



# Central

Vol 25 No 4

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith

April 2025

## The Pastors' Pen

Mondays in April  
Bible Study 11:30am Parlor  
Badminton 6:30pm Fellowship Hall

Thursdays in April  
Book Group 3:00pm Parlor

Tuesday, April 1  
Miriam Circle 9:30am Parlor

Wednesday, April 2  
Martha Circle 11:30am Parlor

Thursday, April 3  
Ministry of Christian Discipleship  
9:00am Zoom  
Bell Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Sanctuary  
CPC Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm~Sanctuary

Tuesday, April 8  
Personnel 9:30am Zoom  
Church Properties 11:00am Zoom

Thursday, April 10  
Worship & Common Life 10:30am Zoom

Sunday, April 13  
Second Sunday Potluck ~Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, April 16  
Fiber Arts Group 1:00pm Parlor

Thursday, April 17  
Choir Rehearsal 6:45pm Sanctuary

Friday, April 18  
Good Friday Service ~Sanctuary

Monday, April 21  
*Central Articles Due*  
Session 5:30pm Zoom

Tuesday, April 22  
Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00pm Parlor

Thursday, April 25  
Deacons 4:00pm Zoom

I always appreciate the opportunity to reflect with members of this congregation as we look together at the poetry and art supplied by those who contribute to the Lent and Advent series made by A Sanctified Art. As we looked at some of the materials this year, one of our conversations turned to spring in Oregon. We live in a place where spring comes on slowly - one little hint at a time that warmer days, teeming with life, are on the way. In our yard, it begins as the little pink daphne buds begin to show. Then just as they bloom and give their intoxicating scent, the crocus also appear. Sometime after this, we start to see daffodils, and a few of the trees begin to bud out. The tulips, and finally iris, ranunculus, and trillium follow them.

For many, this winter has felt darker in some ways. Perhaps because it seems like a chill has come over our nation, and maybe even the world. We are told daily that our nation is divided, we hear of relationships between neighbors, relatives, and even nations growing cold. Hearts like the ground seem to have hardened, and many are having trouble seeing signs of hope in the world around us.

Regardless of what we think, the truth is the days are growing longer. And for those who have eyes to see, hope can be found. These spots of spring color tell us not to give up, to keep looking even though the sky is gray and the air is chilly. Eventually, we all know that days will get warmer and summer with its bounty will appear. But when it feels like the rain will never end, the sun might not peek from behind the clouds again, and wool socks will be necessary forever - it's a comfort to see these blossoms and buds appear.

This month we celebrate holy week - a week that gives us space to grieve *and* a week that invites us to remember and celebrate that the pain and violence in the world is never the end of the story, a time when we are called to remember that God is with us in the challenging days, and that God has promised life abundant.

I recently came across a song called, "Spring Sings" by Ellie Holcomb, that speaks eloquently about the way God uses the springtime to remind us of the gospel truth we celebrate at Easter. I'll end with some of its lyrics, hoping they will invite you to see with Easter eyes as we move through his springtime together.

*So on the dark days  
when it feels like winter won't end  
Remember that spring's song is coming again.  
Every bird, every bloom, every bright butterfly,  
Sings a song of God's love  
that brings all things to life.  
And we're all invited to dance and to sing  
For the joy and the hope in the song of the spring.*

*Spring sings a song and it's steady and true,  
To remind every heart  
that God makes all things new.  
Christ died, but He's risen, He's risen indeed!  
And the spring sings about it, every flower and seed!*

With relentless hope,  
Jennifer

## SECOND SUNDAY POTLUCK



Yes, the Second Sunday potluck will be special this month. Potluck Sunday falls on Palm Sunday, April 13, and we will be celebrating choir member Nicolette Derazo's upcoming marriage to Robert Tufts. Central will provide the main dish and a special cake. Please plan to attend. There will be a basket available for cards and well wishes for Nicolette and Robert.

## Central Presbyterian Church Staff & Elected Leaders

**Pastor:** Rev. Jennifer Martin  
**Director of Music:** Dr. Kendra Taylor  
**Office Manager:** Monique Jones Rodriguez  
**Financial Secretary:** Arlene Hudgins  
**Building Host:** Jose Tobon  
**AV Technician:** Sunny Waldorf  
**Accompanist:** Dr. Michelle Sulaiman

### SESSION

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

### DEACONS

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

### ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

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

Central articles are due on the third Monday of each month. Articles for the May Central Newsletter are due on Monday, April 21, 2025.





## LENT & HOLY WEEK AT CPC

### 10:00 am, April 6 5th Sunday in Lent Worship with Communion

We will continue our Everything [in] Between series looking at Luke 19:1-10 and considering the words "Righteousness & Mercy" as we worship together and celebrate the Lord's Supper.

### 10:00 am, April 13 Palm Sunday Worship with Potluck following

We will celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as we turn to Luke 19:29-40 and consider the words "Shouting & Silence." There will also be special music as we welcome guest organist and oboe player.

### 7:00 pm, April 18 Good Friday Tenebrae Service

This service of worship between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday gives us the space to remember the violence of Jesus' state-sanctioned murder and the betrayals he experienced. It is an opportunity to sit with, protest, and grieve pain - our own pain and the pain of others. It is a chance to grieve a world that all too often continues to favor violence as a form of punitive "justice." This is a service that includes scripture and music. It ends in darkness as we depart in silence, awaiting the joy of Easter morning.

### 10:00 am, April 20 Resurrection Sunday Worship

Join in this celebration of Christ's resurrection as we join our voices together with our choir and several guest musicians, rejoicing together in the redeeming work of Love, which conquers even death! We will hear again the story of that first Easter morning from Luke 24:1-12 and, for our last week of Everything [in] Between, we will consider how God meets us in Grief & Hope. Plan to stay for fellowship and the Easter Egg Hunt for children following worship.

## HIV Alliance

March/April Coin Offering  
HIV Alliance  
Nancy Richter

The Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship has selected the March/April Coin Offering recipient to be the HIV/AIDS Alliance. In 1994, HIV/AIDS Resources and Lane County Aids Hospice Services merged to become the HIV/AIDS Alliance. In 2006, the Alliance began HIV testing and counseling services for people at risk for HIV/AIDS. Tests are offered in locations where at-risk populations gather, including the Needles Exchange Van. The program spans a 15-county region and is part of a Special Project of National Significance. In 2009, the Board directed the staff to expand services to include Hepatitis C. In 2010, the HIV/AIDS Alliance added an evidence-based intervention targeting LGBTQIA+ communities. The intervention called Social Network Strategy seeks to increase HIV testing. The Alliance for Community Wellness is the HIV/AIDS Alliance's clinical services department, which expands its mission to not only support individuals living with HIV/AIDS but also to provide culturally responsive services to communities that are at-risk for other health concerns. Services provided but not limited to are: supportive housing, sexual health clinic, behavioral health counseling, and assistance with opiate dependency. HIV/AIDS Alliance's client-centered approach focuses on clients' individual stories and building relationships by recognizing that members of LGBTQ+BIPOC and other communities have unique life experiences.

Your support of the coin offering is greatly appreciated, and we welcome your suggestions for other non-profit organization recipients.





## Problem-Solving with Pictures

Wesley Lachman

We tend to judge pictures according to our tastes and preferences. Of

course, they can't hear what you're thinking, so there's not much of a conversation going. But it is possible to reverse this and listen to what the pictures are saying to us.

It is relatively simple to listen to what a picture says to us. What I am about to describe is not the only way, but it will get you started in just a few minutes.

1. Begin with a **Question**, perhaps some decision you are uncertain about, or some problem you want a fresh view about: *What should I do about ...?* Select your question and keep it in the back of your mind as you begin to focus on the picture.

2. Look at the very first **Picture** you see—don't try to select one you like. Take a good look at the picture. How is it composed? Where do its lines take your eyes? Look at the colors. How do the different colors make you feel? What part of this picture stands out for you?

3. Now ask what this picture or part thereof **Says** in answer to your question. Don't make anything up, just pay attention to what comes up on its own. Play the role of the picture in a conversation. You might hear yourself say things like: *You could do this ... You could surprise everyone and do that ... Who needs to be the center of attention here?* Keep asking your question.

4. Look at the **Answers** as they arrive. Which ones are self-authenticating, they just seem

right? Now arrive at your own answer, whether it is the same as the pictures or not. What is this picture saying in answer to your question? Put your answer into action.

At this point, you might be curious about how this works, and I can't help you much. I guess that some of our deeper intuitions about what to do about any problem are floating in the subconscious, just below the surface of our conscious minds. Perhaps some of our feelings about parts of the picture are also in our subconscious. Being similar, they get entangled with each other. So when we assess our feelings about the picture we also bring up our intuitions about an answer.

Allowing a picture to speak in this way has opened up new avenues of thought and action for me. I encourage you to try it out. It only takes a few minutes. Paintings work best, but any picture will do, or even the view from your window. And even if you do not follow its advice, it can open your mind to a deeper view of your life situation. It can even open your mind toward God.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

**Received on April 13 & 20**

Nancy Richter

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of the four (4) Presbyterian Church (USA) special offerings. For 75-plus years, PCUSA has supported these special offerings. One Great Hour of Sharing is collected during the Season of Lent. This Special Offering is divided into three different categories.

### Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



PDA receives 32% of the One Great Hour of Sharing funds. This assistance goes to working alongside

communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or man-made disasters and support refugees.

### Presbyterian Hunger Program



PHP receives 36% of the One Great Hour of Sharing funds. This program takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and address the systemic causes of

poverty so all may be fed.

### Self-Development of People



The Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People invests the remaining 32% in communities

responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty, and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

Thank you for your supporting One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering that responds directly to the needs God has called us to fulfill in Isaiah 58. One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports programs in over 100 countries, including the USA. "If we all do a little, it all adds up to a lot."



- 4 Zane Buxton
- 18 Susan Schroeder
- 19 Steve Stermer
- 23 Jane Holmes
- 26 Pat Hocken
- 30 John Koelling



- 1 Bill & Shirley Griffith
- 6 David Lim & JuYoung Chung
- 23 Del & Lu-Nita Hawkins



**Central Presbyterian Church**  
**555 E 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Eugene, OR 97401**  
**(541) 345-8724**

**[www.centraleugene.church](http://www.centraleugene.church)**  
**[centralpresbyterianeugene@gmail.com](mailto:centralpresbyterianeugene@gmail.com)**

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