

December 24 Sunday worship and Christmas Eve Worship

Reminder that we will have the fourth Sunday of Advent Worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary on Dec 24. Joy Briggs will offer 15 minutes of music from 9:45-10 a.m. for those who come early.

For **Christmas Eve worship**, we will have two services: 5 p.m. in Central Hall and 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary with Communion and Candlelight at both. There will be a nursery available at the 5 p.m. service.

The **Christmas Eve offering** this year will go to support the Backpack program which feeds 105 children every week. These children live in homes with food insecurity and it provides nutrition when school is not in session. Offering plates will be at the door of both worship spaces, and everyone is encouraged to support this vital ministry of Central to our local community.

On Sunday, Dec 31, we will have **Be the Church Sunday**. We will gather for worship at 10 a.m. in Central Hall and then everyone will be invited to participate in different activities for a few minutes as we work together in being the church. The projects that will be available are:



- * making fleece blankets that will go to the hospital to the dialysis and cancer centers;
- * knitting or crocheting hats, scarves or mittens
- * making blessing bags for homeless and those in need
- * creating bagel birdseed feeders to hang in your trees
- * writing Christmas notes to US military service people
- * helping with preparations for the backpack program (packing small bags of items).

We will come back together to offer our gifts and projects and then be allowed to leave. Or you are welcome to stay a bit longer and complete the project. This is a great opportunity to invite a neighbor or friend who does not have a church home to come and be involved and see what Central is all about. There will be things for everyone to participate in as well as to take home and continue to work on. Come join us for a wonderful Sunday together to Be the Church!

Join us for Christmas Eve Services!

We will have our regular combined worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary on December 24, with special Advent music beginning at 9:45 a.m. At 5:00 p.m. we will have Contemporary Service in Central Hall and then at 7:00 p.m. we will have Traditional Service in the Sanctuary. Both services will serve Communion.



Sermons:

December 24 Holy Encounters
December 31 Be The Church

Luke 1:26-38

Sanctuary
Central Hall

NEEDED: Photographer

Are you a photographer and willing to help us update the pictures of our children that line the hallway to the kitchen? We have a group of new kids and many of those who are pictured on the wall are in high school or middle school. We would set up a time to have our families with children here to get each child's photo. If you are willing to do this, or if you know someone who might be able to do this, please talk to Ann Aichinger about how to proceed.



Men's Bible Study and Prayer Group

The men's Bible Study group will begin again after a 46 month break on **Monday, January 8**. All men are invited to join the group at Perkins at exit 7 in Bristol, VA at 7 a.m. for breakfast, study and discussion, and prayer. It will conclude around 8 a.m. for those who need to get to work or other errands. If you have any questions or want more information, please talk to Tim Landis or John Dodge.

Christmas Joy Offering: Follow Christ's Lead This Advent Season

On Sunday, December 24 in the morning worship, we will receive the Christmas Joy Offering which is one of the denominational offerings we collect each year. The theme this year is Follow Christ's Lead. With Christ at the center this holiday season, we can follow in his example of servant leadership by serving our brothers and sisters in faith. Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we are able to support those in our community and give them the gift of hope.



Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering help the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions provide critical financial assistance to eligible church workers and retired pastors and their families in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Christmas Joy Offering also supports the education and development of our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. These schools are dedicated to creating opportunities and environments for students built on a foundation of Christian values.

By supporting the Christmas Joy Offering, you share in the hope of Christ and celebrate his leadership by providing support to our church workers, racial ethnic young people, and their families. Please give generously to support these efforts. There will be envelopes available on Sunday. You can make checks to Central Presbyterian Church and in the memo: Joy offering.

Congratulations to Nic Fuller on graduating from ETSE with his Bachelors of Science degree in Nursing. Nic hopes to continue with his studies to be a Registered Nurse.



If you have not returned your **2024 Commitment card** to Kim Profitt, the Finance Director, please do so as soon as possible. This allows the Session to make an informed decision about the 2024 budget for Central. If you have any questions or need another commitment card, they are on the tables in the hall or please call the church office and talk with Kim (276-669-3157.)

Session Notes

The Session met on Tuesday, Dec 19 at 7 p.m. After Susan Campbelle opened the meeting with a devotional and prayer, the session shared about a favorite childhood Christmas tradition. Sandy Wilson was elected to serve as Clerk Pro-temp for this meeting as Linda Waldron was excused.

Ann Aichinger gave her report and thanked everyone for their involvement in the activities and events of Advent and Christmas. She also noted that she will be taking some vacation time after Christmas to visit with her family and then January 18-24 for some rest and renewal.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved and communications were read. Ann noted that 2025 is the 150th Anniversary of Central Presbyterian Church and it is time to establish a planning team for the year's events.

The following actions were approved by the Session:

- ♦ Use of the church bus for the Widow's Grief Group to go to Speedway in Light together. Ann Aichinger will be driving the group.
- ♦ Kyndall Bradley was approved as the new nursery staff member. She is currently an Apple Preschool teacher.
- ♦ Finance Committee brought the motion for the first of two votes to allow access from the Endowment in 2024 up to \$150,000.
- ♦ Christmas Eve Offering will go to the Backpack program to assist feeding hungry children in our local community.

Other committees made reports about upcoming events. Ann Aichinger shared the pastoral concerns and wished everyone a happy and merry Christmas. John Dodge closed the meeting with prayer and the meeting was adjourned.



Calendar

December 20 - January 3

Wednesday, December 20

Central Life delivered

APPLE closed until January 2

1:30 p.m.

Widows' Grief Group

5:30 p.m.

Dinner (Longest Night Service)

7:00 p.m.

Choir practice

Sunday, December 24

9:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School

9:45 a.m.

Advent music in Sanctuary

10:00 a.m.

Worship - Sanctuary

5:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve in Central Hall

7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve in Sanctuary

December 25, 26

Church Office Closed, Ann out of office until Dec. 29

Sunday, December 31

9:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School

10:00 a.m.

Worship - Central Hall - Be the Church

Monday, January 1

Church Office Closed - Happy 2024!

Tuesday, January 2

APPLE and Church Office Re-open

Wednesday, January 3

Central Life delivered



A Gift in Honor of Ann Aichinger given to Backpack Ministries by Eugene & Linda Waldron.

A Gift in Memory of Mary Kay English given to Backpack Ministries by Ralph & Terri Davis.

Gifts in Memory of Mary Kay English given to Central Presbyterian Church by:

- * Larry & Janice McClanahan & Rhonda Sampson
- * Bobby Davis
- * Jean Thomason.

Wednesday Night Supper Menus:

December 20 - Breakfast for dinner French toast sticks, sausage patties, egg frittata, orange juice (longest night service)

We'll take a break until January 10th.

January 10 - Baked spaghetti, salad, vegetable, roll, dessert

January 17 - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, salad, vegetable, roll, dessert

January 24 - Beef stew, vegetable, salad, roll, dessert

January 31 - Baked chicken, stuffing, vegetable, salad, roll, dessert

JANUARY

Birthdays

Doris Hall	1	Theresa Kalb	20
Bessie Kitts	2	James Van Dyke	20
Jamie Meade	2	Emma Coker	23
Meade Sawyer	3	Dennis Meade	24
Kim Profitt	7	Shelby Quesenberry	25
Linda Brittle	13	Vickie Salyer	25
Scott Bullock	13	Dillon Vaughn	25
Jeanne Kiger	13	Will Broadfoot	26
Hannah Bitner	13	Sandy McGlothlin	27
Christy Blevin	14	Jackson Williams	28
Ivy Ritchie	15	Christie Davenport	29
Janis Davis	19	Woody McGlothlin	30
Diana White	20	Banner Ellis	30
		Savannah Diebold	31

SNOW POLICY FOR CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN

Always check the website, Facebook, and your email for last minute changes and updates. The policy Central is:

- * Information will be posted at www.CentralPresBristol.org and on the Central Presbyterian Church Facebook page as well as sent out by email to the church family.
- * If Bristol, VA schools are closed (or are dismissed early), large group weekday activities at the church likely will be cancelled, including Presbyterian Women and Wednesday Night Activities, Committees, Music Rehearsals, Small Groups, etc. Please contact your leader to decide whether to meet or not;.
- * 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship will almost always be held. Come if you can get here safely, but be aware that the parking lot can be extremely slick even when roads are clear.



Before coming to church when the weather is challenging, always check the above sources or call the church office (276-669-3157) for updated information.

Pastoral Concerns:

Peter Morison broke his foot;
Bessie Kitts will have heart surgery in December;
Mike Ellis is home & doing well after knee surgery;
Diana White is having knee surgery on January 11;
Bob Ingram, as he continues with health issues;
Frances Van Dyke;
Heather Kiser;
Woody McGlothlin is waiting to see if he's a candidate for a lung transplant;
Larry Surber is undergoing treatment for leukemia.



Continued Prayers for:

Randy Broyles, Doris Crabtree, Bob and Becky Ingram, Jim & Joan Keith, Missy McCord,
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;
Sandy Wilson's aunt, Connie Perry, and her uncle, Junior; Doris Hall's
aunt, Mildred Rutherford; Diana White's brother-in-law, Ed Fortner;
Josie Russell's cousin, Carey Jo Davis.

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 join us on December 31 for Be the Church Sunday.
We'll be doing all kinds of activities to help those in need.
Should be great fun and will be held following worship in Central Hall!

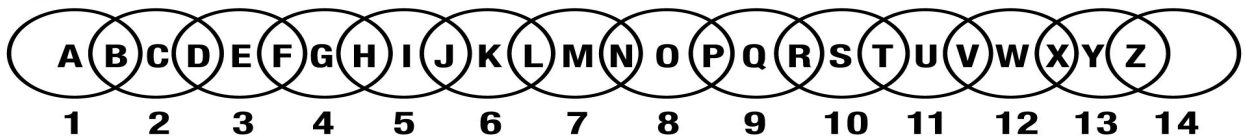
Have a safe holiday from school. Enjoy your time off
and have a very Merry Christmas!

Central Life will be delivered on January 3, 2024. Please submit any articles by noon on Monday, January 1. (Office will be closed, but email will still work!)

Puzzle!

Use the code to complete the blanks — and find out how God wants us to treat people.

CODE:



1,2 3 6 5 7,8 2,3 1 7,8 2,3

2 8 7 8,9 1 10 10 5 8 7,8 1 10,11 3

10,11 8 8 7,8 3 1 7,8 8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10 ,

3,4 8 9,10 4 5 11,12 5 7,8 4 3 1 2 4,5

8 10,11 4,5 3 9,10 , 5,6 11 10 10,11 1 10

5 7,8 2 4,5 9,10 5 10 10,11 4 8 2,3

3,4 8 9,10 4 1 11,12 3 13 8 11 .

EPHESIANS 4:32, NIV

Answer: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32, NIV

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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.
- * Use the QR Code to connect to the website and the “Give Online” link.
- * You can give one time, or regularly, through your **Realm Connect** profile.



How to contact us:

Ann Aichinger, Pastor	ann.cpc@bvu.net
Robert Campbelle, Music Director	robertcampbelle@gmail.com
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Kim Profitt, Finance Director	finance.cpc@bvu.net
Jeremy Kline, Kitchen Coordinator	
Michelle Blankenship, Dir. of APPLE Academy	applepreschool@yahoo.com
Kyndall Bradley, Nursery Staff	

Office Hours:

The current office hours are:

9:00 to 3:00 Monday—Friday

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



Serve the Lord with Gladness