



Central Life

Central Presbyterian Church

July 1, 2020

In-Person Worship POSTPONED until August 2 Due to Rising Numbers of COVID Cases



The Session, with the recommendations from the *What's Next* Taskforce, have decided to postpone the in-person worship until Sunday, August 2. In light of the rising numbers of COVID cases, it was discussed that for the safety of all, we should **not** take the risk at this time. The worship services will be either recorded or Livestreamed, as we are able to, and the recorded service will be on the church website.

It was also decided to **not** permit outside groups to use the church building until after August 2, unless the number of COVID cases begins to decrease.

These issues will be reconsidered at the July Session meeting and we will let you know any decisions that are made. You are asked to continue to pray for the Session and for God's guidance in this difficult and uncertain time.



It is amazing all the changes that can happen in just a few days. A week ago, we were ready and preparing for a Re-Gathering worship on July 5. But then, as the COVID-19 cases started to rise rapidly, we needed to have a reconsideration of what was best for the Central Presbyterian Church family. I know that you are as disappointed and sad as I am. I know that many of you were looking forward to coming and seeing church friends that you have not seen in 4 months. I am sad too about not being able to be together. But in light of the reality, it was important to postpone this re-gathering time until a later date when the COVID numbers are decreasing and there is less chance of infection.

As a leader, I seek wisdom from God for guidance. I also consult with colleagues who have had in-person worship already, as well as seeking understanding about the science from the medical experts. It has been very hard to know exactly what we should do. But by having the *What's Next* Taskforce to help plan and prepare for our in-person worship opportunity, I sought their wisdom and understanding as well as from the Session. So, at this point, the decision has been made that we will **not** gather together on July 5, and we will make plans for our Re-Gathering service on Sunday, August 2. The hard reality is that I am not sure any of us know when we will be able to gather as the family of Central Presbyterian.

I wish that I had a crystal ball to give me, and the Session, clear guidance as to when we can gather for worship, when we can have Sunday school, when we can have our Wednesday night dinner and program, and all the other aspects of life together. Instead, we are continuing in the time of uncertainty and flexibility. But one thing I do know is that God remains faithful and God will guide us through this time together. I also know that even though we are scattered about and unable to get together as the church, we continue to be the church in the way we live, and in the way we conduct our business, and in the way we continue to serve in our community and world.

Our main concern is that no one comes down with COVID-19 as a result of our live worship service created by a mass exposure. That will be the primary factor for future planning. So, I ask for your continued prayers and understanding as we move forward in this time. Continue to pray for those who are medical servants, for those who are serving in essential businesses and for their families, and continue to pray for those who are seeking vaccines and accurate tests for this virus, so that we, as a community, are able to come back together.

I keep you in my prayers, and I look forward to the day when we can gather again in Jesus' name to celebrate and rejoice in the love and grace of God in our lives and in our world.

Grace and peace,

Ann Aichinger



**IT'S A NEW TIME**

- from Patty Caldwell

Today, when you receive your newsletter, Central Presbyterian will have a new Administrative Assistant. Welcome to Lynn Gilbert!

I started working at Central as a sub while Lillian, the secretary, was on vacation in the summer of 1986. Then, when she left suddenly in the spring of 1987, Pastor Dent Davis called me to see if I would fill in while a replacement was found. Well, I never left!

I began full-time on March 18, 1987 and if anyone had asked me, I would have said I wasn't going to be there five years later. But working in the office led me to getting to know Central and all the people and the grand old building as my family and friends, as well as knowing that this is where God was calling me to be.

The job has always been one I loved. Mostly it was fun and rarely difficult, though many days were hectic. The pastors have all treated me very well and the elders told me I could never leave. The staff has been a close-knit group - even going to the movies together several times to see the first day opening of Star Trek features.

Many church members have had no clue of the scope of the job of Secretary/Office Manager. When volunteers came in to help, many said they had no idea so much went on in the church office. I liked the varied tasks, mental, emotional, and physical, and I enjoyed learning new things on the computer (though having to change software programs is usually stressful).

How am I going to keep busy after June 30? I have closets that haven't been cleaned out in a decade. We have a storage room with boxes whose contents haven't seen daylight since 1998. I do enjoy organizing, so these are not dreaded tasks. I look forward, with excitement, to getting into my sewing room with its stash of fabrics, books, and patterns, and "some" unfinished projects. I will also enjoy leisure time of reading and working jigsaw puzzles (which I am addicted to). But, most of all, now we have time to visit the grandchildren, Julian, Quincy, and Ellora, who I have missed seeing enough of.

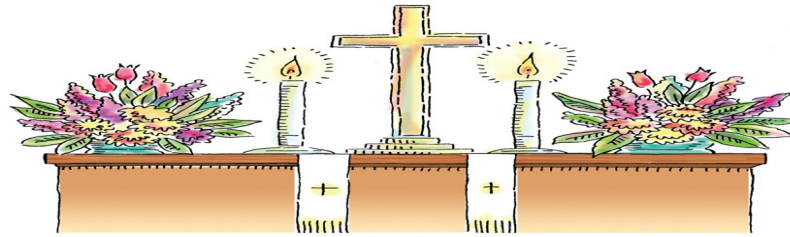
So, I thank God, and Central Presbyterian Church for my good life working and serving for and with you. The years have been happy and fulfilling. Thanks to all the pastors and leaders and to all the people who make this Central Presbyterian. Of course, I am not leaving the church, just the day to day grind. I will still be in worship (when we get back to it fully) and I will still be around volunteering for several opportunities.

Come by and greet Lynn, and don't tell her too many times that "Patty did it this way." ☺ A new and good chapter at Central has begun.

Live long and prosper. Peace and long life. (The Star Trek Vulcan greeting)

Patty





Update from the 224th General Assembly of the PCUSA

- ♦ The General Assembly had a historical meeting in that they met virtually, and were able to do the work of the church over two weekends;
- ♦ The Reverend Gregory Bentley, pastor of the Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville Alabama, and Ruling Elder Elona Street-Stewart, the synod executive of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, were elected as the Co-Moderators of the 224th General Assembly (2020);
- ♦ Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, was elected as the Clerk of the General Assembly for 4 years. He has served the past 4 years in this capacity, and the Assembly voted enthusiastically for him to remain in that office;
- ♦ There will be discussions related to Theological Education, Racial Justice issues, COVID, and Native American churches.

Thank You!

Paige and I want to thank the CPC congregation for the many calls, texts, cards, and prayers during my hospitalization and surgery. It was really humbling the number of people praying for me and my family. It is a great comfort to be a part of a church that really cares about each other. By God's grace, I received a good lab report and no treatments will be necessary! That was an answer to your many prayers! Thank you again for your concern and prayers!

Sincerely,
Paige and Gale

Upcoming Sermons

July 5: Finding True Freedom

Galatians 5:1-15 (Communion Sunday)

**MY FAVORITE THINGS!**

Below are a few of Patty's favorite things to do, and enjoy, in her retirement! Unscramble the words using the hints. The underlined, bolded letter corresponds to an underlined space at the bottom of the page. The words are in order, so start finding the two hidden words. Best Wishes, Patty!

Red Condiment

P K H E T U C

"Meow"

A S T C

Car Rental Place

E N R S T E I E P R

Who Retired?

Y P T A T

Grandson

Q C I Y N U

Garden Beauties

S W E F L R O

Granddaughter

L L A E O R

"Beam Me Up, Scotty" Show

S R A T K E R I

Pieced or Machined

I U Q T L S

Embroidery, Stitchery

E W D O K R E N E L

Turkey "Luck" Piece

B E N S W H I O

Summer Water Fun

N M I S G W I M

Mice Love It!

S E C E H E

Grandson

J A U N I L

Place To Enjoy Nature

D O O R U S O I

— — — — — — — — — — !





Congregational Prayer Concerns:

Doris Crabtree—for her continued health issues and for her and her family in the death of her brother (Darryl Goodman, who died in Atlanta, GA on Friday, June 26 , 2020.)

Jean Thomason

Bob Ingram

Bill English

Rich Williams

Alice Owenby---is home in Bristol

Carol Duhaime—is at Brookdale for rehab and care

Jean Bane's daughter Martha has been dealing with the Coronavirus for several weeks

Nancy Arnold is doing well after her cataract surgery

Barbara Mann is doing well after her cornea transplant

Congratulations!

Congratulations to new parents Ray and Mary Katherine Wampler Charles on the birth of twins, Walker William "Walker " and Lillian Ray "Lilly," born on June 24, 2020. Each twin weighed in at 4 lbs. 11 oz. Mary and William Wampler are the new grandparents!



· newborns ·

Congratulations to Kellie and Travis Campbell and all their family on the adoption of their new son, Brody Karl on June 26, 2020!

Expressions of sympathy to:

George Parks, and family, on the loss of George's aunt, Laura Ann Warner, who passed away on June 17, 2020 in Bristol.

Memorial Gifts:

To the Memorial Fund for Sara Bureson and Frank Aichinger by Nancy Kiser; for Jonathan Van Dyke and Greg Jess by Jean Thomason.

To the General Fund given in Honor of Ann Aichinger and Patty Caldwell by Nancy Kiser.

Continue in prayer for...

Daphne McCord, Bobby Davis, Hugh & Linda Wise (Dominion Senior Care), Candy Ellis, Patsy Wampler (Elmcroft), Coleen Wheeler, Randy Broyles, Jim Matson, Darla Van Dyke, Jackie Phillips (Elmcroft), and Alice Owenby (Rehab in Asheville).



**Montreat Middle School Youth
Conference
Information and Update**

The Middle School youth will be heading to Montreat July 15-18 to participate in the online Montreat Middle School conference. Those going are: Juleeauna Jones, Becca, Reese, Bella Ritchie, and Vivian Wycoff. This year we will be staying at Trevor’s retreat, which is the house we rent for Youth Conferences each year. Please keep Josie Russell and Ann Aichinger in your prayers as they lead them in this time together, and as they engage with the presence of God.

These Days devotional booklets are available on the table under the canopy.



Effective July 1, 2020:

Lynn Gilbert’s email will be: office.cpc@bvu.net

Fri.	July 3	APPLE will be closed for July 4 observance
Sun.	July 5	Middle School Youth ZOOM Meeting
Mon.	July 6	OFFICE will be closed for July 4 observance
Tues.	July 7	Committee Meetings
Wed.	July 8	Youth Group ZOOM Meetings
Sun.	July 12	Middle School Youth ZOOM Meeting
Wed.-Sat.	July 15-18	Montreat Middle School—Online Conference



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www.CentralPresBristol.org



How to Keep Up:

www.facebook.com/CPCBristol

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.

www.CentralPresBristol.org

Click on “View Sermons” then scroll
down to see 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 or dropped by the office or mailed in to:

Central Presbyterian Church, 301 Euclid Ave.
Bristol, VA 24201.
- * 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 to do this.
- * You can TEXT. Send **CentralPres** (no spaces and Capital C and P) to **73256**—where you are 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 Presb. Although the church building may not be fully operational, the work and ministry is still happening.

How to Get in Touch with us:

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