



Thursday, Dec 1

Ministry of Christian Discipleship
10:00am ~ Zoom
Book Group
2:00pm ~ Zoom

Monday, Dec 5

Bible Study
11:00am ~ Zoom
Badminton Group
6:30pm ~ Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, Dec 6

Miriam Circle
9:30am ~ Room 121A

Wednesday, Dec 7

Martha Circle
11:30am ~ Room 121A

Thursday, Dec 8

Book Group
2:00pm ~ Zoom
Worship & Common Life
~ Zoom

Tuesday, Dec 13

Staff Meeting
9:30am ~ Pastor's Office
Church Properties
11:00am ~ Zoom
Personnel
1:30pm ~ Zoom

Monday, Dec 19

Bible Study
11:00am ~ Zoom
Finance
4:30pm ~ Zoom
Session
5:30pm ~ Zoom
Badminton
6:30pm ~ Fellowship Hall

Thursday, Dec 22

Deacons
5:30pm ~ Zoom

Tuesday, Dec 27

Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30pm ~ Room 121A



Some of my earliest memories are of a fairly large nativity set our family put up in the living room along with the Christmas tree. I think it was made of plaster, and I know my mother painted each piece because she was finishing it while I was a young child, I remember

pieces one by one. I was especially taken with the metallic paint, that I was sure had *real* gold in it, used to paint details on the gifts brought by the Magi. There were all the usual characters, along with some animals, an angel and a star.

Though they stand out in my memory, they weren't the only signs of the season of Advent. Each December we would go to my Aunt's yearly party with special once-a-year treats. We would join in caroling with people from our church at the local nursing homes. We would decorate gingerbread houses and make cards and cookies. Soon the whole town seemed to be filled with twinkle lights, windows with painted on snow, and a whole lot more music everywhere we went. All of these were signs that Christmas was on the way.

The other things I remember from childhood Decembers are the stories. When family and friends gathered together this time of year, everyone's memories seemed to bubble up to the surface. And when they did, folks shared them with one another. I remember hearing stories about my grandparents' childhoods and memories shared about special presents or memorable visits. There were tales of years that had been particularly difficult or especially joy-filled. Even those who were more closed off the rest of the year seemed willing to open up and reminisce as Christmas drew nearer.

This year at CPC we will be observing Advent using the theme *Generation to Generation*. We will hear stories of those in scripture who are a part of the story of Christmas. And we will be invited to consider how it is in a very real way our own story to tell, from generation to generation. We will have opportunities to worship, pray, sing, and create- individually and together. You are invited in the dark, quiet days of December to make time to ponder what it has meant

for you over the years to know that this Christmas story is your story - to know that God has chosen to make the human story a holy story. For just as surely as those painted nativity figures entered our family living room each year, the truth of this season is that it is God's desire to be present in all of our homes. And in all of our hearts. That is the whole point of the incarnation. Our call is to receive that present and to prepare room for that Presence. This Advent may we listen to the stories in scripture, may we remember and share the stories of our own ancestors, and may we all welcome in new ways the coming of the Light.

Pastor Jennifer Martin

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS AT CPC



Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is His name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to

generation. (Luke 1: 48b-50)

As we prepare our hearts once again for the celebration of the coming of Christ, we will be using materials from the gifted artists at A Sanctified Art to guide our worship experience. There will also be an intergenerational opportunity to create themed crafts during fellowship after worship during Advent. The theme for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany is *From Generation to Generation*, inspired by the above verses from Mary's song in Luke's gospel. Each week we will be looking at the human stories involved in this divine story as we consider how these people participated in God's liberation and love. Trusting that the work of God is always unfolding, we will also ponder how that is happening in and through our own lives. We will ask what it means to belong to one another, and what we are being called to generate, or bring forth.

At the Advent Workshop on **November 27**, we handed out devotionals filled with resources to make this season more meaningful for you. If you didn't get one, there are extras that can be

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

*Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Children & Youth Coordinator: Rev. Maggie Lewis
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	Karen Dyste
Quentin Holmes	Carolyn Keener
Gerry Keener	Patty MacAfee
Louise deKluyver	Jacquie Litchfield
Karol Buxton	Yvonne Young
Jackie Onstad	

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Bloom	Barbara Cookson
Helen Martz	Nancy Richter



picked up at church. Let us know if you need one mailed to you.

December 4 - *God Meets Us in Our Fear*,
Luke 1:26-38 & Isaiah 11:1-10

December 11 - *We Can Choose a Better Way*,
Matt. 1:18-25, Isaiah 35:1-10

December 18 - *We See God in Each Other*,
Luke 1:39-58

December 24 - Christmas Eve - *We Tell This Story*,
Luke 2:1-20

December 25 - Christmas Day - *God Dwells With Us*,
John 1:1-14

January 1 - Service of Lessons & Carols

LONGEST NIGHT / BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE



**5:00 pm, Tuesday,
December 20**
CPC Chapel, led
by Rev. Maggie
Lewis

This is a time of
year when the

expectations are high and the demand for joyfulness is great; it is "the most wonderful time of year" after all! But the holiday season can also highlight our sadness – our own darkness, fear, and grief. The tune of this season may not match the reality of your life. This is the Good News that we have been awaiting - Christ is Emmanuel, God with us, in the midst of it all. If you would like to be surrounded by siblings in the faith who are also hurting this holiday season, you are invited to the Blue Christmas service in the CPC Chapel at **5 p.m. on Tuesday December 20th**. Wherever you are on life's journey, there is room for you here.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT CENTRAL

We will have two services this Christmas Eve, as well as the opportunity for a contemplative labyrinth experience. Plan now to come celebrate this special night as we worship together.



Intergenerational Service - 5:30pm, Chapel

This short service is designed to be meaningful and accessible for the youngest among us, as well as the young at heart. All are welcome!



Candles, Carols, & Bells – 7:30pm, Sanctuary

This traditional service rings in the celebration of the Incarnation with liturgy, song, and candlelight. Bring a bell if you are able! We will also be live-streaming this service via Vimeo if you would like to join in virtually. All are welcome!



Candlelight Labyrinth – Fellowship Hall Between services & following later service

A contemplative opportunity for those who welcome a quieter, reflective observance. Come, walk the labyrinth, pray, and enjoy the music and scriptures that will be a part of this experience. All are welcome!



Christmas Day Worship 10:00 am, Sunday, December 25 CPC Chapel

This year Christmas falls on a Sunday, so let's celebrate with worship together. We will be having a more casual service in the chapel on this holy day. Plan to come in your comfy clothes, even PJ's if you want! We will make time to tell the story, pray and sing together as we celebrate the wonder of the incarnation. Jennifer will even be bringing cookies!



Lessons & Carols on New Year's Day 10:00 am, Sunday, January 1

Plan now to start 2023 with your friends at CPC as we celebrate the eighth day of Christmas together. We will continue our

yearly tradition of reading and singing together lessons and carols of the season on that Sunday and you won't want to miss it.



Staff Christmas Bonus

CHRISTMAS BONUS DONATIONS Alice Schroeder

It's Holiday Time again when the Personnel Committee asks for your help to contribute toward a Christmas bonus for members of Central's staff. Someone from the

Personnel Committee will be standing in the Narthex on the office side with the donation box on Sunday 12/4 and 12/11. If you are not in church or unable to donate then, you can also mail your donation to the Central Presbyterian Church:

555 E 15th Ave, Eugene OR 97401. If you write a check, please note in the memo line "Christmas Bonus."

We would like to receive all the donations by **December 15**. This allows us to distribute the bonus to the staff in their final December paychecks.



CENTRAL'S CHRISTMAS PROJECT Quentin Holmes

*"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 45 years ago by Al Bray and Burt Eaton, and continued ever since under a series of able leaders such as Bob Bottge and Norma Bales. Each year the Christmas Project is a bold adventure in faith. Because of the COVID-

19, we have had to become very innovative and flexible. No longer will Central have Christmas Project teams.

This year, Central's Christmas Project will help some 20 families from Rainbow Village Low-Cost Housing. Three other Presbyterian churches and a fourth organization will be working in lock-step alongside us to help a total of about 65 families in need.

Letters were sent at the end of November with further details. Thanks to all who have returned your postcards and made donations! If you did not receive a letter but would like to participate in this effort, **you can still make a donation to the CPC Deacon's Fund before December 9**. Gifts will be blessed in worship on December 11 before being delivered to the recipients at Rainbow Village.



The Christmas Story Now Wesley Lachman

About this time, the U.S.

Citizen and Immigration Services required that green card holders appear in person to update and verify their information. Cardholders in Oregon had to travel in person to Corvallis to do this. They could lose their status if they missed the December 31 deadline. So Jorge and Rita, his fiancée, went from the Willamette town of Eugene up to Corvallis. They went reluctantly, for Rita was quite pregnant.

It was dusk when they finally reached the outskirts of Corvallis. Suddenly Rita's water began to break. Jorge pulled into a motel parking strip just ahead. As they stopped and opened the door, a midwife was looking out her motel window at the bright, starry night. She saw the couple struggling and came rushing out to help them. Soon Rita gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a fresh blanket and laid him in the back seat of their car. Although there was no room for them at the motel, the night clerk allowed them to park overnight on the motel property.

It so happened that many unhoused families were camping a few miles away. Some were still awake, watching the sparkling stars above. Suddenly, a tall stranger stood among them, and it seemed as if the headlights from many vehicles were shining all around the camp. The campers were terrified. They cried, "Don't hurt us, please, we'll leave." The stranger said, "Don't be afraid, and don't leave. I am a messenger from Yahweh. I'm here to announce a joyful miracle for all people, both great and humble: Our true hero has just been born here in Corvallis town, a hero who will be your exemplar and deliverer. And this is what you are to look for: a newborn wrapped in a new blanket and lying in a white sedan." At once the homeless heard a choir singing praises: "Glory to Yahweh in the high heavens. Peace to all humans on the earth."

As the singing faded away, the amazed unhoused said to one another, "Let's get going right now and see for ourselves what this messenger has told us." They set out in cars and on bicycles, and found Rita and Jorge, and the baby lying in the white sedan. Seeing became conviction. As the new day dawned they began to tell everyone they met what the messenger had announced about the child. All who paused to listen were impressed by what they said.

~ Did this nativity story affect you differently from the traditional one? How so? Who among your contemporaries, male or female, do you most consider your spiritual hero? In what ways can you follow their example now



Christmas Joy Offering
Nancy Richter

*And the Word became
flesh and lived among
us....*

John 1:14

The **Christmas Joy Offering** is the 4th of the annual Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA) church-wide seasonal offerings. When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our church—past, present, and future. 50% of our gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with

critical financial needs. The other 50% of our gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. At these Presbyterian schools and colleges, they teach that faith is to be lived out in the world. We appreciate the generosity of this congregation in the support of these Special Offerings: "For when we give a little, it adds up to a lot."



Christmas Eve Offering
Food For Lane County
Nancy Richter

This year's Christmas Eve Offering will be dedicated to Food For Lane County. This is a nonprofit food bank founded in 1984, dedicated to reducing hunger by

engaging the community to create access to food. There is a network of 170 social service agencies and programs, public awareness, education, and community advocacy that help support programs designed to improve the ability of low income individuals to maintain an adequate supply of wholesome, nutritious food.

This is accomplished through emergency food boxes, shelters, meal sites, rehabilitation facilities, nutrition education, gleaning, and community gardens. Food For Lane County serves a diverse population of people living on limited incomes including children, families, seniors, and single adults. We appreciate your generosity, especially at this time of year, by remembering those in need of food and coping with food insecurity.



**November and
December Coin
Offering**
Nancy Richter

#NosJuntamosParaTi
#WeTogetherForYou

Centro Latino Americano has combined with Downtown Languages and Huerto de la Familia in order

to increase their capacity to serve Latino and immigrant families in the community. The three organizations have a long history of working together and have been united, impactful, and powerful. They are excited to transform the individual organizations into a broader, more complete service provider and community-building hub. Building Latino, Immigrant Power Through Unity...

- Combining our strengths to provide many resources, families will be able to access all existing programs from the three organizations at locations in Eugene and Springfield.
- Empowering Latino to have a voice on issues that impact their own lives by launching a new Leadership Institute.
- Advocating at the local and state level to ensure the needs of Latino are lifted up, given value, and inclusive.

Huerto De La Familia

(The Family Garden)

We increase the health and economic security of Latinos in Lane County by providing opportunities and training in organic gardening and business creation to families. There are 7 gardens across Lane County to provide Latino families with personal plots of land. Families can grow healthy, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food.

Downtown Languages

(Educate, Empathy, Equity)

Dedicated to increasing opportunities for immigrants and building respect and understanding across cultures by providing language, literacy, and other educational programs.

Fall classes for adults are on-line or in person:

Pilas Family Literacy Program in the Bethel school district at Fairfield Elementary
Springfield at Two Rivers Elementary
Cottage Grove – TBD

Once again, the Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship is grateful for your continued support of the Coin Offering Program. Remember, "If we all give a little, it adds up to a lot". Thank you.



Update on the CPC Remodel Project Steve Stermer

Essex Construction had good news for the CPC Remodel Team: with Central doing the final cleaning, having unspent

funds in the cost escalation budget and the total remodel budget projected to come in under budget, there are enough funds to update all the CPC hallway floors.

- Nancy Richter has volunteered to coordinate the final cleaning.
- Women's restroom and family restroom partitions are installed. Plumbing by Reynold's Plumbing.
- Fence posts are in place, by Island Fencing.
- Final mechanical and electrical inspections are taking place.
- Flooring was installed in the bathroom closet at no additional charge.
- Hallway flooring will be installed once materials arrive.
- Fire Doors installation and final fire inspection are being completed.
- Store front door, being installed in main lobby, by McKenzie Glass.

December 17, 2022 is still planned as the remodel completion date. CPC Remodel team members: Alice Schroeder, Bob Bottge, Nancy Richter, John Sheridan, Steve Stermer and Rev. Jennifer Martin.

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**BUILDING WELCOME IS
ALMOST COMPLETE
Bev Day**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the amazing remodel of Central Presbyterian Church. We have, indeed,

built a welcoming environment. Whether you donated money, ideas, or muscle-power, it all helped get us to the finish line. Thanks to (Essex) careful use of our funds, we came in within budget.

If you are planning a year-end gift to Central, designating that for the Community Room would help immensely in creating a welcoming space for others in our larger community. The remodel plans for the Community Room (aside from a heat pump and paint) had to be cut from the original proposal to stay within budget. The entire planned remodel of that space included moving a wall and replacing the bathroom. The room is functional now but would be greatly improved by additional funding. Prayerfully consider a year-end gift to help reach that aim.

We celebrate our **GRAND RE-OPENING** on Epiphany and hope you can join us, visit the remodeled spaces and share in the joy we all feel for having accomplished this goal. More to come about that event.



**EARTH CARE
CONGREGATION
APPLICATION
Rick Larson**

Central has initiated an application for recognition as an *Earth Care Congregation*, an audit process which centers on our responding to a number of questions about Central's activities and commitments concerning the care of our planet. One aspect of our application is to identify activities of individual members of our congregation that have a positive impact on our environment, including supporting

environmental organizations, showing solidarity with a community impacted by adverse environmental conditions, and individual choices we make that have a positive effect on our earth.

The Earth Care Committee is tasked with preparing the audit responses and wants to gather information from members of the congregation concerning their individual activities in order to complete the audit. Share with the congregation in general terms what we are doing both individually and collectively, so that we can better appreciate where we stand, and perhaps, where we might have opportunities to better care for our environment.

On Sunday, December 11 and 18, the committee will have a bulletin board with several questions from the application and invite members of the congregation to provide responses for inclusion in our final response after worship. The bulletin board will either be in the Narthex or in Fellowship Hall. We hope that you will take a moment and share with us your personal activities and actions in the last year that reflect your participation in trying to meet the environmental challenges we face a society.



**UPDATED CPC
RECYCLING LIST
Barbara Cookson**

1. Number 1 plastic jugs, bottles, etc. are now being recycled by Sanipac, Apex and all other garbage haulers in the greater Eugene-Springfield area. The #1's must have a screw top and must be clean. The labels can be left on. If you don't have a garbage service, Central will still recycle them.
2. Number 2's are also being recycled by Sanipac, etc. The labels can be left on. Small #2's cannot be recycled through Sanipac, etc. The small medicine bottles can still be recycled through Central, but

the labels must be removed. If you don't have garbage service, Central will still take all Number 2's.

3. Number 4's and Number 5's are still being recycled at Central. They must be clean and the labels removed.

4. NEW! Central can now recycle #6 plastics. (Yah!)

5. Hard Styrofoam

6. NEW! Clean Styrofoam meat trays and Styrofoam clam shells. (Take-out food containers)

7. Shredded paper.

8. Batteries

9. Egg cartons

10. Tin can lids

*In memoriam
Marilyn "Lynn" Kolb*



*An elder and a deacon
November 3, 2022*



December
ANNIVERSARIES
Jennifer Martin & Kirsten Kelso
Dec. 21st

HOLIDAY HOURS



**Mon –Thursday 8:00am~ 3:00pm
12:30pm~1:30pm Closed for Lunch
Fridays 8:00am~11:00am**

**Closed the following days
December 24th 26th
&
December 31st -January 2nd**





December

BIRTHDAYS

1st

Shirley Irsfeld

2nd

Barbara Cowan

11th

**Janet Edmondson
Margaret Knudsen**

12th

Joan Doering

14th

**Alison Kelly
Shirley Griffith**

18th

**Wesley Lachman
Charlie Thomas**

23rd

Monique Jones

25th

**Patty MacAfee
Del Hawkins**

30th

Wendy Unsain

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



Mission Statement

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

