



CENTRAL

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A CARING, INQUIRING, INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

November 2021, Vol 21, No 11

Sunday, November 7
All Saints Sunday
Communion/Worship



Tuesday, November 9
Properties
11:00am~ Zoom
Worship & Common Life
12:00pm~ Zoom

Monday, November 15
Finance
4:30pm~ Zoom
Session
5:30pm~ Zoom

Thursday, November 18
Deacons
5:30pm~ Zoom

Friday Nov 19 - Sunday Nov 21
Eugene Gleeman @ Central

Thursday, November 25

Office Closed

Sunday, November 28

First Sunday
of Advent

SUNDAY SERVICES

We have resumed weekly Sunday morning
10:00am worship services in the sanctuary.
To join in live from home or view later,
click this link:
<https://vimeo.com/centralpreseugene>



*"Every leaf speaks
bliss to me, fluttering
from the autumn tree."
Emily Bronte*

*"There will come a
time when you believe
everything is finished.
That will be the
beginning".*

Louis L'Amour

*"I am the Lord your God. I am holding your hand, so don't
be afraid. I am here to help you." Isaiah 41:13*

Autumn is a season of letting go, of change and transition. It is always a time of year that grabs my attention and makes me stop and think. For starters, I simply cannot ignore the beauty of the changing leaves, they demand my attention as they slowly reveal their true colors. Each week a different tree catches my eye as it seemingly glows from within, making the increasingly gray days shine a little more than one expects before the winter comes. Then the leaves let go and begin their dance in the wind as they swirl around and float to the ground. Observing these now dead leaves I can't help but be struck by what an important part they play in the life of all that is around them. By letting go, they make way for new growth on the branches they leave behind, and as they gather on the forest floor, or are heaped into compost piles and used as mulch, they go on to help prepare the ground for other plants to thrive in the spring.

The foggy mornings, the bright colors, the dance of the leaves, it all feels like a quiet lesson for us. Especially this year. Whether we embrace it or

not, we are living through a time of transition - a shift that is happening all around us. The pandemic and all that it revealed has given us permission to pause and re-evaluate much of our life - individually and together. We have seen social movements take off, governments around the world are trying to figure out what is next, many people are re-evaluating the kind of work they can and will do, and all of us are navigating difficult decisions about seemingly everything in our own lives. The amount of change can be overwhelming. Human beings often fear change. After all, even good changes bring with them challenges and grief for what came before. But the season we are living through, like any time of change, is also an opportunity. Like the leaves, we have a chance to show our true colors. We have a chance to shine unexpectedly. We have the opportunity to get creative, to do things differently, to let go of what isn't working, to learn from our mistakes, to help new things grow.

This month we will be talking a lot about change, transition, and moving forward. We will finish up our "I've been meaning to ask...?" series with the question "*Where do we go from here?*" As a part of considering that question we will be looking once more at the visioning work we are doing this year for Central. We will begin to think more deeply about where we are called to go from here as a church and how we are called to be the church in these times. That means both letting go of what is no longer helping us serve one another and God and being willing to try some new things that may feel awkward or hard at first. It means being willing to acknowledge that in this season of transition we will probably make some mistakes - and hopefully learn from them! It means being honest about what we love, and what we've learned, as we discern together where and how we can be a part of sharing God's love in this changing world. Above all, it means helping one another remember, that even when it seems everything around us is changing, our God has not changed. Our God remains faithful and loving and offers us the grace we need to keep trying to be

faithful ourselves. The last Sunday of this month is the first Sunday in Advent. A season that reminds us of the incarnational love of our God who chooses to be with us. Always. May the Light of that season lead us forward as we seek to follow where God leads.

Pastor Jennifer Martin



- Welcome new member Michael McPherson: Mike shared that after a time of seeking a new church home in Eugene, he felt most welcome and at home at Central. He was introduced to the congregation on October 24.
- The Personnel Committee reported it is still seeking to hire someone to fill the building host position. Meanwhile, fortunately, Jose Tobon, a former Central employee, is willing to work Sunday mornings, do some cleaning on Wednesdays, and check the building grounds in the mornings.

CPC Outside Work Party



An outside work party took place at Central on Tuesday October 19th. Goal was to do

some trimming, weeding and to spruce things up around the church. Participants were Peter and Nancy Carlson, Laurie Inglis, John Sheridan, Steve Stermer, and our own Jair Velasquez.

A big thank you too, to Gerry Keener and Barbara Cookson and one of Barbara's daughters on an earlier date for weeding the South Cloister bed and planting spring bulbs. The grounds look much nicer. Blessings and Thank You to all who participated.



Update on the CPC Remodel Project
Steve Stermer

The rebidding process for the CPC Three Phase

Remodel Project took place on September 21. We expect to have bid numbers back to the committee by mid-November. The old oil tank continues to be a concern for Essex Construction, even with a shortened covered north entry of approximately 10' in length. Footings for the cover would come very close to the tank. Not knowing the strength or condition of the tank becomes a structural issue for builders. The 4,000 gallon tank measuring 17.5' long and 6' 3" in diameter, is just in the way and continues to be an issue. Architect Quince communicated with a Portland company regarding doing an assessment of the tank. The cost came in at \$5,000. The committee had information of another tank being removed in Eugene at a cost of \$8,000. With that information it was decided to move forward with removing the tank. BB&A Environmental of Coburg and Greg Payne Demolition of Eugene were on site for an evaluation on 10/19.



Have you recently moved? Change phone numbers or email address?

If so please contact Monique or stop by the office. She would be happy to update your information. (541) 345-8724

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Director of Music: Cole Blume
Organist: Dan Rinnan
Sound Technician: Alex Pratt
Office Manager: Monique Jones
Financial Secretary: Arlene Hudgins
Maintenance Custodian: Jair Velasquez

SESSION

Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Barbara Cookson	Bev Day
Jane Holmes	Nancy Richter
Susan Schroeder	Pam Sheridan

Class of 2024
 Kirsten Kelso
 Rick Larson
 Alice Schroeder

Moderator: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Clerk of Session: Merle Bottge
Treasurer: Del Hawkins
Nominating Committee Chair: Barbara Cookson

DEACONS

<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Jordan Ryder	Susan Bloom
<u>Co-Chairs</u>	Karen Dyste
Laurie Inglis	Quentin Holmes
Quentin Holmes	Carolyn Keener
	Gerry Keener
	Patty MacAfee

Class of 2024
 Nancy Carlson
 Louise deKluyver
 Jacquie Litchfield
 Yvonne Young

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Chair:	Rick Larson
Peter Carlson	Jane Rimerman
Marci Gordon	Steve Stermer
Pat Hocken	Jim Whitmore

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Jane Holmes, Moderator



Central articles are due the third Monday of each month. Articles for the December Central Newsletter are due on Monday, November 15th, 2021



Don't Forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour on Sunday November 7th 2021

You're Invited!
Welcoming Our New Neighbors
Fundraiser for the Refugee Resettlement
Coalition

WELCOME OUR NEW NEIGHBORS
NOVEMBER 16TH



Tuesday,
November 16,
6:00pm on Zoom

Annual Fundraiser
to support the work
of the Refugee
Resettlement

Coalition, through Catholic Community
Services' Refugee and Immigrant Services
Program

Purchase tickets
from www.ccslc.org/wonn or by
calling 541-345-3628 x317. Tickets are
\$25, and the first 50 local purchasers will
receive a box of pastries from a local
bakery, so don't delay!



Refugee
Resettlement
By Susan Schroeder

The Coin Offering
for November and December is designated
for the Refugee Resettlement Coalition
(RRC). The RRC is a community coalition
of individuals and organizations partnered
with Catholic Community Services of Lane
County (CCS). Central Presbyterian is an
RRC Community Partner, having joined
the Coalition when it first started in 2015.

Through CCS' Refugee and Immigrant
Services Program, refugees and asylum
seekers in Lane County are provided case
management services and assistance and
immigration legal services.

You have probably followed the
developments in Afghanistan over the past
four months and are aware of our country's

commitment to resettle Afghan people who
need to leave their country due to the threat
of violence. The RRC, working with CCS'
Refugee and Immigrant Services Program,
has already welcomed a family of Afghan
refugees here in Lane County, with
expectations to receive 12 more individuals
from Afghanistan in the next month or so.

The RRC and the Refugee and Immigrant
Services Program will be assisting these
Afghan individuals and families as they
resettle in Lane County--helping them
connect with housing, employment, and
English classes; getting signed up for
health insurance and obtaining health care;
enrolling children in school; and in general
orienting our newest neighbors to our
community. Each refugee family and
individual is assigned a trained "advocate"
who works with the CCS case manager to
assist with these connections to social,
medical, and community services.

In addition to case management, all
refugees and asylum seekers need
immigration legal services to help them
obtain permanent legal status here in the
U.S. The low-cost and often free
immigration legal services provided by the
Refugee and Immigrant Services Program
brings clients the stability and peace of
mind they need to get established and to
flourish.

In addition to assisting Afghan refugees,
RRC and the Refugee and Immigrant
Services Program will continue to work
with vulnerable individuals from all over
the world who are fleeing persecution,
whether or not their country is currently
featured in today's news headlines.

Please give generously to the Coin Offering
during November and December. Want to
learn more about the Refugee Resettlement
Coalition? Attend their online program and

fundraiser on Tuesday, November 16 at 6:00. You can also sign up to receive the RRC's monthly e-newsletter on their website, rrcclc.org, on the "About Us" page.

International Peacemaker



CPC had hoped to partner with First Presbyterian Church in Cottage Grove in hosting one of our denomination's international peacemaking partners this fall.

Unfortunately, the ongoing pandemic put a stop to the international travel required for these planned visits. However, thanks to technology, we are still able to connect with the person we had hoped to help host, the Rev. Fursan Ayed Zumot, who graciously agreed to record a sermon for our churches to use in worship.

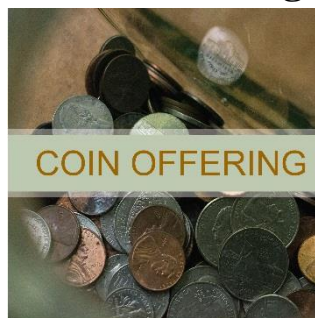
Fursan Ayed Zumot serves as pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem. He grew up in the Anglican church in Amman, Jordan. His studies were initially in accounting but, following a short career in banking, he sensed a call to ministry in 2003. That same year he began working with the deaf community. He studied theology at United Theological College of the West Indies in Jamaica and, in 2009, completed his degree and received a diploma in ministerial studies and counseling.

After becoming ordained in the Anglican Church and serving several parishes in Jordan, a struggle with doctrinal and ritual questions led him to apply to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s partner denomination in the region. He has served the ELCJHL since 2014. In addition to serving as pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, Fursan uses his training and experience

in communication with the hearing-disabled as ELCJHL as pastor for the deaf and serves the Church's Ecclesiastical Court of Appeals in the capacity of judge. He is married to Rawan Zu`mot, a pharmacist, and they have a 2½-year-old daughter and infant son.

We are so grateful to welcome Rev. Zumot as our 'virtual' preacher later this month!

Coin Offering



Thank you for your continued generosity in Mission giving this year. We have been able to support four local non-profits with our monthly coin offering.

January-/February
Burrito Brigade \$540.50

March/April
McKenzie River Trust \$995.00

May/June
The Hub \$ 558.00
St.Vincent DePaul & Willamette Family Inc

July/ August
Chifin Native Youth Center \$555.00

These organizations appreciate our support!

Coin Offering Recipients for 2022
The Ministry of Christian Discipleship will be selecting 6 local nonprofits to receive our Coin Offering for 2022. The committee is asking for recommendations from the congregation. If you would like to suggest an agency to be one of our recipients, you can either email the church office, fill out a card in the pew, or contact one of the committee members- Nancy Richter, Barbara Cookson, Jane Holmes or Pam Sheridan.

Our goal is to support nonprofits in the following categories:

- Racial Justice
- Food Security
- Creation Care
- Youth and Families
- Homelessness
- Immigrants/Refugees

Our 2020 Coin Offering supported the following groups-

- Catholic Community Services/Motel Vouchers
- Sexual Assault Services
- Oregon Community Asylum Network
- CAHOOTS
- Days for Girls
- Bags of Love



A small parable
The Cough Drop
Wesley Lachman

You didn't have a care in the world, did you, little cough drop? You were

snuggling up with your fellow drops in cool, waxed paper. Your surfaces were still dry and you could jostle around with everybody.

Then you started to hear loud explosions nearby. You were taught to recognize coughs and sneezes in drop school, weren't you. And now the real thing was right next to your box. This could be it, this could be your moment to shine. Your box gave a jolt, then scraping noises meant that the end flap was being opened, and light flooded the whole waxed compartment. You tried not to be afraid for this could be your turn. Nope, another drop was shaken out and the box closed up again. This is as far as your drop school training had taken you, they never said what happened after you were taken from the box, just that you should let go of everything. You thought you heard a tiny

wail from Pete, who had just been taken, But you couldn't be sure.

Enough light seeped in to tell the remaining drops when day or night had come. It was two days later, after many shakings and openings of the box that you were selected at last. You felt the pinch of fat human fingers, didn't you? You could hear the box being sealed yet again. And then you saw, with horror, that the fingers were moving you toward an open red cavernous mouth. O my gosh, you realized, this is what the training has been for, I am to be completely dissolved in order to heal this human throat. You recall that "Those who lose their life for my sake will save it." And they told you to let go of everything, did they not? And you began to cry out, "yes, they told me, they told me!"



On Sunday, October 10, the middle and high school youth of Central were able to

finally meet in person again! They helped restock the Little Food Pantry, which was empty, and then gathered in the kitchen, where they made their own pizzas for lunch. While the pizzas were baking, they played games in the Fellowship Hall.





We plan to meet once a month for either a special activity or service project. It was so great to see them at church again!

Advent Workshop

Sunday, November 28

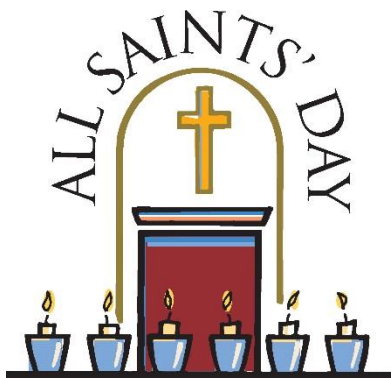
following worship
Fellowship Hall



PREPARING FOR
ADVENT

The season of Advent is almost here! Mark your calendar now and plan on joining in as we start the journey toward

Bethlehem on the final Sunday of November. This will be a fun time together as a church family, with opportunities to create and gather materials to prepare your heart and home for the season leading up to Christmas. Everyone is welcome!



Central has always had a wonderful Service of Remembrance on All Saints Sunday to celebrate the lives of all the members who have gone to the nearer presence of God in the last year.

With the continued pandemic, we have decided to do a whole week of remembrance again this year. During the week of November 1-5 the chapel will be staffed by a volunteer each day from 10-noon and 1-3:00. Last year so many of us appreciated the opportunity to remember those who passed away during the preceding year, so we will again set up stations in the Chapel for each person, and we invite family members to bring photos and

mementos to add to the station. We will provide candles, flowers and note cards so that visitors can leave a message for the family. Families can bring offerings to the church from 10:00 to 12:00.

Visitors may come each day (Monday through Friday) from 10:00 to 12:00 and 1:00 to 3:00. If too many people show up at once you may have to wait as we will be limiting the number of people who can be in the chapel at once, As always, please follow protocol by signing in, washing and wearing a mask. We hope this Week of Remembrance will be special for families and the church community.



CENTRAL'S CHRISTMAS PROJECT — 2021

“So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love

(Corinthians 13:16)

The Christmas project is one of the ways that Central fulfills its mission of being a caring community of believers. This tradition was begun over 44 years ago by Al Bray and Burt Eaton and has continued ever since under a series of able leaders. Each year it is a bold adventure in faith.

This year, Central's Christmas Project will again help some 20 families from Rainbow Village Low Cost Housing. Three other Presbyterian churches and a fourth organization will be working alongside us to help a total of about 60 families in need. Each family in need will receive a Visa gift card instead of a food box plus a Visa gift cards instead of \$25 worth of Christmas Gifts for their children under the age of 18.

In Christ, Quentin Holmes and Laurie Inglis
Deacon Co-Moderators



Chancel Choir Invitation and Update

By Cole
Blume

The Chancel Choir is singing together again on Sunday mornings at 9:00am for a rehearsal and service. We'll meet every Sunday for rehearsal and then sing at one or two services per month. All are welcome in the choir regardless of your previous experience in choral ensembles. Whether you've considered joining or want to try it out for the first time, please come! Singing in a choir is a great way to learn to sing and read music and a creative activity that gives you a positive boost. We are following Covid-19 protocols during rehearsal, including plenty of distance between singers, asking singers to self-assess for symptoms before gathering, and wearing duck-billed "singers' masks."

For the time being, the choir will limit its activities to the hour before worship on Sundays (35 minutes or so followed by coffee). As countywide Covid-19 mandates change, we may begin to meet occasionally on Wednesday evenings as needed. In the meantime, please consider joining the choir to sing if the additional commitment on Wednesday evenings has been a conflict for you in the past.

In worship on October 17th we welcomed five new choral scholars who will offer anthems and special music during the coming year. Paula (mezzo-soprano) and Jaron (baritone) are in their first year of graduate programs in vocal performance at the UO School of Music and Dance and have both worked previously as staff singers in Presbyterian congregations. Alice (soprano) and Easton (tenor), have

been classmates since middle school in Salem and are in their senior year of choral music education degrees at UO. Nicolette, who has sung memorable solos for summer special music at Central on several occasions, is finishing up an interdisciplinary degree in songwriting and music business online at Berklee College of Music. Please help welcome them!

With the changes for the choir at Central—limiting rehearsals during the pandemic, a wonderful new cohort of choral scholars—some aspects of music on Sunday mornings will seem new. The Chancel Choir will sing one or two times a month and the choral scholars will sing both as a quintet and as small ensembles (duets, trios, and the occasional soloist) on the remaining Sundays. The congregation will have a variety of styles and ensembles to look forward to each week as well as the opportunity to get to know each of the scholars' voices individually in worship. They are all fantastic singers and wonderful to have in rehearsal with the Chancel Choir. If you'd like to give the choir a try, consider this your invitation! Please come and experience the joy of singing in the choir!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Jane Holmes, Moderator
PW Central Presbyterian
Church

Grant recipients of the
Thank Offering 2021.

Eliza Clokey planted the seed for the Thank Offering in 1888 when she urged women to give \$1.00 over and above their usual contribution to the Women's General Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church.

Since then, women across the country have responded to the call to give a “Thank Offering to the Lord.”

Over the last 33 years, Presbyterian Women has granted nearly \$27 million to more than 600 different projects at home and around the world through the PW Thank Offering.

This year, the Creative Ministry Committee of PW has chosen 12 projects for funding out of 29 applications. More than 40% go to Health Ministries. These range from food assistance and distribution, to new church development (inside the Washington Correction Center for Women), to daycare for working mothers.

You can help with these outreach ministries by sharing your resources with those here in the United States (9 projects) and around the world (3 projects).

Please write your check to:
Central Presbyterian Church –
Presbyterian Women

Put “Thank Offering” in the Memo line.
We will send them in together.



Christmas Wreath Order
Deadline Sunday
November 28th
Bob Bottge

Once again, Central can support the women of Mujeres Luchadores Progresistas, (MLP) a Woodburn-based women’s cooperative. These are beautiful wreaths made of noble fir boughs, pinecones, holly, and a red bow. Wreaths measure 24 - 26 inches in diameter.

The cost remains \$35, and all orders must be pre-paid. The deadline to place your order is November 28th. That means that the money must

be received by Bob Bottge by that day. Send your check, made out to M L P. Christmas Wreaths to Central Presbyterian Church
555 E 15th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97401-8725
Include your telephone number in a note or on the check. Contact Bob Bottge with questions at 541-434-4191 or bbottge@hotmail.com.

Please allow at least seven days for delivery by mail, even within Eugene or Springfield. There are two ways to increase your probability of receiving a wreath on December 5th: One is to mail early, such as ASAP, or two is to bring it by the alley entrance to the church between 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Monday through Friday. The absolute drop-dead deadline will be noon on Monday, November 29th. You will be able to pick-up your wreath at the Church on Sunday, December 5th between noon and 2:00 p.m.

Since its founding MLP members have worked to address the needs of farmworker women and to foster economic and leadership development. Through the Wreath Project members can participate actively in the planning and management of their workplace and activities. Members serve on the Board of Directors, participate in workshops, elect the Board of Directors, and take on responsibilities in the organization at all levels. We are fortunate to have the support of communities, churches and unions in Seattle, Portland, Salem, and Eugene. We depend on the generosity of these supporters to continue to grow and serve our base of farmworker women, women that are among the most marginalized and oppressed in our state.

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

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Email: centralpresbyterianeugene@gmail.com
Website: www.centraleugene.church



Gary & Janet Elliott Nov. 10th



Linda Anderson	Nov. 4th
Jair Velasquez	Nov. 7th
Merle Bottge	Nov. 10th
Lynn Kolb	Nov. 10th
Richard Larson	Nov. 16th
Marci Gordon	Nov. 27th
Kirsten Kelso	Nov. 27th

Mission Statement

*Central Presbyterian Church is
a caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith.*

