

September 2024

Central

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith

Sundays in September
Worship

10:00am~Sanctuary
Adult Education
11:15am~Locations TBA

Mondays in September
Bible Study

11:30am~Parlor
Badminton Group
6:30pm~Fellowship Hall

Monday September 2
Office Closed ~Labor Day
No Bible Study or Badminton

Tuesday, September 3

Miriam Circle
9:30am~Parlor
Properties
11:00am~Zoom

Wednesday, September 4

Martha Circle
11:30am~Parlor

Thursday, September 5

Ministry of Christian Discipleship
9:00am~Zoom
Community Discussion of Migration Issues
Impacting Central America
6:30pm~CPC

Tuesday, September 10

Personnel
9:30am ~ Zoom

Thursday, September 12

Worship & Common Life
10:30am~Zoom
Artist Way Art Class
11:00am~Parlor

Monday, September 16

Central Articles Due
Session
5:30pm~Zoom

Tuesday, September 17

Prayer Shawl Ministry
1:30pm~Willamette Oaks

Wednesday, September 18

Fiber Artist
1:00pm~Parlor

Thursday, September 19

Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm~Sanctuary
CPC Chancel Choir
6:45pm~Sanctuary

From the Pastor's Pen...



"Passing the Unworked Field "

by Mary Oliver, from her book of poetry, *Devotions*

*Queen Anne's lace is hardly prized
but all the same it isn't idle
look how it stands straight on its thin stems
how it scrubs its white faces with the rags of the sun
how it makes all the loveliness it can.*

September in Oregon is glorious. While technically considered an autumn month, here it also feels like the last bit of summer, too. Yes, school is starting, the air is a bit chillier, and the leaves will soon begin to turn. But we don't yet need our raincoats every day, there are tomatoes and melons at the markets, and we can still bask in the warm afternoon sunshine.

This month and next we will be celebrating the season of creation in worship. It will be an opportunity for us to worship the Creator and remind us in our everyday lives to be intentional about noticing the world around us: a chance to truly give thanks for the goodness of all God has made. I am reminded that the Celts believed that creation was one way for us to understand a bit about God. After all, a work of art can provide a glimpse of the artist who made it, a sentiment that seems to be shared by the poet Mary Oliver. She is someone who paid very close attention to the natural world and captured what she noticed in verse - often noting how what she saw and experienced in nature was prayer-like. I hope her poem above about a common weed will help remind us as we live through this beautiful season to really make time to look, listen, smell, and feel all the wonder of this world. Perhaps, in so doing, we might better worship the Creator each and every day.

~Rev. Jennifer Martin



OUTDOOR WORSHIP & Blessing of Animals Sunday, September 29th

As a way of celebrating the mid-point of our season of creation this year, as well as enjoying our improving Courtyard, we will be having a special worship service the last Sunday of this month outdoors. Things will be a bit different, but we will still be gathering to pray, sing, share, and worship together.

As a part of the service, we will offer a blessing for the animals in your life. For some this may mean bringing your furry, feathered, or scaly friends with you to church. If your pet is happy to be contained (on a leash or in a carrier, terrarium, etc.) for a little more than an hour in a crowd of people, feel free to bring them. However, if your pet, like my Sadie, would find this far too over-stimulating, just plan to bring a picture or show us one on your phone. The last thing we want is to cause your pet, or you, distress. We can bless the animals in person or in absentia! Our outdoor worship time will be followed by an ice cream social in the Courtyard - so plan now to come experience a different kind of worship and fellowship together at the end of the month!



ADULT EDUCATION This Month Sundays after Worship

As we begin to shift from summer to fall, opportunities for adult education after worship on

Sundays multiply! Some relate to ongoing efforts and ministries, some are more participatory, and one is purely about fun and fellowship. Hope you will mark your calendar and plan to take part.

- September 1- Virtual Mission Team**
- September 8- Discussion with Joseph Russ**
- September 15- Lawn Care Conversation about Possibilities for Our East Lawn**
- September 22- Recycling Update**
- September 29- Ice Cream Social in the Courtyard**

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF & ELECTED LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Director of Music: Kendra Taylor, PHD
Office Manager: Monique Jones
Financial Secretary: Arlene Hudgins
Maintenance Custodian: Jose Tobon
AV Technician: Sunny Waldorf

SESSION

Bev Day	Nancy Richter
Rick Larson	Susan Schroeder
Pam Sheridan	Barbara Cookson
Jean Tesche	Kathleen Beisse

DEACONS

Mary Breiter	Karol Buxton
Quentin Holmes	Karen Dyste
Carolyn Keener	Gerry Keener
Laurie Inglis	Wendy Unsain
	Lu-Nita Hawkins

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Rick Larson	Quentin Holmes
Peter Carlson	Marian Smith
Jean Tesche	Marci Gordon
	Scott Pratt

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Susan Schroeder	Helen Martz
Lousie deKluyver	Julianne Stermer



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





BOOK GROUP TO RESUME IN OCTOBER

For many years now, CPC has had a midweek book group that has read both

fiction and non-fiction titles on a variety of topics. There have been books ranging from religion and biblical studies, to racial justice and creation care, from poverty to poetry. We typically read a few chapters a week, which gives the opportunity for a deep dive and rich weekly conversation. A variety of perspectives have been listened to and discussed, each book giving us an opportunity to learn and share more about one another, our neighbors, our journey of faith, and the world around us.

We will be resuming this group next month, so now is the time to submit titles you think would be good fodder for reflection and discussion. If you would like to nominate a book or two (or more!), please send the information to Pastor Jennifer by **September 15th**. Also, if you are interested in joining in the conversation, let her know you would like to be included in the emails about the group. All those who have participated before and those who express interest will vote to choose titles for this year.



Affordable Community Room Ready for Action!

If you know of a support group, club, or other community group looking for meeting space, help us spread the word that our

Community Room is available. Our properties team has been working to make it accessible to groups as an ongoing part of our recent remodel. What was formerly our nursery area is now a room with tables, chairs, a flat screen, heat/AC, an adult-sized bathroom, and a kitchenette. Plus we now have the capability of giving a group access to that space separately from the rest of the church building, which means they do not have to pay to have a building host present. The affordable rates for meetings up to 2 hours are \$15 for groups up to 30 people and \$25 for groups of more than 30 people. Those rates double for meetings that last more than 2 hours.

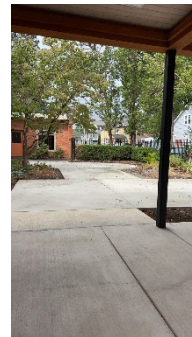
Anyone interested in using the space can contact the church office for an application form. We look forward to more people making use of this space, so help us get the word out!



STILL NEEDED: Your Pictures of Nature

The Season of Creation is here! We will be observing this season in

September and October this year. The worship team would love to have your pictures to use in a variety of ways. Depending on the response, we would like to use some as bulletin covers and others in installations throughout the church. If you have pictures of the great outdoors - from the forest to the ocean to the desert to your own backyard - and/or the creatures who live there, please share them by sending them via email to the church office.



UPDATE ON LAFFERTY COURTYARD

If you enter through our new alley awning on Sunday, you have probably seen that much is happening in the courtyard! First, to get the canvas ready, unhealthy trees and plants have been removed and the crumbling concrete aggregate taken out. Next work was done on our watering system to prepare it for new plantings, and improvements were made for better flow of runoff in the rainy season. Finally, new concrete was poured.

What you cannot yet see, are the new plants that have been procured. In the weeks to come, they will find their way to the courtyard. In addition, there will be more plants added in the month to come as we slowly but surely see a renewed space of beauty to be enjoyed by all. Thanks to all those who are working hard to make this dream a reality!



CPC Choirs back in session!

We hope you will join us to ring in the Handbell Choir and/or sing in the Chancel Choir. No experience needed for either

group (we'll help you!). We would love to have you join us for one or both groups. We hope to see you at our first rehearsal on Thursday, September 19th (6:00-6:45pm Bell Choir, 6:45-7:30pm Chancel Choir). We'll be in the Sanctuary. You can see our full rehearsal and performance calendar

here: <https://tinyurl.com/CPCchoirs>

Please email me with any questions, or if you play an instrument and are interested in performing sometime.

(Kendra.marie.taylor@gmail.com). Thanks!

Kendra



Presbyterian Women News

Jane Holmes
PW Moderator

Central's Circles will start up in September. The Miriam Circle will meet Tuesday, September 3 at 9:30am; Contact Nancy Richter at

(541) 337-0167. The Martha Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 4 at 11:30am. Bring a sack lunch. Contact Jane Holmes at (541) 933-3324.

Central's two circles will soon begin the New Horizon's Bible Study, "Let Justice Roll Down." We have ordered 16 copies for those who said they needed one. They are at the church on the counter in the Entry along with a signup sheet to sign and an envelope for your \$11.00 for the study guide. If you did not sign up for a study guide, let Jane Holmes know very soon, and she will send in another order.

Both Circles will begin with the Introduction and Overview. All women are invited to participate in one or both Circles.



Meet Joseph Russ

Susan Schroeder

September 5

6:30pm

Central Presbyterian

Joseph Russ, the PC(USA) Coordinator for Migration Issues, Advocacy and Mission in the Northern Triangle of Central America (El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala), will visit with us in early September.

He was at Central in September last year as translator for Milagro Mejia, the International Peacemaker. Knowing of our congregation's interest in border issues, migration, immigration, Joseph asked if he could spend some time with us during a trip to Oregon in September. We said yes! We've planned two learning and discussion sessions with Joseph: Community Discussion and an Adult education session after worship. We'll also plan some informal and fun things with Joseph, and we'll let you know how you can join too.

Community Discussion: On *Thursday, September 5*, Joseph will talk with interested congregation and community members at a "Community Discussion of Migration Issues Impacting Central America." The event will be from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at our church, with fruit cobbler and lemonade followed by Joseph's presentation and discussion.

Joseph will talk about the migration in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. We will learn about the complex factors that influence people's experiences of migration and how church and nonprofit organizations strive to provide the respect and fulfillment of human rights so people can thrive and prosper whether they migrate or if they remain in their homeland. We'll have some Q & A time.

For the Community Discussion, we're asking people to RSVP so we can plan appropriately. You can RSVP by sending an email with your name and the number of people attending

with you to meet Joseph2024@gmail.com; or put your name on the sign-up sheet on the office counter at the church.

We're asking for RSVPs by **September 1**.

Adult Education Session: Joseph will talk with us after worship on *Sunday, September 8*. He'll talk with us about the theology of migration and provide some information about El Salvador and the work of the church there.

The PC(USA) has recently launched a Mesoamerica Migration and Mission Network, which Joseph helps coordinate. Read about this new mission network [here](#).



SHELLS GALORE

When: September 12

Time: 11:00AM-1:00PM

Place: CPC Parlor

Cost: \$15 cash
(including materials)

***12 Spaces Available**

NO art experience necessary. We'll guide you through this easy decoupage technique. You will take home 2-3 finished shells. Contact Patty Mac Afee to reserve a spot, call or text (541) 510-8862 or email: patjpatj@hotmail.com.



September/October Coin Offering

Nancy Richter

The Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship (MCD) presents the recipient of the

September/ October coin offering is the Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County. The coalition collaborates with Catholic Community Services (CSS) to support its Refugee and Immigrant Services Program (RISP). Since 2016, RISP has provided case management and/or immigrant legal services to hundreds of refugees, asylum seekers, and other immigrants. The coalition's mission is to mobilize the community to welcome and support refugees and asylum seekers, fostering their well-being and self-sufficiency.

Local faith based programs, service organizations and concerned community members have joined together to form Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County. RISP staff and volunteers assist refugees, asylum seekers and asylees (those who have gained asylum) to access housing, employment, physical, social, mental health services, English as a second language classes, and other community resources. RISP also provides low-cost legal services through an in-house attorney and a partnership with Catholic charities based in Portland, Oregon. Typical cases include but are not limited to renewals of legal status documents (legal residency, DACA, temporary protected status, employment authorization, etc.) as well as initial applications for citizenship, legal permanent residency, and other processes.

Volunteers serve as advocates, drivers, language tutors, interpreters, and in many other ways welcome and support RISP clients. You can learn more about becoming a volunteer by exploring their website.

MCD thanks you for your generous support of the Coin Offering Ministry. We are always looking for new non-profit agencies or organizations for this unique opportunity and use of our offering of coins.



The Student Pantry
Nancy Richter

It's September, that time of the year to think about *Back to School*. Time to think about those with food insecurities and

concerns. Central Presbyterian Church has been supporting the Student Food Pantry since January 2022.

One does not need to be a U.O. student to benefit from this wonderful community program. They assist Lane Community College students and any Lane County students, either single or with families. The student only needs to provide a student I.D. and bring a shopping bag.

While the Student Food Pantry does receive assistance from Food for Lane County and some help from the Eugene Mission, they are very appreciative of any assistance.

The Ministry of Christian Discipleship (MCD) appreciates the support of our congregation in assisting those with food insecurities. In speaking with Connie Browning, who oversees the program, we have learned quite a lot about those students in need of food and nutritional support just so that they can stay in school and succeed in their academic ventures. It's difficult to study or pass exams when you are hungry and not sure where or when your next meal will come from.

Connie welcomes anyone to tour on Wednesdays from 10:00am-12:30pm during stocking time or on Wednesdays or Thursdays from 4-6pm when food is being distributed to students.

We also would like to especially thank Pam Towne for her quiet, diligent support of the Student Food Pantry by organizing our pantry located off Room 121. Pam oversees our pantry and delivers the needed items to the Student Food Pantry. A very heartfelt thank you, Pam.

The Student Food Pantry is located at Grace Lutheran Church on 18th and Hilyard around the

back of the church. We truly thank you for your continued support of our mission projects. Remember, "If we all give a little, it adds up to be a lot."

Shopping List Items Needed

Proteins

Canned beans

(pintos, navy, red & black)

Canned meats

(chicken, salmon, beef, & tuna)

Canned soups

(chili, stews and other soups)

Canned vegetables

(green beans, peas, carrots, corn, stewed tomatoes, diced tomatoes & tomato sauces)

Pasta

(curly noodles, penne, elbow & spaghetti)

Rice

Canned fruits and fruit juices

Condiments, Salsas & Seasonings

Oatmeal (no instant)

Dry Cereals

Teas & Coffee

Protein bars

Cooking oils

Dog & Cat food

Personal care items

(body washes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, feminine products, shaving items, Kleenex, napkins etc.)

Laundry soaps



DEACON JOY

Karol Buxton, Deacon Moderator

The Board of Deacons has begun its 2024-25 service year with joy and enthusiasm. Eight of our nine Deacons were able

to attend a Mini-Retreat on July 28 at which we talked about opportunities to serve Christ with "energy, intelligence, imagination, and love" (as it is stated in the PCUSA Book of Order).

Prayer is one of the Deacons' top priorities. Each Deacon has a flock of approximately 20 people for whom they are responsible, and holding each person in prayer is an important aspect of this ministry. Members or Friends of Central are

invited to let their Deacons know of prayer requests they may have.

In addition to prayer, Deacons serve as Deacons-On-Call on Sunday mornings to respond to people in need, prepare and serve communion, prepare Caring Cards for worshippers to sign, respond to members' needs, host a Meet-Your-Deacon event, support a food pantry for people in need who visit the church, support the prayer shawl ministry, and facilitate the Christmas project of providing gifts for residents at Rainbow Village.

Mark your calendars! Meet-Your-Deacon Sunday will be held on October 13 this year. You are invited to get to know your Deacon and those in your flock as you gather around a table for lunch after worship that day.



Door Dream

Wesley Lachman

You were standing on one side of a closed door. You couldn't see what was behind it. It seemed as if you had been waiting forever for the door to open or for something to

happen, but you couldn't discern any movement. You heard no sound, no rustling, no breath of wind. What was there? If the door should open, what was waiting for you?

The door might be hiding part of your future. Were you going to go back and get your degree? Were you going to get married? Even were you going to have green peas or asparagus for dinner? It was all behind the door, from dinner plate to future vocation. And you were stuck on this side of the door. You became anxious, not knowing what might happen.

But when you looked around on this side of the door, right and left, up and down, there were even more uncertainties. Who knew how this would happen, who knew how that would go? It was all a roll of the dice and out of your control. Suddenly, all these anxious thoughts disappeared like a flock of frightened birds. All that was left was a silent space where you saw yourself reaching for the door handle.



Meet our new Vocal Scholars



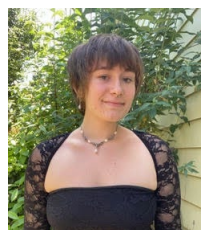
Sam Bertholf is an undergraduate music student at UO, originally from Salem. He is currently in the Piano Performance degree program, studying with Dr. Brian Hsu, but has plans to switch to Choral

Music Education in hopes of becoming a choir teacher. In addition to classical piano, Sam also enjoys playing jazz piano. He is a member of the UO Chamber Choir under the direction of Dr. Sharon Paul. When not making music, Sam enjoys spending time with his family and friends, and he is very excited to be a part of the Central Presbyterian community!



Hailing from Cartago, Costa Rica, tenor **Esteban José Zúñiga Calderón** is a passionate performer and dedicated voice instructor. Esteban has had the privilege of working with

companies and organizations such as Seattle Opera, Eugene Opera, Eugene Symphony, Eugene Vocal Arts, Geneva (NY) Light Opera, Cascadia Chamber Opera, Uptown Classics NYC, Emerald Valley Voices, and the National Lyric Company of Costa Rica. He recently received his Doctor in Musical Arts degree, with a specialization in Historical Performance Practice from the University of Oregon. Besides being a scholar here at Central Presbyterian, Esteban teaches voice performance at Willamette University and Linn-Benton Community College. He is also just learning how to drive, so be nice to him if you see him driving around Eugene.



Clara Eddleman-Hunley is a mezzo-soprano based in Eugene, Oregon. She was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico but grew up in the Pacific Northwest, primarily in Portland. Her love of

singing began in the family, with each of her parents being pianists that advocated for her involvement in choir since kindergarten. Clara has been singing in choir ever since. She graduated with a bachelor's degree of Music in Vocal Performance from the University of Oregon in 2024, under the instruction of Dr. Camille Ortiz and Dr. Karen Esquivel. She became involved in the Opera program in 2021.

Her roles in opera performances include Zulma from *L'Italiana in Algeri*, the Second Witch in *Dido and Aeneas*, Joy the stepsister from Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* and Donna Elvira from *Don Giovanni*. She was a member of the internationally acclaimed UO Chamber Choir for all four years of her undergraduate degree. Most recently, this choir was a two-time Champion at the World Choir Games 2024 in Auckland, NZ, winning both categories they competed in and earning the highest score in the entire competition. When Clara isn't in the practice room, she enjoys hiking, backpacking, and swimming in the beautiful PNW, dabbling in various visual arts, and spending quality time with her cat, Carmen.



Mark King studied Composition at the University of Oregon with Dr. Robert Kyr and Dr. David Crumb. He graduated in 2022 and is now teaching private music lesson, servicing pianos, and is a bassist/songwriter for the band re/Folium. When he isn't making music, he enjoys bouldering, whether indoors or outdoors, or exploring the fantastical world of Dungeons and Dragons.



Colette Lajoie studies at the University of Oregon and is in her last year of undergrad as a General Music Major and Computer Information Technology Minor. She sings with the UO Chamber Choir and has enjoyed singing in choir all her life. Colette loves fashion, dancing, and spending time outside swimming in the river or going camping!



Sept 1
Nancy Richter

Sept 8
Jane Rimmerman

Sept 9
Louise deKluyver

Sept 16
Susan Bloom
Edamend Freda

Sept 25
Rev. Jennifer Martin

Sept 26
Mel Anderson

Sept 28
Jackie Onstad



Sept 12
Randy & Peggy Lilyengren

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
555 E.15th AVE
EUGENE, OR 97401
PHONE (541) 345-8724
EMAIL: CENTRALPRESBYTERIANEUGENE@GMAIL.COM
WEBSITE: WWW.CENTRALEUGENE.CHURCH



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