



# the Herald

Volume XXXXXX,  
No 11

## *Christmas Eve*

### *Candlelight Service*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Carols, Lessons & Candles*

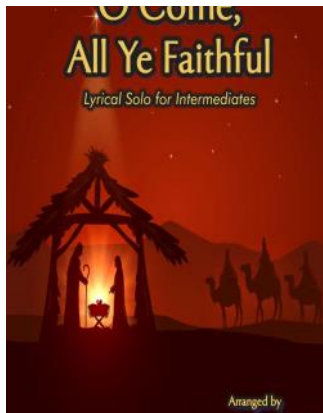
*Pre-service music begins at 7:00 p.m.*

*Childcare provided.*



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The Children and youth will present  
*O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
during the worship on December 8



## **Christmas Program**

The annual Children's Christmas Program will be held here at Central on Sunday, December 8 during worship. The program is called "O come all ye faithful" and will tell the story of the nativity and Jesus' birth.

Church Life will also host a carry in lunch following the program on December 8. A main course of ham will be served and drinks provided. Bring a dessert or side dish to share.

We hope you can attend for this beloved and always special day in our church.

## **2024 Advent Devotional**

Central Presbyterian's annual Advent Devotional is now available! Booklets are printed and available in the fellowship hall at the church and a digital version is available each week in in the weekly e-news email and on the church social media pages.

Thank you to all who worked to contribute and compile this year's devotional.

## **Highpoint Youth**

Highpoint youth enjoyed a fantastic retreat weekend at PYOCA in late November! Eight of our middle and high school youth participated and were chaperoned by Tim Ghogle and Valeri Kershaw. The group will meet at Central on December 1, 8 and 15.

We are seeking volunteers to provide a meal for the youth when they meet at Central in January. If you are willing please reach out to Ellie Templeton or Tim Ghogle. Meals can be simple and a vegetarian option is appreciated.

The group continues to be led by Tim Ghogle and is 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".

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT – Ellie Templeton, Christian Educator**

### **Sunday School updates**

Sunday School lessons in our classrooms for children at Central have paused as we prepare for the upcoming Christmas program on December 8. Children will gather together for a nativity craft and lesson on December 15. Classes will resume in January after the holiday break.

Adults are meeting in the upstairs lounge through December 22 using “The Gospel according to the Simpsons” book by Mark Pinsky and will be led by Kyle Kershaw. This class will use this “entertaining and enlightening book, that shows how The Simpsons engages issues of religion and morality in a thoughtful, provocative, and genuinely respectful way.” High school age youth are also invited to join in for this class.

If you have questions about Sunday School schedules please reach out to Ellie anytime.

We also continue to hold our Children’s Worship lessons 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.

### **Hanging of the Greens**

Thank you to all who joined for a wonderful evening to “Hang the Greens”. Our church is dressed for the holiday season and we had a great group of kids, youth and adults working together. Thank you to church life for providing the delicious pizza dinner.

***Best wishes for the Holiday season***

***from the staff of Central Presbyterian Church***

*Mike, Ellie, Sarah,  
Mark, Steve, Tim, and Alvin*



## Session Notes from November for the December Herald

Session met on November 13 to hear reports and conduct business. Highlights from the meeting appear below.

### **Featured Report: Nominating Committee**

Steve Mead reported for the committee that they have secured three deacons, five elders, and 4 at-large members for next year’s nominating committee. These nominations will be considered at the January congregational meeting.

### **Treasurer’s Report:**

<b>Operating Fund Summary</b>	<b>Month of October</b>		<b>Balance Sheet Summary</b>	<b>10/31/2024</b>
Beginning of Month	\$41,918.93		Current Assets	\$1,000,399
Income	\$18,954.99		Fixed Assets	\$5,093,693
Expenses	\$29,157.66		Short Term Liabilities	\$4222
End of Month	\$31,716.26		Long Term Liabilities	\$129,923
			Net Worth (Fund Balance)	\$5,960,169

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

**Christian Nurture:** The commission is looking for programming ideas for the Lenten series. A motion to pay for the new sanctuary Christmas tree (\$871) from the Memorial Fund was approved.

**Facilities:** The carpets have been cleaned and all HVAC work completed. There will be a maintenance call for the freezer.

**Worship:** Beth Christ is gathering Advent candle lighters and other participants for December—let her know if you are interested.

**I&S:** Brad Bough reviewed the mailing and minute for mission aspects of the stewardship campaign.

**Mission:** This year there will be an angel tree for donations to children and an indoor giving tree for warm clothing to be distributed by the Loyal Veteran’s Battalion. A motion from the committee to direct from their local benevolence \$1000 to Reach Services, \$1000 to CODA, and \$500 to Club Soda was approved. Club Soda has had some difficulties, but it may be what keeps dozens from the brink of homelessness. Andrew Conner raised the concept of the care team as previously explained to session. The deacons perceive this work as part of the Mission committee, and the committee feels that this work is within their scope. Therefore, they will take it on without requiring any additional administrative action, using the Mission Fund for expenses. A recent donation has provided additional seed money for projects. Designated members of the committee (and others who might be interested) will form a care team to meet people in need who arrive during congregational time and deliver appropriate aid. The goal is to have an organized, thoughtful, and effective approach. This will be publicized to the congregation so everyone understands, and it should be up and running early in the new year.

**Nominating:** Session discussed the numbers of elders (no more than 24) and deacons (15) stated in the bylaws. The bylaws will be reviewed to see if an amendment is needed.

**Save the date(s) for Farrington Grove Chorale holiday performances!**

Get into the Christmas Spirit with the Farrington Grove Chorale! Several Central members participate in this wonderful group that always has the best holiday performances.

Their schedule is:

Friday, December 6 7pm at First Congregational Church  
(Miracle on 7th Street)

Sunday, December 15 7pm at St. Stephen's Church (Lessons  
and Carols)

Wednesday, December 18 7pm at Westminster Village (Christmas Concert)



- 1—Luna Moulton
- 4 — Donna Wilson
- 6 — Chuck Shutt
- 7 — Alisa Ennis
- 11—Barbara Goltry
- 12—Phil Farmer
- 14—Jim Moles
- 17—Monica Hawkins
- 22 — Matthew Ford, Samuel Ford, Merri Kelley
- 25 — David Giltner, Annie Templeton



**United Campus  
Ministries**

321 North 7th Street Terre Haute, IN  
(812) 232-0186 fax: (812) 242-2277

**United Campus Ministries  
board vacancy**

The church is seeking someone to serve on the United Campus Ministries board.

For more information please contact Andrew Conner or Mike Riggins.

### Gratitude Cafe

We held our first Gratitude Cafe on November 3 during the Sunday School hour. Central kids and prayer partners met in Fellowship Hall and spent time discussing what we are grateful for and it was a really nice way to begin this season of taking notice of what we are grateful for. We created a Gratitude tree that will be displayed for the coming months to be added to as we continue to meet. We will hold Gratitude cafe again after the holidays. Be on the lookout for info from Ellie in the E-news.

We do have several kids in need of a prayer partner. If you are interested in becoming a partner for a child at Central please reach out to Ellie for more info. We will hold Gratitude cafe again on Dec 1 and Feb 2 and hope to continue into the spring as we build on this practice.

### 2024 Giving Tree Item Donations

This year's "giving tree" items will be collected indoors in Fellowship Hall. The mission committee will work with our local veterans battalion to distribute to our local homeless population.



New or gently used adult size warm clothing items such as coats, hats, socks, blankets and gloves as well as toiletries are requested.

Please look for the marked totes in Fellowship Hall.



### Christmas Eve Cookies!



Our Worship Commission will host a reception of cookies and wassail following the Christmas Eve evening service on December 24. We invite all to bring their favorite cookies to add to this festive occasion. Cookies may be brought in early and placed in the freezer, please label the type and "Christmas Eve" or anytime closer to the service and placed in the kitchen.

# December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Youth 5:30	<b>2</b> Morning Bible study @ Grand Trav- erse 9:00	<b>3</b> 	<b>4</b> Bible study & brew 7:30	<b>5</b> Women's Book Club 2:00	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Church Life setting up for dinner 10:00
<b>8</b> Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Carry in lunch Youth 5:30	<b>9</b> Morning Bible study @ Grand Trav- erse 9:00	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Deacons 5:00 Session 7:00	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 
<b>15</b> Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Youth 5:30	<b>16</b> Morning Bible study @ Grand Trav- erse 9:00	<b>17</b> Commis- sion/ Committee meetings & meal	<b>18</b> Bible study & brew 7:30	<b>19</b> Seekers & Searchers Bi- ble study 10:00 	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30	<b>23</b> Morning Bible study @ Grand Trav- erse 9:00	<b>24</b> Preservice Music 7:00 Candlelight service 7:30	<b>25</b> Church office closed. 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Worship 10:30	<b>30</b> Morning Bible study @ Grand Trav- erse 9:00	<b>31</b> 				



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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**

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## Church Happenings

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

Bible study will be held from 10:00 to 11:30 am on Thursday, December 19. The discussion will be on *New Life in the Spirit* by Leonard Sweet. All women are welcome.

***Next Herald***

***Deadline —***

***Dec. 27, 2024***

**2024 ANNUAL  
REPORTS MUST BE IN  
TO THE CHURCH  
OFFICE NO LATER THAN  
JANUARY 6**