

*Central Presbyterian Church
April 19, 2023*



Reflections from a Rocking Chair

Easter is not just one day that we celebrate as Christians. But Easter is in fact a season in the church calendar as well as the reason we gather for worship on Sundays. The first Easter happened on the “first day of the week” after the Sabbath, and so our gathering together as God’s people on Sundays is a celebration and reminder of the new life we have in Christ. But we also live in Eastertide which is 50 days from Easter Sunday until Pentecost. This year, Easter tide is from April 9 until May 28 when we will celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the creation of the new community of believers, the Church.

So what is this season of Easter all about? Recently I was attending a meeting, and our opening devotional included a question: “Where have you seen the risen Lord at work?” Another way to put it is where do you see Jesus doing new things in your life and in our world? And that is really what the worship themes are for this season. As we look at the scriptures for Eastertide, they all have to do with encountering the Living Christ and then inviting us to be on the lookout for Jesus in our own lives.

But this means that we have to be paying attention and being watchful in how God is working. Maybe it is in offering help to someone who is needing a ride or being willing to run an errand for someone. Maybe it is in the laughter and joy we see in children around, especially in worship. Maybe it is in looking at the Scriptures with new eyes and new heart to hear a new message for us. Maybe it is in seeing the doors that open for opportunities to welcome someone into our church family or into your circle of friends. Maybe it is in discovering once again that God is encouraging us on a new venture.

I really like the season of Easter. We come out of the season of Lent, preparing and reflecting on our own faith journey. Then we are often surprised by how God is at work in new ways. It is like in C.S. Lewis’ first Narnia book, *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*, where as Aslan is on the move in Narnia, things begin to change. There is the drip, drip, drip of the icy winter. There is the arrival of Santa Claus (remember in Narnia, under the White Witch it is always winter but never Christmas). Flowers begin to push their way through the snow and trees begin to flower. All kinds of small things happen, but you have to notice it and know that something new is going on.

I have seen new things happening in our own church or the start of some new things. There is an excitement with the thriving Communities team as we will begin having small group opportunities to talk about life here at Central. There is a renewed energy with the four young ladies joining the church on Easter and their renewed commitment. We are seeing people returning to worship who have been only online or unable to attend due to the COVID issues. People are sharing ideas and thoughts about ways we as a church can serve in our community and be involved in outreach.

I hope that you will make every effort to be involved in this Easter season. Whether in Sunday worship or on Wednesday nights or in serving on a committee or being a part of a Thriving Communities Small Group meeting. May we continue to be open to the movement of the Holy Spirit and be attentive to how the Risen Lord is doing new things with us as a church family.

I hope to see you in worship.
Grace and peace,
Ann Aichinger



*From the
Pastor's
Desk*

The Widow's grief group has been meeting for 4 months now. This has been a wonderful group for support and care for those who have lost husbands. Some of us are recently widowed while others are more seasoned in this grieving process. This is open to all widows who are looking for friendship, support and care through the grief time. Usually we meet on the first and third Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor. But on Wednesday, May 17, we will be going to Aubrey's (at the Pinnacle) for lunch and a time of fellowship. We will meet there at 12 noon. If you are interested in coming to lunch with this group, please let Ann Aichinger know so that we can have the right number of reservations. This lunch is a gift from someone in our church family. Thank you for your generosity and care for this group of women.

The Session met on Tuesday, April 18 at 7 p.m. in person and on Zoom. Patty Caldwell led the opening devotion and prayer. As a group we shared the second of three questions from the Presbytery Education Committee: What would you like to do better as a church? After Ann Aichinger's pastoral report and receiving of communications, the following were action items:

- John Barker will be serving as our commissioner to the May 11 Abingdon Presbytery meeting at Dinwiddie Presbyterian Church in Hillsville. The Mashkins will be making a presentation about their life in Ukraine and their arrival here in the US.
- Approval the 2022 Financial Review by Glenn Myers with a word of thanks for Glenn's work on this.
- Approval of the new authorized representatives for Edward Jones accounts.
- Received the official news of Mary Moffat retirement as of September 15, 2023. (This matter will go to Administration and Staff).
- Security issues are moving forward including tinting of some of the ground floor windows in the APPLE rooms, installation of motion sensors in the upstairs hallways, and approval of installing cameras in the parking lot and alleyway to help with monitoring activity.
- Minutes of the meetings of Care and Concern Committee, Apple Academy Committee, and Christian Education were received.

The next meeting of the Session will be Tuesday, May 16 at 7 p.m. (hybrid).



Abingdon Presbyterian Women's
Annual Spring Gathering
Walnut Grove Presbyterian Church
Saturday, April 22, 2023

Registration begins at 9:30 AM (breakfast available by 9:15 AM); General Session begins at 10 AM.

The meeting should adjourn at or before 1 PM. Lunch on your own. Lots of great restaurants nearby! No pre-registration required!

Class of 2023

Who is graduating in your family this Spring or Summer that you want recognized at Central?

We need the name of the student, school attended, degree (and area of study), future plans (further schooling, work, etc.).

Please send this information to the church office by email (office.cpc@bvu.net) or by calling (276-669-3157).

We will recognize our graduates on Sunday, May 21 as a part of our worship service.



Teachers Needed

JOB OPPORTUNITY!

APPLE Academy
of Central Presbyterian
Church

Child Care & Preschool

Now Hiring Part-Time Assistants

(20-34 hours per week, \$12 per hour)

Active, Fun Work Environment

No Evenings, No Weekends!

Submit your resume online to:

applepreschool@yahoo.com



Wednesday, April 19
Sunday, April 23

Wednesday, April 26
Sunday, April 30

Wednesday, May 3
Sunday, May 7

5:30 p.m.-7:00 pm.
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.-7:00 pm.
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

5:30 p.m.-7:00 pm.
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

Dinner and activities at the church
Games, lesson, and summer planning at the church
Game Night!
Games and lesson at the church (Aiden Kite's Birthday!)
Stump the Pastor
Family Day-Field Day
Sugar Hollow Park in Bristol, VA



Central Life

Wednesday night dinner and programs will continue through May 10. We hope you will join us for our time of sharing and fellowship. There will be activities for Children and Youth as well as a nursery which is available for our youngest children.

April 19:	Breakfast	Questions, Questions, Questions
April 26:	Pizza, Salad and dessert	Game Night
May 3:	Soup, Salad and Bread	
May 10:	Cookout	Talent Show and Appreciation to volunteers

Upcoming Sermons



April 23	If only We Could Go Back	Luke 24:13-35
April 30	Guest Preacher, Dr. Martin Dotterweich	
May 7	Living Life on the Way Home	John 14:1-14
May 14	All we need is Love	John 14:15-21
May 21	Living while Surrounded by Questions	Acts 1:6-14
	Unity Summer Worship BEGINS	
	ONE Service at 10 a.m. in Central Hall	

CENTRAL'S



VARIETY SHOW, Wednesday, May 10

Calling all jugglers, comedians, singers, musicians, acrobats, and magicians! Can you balance a table on your chin? Do you sing opera? Can you dance? We need you to be a part of our "Central's Got Talent" Show on **Wednesday, May 10, 5:30-7 p.m.** This is an all-church event, and we hope everyone will come out to see the various talents. But we need you to sign up and be a part of the show.

We will have a Cookout dinner at 5:30 and then at 6:10 p.m. we will showcase the talents in our church. **Guidelines** for an act: 2-3 minutes long, family appropriate material, and it can be group or individual act. Any age!! Any act!! If you are interested in participating, you can talk to Ann Aichinger or sign up on Ann's office door to get on the program.

Calendar

Central Life

April 19, 2023—May 3, 2023

Wednesday, April 19	1:30 p.m.	Widow's Grief Group
	3:30 p.m.	Nominating Committee Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner and Activity—Breakfast
	7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, April 20	9:00 a.m.	Backpacks—Central Hall
Saturday, April 22	9:30 a.m.	Annual PW Spring Gathering—Walnut Grove
Sunday, April 23	9:00 a.m.	Worship---Central Hall Communion
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00 a.m.	Worship---Sanctuary Communion
	12:30 p.m.	Let's go to Lunch—123 Tex Mex
	2-3:30 p.m.	Youth Group meets at the church
April 24—April 30th	Pastor Ann will be away on Vacation & Wedding Ceremony	
Tuesday, April 25	11:30 a.m.	Bristol Food Pantry Volunteer Luncheon
Wednesday, April 26	5:30-7:00 p.m.	Dinner and program— Pizza, Salad, and Bread
	7:15 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, April 27	9:00 a.m.	Backpacks - Central Hall
Friday, April 28	9:00 a.m.	CL Gamers at the Caldwell's
Sunday, April 30	9:00 a.m.	Worship - Central Hall
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School for all Ages
	11:00 a.m.	Worship – Sanctuary
	2:00 p.m.	Youth Group—meeting at the church
Tuesday, May 2	7:00 p.m.	Chairs of Committee meeting
	7:00 p.m.	CL Gamers at the church
Wednesday, May 3	12:00 p.m.	Central Life published
	1:30 p.m.	Widow's Grief Group
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner and Activity
	7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary



Sharing Good News

In Scripture, we are called to rejoice with one another. So we invite you to share your good news with the church family. Maybe you have had a promotion or gotten a new job. Maybe you have retired or received an award. Maybe there's a new baby in your family, or your child was given an award or had an accomplishment. This is not about boasting, but about sharing so that we can rejoice with one another and celebrate life together. So if you have something to share, send it in to the church office (office.cpc@bvu.net or call 276-669-3157) so we can include it into upcoming newsletters.

Pastoral Concerns:

Robert Campbell's brother, John, who has declining health, and for John's daughter, Tracy, who is caring for him;
Mark McCord is recovering from surgery on his arm;
Briggs Allen's sister has been diagnosed with cancer;
Missy McCord is at home recovering well;
Sumer Lowry is improving and has been to see doctors;
Jane Morison's brother, Joe, is dealing with cardiac issues;
A MECCA father who has multiple broken bones from a fall;
Joan Keith who is dealing with health issues.



Continued Prayers for:

Randy Broyles, Travis Campbell, Bob and Becky Ingram, Niki McGrew, Alice Owenby, Jean Thomason, Ed Updyke, and Linda Wise.

Prayers for Family members and friends:

Christy Blevins' father, Roger McGhee; Peggy Callison's son, Orion; Phyllis Morris' brother, Ray Cassell; Sandy Wilson's aunt, Connie Perry; Doris Hall's aunt, Mildred Rutherford; Cathy White's father, Roy Smith; Sandy Wilson's husband, Dave; Eugene Waldron's sister, Joy; Mary and William Wampler's granddaughter, Charlotte; Diana White's brother-in-law, Ed Fortner.

Deepest Sympathy for:

We express deepest sympathy to family and friends of Thomas Farnham Stone who died on April 9, 2023. He was the son of Terry Stone, who has been a longtime friend of Central. The service for him was on Saturday, April 15.

Contact information:

Terry Stone
1103 Maryland Avenue
Bristol, TN 37620

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

Sharing Communion



On the first Sundays, we celebrate the Lord's Supper as a part of worship. As we have transitioned from COVID protocol to offering the option to come forward to receive the bread and cup, there have been some questions. If you come forward, we are not doing intinction (dipping the bread into the cup), but instead we offer individual cups to take from the tray. The wafers we give are gluten free rice crackers. Of course we offer the individual kits that have the wafer and juice in one package.

As we move forward, the worship committee will be considering when is the appropriate time to go back to passing the communion trays down the rows to those in worship. If you have any questions about Communion, please talk to Ann Aichinger, or John Dodge or Patty Caldwell, who serve as co-chairs of the Worship Committee.

Celebrating a



** May 2023 **

Name	Date	Name	Date
Bill Canter	2	Carly Hollo	15
Sheree Taylor	2	Amelia Waldron	17
Tyler Wilson	4	Mary Wampler	20
Olivia Hollo	4	Leslie Taylor	21
Randy Morris	5	Jim Butcher	22
Carol Curry	6	Ed Updyke	23
Ann Lamie	7	Glenn Himstedt	23
Sarah Poore	8	Tim Landis	27
Steve Clark	9	Rachel Ellis	27
Peggy Callison	9	Tal McBride	27
David McFarlane	10	Alexander Kiser	29
Alice Owenby	10	Hunter Meade	29
Collin McCord	12	Grace Himstedt	30
Anyia Mashkin	12	David Kalb	30
Connie Bullock	15	Douglas Williams	31

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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@bvuv.net
Robert Campbelle, Music Director	robertcampbelle@gmail.com
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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 3:00 Monday—Thursday
9:00 to 12:00 Friday

Please call 276-669-3157 for
office hour changes and updates.

