



# The Herald

---

Volume XXXXXXI,  
No 6

---



Church Life will host our 5th Sunday Lunch on Sunday, May 31, following worship.

The Church Life Commission will provide the main course. We ask all to bring their favorite salad or dessert to contribute to the meal.

**Inside this issue:**

Pastor Mark McDaniel	2
Rev. Dr. Mark Miller	3
Scholarships/Mission news	4
Graduation /birthdays	5
Session notes	6
Calendar	8
Church Happenings	9

During the meal we will be saying thank you to Rev. Mark McDaniel for his time with us as our stated supply pastor.

This is a beloved tradition at Central and always such a fun Sunday, please make plans to attend.



May 31, 2026

Dear Church Family,

With a grateful heart, I want to thank you for allowing me to serve this congregation as your pastor over the last several months. It has been a true privilege to worship with you, to open God's Word together, and to share in the life of this church.

Thank you for your kindness, your prayers, and your encouragement. I am especially grateful for the many small acts of faithfulness that so often go unseen—those who serve quietly, those who show up consistently, and those who care for others in meaningful ways. Your love for Christ and for one another has strengthened me and reminded me again of what God can do through a people who are committed to Him.

As I look back on these past months, I thank the Lord for the moments of joy, the lessons learned, and even the challenges that have drawn us to depend more fully on His grace. Please know that I will continue praying for you—that the Lord would deepen your unity, strengthen your witness in our community, and guide this church in wisdom, humility, and love.

Thank you again for the trust you have shown me and for the opportunity to serve alongside you. May God bless you and keep you, and may He continue to make His presence known among you in powerful and gentle ways as you greet your new pastor.

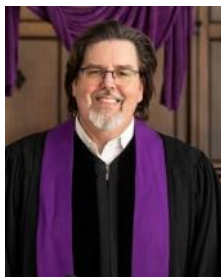
With sincere gratitude,

The Reverend Mark A. McDaniel

(Pastor Mark)

# The Herald

---



## Reflections Along the Way

### *Taking the Next Faithful Step*

As we prepare to begin this season of ministry together, there are several things that have been rolling around in my head. The stories of our faith have much to teach us in times of transition. In June we will wrestle with stories of Abraham and Sarah, as well as the disciples learning to follow Jesus without a clear picture of the path ahead. These and many other biblical stories remind us that our faith is rarely grounded in certainty, but in the willingness to take the next faithful step.

In transitional times, the task before us is not to predict the future but to take the next faithful step together. Our first step is getting to know one another. As we approach this beginning together, it is natural to imagine what might happen and how things may unfold. The committee members and I have had many conversations that naturally begin shaping expectations about what the future might hold. Yet, it is important to remember that imagined relationships are different from lived relationships. My hope for all of us is to remain curious, ask lots of questions, and keep seeking the next faithful step.

Our work together will be organizational and procedural. Yet our deepest work together will involve worship, prayer, listening, discernment, truth-telling, service, and renewed attention to the movement of the Holy Spirit within the life of the congregation. This work does not happen overnight, and it does not happen alone. It will happen when we seek to take the next faithful step and trust that the path becomes clearer as we walk together faithfully.

T.S. Eliot once wrote, “For us, there is only the trying. The rest is not our business.” There is wisdom in those words. At the beginning of this new chapter, we cannot fully know today what the coming months will bring or exactly the shape this shared ministry will take. But we can commit ourselves to trying. I look forward to taking the next faithful steps together.

Peace and Grace

Mark

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS** with appreciation for those CPC members that have made the gifts possible.

**McKee Family Scholarship** - The Nancy and Dale McKee Family Scholarship is given through the Wabash Valley Community Foundation. It was established in 2006 by their family in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. It is presented annually to a deserving student who is active in Central Presbyterian Church. This year's recipient is Charles (Charlie) Conner!

**Surrell Scholarships** – The Surrell Scholarship Fund was established from a bequest from Mary E. Surrell who became a member of Central in 1866. This book scholarship is for the benefit of graduating high school seniors and current college students (including non-traditional) who are a part of the CPC family, whether by membership or participation in church life, that fulfill the application requirements. The Christian Nurture Commission oversees this process.

The 2026 Surrell Scholarship recipients are:

Maxine Bough, attends Ball Sate University

Charlie Conner, attends Indiana University

Isabelle Conner, graduate school at Loyola University Chicago School of Law

Ridge Holder, attends Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

Rowyn Holder, attends St. Louis University

David Nwalado, attends Indiana State University

Benjamin Spencer, attends Purdue University

### **From the Mission Committee**

Even though there are fewer students at the university and other colleges during the summer, there is still a demand for food assistance at **United Campus Ministries**, “More than ever” in the words of one employee. We will be collecting food donations in the shopping cart in Fellowship Hall to aid in that ministry. Please contribute

- Pasta or noodles and sauce
- Tuna
- Spam
- Canned fruit
- Canned vegetables (but no green beans)
- Granola bars, Pop Tarts
- Cereal

No ramen noodles, rice, or soup are needed at this time.



Another opportunity to help--**Union Hospital’s Backpack Food Program** sends home food for the weekends with students who are experiencing food need. We can contribute to that with a monetary contribution. Please indicate the backpack program when you make a contribution.

# The Herald

---

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2026 GRADUATES!



**Miller Bough**, graduating from Savannah College of Art and Design with a degree in Film and Television with an emphasis on directing. Miller will also receive special honors for maintaining a 4.0 GPA throughout all 4 years of college. He plans to continue working on his next independent film project as he remains in Savannah.

**Samuel Ford**, graduating in August with a Masters in Business and Technology from Purdue University. Samuel will be starting an AI fellowship position at Eli Lilly.

**Kiley Rubey**, granddaughter of Fred and Nancy Rubey, graduated with MS in Public Health Data Services from Boston University

**Josiah Schlabach**, graduating from Rose Hulman Institute of Technology with a BS in Chemical Engineering and a minor in Philosophy. He will be working in Indianapolis after graduation.

**Alexander Spencer**, graduated from Indiana University School of Medicine. Alex will be doing a family practice residency at Community East in Indianapolis

**Zachariah Spencer**, graduated from Indiana University Bloomington with a BA in Chemistry. Zachariah will begin medical school in Bloomington this fall. He will be getting married in Jordan on

- 2—Doug Payne
- 4—Rev. Dr. Mark Miller, Kathleen Smith
- 5—Patrick Duffy, Allison Harder, Nancy Johnson
- 6—Barbara Lehman
- 7—Sarah Kelsheimer
- 12—Tisha Glenn
- 19—David Kintz, Connie McLaren, William Woodruff
- 20—Andrew Conner
- 23—Alexander Spencer
- 24—Abrianna Norris
- 25—Sharon Danek
- 29—Nancy Rubey
- 30—Ray Modesitt



**Session Notes from May for the June Herald**

During its meeting on May 12, session heard reports and conducted business. Highlights from the meeting appears below.

**Featured Report: Facilities Commission**

Kyle Kershaw provided an update on the elevator repair and noted that the company who provided the fix has presented a proposal for ongoing maintenance. The commission thinks this is a good agreement but will share it with the finance commission for their reaction. The HVAC system was inspected this week. The commission continues to monitor the building.

**Pastor’s/Moderator’s Report:** Pastor Mark reported from the deacons. The funeral service for Margaret Tamar will be on May 30 at 2:00, and the following day will be Pastor Mark’s last day in the pulpit.

**Treasurer’s report:** Assistant treasurer Beth Christ reviewed the report. Once again, expenses were in line with budget and revenue was above budget. That will change as the summer progresses and staffing changes. The report was approved.

<b>Operating Fund Summary</b>	<b>Month of April</b>	<b>Balance Sheet Summary</b>	<b>4/30/2026</b>
Beginning of Month	\$83,758.84	Current Assets	\$1,082,840
Income	\$31,156.30	Fixed Assets	\$5,093,693
Expenses	\$23,389.22	Short Term Liabilities	\$3871
End of Month	\$91,525.92	Long Term Liabilities	\$96,174
		Net Worth (Fund Balance)	\$6,076,488

**Christian Educator’s Report:** The adult class taught by Alan Harder about Iona went well and had a good response. Seven recipients of the Surrell Scholarship (\$350 each) will be recognized. Joy continues to rearrange spaces and materials and has created a Kid Zone where children can be active.

**Clerk’s report:** Communion was served on May 3. Member Frank Bailey has requested he be removed from the roll. Session voted to approve the baptism of Theodore (Teddy) Rubey, son of members Lucas and Megan Rubey, on June 28.

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

**Christian Nurture:** The commission has set up a new subcommittee (Jill Conner and Teddy Lenderman) to manage the Hanging of the Greens.

**Finance:** The commission is considering which of the funds need to grow and how gains should be allocated. They will review the funds and see if any can be discontinued.

**Mission:** Contributions for the summer backpack food program are coming in.

**Personnel:** the committee has met twice and continues to review and update position descriptions. Tim Ghogle will no longer direct the youth group. There are two candidates for the communications position and Ellie Templeton will provide feedback after she has met with them.

**Nominating:** The committee has had no success for now in finding an additional deacon

**Old Business:** Session discussed how we help those in need. Basically, the Mission Committee directs our local benevolence toward groups whose work supports our initiatives, and the deacons deal more with individual requests. Mission also does some work with those who come to the door, and the Terre Haute Police Department has notified us that we may see increased traffic. Their social worker is available to help.

**New Business:** There are now only three special PCUSA offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, World Communion, and Christmas Joy. Session approved a motion to participate in these three opportunities.

Andrew Conner presented information about the grant opportunity through the Faith in Place organization to fund a project planting up to 80 trees in a low-income neighborhood. The City of Terre Haute's Urban Forestry Department has helped prepare the grant application. This is a way to apply our Matthew 25 values to improve the environment and the quality of life for our neighbors. The project focuses on an area in the Avenues bounded by 13th and 19th Streets, from 4th to 6th Avenue. The grant awards up to \$30,000 to houses of worship, with no financial match required of the grantee. The project would contract with a landscape company to plant, mulch, water, and maintain the trees through the first three years, thus requiring minimal hands-on involvement from our congregation. Additional partners include TREES, Inc., Scouts, FFA clubs, and reTHink. Our congregation's members can volunteer if they want to be involved, but the project's execution and success do not rely on our volunteer labor. There will be a communications piece and residents will have a say in any trees planted at their homes. Session approved a motion to authorize submission of the application. If successful, 25% of the grant will be awarded immediately and the remaining 75% after planting.

# JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Women's Book Club 2:00	5	6 
7 Worship 10:30	8	9 	10 Deacons 5:00 Session 7:00	11	12	13
14 Worship 10:30 	15	16 Commis- sion/ Committee meetings— NO MEAL	17	18	19	20
21 Worship 10:30 	22	23	24	25 Seekers & Searchers Bible study 10:00	26	27
28 Worship 10:30	29	30				

Central Presbyterian Church  
125 North Seventh Street  
Terre Haute, IN 47807

Phone: 812-232-5049

Fax: 812-232-5040

Email: CPCOffice@thcpc.org



## The Herald

---

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

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

**Rev. Dr. Mark Miller, Transitional Pastor**

**Sarah Kelsheimer, Church Secretary**

**Joy Sutter, Christian Educator**

**Ellie Templeton, Communications Coordinator**

## Church Happenings

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

The Women's Book Club will meet this month on Thursday, June 4 beginning at 2 p.m. . All who are interested are welcome.

**Seekers & Searchers** Bible study will meet on Thursday, June 25 at 10:00 a.m. in the fellowship hall. All women are invited to attend. Susan Hoffman will be the hostess.

*Next Herald  
Deadline —  
June 27, 2026*

