



October 2025

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith

Vol 25 No 10

Sundays in October

10:00am Worship~Sanctuary

Mondays in October

11:30am Bible Study~ Parlor

6:30pm Badminton Group~Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, October 1

11:30am Martha Circle ~ Parlor

Thursday, October 2

6:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal ~Sanctuary

6:45pm CPC Choir Rehearsal ~Sanctuary

Wednesday, October 8

10:00am Church Women United ~ Library

Thursday, October 9

10:30am Worship & Common Life ~Zoom

Tuesday, October 14

9:45am Staff Meeting

9:30am Personnel~ Zoom

11:00am Properties~Zoom

Monday, October 20

Central Articles Due

5:30pm Session~Zoom

Thursday, October 23

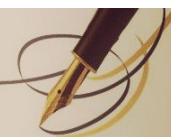
6:00pm Bell Choir ~Sanctuary

6:45pm CPC Choir Rehearsal~Sanctuary

Tuesday, October 28

1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry ~ Parlor

From the Pastor's Pen...



I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers.
It would be terrible if we just skipped
from September to November,
wouldn't it?

Anne Shirley from L.M. Montgomery's
Anne of Green Gables

If you've been around me at all during the autumn, you know I get a little silly about this season. I simply cannot ignore the seasonal changes all around us. The crisp air catches my breath and the changing, falling leaves call out like a toddler going down a slide at the playground, "Look at me! Look at me! Look at me!" Having lived much of my life in a place with less distinct seasons, I never cease to wonder at the beauty that seems to be so abundant as the seasons shift.

As the world around us continues to swirl with unpredictable changes, violence, and cruelty it seems more important than ever to make time to notice what is good and beautiful. Noticing the many gifts God has given us and practicing gratitude can re-wire our attitudes. Making gratitude an intentional spiritual practice helps counter balance the story of fear and scarcity the world tries to sell us. When we connect with one another and notice the beauty of nature, art, music, etc. we are more likely to both feel gratitude and hold on to hope.

October in Oregon is rife with opportunities. This is a great season for exploring the outdoors when we have a bit of sun (or at least a little less rain). If it's a bit chillier we can put on a pot of soup and gather with friends. If you are looking for a way to connect, fall is a great time to join one of the smaller groups at the church. Maybe try out Bible study, badminton, PW circles, book group, choir, or bell choir - take a look at the church calendar and see if there is something that speaks to you. Maybe you'd like to explore serving on a ministry team or committee.

You could chat with one of our elders or me and we'd be happy to let you know the kind of work each group is engaged in to help you find a good match.

Just as the leaves are changing - letting their true colors shine through, and then letting go to make way for new growth, this season offers us opportunities as well. I encourage you to spend some time praying and pondering what new thing might be emerging for you. How might you be called to connect, to pay attention, to appreciate beauty, to practice gratitude, to study or serve in a new way?

With relentless hope,
Jennifer

**Candlelight Vigil
In Solidarity with Immigrants**
Thursday, October 9, 7:00 pm (sunset) Amazon Park



You're invited: Candlelight Vigil in Solidarity with Immigrants
Thursday, Oct 9, 7-8:00 pm, Amazon Park
Co-sponsored by Interfaith Alliance with Migrants in coordination with various faith communities

Join with people from various faith communities for a candlelight vigil to stand in solidarity with immigrants who have been detained, deported, or who live in fear. You will be given a battery-powered calendar to carry. The Vigil will include silence, bells, and a brief message in English and Spanish.

This Candlelight Vigil is planned as a small event; the park-use permit is for 125 people.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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

SESSION

Bev Day	Barbara Cookson
Kathleen Beisse	Rick Larson
Nani Cagney	Pam Sheridan
Jean Tesche	Nancy Richter

DEACONS

Mary Breiter	Karen Dyste
Lu-Nita Hawkins	Patty MacAfee
Quentin Holmes	Rick Ohlson
Laurie Inglis	Wendy Unsain
Jane Holmes	Laura Mason
Susan Bloom	Janet Edmonsond

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

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

**Newsletter
DEADLine**

Central articles are due the third Monday of each month. Articles for the November Central Newsletter are due on Monday, October 20, 2025.



Because attendance is limited, the Interfaith Alliance is asking for an estimated number of people who plan to attend from each faith community. **If you want to attend, please let Susan Schroeder know by Monday, Oct 6, sschroeder1818@gmail.com. You'll be given more instructions about parking and the location of the Vigil within Amazon Park.**

Our co-sponsor is Interfaith Alliance with Migrants, a relatively newly formed group of people from various faith communities and immigrants, which was created to activate and inspire faith communities to advocate effectively for immigrant rights.



Dorothy Stewart Perpetual Trust

The Ministry of Christian Discipleship is responsible for overseeing the funds in the budget that are designated for Mission. The Dorothy Stewart Perpetual Trust is one of

these funds. There is \$2000 remaining for the current year. MCD is soliciting suggestions from the Congregation for non profit organizations to be recipients of these funds, specifically, organizations that have been impacted by the cuts from Federal Government Funding. Our goal is to divide the \$2000 among 4 nonprofits. If you have a recommendation for a recipient, contact a member of MCD- Pam Sheridan, Nancy Richter, Jane Holmes, Susan Schroeder or Barbara Cookson.



FALL ENDOWMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

Applications need to be made using the application form available at the front desk and must be co-sponsored by one or more committees of Central, and returned to the office. The deadline for submission is **Friday, November 7, 2025**. The Committee is looking forward to helping fulfill the goals of the endowment donors who have previously donated to the Endowment Fund and to the ongoing mission of Central."



Potluck is BACK!!!

They're Back! It's time for our monthly Second Sunday Potluck at Central. If you're new to Central Presbyterian Church these potlucks are held every month throughout the

program year. The church provides the entrée and beverages while participants bring a salad, bread or dessert. Volunteers are often needed to set up the serving tables, clear tables after the meal and help wash dishes.

Our October Second Sunday Potluck will be in Fellowship Hall on October 12th after worship. Our friend, Sunny Waldorf, will have some of her cards, refrigerator magnets, and small prints for sale. Although Sunny's artist residency in France is fully funded, we want to send her with a little spending money. Come to the potluck to eat, visit, and chat with Sunny. 'See you there!

Immigration Advocacy



A newly formed group, Interfaith Alliance with Migrants, is developing

opportunities for

community members to advocate for justice for immigrants. Interfaith Alliance members include people from the Refugee Resettlement Coalition, several faith communities, and local immigrants. The group is planning a series of Immigration Advocacy Pop-ups (called "pop-outs" because they will pop up at different faith communities over the next several months).

Upcoming Immigration Advocacy Pop-up dates:

Monday, October 13, 7-8:00 pm, Valley Covenant Church, 3636 W 18th Ave

Sunday, November 16, 2-3:00 pm at our church, co-sponsored by the Virtual Mission Team

At the Pop-up, you'll inspired to advocate effectively for immigrant rights and learn about advocacy actions, including the 5 Calls app and thank-you postcards to elected officials and others who acted in support of immigrants and refugees. The pop-up at Central will also include a photo exhibit, *Our Stories: Immigrants of America*.

Melting Ice

Public Exhibition



Melting ICE Exhibit at Unitarian Church

Melting ICE is a traveling public exhibit that aims to humanize the experiences of people who have been detained at the Northwest

ICE Detention Center in Tacoma, Washington. The exhibit will be on display October 18, 1-5:00 pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W 13th Ave, Eugene.

Melting ICE highlights the organizing efforts of La Resistencia, a grassroots movement led by undocumented immigrants and people of color fighting to change the detention and immigration system. The exhibit invites us to consider the human implications of mass

deportation and the reliance on private prisons to implement these policies. A collection of panels contains the personal testimonies of detainees, and you will also see a representational solitary confinement cell.



Our Peace and Global Witness Offering assists the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world. Our gifts to the Peace and Global Witness Offerings are helping our neighbors in need—those who live next door, down the street, and across the globe.

25% of the offering stays within our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.

25% of this offering goes to our mid-council to join with other congregations to support peacemaking work in our region.

50% of this offering supports the work being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

This year, we will dedicate this special offering on October 5, 2025. The Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship has

recommended to Central Presbyterian Church's Session that our 25% of the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering go to support NAACP.

With the Session's unanimous approval, we will be supporting NAACP to continue their mission in advocacy, education, and assistance for individuals of our local community, especially, during these current difficult times we are living in. Our neighbors need us. Please give what you can to the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering. "When we all give a little, it adds up to a lot."



Peace & Global Witness Offering

Peacemaking and Reconciliation
Nancy Richter

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

The Eugene-Springfield NAACP has been chosen to receive the local portion (25%) of this year's Peace & Global Witness offering. We've asked the NAACP President to come to Central on Sunday, September 28, to talk with us about their work and priorities.

The NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) was founded in 1909 by a group of Black and white social justice activists and is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States. The NAACP's initiatives are rooted in the understanding that equality, justice, and freedom are fundamental rights for everyone, yet they remain elusive for many, especially for the Black community.

The Eugene-Springfield NAACP's work includes legal redress support for community

members experiencing racially motivated bias and hate incidents; conducting hate and bias awareness training for community members; and advocating for change when racism and bias occur in public settings. A recent example of public advocacy is the NAACP's demand for the resignation of the Lane Community College (LCC) board president after an independent investigation confirmed his racialized bullying of the LCC President, a Black woman. Our local NAACP also conducts the annual MLK Jr. March & Celebration in January; provides mentorship for youth as part of the national NAACP's ACT-SO program; and is developing a healthcare careers exploration and training program for juniors and seniors in high school.

The NAACP collaborates with other local Black-led and Black-serving community organizations and with many other Lane County organizations that serve and support people in our community who are marginalized. Please give generously to support this work, which promotes a more equitable, just, and compassionate community for all people.



Choir News

I am pleased to introduce the CPC Choral Scholars for the 2025–2026 academic year. These singers will continue to serve

as section leaders in the Chancel Choir and provide vocal leadership in our congregational singing each week. Check out their biographies (below) if you'd like to learn more about their backgrounds and gifts. ~Kendra Taylor, CPC Director of Music

Esteban José Zúñiga Calderón



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 holds a Doctor in Musical Arts degree, with a specialization in Historical Performance Practice from the University of Oregon. Esteban teaches voice at Willamette University and Linn-Benton Community College. He's happy to be back for another year here at Central Presbyterian.

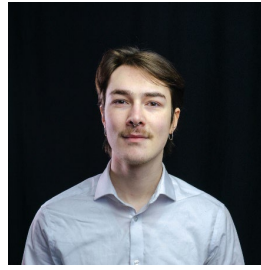
Ellie Auvinen



Ellie Auvinen is a senior at the University of Oregon, where she is currently student-teaching and pursuing a Bachelor's in Music Education. She is an active member of the

music community of UO, serving as the president of the National Association for Music Education chapter, the collegiate representative of the Oregon Music Educators Association, and a member of the esteemed UO Chamber Choir. She is also the 2025 recipient of the NAFME Collegiate Professional Achievement Award. In her free time, she enjoys hiking and exploring the Willamette Valley, trying new local restaurants, and listening to as much new music as possible!

Vetiver Long



Vetiver Long is a singer, songwriter, and multi-instrumentalist from Portland, OR, in his fourth year of study at the University of

Oregon pursuing a bachelor's degree in Applied Voice. He is also a current member of the UO Opera, Eugene Opera Chorus, and UO Chamber Choir.

Mark King



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.

Zoë Pouliot



Zoë Pouliot is a 2025 graduate of the University of Oregon, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Applied Voice with a concentration in both Jazz and Classical music. Originally from

New Orleans, Louisiana, Zoë has been immersed in vocal and theatrical performance for over a decade, with extensive experience ranging from stage management to directing. She currently serves as Head of the Theatrical Department and Resident Stage Manager

at The Shedd Institute for the Arts, where she has been a valued team member for the past four years. In Eugene, she is an active performer in the local music community, having sung with the Oregon Bach Festival, Eugene Opera, the University of Oregon's Wind Ensemble, Oregon Jazz Ensemble, Lab Band 2, and her own jazz band, the Zoë Pouliot Quartet. Zoë's roots in sacred music run deep. She began singing in Episcopal/Catholic/and Presbyterian churches around her hometown of New Orleans, Louisiana at a very young age. She was the primary cantor at Grace Episcopal church in Paris TN throughout high school and was a guest vocalist throughout her undergrad at St Thomas Episcopal here in Eugene. Zoë is thrilled to share her southern gospel roots and love for sacred music with you all!

Clara Eddleman-Hunley



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.

Michelle Sulaiman



Indonesian pianist Michelle Sulaiman is a pianist, teacher, and musicologist based in Eugene. She completed her DMA in Piano Performance with a Specialization in Piano

Pedagogy and Master's in Musicology from the University of Oregon. As a solo performer, she was named the winner of the Eugene Symphony Guild Young Artist Competition and Oregon MTNA Young Artist Competition. An avid chamber musician and collaborator, she has collaborated with various choirs in Eugene, such as Women Choral Society, Eugene Chamber Choir, and Eugene Gay Men Chorus. Michelle currently serves as Instructor of Keyboard and Music Theory at the University of Oregon.

Kendra Taylor



Kendra Taylor is Director of Choral Music Education at Western Oregon University. Taylor holds a Ph. D. in Music Education from the University of Oregon, a Master of Arts in Teaching, and a Bachelor of Science in

Music from Southern Oregon University. Before working as a graduate teaching assistant at the UO, she taught concert choir (2018-2020) and choral methods (2020-2021) at Southern Oregon University. She has taught bands, choirs, and orchestras at the elementary and high school levels. She has presented at multiple OMEA conferences and at the national NAfME and Northwest American Choral Directors Association conferences, and has published in The Choral Journal with Dr. Olivia Salzman-Coon. Kendra has two Boston Terriers, both named after Game of Thrones characters—Davos, and a brand new puppy named Aegon. She and her husband enjoy going for walks with the dogs and eating at restaurants with dog friendly patios.



indiatimes

The Sound of Silence

Wesley Lachman

Every sound has an ending, and at every ending there is a pool of silence. Silence is important in contemplative spirituality. Father Thomas Keating said that silence is God's first language. So if we want to hear the word of God, we must start by coming to silence. For indeed, how can any sound be heard unless there is some silence in which it can occur?

God speaks to us both in silence and with silence. Who has not been struck by the silence of a summer spring morning? The twitter of birds only makes the remaining silence more apparent. Or consider the silence of the night sky. Haven't we all

sensed something of God in those vast silences?

There are small silences everywhere, too. We can find them after a sentence is spoken, or when we change the channel on the television. They are there when we turn out a light or turn over in bed. There is a silence there, a pond of silence. It is so easy to notice. But sometimes it is hard to find in the midst of our hectic lives.

There is an old, workable way to find silence by using a bowl or bell. Search in the kitchen for a bowl or perhaps a pot lid that makes a ringing sound when struck.* Get seated in a comfortable chair and strike the bowl with a wooden spoon. Focus your attention on the sound coming from the bowl, and grasp it firmly as it diminishes. At the very end, you'll hear the sound disappear, and right then you'll be focused on silence. You were focused on the sound, but when the sound disappeared, you found yourself focused on the space of silence left behind.

Notice the feeling of being in that silence. As thoughts begin to reappear, go back to that feeling again. Then you may want to continue with meditation or prayer. Or you may want to just sit and bask in the silence of God. Be open and listen. Pay attention. This silence is God's first language. It may remind you of what you need to say or do next.

Once you have done this a few times, you will be able to recognize the silence easily. It will begin to show itself to you at the end of so many sounds to bring you back to God.

*You can also search online for bell sounds.



Chuck & Barbara Cookson **Oct 2**

Lance Deal & Nancy Deal- Whitacre **Oct 21**



3rd

Nani Cagney

5th

David Lim
Chuck Cookson

8th

Yvonne Young

11th

Liz Degner

14th

Peggy Lilyengren
Pam Towne

23rd

Bev Day
Kyung Gregor
Nonie Koelling

24th

Scott Pratt

25th

Dolores Haddad

26th

Mike McPherson
Edith Roberts

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Eugene, OR 97401

Mission Statement

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

