



Reflections from a Rocking Chair:

May is one of those transitional months. We are moving from regular routines of school and work to times of vacation and taking some time off for rest and renewal. May is the month for graduations as students make transitions from one institution to another, whether that be from high school to college or to work, or from college into the workforce or graduate school. May is also a month for weddings where couples are joined together because of their love and commitment to one another, and they transition into a new stage of their life together.



May is also a transitional month for the church. We move from Eastertide to Pentecost, from the season of celebrating the resurrection of Jesus to the birth of the church by coming of the Spirit. We also conclude our Wednesday night programs because we know lives of families and individuals gets busier with the coming of summer. We as a church family move from a time of Easter to considering what it means to be the people of God in this time and in this place.

Transitions are often hard. Whether it means changing jobs or retirement, or moving to a new place or even having things shift in our families as children and grandchildren grow up. Yet our lives are full of transitions and changes. As human, we will say we don't like change, but our lives are continually changing. And that means we are called to adapt to the new ahead of us as well as release the old so that we can move forward.

In the life of the early church, Pentecost was a radical shift in how everything was done. No longer would the community of Jesus followers be small and located in Jerusalem. But with the coming of the Holy Spirit, suddenly the community explodes and includes more and more people from more diverse backgrounds and cultures. The disciples are sent further and further away from the center of action (Jerusalem) to the far points of the Roman Empire and beyond.

As we prepare for Pentecost on May 19, I hope that we, too, will be open to the movement of the Spirit among us. I hope that we will allow space and opportunity to be about new things happening in our church and in our community. I am reminded every Sunday how we are called to go back into the world and to share the good news of Jesus Christ. For each of us, that is done in different ways. For some, it is about serving in the community and caring for the least among us. For others, it is about helping the work of Central to reach into our world through prayer and by caring for one another. For others, it is about raising up leadership and training our children and youth in developing their faith. For others, it is in sharing through music as well as in on-going projects and missions.

I believe God continues to call us to live into the new thing that God is doing. But that means that we might have to let go of the old way of doing things and try something new. It usually challenges us to step out on faith even when we are not sure where we are going, but to trust that God is leading us into the new.

So pay attention to the transitions happening in your life and in our world. Pay attention to the transitions happening in our life together at Central. Then watch for how God is at work doing new things in the midst of those changes. For the Spirit is at work, and is challenging us all to live into the newness offered by Christ.

I hope to see you on Pentecost Sunday (May 19). You are encouraged to wear red as it is the color for the Holy Spirit.



Grace and peace,

Ann

May 8, 2024

Central Life



May 12 From Generation to Generation
Mother's Day

Exodus 1:15-2:10; 2 Tim 1:1-7

May 19 Pentecost

Wednesday Night Supper Menus:

May 8 - Baked Potato Bar The Bible in 45 Minutes
May 15 - Baked Spaghetti Central Talent Show
May 15th concludes our season of Wednesday Night Suppers.



The Lunch Bunch invites you to join us on **May 19, 11:30 a.m. at Cootie Brown's**. We've enjoyed eating there in the past, and this month will be no exception! The menu is huge and everyone will find something they enjoy eating. Oh, and the comradery ain't too bad, neither!



Rebecka Reese will be celebrating earning her Eagle Scout award on May 11 at 6:30 p.m. The ceremony will be held in Central Hall. Rebecka's project was the butterfly garden in our alley. According to Wikipedia, requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges, 14 of which are mandatory for the award. The Eagle Scout must demonstrate Scout Spirit, an ideal attitude based upon the Scout Oath and Law, service, and leadership. This includes an extensive service project that the Scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. Congratulations Becka!!



On May 13, APPLE will be hosting a car seat safety check in the church parking lot from 4-6 p.m. The safety check is hands-on and will make sure your car seat is appropriate for your child, has not expired, and there are no recalls on the product. A great way to make sure your child is safe riding with you.



Tuesday, May 14 at 11:00 a.m., Presbyterian Women Bible Study will meet in the small dining room. This month's Lesson is entitled *People Encounter Jesus Through the Work of the Disciples*. This lesson will conclude our study for this term and will include our annual program of Birthday Offering, led by Mary Ann Blevins. We will look forward to the introduction of our new study in September. Co-Moderators are Mary Ann Blevins and Thais Sikora. A big THANK YOU to these ladies for all the work they've done this term!

Thursday, May 23 at 9:00 a.m. will conclude the BackPacks Ministry for this school term. We hope the team will join us at that time for our Thank You meeting. Y'all have accomplished so much to help feed hungry children in our community this school year. All of the work that goes into purchasing food, getting it delivered, organizing the food into meal plans, packing the bags, and delivering the bags to the different schools has been amazing. A huge pat on the back to all involved.





Wednesday, May 8

Dinner & activities at church
"The Bible in 45 Minutes"
5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 12

No Youth Group - Happy Mother's Day!

Wednesday, May 15

Dinner & activities at church
Talent Show!
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Last Wednesday Night gathering until Fall

Sunday, May 19 Wear Red for Pentecost

No official Youth Group meeting, but youth and families are encouraged to join us for lunch at Cootie Brown's. We honor our seniors who are graduating from high school during worship: Ada Ritchie, Callie Eckley, and Maddie Harris.

Sunday, May 26

Memorial Day Weekend - no Youth group!

Sunday, June 2

Leave for Montreat!

Thursday, June 27

Just Jump!

Thursday, July 25

Youth and Kids night at the church - dinner, games, and prep for Youth & Kids Sunday

Saturday, August 10

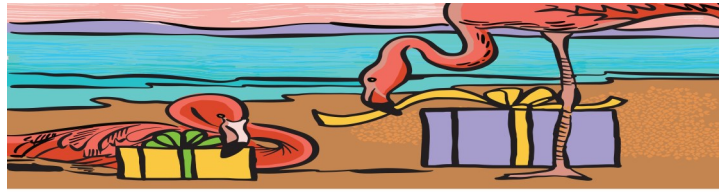
Practice for Youth & Kids Sunday

Sunday, August 11

Youth & Kids Sunday

Saturday, August 24

Picnic in the Park from 9:30 - 2:30 p.m.
Steele Creek Park, Pavilion G



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Bill Canter	2	Mary Wampler	20
Sheree' Taylor	2	Leslie Taylor	21
Olivia Hollo	4	Jim Butcher	22
Carol Curry	6	Ed Updyke	23
Sarah Poore	8	Glenn Himstedt	23
Steve Clark	9	Tim Landis	27
Peggy Callison	9	Rachel Ellis	27
David McFarlane	10	Elodie Blevins	27
Collin McCord	12	Alexander Kiser	29
Hanna Mashkina	12	Grace Himstedt	30
Connie Bullock	15		

MAY 19 is PENTECOST, the birthday of the Church. You are encouraged to wear **Red** as a symbol of the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the church community. We will also recognize our graduates as a part of the worship service.



After worship, everyone is invited to join us for lunch at Cootie Browns (Volunteer Parkway) to enjoy a meal together and fellowship.



We will receive the PCUSA Pentecost Offering on Sunday, May 19. This is one of the regular offerings that we collect with the larger church in changing people's lives and situations. The Pentecost offering goes to support at-risk children, youth and young adults. With our gifts, we are there to help build these youngest members of the body of Christ into the people God would have them become. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share in their faith in Christ.

- ◆ 40% of our collection stays with our congregation to support local ministries with children, youth, and young adults.
- ◆ 25% supports Young Adult Volunteers (YAV), who serve for a year or two in communities around the world, and grow as leaders through Christian service.
- ◆ 25% supports youth through the Presbyterian Youth Triennium.
- ◆ 10% is for children at risk and supports to improve education and provide safe havens.

There are three ways to give:

- ◆ through our congregation using the envelopes on May 19 or
- ◆ by giving and marking your gift for the Pentecost Offering;
- ◆ Text PENTECOST to 91999 to support these vital ministries, you can give online at pcusa.org/donatepentecost

Pastoral Concerns:

Maxine Howell is home in NC;
Kim Sorensen is home from the hospital;
Tyler Franklin is having heart issues;
Dave Wilson is at home recovering;
Andrew Clark is dealing with health issues;
Larry Surber has stem cell surgery planned for June 6;
Barbara Mann is having preventative radiation.



Continued Prayers for:

Randy Broyles, Doris Crabtree, Bob and Becky Ingram, Jim and Joan Keith, Heather Kiser, Missy McCord, Woody McGlothlin, Niki McGrew, Jean Thomason, Ed Updyke, Frances Van Dyke, and Linda Wise.

Prayers for Family Members and Friends:

Donald Tadlock, brother of Marvin Tadlock, has heart and lung problems that are difficult to treat because of his liver transplant; Eric Martin, friend of Paige Thompson, has brain cancer; Mike Ellis' cousin's son who had very serious surgery; 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, is cancer-free and preparing for preventative procedures.

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.

We express our deepest Christian Sympathy to:

David Pattishall-Baker, in the death of his nephew-in-law, Mark Mugavin;
Diana White, in the death of her brother-in-law, Ed Fortner;
Paige Thompson, in the death of her friend Keith Southern.

A big *Thank You!* to everyone at Central for your continued concerns, prayers, calls, and cards. You are a wonderful congregation. ~ Jean Thomason

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 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 in upcoming newsletters.

Attention to all!!!! Flat Jesus wants to travel or just "be" with you as you go through your day. Flat Jesus will be ready to join you on **May 19th**. **Anyone may pick up a Flat Jesus**. Take pictures of your Flat Jesus on your adventures. Tell the stories of who he's met and where you've been. Flat Jesus loves to garden, go fishing, travel, meet new people, have meals with you, meet your pets, wash your car (but he doesn't like to get too wet), go to church, pick out veggies and goodies at Farmer's Markets, watch your favorite t.v. shows with you...the list is endless where Flat Jesus may be found. Years ago, I (Kim) took my nephew's Flat Stanley and took pictures of him doing my daily activities and wrote little stories about his adventures. Then, I made a scrapbook for Eli and sent both Flat Stanley and the scrapbook back to Fairbanks, Alaska, where he lived. What a memory! Flat Jesus is just waiting for you to pick him up and begin your adventures. Where will we find Flat Jesus this Summer? Send pictures and stories to josieannrussell@gmail.com.

Calendar		
May 8 - 22		
Wednesday, May 8	Central Life Delivered	
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner & Study - Baked potato bar "The Bible in 45 Minutes"
	7:00 p.m.	Choir practice
Saturday, May 11	6:30 p.m.	Eagle Scout Ceremony for Rebecka Reese
Sunday, May 12	Mothers' Day	
	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
Monday, May 13	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study at Perkins, exit 7 all are welcome
	4-6 p.m.	Car Seat Safety Check in church parking lot
Tuesday, May 14	1:00 p.m.	Presbyterian Women meeting
	6:00 p.m.	APPLE committee meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Gamers in Central Hall
Wednesday, May 15	1:30 p.m.	Widows' Grief Group
	4:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
	5:30 p.m.	Dinner & Fun - Baked spaghetti
	6:00 p.m.	Talent Show
	7:00 p.m.	Choir practice
Sunday, May 19	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
Pentecost - wear red	10:00 a.m.	Worship in Central Hall - Graduate Recognition
	11:30 a.m.	Lunch Bunch - Cootie Brown's - all are welcome!
Monday, May 20	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study at Perkins, exit 7 all are welcome
Tuesday, May 21	Noon	Staff meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Session meeting
Wednesday, May 22	Central Life Delivered	
	7:00 p.m.	Choir practice

Brush off your old joke book (if you have one), frame those paintings you've made this year, toot the cobwebs out of your band instrument, get'cher dancin' shoes on, write a new story or poem, find your joy and join us on Wednesday, May 15 at 6:00 p.m. for the Annual Central Talent Show!!! Dinner (Baked Spaghetti) begins at 5:30 p.m. with the "curtain" rising at 6:00 p.m. Practice clapping and cheering for our very talented members as they regale and entertain us with their accomplishments! Be there or be square!!

Save the date... We're having our Picnic in the Park on August 24 at Steele Creek Park, Pavilion G from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. (Donnie, you don't have to walk in...you can actually drive all the way to the picnic site!) More information will be forthcoming.

ANOTHER Save the date! Allen Harris and Angel Anderson are getting married! July 27, 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. All are invited to their wedding.

May 8, 2024

Central Life



Healing Hands Health

MAY
23 & 24
2024

In partnership with



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CARE OFFERED

- **Medical Exam** (Includes blood pressure check, blood sugar check, and labs)
- **Mental Health Screenings/Consults**
- **EKGs**
- **Mammograms (Friday May 24th only)**- Patients must email Suzanna.Hale@balladhealth.org to schedule their mammogram appointment

Complimentary meal and giveaway opportunities for attendees!



United Way of Bristol TN,VA
Partner Agency



245 Midway Medical Park Bristol, TN 37620



www.healinghandshealth.org

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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:

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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