

CENTRAL LIFE

Central Presbyterian Church
June 1, 2022



Reflections From a Rocking Chair

I love Pentecost! It is one of those holidays for the church that Hallmark has not gotten a hold of, nor has it become an advertising event where candy companies make more money. The day of Pentecost is 50 days after Easter. It is the day that the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and created this new community called the Church.

The story of Pentecost is told in the book of Acts of the Apostles. People from all over the world had come to Jerusalem for a Jewish harvest holiday called Shavot, or Festival of Weeks. This was an annual festi-
val celebrated seven weeks and one day after the first day of Passover (the Feast of Unleavened Bread.) The people who came spoke a variety of languages and yet were there to celebrate together. When the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus' disciples, they began speaking in a variety of languages and began speaking the Good News. Suddenly, these visitors to Jerusalem could hear the Gospel in their own language. The crowds saw something very strange and unusual going on, and tried to figure out what was happening. They gave all kinds of excuses for this event, yet it is Peter who realizes what is happening and explains about who Jesus is and that this was the coming of the Spirit as Jesus had said.

Thus, a new faith community began. It is considered the third part of the Biblical story, where now the people who follow Jesus are to go and share what they know and believe. Over the history of the church, there have been great successes and great failures in this venture. But the amazing thing is that the church continues, even through the very difficult times of history. For this community of people is guided by the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is on the loose, opening doors and hearts for people to hear the good news! Even in our own day, we see the work of the Spirit in how people are called to care for one another in the midst of tragedy and suffering. We see how the Spirit is making small changes, even in us. Over these last 26 months, Central Presbyterian has had to change the way we do things. We have had to learn how to reach out using technology in order to connect with each other. We have had to examine who we are in this new time and learn how to do new things. Our learning time is not over; the Spirit is inviting us to continue to learn new ways of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in the world.

I think we are in an "extraordinary" time where the Spirit is offering new life and new ways of being the Church and it is up to us to embrace these new ideas and ways. Some ventures will work well, and others will fail miserably. But that should not cause us to quit. For Christ is calling the Church to continue to be at work, living the new life we know in him.

During these summer months, as you are out traveling or being with family and friends, or as you go to events, be on the lookout for how the Spirit is calling you to share the Good News. Not so much with your words, but in how you live and how you treat others around you. Our message is that God is a God of love and acceptance, that God's grace is extended to all, and all are welcomed into this community of faith, the Church.

Grace and peace,
Ann

At Home: Bob and Becky Ingram and Bessie Kitts.

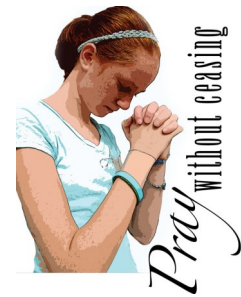
At Brookdale Bristol: Jean Thomason, Mary Kay English, and Diane Abbey.

At Dominion Senior Care: Linda Wise

At Oakmont: Allen Vance

Pastoral Concerns:

- ◆ Phyllis Morris as she continues to deal with health concerns;
- ◆ Don Miller is in hospice care;
- ◆ Allen Harris's father, Bobby.



Continued Prayers for:

Randy Broyles, Travis Campbell, Bob and Becky Ingram, Jim & Joan Keith, Darlene Litton, Mark McCord, Don Miller, Alice Owenby, Ed Updyke, Allen & Retta Vance, Linda Wise, Mike Weller.

Prayers for Family Members and Friends:

Beverly Bosch (Randy and Phyllis Morris' daughter); Orion Callison, III, son of Peggy Callison; Cathy White's father, Roy; Kimberly Fields and Mary Ann Bevins, dear friends of Vicki Myers.

Please call the church office (276-669-3157) with any pastoral concerns, and please feel free to contact Ann Aichinger or any of the Elders through email, Facebook, or by phone. (Please help the church office keep this list up to date and accurate. Please contact the church office to add or remove names from this list. Thank you!)

Memorials...

*"Blessed are those who die in the Lord; they will rest from their labors and their deeds will follow them."
Revelation 14:13*

*To the Memorial Fund in Memory of Rosie Ward,
given by Nancy Kiser.*



Upcoming Sermons...

June 5	Responding to the Spirit	Acts 2:1-21, Romans 8:14-17
June 12	Guest Preacher: Katherine Campbell	
June 19	Sowing Seeds in all Seasons	Luke 8:4-8, 11-15
June 26	Where Life is Lived	Luke 9: 37-43, 46-48
July 3	Living into our Freedom	John 8: 31-33, 36; Gal 5:1, 13-15



We would like to thank **Sumer Lowry** for all of her hard work and dedication in making the Wednesday Night Fellowship dinners and Sunday luncheons such a wonderful success! Every week we looked forward to a new culinary delight, and the Central family is blessed and fortunate to have Lowry as a member of our outreach. Thank you, Sumer, for a job well done...we look forward to many more!

Gardening Club...

The Gardening Group has set the next work date for Thursday, June 9. We will start at 9:00 a.m. but anyone is welcome to come earlier or even on another day. Two of the main work areas are the corner bed at Euclid & Sutherlin (pulling weeds) and the one by the driveway to the upper parking lot (pulling weeds but leaving the English ivy for now) as well as some brush clearing. We will plan to stay until it gets too hot or until lunch time, whichever comes first! We will have a short devotion and snack at the mid-morning break time. Everyone is welcome to come for a short or longer time and join us.



Bristol Faith in Action is in dire need of food for the pantry. With the decrease in government benefits that were so ample during the pandemic, food scarcity is now a major concern for many as indicated by our suddenly depleted pantry.

We have plenty of pasta, but need sauces and all other food items. Cleaning supplies and personal care items are always in demand, and while always appreciated, our main mission and current need is food. Our shelves have not been this bare in a few years. We still have an abundant supply of diapers and wipes for babies thanks to a grantor. We also have incontinence supplies for adults if you know of anyone in need of these.

We express our deepest thanks for all of the donations and funding you all send in. We cannot survive without you. Our churches remain our main source of revenue to operate, and we are so pleased to be an arm of your ministries! Always come visit and see first hand how the Holy Spirit works at Bristol Faith in Action. We would love to have you anytime.

Hoping all is well with all of our member churches! Please let us know if we can help!

Church Security...

Over the last few months, doors have been found to be either left open or unlocked. We ask that everyone help us with this issue, and make sure that doors close behind you and that you keep an eye out for anyone and anything that seems suspicious to you. The main church alarm will be re-engaged after worship on Sunday afternoons and over the weekend, as well as turned on earlier in the evenings after groups have left the building. So, please be aware that you need to check the alarm if there are no cars in the parking lot.

Thank you for keeping our beautiful church safe!

Sunday, June 5 , 10:00 a.m.

Celebration of Pentecost



Please wear **Red** as a symbol of the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost is the celebration of the giving of the Holy Spirit and the creation of the church, which is the Body of Christ on earth. So, it is in fact the birthday of the Church. After Jesus rose from the dead on Easter, he spent 40 days with his disciples and followers. Then he ascended into heaven. But before Jesus left them, he told them that the Spirit would come upon them and then they were to go and be witnesses of what they had heard and seen.

We will gather in the Sanctuary this Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for Pentecost, and you are invited to wear something **RED**. Red is the symbol of the Holy Spirit which comes in the form of fire. Fire is an earthly element that is all consuming, and changes whatever it touches. The Spirit is the same in that it changes whatever it touches. We will begin a sermon series of *Life in the Spirit* and the changes that are made in us as a church, and in our world, as the Spirit lives among us.

Sunnyside Communities...



Sunnyside Communities was founded as a Presbyterian Ministry of the Historic Synod of the Virginias in 1912, and serves more than 800 older adults in our three retirement communities; *Sunnyside in Harrisonburg*, *Summit Square in Waynesboro*, and *King's Grant in Martinsville*. This year, Sunnyside Communities, a Presbyterian ministry is celebrating its **110th Anniversary** of providing financial support to our residents that have outlived their resources.

As we approach summer, our Mother's Day/Father's Day Annual Offering supports our Fellowship Fund and provides financial and personal resources for residents who can no longer fully pay for their care. In most cases, these residents have no other means of support and often no family.

Over the next few weeks, you are all invited to share your gifts and resources in this annual offering to the Sunnyside Communities Fellowship Fund at:

Sunnyside Communities, Attn: Fellowship Fund
600 University Blvd., Suite L
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Musician Needed...

Wanted: Piano/Keyboard player for the Contemporary Worship Service

We are needing a keyboard player for the Contemporary Worship. The band rehearses an hour before the worship time, but all the music is distributed earlier in the week. If you are able and willing, or know someone who might be interested, please have them contact one of the band members (Josie Russell, Jack Wagner, Jay Hall, Savannah McCord or Ann Aichinger.)

The following people were elected on Sunday, May 22, 2022 to the Session Class of 2025. Be sure to thank them for their willingness to serve as leaders for our congregation.

John Barker, Christy Blevins, Doris Hall, Gale Thompson, and David White.

Thank you to our 2022 Nominating Committee, Session members Sandy Wilson and Missy McCord, Diane Abbey, Barbara Mann, Whit Morison, Barbara Oakley, and Ada Ritchie, who worked hard in securing this new 2025 class.

Calendar for June 1-22, 2022



Wednesday, June 1	APPLE Summer School Begins	
Thursday, June 2	10: 30 a.m.	Meals on Wheels food delivery
	12:00 Noon	Central Life published
	4:00 p.m.	Care and Concern Meets
Sunday, June 5	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School class
	10:00 a.m.	Communion Worship – Sanctuary (Pentecost Offering)
	1:30 p.m.	Youth gather to go to Montreat
Wednesday, June 8	12:00 Noon	Finance Committee Meets
	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Practice
Thursday, June 9	9:00 a.m.	Gardening Group Meets at church
Saturday, June 11	12:00 Noon	Youth return from Montreat
Sunday, June 12	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school
	10:00 a.m.	Worship - Central Hall
Monday, June 13	6:00 p.m.	Embroidery Club Board Meets
Wednesday, June 15	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Practice
Sunday, June 19	HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!	
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school
	10:00 a.m.	Worship - Central Hall (Sunnyside Offering)
	5:30 p.m.	Vacation Bible School
Monday, June 20	5:30 p.m.	Vacation Bible School Begins
Tuesday, June 21	12:00 Noon	Staff Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Vacation Bible School Ends
	7:45 p.m.	Session Meets
Wednesday, June 22	12:00 Noon	Central Life Published

Montreat Youth Conference, June 5-11



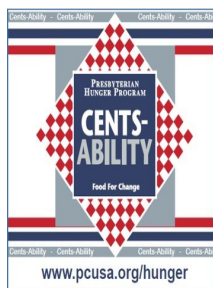
This year's theme is **More than Enough**, and we will be looking at how we are called to live into the abundance offered by God. Because our culture is overwhelmed with messages of scarcity and criticism and our problems can seem insurmountable, we often struggle to feel adequate for the tasks demanded of us and the lives we are called to lead.

We will be looking at stories from the Bible where there was a fear of scarcity and how God provided. From the manna discovered in the desert by the Israelites to the feast of loaves and fish received by hungry followers of Jesus, we will explore how God has always provided, not only what we need to survive but the great abundance needed to thrive.

There will be a morning keynote to present the daily theme, and then youth will divide up into small groups for in-depth Bible Study. There will be opportunities for recreation with all attendees and then an evening worship. We will be living together at Trevor's Retreat house, and getting to know one another better.

This year, we have 7 attending the Montreat Youth Conference Week. Our High School youth are Lee Jones, Ada Ritchie, Maddie Harris, Callie Eckley, and Kenzie Starling (college student) who will be serving on the Recreation Work Crew. Josie Russell and Ann Aichinger will be the adult chaperones.

Please keep this group in your prayers this week as they go and experience the love of God in a big group setting, and then return to help us learn to trust in God's provision for our lives.



Cents-Ability Offering (formerly known as Five Cents a Meal Offering)

Over the years, as a church family, we have been engaged in helping those who are in need of food. We participate with the Bristol Emergency Food Pantry by offering canned and dry goods as well as financial support. But we have also participated in the PCUSA Hunger program through the *Cents-Ability Offering* (formerly known as Five Cents a Meal Program.) This is an opportunity for everyone of all ages to participate in sharing from our abundance with those who are in need.

Cents-Ability originated in 1976 as *Two-Cents-A-Meal*, a project begun by Presbyterian Women to involve individuals and families in a corporate response to world hunger. Over the years, presbyteries have developed similar programs entitled *Pennies for Hunger*, *Nickle a Meal*, etc. Many of these programs benefit local hunger ministries as well as the national and international projects of the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP.)

Cents-Ability is a small first step in the battle against hunger and poverty. Everyone is invited to contribute a few cents at every meal. This simple act is an expression of thanksgiving for what we have received. It is also a commitment to share with others in response to Jesus' command, "You give them something to eat." You are invited to consider giving at least five cents-a-meal which if you eat three meals a day for a month totals \$4.50. For a family of four that would be \$18 for a month. These small acts of faithfulness can add up. By doing this as a church family we can make a difference, and this is an opportunity for all of us to remember to give thanks for all that God has given us.

On the first Sundays of the month, there will be blue buckets available for you to drop in your coins and offering. Of course, you can give by check or cash or make a gift online for the hunger offering. So, check out your coin jars and let's make a difference in our world---together.

We are now able to live-stream worship in both Central Hall and in the Sanctuary. It has taken a while to get to this place, but with the work of a great team, they have achieved it. Thank you to Josie Russell, Jack Wagner, Lee Budd, John Dodge, Rich Williams, and Ed Updyke for their work on this. Others involved have been Steve Clark, Robert Campbelle and Mike Vollmer.

Hopefully, each week, we will be able to broadcast the worship service and you can join us. (Please understand that sometimes the WiFi is weak or we lose connection, but we will do all that we can to remedy the situation.) If you are unable to attend worship in person, join us online LIVE. Go to the Central Presbyterian Church Bristol Facebook page (Facebook/cpcbristol) at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays and you can participate with us. The bulletin is uploaded to the website each week to (www.CentralPresBristol.org) so you can access the liturgy and announcements.

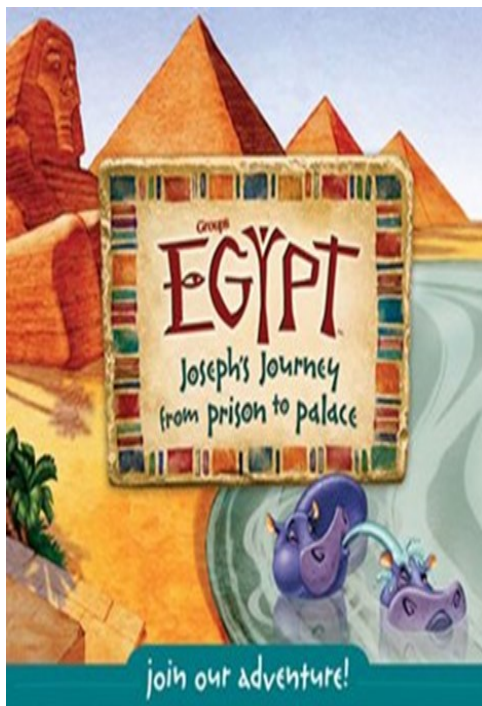
We will also offer the pre-recorded option most weeks. You can check those out on Ann Aichinger's Facebook page, the Central Presbyterian Church Facebook page, or the website. This worship service is shortened a bit, but offers those who are interested in joining us convenient times to do so. In addition, we are recording the live service and it is posted on the church website later in the afternoon on Sunday. There are all kinds of options for you and your family to connect with the church family, and another way for YOU to share Central with your family and friends.

Several weeks ago, we got word that Lebanon Presbyterian Church joined us by live-stream on a Sunday when they did not have a preacher. This offered them the opportunity to connect with us and we with them. It is a new way that we can expand the witness of the church and include one another, and has led the Presbytery to offer links to all churches who are live-streaming each Sunday so that we can strengthen our bonds with one another through worship.

Vacation Bible School Is COMING!

June 19-21, 2022 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Theme: Egypt, and the Stories of Joseph



This year, during three nights of Vacation Bible School, our children will be adventuring into Egypt and learning the stories of Joseph. We will learn about this boy who was given a fancy coat by his father, and then out of jealousy by his brothers, sold into slavery and taken to Egypt. While in Egypt, Joseph had many experiences including being thrown in prison for something he did not do, and he was also able to help explain Pharaoh's dreams. Through it all, Joseph saw how God was at work. In the end, Joseph is able to reunite with his family again, and bring them to Egypt where they prospered and thrived.

We will be having time for music and storytelling, arts and crafts and recreation or mission. Children aged 3 years - 5th grade will be a part of learning groups. Our youth will be invited to help with leading and assisting in classrooms. The adults who are not a part of the children's program will be able to have a discussion with Ann Aichinger in looking at the stories of Joseph and what we can learn from them today.

Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. and we will conclude at 7:30 p.m. There will be nursery for children under 3 years.

Bring your friends, and let's journey to Egypt. You do NOT want to miss out!

331 Euclid Avenue
Bristol, VA 24201-4013
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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.



How to contact us:

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Josie Russell, Youth & Young Adult Dir. Social Media Coordinator	josieannrussell@gmail.com
Lynn Gilbert, Admin. Asst. Newsletter Editor	office.cpc@bvuv.net
Mary Moffatt, Finance Director	finance.cpc@bvuv.net
Sumer Lowry, Kitchen Coordinator	sumerlowry83@gmail.com
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.

