



CENTRAL LIFE

**Central Presbyterian Church
October 20, 2022**

Reflections from a Rocking Chair

When you hear the word STEWARDSHIP, what comes to mind? Money? The church's time to ask for money or pledges for the next year? A time of budgeting and figuring out what each of us will give to the Lord for the work of the church and in service to Christ? It is easy to always think that the church is always asking for money, but without money, many of the ministries and the work that we do could not happen.

Yet how we spend our money is where we place our priorities. Martin Luther, the German reformer of the 1500s said, "People go through three conversions: The conversion of their head, their heart, and their pocketbook. Unfortunately, not all at the same time." How very true. Our head and heart can be converted to following Jesus, but it takes time and hard work to allow our money to follow the way of Christ. We decide to hold back just in case something happens. We become fearful that there might not be enough. But in Scripture we hear the message of giving to God our very best; to give to the Lord and the work of the Lord from our first fruits. To decide early on how we will make decisions about how we spend our money and how we will use the resources that God has given us.

I know as a teenager when I was babysitting most weekends, I made a lot of money. (Know that in the 1970s babysitters got about 50 cents an hour, though I did have a few regular families that paid \$1 an hour.) But it was in those days that I was taught by my parents how to give to God from what I had made—to give a tithe of my earnings. No, it would not have been a lot, but it was a practice that I was given to develop that still impacts me to this day. I remember a season in my life when I was angry at the church and felt like I was "poor." I chose not to give to the work of the church for about a year. Though I had that little bit extra available, my life was harder and it seemed that I was more focused on keeping my money rather than sharing it and allowing God to use it. The following year, I made a pledge and it helped me to understand what it meant to offer to God our best. That led me to offer not only my money, but to consider how I spent my time and my abilities in working for God's kingdom.

Stewardship is not just a season in the life of the church, but stewardship is how we are to live our everyday living. Stewardship is about how we manage responsibly the gifts that God has given us, and is about acknowledging God as a generous God to us. So, as we are in a time of Stewardship and yes, as we are preparing for Commitment Sunday which will be November 13, I invite you to prayerfully consider how God is challenging you to give to the work of God in this world through the work of Central Presbyterian Church. This includes your treasure (financial gifts) as well as how you will share of your time and your abilities. As you receive more information about Central and the leadership's hopes and plans for next year, we want everyone to come with us in this work. By traveling together in faith, we discover how God's blessings and God's abundance overflows from us into the world.

Make plans now to join us on **Sunday, November 13, at 10 a.m.** in the Sanctuary for worship as we celebrate God's goodness and abundance by offering our 2023 commitment cards, and then in time of fellowship as we share lunch in Central Hall. Watch for more details about this in the next newsletter.

Central is a wonderful church, and our hopes are to continue the many ministries and missions we already participate in as well as to add some new opportunities for service and for sharing the Good news.

Grace and peace,

Ann Aichinger



Don't forget that the 1st Sunday of each month, when we have communion, we also receive the 5 cents a meal offering. This goes to help hungry people locally, nationally, and globally through the PCUSA. Our own Backpack program has received much needed funds from Abingdon Presbytery through a 5 cents a meal grant.



Join us for the weekly Wednesday supper and program!

Kids will join their friends for Wednesday Night Kids Club with music and fun activities.

Upcoming programs and menus:

October 26: Practicing Generosity: Share Justice

Baked Ziti, French bread, salad, & dessert

November 2: Practicing Generosity: Share Power

Chicken Cordon Bleu casserole, salad, & dessert

November 9: Practicing Generosity Everyday

November 16: Being Thankful

SWEET OPPORTUNITIES...

APPLE Academy will be having Trick or Treating at the church on **Monday, Oct 31, 9:45-10:15 a.m.** If you would like to have a place at the church for the children to come by for some candy, please email Ann Aichinger at ann.cpc@bvu.net or Michelle Blankenship (APPLE Director) at appleschool@yahoo.com.

As we prepare for our Halloween **candy give away on Euclid**, you are invited to join us on Monday, October 31, from 4:30-7 p.m. to meet our neighbors. We also ask for any donation of candy, school supplies or other small items to give out on that night. You can drop your donations off in the office.



Youth Group

Wednesday, October 19th

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
dinner and activities at the church

Sunday, October 23rd

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
activities at the church

Wednesday, October 26th

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
dinner and activities at the church

Sunday, October 30th

2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
making candy goody bags at the church for Trick-or Treat

Monday, October 31st

4:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (drop in whenever you can/want)
Distributing candy on Euclid Avenue to Trick-or-Treaters



Save the Date-Parents Night Out!

Friday, December 2nd 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Fundraiser for Youth Group-Donations Encouraged (\$5/child)

Enjoy an evening of adult time, naptime, shopping time, dinnertime, or whatever you need while the youth group (plus Josie and Ann) entertain your kiddos at the church! Pre-registration is requested, but not required. Please e-mail Josie at josiannrussell@gmail.com to register.



Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are due to the church by November 13. You can pick up a shoe box in the entry area. The tag and list of items are in the box, and you can fill the box and put a rubber band around it to close it. Please attach the tag on the outside of the box, and include \$10 for shipping (checks can be made to Central Presbyterian Church memo: Shoeboxes). If you have any questions, please talk to Sheree Taylor or Carolynn Anderson.

Session Notes

The Session met on Tuesday, October 18, at 7 p.m. in the Session Room with a zoom option for those unable to attend in person.

- * Wes Ritchie gave the devotional and opening prayer.
- * John Barker and Ann Aichinger shared about the first meeting in Montreat for the Thriving Communities Cohort.
- * The Session shared their thoughts on strengths of Central and opportunities for ministry and growth. This question came from the Sabbatical Team as they are working on writing the grant to the Lilly Foundation.
- * Ann Aichinger shared her pastor's report and highlighted a few things in the church calendar.
- * Abingdon Presbytery will be meeting at Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church, Abingdon on Thursday, November 10, 8:30 a.m. registration, with the meeting to start at 9:00 a.m. with worship. Our representative to that meeting is Patty Caldwell
- * The Session gave Ann Aichinger a lovely card and a potted plant as a part of Pastor Appreciation Month as well as making a donation to the Wild Goose Community in her honor.
- * We received verbal updates from the committees as well as pastoral updates.

The session took action on the following items:

- * Approved the newly hired staff for APPLE Academy;
- * Approved the Advent book, *The Greatest Gift*, by Ann Voskamp, to be studied in the Small Dining Room Adult Sunday School Class;
- * Approved the fundraiser of selling the miniature nativities again this November and December;
- * Approved the Stewardship season plan, and to have Commitment Sunday on November 13, with one worship service at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary and a luncheon afterwards in Central Hall;
- * Approved the revised Mission Statement for Central Presbyterian Church as presented by the Sabbatical Team;

Missy McCord closed the meeting with prayer.

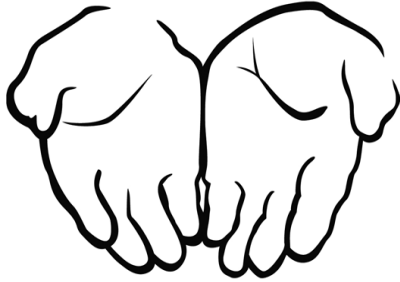


October is Pastor Appreciation Month. We are so thankful for the service of Pastor Ann at Central Presbyterian Church. To show our appreciation, the session recognized her at their October stated meeting and will make a contribution to the Wild Goose Ministry in her honor. If you would like to join the session in showing your appreciation by also contributing to this fund, or a fund of your choice, please send to the church office by October 31.

Thank you Ann for all you do for Central.

Stewardship

A Way of Life



Upcoming Sermons and Plans

October 23:	<i>Give in Proportion as Given</i> Proverbs 3:5-10; Deut 16:16b-17
October 30:	<i>God loves a Cheerful giver/Giving as an act of worship of our God</i> 2 Corinthians 9:1-15
November 6:	<i>Sharing in the Feast of Stewardship</i> James 1:5; Leviticus 23:15-16 (Feast of First Fruits)
November 13:	COMMITMENT SUNDAY == One Worship Service: 10 a.m. Celebrating God's blessing through our giving and sharing Lunch afterwards in Central Hall
November 20:	Thanksgiving Sunday/ Christ the King Sunday

Kroger Rewards

Kroger offers a Community Rewards Program. Central Presbyterian receives money when any Rewards Card is used. The money the church receives goes toward the purchase of meals for our Backpack Ministry. You can help increase the amount of money received by signing up on the Kroger website.

- Create a digital account at www.kroger.com under the “sign in” tab. To create an account, you will give your name and your Rewards Card number. This is where you will link your rewards card to the program. If you already have an account, follow the next instructions.
- Go to the bottom of the home page on the web site that says, “Kroger Community Rewards”.
- You can search for CPC or enter our code UG667.
- Enter the code or name of the organization.
- Click “Save”
- Your selected organization will also display in the Kroger Community Rewards section of your account.

Any transactions using your Rewards Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to your chosen organization, at no added cost to you. Kroger donates a percentage of your spending to CPC.

If you have questions, please call Janis Davis 423-574-1202.

November Birthdays

Central Life



Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

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Nancy Kiser	1	Nicholas Fuller	18
Verle Sutphin	1	Josie Russell	19
Tyler Wycoff	4	Nancy Arnold	21
Danny Clark	7	Finley Sims	21
Phyllis Morris	8	Terri Davis	22
Rob Blanton	10	Debbie Wagner	22
Terri Surber	15	Harper Ellis	24
Clayton Kiser	16	John Dodge	25
Mark McCord	17	Kenzie Starling	26
Mackenzie Self	17	Vickie Clark	28
Avery Herold	18	Kelly McBride	30
Christa Anderson	18		

Happy birthday!

Happy birthday!

New Mission and Vision Statement for Central Presbyterian Church

Who is Central Presbyterian? What defines us as a church and community of faith? What kinds of terms or words come to mind when you think of Central? How do we want to be known in the community and world as a church? These questions are being asked by the Sabbatical Team as well as the Thriving Communities team. But as we have come out of COVID pandemic, the leadership has realized that so much has changed and we need to reclaim and redefine who we are as a church.

As a part of the work of the Sabbatical Team in preparing to write the grant for 2024 Sabbatical time, one aspect that needed to be revisited was the Mission and Vision Statement for Central. The team consisting of John Barker, John Dodge, Sheree Taylor, Tim Landis, Marguerite Buckley, Donnie Spurell and Ann Aichinger worked from the previous mission and vision statement which was written in 2014 during the interim time. After a good work session and considering the wording carefully, the following was approved by the Session on Tuesday, October 18, unanimously as the current guide for the life of Central Presbyterian Church.

You will begin to see this in printed materials as well as being on the website and seen on social media. This statement is a living document to help guide us as a church to serve Christ in this world and to be distinctive in who we are.

Mission and Vision Statement of Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, VA

Loving God with mind, heart, and hands by being servants of God called to love God and love others by living the example of Jesus Christ, and following the winds of the Spirit.

Through the grace of God,
we affirm that
Jesus Christ is the center of the Church,
and everyone is a child of God.

We seek to be inclusive.
ALL are welcome here and
invited into the active life of the church.

We are unified in the Body of Christ through partnerships
with agencies, communities, regions, and the world.

Central Presbyterian prepares and inspires discipleship by means of
education, corporate worship, and mutual encouragement and support.
We foster practices of prayer, Bible study, stewardship of God's gifts,
and service to the world.



Let's Have Lunch Together

Central Life

Sunday, October 30, at 620 State

The Evangelism Committee invites everyone to join us for lunch at 620 State Street (Bristol, TN) on Sunday, October 30 immediately following the 11 a.m. worship. This is a great time to get together and catch up on news and to have some time with one another. Please sign up by either calling or emailing the church office, or signing up on Sundays.

**Let's Have
Lunch
TOGETHER**

Save the Dates . . .

King Institute for Faith and Culture:

Nov 7, 7:00 p.m. in Central Hall

Nov 30, 7:15 p.m. in Central Hall

Calendar for October 23 - November 6, 2022

Sunday, October 23	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Contemporary Worship - Central Hall Sunday School for all ages Traditional Worship - Sanctuary Youth Groups	
Tuesday, October 25	7:00 p.m.	Sabbatical Team at the church	
Wednesday, October 26	5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Wednesday Night Supper and program Sanctuary Choir rehearsal	
Friday, October 28		APPLE closed—teacher in-service day	
Sunday, October 30	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Contemporary Worship - Central Hall Sunday School for all ages Traditional Worship - Sanctuary Youth Groups	
Monday, October 31	9:45-10:15 a.m. 4:30-7:30 p.m.	APPLE Trick or Treating at the church Candy Give-away for Halloween	
Tuesday, November 1	6:00 p.m.	Evangelism Committee at church	
Wednesday, November 2	12:00 Noon 1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Central Life published Widow's Grief Group Wednesday Night Supper and Activities Sanctuary Choir rehearsal	
Thursday, November 3	10:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Meals on Wheels delivery Care & Concern Committee Christian Education Committee (Zoom)	
Sunday, November 6 (Daylight Saving Time ends)	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.	Contemporary Worship - Central Hall (communion) Sunday School for all ages Traditional Worship - Sanctuary (communion) Youth Groups	

Pastoral Concerns:

- ♦ Diana White dealing with health issues and will have a knee replacement in November;
- ♦ Ken Moss is doing well after surgery on his nose last week and will have reconstructive surgery soon;
- ♦ Mark McCord is at home with home health & rehab after his heart surgery.

Continued Prayers for:

Randy Broyles, Travis Campbell, Robert Campbelle, Bob & Becky Ingram, Jeanne Kiger, Jim & Joan Keith, Jeanne Kiger, Bessie Kitts, Niki McGrew, Alice Owenby, Ed Updyke, Retta Vance, Linda Wise.

Prayers for Family Members and Friends:

Paul Cox (Jean Thomason's brother), in hospice care; Jackie Eldridge (friend of Zach Baker); Jane Davis Copenhagen, (Bobby Davis' sister); Roy Smith (Cathy White's father); Roger McGhee (Christy Blevins' father); Glenda Leonard (friend of Missy McCord); Kellen Napier (toddler with cancer); Connie Perry, (Sandy Wilson's aunt, who has cancer); Jamie Butcher and family (dealing with restoring their home after a fire); Orion Callison, III (son of Peggy Callison).

Sympathy to...

Gena Prince and family on the death of her father, Bill Jones, on October 12, 2022. A memorial service will be held Friday, October 21, 6:15 p.m. at Country Cabin in Norton, VA with a celebration dinner following. Gathering will start at 5:30 p.m.

Please call the church office (276-669-3157) with any pastoral concerns.

Memorial Gifts...

To the General Fund for Allen Vance by George & Beth Parks, Fred & Malinda Bergen, Ed & Betty Whitehead, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Minis, Jim & Karen Warren, Bill & Patty Bundy, John Cowan, Glenn & Grace Himstedt, Dale & Molly Keller, Marty & Penny Lambert, Juanita Large, F. L. Muller, Jean Thomason, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Williams, Mary Moffatt, and Nancy Kiser;

To the General Fund for Lorraine Hale by Jean Thomason, Mary Moffatt, and Nancy Kiser;

To the General Fund for Bill Jones by Mary Moffatt and Nancy Kiser.

Service Fund

The Pastor's Service Fund is one of those special funds we have as a church family to care for those in our congregation who are in need of financial help. Over the years this fund has assisted with lawyer fees for adoption of a child, help with a roof, fixed a car, and to assist a family with a mortgage payment. We all have times when we could use some help. As a church family, we are able to care for one another through the Service Fund.

As our families and individuals are dealing with higher costs for electricity, food and housing, our Service Fund is being used to help. But we also know there are those who could give some to this fund to continue that help for our church friends. If you are in need of some financial help, please talk with Ann Aichinger. Also if you are able to make a gift to the Service Fund, please give generously so we can truly care for one another.

Acts 2:44-45: All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

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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:

Ann Aichinger, Pastor	ann.cpc@bvuvu.net
Robert Campbelle, Music Director	robertcampbelle@gmail.com
Joy Smith-Briggs, Organist	gjbjoyb@btes.tv
Josie Russell, Youth & Young Adult Dir. Social Media Coordinator	josieannrussell@gmail.com
Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor	office.cpc@bvuvu.net
Mary Moffatt, Finance Director	finance.cpc@bvuvu.net
Sumer Lowry, Kitchen Coordinator	sumerlowry83@gmail.com
Michelle Blankenship Dir. of APPLE Academy	applepreschool@yahoo.com

Office Hours:

The current office hours are:
9:00 to 12:00 Monday & Friday,
9:30 to 2:30 Tuesday & Thursday,
11:00 to 4:00 Wednesday.
Please call 276-669-3157 for
office hour changes and updates.

