

CENTRAL LIFE

Central Presbyterian Church
November 17, 2021

Gratitude: /'gradə,t(y)ood/ noun -- the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.

November is the month when we focus on Thanksgiving, and how we can express our gratitude to God for our many blessings and to one another. It is sad when we rush through this holiday and jump from Halloween right into Christmas, but we are given 30 days to be mindfully grateful.

One aspect of gratitude is that when we express that we are grateful for what we have and for the opportunities we have been given, we discover that we have enough. However, our culture is all about acquiring more and more, but in the practice of expressing gratitude we discover that, in fact, what we have IS truly enough.

Another aspect of gratitude is finding something good in others and expressing that with words of thanks, and by giving compliments or affirmations. This might be to someone in your own household or family, or in your friendship circle. But, we need to extend our gratitude circle to those who offer services of all kinds: mail delivery staff, city workers, sanitation workers, cashiers, store stockers, and those who gather up shopping carts in parking lots. Many of these people are overlooked in our day to day living, but they are providing services that help us with our lives, so why not offer a word of kindness and gratitude?

This year, as in years past, I will be going to visit my family in Virginia Beach for Thanksgiving. One of the traditions that I bring with me is the "turkey" notes. These are notes written from the turkey to individuals at the table about this last year (or whenever we were able to be together.) It is fun to have everyone read them aloud as a part of the dinner, and in our family, I write them (on behalf of the turkey!) Why not try inviting everyone at your thanksgiving dinner to draw a name and write a note of gratitude to that person!

As a church family, we are in the midst of making our financial commitments for 2022. This is a way that you can help the leadership of the church to make plans for next year, and to know how we can make sure there is financial support for our staff, activities and programs, and to make sure we have a place for APPLE preschool, and for worship and gatherings. We give to support the local church because we are able to do more together. We need everyone engaged, no matter how large or how small a gift you are able to give this next year.

It is not out of obligation that you are challenged to give to Central. It is about being grateful for how Central has been a part of your life, and how Central continues to seek to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that we are to be "cheerful givers" just as God cheerfully and lovingly has given us our many blessings. It is out of gratitude that we respond with the sharing of our resources.

I am so very thankful for this church family, for its continued ministry, and seeking to work together in living as Christ followers in this community. I am grateful for those new opportunities that we have to expand our support, and giving, as well as seeking to restart some activities and educational opportunities. All of these things can happen because of your generosity.

May this season be a time to express gratitude to God and to others. May you discover that, in fact, you do have enough, and in having enough, you can share of what you have with those who are least among us.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Ann Aichinger

Congregational Joys and Concerns...

Central Life

At Home: Bob and Becky Ingram and Bessie Kitts.

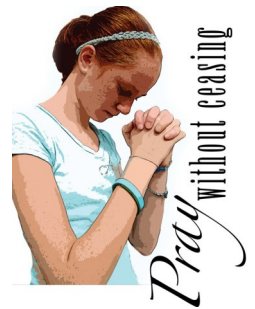
At Brookdale Bristol: Carol Duhaime, Jean Thomason, and Mary Kay English.

At Dominion Senior Care: Linda Wise

At Oakmont: Allen Vance and Dora Webb

Pastoral Concerns:

- ♦ Rich Williams is at home recovering from hernia surgery;
- ♦ Alice Owenby is recovering from surgery for an intestinal blockage;
- ♦ Jean Thomason has a bleeding ulcer, but is at Brookdale;
- ♦ Doris Crabtree continues to recover from retina surgery as well as other health concerns;
- ♦ Geoff Gilbert (Lynn Gilbert's step-son) had eye surgery to implant radiation treatment and will have surgery next week to remove the tumor.



Continued Prayers for:

Randy Broyles, Travis Campbell, Maxine Howell, Bob and Becky Ingram, Jim and Joan Keith, Dr. Darlene Litton, Mark McCord, Don Miller, Fred Osborne, Alice Owenby, Allen and Retta Vance, Dora Webb, Linda Wise, and Rev. Mike Weller.

Prayers for Family members:

- ♦ Beverly Bosch (Randy and Phyllis Morris' daughter) who is going through treatment for cancer
- ♦ Barbara Mann's brother who is completing radiation treatments soon.

We Extend Our 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

The family and friends of Eileen Long, who passed away on November 5, 2021 at her home. A family graveside service was held on November 6.

The family and friends of Jackie Dennison whose husband, Bill passed away on November 6, 2021 at home after a long illness. A service is to be announced, and Rev. Edwin Lacy (a cousin) will officiate.

Vickie Salyer, and family in the death of her sister-in-law from COVID.

Sandy Wilson, and family in the death of her uncle.

Memorials...

To the Memorial Fund in Memory of Carl Galliher, given by Nancy Neal, Ralph and Terri Davis, and Ann Aichinger

To the Memorial Fund in Memory of Robert Jones, Susan Willis, and Betty Keith, given by Jean Thomason.

To the Gutter Replacement Fund in Memory of High Wise, given by Nancy Kiser, Gary and Carolyn Selfe, BurWil Construction Co., Mary Lynn Barnes, Ann Aichinger, Dwight and Pam King, Joe and Janis Davis, Ralph and Terri Davis, and Bob and Melissa Turner.

To the Gutter Replacement Fund in Memory of Eileen Long, given by Eugene and Linda Waldron.

To the Memorial Fund in Memory of High Wise, given by Scott and Connie Bullock.

To the Memorial Fund in Memory of Eileen Long, given by Ann Aichinger and Ralph and Terri Davis.

To the Backpack Ministry in Honor of Mrs. Carol Griffith, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Binder, and Mrs. and Mrs. Thomas K. Norris, given by Archer Parsons.

To the Youth Scholarship in Memory of Erinn Hollo, given by Cathy White.

To the Memorial Fund in Memory of Rob Jones, given by Caroline Jones.



Thank you to everyone of Central for all the gifts, cards, notes and emails I received during October for Pastor Appreciation Month. Thank you to the Worship Committee who made a presentation on Sunday, October 31 of the lovely statue for my daily videos. I appreciate the kindness expressed, and the encouragement, as we move forward together in ministry. I am so honored to be your pastor, and to serve alongside of an amazing Session and wonderful church family.

*Grace and Peace,
Ann Aichinger*



Congratulations to Ada Ritchie for being chosen to serve on the Montreat Middle School Youth Conference planning team for 2023! Ada will be a part of the leadership of the conference in 2022, helping to shape and design the conference in 2023. Well done!

Thank You...

Operation Christmas Child...

Congratulations Central! Your support of the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry was outstanding. A total of 42 shoeboxes were collected and will be delivered to the drop off site. Your outpouring of love and generosity is going to bring great joy to many children across the globe. Please continue to pray for this ministry and the young recipients as our boxes begin to travel to their final destinations. Thank you so much for giving!



*Much Appreciation,
Mission and Outreach Committee*

Upcoming Sermons...

November 21	Christ the King Sunday	John 18:33-37; Psalm 93
November 28	The Gift of Awareness	Luke 21: 25-36
November 28	The Gift of Awareness	Luke 21: 25-36
December 5	The gift of a New Way of Life	Luke 3:1-6
December 12	The Gift of New Understanding	Luke 1:39-56
December 19	The Gift of Good News	Matthew 1:18-25
December 24	The Gift of Light in the World	John 1:1-18
December 26	The Gift of Great Joy	Luke 2:1-20
January 2	The Gifts We Pass to Others	Matthew 2:1-12



The session met on Tuesday, November 17, 2021 by Zoom. The following were actions taken:

- * Ann Aichinger will be away for Thanksgiving from Tuesday, November 23 through Friday, November 26.
- * Journey's End will be Tuesday, December 14, at 6:00 p.m. at the Bristol Mural/Farmer's Market.
- * January and February sermon Series and the Wednesday evening Bible Study time will focus on the eight habits of Evangelism: Radical Welcome, Justice, Worship, Sacraments, Fellowship, Generosity, Prayer, and Teaching.
- * Advent Devotional books will be available on Sunday, November 21 for pick up at worship.
- * Ann Aichinger expressed her appreciation for all the cards and emails and gifts throughout October for Pastoral Appreciation month.
- * Sheree Taylor shared about the November 11 Presbytery meeting in Wytheville.
- * Received the resignation of Trish James as Kitchen Coordinator. We are looking for someone to fill this position (part-time.)

Session approved:

- * The hiring Michelle Blankenship as Director of APPLE Preschool, and 6 staff members;
- * The Contemporary Issues Adult Sunday School Class book for study: *Reparations: A Christian Call for Repentance and Repair* by [Duke L. Kwon](#) and [Gregory Thompson](#);
- * A Caroling event on Sunday, December 12, at 4:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome;
- * Return to Wednesday night dinner and program beginning on January 5, 2022 from 5:30-7:00 p.m.;
- * Resume to two Sunday worship services beginning on November 28 (first Sunday of Advent.) Central Hall service will be at 9:00 a.m.; the Sanctuary service will be at 11:00 a.m. There will be a sign in/contact list, requirement of wearing masks and social distancing, and offering plates will not be passed;
- * A Blue Christmas service on Monday, December 20 at 7:00 p.m. in Central Hall for those who are mourning, and to care for those who have experienced grief recently;
- * Christmas Eve services to be December 24, at 5:00 p.m. in Central Hall and 7:00p.m. in the Sanctuary with Communion;
- * The purchase of 2 new wireless microphones for the Sanctuary and microphones for Central Hall so we will be in compliance with Federal guidelines, and to replace a broken speaker in the Sanctuary (choir area);
- * Upgrading our Vimeo subscription to permit live streaming in addition to prerecorded videos;
- * Having poinsettias given in memory/honor as a part of Advent and Christmas season;
- * Having one worship service on **Sunday, December 26 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Sanctuary;
- * Allowing outside groups to have refreshments while in the building for meetings.

The next session meeting will be on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom.



Calendar for November 17 - December 1, 2021

Wednesday, November 17	12:00 Noon	Central Life
	5:30 p.m.	M.S. Zoom
	6:00 p.m.	H.S. Zoom
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study Psalm 23
Thursday, November 18	9:00 a.m.	Backpacks
Sunday, November 21	10:00 a.m.	Worship in Central Hall
		ONLINE Worship
		Children's Home Offering
	3:00 p.m.	Christmas decorating of the church
	3:00-4:30 p.m.	M.S. Youth at Church
	4:30-6:00 p.m.	H.S. Youth at Church
Monday, November 22	9:00 a.m.	Backpacks
Thursday, November 25	OFFICE CLOSED - HAPPY THANKSGIVING	
Friday, November 26	OFFICE CLOSED	
Sunday, November 28	9:00 a.m.	Worship - Central Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship - Sanctuary
	3:00-5:00 p.m.	Advent Workshop at the Church
		This is an outdoor event - dress warm
Tuesday, November 30	6:00 p.m.	APPLE Committee
Wednesday, December 1	5:30-6:00 p.m.	Youth - M.S. Zoom
	6:00-6:30 p.m.	Youth - H.S. Zoom
Thursday, December 2	9:00 a.m.	Backpacks – Central Hall
	10:30 a.m.	Meals on Wheels Delivery
	4:00 p.m.	Care & Concern Meeting
Friday, December 3	6:00-8:00 p.m.	Parents Night Out at church - Youth Fundraiser
Sunday, December 5	9:00 a.m.	Worship – Central Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship—Sanctuary
		No Youth
	5:00 p.m.	Wild Goose Christian Community Worship
		First Presbyterian Church, Bristol, TN
Wednesday, December 8	12:00 p.m. Noon	Central Life
	5:30-6:00 p.m.	Youth - M.S. Zoom
	6:00-6:30 p.m.	Youth - H.S. Zoom

Thanksgiving Offering For the Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands...

Our annual Thanksgiving Offering goes to PCHH. You can contribute to this offering by giving to the church and marking your gift **PCHH**, or you can go to the website and make a donation directly to PCHH at (<https://www.pchh.org/donate-online>)

Visit the website for more information about this vital ministry for children and youth in need of a place to belong and call home.

Christmas Decorating at the Church...

Come join with putting up Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary and Central Hall and around the church on **Sunday, November 21 at 3:00 p.m.** We need help bringing up the Chrismon trees and setting them up, and then putting out the other decorations. If you are interested in helping, please talk to John Dodge or Patty Caldwell. The more we have to help, the easier it is in doing this task.



Bristol Clothes Closet...

The Bristol Clothes Closet, which gives away donated clothing and household items, is in need of good used sheet sets and towels of all sizes. The Closet is located in the same building as the Bristol Emergency Food Pantry and is part of the Ministry Mall there. You may leave any donations at the church, placing them in or beside the Food Pantry barrels near the office.



Drivers Needed...

We are needing bus drivers for the church bus. It is not hard to do, but we are needing several more able drivers on Sunday mornings. As we are having several from Brookdale interested in attending worship, we offer this service. Requirements are a valid driver's license, willing to have a background check, and under the age of 75. We will provide training in learning how to drive it as well as how to operate the handicap platform that allows those in wheelchairs to be on board. Please talk to David White or Wes Ritchie, or call the church office if you are interested in signing up. Thank you.

Congregational Lunch...



Lunch group is going to Mellow Mushroom on Sunday, Dec 12, 12:30 p.m.

Our first time doing lunch after worship was a great time with good food and good fellowship. The Evangelism Committee wants to do this once a month and invites everyone to join them for a nice time after worship. On Sunday, December 12, at 12:30 p.m. we will meet at Mellow Mushroom at Exit 7. This is a chance to be together, but also to invite friends to join us (even if they are not a part of the church family.)

If you plan to gather with us, please call the church office to RSVP by Friday, November 19. See you there!

Angel Tree with Salvation Army...

This year we will have 20 children to purchase gifts for through the Bristol Salvation Army. There will be 12 boys and 8 girls. The angel tags will be available at the church on Sunday, November 21 for pick up. You will need to give contact information when you choose a child. You are asked to purchase for that child what is indicated on the tag, which usually includes an outfit and shoes, and possibly a coat, and then a toy or two. Please leave all gifts unwrapped and put in one bag and attach the Angel tag.

Return your gifts to the church by **Wednesday, December 8** so they can be delivered to the Salvation Army where they will be given to families for the children. If you have any questions, please talk to Sheree Taylor.





Two Sunday Worship Services **Starting on November 28** **9:00 a.m. Central Hall** **11:00 a.m. Sanctuary**

We will be returning to two Sunday morning worship services on Sunday, November 28. We will begin the 9:00 a.m. service in Central Hall with the Praise band leading music. The 11:00 a.m. service will be in the Sanctuary with the Sanctuary choir leading the music. The Nursery will be available at both services as well as a Children's time. We will continue to offer the pre-recorded worship for those who are unable to attend in-person. It is a great way to stay connected even online (www.CentralPresBristol.org.)

We hope everyone will begin making the move back into community and be a part of the worshipping group here at Central. It is good when the people of God come together for worship, singing, prayers and fellowship. Start the new Church year by starting back to worship.

Poinsettias for Christmas...



Poinsettias are associated with Christmas which began in 16th-century Mexico, where legend tells of a girl, commonly called Pepita, or María, who was too poor to provide a gift for the celebration of Jesus' birthday. She was inspired by an angel to gather weeds from the roadside and place them in front of the church altar. Crimson blossoms sprouted from the weeds and became poinsettias. Since the 17th century, Franciscan friars in Mexico have included the plants in their Christmas celebrations. The star-shaped leaf pattern is said to symbolize the Star of Bethlehem, and the red color represents the blood sacrifice of Jesus' crucifixion.

This year, you are invited to order poinsettias as a part of the decorations for the church during Advent and into Christmas. The poinsettias are \$10 each, and you can give them in honor, or in memory of someone, and those persons will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. The order forms are available in the office or in the church. You are invited to take your poinsettia home on Sunday, January 2 after worship.

Parents Night Out...

"**Parents Night Out**" is a fundraiser for our Youth Group here at Central. On Friday, December 3 from 6:00-8:00 p.m., our youth will offer an opportunity for parents to drop off their children and then go enjoy a 2-hour shopping excursion, go home and clean the house, or just catch up on sleep in the parking lot! However you want to spend your 2-hours, our youth will be here to help. A \$15.00 donation is requested for this fundraiser but is not required.

Please RSVP to josierussell@gmail.com if you are planning to participate. Thank you for your support.



Thank you, Trish James!!

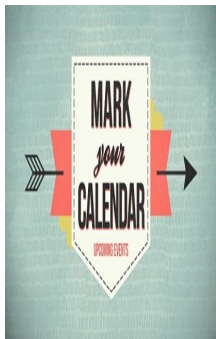
Trish James has submitted her resignation as Kitchen Coordinator, and the Session accepted it at the November meeting. She is stepping down but plans to continue to help volunteer as needed in the kitchen. We are deeply appreciative of the many years that Trish has served by providing wonderful meals, and delicious desserts, and coordinating fellowship dinners and picnics.

Help Wanted

Now, we are looking for someone who might be interested in at least cooking for the Wednesday night dinners starting in January, 2022. We are hoping to have something easy each week for dinner. If you know of someone who might be interested in becoming our kitchen coordinator and cook, please have that person send a resume to the church office by email (office.cpc@bvuv.net) or mail it to the office. We know many of you have contacts in the community, and we hope to find someone soon for this part-time position.

Wild Goose Worshiping Community is coming to Bristol!

The Wild Goose Christian Community is bringing their worship style to Bristol. Central has been invited to be a part of this fellowship on **Sunday, December 5, at 5:00 p.m.** at the First Presbyterian Church, Bristol, TN, in the fellowship hall. The Wild Goose Christian Community is under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Grace Kim, and they are hoping to bring the Wild Goose experience to Bristol several times in the next year. This is a great way to support this ministry of Abingdon Presbytery, and also to experience this contemplative, interactive style of worship. So mark your calendar now and join them for worship.



Sunday, November 21 at 3:00 p.m. Putting up our Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary and Central Hall, and around the church as well as bringing and setting the Christmas trees up. If you are interested in helping, please talk to John Dodge or Patty Caldwell. The more the merrier!

Sunday, November 28 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Advent Workshop and Christmas Ornaments (this is an outside event so dress warmly!)

Friday, December 3 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Parent's Night Out Youth Fundraiser (drop the kids off; You have 2 hours to do what you need to take care of!) Donations will be accepted.)

Tuesday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m. Journey's End in downtown Bristol
great event for the whole family!

Miniature Nativities

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.



Nativities are available for purchase in the church office. You may purchase and take your Nativity with you. Please complete the order form and return with your payment to Lynn Gilbert.

December Birthdays



Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

Rob Hollo	1
Carol Duhaime	1
Terry Eckley	2
Harper Lewis	2
Madison Campbell	2
Kit Jackson	2
Lauren Calloway	4
Jack Wagner	5
Colby Vaughn	5
Joan Keith	6
Callie Eckley	7
Jean Thomason	9

Bernice Hagaman	11
Robert Campbelle	11
Sandy Wilson	16
Travis Campbell	16
Allen Harris	18
Mike Barnes	20
Brody Campbell	20
Nancy Norman	21
Merrie McInnis	25
Archer Parsons	26
Barret Blevins	30
Cathy Moss	31

Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

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331 Euclid Avenue
Bristol, VA 24201-4013
Phone: 276-669-3157
E-mail: office.cpc@bvuv.net
www.CentralPresBristol.org

CENTRAL LIFE

How to Keep in Touch:

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 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
331 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	ann.cpc@bvuv.net
Robert Campbelle, Music Director	robertcampbelle@gmail.com
Joy Smith-Briggs, Organist	gjbjoyb@btes.tv
Josie Russell, Youth & Young Adult Dir.	josieannrussell@gmail.com
Lynn Gilbert, Admin. Asst. Newsletter Editor	office.cpc@bvuv.net
Mary Moffatt, Finance Director	finance.cpc@bvuv.net
Michelle Blankenship Dir. of APPLE Academy	applepreschool@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday - Friday.

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.

