

Central

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith

Vol 25 No 5

May 2025

Not all events are listed here, Please check our website for all weekly events.

[Mondays in May](#)

Bible Study

11:30am~Parlor

Badminton Group

6:30pm~Fellowship Hall

[Thursday, May 1](#)

Ministry of Christian Discipleship

9:00am~Zoom

Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm~Sanctuary

CPC Choir Rehearsal

6:45pm~Sanctuary

[Tuesday, May 6](#)

Miriam Circle

9:30am~Parlor

[Wednesday, May 7](#)

Martha Circle

11:30am~Parlor

[Thursday, May 8](#)

Worship & Common Life

9:30am~Zoom

Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm~Sanctuary

CPC Choir Rehearsal

6:45pm~Sanctuary

[Monday, May 12](#)

Endowment Meeting

3:30pm~Zoom

[Tuesday, May 13](#)

Personnel

9:30am~Zoom

Properties

11:00am~Zoom

[Thursday, May 15](#)

Artist Way Class

11:00am~Parlor

[Sunday, May 18](#)

Deacons

11:15am~Zoom

[Monday, May 19](#)

Session

5:30pm~Zoom

[Tuesday, May 27](#)

Prayer Shawl Ministry

1:30pm~Willamette Oaks

[Thursday, May 29](#)

Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm~Sanctuary

May the Lord our God be with us, just as God was with our ancestors.

May the Holy One never leave us or abandon us.

May the Eternal keep us centered and devoted to God,

*following the life path the Holy One has cleared,
watching the signposts,*

walking at the pace and rhythms God laid down for our ancestors.

- 1 Kings 8:57-58

In 1855 the first locomotive made its way from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific on the Panama Railway, Walt Whitman published *Leaves of Grass*, American inventor Isaac Singer patented the sewing machine motor, Congress appropriated \$30,000 to create the U.S. Camel Corps, and in the Oregon Territory some folks led by the Rev. Robert Robe organized the First Presbyterian Church located in what was then known as Eugene City. While the camel corps' success was thwarted by the start of the Civil War, the other things in that list are still humming along in one way or another 170 years later. One can still catch a cross country train, buy a Singer sewing machine, or obtain a copy of Whitman's book of poetry. And if you are reading this, you have some attachment to the church that resulted from a union between what began as the First Presbyterian Church and the former Morrow Presbyterian Church, because the merger between them became what we know today as Central Presbyterian Church.

The first Sunday in May is when we celebrate the beginnings of this church we call home. I have no idea what hopes and dreams the folks who claimed the Presbyterian name as they worshiped together in Eugene City 170 years ago might have had. But I'm pretty sure they would have been hard pressed to imagine the community of people we have gathered here today. They might not have expected us to benefit so greatly from an institution of higher learning as a neighbor. After all, the town's college, which opened a year after the church, closed down in 1860 after a series of fires. The University we know didn't begin until 1876. A female minister would have definitely been outside their experience. And I'm certain they never would have envisioned live streaming a worship service that could be viewed all over the globe.

Through the years the faithful folks who have gathered to worship together as this particular branch of Christ's church have faced challenges they couldn't have expected.

There have been times when the church joined together, and times when it felt like it might rip apart. There have been seasons of working for justice, and seasons of acknowledging past wrongs. But the overarching theme one sees as we look back at the history of this congregation is a deeper and broader understanding of the call to love ALL of our neighbors. Again and again and again, there were people calling on one another to include more people in the circle of Christ's all-encompassing love.

As we move forward into whatever is in store for us we, like the saints who came before us. Cannot know what to expect. But like those faithful forebears, we do know we are called to love God and love our neighbors. In that way, we can strive to be faithful here and now. And we can be confident that no matter what unfolds the God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow is here with us. Every. Single. Day.

With gratitude and hope,
Pastor Jennifer



Grant Applications

The Endowment Fund Committee of Central Presbyterian Church has set aside \$5,000 of unrestricted endowment

funds and is inviting applications for grants to defray the cost of activities, facilities, or programs consistent with the Church's mission for use in 2025.

Applications must be submitted using the application form available at the front desk and must be co-sponsored by one or more committees of Central and then returned to the office. The deadline for submission is Friday, May 9, 2025. The Committee looks forward to helping fulfill the goals of the endowment donors who have previously donated to the Endowment Fund.

Central Presbyterian Church Staff & Elected Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Director of Music: Dr. Kendra Taylor
Pianist: Dr. Michelle Sulaiman
AV Technician: Sunny Waldorf
Office Manager: Monique Jones~Rodriguez
Financial Secretary: Arlene Hudgins
Building Host & Custodian: Jose Tobon
Childcare: Maren Werny

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	

In observance of the Memorial Day holiday, the church's office will be closed on **Monday, May 26. We will reopen on Tuesday, May 27.**



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, MAY 4

Plan to stay after worship for a brief congregational meeting to elect officers. Below is the slate brought forth by the Nominating Committee; other members may

be nominated from the floor, if you have notified them in advance.

SESSION CLASS OF 2028:

Jean Tesche
Kathleen Beisse
Nani Cagney

DEACONS

Class of 2027

Laura Mason
Janet Edmonson

Class of 2028

Susan Bloom
Lu-Nita Hawkins
Jane Holmes
Laurie Inglis
Patty MacAfee
Rick Ohlson

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

CLASS OF 2028

Jean Tesche & Quentin Holmes

Nominating Committee: 1-year term

Session representative	Barbara Cookson
Deacon representative	Quentin Holmes
Congregational rep	Susan Bloom
Congregational rep	Susan Schroeder
Congregational rep	Julianne Stermer



ARTIST WAY CLASS

Date: Thursday, May 15
Time: 11:00 am-1:00 pm
Where: CPC Parlor
Cost: \$15.00 (cash only)

Maximum number of students: 10 people

Come celebrate spring as members of the Artist Way group, who meet at CPC, Join us to make these cute colorful little pouches with coordinated matching covers perfect for seeds or other small items for yourself or as gifts. The origami folded pouches are made

with 4 simple folds so easy and fun to make.

Materials Provided & No Experience

Necessary. Contact Debbi Rothschild to reserve a space via text (954) 240-8308 or email: donepacking@yahoo.com

BECOME AN EARTHKEEPER!



Interfaith Earthkeepers is a coalition of local churches that work together to protect our sacred Earth. They meet monthly at different churches and address

ways to care for our Creation. Central has participated in Interfaith Earthkeepers over the past years, and we are currently looking for participants from our congregation. They meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 12-1:30 pm. For more information, visit their website <https://interfaithearthkeepers.org/>. For questions, contact Pam Sheridan.



The Eugene PRIDE

celebration is Saturday, June 28, at the Lane Events Center. We have an opportunity to participate in the Interfaith Hospitality Area. They will serve

sandwiches, snacks, and drinks to all-comers and be a truly welcoming space for all.

While there will be food vendors on site, many members of the LGBTQIA+ community do not have the funds to purchase a meal. They could use help with: setting up and decorating the space on Friday, staffing the space on the day of the event, taking down and moving all of the supplies on Sunday, making sandwiches on Saturday morning, providing us with home baked cookies, bottled water, coolers with ice, and other refreshments. Here is the link to sign up to help: <https://signup.com/go/DjnmhmW> Thank you!!! For more information and to participate, please contact:

Lana Johnson: Lana_R_Johnson@hotmail.com or 541-912-2748)

Katharine Hunt: keehunt@gmail.com or 541-214-8455)

Naphtali Renshaw: interfaith@eugenepride.org



SAVE THE DATE!
Tuesday, June 10th 2025
2:00pm~Parlor

All women of Central, you are invited to Tea and Cookies on June 10. We will be celebrating the PW

Birthday Offering and have invited a special Guest Speaker, Kimberly Walton / Head of Eugene Mission's Life Changing Program – which we contributed to in January 2025. Contact Jane Holmes at Holmes3324@MSN.COM or Nancy Richter at Richter119@comcast.net if you can come. You can also participate by sending a check to Central Presbyterian Church –Memo– PW Birthday Offering.



preachthistory

But God Will
Wesley Lachman

We were born
in uncertainty and pain
but God was there.

We may suffer sickness
or pandemics
but God will be there.

We may fall into abject poverty
and live from crumb to crumb
but God will be there.

We will all die
in silence and mystery
but God will be there.

Even if heaven and earth
should pass away
God will still be there.
And God is all
that really counts.

Just God.



May/June Coin Offering
Black Thistle Street Aid
Nancy Richter

Black Thistle Street Aid is a collective of healthcare workers, herbalists,

outreach workers, and social justice advocates who interact to support the community at large by supporting our unhoused community. Healthcare is a Human Right. Black Thistle Street Aid is a non-profit (501 3c) organization supporting those who are unhoused. As an integrative healthcare team, they do their best to provide people care in ways that suit a person's individual needs. This means offering an array of choices in how and where care is provided. Healthcare choices are: Monthly Pop-up Clinic, Weekly Medical Street Outreach, Reproductive Harm Reduction Health Program, Medicine Cabinet Program, and Public Health Resources. July 2020 is the team's beginning. From July to December 31, 2020, 1,294 people were given survival support: food, tarps, tents, socks, and supplies; 75 life-saving prescriptions were filled, and 10 COVID-19 tests were given; and 21 emergency hotel rooms were offered (especially in Sept during the unprecedented wildfires).

The total impact as of Jan 3, 2025, that Black Thistle Street Aid has been providing since July 2020 has had on the unhoused community is 12,794 people served: 1,388 patients served, 624 prescriptions filled, 643 received wound care, 2,375 first aid kits given out, 22,300 Survival & Hygiene Supplies used, 10,981 Naloxone Doses have been used, and so many more types of care have been given. To contact them, see their website: whatsup@blackthistlestreetaid.org

The Mission and Christian Discipleship Ministry thanks you for your continued generosity to the Coin Offering Program, and we are always thankful for your suggestions of community non-profit organizations as recipients of the Coin Offerings.



1st

Jim & Mary Gent

20th

Dave & Kathy Raines

26th

Randy & Pat Kolb



3rd

Julianne Stermer

6th

Matt Dyste

12th

Dawn Brown

14th

Michelle Sulaiman

15th

John Freda

16th

Mary Gent

19th

Jim Whitmore

22nd

Linda Meadows

27th

Margie Lininger

30th

John Hocken

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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