

## Reflections from a Rocking Chair

Happy Easter!! What a glorious worship service we had on April 20 as we celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. There were so many who worked to make the day such a festive event. Many of you brought family and friends to worship, and we had several guests who simply came to worship with us. I do want to express appreciation to a number of people who were involved:

- Thank you to Robert, Campbelle, Joy Briggs, the Sanctuary Choir, the Hand bell choir and Rourke Gearing for wonderful music.
- Thank you to all those who served in the day as greeters, ushers, and keepers of children in the nursery.
- Thank you to Bella Ritchie, Keira Hamrick, Yeva Mashkin and others who helped with Children's Church time.
- Thank you to our sound and technology team who makes sure that the service is audible and live-streamed.
- Thank you to the Mashkin Family and the Moha family for assembling the lovely Flower Cross, and for sharing wonderful Ukrainian Easter bread.
- Thank you to everyone who brought flowers for the Easter cross. We had such a variety from roses to bleeding hearts to lilacs and tulips to sunflowers and many more.
- Thank you to the youth group for preparing the candy bags for the Easter Egg hunt, and all the fun that was had in searching for the 300 eggs in the front yard (I am sure there are still a few still out there).
- Thank you to those who invited family, friends, and co-workers to worship. You as members and friends of Central are the best evangelists for the church because you are able to invite people to join you for worship and to experience the welcome of Central.
- Thank you to everyone for coming in-person or joining us online as we worshiped together.

Now you may say, since Easter is over, we can look ahead to summertime. But wait! In the church calendar, we are now in the season of Easter, which lasts the 50 days, leading up to Pentecost (June 8). In Eastertide, we hear stories about how the Risen Christ encounters people along the journey and invites them to believe in the power of Life. Toward the end of Eastertide, we will also observe Ascension Sunday on June 1, when Jesus left his disciples to go into heaven. But before he left the earth, he instructed his disciples to go and wait for the Holy Spirit to come (which is Pentecost).

So I guess what I am trying to say is don't rush through Easter too soon. Live into the celebration and reality of new life we have in Christ, and be on the lookout for where you might meet the Risen Lord in your daily lives. Easter is one of those holidays that cannot be contained in a 24 hour period, but in fact becomes our new reality for living life with hope and faith shown in acts of love. Remember that every time we gather for worship on Sundays is a celebration of Easter, for we hear those words: Believe the Good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. So continue to celebrate the Resurrection! Happy Easter!

Grace and peace,

Ann Aichinger



April 23, 2025

## Central Life

Sermons



### Sermons:

April 27	Guest Preacher: Dr. Martin Dotterweich	Ephesians 3	Central Hall
May 4	Guest Preacher: Dr. Martin Dotterweich	Ephesians 4	Sanctuary
May 11	Living the Promises of Easter	Acts 9:36-43	Central Hall
May 18	Homecoming 150th Anniversary Worship		Sanctuary
May 25	Living Life on the Way Home	John 14:1-14	Central Hall

**Palm Sunday Attendance: 94**

**Easter Sunday Attendance: 201**

### Wednesday Night studies for Adults

On Wednesday nights, we will be looking at the themes of our Lenten devotional: Savior, Servant, Friend. The schedule is:

April 23: Jesus: Savior, Servant, Friend: Comforter	Breakfast for dinner
April 30 - Packing Bags for Backpack Program	Baked Potato
May 7 - Central Trivia & Fun	Baked Pasta
May 14: Central's Got Talent Show (sign up today!)	Cook Out



### VARIETY SHOW, Wednesday, May 14

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" how on **Wednesday, May 14, 5:30-7 p.m.**

This is an all-church event, and we hope everyone will come out to see the various talents of our church family. But we need you to sign up and be a part of the show. We will have dinner at 5:30 and then at 6:15 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.

### Church Directory Photo Retake day: Tuesday, April 29

Thank you to everyone who came out to get your photos taken for our new Pictorial Directory. We know a number of people missed out due to schedule conflicts or illnesses. But here is your chance to have your photo taken and be included in the directory. The date is Tuesday, April 29 from 1:30 - 8:00 p.m. You can contact Patty Caldwell to schedule your appointment. Don't miss out---we want you included.





**Make plans now to join us for  
Homecoming Weekend  
Faithful Past—Joyful Future  
May 16-18, 2025**

Here is the schedule for the weekend:

Friday, May 16	7:30 p.m.	AMEn Chorus Spring Concert in Central Hall “Music from the High C’s”
Saturday, May 17	all day	Church Picnic and storytelling at Sugar Hollow Park Shelter A—near a playground with grassy area for games Bring a dish or two to share for our cookout Lunch at 12:30 p.m. We have use of the shelter from 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 18	10 a.m.	Worship with Communion in the Sanctuary Historical Reflection by Ed Whitehead Special Music Rev. Ann Elyse Hicks, Abingdon Presbytery leader, Guest preacher
	11:30 a.m.	Catered meal in Central Hall (RSVP needed) Sharing of stories and videos Ann Aichinger’s State of the Church’s Future address

Invite your family and friends to join us for any or all of these events as we celebrate  
our Faithful Past and our Joyful Future together.

**Please contact Kim 276.669.3157 to RSVP (needed) for the catered meal on May 18 following  
worship!! RSVPs needed before May 10th! Catered by Janie’s Place, Bristol TN.**



**Help Celebrate our 150 years of Ministry!**

One way everyone can celebrate our 150 years of ministry as church is to become a sponsor in the Backpack program. For \$150 you can provide food for one child for half of a school year or \$250 covers a full school year of food for a child. As we provide 140 bags each week for children and youth in our community, we continue to seek support financially for this ministry. You will find a form in the newsletter or available in the church office. Join us in caring for so many in our community as well as celebrating our faithful past and our joyful future.

# Session Notes

The Session met on Tuesday, April 15 for the stated meeting. After Susan Campbelle gave the opening devotional and prayer, Angel Harris was received into membership of Central. Angel married Allen Harris last year, and is excited about being a part of Central.

Then the session shared a favorite Easter memory, and we have some serious memories and very funny ones. Barbara Mann will represent Central at the Abingdon Presbytery meeting on May 8 at First Buchanan, Grundy, VA. Ann Aichinger reviewed the schedule for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Homecoming weekend (May 16-18).

Ann Aichinger addressed the issue of the GA Unification Commission's decision to unify the national budgets and to cut the Mission Board from funding. The Session authorized Ann to write a letter to the GA Stated Clerk as well as to the Unification Commission expressing our concerns with this decision. All Session members will sign the letters.

Ann Aichinger gave her pastor's report and reminded everyone about the Easter Sunday events. The Session approved sadly the dismissal of Brenda Miller to First Presbyterian Church in Hendersonville, TN. We will miss Brenda but wish her well.

John Barker gave an update on the Ukrainian situation and all rejoiced that Sasha is now home for a while. The two families are currently working on establishing asylum status in the USA. Each of the committees offered reports on their work. Christian Education expressed a thanks for everyone who went to see King of Kings on April 13 (we had 26 go to the movies). The Session approved for David White to look into getting a large ice maker for the church. Thanks was expressed to Patty Caldwell in her work in coordinating the Church Directory photos and design.

After sharing pastoral updates, Ann Aichinger closed the meeting with prayer. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 20 at 7 p.m. Hybrid.

## History Moment of Central Presbyterian Church: Inherited traditions

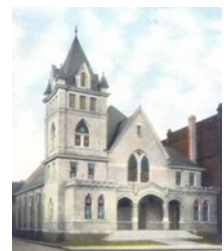
The three beautiful windows in our chapel has their original home in the 1904 church. The central window "Gethsemane" is a memorial to the first pastor (1875-1877), Dr. James Doak Tadlock. Flanking it are "the Nativity" and "the Resurrection," memorials to Marie Doriot Vance and to Dt. Donald McIver, respectively. (Marie Doriot Vance was the moth of Dr. Douglas Vance who was father to Mary Kay English; Dr. Donald McIver was Central's pastor 1921-1946) and was the father of Mrs. R. Leslie Blevins and Mrs. Lester L. Pfleeger.)

When we have communion, you can see the tall silver pitcher from which our pastor pours the wine into a silver cup. These inherited pieces were the gifts of Glenna Montague Maver at the time of her marriage to Mr. A.A. Maver. Both Glenna Montague and Marie Doriot were young women who served their church well.

Traditions, too, are inherited. Our Wednesday night suppers began in the late 1040s. Served at the Hotel Bristol (there was no room in the church), we paid the pricey sum of fifty cents each for our meals.

Another tradition (a wedding tradition) was NOT brought to our present church. It required considerable acrobatic ability on the part of the groom and best man! You see, the room where these two waited for the time of their entrance had no outside door. On wedding days one could see the groom and the best man being hoisted through a northeast window by the groomsmen. It was thought best to discontinue this tradition.

Two of Central's finest traditions were inherited from her predecessors and are an integral part of our church lives. We are, and always have been, a friendly and caring church. We are, and always have been, a music-loving church. These two characteristics undergird our very being, complementing and making strong the spoken word.





**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](mailto:office.cpc@bvu.net) or by calling (276-669-3157). We will recognize our graduates on **Sunday, June 1** as a part of our worship service.

**Foster's Closet  
at Presbyterian Children's Home of the Highlands,  
Wytheville, VA**

Foster's Closet is a new venture by PCHH and they collect gently used clothes and shoes for children, youth and adults. Then they are able to offer those clothing items to those in need. Also Foster's Closet offers the youth of the PCHH opportunity to learn how to manage a store, and stock items as well as be involved with customers.



So as you are doing some spring cleaning, and changing over your closets to summertime, consider gathering clothing and shoes into bags or boxes, and bring them to the church to go to Foster's Closet in May. If you have any questions, please talk to Ann Aichinger. For more information about Foster's Closet see <https://www.pchh.org>



**Why did we use Eco-Palms on Palm Sunday?**

Several people inquired about the Palm branches we had for Worship on Sunday, April 13. This year we ordered them from Eco-Palms which works with churches and Palm farmers in Central American countries that seek to work on sustainable forest management. The palms we had were non-oil palms called *Chamaedorea palm*.

By purchasing Eco-palms, we were a part of a fair trade economic effort to support men and women who process the palm fronds, and also to help preserve the forests where palms are grown. Otherwise, those forested areas are at risk of being converted to agricultural fields in the Amazon rain forest.

So yes, our palms were a way to care for the earth, to support and care for farmers and their families who harvest and process the palms, as well as provide beautiful palms for our Worship celebration. For more information on Eco-palms, check out the website: [www.ecopalms.org](http://www.ecopalms.org)



April 23, 2025

## Calendar

April 23 - May 7, 2025

Wednesday, April 23

### Central Life Delivered

5:30 p.m.	Dinner - Breakfast for dinner
6:00 p.m.	Program - Comforter
7:00 p.m.	Choir practice

Thursday, April 24

**Ann out of town until May 7**

Friday, April 25

9:00 a.m.	Gamers at Caldwell home
-----------	-------------------------

Sunday, April 27

9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school
10:00 a.m.	Worship - Central Hall - Martin Dotterweich preaching
11:00 a.m.	Youth meet

Monday, April 28

7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible study - Perkins, exit 7
-----------	-------------------------------------

Wednesday, April 30

12:00 p.m.	Widows' Grief Group to lunch
5:30 p.m.	Dinner - Baked Potato
6:00 p.m.	Pack Backpack meals
7:00 p.m.	Choir practice

Thursday, May 1

10:30 a.m.	Meals on Wheels delivery
------------	--------------------------

Sunday, May 4

9:00 a.m.	Adult Sunday school
10:00 a.m.	Worship - Sanctuary - Martin Dotterweich preaching

Monday, May 5

7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible study at Perkins, exit 7
11:00 a.m.	Care & Concern meeting

Wednesday, May 7

### Central Life Delivered

1:30 p.m.	Widows' Grief Group
5:30 p.m.	Dinner - Baked Pasta
6:00 p.m.	Program - Central Fun!
7:00 p.m.	Choir practice



### Do you have questions about Central? Interested in Joining?

Are you interested in becoming a member of Central or to find out more about the work and ministry of Central? Then contact Rev. Ann Aichinger about setting up a time to learn more about our church and what we are doing in our community and world.

**Pastoral Concerns:**

- \* Carol Bryer has torn a tendon in her foot;
- \* Jean Thomason has ongoing health difficulties;
- \* Roger Blevins, Christy's father, is having a heart ablation on April 24.

**Continued Prayers for:**

Wes Alderman and family, Nancy Arnold, Joy & Guy Briggs, Randy Broyles, Doris Crabtree, Dick Gordon, Bob and Becky Ingram, Barbara Mann, Mark McCord, Woody McGlothlin, Ken Moss, Jim Otis, Archer Parsons, Marvin Tadlock, Gale Thompson, Ed Updyke, Glen Van Dyke, Rich Williams, and Linda Wise.

**Prayers for Family Members and Friends:**

Betty Russell, Josie's grandmother; Sherry Wilson, Sandy Wilson's sister-in-law; Drake Steele, Joy Brigg's great-grandson; Cathy White's cousin, Laura Modena, David White's brother in law, Kenny Hagy; Scott Rasnake, Cathy White & Christy Blevins' friend; Ruby Parker, Cathy & David White's friend; 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; 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.*

**We extend our deepest sympathy** to Jim and Joan Keith in the death of Jim's brother Gene, who died on April 8th.



**Please Welcome** Hudson Eugene Semenkwitz into our world! He arrived at 4:56 a.m. and is 7lbs 2 oz and 20" long. Proud parents are Ashton & Paul Semenkwitz. Linda and Eugene Waldron are excited maternal grandparents! Congratulations!!

**Please welcome our newest member, Angel Harris!** Angel was received into membership on April 15th during the Session meeting. Angel married Allen Harris last year. Please be sure to introduce yourself and say your name often so Angel can get to know you.

Angel Harris  
228 Colony Dr.  
Bristol, TN 37620 (540)558-8483 laughingbunch@icloud.com



As of April 24, Retta Vance's address will be Brookdale Senior Living, 375 Liberty Place Room 109, Bristol, VA 24201. Retta's phone number will remain the same! Welcome to your new home, Retta!!

April 23, 2025



Sheree Taylor	2	Mary Wampler	20
Olivia Hollo	4	Leslie Taylor	21
Carol Curry	6	Jim Butcher	22
Steve Clark	9	Ed Updike	23

### **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS OF PRAYER:**

Don't forget to set aside Wednesdays to be engaged in prayer for our Ukrainian friends, for our national response to the Ukraine/Russia war, and for peace to come to that area of the world. We know the power of prayer and we ask that you take some time on Wednesdays to offer special prayers concerning the people of Ukraine. As with any prayer, we ask for God's will to be done, and we offer ourselves as God's instruments of peace and hope. Please join us each Wednesday, wherever you are, and may we hold our friends in prayer before God.



Joy Smith-Briggs, who gave to the Backpacks program in honor of Mike Ellis and Mike Vollmer.

Ann Aichinger, who gave in memory of Leo Long, Josie Russell's grandfather.

Please pick up any remaining hydrangeas in the Sanctuary!





April 23, 2025



**Wednesday, April 23**

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Dinner and activities at church.

**Wednesday, April 30**

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Dinner and activities at church.

Packing backpacks

**Wednesday, May 7**

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Dinner and activities at church.

Game Night!

**Wednesday, May 14**

Dinner and activities at church.

Talent Show!

Sign up with Rev. Ann to show off your talent! This will also be our last Wednesday night gathering until we start up again in the fall.

**Sunday, April 27**

Youth meeting right after worship until noon.

**Sunday, May 4**

Youth meeting right after worship until noon.

**Sunday, May 11**

NO YOUTH! Happy Mother's Day

**Sunday, May 18**

Youth meeting right after worship until noon.

This will be our last Sunday meeting until August. We will have some events over the summer so that we can still see each other!

**AGO Members Recital  
5/10/2025**

11 am Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, VA



Contemporary Organ Music for Eastertide  
performed by Stone Alvarado, Robert Greene,  
James Spirup and Timothy Hagy  
Music of Jeanne Demessieux, Olivier Messiaen,  
Robert Greene and C. Griffith Bratt  
Free Admission

Contemporary Organ Music performed by:

Stone Alvarado, Robert Greene, James Spirup,  
and Timothy Hagy.

Concert begins at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary on

Saturday, May 10 and is free to all!

# Backpack Mission

Sponsor a Hungry  
Child in Honor of Our  
**150th ANNIVERSARY**



51% of Bristol city school kids are at risk for Hunger. The Backpack Mission provides 140 children with 7 nutritious meals each weekend for the entire school year!

***I'D LOVE TO SPONSOR A CHILD IN NEED!***

**\$150 - Provides one child with weekend meals for a 1/2 year**

**\$250 - Provides one child with weekend meals for an entire year**

Amount	# of Kids Sponsored	Total
\$150		
\$250		

*Please make checks out to Central Presyterian Church  
write "backpacks" in the note line or donate or*

*You can TEXT to CentralPres (no spaces and Capital C and P) to 73256. You will be  
directed to make your donation through Realm, please mark it "backpacks".*

**Name:**

**Email or Phone:**

*For more info about the program or to volunteer:  
please contact Laurel Broadfoot at [laurelbuerk@hotmail.com](mailto:laurelbuerk@hotmail.com)*

# Backpack Mission Sponsors

**Thank you to the following families who have sponsored backpack children!**

Patty & Tommy Caldwell  
Mary Wampler  
Josie Russell  
Laraine & Doug Williams  
Jean Thomason  
Ann Aichinger  
Tim Landis  
Ann Landis



Add your name to the list!



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*