Dinner
6:45 - 7:30 High School Session






Highpoint Youth

Highpoint Youth kicked off a new year in August with an ice cream social at Central. The group continues to be led by Tim Ghogle and be a collaboration of local churches including Central, St. Stephen's Episcopal and Unity Presbyterian. They are excited for a fun year and will be exploring the Bible through a resource called "The Story".

They will also host their annual "Pies for PYOCA" dessert auction fundraiser at the 5th Sunday Lunch on Sunday, September 29. Proceeds will go to support the group's annual trip to PYOCA for their youth retreat and other youth projects. They invite all to bring a favorite dessert to contribute to the auction.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship 10:30	2 Labor Day — office closed 	3	4 Bible study & brew 7:30	5 Women's Book Club 2:00	6	7 UCM BBQ set up 1:00
8 Worship 10:30 UCM BBQ 11:30 -1:30 Youth Group 5:30	9 Morning Bible study 9:00	10	11 Deacons 5:00 Session 7:00	12	13 Staff meeting 10:00	14 
15 Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Youth 5:30	16 Morning Bible study 9:00 Strategic Planning Task Force 5:30	17 Commission/ Committee meetings	18 Bible study & brew 7:30	19 Seekers & Searchers Bible study 10:00	20 	21
22 Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Youth 5:30	23 Morning Bible study 9:00	24 	25 Bible study & brew 7:30	26	27	28 Church Life set up for carry in dinner 10:00
29 Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 5th Sunday carry in follows Youth 5:30	30 Morning Bible study 9:00					

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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/Communications Coordinator

Sarah Kelsheimer, Church Secretary



Church Happenings

Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will be meeting on September 5 at 2:00 in the church fellowship hall. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Women's Bible Study

The 2024 Bible study will occur from 10:00 to 11:30 am on Thursday, September 19. The discussion will be on Discussion will be on *New Life in the Spirit* by Leonard Sweet.

All women are welcome.

*Next Herald
Deadline —
Sept. 26, 2024*