



# CENTRAL LIFE

**Central Presbyterian Church**  
**November 18, 2020**

## ***Reflections From a Rocking Chair***

“O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.” 1 Chronicles 16:34

We are in a season of thanksgiving. But it is hard to be thankful when our world, our lives, our nation, our families, and even our spirits are over stressed and anxious. This is a Thanksgiving like no other, and yet it might in fact be a more genuine Thanksgiving for we will have to limit our gatherings and limit our travels. But, we do not have to limit our thankfulness. So how are we to be thankful in the midst of a pandemic, and social upheavals, and natural disasters? What can we be thankful for in this time?

I think the verse from 1 Chronicle 16:34 is a reminder of our ultimate gratitude that is to be directed toward the Lord. For in this time, the Lord is good. The Lord's love is forever. The Lord has not, nor will he give up and abandon us. The Lord is doing a new thing, even in this hard, difficult, uncertain time we are living in now. May we in our gratitude to God, express our hope that we have in Jesus Christ.

Isn't it interesting that we enter into these holidays where we want to do all the “normal” things and yet we are limited because of a raging virus. We are weary and tired. We are wondering and concerned. Yet we are still called to be servants of the Lord. We are still called to care for the poor and needy. We are still to be present with those who are sick. We are still to share the Love of Jesus with a world so desperate to hear good news. We do have Good news to share! We are not to be like a candle that is hidden in a basket or bowl, rather we are to shine brightly into the world and give the gifts of hope, love, joy, and peace.

As you gather around your table, I invite you to pause and to give thanks to the Lord. See if you can name at least one thing for each letter of the alphabet. For example, on my list: A is for abundant life, ability to work (even from home); K is for kindness extended to me and the kindness I can extend to others; P is for pancakes, for prayer time, and for plans that are on hold for now; V is for vaccines that are making progress; and Z is for zzzz which maybe we can catch up on for some well needed sleep.

So what would make your list? What kinds of things are you thankful for? Take some time, even with your family and friends as you gather on Zoom or Facetime and share together what you are thankful for. You might write your list down so that you can look at it throughout the next few weeks to remind yourself of your many blessings. Our lists can be a wonderful way to see the many blessings we have even in a difficult, but interesting time.

I am truly thankful for you, Central Presbyterian Church family and friends, and for the many ways you have extended God's grace to me. May you and your family have a very thankful and blessed Thanksgiving.

Grace and peace to you all,

Ann

*At Home:* Bob and Becky Ingram, Bill and Mary Kay English, Bob Stuart, Bessie Kitts

*At Brookdale Bristol:* Carol Duhaime for rehab and care

*At Dominion Senior Care:* Hugh and Linda Wise

*At Elmcroft:* Patsy Wampler, Jackie Phillips

Bill English will be going to NHC in Bristol;

Mary Kay English as she continues to struggle with the injury to her back;

Randy Morris as he is dealing with some health concerns and is at home;

Candy Ellis is being moved to NHC. Please keep Mike and all her family in your prayers;

Diana White as she cares for her mother whose health is declining;

Becky Ingram as she is dealing with health issues;

Bob Ingram as he is dealing with pneumonia and other health concerns;

Joy Briggs' husband, Guy, is dealing with shingles and other medical concerns and is at NHC in Johnson City;

Don Miller, as he continues to deal with health concerns;

Larry Surber as he is dealing with health concerns;

The Thompson/Campbell family;

Jean Thomason as she is struggling with her health and is at NHC in Bristol;

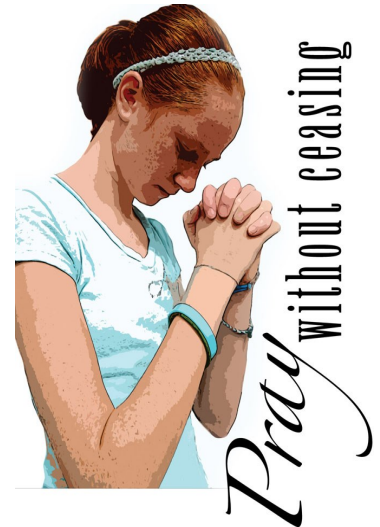
Allen Vance who is home and continuing to recover;

Jean Bane as she recovers from surgery at home;

Rich Williams as he is slowly improving from his surgery;

Mark McCord is working with UT on potentially having a kidney transplant;

Scott Wise, Hugh Wise's son, has tested positive for the Corona virus.



## Memorials...

To the **Backpack Fund** in Memory of Frank Sikora, given by Jim and Lynn Butcher, Ed and Betty Whitehead, the Bereavement Committee, Ann Achinger, Dr. Fred B. Greear, Jr., and Archer Parsons.

To the **Backpack Fund** in Honor of Barbara Mann, given by Joy Briggs.

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

John and Linda Barker and their family, Daphne McCord, Bobby Davis, Alice Owenby, Coleen Wheeler, Randy Broyles, Jim Matson, and Heather Kiser.

The session met on Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. Cindy Hale led us in our opening devotional and prayer. As we began our time of getting to know one another better, each member shared three things that they are thankful for.

Ann Aichinger gave her report which included gratitude for those who helped and participated in the October 30-31 Halloween event, as well as the November 15 Commitment Sunday Parking lot gathering. She shared the church calendar with the Session and the many events and activities that are coming up.

We heard from John Barker and Ann Aichinger regarding the Abingdon Presbytery Stated Meeting on November 12th. We received reports from Administration and Staff, Care and Concern, Evangelism, Finance, Budget and Stewardship, and Worship as well as a report from the Technology Committee.

Action was taken on approving the two fundraiser opportunities from the Evangelism Committee to include Miniature Nativities, and Central Presbyterian facemasks (\$5.) Laurel Broadfoot also shared that she is working on an Advent and Christmas Calendar that will go out into our community as well as to our church family.

Action was taken on the Worship Committee's recommendation for **Carols at Noon** starting in December. Joy Briggs and Robert Campbelle will be putting together four music programs for those interested in coming to the church Sanctuary to listen to Christmas music. Also, the Sanctuary will be decorated for the Advent and Christmas season.

After sharing Pastoral Concerns and Joys of the congregation, John Barker closed the meeting with prayer.



Did you get your 2021 pledge card in the mail in November? Not sure where you put it? Or maybe you have lost it and need a new one? We can help with that!

We hope that everyone will be able to be involved and invested in the life of Central Presbyterian Church in the coming year. The session is planning for a good year of activities and opportunities that will help all of us to grow in our faith and commitment to Jesus Christ.

We are thankful to those of you who have made your commitment towards the work of Central Presbyterian for 2021. We hope that if you have not done so yet that you will turn in your commitment card as soon as possible. It helps the Session to be able to plan for next year's work and ministry. If you need a new card, there are always extras in the church office. And if you have any questions, please talk to Mary Moffatt, CPC's Finance Director.

**So come on! Let us join together as we seek to serve Christ in our community, and in our world.**

## **Miniature Nativities - The Story**

These miniature nativities are a blending of two traditions in France. Following the French Revolution when religious displays were outlawed, the faithful French simply shrunk their nativities to a size that could easily be hidden. The second tradition is to hide a small prize into a king cake at Epiphany, and often these trinkets were the tiny nativity figures used. Many families in France have pieced together their cherished miniature nativities over the years, by acquiring the figures in their slice of cake.



Four styles of miniature nativities are available and are displayed in the hallway outside the office along with order forms. These Nativity pieces are hand painted and are food safe. Please turn your order form into the office with your payment, and your order will be filled.

## **Central Presbyterian Church Facemasks**

We will be offering CPC Face Masks for sale in the church office. The cost is \$5 for each face mask. The masks will be blue with a white logo. Get them for yourself, your friends, and your family members. These will make a great stocking stuffer!

## **CAROLS AT NOON**

You are invited to enjoy the music of the season on Wednesday's in the church Sanctuary during the month of December at noon. Joy Briggs and Robert Campbelle have orchestrated a wonderful 45 minute to 1 hour musical program for your musical enjoyment! You can come and stay for the whole hour, or just for 15 minutes.

Dates are December 2, 9, 16, and 23. So, mark you calendars and stop in for the musical sounds of the season at Central.





## Central Life

Join us for “Wonderful Wednesdays” in November on ZOOM! You can join us with video or you can call in and be part of the group. We will have time to chat and catch up on life, as well as spend time in prayer for one another and those on our hearts.

We will conclude the study of Bob Goff’s book, **Love Does: When you love like Jesus does, you will live like Jesus lived.** The video portion will be shown as a part of our study, but if you want to watch it before we gather on Wednesday, you can find it on *RightNow Media* ([rightnowmedia.org](http://rightnowmedia.org)) in the Central Presbyterian Church resource library.

In December, we will be discussing Adam Hamilton’s Advent study *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*. The topics are listed below with the scriptures

November 18: Follow Me

December 2: Presidents and Kings

December 9: The Savior and Our Need for Saving

December 16: Emmanuel in the Pandemic

December 23: Light of the World,  
Word of God and Lord

Matthew 4:18-20; Luke 18:18-22

1 Samuel 7:1-16; Luke 1:26-38

Luke 2:8-14; Matthew 1:18-21;  
Genesis 3:1-13; Romans 7:18-25

Matt 1:22-25; Isaiah 7:1-16;

Hebrews 1:1-4, 4:14-16

John 1:1-5, 9-14; Isaiah 58:1-10;

Matt 2:7-12; Matt 5:14-16

Below is the Zoom information. The invite will also be emailed out to the church family on Wednesday mornings. Remember: This is the same meeting information from week to week. Join Zoom Meeting at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82923591544?pwd=MTIHMEVwWnIwZ3dPRGIXUIZaRlpqQT09> Meeting ID: 829 2359 1544 Passcode: 787706

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**Not online? Want to have a DVD of the Worship Services?**

**Come by the church and pick up a copy. They are on the table under the portico, and they are dated. Please feel free to take what you need.**



## Thank You...

## Central Life

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Commitment Sunday Parking Lot Gathering a success. We appreciate Trish James for making her White Chicken Chili, and putting together To-Go bags. Thank you to Barbara Mann, Wes Ritchie, David White, the Finance Committee, and Mary Moffat for their role in the stewardship season. 47 people attended, and it was great to get to visit for a few moments with each other!

Our next Parking Lot party will be:

**Sunday, November 29, 3:00-5:00 p.m. for the Advent Kit Pick-up**

### PARKING LOT PARTY



**At our Halloween Extravaganza weekend, one family's picture was accidentally omitted from the newsletter. We apologize for the omission, and we want to share this "cuteness" with everyone today.**

**Sheree Taylor's granddaughter, Daphne, dressed as a unicorn! She is pictured here with her mom, Crystal and dad, Jonathon.**



### Mark your Calendars with these dates:

**Sunday, November 29 – 3:00-5:00 p.m. Advent Sunday** bag pick-up and Parking Lot party. We will have items for your household to celebrate Advent this year at home.

**December 24, 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight.** This worship service will be held in the church parking lot.

### Upcoming Sermons...



November 22:  
November 29:  
December 6:  
December 13:  
December 20:  
December 24:  
December 27:  
January 3:

I'm Involved: Living into God's Rule  
Advent: Be Awake  
Advent: Find Comfort  
Advent: Stay Watchful  
Advent: Sing with Joy  
The Christmas story  
Christmas Revealed  
Christmas Observed (Epiphany)

Matthew 25:31-46  
Mark 13:24-37  
Mark 1:1-8; Isaiah 40:1-11  
John 1:6-8, 19-28  
Luke 1:26-38  
Luke 2:1-20  
Luke 2:22-40  
Matt 2:1-12

## CELEBRATING ADVENT AT HOME

### November 29, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Advent Kit Pick-up and Parking Lot Gathering

Advent is the season when we as Christians prepare for the coming of the Christ Child into our world. Advent is a time to slow down, praise God, spend time with our family, and prepare our hearts for Jesus' arrival. The season of Advent is the four Sundays before Christmas. There are different activities and options for this season. Because we are unable to be together in worship and at Sunday School and on Wednesday nights, the Christian Education Committee is offering every household your very own Advent kit.

November 29th is the first Sunday of Advent, and you are invited to join us for a parking lot gathering as well as an opportunity to pick up your Advent Kit. Included in your Advent Kit will be an 8 inch wreath, five candles with instructions to set up your Advent Wreath. There will be prayers to use each Sunday as well as activities for the season. There will be also included materials to make ornaments which you can put on your tree or take to someone who has to work on Christmas Day this year. For those with children, there will be special booklets and devotionals for this season. Please wear a mask, and come join the fun.



PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women will meet on Tuesday, Dec 8 at 11 a.m. by Zoom for their monthly Gathering and Bible Study. All women are invited to join us. Below is the Zoom information for the meeting. We will be looking at Lesson 3: Women's Lament

There are additional books available in the church office for \$10.

Topic: CPC Presbyterian Women Monthly Gathering

Time: Nov 10, 2020 11:00 AM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89575029504?pwd=UIJKVlhLb0FCdERGdWwxM3J6M21VQT09>

Meeting ID: 895 7502 9504

Passcode: 858189

## Reminder...

For anyone who would like to make a shoebox for Samaritan's Purse *Operation Christmas Child* Shoebox project, please do so and drop the box off at Central no later than this Friday, **November, 19**. I will pick them up from Central and take them to a sister church! There are shoe boxes at Central outside the office. If you need one, or two, help yourself! Thank you, Donnie

# December Birthdays



Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

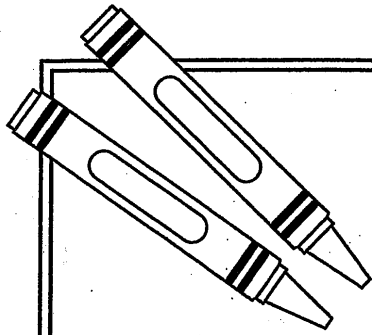
Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Carol Duhaime	1	Sandy Wilson	16
Rob Hollo	1	Travis Campbell	16
Harper Lewis	2	Mike Chamberlain	17
Madison Campbell	2	Allen Harris	18
Terry Eckley	2	Dot Chamberlain	18
Lauren Calloway	4	Brody Campbell	20
Colby Vaughn	5	Mike Barnes	20
Jack Wagner	5	Nancy Norman	21
Joan Keith	6	Merrie McInnis	25
Callie Eckley	7	Archer Parsons	26
Jean Thomason	9	Bill English	27
Bernice Hagaman	11	Barrett Blevins	30
Robert Campbelle	11	Cathy Moss	31

Happy birthday!

Happy birthday!



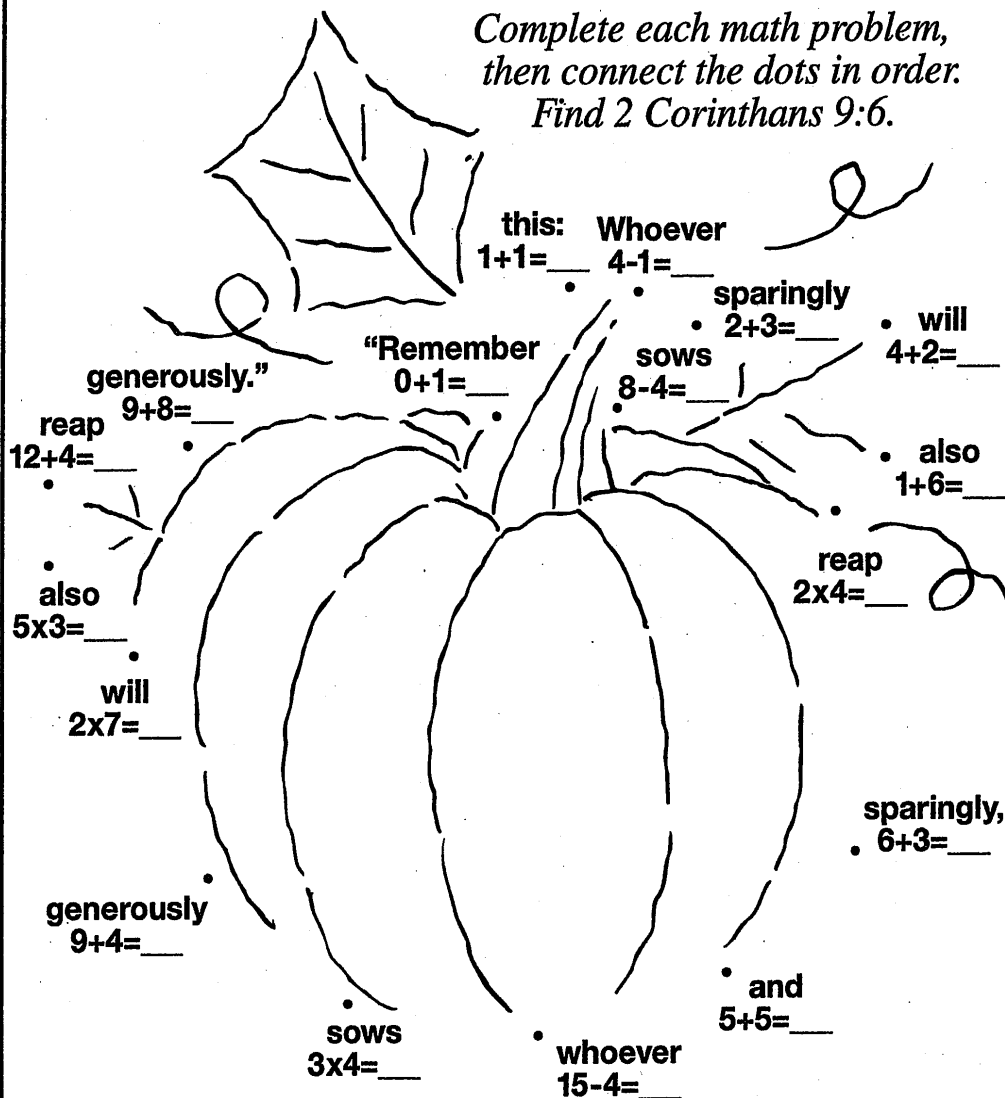


# Just for KIDS

## Giving and Sharing

God gives generously to us. He wants you to do the same for others. The more you give, the more you receive!

Complete each math problem,  
then connect the dots in order.  
Find 2 Corinthians 9:6.



"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

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[www.CentralPresBristol.org](http://www.CentralPresBristol.org)

# CENTRAL LIFE

## How to Keep in Touch:

**[www.facebook.com/CPCBristol](https://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](http://www.CentralPresBristol.org)**: 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 Euclid 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	<a href="mailto:ann.cpc@bvuv.net">ann.cpc@bvuv.net</a>
Robert Campbelle, Music Director	<a href="mailto:robertcampbelle@gmail.com">robertcampbelle@gmail.com</a>
Joy Smith-Briggs, Organist	<a href="mailto:gjbjoyb@btes.tv">gjbjoyb@btes.tv</a>
Josie Russell, Youth & Young Adult Dir.	<a href="mailto:josieannrussell@gmail.com">josieannrussell@gmail.com</a>
Lynn Gilbert, Admin. Asst. Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:office.cpc@bvuv.net">office.cpc@bvuv.net</a>
Mary Moffatt, Finance Director	<a href="mailto:finance.cpc@bvuv.net">finance.cpc@bvuv.net</a>
Trish James, Food Service Director	<a href="mailto:tjames1234@charter.net">tjames1234@charter.net</a>
Becky Widner, Dir. of APPLE Academy	<a href="mailto:applepreschool@yahoo.com">applepreschool@yahoo.com</a>
Barbara Mann, Volunteer Parish Nurse	<a href="mailto:barbar632002@gmail.com">barbar632002@gmail.com</a>

## 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.

