October 30, 2026

The Herald

Volume XXXXXXXI, No. 10

Holy Conversations: Our Story, Our Church, Our Future
Sunday, November 15 | Following worship | Fellowship Hall

See inside for more information on this important meeting of the church

Lunch will be provided



It's time to get ready to decorate for the Advent season. Poinsettia orders are now due in the church office. The deadline to place your order is Sunday, November 15. We have to call the order into the greenhouse on Monday, Nov. 16. The cost of the poinsettias will be $11.00. We will be offering red and white poinsettias again this year. Order forms are in the bulletins and on page 6 of this newsletter. Payment is due at time of order.



November 22
5:30 p.m. Decorate
6:30 p.m. Dedication and Dinner

This special time is not just about decorating; it's an important way to prepare hearts and minds for the coming of Christ by surrounding the community with visual symbols of life, hope, and God's eternal love. There is something for everyone to do. We will gather together at 5:30 pm to divide up responsibilities and dedicate our space at 6:30 pm and then enjoy dinner together. Look forward to seeing everyone there.



Thoughts Along the Way…

On November 15, we will gather for a congregational conversation about the events surrounding our former pastor's ministry and departure. This gathering continues the work we began in June: understanding Central's story, recognizing its strengths, and preparing for its next chapter.

Since I began serving as your transitional minister, our congregational gatherings have helped guide that work. First, you shared stories and named the values at Central's heart: love, faith, worship, community, fellowship, care, family, and outreach.

On October 18, we examined patterns in worship attendance, giving, and our congregation's age distribution. We considered where there is energy and what needs attention. Doing this work while Central is healthy allows us to make thoughtful choices about its future.

On November 15, we will turn to our recent history. People experienced our former pastor's ministry and departure differently and received different information. Our purpose is to give everyone the same information, make room for questions, and consider what we can learn together.

This is part of the work of transition. How we communicate, support one another, and address concerns will shape our ministry and our relationship with the next pastor. We can learn from one another even when our perspectives differ.

Together, these conversations will inform our mission study and help us discern Central's direction and the leadership it needs. The values you named will guide both our decisions and how we make them.

Please plan to participate on November 15. Your participation matters as we prepare for Central's future.

See the announcement in this newsletter for gathering details.

Peace and Grace

Pastor Mark

Holy Conversations: Our Story, Our Church, Our Future
Sunday, November 15 | Following worship | Fellowship Hall

What happened during our former pastor's ministry and departure affected people at Central in different ways. Some have shared their experiences. Others have questions or have had little opportunity to talk about what this time meant for them.

On November 15, we will gather to establish a shared understanding of what happened, listen to one another, and consider what we can learn as a congregation. We do not all have the same experiences or perspectives. Making room for those differences is part of the work of building trust and strengthening our life together.

The gathering will include a brief presentation and guided conversation around tables. You are welcome to speak, ask questions, or simply listen. Your presence matters.

Worship will be shortened that morning. Lunch will be provided, and the gathering will last an hour and a half. Please plan to stay and take part in this important conversation about Central's life together.

November birthdays

5—Renee Newton
6—Murray Pate
9—Charles Rubey
12— Susan Moulton
13 — Ellie Templeton
15— Aspen Kershaw
16 — Matt Guell
17— Alvin Stinnett
18—Jean Wilkinson
19—Eliza Payne
21— Xander Green
23—Henry Salmeron
24—-Tess Templeton
28 — Eileen Whalen



Session Notes from October for the November Herald

At its stated meeting on October 14, session heard reports and conducted business. Highlights from the meeting appear below.

Christian Educator's/Acting Youth Director's Report: The St. Louis mission trip was a wonderful success. Eight youth attended and they worked hard as they learned and grew. The church is doing a good job being community to each other; Joy attends the kids' events when she can. Adult Sunday School is going well and if anyone wants to offer a class, let her know. There is good collaboration with St. Stephen's for the youth group, with 10-14 attending.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mark presented information on the Loaves and Fishes continuing education coaching opportunity he hopes to pursue. The Presbytery will fund $1000 of the cost. A motion that the remaining cost be funded by $1000 from this and $1000 from next year's pastor's continuing education line and a $1750 contribution from the session restricted fund was approved.

Treasurer's report: Pastor Mark noted that we are having some cash flow issues and that the office would be sending quarterly contribution statements soon.

Operating Fund Summary	Month of September		Balance Sheet Summary	9/30/2026
Beginning of Month	$50,992.97		Current Assets	$1,005,931
Income	$20,628.01		Fixed Assets	$5,093,693
Expenses	$37,735.52		Short Term Liabilities	$4332
End of Month	$33,885.46		Long Term Liabilities	$88,466
			Net Worth (Fund Balance)	$6,006,826

Deacons: The deacons met earlier today and Pastor Mark reported that they are addressing many needs right now.

Featured Report: Mission Committee

Andrew Conner reviewed the charge of the mission committee to oversee and formulate outreach locally and more broadly. Local benevolence is most visible, but we also participate in shared benevolence at all levels and pay our per capita apportionment. Everything is done through a Matthew 25 focus. There is always a pull between checkbook and hands-on work. We have received grants for food insecurity and tree planting and hope for one for art supplies for prison work. The church supports food and toiletry drives, clothing donations, and the angel tree, and many of our members volunteer and/or donate on their own.

Reports from Commissions and Committees

Christian Nurture: the youth design team has been working on a job description for the youth director and hopes to have someone to relieve Joy. The pastors of the sponsoring churches are going to meet.

Facilities: The elevator repair is underway with work on the minor items prior to the major work. There are no structural issues with the squishy floor in the northwest corner of the fellowship hall, but there is a mold issue that affects some of our members. The commission is working on solutions.

Personnel: The proposed Church Accounts, Subscriptions, and Device Access Policy was approved by Session.

Transition Work
Session continued its work during this transition time, planning for the next congregational gathering and discussion to be held after worship on November 15. A light lunch will be served.



Sunday School for all ages is Sunday at 9:30am. Classes will be offered for elementary, middle and high school ages as well as adults. Nursery care is available for babies and young children.

Adult Sunday School-Taught by Rachael Spencer

Gary Chapman the author of *The 5 Love Languages* breaks down how to build an adult-to-adult bridge through proactive validation rather than correction. He covers the critical step of a parent identifying their past micromanaging mistakes, offering a sincere apology, and shifting to a posture of pure, unconditional encouragement. This class will have a short video and then discussion. Plan to join in and grow in your relationships with your kids or glean something for other relationships you have. 9:30am in the parlor room upstairs across from the elevator.



Orders are now being taken for poinsettias to be used in decorating the sanctuary for the Christmas season. If you would like to order one of these plants, please complete the form below and place it in the offering plate or leave it at the church office.

The cost is $11.00 each. Payment for the plants is to be made when the order is placed.

The poinsettias may be picked up after the candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

POINSETTIAS

I/WE would like to order _____ poinsettias to be used to decorate the sanctuary this Christmas.

_____ Red _____ White

_____ I will pick up my plant after the Christmas Eve service on December 24.

This plant is to be in memory of or in honor of:

_____

Given by: _____

ORDER DEADLINE: Sunday, November 15, 20256

Don't forget...

...to turn BACK your clocks, watches and devices that do not automatically change before going to bed this Saturday evening. Standard time is upon us!



November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Highpoint Youth 5:30	2	3	4 Chair yoga 9:00 Bible study & brew 7:30	5 Women's Book Club 2:00 Pastor Mark continuing education class 11-4	6 Pastor Mark out of office	7 
8 Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Highpoint Youth 5:30	9	10	11 Chair yoga 9:00 Growing Wiser 10:00 Deacons 5:00 Session 7:00	12 Pastor Mark continuing education class 11-4	13 Pastor Mark out of office 	14 Session retreat 8:00 - 11:00
15Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Holy Conversations Youth 5:30	16	17Commission/Committee meetings 	18 Chair yoga 9:00 Bible study & brew 7:30	19 Seekers & Searchers Bible study 10:00 Pastor Mark continuing education class 11-4	20 Pastor Mark out of office	21
22Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30 Hanging of the Greens 5:30	23	24	25 Chair yoga 9:00 Bible study & brew 7:30	26 Thanksgiving Day - office closed 	27 Pastor Mark out of office **Office closed**	28 Harder/Smith wedding 10:30
29Choir 8:45 Sunday school 9:30 Worship 10:30	30 					

The Herald

Central Presbyterian Church
125 North Seventh Street
Terre Haute, IN 47807
Phone: 812-232-5049
Fax: 812-232-5040

Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Mark Miller, Transitional Pastor
Sarah Kelsheimer, Church/Financial Secretary
Joy Sutter, Christian Educator/Interim Highpoint Youth Dir.
Ellie Templeton, Communications Coordinator

Next Herald Deadline – November 22, 2026

Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club will be meeting on November 5 at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. The book to discuss is *Culpability* by Bruce Hoisinger. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Women's Bible Study

The 2026 Bible study will continue from 10:00 to 11:30 am on Thursday, November 19. The women have started a new Bible study. They will be using the Horizon Bible Study *God's Promise - I am with you*. Books are available in the church office. Pam McKinney will be leading the discussion. Susan Hoffman will be the hostess. All women are welcome.