

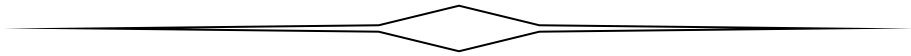


Ash Wednesday dinner and service: Wednesday, March 5, 5:30-7 p.m.

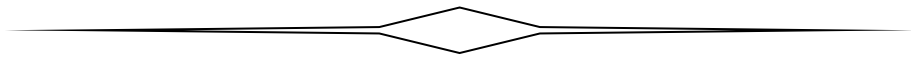
On Wednesday, March 5, we will begin the season of Lent, which are the 40 days (not including Sundays) before Easter. We will gather in Central Hall for dinner and then have a service of receiving ashes.

Lent is often connected to the idea of giving up something for the season (i.e. chocolate, soda, coffee, etc.). But usually it is a minor thing in our lives rather than thinking about it sacrificially. Maybe instead of giving up something, we choose to add a discipline or activity to our lives in response to Jesus' gift of his life for us.

Maybe it is spending time each day in prayer, or reading through one of the Gospels. Maybe it is deciding to reconnect with people in your life by writing a note or an email to check in on them and tell them the difference their friendship makes for your life. Maybe it is getting involved in a community project to work on justice issues for our neighbors. Everyone is welcome to join us for dinner and the service in Central Hall as we start this new season for our life together.



**DON'T FORGET TO
SET YOUR CLOCKS
1 HOUR AHEAD ON
SATURDAY NIGHT!**



**Stand With Ukraine!
Sunday, March 9
3:30- 6:00 p.m.**

On Sunday, Abingdon Presbytery is hosting a "We Support Ukraine" march and event at Central, 3:30-6 p.m. Everyone is invited to come and support our Ukrainian families through a march on Euclid. Please wear blue and yellow, and you can bring posters showing our support. As a part of our activities, we will be making Pinwheels for Peace and putting them in the front flower beds. Also, we will have a Ukrainian dinner in Central Hall where we will watch a brief video about life in Ukraine. Celebration Congregation and their Ukrainian families have been invited to join us.

A Moment in History...

A change in the name of the church: *from the Centennial History (1875-1975) pages 15-17*

The years from 1891-1899 were, perhaps the darkest days in Central's history. The members drifted away; some moved from the area and others transferred their membership other church; some died; until all there was left was one elder, Victor Doriot, plus 5 stouthearted believers. The church almost disbanded, for no progress was being made. Presbytery, realizing that that the dissolution of Central Church was probably imminent, asked the 6 remaining members their views about the possible action. Mr. Doriot and his family stated emphatically that they would not be dissolved, and if the old ship of Zion went down, they would go with it; so the continuity of the organization was preserved.....

Among the members of the then faltering church in the last years of the century was a professor at King College, William Henry Tappey Squires. He had served as a deacon, and no doubt became fired up with the zeal to help save "the old ship of Zion." At any rate, he came as pastor immediately following his graduation from Union Theological Seminary (Richmond, VA), and had a thunderbolt hit the little congregation, the result could scarcely have been more electrifying. Mr. Squire must have had that rare ability to lead without arrogance and to organize without regimentation, for the church underwent a revival which brought new life and zeal to its members and to the community. ...

From the beginning of his pastorate, Mr. Squires began the publication of a church letter called "the Covenanter." In its pages, he praised the good work going on, mentioned advertisers, raising certain needs of the church. He also decried certain activities in the community such as attending carnivals, and among the members, such as stinginess of time and of the pocketbook. Within the early publications, there was expressed a dissatisfaction among the members with the name "Second Presbyterian Church." Mr. Squires made it clear that no change would be made until the vote to change was unanimous. The vote was taken on January 15, 1902 to request the Presbytery to change the name to "Central Presbyterian Church." Mr. Squires wrote in the church newsletter that the "name should be changed from Second Presbyterian --which we never were---to Central Presbyterian--which we have always been." The action was most significant for it suggested new life, unity, energy and determination to succeed which had taken possession of the congregation. In Mr. Squires words: "we haven't a single 'croaker'--and we don't want any. The Church is moving forward with an impetus that nothing can defeat. 'The Lord is my banner' (Exodus 17:15) is our motto and in His name we set up our standard."

Lenten Devotionals:

We have three devotionals available this year. For those with children, we have Stepping Stones through Lent. We have a large print option, A Season of Grace. Then the regular devotionals is Savior, Servant and Friend.

Wednesday Night studies for Adults

On Wednesday nights, we will be looking at the themes of our Lenten devotional: Savior, Servant, Friend. You can get a copy of this devotional for your daily use, or to add to our time together on Wednesdays. The schedule is:

March 5: Ash Wednesday service
 March 12: Forgiver
 March 19: Packing Backpack bags (Ann Aichinger is away)
 March 26: Healer and Listener
 April 2: Encourager
 April 9: Protector
 April 16: Comforter



Angel Harris (Allen Harris' wife), whose birthday is March 12 and will be joining the church soon. Kim King, whose birthday is March 31 and will be joining the church soon. I missed Courtney Reese in the last Central Life. Her birthday is March 22. Sorry Courtney! Kim



- Wed, March 5 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner & Ash Wednesday Service
- Sun, March 9 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. No meeting after worship but please come to the Stand With Ukraine event to support our friends
- Wed. Mar 12 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Dinner and craft activity
- Sun. Mar 16 11:00 a.m. Meeting after worship - make King cakes!

Montreat

Montreat Summer Conferences

It is time to sign up to take part in these amazing summer conferences. If there are financial issues, please talk to Ann Aichinger about a scholarship.

This year, we will attend the **High School Youth Conference** (Rising 9th-just graduated high school) at Montreat June 1-7. The theme this year is Light My Path. To reserve your place, let Josie Russell or Ann Aichinger know and reserve your place with \$200. The **first deadline for signing up is Wednesday, March 26**. After that date the cost will increase by \$25 each month. Don't hesitate----do it now and join us for a great week.

Montreat Middle School Conference (Completed 5th-8th graders) is held at Maryville College in Maryville, TN. The dates for this are Wednesday, July 16- Sunday, July 20. The theme is Wonder Full! The cost is \$250. It is time to reserve your place with \$250. **The deadline is March 26**. Don't delay. Let Ann Aichinger know to reserve you a spot, and turn in your money. Don't hesitate----do it now and join us for a great time together with other Middle School youth.

Congratulations to Ada Ritchie who will be attending the United Nations Conference on Gender Equality in New York City. She has been chosen from the PCUSA as a delegate and will be in NYC March 7-16. Ada will be staying at the Church of the Covenant with other young adults. She will be participating in several different areas of conversations as a part of this conference. Please keep Ada in your prayers for safe travels as well as for a Spirit-led experience, and for her to share her leadership and ideas with the conference. Ada is excited about this opportunity and will make a report about her experience.



Sermons



Sermons:			
March 9	Facing Difficult Times	Luke 4:1-13	Sanct
March 16	Guest Preacher, Dr. Martin Dotterweich		CH
March 23	Guest Preacher, Dr. Martin Dotterweich		Sanct
March 30	Who Really is Welcome?	Luke 15:1-3,11b-32	CH
April 3	What a waste!	John 12:1-8	Sanct

Sunday, March 9 is Blue Shirt Sunday! The first Sunday of Lent is designated **Blue Shirt Sunday** as a testament of one of the ways *One Great Hour of Sharing* makes a difference in disaster assistance. Please be a part of this joyful manifestation of hope. Wear your blue shirt in recognition of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

- March 5 Baked Pasta
- March 12 Soup & Salad
- March 19 Barbecue from Delta Blues
- March 26 Breakfast for dinner



To: All Presbyterian Women
 Subject: Monthly Bible Study
 "Economic Climate Justice" - Lesson #7
 Tuesday, March 11 at 11:00 a.m.
 Small Dining Room
 Taught by Pastor Ann Aichinger

"The Bible's Economic Wisdom Never Promises to Eradicate Poverty: You Always Have the Poor With You." But we can reduce suffering and strengthen the entire social network.

We hope to see you there! Your co-moderators:, Mary Ann Blevins & Thais Sikora

The Shiny GOAT Award from Thriving Congregations Project

For the last three years we have been a part of the Thriving Congregations Project out of Montreat Conference Center and the Black Mountain School of Theology and Communities. We have had a team go for training 6 times as well as having on going coaching on a monthly basis. As a part of this project, we have identified that food insecurity is the key issue for us as a church to seek to address, and connected to food issues is also housing, transportation and industry. In mid-February, Robert Campbelle attended the cohort gathering, and he presented the whole vision of where Central is at work and what we are seeking to be a part of. As a recognition of our work, we were given a Shiny GOAT award for "Our Belief that there are no limitations or boundaries to what we can do with the Spirit of God." Tim Conder and Dan Rhodes of the Thriving Congregations faculty said of Central---"you all simply don't think that there are any limits to what you can do—and you are open to the new opportunities that come your way."





Right Now Media -Lent, Holy Week and Easter selections

Our church has been gifted an annual subscription to Right Now Media (rightnowmedia.org), which is an online video collection of Bible Studies and stories for all ages. You can load the app onto your TV or computer and then you can browse the library of videos. Check your email for your invitation or call the church office to have your invite re-sent.

As we are preparing for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter, you might want to check out some of the following videos:

For Children: The Easter Party or Jesus comes into Jerusalem

For Families: He is Alive!

For Adults: Good Friday and Easter with Francis Chan or Holy Week Pilgrimage with Graham Tomlin

You may browse the entire library with key words or books of the Bible. This is a gift for you and your family. Feel free to share it with your extended family and enjoy learning more about what the Bible has to say and how we are called to live as Christ’s followers.

Daylight Saving Time begins this Sunday. But in preparation for that, instead of waiting until Saturday night to change clocks, why not change them during the day on Saturday? This way you begin to change your routine and schedule to fit the time change. Then Sunday morning is not so abrupt with “losing” an hour.



Do you like to cook or willing to put a meal together to share with someone in need in the church? Are you willing to be on a list to be called on to provide a meal for a family or individual who are in transition, or coming home from the hospital or rehab, or dealing with a new health issue? Through the Care and Concern Committee, we seek to offer help to our church family and friends who

are in need. If you are able to be a part of this group, you would have an occasional opportunity (as the need arose) to get the food together and deliver it, and you would be given plenty of time to do this. This is one of the ministries that our church has had in the past, but our list of available people to provide a meal has diminished. If you are willing to be on this list, please contact Ann Aichinger or Nancy Kiser, member of Care and Concern. Your participation is greatly appreciated and is a wonderful way to help those in our church family.



To make an appointment to have your picture taken with a professional sitting (you’ll receive a free 8x10 portrait) go to our website or FaceBook page and click on the link for scheduling

SAVE THE DATE
Make your appointment to be included in the new pictorial directory!

Central Presbyterian Church
Bristol, Va
Photo dates: APRIL 11,12 2025

If you don’t use a computer, call Kim at the office 276.669.3157 and she will make the appointment for you. Open appointments are Friday afternoon & evening, and Saturday all day!



March 5, 2025

Calendar

March 5 - 26, 2025

Wednesday, March 5	Central Life Delivered 1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Widows' Grief Group Dinner - baked pasta Ash Wednesday Service Choir practice
Thursday, March 6	10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Meals on Wheels delivery Christian Ed meeting
Sunday, March 9 Blue Shirt Sunday Daylight Saving Ends	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 3:30 p.m.	Adult Sunday school Worship - Sanctuary Stand With Ukraine! event
Monday, March 10	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible study at Perkins, exit 7
Tuesday, March 11	11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Presbyterian Women meeting APPLE committee meeting Gamers meet in Central Hall
Wednesday, March 12	4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Finance committee meeting Dinner - Soup & Sandwich night Program Choir practice
Friday, March 14	Ann leaves for Italy. Will return March 24.	
Sunday, March 16	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school Worship - Central Hall, Dr. Dotterweich preaching
Monday, March 17	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible study at Perkins
Wednesday, March 19	1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Widows' Grief group Dinner - BBQ from Delta Blues Pack for Backpacks Choir practice
Sunday, March 23	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday School Worship - Sanctuary, Dr. Dotterweich preaching Youth meeting
Monday, March 24	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study at Perkins, exit 7
Tuesday, March 25	12:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Staff meeting Session meeting
Wednesday, March 26	Central Life Delivered 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Dinner- Breakfast for dinner Program Choir practice

Pastoral Concerns:

- * Carol Bryer has torn a tendon in her foot and is in a boot;
- * Pastor Jack Stevens is in the hospital recovering from a broken hip;
- * Christy Blevins' father has been in the hospital this week;
- * Sherry Wilson, Sandy Wilson's sister-in-law is back in the hospital;
- * Dick Gordon is at home from his stay in the hospital;
- * Jean Thomason has ongoing health difficulties;
- * Jim Otis is recovering at home;
- * Glen Van Dyke is at home.

Continued Prayers for:

Alderman Family, Nancy Arnold, Guy & Joy Briggs, Randy Broyles, Doris Crabtree, Bob and Becky Ingram, Heather Kiser, Barbara Mann, Mark McCord, Sasha Moha, Woody McGlothlin, Ken Moss, Archer Parsons, Marvin Tadlock, Ed Updyke, Rich Williams, and Linda Wise.

Prayers for Family Members and Friends:

Carl Vollmer, Mike's brother; 2-year-old Emma, in Cathy White's family, has been diagnosed with Leukemia; Laura Scott Rasnake, Cathy White & Christy Blevins' friend; Ruby Parker, Cathy & David White's friend - cancer; Marvin Tadlock's brother, Donald; Barbara Mann's daughter-in-law, Pamela; Wes Ritchie's work friend, Johann Coetzee; Glenn Myers' cousin, Heather; Donnie Spurell's sister, Barbara; Guy Briggs' daughter, Tracey Patterson; Joy Briggs' friend, Ginger; Amy Williams, friend of the church; Peggy Callison's son, Orion; Drake Steele, Joy Brigg's great-grandson; Sandy Wilson's aunt, Connie Perry; Doris Hall's aunt, Mildred Rutherford; Doris Hall's good friend, Becky.

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.

Our Christian sympathy is extended to :

Bernice Hagaman and her family with the sudden death of her oldest brother on 2/25/25.
Linda & John Barker in the death of her brother, Walter, on 2/21/25.

Save the Dates!!

March 17 - King Lecture at 7:00 p.m. Matthew Dickerson, professor at Middlebury College, will be speaking in Central Hall. His topic is *Hope and Lament in J.R.R. Tolkein's Middle-earth*.

March 30 - 3:00 p.m. The Morningstar Flute Ensemble will be performing at Central. Come and listen to a piccolo, concert flute, alto flute, bass flute, and contra bass flute as they perform.

Congregational Meeting Update:

At the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 2, the following people were elected to serve on the 2025 Nominating Committee: Diane Abbey, Kim Proffitt and Sheree Taylor. From the Session, David White and Barbara Mann will serve. They will begin their work in April, and ask for your prayers as they seek leaders to serve on Session.

The 2025 Budget was presented at the meeting and copies are available. You can get a copy in the church office or call the office to have one mailed or emailed to you. Thank you to everyone's continual generous contributions to the work and ministry here at Central.

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

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
Joy Smith-Briggs, Organist-Emerita	gvbjoyb@btes.tv
Josie Russell, Youth & Young Adult Dir. Social Media Coordinator	josieannrussell@gmail.com
Kim Profitt, Administrative Assistant, Newsletter Editor	office.cpc@bvu.net
Kim Profitt, Finance Director	finance.cpc@bvu.net
Jeremy Kline, Kitchen Coordinator	
Michelle Blankenship, Dir. of APPLE Academy	applepreschool@yahoo.com
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