



CENTRAL

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A CARING, INQUIRING, INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

September 2021, Vol 21, No 9

Thursday, September 2
Ministry of Christian Discipleship
9:00am ~ Zoom

Monday, September 6
LABOR DAY Office Closed

Tuesday, September 7
Miriam Circle
9:30am ~ Parlor

Wednesday, September 8
Martha Circle
11:00am ~ Zoom

Sunday, September 12
Meet Your Deacon

Tuesday, September 14
Church Properties
11:00am ~ Zoom
Worship & Common Life
12:00pm ~ Zoom

Monday, September 20
Finance
4:30pm ~ Zoom

Thursday, September 23
Deacons
5:00pm ~ TBD

Monday, September 27
Session
5:30pm ~ Zoom

Tuesday September 28
Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30pm ~ Parlor

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>



ALL ARE WELCOME!

What a joy it was to dedicate our long awaited mural last month! It is certainly a good first step in reminding folks we are here, and all are welcome. Many of you have pointed out that it has started conversations with neighbors and friends about the church. It is providing an opportunity to share the story of Central, and turn that into an invitation for those who are looking for a community of faith.

As we continue to discern how best to 'do' church in the midst of a pandemic, one of the goals I've heard again and again is the desire to do all we can to welcome and include as many people as possible. Whether that has meant continuing to wear masks, enabling live stream and video worship, holding meetings via zoom so more folks can participate, thinking about imaginative ways to do mission, or finding creative ways to engage in Sunday School and Adult Education as we plan for the fall - no matter what the conversation, the priority is inclusion. That is also a topic as we continue to work with architects and contractors planning for our renovation. The top priority is making the building as welcoming as the hearts of those who worship here.

In these times of keeping a safe social distance, wearing masks so we cannot see one another's faces, making hard choices that often mean staying home, it is easy to feel disconnected if we aren't intentional about reaching out. Even as we seek to welcome those looking for a place to connect, let us not forget to

Offering on the memo line. Thank you for your generosity!



CENTRAL

**Remodel Update
September 2021
By: Steve Stermer**

Contractor selection

Interviews were conducted on Tuesday August 20 with Essex Construction being selected for our remodel project. Both Essex and Ordell made good presentations. Being a larger company with more resources, the committee felt Essex was the better choice. Architect Q has also worked with Essex, and they are aware of our desire to break the project into three phases.

On Wednesday August 11th Architect Q, Essex Bidders; Billy and Court, and Central Representative Steve Stermer meet at Essex Construction. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss pre-development plans and timelines. As the Remodel is now a Three Phase Project with some value engineering design changes, the project will be rebid. This will give Central solid numbers as the project moves forward. Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Subcontractors (MEP) will be brought in for the bids.

Project Timeline:

- Essex receives Drawings from Q September 1
- MEP Subs Selected October 1
- MEP Walk Through /for Bid Estimates October 1
- Budget Redesign after Walk-Thru October 3rd Week
- Full Budget Numbers November 1
- Elevator Order Submitted November 1
- Elevator Arrive May 1, 2022

Once the Construction Superintendent is selected, back plan will take place from the Elevator

Delivery Date to determine the Start of Construction Date. Construction will begin sometime after Advent and Christmas 2021.

Good Timing:

Spring 2022 is a good time for Essex, as some larger construction projects have been pushed forward.

Remodel Committee are: Alice Schroeder, Bob Bottge, John Sheridan, Nancy Richter, Steve Stermer, and Rev. Jennifer Martin.

Joe Olney Retires



After more than two decades of faithful service to Central Presbyterian Church, Joe Olney has decided to retire effective immediately. Joe has often been the first person to the church each morning, and he has welcomed many groups into the building over the years. He was also always there to greet us on Sunday mornings. He will certainly be missed. I know many of you will want to send Joe a farewell and good wishes. You can send cards and letters to Joe at:

**Joe Olney
PO Box 12143
Eugene, OR 97440**



Nancy Richter	September 1
Jane Rimerman	September 8
Louise deKluyver	September 9
Janet Ames	September 16
Susan Bloom	September 16
Robert Morales	September 22
Mel Anderson	September 26
Jackie Onstad	September 28



Richard & Joan Doering
September 7

Randy & Peggy Lilyengren
September 12

Blessing
of the
Backpacks!



Sunday, September 12
During Worship

School will start back for most students in Eugene and Springfield after Labor Day, so we will hold a “Blessing of the Backpacks” for students to remind each one that we are holding them in our prayers as they return to school this fall. Any student who wishes to join in worship that day is encouraged to bring a backpack to be blessed. We will also be happy to bless your backpack virtually. Just let Pastor Jennifer know if you’d like to receive a blessing card.



WINNEMEM CEREMONY
By Ruth Koenig

The weekend of August 14th was to be the late summer Coonrod Ceremony for the Winnemem Wintu tribe. Carter McKenzie and I had planned to attend, bringing many supplies. Several weeks before we decided to cancel because of fire and smoke concerns. 2 days before the event Chief Caleen Sisk cancelled. Conditions became even more dangerous, with the addition of mud slide warnings and lightning strikes. As many of you have done in the past, please pray for them. They also continue the struggle to bring salmon back to the Winnemem McCloud River from New Zealand.

Thanks & Blessings,
Ruth



WHERE are you from?
WHERE does it hurt?
WHAT do you need?
WHERE do we go from here?

The poet Rilke famously wrote, *“Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves, like locked rooms and like books that are now written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. And the point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.”*

Over the last year and a half, we have all had to get more comfortable with living the questions. **Beginning Sunday, September 26th**, we'll begin asking ourselves the above questions together and looking at scriptures to help us explore and live them. This eight week series will guide our worship life and will also facilitate conversations during our adult education time on Sunday mornings. A study journal will be made available for personal reflection as well.



Deacon Ministry

**Quentin Holmes & Laurie Inglis,
Deacon Co-Moderators**

At Central, each member/friend of Central is assigned to a “Flock” with a specific person as their Deacon. This is just one of the ways we help fulfill Central’s mission of being a Caring and Inclusive Community of Believers. Central’s Board of Deacons is in June, some Deacons retire and new Deacons come onboard.

Meet Your Deacon Sunday is designed to give your Deacon a chance to get to know you better and vice-versa. **On Sunday, September 12th**, a board containing a photo of each Deacon and their “Flock Number” will be located near the entry to Fellowship Hall. A directory listing members/friends and their flock number will also be there. Come for the fellowship, and meet chat with your Deacon.



The Endowment Fund Committee is seeking applications for grants to provide funding of mission and / or church related projects. The committee has \$3,500 available for this cycle.

Applications may be picked up from the church’s office and need to be picked and returned to the office by October 21, 2021. Successful applicants will be notified of the amount approved by the committee following its meeting scheduled for November 1, 2021



By Susan Schroeder

Together Let us Sing to God a New Song
2022 Stewardship Campaign
Susan Schroeder and Jane Holmes,
Stewardship co-chairs

Who would ever have guessed we'd have a year like the one we've just been through? Who would have guessed that Central would have come through it so beautifully, and with such creativity and joy? **Together for Joy** is the theme, were using for our Stewardship campaign this year, based on Psalm 98.

Sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things. Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy. Yes! We can truly join our hands together and give thanks to God for everything that kept us inspired and connected this past year -- the beautifully crafted video worship services that carried us through to Pentecost; the colorful and welcoming mural now adorning the east wall of our building; all those Zoom meetings that kept our committees and small groups connected; and the ongoing work of the Deacons to reach out to members of their flock. For all these things we can break forth into joyous song and sing praises that we are people of God that we people of Central Presbyterian Church.

This is the time of year when we ask you to consider all the ways you are grateful for our church community and – in gratitude and with joy – consider your stewardship of time, talent, and financial contributions. Your financial donation -- your yearly pledge to the church budget -- pays for staff salaries, expenses for the building, program expenses, and insurance and other administrative expenses. And of course it's more than financial contributions that keep the church moving forward. It is your desire and commitment to use your time and talent for the ministries of the church.

Please watch for our Stewardship mailing in mid-September. This will include a stewardship letter, an Estimate of Giving (pledge) card for the 2022 budget, and a listing of the budget categories from this year so you can see where our money comes from and where it goes.

We're also planning a **Together With Joy** social media campaign, so be watching for emails and Facebook posts from us. We'll be tossing out some questions for you to answer about gratefulness, gladness, joy and laughter.

Commitment Sunday will be **Sunday, October 31** when we invite you to bring your completed Estimate of Giving Card to the worship service. You can also mail your card to the church.

Great One, for you the floods clap, for you the hills sing. *You know our situations better than anyone. Take our credits and debits, ins and outs, pluses and minuses, surpluses and lacks, and show us how to use them to join the great, joyful chorus of Creation. Amen*

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY



By Jane Holmes

The two Circles will start up in September. I have ordered the new Bible Studies for both groups, and they have arrived. Please stop by the office to pick them up. The study books are \$11.00 (which includes the \$1.00 shipping charge). There will be a sign-up and an envelope for cash or checks in the church office.

The Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, September 7th at 9:30AM

The Martha Circle will meet Wednesday, September 8th at 11:00AM. Miriam Circle will use the parlor with wearing masks and check in. Martha Circle will meet on Zoom.

Jane Kirkpatrick, noted Oregon author, will lead a discussion and workshop at the Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women at Vancouver 1st Presbyterian Church on **Oct. 16th** from 10AM-2:30PM. Plan ahead if you are interested and want to carpool. More details about this opportunity will be available later this month.



'Where God's Story Meets Our Story' is the theme of an international study pilgrimage of the Holy Land and the Passion Play in Oberammergau,

Germany, led by Brian Heron, Presbyter for Vision and Mission, and pastors Steve Knox and Tim Cayton, next May 14-25, 2022 that explores how Jesus' story informs our story. The group has 32 reserved tickets but 21 of them have already been taken by Disciples of Christ and Presbyterians from around Oregon. However, interested persons can put a 'hold' on any of the remaining tickets to guarantee a place with payment due only when international travel is reopened, and the trip confirmed. For a brochure or more information contact Brian Heron at brian@potc.life or at 541-465-9173



Sunday School Resumes September 19th!

Kids from kindergarten

through 6th grade who choose to come to in-person worship this fall will have the opportunity to head to Sunday school most weeks following the time with children. We will be using the 'Follow Me' curriculum from our denomination which uses Bible Stories to teach children about spiritual practices that can be incorporated into their own lives. Our first unit will be 'Follow Jesus' and will get started on September 19th. As has been our practice in the past, we will not have Sunday school the first Sunday of the month so everyone can stay in worship to receive communion. But every other week, there will be a teacher ready to head to the Fellowship Hall with any youngsters who join us for worship. Hope to see you soon!

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Mission Statement

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