



Vol 23 No. 01

January 2023

Tuesday, January 3

Miriam Circle
9:30am~Parlor

Wednesday, January 4

Martha Circle
11:30am~ Parlor

Thursday, January 5

Ministry of Christian Discipleship
10:00am~ Zoom

Friday, January 6

Epiphany Party
5:30-7:30pm

Tuesday, January 11

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

Thursday, January 12

Worship & Common Life
2:30pm~Zoom

Monday, January 16

Office Closed MLK DAY
Central Articles Due
Badminton
6:30pm~Fellowship Hall

Monday January 23

Session & Deacons Joint Meeting
5:30pm~Zoom

Tuesday, January 24

Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30pm~Parlor

SUNDAY SERVICES

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>



January is a time of beginnings. We see all around us encouragement to use the new year as an opportunity to try new things - whether by decluttering our closets, starting a new exercise routine, abstaining from alcohol, or making healthy food choices. Whether or not you choose to do any of those things in your own life, 2023 certainly feels like a new beginning in lots of ways at our church.

The most obvious change is to our physical space. The completion of our remodel is so new we are still moving into the office and hanging art on the walls! We know there are other improvements we hope to make, especially to our community room area, but before we make a new to do list, we have the opportunity to celebrate our new, welcoming, accessible entrance. We will bless it and celebrate it at the Epiphany Party, Friday January 6th. I hope to see you all there!

Another new beginning is the completion of an Earth Care Congregation Audit. I hope you will make plans to hear all about that during adult education time this month. It is a chance for us to gain an awareness of what we are already doing and make intentional choices about what we can do going forward to be better stewards of our planet.

These are tangible beginnings, but in addition to these there is also a sense of hope in the air. Whether in a small group or a committee meeting, I hear more people offering up ideas for outreach, worship, connections . . .so much creativity, possibility, and a willingness to try new things. Rather than the old chestnut of, "But we've always done it that way" I'm hearing lots of, "Why not? Let's give it a try!" That is a reason to celebrate!

Of course, none of us knows what this year holds. But as we kick the year off in Epiphany remembering those who were bold enough to follow a star to find the Light and love of God revealed, perhaps we can be inspired to continue in that spirit of doing a new thing, going to new places, traveling outside of our comfort zone. May we continue to embrace this spirit of curiosity and faith. And like the Magi, may we be brave enough to follow wherever God leads us, together.



**NOTES FROM
THE DECEMBER
SESSION
MEETING
Merle Bottge**

IN MEMORIAM

Session members shared fond memories of these three Central family members and a time of prayer of thanks for their lives and comfort for their families.

• Ellis Sprick, a member of Central from 1963 to 2022, died November 16 in Washington at the age of 99. A memorial service is being planned for Saturday, April 8 here at Central.

• Joan Doering, a deacon and member of Central since 1969, died December 12 in Bend at the age of 90.

• Betty Pratt, a friend of the congregation and mother of Scott Pratt, died December 17 in Eugene.

**CENTRAL'S OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2023
APPROVED**

The Session approved a budget showing an anticipated income of \$450,342. It is based on pledges and anticipated donations, expected income from endowment funds, and rental income for the use of Central's building and parking spaces. Thank you to all who have pledged so generously for the coming year. If you have not yet pledged to the 2023 budget, it is not too late to do so. In approving the expenditure side of the budget for 2023, the Session accepted the Personnel Committee's recommendation to provide a cost-of-living adjustment of six percent for staff in the coming year. The operating expenditures budgeted for 2023 total \$455,760, or \$5,418 more than expected revenue. Typically, Central spends less than budgeted.

PER CAPITA

Central Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and has an

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Youth & Children Coordinator: Rev Maggie Lewis
Director of Music: Kendra Taylor
Organist: Dan Rinnan
AV Technican: 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

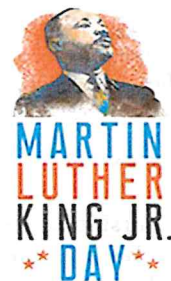
ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Bloom Barbara Cookson
Helen Martz Nancy Richter

CPC OFFICE IS CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY
16TH 2023 FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY



"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."~ Martin Luther King

obligation to help fund the administrative costs of the denomination: the Presbytery of the Cascades, the Synod of the Pacific, and the General Assembly of the PCUSA. Per capita, which pays these costs, is based on church membership and is due in January. Per capita is part of Central's budget. Central's total per capita for 2023 is \$5,381. It is based on Central's membership as of January 1, 2022. All members of Central are encouraged to donate their member share of per capita - \$45.60 – to Central to help defray the cost of per capita. When making this donation, please mark that it is for per capita.

- Tasks to be completed by the Properties Committee:
 - o Alarm Solution reconnect, security alarm system
 - o Install, new office phones and system
 - o Move Monique to the front office
 - o Re-Key doors to CPC locks
 - o Set-up the library in the Arlene's former office
 - o Redesign and update, Lafferty Courtyard.

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



**Update on the CPC Remodel Project
Steve Stermer
Final Walk Through**



- The final Walk through was conducted on Thursday December 22. In attendance were Wayne (Essex), Sarah (Inspired Architecture), Steve and Jennifer (CPC).
- A few paint touch-ups were found and corrected right away. Instruction on how to operate the storefront doors, canopy lights, and thermostats (+instruction manuals) were reviewed.
- Yet to complete once materials arrive:
 - o Install key cylinders in front gates
 - o Install hallway floor wall molding
 - o Install locking latch, on family bathroom doors.

**Circle of Friends School
Nancy Richter**



Circle of Friends is a fairly new non-profit organization in Lane County. Margaret Prentice brought this organization to the Ministry of Christian Discipleship's attention after seeing a newspaper article about them earlier this past year, 2022. Circle of Friends School is a female-founded non-profit founded in 2018 by Jenn Davis, an Early Childhood Education teacher, and Katie Urhausen, a parent. Jenn Davis currently serves as the executive director.

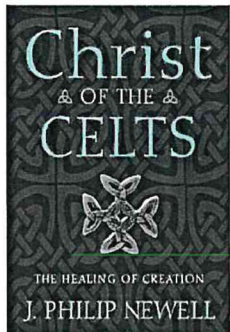
This non-profit organization serves children and youth with complex disabilities and those who love them building a community that is founded on community and opportunities. They believe every person has value. Their mission was founded on one simple concept: children and youth with severe disabilities are just like anyone else—they deserve opportunities, with resources, support, training, and a community built on compassion.

Circle of Friends School is here to break the cycle of isolation for those individuals with complex disabilities and those who love them. Currently being offered is a gathering place for children, youth, and their families through respite care events, day camps, summer programming, and family-friendly events. They are building up

natural supports and friendships that will keep families strong. Access and training are in Circle of Friends School's Horizon, and their dream is education.

Like so many classrooms that are structured today for children with special needs, known as Life Skills classrooms, one size does not always fit all. And children with complex disabilities do not always fit into these programs. Circle of Friends School's dream is to provide appropriate support and individualized learning opportunities that maximize youth participation, amplify youth voices, expand mobility, and foster independence in a supported community of professionals, volunteers, and parents.

Ministry of Christian Discipleship recognizes your continued support of our Coin Offerings and the many organizations we have been able to offer generous support to over these past few years. We offer our heartfelt "Thank You" as we begin a new year of supporting the Coin Offering program.



CPC Wednesday Book group will resume on Zoom Thursday, January 19th at 2pm

***Christ of the Celts: The Healing of Creation* by J. Philip Newell**

Diagnosing the human soul with a longing for peace in the face of fear and fragmentation nurtured by global political forces and fundamentalisms, Newell offers the ancient traditions of Celtic Christianity as a way forward in healing humankind and the earth. Newell argues we discover unity as we become connected to one another and allow ourselves to be surprised by the Presence that is within creation and within the human soul. Drawing on ancient and contemporary sources both within and outside the conventional Christian canon, Newell is critical of, and offers alternatives to, ancient Christian doctrines like creation ex nihilo (out of nothing), original sin and substitutionary atonement.

Earth Care Congregation



January is a time when many folks make time to look at their lives and make plans for healthy changes. Our congregation will be reflecting, receiving and discussing together the information gathered by those who have been completing the Earth Care Congregation Audit. If there is interest we will an form Earth Care team that would meet quarterly to advise our existing committees on steps that could be taken going forward.

Plan to stay after worship in January to learn about what we are already doing as a congregation and opportunities we have to be better stewards. There will be plenty of time for discussion, questions and answers, and even time to share with one another ways we personally have found in our own lives and households to care for the planet.

January 15th: Facilities & Worship findings

January 22nd: Education & Outreach findings

January 29th: Updated Presentation about recycling at CPC & Community Sharing





**Epiphany
Party &
Remodel
Dedication**

Friday,
January 6th
5:30-7:30pm

Come be a part of dedicating the completion of our recent remodel as together with friends we celebrate the 12th night of Christmas! There will be a brief program at 6:30pm.

Margaret Prentice

Jan 15th

Randy Kolb
Kathy Raines

Jan 16th

Dana Boonstra

Jan 18th

Ross Patterson Kanaga
Jacquie Litchfield

Jan 19th

Arlene Hudgins

Jan 21st

Marian Smith

Jan 23rd

Helen Martz
Julie Whitmore

Jan 27th

John Gregor
Kathy Koelling



**New Year and New
Church Directory**

An updated version our church directory is available in the office. If you would like one emailed or sent to you, please contact Monique

at (541) 345-8724 or email:
centralpresbyterianeugene@gmail.com



Jan 3rd

Carolyn Keener
Laura Mason

Jan 6th

Bob Bottge

Jan 8th

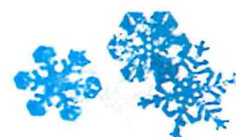
Linda Zimmerman

Jan 14th



Geoff & Marci Gordon

Dec 4



one People / one World / one God

Just as a mirror reflects every object that is placed before it, without exception, so also God accepts everyone. ~ Anonymous



Etty Hillisum, within Auschwitz ~ It is all as one in me and I accept it all as one mighty whole and begin to grasp it better if only for myself.



We must all live together as brothers [and sisters] or we will all perish together as fools. ~ Martin Luther King



The oppressor must be liberated just as surely as the oppressed. A man who takes away another man's freedom is a prisoner of hatred. ~ Nelson Mandela



For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? ~ First Letter to the Corinthians



Unconditional love is the experience of being. There is no "I" and "other." ... You cannot unconditionally love someone. You can only be unconditional love. ~ Steven Levine

January 15, 1929 - Martin Luther King - April 4, 1968