



Central Life

Central Presbyterian Church

December 12, 2018

JOURNEYS' END

Tuesday, December 18 at 6:00 pm



On Tuesday, Dec 18, at 6 p.m., everyone is invited to join us for Los Posadas, or Journey's End. We will meet at the Country Music mural at the Farmer's Market in Bristol, and then follow Mary and Joseph as they search for a place to stay, and where Jesus can be born.

As we wander down State Street, we will sing carols, and approach six places that are "inns." Mary and Joseph will ask for a place to stay, and continually be turned away. Then we will end up at the Paramount Theater, where we all will be welcomed in, and have time for fellowship and refreshments. We will have the alpacas join us for this journey. This is fun for all ages. Dress warm and come on the journey to find a welcoming place.



THE LONGEST NIGHT

On **Thursday, December 20, at 7:00 pm**, we will have a Longest Night Service of Worship. This is an opportunity for all who find this season difficult or tiresome, who feel the losses in life, and need a place to pause and reflect.

So why have a Longest Night Service? The Christmas season is often marked by expressions of joy, excitement, and happiness. It's a time for family to gather and for churches to worship pointing to the hope that is found in the coming of the Christ child. However, this time of joy and expectation can often overshadow the pain and hurt many experience during this season, when the world's merriment puts their grief and sorrow in the shadows.

It's a worship service scheduled around the winter solstice (the longest night of the calendar year) and it falls on or around December 21 every year. It is noted that this day is the traditional feast day for Saint Thomas the Apostle. This linkage invites making some connections between Thomas's struggle to believe the tale of Jesus' resurrection, the long nights just before Christmas, and the struggle with darkness and grief faced by those living with loss.

This service is a witness to all that the Christ child comes as a sign of hope in the face of despair. It is a way for our church family to acknowledge the various seasons of life that people may find themselves in. You are invited to come and leave behind for a moment the busyness of the season, to reflect and remember, and to see that the light of Christ does come into our darkness.





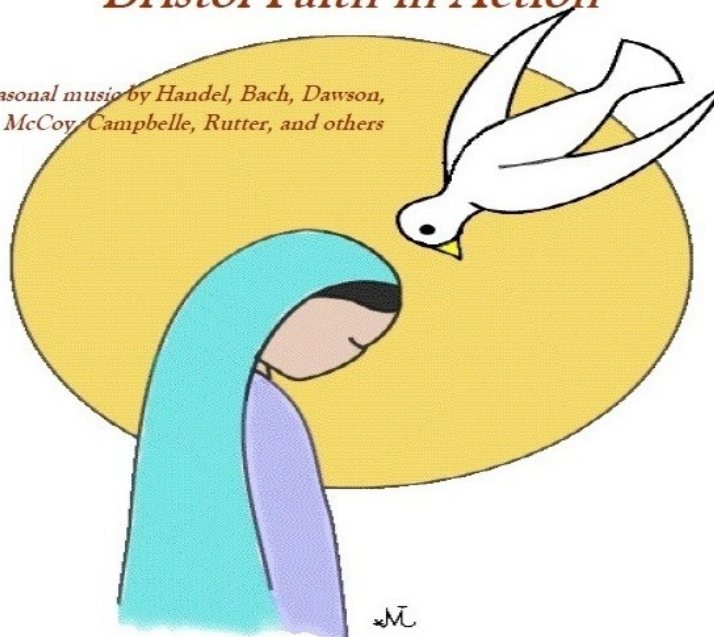
You Don't Want to Miss This!

Love Came Down

*A Christmas Celebration
to benefit*

Bristol Faith in Action

*Seasonal music by Handel, Bach, Dawson,
McCoy, Campbelle, Rutter, and others*



***Love Came Down* will be a highlight of your Christmas celebration!**

With 55+ singers, handbell ringers, brass players, flutists, celeste, piano, and organ, the music will be marvelous. And as you enjoy the music, you'll be contributing to the work of Bristol Faith in Action — what better way to celebrate the birth of Christ than by helping the neediest of our community?

**Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.
Central Presbyterian Church**

And be sure to invite your friends!





Saturday, December 15, 5:30 p.m.

Young Adult Christmas PJ Party & Cookie Exchange

Rob and Carly Hollo's House

136 Free Hill Ext, Gray, TN 37615

Wear your cozy, funny, festive Christmas pajamas and bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share! Don't forget the Tupperware to take home all the cookies you receive. Rob is smoking a ham, so please bring a side to share! Contact Josie Russell (423-383-9291) for more info.

WHERE IS FRANK ON DEC 16?

You will notice that Frank is missing on Sunday, December 16, in the 11:00 worship service. As Presbyterians we are a connectional church, and as he is chair of Committee on Ministry, we work for the health of all the churches. He has been asked to come and meet on the 16th with a church that needs some healing. Please pray for his words and travel. He will leave following the 9:00 a.m. worship, and he will be back for the concert at 3:00.



COMMITMENTS FOR 2019

We have been a little slow in getting in our estimate of giving for 2019 between the mail being a week late and a snow Sunday. If you have not sent the church your information, please help us by getting it in as soon as possible.

Commitment Card Report as of December 3, 2018:

2019 Budget – 64 responses for \$252,822

Gutter Campaign – 46 responses for \$69,465

Sending Christmas Cards to Central Presbyterian Church friends...

This year, we invite you to bring a Christmas card and greeting to your friends and family here at Central. Instead of spending postage on mailing cards locally, you may use that money to give to a charity. Bring a card from you to the Central family and place it on the bulletin board outside of Ann Aichinger's office. There will be pushpins available. Then throughout the Advent and Christmas season, stop by and read the Christmas greetings from your family here at Central.





Family Promise of Bristol is coming to Central: Jan. 6-13, 2019

It has been a long year, but Family Promise of Bristol is up and running again and ready to welcome families. The Board of Directors has analyzed and worked on fixing our issues, and has hired Shatona Williams as a Case Manager. She is already hard at work engaging with families in our community. Central Presbyterian Church will have the first week to host families. We hope you will be a part of this very powerful ministry. We are scheduled to receive our families on Sunday, January 6 at 5 p.m. and they will reside at night in our church building.

Soon Mary Wampler will be making calls to ask people to help with providing dinners, eating with and visiting with the families, as well as staying overnight here in the church. Several people can join up to do this together and to make a difference in the people's lives.



Also Family Promise of Bristol is having a Christmas Fundraiser by selling large Gingerbread Cookies in the shape of a house with the Family Promise Heart (see the picture). The cookies are available now. The cost is \$25 each or, for 10 or more, they are \$15 each. If you would like to order one or more, please talk to Ann Aichinger, who serves on the Board of Directors.



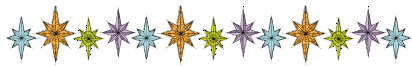
Christmas Joy Offering

Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Since the 1930s, it has been an annual tradition to receive the Christmas Joy Offering throughout the PCUSA. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need, and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

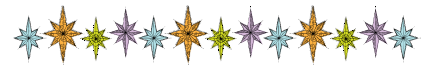
This past August, the PC(USA) celebrated the life and ministry of the Reverend Dr. Katie Cannon, a gifted leader and the first African American woman ordained in the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Dr. Cannon was a graduate of Barber Scotia College and, at the time of her death, she was the Annie Scales Rogers Professor of Christian Social Ethics at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. A renowned lecturer and the author of seven books, Dr. Cannon received the Award for Excellence in Theological Education in June of this year at the 223rd General Assembly (2018) in St. Louis. Her gifts of teaching, mentoring, and advocacy for women, especially women of color, helped develop leaders for ministry.

This offering will be taken on **Sunday, December 16**, as a part of our regular offering. There are special envelopes available. If you want to make a gift to the Christmas Joy offering, please mark your check or envelope with Joy Offering, or you can make an online gift at any time throughout the year at www.pcusa.org/specialofferings. You can also text **JOY to 20222** make a \$10 gift donation. Thank you for supporting our church leadership and future leaders.





CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP



Join us for this holy night when we remember that God's love came to earth in a baby born in a stable and laid in a manger. Both of the services have an opportunity to sing the familiar carols, hear again the familiar story, and lift up our candles to Joy to the World.

At both services we will take up an offering for the Service Fund, which benefits members of Central with emergency needs. There will be a nursery for children age three and under at both services.

5:00 FAMILY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

This is an early and short service for those who want to worship before the family celebrations begin. We will be in Central Hall with the Praise Team. It will last about 45 minutes.

7:00 CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE

This traditional service will be in the sanctuary. The Christmas music will be with Bells, Brass, and Chancel Choir. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper.

Be the Church Sunday
Service projects 9:30-10:45



Sunday, December 30
Worship at 11 in Central Hall

Sunday, Dec 30, is Be the Church Sunday. So during the Sunday school time (9:30-10:45), everyone is invited to come and participate in a variety of mission projects. Why? Because when we work together as the church, we discover our gifts and talents and are able to come alongside one another and demonstrate the work of the Church.

Starting at 9:30 a.m. there will be light brunch items, coffee, tea, and juice. Then everyone will be involved in a variety of things throughout the church building which may include:

- o Tying Fleece Blankets for the Police and EMTs to use when helping families
- o Assembling Dental Kits for Healing Hands
- o Making Cards for elderly with words of hope and love
- o Knitting or crocheting with purpose (lap blankets, hats or scarves)
- o Letters and cards to Service members who are recovering from injuries
- o Make Birdfeeders to take home to feed the animals
- o Afternoon visitations with homebound members
- o Help restock shelves at the Bristol Emergency Food Pantry (afternoon project)

Don't know how to do a project? That is the best part. You will work alongside of those who can help you to be a part of this.

Then at 11:00, we will bring our projects as a gift for our worship time, offer our prayers over the items and for those who will receive them. In the afternoon, those who want to go to the Food Pantry to restock shelves, will go together, while others may go out to visit our homebound members.

This is for all ages of children, youth, and adults. Everyone is able to be a part of Be the Church Sunday. This is a great way to be a part of something BIG to make a difference in our community and world.



January

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT PROGRAM

January 9, 16, 23

Appalachian Mountain Religion and The Bristol Sessions

The 1927 Bristol Sessions famously launched the careers of Country Music's earliest stars. They also captured a wide variety of Appalachian worship music styles. This three week series looks at the lives and ministries of Bristol Session artists Ernest Phipps and Alfred Karnes, considers the commonalities and peculiarities of Appalachian Mountain Religion, and describes one of the first meetings of Christian evangelism and twentieth-century mass media.



FAITH RENEWAL WEEKEND 2019

Friday, January 11, Saturday, January 12, and Sunday, January 13

Joel and Ann Long will lead us in a time to renew our faith and passion. We will start on Friday night with dinner and a message; Saturday morning with some time for reflection and small groups; Saturday night for the second message, and finish with the sermon on Sunday. And then Sunday night we will have a time to affirm our commitment and set up follow up. Mark this all on your 2019 calendar NOW!

SOUPER BOWL CHALLENGE

Throughout the month of January, ending with Souper Bowl Sunday, February 3

We have the challenge between the 9:00 and 11:00 services to see which can provide the most food items for the Emergency Food Pantry. We will post the standing each week. So get your food items together, and the real winner is the hungry people here in Bristol who are helped by your donations.



THE KING LECTURE: KATE BOWLER

Monday, January 28; 4:30 and 7:00 at Central Presbyterian Church



A church historian at Duke Divinity School, Kate Bowler specializes in the contemporary American church. Her first book, *Blessed: A History of the American Prosperity Gospel*, was the first history of that movement; Her next book was a bestselling memoir, *Everything Happens for a Reason (and Other Lies I've Loved)*. She is now researching a book, *The Preacher's Wife: Women and Power in American Megaministry*.





Coming up...

Choir, Bells, and Brass Dress Rehearsal for the Concert - Saturday, Dec. 15, 12:30 pm.

The Men's Bible Study and Prayer Group meets at Shoney's at 7:00 a.m. each Monday.

BUT NOTE...

No meetings on Dec. 24 or Dec. 31.

If Bristol, VA schools are out, no meeting.

Session - Tuesday, Dec. 18, 7:30 pm (Note the time change.)

The church is closed on Tuesday & Wednesday, Dec. 25 and 26.

Faithful Friends - next meeting will be Saturday, January 19, 10:00-11:30 am, at the church.

CENTRAL STAFF:

Ann Aichinger, Co-Pastor

ann.cpc@bvum.net

Frank Aichinger, Co-Pastor

frank.cpc@bvum.net

Robert Campbelle, Music Director

robertcampbelle@gmail.com

Joy Smith-Briggs, Organist

gjbjoyb@btes.tv

Rob Hollo, Contemporary Worship Administrator

rhasu83@yahoo.com

Josie Russell, Director of Youth & Young Adults

youth.cpc@bvum.net

Patty Caldwell, Office Manager/Newsletter Editor

pcaldwell.cpc@bvum.net

Mary Moffatt, Finance Director

finance.cpc@bvum.net

Trish James, Food Service Director

tjames1234@charter.net

Becky Widner, Director of APPLE Academy

applepreschool@yahoo.com

Donna Leonard, APPLE Administrative Assistant

Thais Sikora, Volunteer Parish Nurse

Barbara Mann, Volunteer Parish Nurse

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 to 4:30, Monday-Friday

Volunteers

For Sunday, December 16:

Coffee helpers - Ken & Cindy Hale

Greeters

9:00 - Trish James, David White

11:00 - Lea & Rush Powers

Children's Church Leaders

9:00 - TBA

11:00 - TBA

Head Ushers for Dec. - Rush & Lea Powers

For Sunday, December 23:

Coffee helpers - Trish James, Lois Clarke

Greeters

9:00 - Larry & Lois Clarke

11:00 - Allen & Retta Vance

Children's Church Leaders

9:00 - TBA

11:00 - TBA

Head Ushers for Dec. - Rush & Lea Powers

For Sunday, Dec 30 (ONE SERVICE):

Light Brunch will be served at 9:30 am

Greeter

11:00 - Debbie Wagner

Children's Church Leader

11:00 - TBA

Head Ushers for Dec. - Rush & Lea Powers

Attendance:

December 2, 2018 - 140 in worship

December 9, 2018 - worship canceled



All youth (5th-12th graders)

Wed, Dec 12, 5:30

Dinner and Christmas program

Wed, Dec 19, 5:30

Pizza Dinner and Christmas party

Bring food to share and a wrapped \$5 gift to swap.

We will play some fun games. Yes, you can bring friends.



Reminder that there is Youth Sunday School every Sunday 10-10:45 a.m.

What is Resurrection, 2019 ? It is a Youth gathering of over 5,000 youth from this area. The theme this year is **Voices United (Romans 15:6)**. The speaker will be **Jorge Acevedo** and the music group will be **I Am They**. You can check out other information on the web at resurrectionyouth.com



It is time to pay for **Resurrection, 2019**. If you want to go, **\$100 is due by Wednesday, December 19**. We have a cabin in Pigeon Forge.

Resurrection is on January 25-27 and we will leave after school from the church at 3:30 p.m. Then return on Sunday afternoon. Chaperones for this event are Josie Russell, Clark Wilson, and Ann Aichinger. All youth 5th-12th grade are welcome to join us.

Also if you don't have a permission form on file, you must have that to go on this trip. You may invite friends, but they have to have a permission form too.

Wooden Nativities: Part 3 ---The wisemen

Over the past two years, the Christian Education Committee created and assembled the characters of a Christmas nativity: Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus; a shepherd with a sheep; and an angel. This year, there are three new pieces for sale: three wisemen with gifts. The money raised will be going to support our youth programming, events, and trips. If you purchase all three parts of the nativity, the cost is \$35. The cost for the wisemen only or any single part is \$15 each. Please make checks to Central Presbyterian and in the memo: Nativities. These items are available on the table in the entry area. If you have any questions, please see Ann Aichinger or any member of Christian Education committee.



Congratulations to Brian Scott, who graduates from ETSU in December with a B.A. in Computer Science. Brian and his mother, Helen, will be going on a graduation trip to Japan for 8 days following his graduation.

Brian is the son of Bob and Helen Scott, and grandson of Allen and Retta Vance.



News for the Church family

Sympathy... Central member, Joe Watson, died on Friday, December 8, 2018 after a short illness. We offer our Christian sympathy to his wife, Betty, son, Joey, and daughter, Joyce Icenhour, and their families. There will be a graveside service on Saturday, Dec. 15, 1:00 pm at Mountain View Cemetery.

We also offer our sympathy to the family of Tom Daniel, who died on Dec. 9, 2018. Tom grew up at Central and had many friends here.



*Dear Ones,
My family and I can never fully express our thanks to you all for all you have done for my family over the last several years. When a family has a family member who is diagnosed with dementia, the whole family receives that diagnosis. Nothing is ever quite the same. The other members of the family immediately become caregivers and protectors and filters for the patient.*

You stepped into that role with us. From the singing ministry Ann provided for Oakmont patients to prayer cards and notes, from hugs and questions about Mother's condition to prayer circles prayers, you became our caregivers and support system. You are the hands and feet of Christ.

Thank you a million times for all this and more. You are amazing and we love you big.

Gena and Bill Prince

Memorial Gifts...

To the Parsons Memorial for Tom Parsons by Bettie Kell Runnion and Bill & Jackie Dennison;
To the Gutter Renovations for Gloria & Deans Davenport by Bill & Jackie Dennison;
To the Contemporary Worship Fund for "Boo" Worrell by Chuck Preston.

Continue in prayer for... Ruby Brown, Charles McChesney, Jack Aaron, Darla & Jonathon Vandyke, Kathy Story, Jackie Phillips, Sara Burleson, Shereé Taylor, Allen Vance, Musser Warren, Candy Ellis, Larry Surber, John Barker.

+++++



Thank you to all those who helped decorate the church inside and out for Christmas and helped put up the trees in the Sanctuary and Central Hall. We could not have done it with you.

+++++



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

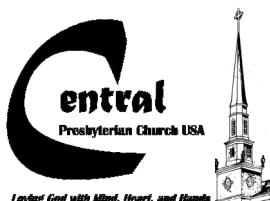
Have you wondered what it means to be a Presbyterian? Do you want to find out what the Session does? Do you want to know why we worship the way we do, or what ministry opportunities Central is involved in? Then you are invited to ask these questions and also to become a member of Central Presbyterian. Please talk to Ann or Frank Aichinger (276-669-3157) and let them know when a good time would be to meet either at the church, or in your home.



Central Presbyterian Church
301 Euclid Ave
Bristol, VA 24201-4013

276-669-3157

www.CentralPresBristol.org



The Angels have all been taken from the tree at the church. These are for local children who have at least one parent in prison. It is a way to help those parents have a gift for their children.

If you have taken a tag, please return the gifts by Sunday, Dec 16, to Room 100 (The Session Room).

There will be a party on Saturday, December 22, 10 a.m. -12 noon for the children and caregivers to come and pick up the gifts. Thank you to Vicki Wilson for leading this project. If you have any questions, please talk to Vicki (423-646-3174).

Schedule of Services & Rehearsals:

Sunday:

Coffee Time	8:45 & 9:45 a.m.
Informal Worship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School for all ages	10:00 a.m.
Liturgical Worship	11:00 a.m.

Wednesday:

Handchimes	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Night Activities	
Supper	5:30 p.m.
Program	6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir	7:00 p.m.

Youth Group (6 to 12 graders):

Wed Night at 5:30 for supper & meeting
Sunday nights once a month as scheduled

Music Rehearsals:

Praise Team, Sunday	8:00 a.m.
Sanctuary Choir	
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Sunday warm-up	10:30 a.m.
Handchime Group	
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.
Handbell Choir	
Monday (every two weeks)	6:30 p.m.
Central Brass	
Various times, check with Robert Campbelle	