

Central Life

Central Presbyterian Church
March 3, 2021

The Central Presbyterian Church Session calls for

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Central Presbyterian Church and

The Annual Corporation Meeting to be held on Sunday, March 7 at 1:00 p.m. by Zoom.

State of the Church will be given by Rev. Ann Aichinger

Election of the Nominating Committee. Those nominated are:

Ruling Elders: John Barker, Chair Nancy Kiser

Congregation Members: Nancy Arnold Barbara Mann

Barbara Oakley William Wampler

Youth Representative: Maddie Harris (Youth)

Ex-Officio: Rev. Ann Aichinger

Annual Corporation Meeting will be moderated by John Barker, President All members are encouraged to attend. Join the Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83099653762?pwd=ejN4VWFqbXBMQVBveDkzN1M4cjVKQT09

Meeting ID: 830 9965 3762 Passcode: 513941

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Congregational Joys and Concerns...



Central Life

At Home: Bob and Becky Ingram, Bob Stuart, Bessie Kitts, and Jean Bane. At Brookdale Bristol: Carol Duhaime, Jean Thomason, and Mary Kay English At Dominion Senior Care: Hugh and Linda Wise At Encompass Bristol: Allen Vance

- Bob Ingram who is having severe back pain issues;
- Alice Owenby as she recovers from surgery this last week;
- Allen Vance is at Encompass Bristol for rehab and loves to get notes and cards.
 His address for about 1 week is: Rehabilitation Hospital of Bristol, Allen Vance,
 Room 162, 103 North St., Bristol, VA 24201
- Phyllis and Randy Morris as they are recovering from health concerns;
- Jean Thomason is at Brookdale;
- Doris Crabtree as she is struggling with her health, especially her arthritis;
- Mary Kay English is at Brookdale;
- Courtney Reese as she continues to seek help with her MS;
- Bob and Becky Ingram as they deal with continuing health issues;
- Joy Briggs' husband, Guy, is dealing with health concerns and is at home;
- Don Miller, as he continues to deal with health concerns;
- Mark McCord as he is continuing toward a kidney transplant;
- Sam Wagner, brother of Jack Wagner and Terri Surber, is starting a second round of chemo;
- Connie Bullock's sister, Linda Olson, as she is continuing to battle cancer.

We Extend Our Deepest Christian Sympathy to...

"Blessed are those who die in the Lord; they will rest from their labors and their deeds will follow them." Revelation 14:13 To Mary Kay English and family, in the death of Bill English, on February 25, 2021, in Johnson City, TN.

To Mike Dodson and family in the death of his mother, Iris Dodson, on February 24, 2021 in Bristol.

Will Broadfoot in the death of his paternal grandfather, Bill Broadfoot, who passed away Tuesday, February 23, 2021 in Florence, Alabama.

To Randy Broyles and family, in the death of his brother, Gary Broyles on February 19, 2021 in Knoxville, TN.

Randy's address is: 110 Sky Trail Drive Bristol, TN 37620

Memorials...

To the Music Fund in Memory of Candy Ellis, Margaret Bonham, Deans Davenport and David King, given by Mike Ellis.

To the Memorial Fund in Memory of Daphne McCord, given by Nancy Norman.

Continue in Prayer for renewed health and strength for...

John and Linda Barker and their family, Bobby Davis, Coleen Wheeler, Randy Broyles, and Jim Matson.





Reflections from the Rocking Chair

Recently, in a ministers Zoom gathering, the question was posed, "What is community? And how have we been able, or not able to be in community with each other over this last year?" Good question. Community has at its root the idea of "Common" - what is it that draws us together that is common with us? Though we may have different

practices or lifestyles, family makeup, or life goals, there is something that draws us together as a community. We can list a number of things:

- Jesus Christ and living as the Body of Christ as the church
- Location of being in the Tri-cities, yet we have a number of people who are part of our community in this year from Europe and across the US as we have had more events online.
- That we identify with Central Presbyterian Church and are a specific group of people who identify with a specific place.

Over these past 350+ days of living in the pandemic, and with staying home for safety's sake, we have had to redefine what community is about. Can we have community on Zoom? Yes, I think we can and have. We connect with each other, have conversations, make plans and take action, and spend time checking in with one another. We have times of prayer and of sharing what is going on in our lives. We may not be able to hug or give handshakes, which is so much of our humanity and what helps us to connect with each other, but in this moment in time these actions are not encouraged.

What about worship? When we celebrate communion online or as a part of recorded worship, is there community? I say, yes. I feel the connection when I am recording worship and celebrating Communion. I imagine the faces of many of you there in the Sanctuary. Then, when I worship on Sunday mornings at my home, I feel connected with all of you in the sharing of the bread and cup, and in hearing the Word of God for that day. It is because the Holy Spirit is able to cross all the boundaries of our lives and join us together not only with each other, but also those who have gone before us and now reside in God's heavenly kingdom.

As we are preparing to return to in-person worship and gatherings while living within the guidelines, I know that we will be missing people from our community, especially those who have died in this last year, and whose lives we have not been able celebrate nor their contributions to our world. I am mindful that Casey McComish will be greatly missed when we come into the church building. Bill English will be missed in the choir. There are many family members, and friends, whom we have kept in our prayers since the pandemic began who have died and gone to their great reward in eternity with God; Daphne McCord, Frank Sikora, Candy Ellis, Patsy Wampler, Betty Watson, Darla and Jonathon Van Dyke, and Jackie Phillips. There are many who have been on prayer lists for a while, and those who have been struggling with health. My hope is that at some point this summer we can have a memorial service to remember all those who have died in this last year and to celebrate them and their presence with us.

The final scene of the 1984 movie, *Places in the Heart* illustrates this. As the church gathers for worship to celebrate communion, there are many empty pews indicating those who have died or who are no longer present. But as the scene develops, the bread and cups are passed, and the pews begin to fill up with those that were missing. It is a reminder that whenever we worship, wherever we worship, and especially as we celebrate Communion, we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Many who have died and others who have moved away are still a part of our community; they're just not present with us. I think of college students as well as those who are homebound. Community is about realizing that we are joined together by the Spirit of Christ in our midst. As we gather this Sunday for worship, and as we celebrate the Lord's Supper, let us be mindful of the community of the Body of Christ.



Lenten Sermon Series: "Living as People of the Covenant"

March 7	Lent 3: Who is God? Who is the Lord?	Exodus 20:1; John 2:13-22
March 14	Lent 4: The Greatest Hope	Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21
March 21	Lent 5: Hope in the Darkness	Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 12:20-33
March 28	Palm/Passion Sunday	Reading from Mark's Gospel

Lenten Organ Music

Although the Pandemic is still preventing us from participating in many of the usual observances of Lent, there is one thing that will be available and that is the Lenten Organ Meditations. Starting today, March 3, the first of four music meditations will be posted to Central's webpage. With our organist, Joy Smith-Briggs offering a half-hour of music appropriate for Lenten meditating.

Joy will be followed on Wednesday, March 10, by Stephanie Yoder. Stephanie is the organist and choir director at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Bristol, VA. Stephanie will play compositions by Bach, Brahms and Cesar Franck, to name a few.

On Wednesday, March 17, Nick Andrews' program will include selections by Leo Sowerby, Charles Callahan and Alexandre Guilmant. Nick is the Church Administrator and Organist/Choir Director at St. John's Episcopal Church in Johnson City.

Jacob Moorman will present the final meditation on Wednesday, March 24. Jake is a 17 year-old, home schooled organ student of Dr. David Runner who is studying both organ and piano. He is also a member of the Highlands Youth Ensemble.

These three organists were scheduled to present organ meditations for the Lenten Organ program in 2020, but the pandemic prevented them from doing so. They eagerly agreed to offer their talents this year, so please take this opportunity to add this wonderful, meditative music to your Lenten season observance.

Address Update...



Mary Kay English Brookdale Assisted Living 1 Liberty Place Room #207 Bristol, VA 24201 Cell phone: (423)335-1209

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Please update Mary Kay's address in your church directory.



Parking Lot Worship, March 27 and April 4

We are planning to have both the Palm/Passion Sunday and Easter Sunday worship services in the church parking lot at 11:00 a.m. on March 27 and April 4.

- We will be broadcasting the audio by radio to be received in your car.
- If it is a nice day, you can bring chairs to sit by your car, and we are asking that everyone please observe appropriate social distance from each other.
- We will have activity bags for the children available as well as worship bulletins.
- ♦ The church doors will be open if you need to use the restrooms.
- There will be recorded worship services available for those who are out of the local area, and for those who are still hesitant about attending in-person service.

Please make plans now to join the church family for this time of worship and fellowship together. If you have any questions, please talk to Ann Aichinger.



Join us for Wonderful Wednesdays in March on ZOOM. We will have time to chat and catch up on life as well as spend time in prayer, and have time of discussion and study. Our lessons will be: *Encounters with Jesus on the Road to the Cross*.

The invitation and access for each of the Wednesday gatherings on Zoom is as follows: Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89657603909?pwd=ZXcyakYrYUYxcm84aGxKTWJ4SGhrQT09

Meeting ID: 896 5760 3909 Passcode: 252722

(If you have trouble getting into the meeting each week, please text Pastor Ann.)

Presbyterian Women Bible Study and Gathering

All women are invited to be a part of Presbyterian Women. We will gather on Tuesday, March 9 at 11:00 a.m. by Zoom, or in person in the small dining room at the church. We will be looking at **Lesson 6: Lament over the City** and the passages of Lamentations 5:1-22 and Luke 23:26-31. Join the Zoom meeting at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89575029504?pwd=UlJKVlhLb0FCdERGdWwxM3J6M21VQT09

Meeting ID: 895 7502 9504 **Passcode:** 858189



Phone: 276-669-3157 E-mail: office.cpc@bvu.net www.CentralPresBristol.org



CENTRAL LIFE

How to Keep in Touch:

<u>www.facebook.com/CPCBristol</u>: You do not have to sign-in or log on. Just click "not now" and the site will pop up. Scroll down to find the latest message.

<u>www.CentralPresBristol.org</u>: Click on "View Sermons" then scroll down to see Pastor Ann's videos for each day.

Options for giving to the work and ministry of Central Presbyterian:

* You can give in a check, or cash, in the offering plate, dropped by the office, or mailed to:

Central Presbyterian Church 301 Eudid Avenue Bristol, VA 24201-4013

- * You can give through your online banking to Central.
- You can set up an automatic deposit from your account; please talk with the Finance Director on how to do this.
- You can TEXT to CentralPres (no spaces and Capital C and P) to 73256. You will be directed to make your donation through Realm.
- * You can give one time, or regularly, through your **Realm Connect** profile.

Reminder: Please continue to send in your pledges and financial support for Central Presbyterian. Although the church building may not be fully operational, the work and ministry is still happening.



How to contact us:

Ann Aichinger, Pastor ann.cpc@bvu.net

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Office Hours:

The current office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. Please call 276-669-3157 for office hour changes and updates.

