

September 2022

Central

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith

Vol 22, No 9



Thursday, September 1
Ministry of Christian Discipleship
1:30pm~Zoom

Monday September 5

Office Closed
Labor Day



Tuesday, September 6

Staff Meeting
9:30am~Pastor's Office
Miriam Circle
9:30am~Chapel

Wednesday, September 7

Martha Circle
11:30am~Chapel

Thursday, September 8

Worship & Common Life
2:30pm~Zoom

Tuesday, September 13

Properties
11:00am~Zoom
Personnel
1:30pm ~ Zoom

Monday, September 19

Central Articles Due
Finance
4:30pm~Zoom
Session
5:30pm~Zoom

Thursday, September 22

Deacons
5:30pm~Zoom

Tuesday, September 27

Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30pm~Chapel



re-frame: /rē'frām/ verb

1. place (a picture or photograph) in a new frame.
2. frame or express (words or a concept or a plan) differently.

*"Look! I'm doing a new thing;
now it sprouts up; don't you
recognize it?"*

*I'm making a way in the desert,
paths in the wilderness."*

- God in Isaiah 43:19

Until a few years ago when I heard someone say they were going to 'reframe' something, I assumed they needed to remount a piece of art or a family photograph, so it could be better displayed. I suppose sometimes I also heard people use the phrase when speaking about a construction job in reference to a doorframe or something needed to be 'reframed." But in the last few years the word seems to be used more and more to talk about one's mindset; about changing negative thought patterns to make positive change in one's life. The steps for this often include noticing when you have a negative thought, trying to look at it from a different perspective, questioning the actual facts, and practicing compassion as you try to 'reframe' the thought in a different way. A way that is more forgiving, accepting, and loving.

Recently, I read a blog post by former PCUSA moderator, the Rev. Jan Edmiston, who is now serving as a presbytery executive. She wondered if her presbytery might think differently about itself if they reframed how they thought and spoke about their region. She noted a billboard by a local mega church boasted membership in the thousands, with locations in multiple states. Her blog post observation noted, *"In the Presbytery I serve 27,954 participants were reported in 2021 in 93 locations in 7 counties in North Carolina. Imagine if we reframed ourselves as one megachurch with 93 locations instead of 93 lone ranger congregations with a nominal connection to each other?Imagine reframing how we see ourselves."*

It got me to thinking, how might we reframe our perception of Central Presbyterian Church? It is easy to think about how the church used to be. Or to get stuck looking only at our challenges. But we worship one who is always doing a new thing. One who offers us transformation and a way when we cannot perceive one. As we live through this time of great change, as we face a COVID world, a post-Christian world, a time filled with uncertainty at every turn; as we seek in the midst of those realities new ways to be the church of Jesus Christ - maybe it wouldn't hurt to reframe what we see when we look at our church.

The timing seems apt. For one thing, our actual building is filled with lumber as people literally reframe our walls and doors to create a space of welcome for our members and neighbors. We are blessed with amazing staff and volunteers who dedicate time, energy, and creativity to ensure we have opportunities for worship, fellowship, and outreach even during the height of quarantines or while we are under construction! The people who worship here - all of YOU - are living out your faith through dedicated spiritual practice and involvement in countless efforts to make our community, country, and world a more just and compassionate place. Maybe if we look in the mirror and ask who we are and what we are doing, rather than simply lamenting that which is missing, we might see a whole lot of faithfulness.

As we move from summer into fall, let's make time this month to look in the mirror. And when we do, let's practice reframing what we see. Maybe even share with one another what it is you see when you make the time to reframe how you see the church. Who knows what we might perceive if we look more closely, or from a different angle. I'll be looking forward to hearing what your reframe is!

Pastor Jennifer Martin

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
Maintenance Custodian: Jose Tobon

SESSION

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

DEACONS

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Susan Bloom | Karol Buxton |
| Karen Dyste | Louise deKluyver |
| Quentin Holmes | Gerry Keener |
| Carolyn Keener | Patty MacAfee |
| Jacque Litchfield | Yvonne Young |

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Rick Larson | Peter Carlson |
| Jane Rimerman | Jean Tesche |
| Jim Whitmore | Steve Stermer |
| Quentin Holmes | |

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Susan Bloom | Barbara Cookson |
| Helen Martz | Nancy Richter |

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Central articles are due the third Monday of each month. Articles for the October Central Newsletter are due on **Monday, September 19th, 2022**

Fall Leaves & Autumn Breezes





CENTRAL

By Steve Stermer

Update on the CPC Remodel Project

Hopefully you have had a chance to be at the church and see that the Remodel is well under way. Footings for the New North Covered Entry are framed and were to be poured on Friday, August 19. The office demolition is mostly done with the wall between the office and old library removed. Temporary support walls are in place between the office, hallway and narthex, new support posts and beams are being added along with an opening up the entry to the hallway and Narthex/Sanctuary. As with all projects we have run into a few glitches, but the remodel is progressing well.

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



Season of Creation

The Season of Creation is an ecumenical response to the

environmental crisis we are facing. It began as a practice in the Eastern Orthodox Church decades ago, and spread to other churches, first in Europe, and then more globally. It is a time for believers around the world to focus on action, advocacy and prayer regarding the planet which we are called to steward. Churches are encouraged to both actively advocate on behalf of justice and care for creation and to incorporate all of creation in our worship of the Creator. This special liturgical season is usually held for the month of September, beginning on September 1 with a World Day of Prayer and Action for the Environment through to St. Francis Day, **October 4.**

This year, Central Presbyterian Church we are observing this season for two months. We began in August and will continue through September. We will be using liturgy adapted from that created by an ecumenical steering committee and the United Church in Australia to observe the following special Sundays:

- September 4 - Sky Sunday**
- September 11 - Storm Sunday**
- September 18 - Land Sunday**
- September 25 - Fauna Sunday**



YOU Can Be On the CPC Earth Care Team

Did you know our denomination gives churches the opportunity to be designated as an Earth

Care Congregation? These are congregations that have committed to

accomplishing a specific number of actions toward caring for God's creation in four categories: worship, education, facilities, and outreach. It is one way for churches to be focused and intentional about care for creation.

Do you think CPC should strive to be a PCUSA Earth Care Congregation? Would you like to learn more about what that involves? If you are interested in learning more and/or possibly becoming part of the Earth Care Team, notify Pastor Jennifer or a member of the Ministry of Christian Discipleship Team (*MCD members are: Pam Sheridan, Barbara Cookson, Nancy Richter, and Jane Holmes*).

We can form a team with as few as two people. If there is interest, our first step will be completing an environmental audit of CPC. This will help us understand both what CPC is already doing in these four areas, and where we could improve in the stewardship and care of the planet.



Ice Cream Social September 7 @ 6:30 pm

How about a "twofer?" You could also bring dinner for yourself/family, and this could also count as the canceled, church

picnic. Of course ice cream goes with everything. Hanging out with friends from church? Wanna hear how the remodel is going and get an update on fundraising? The Capital Campaign team invites you to come to the CPC Ice Cream Social! We'll be serving up ice cream on the Patterson lawn as we celebrate the progress of our remodel and enjoy a fun evening of fellowship together. Beverages will be provided. Hope you can come!



Choir Rehearsals Kendra Taylor

Choir rehearsals are resuming and we would love to have you join us!

Whether you have experience singing or not, you're invited to join the choir. We'll meet Wednesday evenings from 7pm-8:15pm in the Sanctuary. Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 14th. Not sure if this is for you? Test it out. Come to a few choir rehearsals and see if you have fun. Bring a friend or two! Youth—we need your voices too. We'd LOVE to have you join.

If you're thinking, "I can't sing." My answer to you is, "Great! I can help with that—I'm a music teacher!" And for folks that are experienced musicians—I hope you'll join us and lead by example, helping others around you.

If you're planning on singing in the choir, or at least testing it out to see if it's a good fit for you, then please fill out this information form <https://forms.gle/d8wAJX3K7Ar6Qdgc6>

You can also email me (kendra.marie.taylor@gmail.com) and I can send you the form.

If you're on the fence about joining, I invite you to test it out. I promise I won't ask you to sing by yourself :) I'll send out more information prior to the first rehearsal. If you have any questions, or just want to chat about choir, feel free to reach out. Thanks!





Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday September 11th

Students in Eugene & Springfield area schools will be

heading back to the classroom the first week of September. As you gather school supplies and prepare for the new year, don't forget to **bring your backpack to church** on Sunday, September 11th, when we'll have a special blessing for students. We want all of our students to start the year knowing they are being held in prayer by their church family!

September/October Coin Offering

Coin Offering will be dedicated to **Cornerstone Community Housing**. They have been serving Lane County since



1992. Who and What is **Cornerstone Community Housing?** Creating communities that promote housing stability is their focus. It's not just a "roof over one's head" but so much more. They believe deeply in empowering families to experience their best lives. How? Building on foundation of housing and linking resources for self-improvement to residents. Offering cooking classes for adults and youth, coaching individuals managing illnesses (such as diabetes), teaching monthly budgeting and homework club for kids. Thus, opening possibilities for a brighter future in our community for those struggling with housing insecurities.

Healthy Homes by Cornerstone offer tailored programs and services for affordable housing communities in Oregon. Staff are trained to work with a range of funding and affordable housing types that include Section 8 and project-based affordable and Low Income Tax credit programs.

Youth Resident Service Programs focus on movement, nutrition, and preparing children for a lifetime of success through academic support and rewards programs.

Also offered is the **Triple P -Positive Parenting Program**; a parenting program that does not tell parents what to do, but is more like a tool box of ideas that parents can choose the strategies that they need.

Food and Nutrition program offers supplementary nutrition for vulnerable families, helping to end hunger in the affordable housing communities across Oregon. Such as On-Site delivery of fresh produce, bread and dairy; Summer Lunch/Cereal feeds youth during the summer months as a substitute for school meals; Bread Basket- on-site delivered fresh bread; Senior Groceries directly delivered to a senior's door.

Economic Stability:

- *Resident Referrals for one-on-one help connects residents to local resources
 - * Savings Programs – teaching the basics of budgeting and saving
 - * Financial Wellness – connection to institutions to promote financial growth
- SOAR Works** – the SOAR model assists children and adults in applying for Social Security disability benefits.

These are just a few of the many programs to assist those struggling to attain and maintain living and thriving in affordable housing. It is definitely so much more than just "keeping a roof over one's head."

We continue to be a generous and supportive congregation and we thank you for your generosity. Remember, "If we all give a little, it adds up to a lot."





Volunteers Needed for SquareOne Village's Annual Fundraiser!

*Sunday, September
18, 4 – 7 pm*

*Paella in the Village
at Peace Presbyterian Church, 3060
River Rd, Eugene*

Here's a fun volunteer opportunity for you, and a nice way to learn more about and support SquareOne Village's work to provide shelter and affordable housing to people living on very low incomes. Our previous pastor, Lorne Bostwick, was president of the SquareOne board for several years, and Susan Schroeder, a current elder, is their grant writer. Our church has supported SquareOne in various ways.

This year's paella fundraiser is being held on the property of Peace Presbyterian Church. SquareOne recently partnered with the congregation to purchase the property and plans to build 70 units of small-scale affordable housing starting in late September. The congregation has retained use of the building for worship and office space.

SquareOne is recruiting for volunteers to help at the event. You can volunteer to help with setup on event day (1-4pm), parking (3-5pm and 6:30-7:30), welcome and register guests (3:00-5:30 pm), payment processing (6-8pm) or event clean-up (7-8pm). All tasks are done outside, and SquareOne will follow Lane County Covid guidelines.

If you have any questions, send an email to Susan Schroeder, sschroeder1818@gmail.com

You'll meet some great people, have fun in an exciting setting, eat delicious paella, and hear about the other work of SquareOne. Volunteers doing tasks during event hours will receive dinner and a drink token. And you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you helped SquareOne Villages in their mission to create democratic communities with homes that are permanently affordable and environmentally sustainable.



Presbyterian Women News

**Jane Holmes,
PW Moderator**

A planned Tea celebrating the Birthday Offering's 100 years had to be cancelled in June due to Covid-19. Women were asked to donate to the celebration through their Circles or at the Church. We had a great response as Central will send in \$405.00 to support two causes that all PWs across the country will support:

Farmington, Maine – McCleary House for homeless individuals;

Laras, Puerto Rico Presbyterian Church Center, and their need for a water purification system that the community relies on. Thank you all for being so generous as it will make a difference to many.

Central's Circles will start up in September. The Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, September 6th at 9:30am; Contact Nancy Richter at (541) 337-0167. The Martha Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 7th at

11:30am. Bring a sack lunch, Contact Jane Holmes at (541) 933-3324.

Both Circles will use Horizons Bible Study *Celebrating Sabbath* written by Carol Bechtel. Seventeen study books have been ordered for those who indicated they needed one. If interested in joining us let Jane Holmes know.

Books have come in and are located in the office on the long table, next to them is sign up sheet and envelope to place the \$11.00 for the price of the book.

Adventures of a Nerd **Wesley Lachman**



Talk about monkeys filled the classroom. The class had just returned from a trip to the zoo. Mrs. Harris had left the room for a few minutes. Little George Singleton

was mortified. The other kids kept pointing at him, calling him "monkey." There was a lot of juvenile unfairness in this harassment. George was indeed rather gangly, small, with a wide grin. But he was also blonde as blonde can be and quite a nice boy.

He hid his irritation and focused on his assignments, which he finished before any other student. He thus became free to read a book of his choice. He chose *Adventures of a Nerd* by Bradley Parker. The nerd in the book, Alex, is always getting it for his nerdy ways. It didn't help that he was first to finish any assignment (just like George). Nor that he always raised his hand to give the right answer during class discussions (just like George).

As he opened a fresh chapter in the book, George was surprised to discover that Alex was going to visit a friend named George, and moreover that George lived on Maple Street, *Gosh, that's my street*, thought George.

In the book, Alex sits on the front steps and waits for George. Oops, the school bell rings, George stuffed the book into his desk and made for the door. Mom had promised some cookies this afternoon.

As George walked down the street toward his house, he looked up, and froze. There was a kid sitting on the front steps. He was wearing a baseball cap, just like George. *This is crazy*, George thought. He walked slowly up to the boy, screwed up his face and asked "Are you Alex?"

"No, silly," the boy said, "I'm not from your storybook." And with that, his cap came off and shoulder length golden hair cascaded down. "I'm Alex-andra." George was so confused, he didn't know what to do. But Alexandra's smile made his heart warm.



World Communion Sunday

**On World
Communion**
Sunday, October
2

We celebrate that Christ's peace

extends throughout all Creation. We celebrate that we are all together at the table, in God's house. We remember that we are offered what we need to continue the work of building the household of God with other peacemakers at home and around the world. The Peace and Global Witness Offering enables the Church to promote the peace of Christ by speaking to

systems of injustice in our own communities and around the world. Together we are building God's household of peace where everyone is welcome; so that we can all find compassion, peace, and justice.

*25% of this Special Offering will stay with our congregation for our own ministries of peacemaking and reconciliation.

*25% of this Special Offering will go to joining with other congregations in our area to support peacemaking in our region.

*50% of this Special Offering supports programs and ministries working for peace and justice around our nation and the world.

Central Presbyterian Church's 25% will be supporting La Casa de Paso, a shelter in Tijuana, Mexico, run by Sharon Franklin of Eugene and her husband. Pam Sheridan and Nancy Richter recently met with Sharon to learn more about this shelter that supports those crossing the border, especially mothers and children, in need of a place to stay while they are awaiting processing. You can learn more about the work of Sharon Franklin and her husband and La Casa de Paso in this September newsletter.

We thank you for your continued support of the Presbyterian Special offerings. Remember, "If we all give a little, it adds up to a lot."



Sept 1
Nancy Richter

Sept 8
Jane Rimmerman

Sept 9
Louise deKluyver

Sept 16
Susan Bloom
Edamend Freda

Sept 25
Jennifer Martin

Sept 26
Mel Anderson

Sept 28
Jackie Onstad



Sept 12
Randy & Peggy Lilyengren

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"Autumn is a second spring when every
leaf is a flower". ~ Albert Camus

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

