

# Central

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith

**Wednesday, November 1**

Martha Circle  
11:30am~Parlor

**Thursday, November 2**

Ministry of Christian Discipleship  
9:00am~ Zoom

**Sunday, November 5**

All Saint's Day

**Tuesday, November 7**

Miriam Circle  
09:30am ~Parlor

**Thursday, November 9**

Worship & Common Life  
2:30pm~Zoom

**Monday, November 13**

Bible Study  
11:30am~ Parlor  
Finance  
3:00pm~Zoom  
Endowment Committee  
4:00pm~Zoom  
Badminton Group  
6:30pm~Parlor

**Tuesday, November 14**

Personnel  
9:30am~Zoom  
Church Properties  
11:00am~Zoom

**Thursday, November 16**

Deacons Meeting  
4:00pm ~Zoom

**Monday, November 20**

Bible Study  
11:30am~Parlor  
Session  
5:30pm~Zoom  
Badminton Group  
6:30pm~Fellowship Hall

**Thursday, November 24**

Thanksgiving  
Office Closed

**Tuesday, November 28**

Prayer Shawl Ministry  
1:30pm~Parlor



## The Pastor's Pen

*Will you be active in government and discipline,  
serving in the councils of the church;  
and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of  
Jesus Christ?*

- One of the constitutional questions from the ordination service of a  
Presbyterian minister.

You may or may not know that while a pastor helps lead a church, in our connectional denomination a minister's membership is not with a local congregation, but is in the presbytery. Since our church practices representative democracy as its form of government, when the presbytery has official meetings, the minister members join along with elders from the congregations within its bounds to make decisions for the region. Just as a church's committee and boards are made up of elders, members and friends, the committees and boards of the presbytery are also made up of the minister members and elders of our congregations.

Similarly, our Synod and its committees are made up of representative ministers and elders from its presbyteries. When our national meeting, the General Assembly, gathers it, too, is made up of representative elder and minister commissioners from all over the country.

When a minister is ordained, we promise to participate in the work of the larger church. This takes on various forms of service at various levels of our denomination. In my ministry, I have had the privilege serving on national and presbytery level committees, regional boards of directors, and various task forces and teams. Currently, I have the honor of serving as the moderator of the Presbytery of the Cascades.

Last year I was moderator-elect, which meant lots of listening and learning more about what the position entails. As of this summer, the metaphorical gavel is in my hands. I expected to moderate my first meeting this month, but we had a special single-issue zoom meeting in October, which allowed me to dive right into the position. The way our presbytery structures this position, I will serve as moderator until next June.





In Memoriam  
Julie Whitmore



October 9, 2023  
Member of Central since 1990

Service will be held on Sunday, December 3  
2023 at 2:00pm at Central Presbyterian  
Church.

some space for simple remembrances; a memento, a photo, or some other small item. We encourage you to place your tribute on that table.

Remembering our friends and family is an important part of this season, and we urge you to come and participate with us.



### HELP DECORATE OUR CHRISTMAS TREE

Last year we purchased a lovely new Christmas tree and appreciate how it lights up the front of the sanctuary during

Advent. But, in addition to the lights, it needs ornaments. That's where you can help!

We will be decorating Chrismons during fellowship for three Sundays in November; **November 12, 19 & 26.** We will have tables set up in the narthex with supplies for you to bring your own creative ideas to the decorations.

What, you may ask, are Chrismons? The word is a reduction and combination of the words, "Christ" and "monogram." So, they are decorations that symbolize all the names and titles we have used for Jesus Christ. They include christograms as well as other symbols of the Christian faith.

So, join us! Get your coffee and refreshments and find a place at one of the tables. There will be white and gold ornaments, but they will be unadorned and will need your artistic embellishments. Once done, we will hang them on the Christmas tree and cherish all the hard work that went into making them.



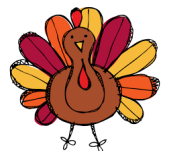
### All Saints Sunday, November 5

ALL SAINTS SERVICE OF  
REMEMBRANCE

On November 5, we will be celebrating All Saints Day at worship.

We have lost a few members and friends this year and we will remember them by lighting candles placed on the communion table. In addition, we invite those in attendance to light other candles – tables with candles will be placed around the sanctuary. There will also be microphones for you to speak the name of a person or persons you are remembering.

As we did last year, there will also be a place to put tokens in memory of your loved ones. The long table next to the children's area will have





**Welcoming Our New Neighbors 2023**  
**You're Invited! Welcoming Our New**  
**Neighbors Fundraiser November 16,**  
**6:00pm, St. Mary's Episcopal**

The Refugee Resettlement Coalition (RRC) and the Catholic Community Services Refugee and Immigrant Services Program (RISP) is holding its annual fundraiser, Welcoming Our New Neighbors, on Thursday, November 16, 6:00 pm at St. Mary's Episcopal Church on the corner of Pearl and 13th Avenue.

Please join RRC and RISP in celebrating this work in our community to welcome and provide support to refugees and asylum seekers. You will enjoy international food and inspiring stories from refugees and immigrants, and you will leave inspired and uplifted!

Central is a Community Partner with RRC and RISP and is one of the event sponsors. Tickets are \$30 per person. Purchase your ticket at <https://www.cclsc.org/wonn2023> If you can't attend but want to provide financial support, you can donate on the ticket-purchase page. If you would like to receive the monthly RRC e-newsletter to keep informed about the work of RRC and RISP, sign up on the RRC website: <https://rrclc.org>



**THE SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP**

When we look back on the last few years, it is

amazing the changes that have happened. We have been through political turmoil, a pandemic and, in the midst of all of that; we remodeled our entry to be more inviting. Only a year ago we dedicated that work.

Now it is time for another dedication; this time our time, talents, and financial resources for 2024 to continue into the future with the hope that sustains us through difficult time.

**Dedication Sunday is November 19.** By now you have received a letter with an explanation of the budget and a pledge card. You will be hearing from members of the congregation in the weeks ahead.

We hope their stories will inspire you and, with the stories we share with one another, you will be called to pledge generously on Dedication Sunday. The Session will be at work diligently to develop the budget for next year so your prompt responses are much appreciated. We hope to see you on November 19.



**Have you ever wondered how...**

Have you ever wondered how we pay for the upkeep of our church building and the surrounding yard?

Is your response: *"It has never crossed my mind!"*

Well, to make a long explanation short; here is part of the answer:

CPC has an Endowment Fund. Most of the endowments are managed by the Endowment Fund Committee.

In that Fund are several accounts which address this need. The accounts were established, in this case, by former members of the church.

One of these accounts, The David Lafferty Trust Fund was established by his mother upon her death in 2006 to commemorate his tragic and unexpected death at 18 years of age.

The maintenance of the Lafferty Courtyard, through which the new entry to the church runs, is funded by this loving and generous gift to the church. The Properties/ Administration

Committee is in the process of obtaining plans for refreshing the plants and hard scape using funds from The David Lafferty Trust Fund to cover the costs not covered by voluntary labor. You will see the results in the spring.



### Is It Ok Now?

Wesley Lachman

*The prisoner had been sentenced to death by firing squad at dawn. He looked at his watch. It was 9:30 P.M. He stepped over to his cot, lay down, and went to sleep.*  
~ from Anthony de Mello

The other day, I was shocked to realize how much time I spent in fear and avoidance. My physical therapist told me that if my attitude did not improve, I would not be making much progress in rehabilitating my broken kneecap. Later, mulling this over, I saw that I had been spending time every day in useless fear of what was coming next and desiring to avoid it.

Matthew 6: "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day." A paraphrase: Do not be fearful about what might come upon you later, for when later comes it will bring its own anxiety along with it. This moment right now and its problems are enough for you to deal with.

So I have found it helpful to ask myself questions like this: *Is it okay now? Right now, can you handle it okay?* Almost invariably, I answer myself, *Yes, I can, right now.*

This now, in which we live, is where our whole life takes place. There is no other place. Tomorrow and yesterday are imaginary, unreal and undependable. We can only see them in now, as stories and imaginations. Now includes everything that we are currently aware of. If we are okay right now, we are completely okay.



### THANK OFFERING Presbyterian Women Jane Holmes

Each year Presbyterian Women across the country demonstrate their thankfulness to God through giving to the THANK offering of PW.

This program began in 1888, when Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio urged women to give \$1.00 over and above their usual contribution. This offering has become one of two, grant-making programs of the national Presbyterian Women.

In 2023, Creative Ministries Offering Committee reviewed 28 applications and selected 7 projects for funding. 40% of them related to health ministries. This year's PW Grant recipients are:

1. Light Darkness New Worshipping Community- Grounded Gardening: \$10,000.
2. Summer Arts Camp- Presbyterian Church of the Covenant: \$15,000.
3. Immokalee Fair Housing Alliance, Inc. This alliance was begun in 2018 after the destruction of Hurricane Irma. It provides housing for low-income families: \$50,000.
4. Three other grants to agencies: (a) Helping with solar power for growing vegetables for low-income families; (b) a Teen center in Albany, NY; and (c) an organization in Zambia to help build a Health Care Center for rural residents.

Please consider joining women across the country to show your thanks and praise to God for our many blessings. This can be done through the Circles or send a check to Central Presbyterian Church- memo line **"PW Thank Offering."**

## GIFT FROM OUR HEART

### A Gift from Our Heart to Peace Village Co-op

Central has been a long-time supporter of SquareOne Village's work in our community to provide shelter for people

experiencing homelessness and build affordable housing co-ops for individuals, couples, and small families living on low incomes. Over the past year, SquareOne has been constructing its newest village, Peace Village Co-op, on unused property they purchased from Peace Presbyterian Church. Peace Village consists of 70 units of small-scale, highly energy-efficient co-op housing. Resident selection is underway now, and new residents will move in starting in mid-December.

On behalf of our congregation, the Ministry of Christian Discipleship is planning a set of new bath towels as a "gift from our heart" to the new residents. The towels will be combined with a hand-made quilt made by folks at Peace Presbyterian Church. These gifts will be provided to each household at move-in, along with a "welcome" card from our two congregations.

### Central's Christmas Project



Central's Christmas Project is one way the Central family has shared God's love with residents from Rainbow Village Low-Cost Housing for many years. As the holidays approach, the Deacons are again making plans to continue this tradition. A team of Deacons will assemble and deliver Christmas stockings with gift cards and Christmas cards. More details will be provided in the coming weeks on how all members of Central can make this part of their Christmas giving through financial contributions.



### CHRISTMAS WREATHS

It's hard to believe that Christmas is coming again. And, once again the Christmas wreaths made by the Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas in Woodburn, Oregon will be available to us.

This wreath provides much needed income to the farm worker families during winter months as well as opportunities for women to gain financial management and leadership skills.

**Cost: \$40.00**

**Deadline Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Checks made out to MLP**

**(Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas)**

**Pickup: Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>**



Gary & Janet Elliott

November 10



2nd

Karol Buxton

4th

Linda Anderson

10<sup>th</sup>

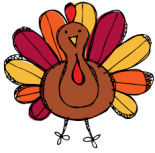
Merle Bottge

16<sup>th</sup>

Rick Larson

27<sup>th</sup>

Marci Gordon  
Kirsten Kelso



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The last month of autumn, but the beginning of a new adventure. Time to take risks and do the unexpected. ~Unknown

### **Mission Statement**

***Central Presbyterian Church is***

*a caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith.*

