

Central

February 2022

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community

Vol 22 No 02

Tuesday, February 1

Miriam Circle
9:30am~Parlor

Wednesday, February 2

Martha Circle
11:30am~Zoom
Book Group
2:00pm~ Parlor
Book Group
3:30pm~Zoom

Thursday, February 3

Ministry of Christian Discipleship
9:00am~ Zoom

Tuesday, February 8

Church Properties
11:00am~Zoom
Worship & Common Life
12:00pm~Zoom

Monday, February 21

President's Day
Finance
4:00pm~Zoom
Session
5:30pm~Zoom

Tuesday, February 22

Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30pm~Parlor

Thursday, February 24

Deacons
5:30pm~Zoom

Sunday, February 27

Annual Congregational Meeting
Sanctuary & Zoom
Worship Service
10:00am~ Sanctuary
Sunday School
10:15am~Fellowship Hall



**Our Real Work
by Wendell Berry**

*It may be that
when we no longer
know what to do,
we have come to
our real work.*

*And when we no longer know which way to
go,*

we have begun our real journey.

The mind that is not baffled is not employed.

The impeded stream is the one that sings.

This poem has been speaking to me recently. I love the image of a singing stream - making music because of the rocks, branches, and bends in the earth which have impeded a smooth flow of water. As we enter year three of this pandemic, we may find ourselves yearning for that which is smooth, easy, and predictable. Yet that isn't what we have, and really it never has been. Perhaps one gift of this time is the honesty of it all. We can admit we don't always know what to do or which way to go. We can acknowledge when we are indeed baffled.

But just because a stream is impeded doesn't stop it from flowing; the challenges we are living through haven't stopped us. In fact, as the poem suggests, our real work, our real journey, is perhaps just getting started. For even in the midst of so much hardship this community has been so very faithful in your worship of God, your care for one another and your witness to the community. Later this month we will have a chance to gather for our annual meeting, both in person and via

zoom. I hope you will make time to read the annual report that will come out in advance of that meeting, and plan to attend in whatever way you feel most comfortable.

The fact is, this report is filled with examples of ways this congregation has continued to find its voice and sing, even as you faced many obstacles, from the personal to the global. You have continued to lean on your faith in our steadfast God, even while all around us things seem to be upside down and inside out. While there is much still ahead of us on our journey, it is appropriate to pause and celebrate that which has been done through the worship and outreach of this church throughout this difficult year. It will also be an opportunity for us to begin thinking together about some of what lies ahead on our journey together. What a gift, knowing that when we face challenges, we face them together, with one another and with our God. When we know that truth, in the words of the old hymn, how can we keep from singing?

Pastor Jennifer Martin



**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING**

**CPC Annual
Meeting
Sunday,
February 27
following
worship
Sanctuary & on
ZOOM**

Our annual meeting is a chance to lift up some of what Central Presbyterian Church has done in the past year, as well as beginning to look forward. Among other things, the session will be bringing forth suggested changes to update our church by laws, there will be an update on the removal of the old oil tank in the courtyard as well as our remodel project, and we will be voting on Pastor Jennifer's terms of call for 2022.

Too much happened last year to mention it all at the meeting! However, it will be more detailed in the written annual report. You are encouraged to read that prior to the meeting. It will be available in hard copy at the church starting February 13, or you can request a pdf be emailed directly to you by contacting the church office at

centralpresbyterianeugene@gmail.com.

Plan to stay following worship or you can join in online via zoom. The zoom room will be open beginning at 10:45 am. Contact the church office if you need the log in information.



sistertosisternetwork.org

A
contemplative
view

Deficiencies

**Wesley
Lachman**

If only he could find the way to get the top off this Heinz Catsup. If only he could get the audio on his computer to work. If only he could find out what was going to happen with the Biden administration. If only he knew when he would die. If only he knew what his brother really thought of him. If only he could find more friends. If only he could find the time to deal with more friends. If only he knew how Gene, Laura, Steve, Tom, and so on, are feeling. If only he were stronger, had more energy, slept better, concentrated more.

He went on and on in this vein. He was defining his life in terms of lacks, of deficiencies, and in comparison to others lives. We need to tell him, don't we? We need to tell him to settle down, get quiet,

and see what his true self is. He has, like the rest of us, two selves. One is the one he has constructed over the years. This constructed self is just a story, the story of I. And it is this self that is asking all these questions, who has found all these deficiencies. He needs to find the other self, doesn't he? The self that embraces the everyday him trying to open the catsup, and all his stories of deficiency. I mean the big self space in which everything that appears, does appear. The awareness of it all. The Spirit of God.



Are you the next Student Intern at the Koinonia Center? Do you know

who that might be?

We're looking for someone who can support Presbyterian campus ministry at the UO. Check out the details and application at koinoniacenter.org/interns or share your wisdom with Steve Stermer or Ed Willson.



Michael & Dana Boonstra
February 18th

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: Jose Toban

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

Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Jordan Ryder	Susan Bloom
Laurie Inglis	Karen Dyste
Quentin Holmes	Quentin Holmes
	Carolyn Keener

Class of 2024	Gerry Keener
Nancy Carlson	Patty MacAfee
Louise deKluyver	
Jacquie Litchfield	
Yvonne Young	

Co-Chairs: Quentin Holmes & Laurie Inglis
Treasurer: Patty MacAfee

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 March Central Newsletter are due on Monday, February 21st 2022



Our Office will be closed on Monday February 21st 2022 In observance of Presidents Day and will re-open on Tuesday, February 22nd 2022.



History has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of it's own.

~ Michelle Obama



Presbyterian Women

Jane Holmes, Moderator

PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

As Central Women gather each month for Bible Study and for Fellowship in our two Circles, we have an opportunity to give a "2nd Mile" Offering. These monies help make a pledge to the Presbytery PW, and nationally, as well as an opportunity to help several local non-profits.

Our Presbyterian Women Committee of Nancy Richter, Joan Doering and Jane Holmes has chosen the following local non-profit groups as recipients:

\$300 ~ Eugene Mission
for Training Programs

\$200 ~ Woman's Space

\$200 ~ Bags of Love, for Youth at Risk Items;

\$200 ~ Pledge to Presbytery PW
for Mission Projects and
Leadership Training.

\$900 Total

Joining together, the Martha and Miriam PW Circles can do more for these groups than each circle acting separately.

All are welcome to join in either the Miriam or the Martha Circle each month for study and for fellowship.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 1st
Ed Willson

February 3rd
Charlie Larson

February 5th
Rich Litchfield

February 9th
Sharon Piper

February 11th
Janet Elliot
Dorothy Kays

February 12th
Barbara Cookson

February 14th
Mary Brieter

February 17th
Nancy Carlton

February 19th
Laurie Inglis

February 24th
Steve Kanaga
Marilyn Watson

February 27th
Margie James



The Student Food Pantry

Nancy Richter

In our January Newsletter we featured The Student Food

Pantry as our January/February Coin Offering recipients. They will also be our focus for helping those with food insecurity concerns. One does not need to be a U of O student to benefit from this wonderful community program. They assist Lane Community College students and any Lane County high school student, either single or with families. The student only needs to provide a student I.D. and bring a shopping bag. While The Student Pantry does receive assistance from Food for Lane County and some help from the Eugene Mission, they are very appreciative of any other assistance.

The Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship appreciates the support of our congregation in uplifting our Little Free Pantry. While this was helpful for over a year in assisting those on the streets with their food needs, it had also become a concern and cause for removal at the end of January. We hope those of you who loved shopping to support our Little Free Pantry will now change your focus to support The Student Food Pantry. In speaking with Connie Browning, who oversees this program, I learned quite a lot about those students in need of food and nutritional support just so that they can stay in school and succeed in their academic ventures. It's difficult to study or pass exams when you are hungry and not sure where or when your next meal will come from. Connie welcomes anyone for a tour on Wednesdays from 10-12:30 during stocking time or on Wednesdays or Thursday from 4-6pm when food is distributed to students.

Shopping List Items:

Proteins: Canned beans

(Pinto, Black, Red, Navy, etc.)

Canned meats: Chicken, Salmon, Beef (no tuna at this time)

Soups: Chili, Stews, etc.

Canned vegetables: anything but green beans, stewed tomatoes, diced tomatoes, tomato sauces

Pasta: Curly noodles, penne, (not spaghetti at this time)

Canned Fruits and fruit juices

Condiments, Salsa, Seasonings

(no gravy or taco mixes)

Rice

Oatmeal (no instant)

Teas and Coffees

Protein bars

Cooking oils

Dog and cat food

Personal Care items: (body washes, soap, shampoo/conditioner, TP, Kleenex, napkins Laundry soaps)

Personal hygiene supplies: feminine, shaving items, etc.

The Student Pantry is located at Grace Lutheran on 18th and Hilyard around the back of the church. We truly thank you for your continued support of our mission projects. You have been very generous.

Remember: "If we all give a little, it adds up to a lot"



Blanket the World with Love

Valentines for Sale at Church

February 6 & 13

The Children & Youth of CPC are

again creating valentine cards for us to purchase in support of Church World Services (CWS) this year. Valentines are sold for \$5 each, and every dollar will be donated to the CWS Blanket Plus program. This initiative provides warm blankets to those in need - from people recovering from a natural disaster like the cold snap and power outages across Texas last year, to refugee camps in countries near and far, to homeless ministries as close as Everett, WA. It costs ten dollars for each blanket, so for every two valentines sold a blanket is provided for a neighbor in need.

If you won't be attending church in person, but would like to purchase valentines, contact the church office to arrange a drive by pick up time.



Liturgists Needed

There is a small group of elders who have been helping with this task on Sundays as we have adjusted to our new hybrid worship service. Merle Bottge, our Clerk of Session, has graciously been

keeping up with the calendar for these volunteers. We are so grateful for their ongoing help, and would welcome others to join in this role! It typically involves leading the responsive call to worship, as well as the call to confession, prayer of confession, and assurance of grace. If you are attending church in person and would be interested in

helping lead worship in this way, let Merle know and she will be in touch with you when the next rotation is organized. THANKS!



Prayers of the People Tuesday evenings beginning February 1st 6:30 p.m. on Zoom

As we continue to adjust to new ways of being church during this pandemic, one of the challenges is finding an effective way to share prayer concerns and joys without revealing too much private information during our services since they are now posted on the internet. There have been sporadic emails with prayer concerns, but not all are receiving our all church emails, and some find sharing concerns in this way to be cumbersome. We are working on securing a more effective email service, but also want to provide a way for us to pray together for one another.

To that end, Pastor Jennifer will be hosting a time for Prayers of the People on Tuesday nights beginning in February using Zoom. We will gather at 6:30 p.m. online and begin with a shared Psalm reading. Jennifer will share concerns and joys that people have asked the community to hold in prayer, and offer spoken prayers as well as leading times of silence. Those who join will be invited to share prayer concerns using the chat feature. Jennifer will voice prayer concerns and joys shared in the chat so that all might hold these in prayer as well.

We hope you will join us in this time of community prayer. If you need the church zoom log in information, contact the church office.

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Mission Statement

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

