



## Reflections From a Rocking Chair

“Practice makes perfect!” a wise saying when applied to learning to play tennis or golf, when learning to play the piano or violin, or learning to draw or even to learn to write or read. Everything takes practice because then you have muscle memory on how to do it. I know practice improves one’s skill, but as a beginning artist, I don’t live by that saying at all. I know I would get better if I had drawing time everyday. But some days and even weeks have no time for that. So then when I do sit down to draw again, it is like starting over and relearning the basics.

As followers of Christ, we, too, have to practice our faith. It is not something that just happens. But in the good times, we need to pray daily and read the Bible and learn about God’s love and grace. For it is this practice that comes into play when we hit difficult times or times when we feel alone or abandoned by God or overwhelmed by life. That is why we have spiritual practices.

This summer, I will be preaching on 8 different spiritual practices that we as a church and as individuals are to have as a part of our life as followers of Christ. Each one is connected to the others and helps us to grow fully as Christians. This last Sunday I started with Radical Welcome, which is more than just saying, “glad you are here,” or having greeters at the door. But it is about having an intentional attitude about welcoming everyone into the Kingdom of God.

In today’s world, fewer and fewer people are engaged in the life of the local church. The pandemic impacted this, but also the church as an institution has shown itself to be “dangerous” to some, irrelevant to others, and for many, just something that does not make a difference in the world. I think that this is very sad commentary on the church, and I want to challenge us here at Central (and other churches) to truly consider what it might mean to welcome everyone into our fellowship.

I know, Central is well known as a friendly, welcoming church. But that is only if people come. Statistics show that most people would attend worship with a friend if invited. But we as Christians have to extend that invitation to “come with me.” Maybe you know someone who does not go to church or have a place of belonging in a faith community. Maybe you live next door to someone who wonders what you are doing when you head out of your house on Sunday mornings and then get home around lunch time. Maybe you work with someone who is struggling and needing to find a place where they can be accepted and loved and cared for. Invite them to join you at worship on a Sunday.

As a part of my sermon, I quoted a welcome statement from a church. It really includes everyone--- including you and me. I wanted to have it as a part of this newsletter so you can look at the list of those welcome into the Kingdom of God. Do you see yourself in this list? Do you see your children or grandchildren in this list? Do you know someone who is a part of this list? Then extend a welcome to them to join you at worship.

Sharing the Good news of Jesus Christ is hard work, but that is our job as disciples of Jesus. We are called to share the Good News with people in our local area, in the surrounding areas, and wherever we may go. We are to invite people in and allow them to discover that the church in general, and Central in particular is a place of welcome and safety and where they can belong. So practice inviting someone to join you at worship next week. Let us all live by extending Radical welcome to our neighbors and friends.

Grace and peace,

Ann

Sermons



June 9: Sharing Good News: Prayer  
 June 16: Sharing Good News: Justice  
 June 23: Guest Preacher: Patricia Neel (CLP)  
 June 30: Sharing Good News: Teaching

Acts 3:1-10; Matthew 6:7-15  
 Acts 6:1-7; Micah 6:8

Matthew 28:16-20;  
 2 Timothy 3:16-17

**A welcome statement by a church:  
 An Example of Radical Welcome**

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, gay, straight, filthy rich, dirt poor.... If you have crying newborns, are broken hearted, or in need of a safe place.

We welcome you if you can sing like Bocelli or if you can't carry a tune in a bucket.

You're welcome here if you're "just browsing," just woke up, or just got out of jail. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome soccer moms, NASCAR dads,...latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters.

We welcome you if you're having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion," we've been there too.

If you blew all your offering money this weekend, you're welcome here.

We offer a special welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or because grandma is in town and wanted to go to church.

We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down your throat as a kid or got lost in traffic and wound up here by mistake.

We welcome tourists, seekers and doubters, bleeding hearts ... and you!



**Help Wanted: Nursery Worker**

We are looking for nursery staff that would be willing to serve on Sunday mornings, 8:45-11:15 a.m. and care for our youngest children. During the school year, this includes also Wednesday nights and special services throughout the year. If you know of someone who might be interested, please let Kim Profitt or Ann Aichinger know. There is a job description and application on Ann Aichinger's office door.



Thursday, June 27

Just Jump! with the kids

Wednesday, July 17

Leave for Montreat! (Middle School)

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

Welcome Kelly!!!

New Member:

On Sunday, June 2, the Session welcomed Kelly Hamrick as a member of Central. She is the mother to Keira, who sings in the Contemporary Praise band. She is married to Jason and also has a daughter Kaylee who will be attending UT-Knoxville in the fall. Though she has been a part of our church family for several years, please welcome her and be sure to tell her your name.





## Session Notes

At the May stated meeting, the session did not have a quorum. So there was an email vote on the items for action that needed to be made.

The following actions from the Committees were approved:

- \* Apple Preschool had one new staff member hired
- \* There will be a church picnic on Saturday, August 24, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Pavilion G at Steele Creek Park.
- \* Approval of Kim Profitt as a non-signer on the bank accounts so she can be in communication about our finances.
- \* Approval of Patricia Neel (CLP) to preach on June 23.
- \* David White took back his resignation from session and will serve out one more year of his term.

The next Session meeting will be on June 18 at 7 p.m. by Hybrid.

### Is it time to Catch up?



As we are all busy in the summer with vacations and trips, it is easy to get out of the habit of being a part of the faith community here at Central. Remember you can join us for worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. online by connecting through the Central Presbyterian Facebook page. Or you can watch the pre-recorded worship available on the website as well as on Facebook (Central Pres and Ann Aichinger's pages). But we ask that you don't forget about supporting the work of the church financially as well. Now is the time you can catch up with your pledge or giving. If you have any questions about your giving record, please contact Kim Profitt, Finance Director (276-669-3157 or [finance.cpc@bvunet.net](mailto:finance.cpc@bvunet.net)).

### Sharing Good News

In Scripture, we are called to rejoice with one another. 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@bvunet.net](mailto:office.cpc@bvunet.net) or call 276-669-3157) so we can include it in upcoming newsletters.

**Pastoral Concerns:**

- \* Tyler Franklin is recovering from a feral cat bite at home;
- \* Frances Van Dyke is having follow up appointments;
- \* Larry Surber is at home;
- \* Dave Wilson is at home;
- \* Vicki Myers is slowly improving in her health;
- \* Andrew Clark is dealing with cancer treatment for a mass in his leg;



**Continued Prayers for:**

Ken Brittle, Randy Broyles, Doris Crabtree, Dick Gordon, Bob and Becky Ingram, Jim and Joan Keith, Heather Kiser, Missy McCord, Woody McGlothlin, Maxine Howell, Niki McGrew, Archer Parsons, 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; Christy Blevins' father, Roger McGhee; Peggy Callison's son, Orion; Hall's aunt, Mildred Rutherford; Josie Russell's cousin Carey Jo Davis who is cancer free; Mike Ellis' cousin's son; friend of Paige Thompson, Eric Martin who is dealing with brain cancer, and whose wife is pregnant.

*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.*



**Attention to all!!!!** Flat Jesus wants to travel or just “be” with you as you go through your day. Flat Jesus is ready to join you. **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 television shows with you...the list is endless where Flat Jesus may be found. Where will we find Flat Jesus this Summer? Send pictures and stories to [josieannrussell@gmail.com](mailto:josieannrussell@gmail.com).

**A heartfelt thank you** has been expressed by Archer Parsons for all the cards, well-wishes, calls, and visits during recovery from her broken ankles!



<b>Calendar</b>		
<b>June 5 - June 19</b>		
Wednesday, June 5	<b>Central Life Delivered</b>	
	1:30 p.m.	Widows' Grief Group
	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Thursday, June 6	10:30 a.m.	Meals on Wheels Delivery
Sunday, June 9	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship in Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Lemonade in Shade -Hosted by Fellowship comm.
	3:00 p.m.	MECCA HYE Bon Voyage Concert in Sanctuary
Monday, June 10	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study - Perkins, exit 7
Tuesday, June 11	7:00 p.m.	Gamers in Central Hall
Wednesday, June 12	4:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Sunday, June 16	9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
<b>Father's Day</b>	10:00 a.m.	Worship in Central Hall - SunnySide offering
	11:00 a.m.	Lemonade in Shade - Hosted by Worship comm.
Monday, June 17	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study - Perkins, Exit 7
Tuesday, June 18	12:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Session Meeting
	6:30-8:30 p.m.	APPLE CPR Class
Wednesday, June 19	<b>Central Life Delivered</b>	
	1:30 p.m.	Widows' Grief Group
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	<b>Ann Aichinger on Vacation until June 26.</b>	

**Save the date... Lunch Bunch** invites everyone to join us at Bristol Gardens and Grill on June 23 after worship. Bristol Gardens and Grill is located at 285 Vance St, Bristol VA. They have a menu that incorporates smoked meats and fresh grown produce and herbs.

**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.

**Men's Bible Study** will continue through the Summer. They meet every Monday morning at 7:00 a.m. at Perkins, Exit 7. All are welcome! Talk to Tim Landis or John Dodge for more information

## WHY Should I Be A MEMBER?

There is very little that changes in a person's participation opportunities when he or she joins Central Presbyterian Church. And yet everything changes with membership.

We open our doors and hearts to all people, and participation in the life of the church family is not based on membership. But what church membership does is signify that being a part of the faith community of Christ followers is a prime commitment in your life. Along with membership comes the opportunity to serve on Session and to vote as a part of the congregation.

Want to find out more about Central Presbyterian, and how to be involved or to join the membership? Membership is not required to participate fully in the life of the church. Often people are involved in church activities, and then discover their desire to be a member. Membership involves a profession of faith or reaffirmation of faith in Jesus Christ, and if you have not been baptized, we will have the Sacrament of Baptism. If you want to find out more, please talk to Ann Aichinger.



### Pastor's Vacation and Time Away

Ann Aichinger will be away several times throughout the summer. She will be on vacation June 19-26 as she will be going with a friend to New York City. On Sunday, June 23, we will have Patricia Neel, who is a certified Lay Pastor in Abingdon Presbytery serve as our guest preacher and worship leader.

On Fathers' Day, we will be taking up our **Sunnyside Communities Offering**. This money is used to support residents who have outlived their financial resources and allows them to continue living at Sunnyside, King's Grant, or Summit Square with the same dignity and respect they've always experienced. Your generous gifts support the difference between living out or adding life to final years.



**Lemonade in the Shade** continues through the Summer with cookies and lemonade under the portico following worship each Sunday.

Fellowship Committee will host June 9;

Worship Committee will host June 16 (Fathers' Day);

June 23 is Lunch Bunch, so no Lemonade in the Shade, join us for lunch instead!

Evangelism Committee will host June 30.

331 Euclid Avenue  
Bristol, VA 24201  
Phone: 276-669-3157  
Fax: 276-669-7362  
E-mail: [office.cpc@bvu.net](mailto:office.cpc@bvu.net)

## How to Keep in Touch:

[www.facebook.com/CPCBristol](https://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](http://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	<a href="mailto:ann.cpc@bvu.net">ann.cpc@bvu.net</a>
Robert Campbelle, Music Director	<a href="mailto:robertcampbelle@gmail.com">robertcampbelle@gmail.com</a>
Joy Smith-Briggs, Organist-Emerita	<a href="mailto:gvbjoyb@btes.tv">gvbjoyb@btes.tv</a>
Josie Russell, Youth & Young Adult Dir. Social Media Coordinator	<a href="mailto:josieannrussell@gmail.com">josieannrussell@gmail.com</a>
Kim Profitt, Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:office.cpc@bvu.net">office.cpc@bvu.net</a>
Kim Profitt, Finance Director	<a href="mailto:finance.cpc@bvu.net">finance.cpc@bvu.net</a>
Jeremy Kline, Kitchen Coordinator	
Michelle Blankenship, Dir. of APPLE Academy	<a href="mailto:applepreschool@yahoo.com">applepreschool@yahoo.com</a>
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*