

Central

A caring, inclusive, inquiring community of faith

Upcoming



Monday, July 4th

Office Closed

Bible Study ~Cancel

Badminton Group~ Cancel

Thursday, July 7th

Ministry of Christian

Discipleship

10am~Zoom

Tuesday, July 12th

Staff Meeting

9am~ Pastor's Office

Properties

11am~Zoom

Personnel

1:30pm~Zoom

Thursday, July 14th

Worship & Common Life

2:30pm~Zoom

Monday, July 18th

Finance

4:30pm~Zoom

Session

5:30pm~Zoom

Tuesday, July 26th

Prayer Shawl Ministry

1:30pm~ Chapel

Thursday, July 28th

Deacons

5:30pm~Zoom



SUMMER SOLSTICE

As I write this article we have just observed the summer solstice here in the northern hemisphere. In Eugene it felt as if a switch was turned on in some sort of cosmic breaker box as we dramatically changed (almost overnight!) from cooler, rainy, cloudy spring-like days to vivid blue skies, bright sunshine, and warmer weather.

We are witnessing some dramatic changes in our church building as well. In preparation for construction, which will begin this month, old files are being shredded, our child care space, offices, and library are all shifting to new spaces, lots of unused furniture is finding a new home, and there has been A LOT of cleaning! Clearing out - making space - making changes - building welcome. . . These are the phrases that describe what is happening to our physical church building. But it seems like there is more happening! Something deeper. As we live through this physical change, it is also a time for us to think about changes on a spiritual level - individually and as a body.

As we remove what is no longer needed to make way for a more inviting building, we can also be reflecting on how we might clear out other things that are no longer serving our mission of being a caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith. We can make space for new ideas about how we can live out our call to offer welcome and hospitality, both as we navigate a challenging time of construction and when we are able to utilize the building in new ways. We can consider what changes we might be called to make - individual and corporately. We can use this time to pray, and reflect, and talk with one another about how we want to be church on the other side of this remodel.

One of the goals of the remodel is to let more actual light into our physical space - to create a building as welcoming as the people who worship here! This summer as we enjoy the beautiful Oregon sunshine - as we soak up the light - let's use this time of change to pray about how we can let our light shine. Let's pray together in earnest, asking for God's Spirit to be blowing in and through not only the building, but each of our hearts. Let's pray that our church will be filled with light and warmth, and that we will all be opened in new ways to sharing God's love with our neighbors.



The Beggar—A Parable

Wesley Lachman

See that one sitting up there? It's a beggar. Sits all day begging God in silence. Begging bowl? Oh, they have a begging bowl alright, but it is

inside. The whole thing is going on inside, like a little miniature tableau. An inner figure dressed in a simple robe, sitting cross legged on a shelf of rock and holding an empty bowl.

Why does this beggar sit this way? His life experience has taught him that he owns nothing and God is in everything. There was a time when he thought some things belonged to him. But a thief, a forgetting, rust, breaking, and losses of every kind finally showed him that he really had the secure possession of nothing, not even his sanity or his life.

How does the beggar know that God is in everything? If God is not all powerful, then she is no longer God, but only a storybook character. If she is all powerful, she must be present everywhere. And if she is present everywhere, then she must be in everything, every thought, experience, object and person. The beggar holds an empty bowl. This shows the nothing that he is, and it stands ready to receive whatever God places into it. The common saying is "what's on my plate." But this bowl expands to hold whatever is placed there. God is constantly placing people, problems, feelings, and thoughts into the beggar's bowl. Whatever is in mind or environment may go into the bowl. At times a clear request for action comes, if so, the action comes with it. The beggar receives whatever shows up in his bowl. How could he not? When he first became a beggar, he thought there would be lots to do. But he discovered that there was not. Whatever was needed from him rose up from of his own unfathomable depths. Thoughts and words simply arose, actions bubbled up. He had only to keep his own ideas out the bowl and allow what arose to happen. It was as if God were living through him, and he was just clothing for the divine.

God was everything and he was nothing. But what a blessed nothing he was. What a blessed nothing each of us is, with our empty bowls inside, waiting for God.

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Director of Music: Kendra Taylor
Organist: Dan Rinnan
AV Technician: Sunny Waldorf

Office Manager: Monique Jones
Financial Secretary: Arlene Hudgins
Building Host: Jose Tobon

SESSION

Bev Day	Kirsten Kelso
Rick Larson	Nancy Richter
Pam Sheridan	Alice Schroeder
Susan Schroeder	

DEACONS

Susan Bloom	Karol Buxton
Nancy Carlson	Lousie deKluyver
Karen Dyste	Quentin Holmes
Carolyn Keener	Gerry Keener
Jacquie Litchfield	Patty Mac Afee
Yvonne Young	

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Peter Carlson	Quentin Holmes
Rick Larson	Jane Rimmerman
Steve Stermer	Jean Tesche
Jim Whitmore	

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Bloom	Barbara Cookson
Helen Martz	Nancy Richter



Rev. Kent Organ
Interim Pastor of Central
2004-2006



July and August Coin Offering

Nancy Richter

The July/August coin offering is dedicated to Friends of Trees. While this is a new program for us, they have been in service since 1989. Friends of Trees was founded by Portland, OR resident Richard Seidman in 1989. He was inspired by a national Global ReLeaf program and wanted to create an organization that helped the environment and brought people together through the act of planting trees in Portland neighborhoods and natural areas. Friends of Trees is a nationally recognized, regional leader in improving the urban tree canopy and restoring sensitive natural areas in SW Washington and Western Oregon. They do this through programs involving thousands of volunteers.

Let me highlight a couple of these programs. One such program is the Green Space Program: Restoring Natural Areas – From the edge of the Columbia Gorge to the farmlands of Washington County and up and down the Willamette Valley, the Green Space Program restores natural areas, increases habitat, improves watershed health, and plants trees in large quantities (about 1,000 – 2,000 native trees and shrubs per planting!). When mature, these trees will create significant improvements to our region's air and water quality.

Another program, the Neighborhood Trees Program, assists neighbors green up their streets. Friends of Trees will organize the event, deliver the trees, dig the holes, and make it affordable for all homeowners – all for \$35.00 each tree and plus a scholarship program if costs will be a barrier. And Friends of Trees plant in the Eugene/Springfield area, too. So, this summer, as we are considering Creation Care and God-Sightings, please keep in mind the Coin Offering dedicated to Friends of Trees. Help us to continue to be good stewards of God's gifts to us in this beautiful world He gave us to live in.

We thank you for your continued generosity and supporting the Coin Offerings and other

Special Offerings during the year. Remember, if we all give a little, it adds up to a lot.



Welcome our new Interim Director of Music Ministry Kendra Taylor!

We are delighted to have Kendra Taylor serve as CPC's Interim Director of Music Ministry. Kendra has

been singing in our worship services this year as one of our vocal scholars. She is pursuing her PhD in Music Education at the University of Oregon and holds a Master of Arts in Teaching and a Bachelor of Science in Music from Southern Oregon University. Before working as a graduate teaching assistant at the UO, she taught concert choir (2018-2020) and choral methods (2020-2021) at Southern Oregon University and was director of choirs at North Medford High School (2016-2020). From 2013-2016, Taylor was associate music director and activities director at North Medford High School.

Kendra has had extensive experience in a variety of music and theater venues as a director and instructor, in addition to performing in many musical theater and opera productions. Her research interests include vocal pedagogy, expressivity in music, language use in the music classroom, and vocal health. Kendra currently sings with the University of Oregon Chamber Choir and with University Singers. Kendra has a Boston terrier named Davos who likes to sing with her when she practices at home. She loves taking Davos on hikes, rollerblading, video games, Star Trek, and craft projects.



Welcome Sunny!



Sunny Waldorf is our new Audio/Visual technician, making it easier for us all to hear what is happening in worship each week, as well as ensuring it is live

streamed and saved on Vimeo. Sunny has made her home in Eugene for 28 years. She is happily the mother of three lovely adults and a cat named Odin. Sunny has worked as an Audio Engineer for the past 10 years, as well as a musician for most of her life. When not trying to enhance someone's sound, she spends most of her time with her children, growing and painting flowers, loving her kitty and dreaming of the next place to travel. She mostly just adores being outside. Fall of 2022 Sunny will be starting back to college to finish her Art degree. She believes there is always something new on the horizon!



Walk Your Ride Inside!

As we move into the warmer days of summer, many people

choose to ride their bike to church. It's a great way to lower your carbon footprint, get in some exercise, and enjoy the beautiful Oregon summer! If you decide to ride your bike to church, you are encouraged to **BRING IT INSIDE!** Eugene is known for a high percentage of bike thefts, and unfortunately we cannot assume your bike is secure, even if it is locked to a bike rack. It is much safer in the Fellowship Hall or one of our less travelled hallways. So don't be shy about walking your ride inside!



Call First

Summer is here and with it comes not only the opportunity for our staff to take some vacation days, but also the long anticipated beginning of our church

building remodel. All of that means that while we will do our best to maintain our regular

office hours, there may be days we have to close early because someone is away, or we may need to work from home due to a construction issue.

We will do our best to communicate via email, announcements, signs, etc. all summer long as we deal with changing circumstances. However, we also encourage you to take the time to call the church office before you come in to make sure someone will be here to let you in when you arrive. Plus, you may need to be notified about a temporary entrance! With a little extra communication and a lot of patience and grace we will see this project through to completion, together.

Summer Fun & Fellowship



**SAVE THE DATE
AUGUST 17TH**

Bring Your Own Picnic

Julianne Stermer

Are you ready for another face-to-face, outdoor social gathering with your Central friends and family?

Let's join together on Wednesday, August 17th from 5:30-7:00pm on the lawn next to our mural. Attendees will need to bring their own food, but the church will provide water, lemonade and utensils. See you then!

Fellowship Hour



Fellowship hour will take a summer break until fall, due to

the unpredictability of COVID-19.

Our regular volunteers also need a bit of a break. We will look at other ways we can gather outside following worship service and keep you posted in the bulletin.



3rd

**Peter Carlson
Pam Sheridan**

4th

Gerry Keener

10th

Bill Griffith

15th

Juyoung Chung

18th

Howard Ruland

23rd

Geoff Gordon



3rd

John & Debbie Larson

5th

Bob & Merle Bottge

10th

Rich & Jacquie Litchfield

17th

Fred & Kathleen Beisse

27th

Quentin & Jane Holmes

Central Presbyterian Church
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Eugene, OR 97401

MISSION STATEMENT
A CARING, INQUIRING, INCLUSIVE
COMMUNITY OF FAITH



*"If I had my way, I'd remove January
from the calendar altogether and have an
extra July instead." – Ronald Dahl*