

Central

A caring, inquiring, inclusive community of faith

Mondays in March

Bible Study

11:30am~Parlor

Badminton or Pickleball

6:30pm~Fellowship Hall

Thursdays in March

CPC Book Group

3:00pm~Parlor

Tuesday, March 3

Miriam Circle

9:30am~Parlor

Staff Meeting

9:30am~Front Office

Wednesday, March 4

Martha Circle

11:30am~Parlor

Thursday, March 5

Ministry of Christian Discipleship

9:00am~Zoom

Sunday, March 8

Second Sunday Potluck

11:15am~Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 10

Personnel

9:30am~Zoom

Properties

11:00am~Zoom

Wednesday, March 11

Postcards Writing Party

1:30 pm~ Community Room

Thursday, March 12

Worship & Common Life

10:30am~Zoom

Monday, March 16

Session

5:30pm~Zoom

Wednesday, March 18

Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00pm~Sanctuary

CPC Choir Rehearsal

6:45pm~Sanctuary

Tuesday, March 25

Prayer Shawl Ministry

1:30pm~Willamette Oaks

Sunday, March 29

Deacons

11:15am~Chapel

The Pastors' Pen

*How calmly,
as though it were an ordinary thing,
we eat the blessed earth.*

- from *Beans Green and Yellow* by Mary Oliver

*"A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

- John 13:34-35

Our Lenten journey this month begins and ends at the table. We start gathered around the communion table March 1st, listening to a story of a woman who interrupted a dinner party at a pharisee's home to bathe Jesus feet with her tears and anoint him with perfume in an act of extravagant love. We will end this month with Holy Week, where Jesus will celebrate the Last Supper and remind his followers of their call to love one another as he washes their feet. In one story Jesus is the guest, at another, the host. In both stories there are foot washing, table fellowship, and a showing of deep love.

As we move through this season listening for the good news of Christ in the midst of a world filled with news that is anything but good, I wonder if the table might not be a good place to start. Jesus certainly spent a good amount of time dining with folks in order to get to know them and engage in sharing stories of God's good news. Sharing a meal with someone, listening and learning and laughing together, is one way we show love to our neighbors. Maybe this month we could make an effort to join as many people as possible around the table. Maybe we invite someone into our homes for something we prepare or to share a takeout pizza; or maybe we suggest a get together at a local restaurant or meet up for coffee or tea; or maybe we bring something and plan to stay for the second Sunday potluck, where we choose to sit with someone we don't know so well - whatever it looks like, maybe part of our Lenten practice can be getting to know our neighbors a little bit better.

Perhaps as we journey toward Easter and seek to find evidence of the good news Christ in our midst, we can revel in the amazing abundance of all that grows in our Valley. We can enjoy a delicious meal together. We can learn more about one another - what makes us laugh, and cry, what breaks our hearts, and what brings us joy. And as we do, we can be intentional about looking for the image of God in those with whom we sit at table this month. May God give us eyes to see one the holy in our midst, even around a humble meal together.

With persistent hope,
Jennifer



Per Capita is an opportunity for all members of Central to join with Presbyterians across the country to participate in sharing the cost of coordination of the Presbytery, Synod, and PCUSA. It

is a set assessment of money for members that congregations pay to the larger church for leaders and committees that operate the PCUSA. If we as members don't participate in sharing the expenses, the larger church must pay it. This year's apportionment for each member is \$50. If both people in the household are members, the amount would be \$100. **If you wish to make your per capita payment**, send a check to Central Presbyterian Church or drop it off at the church. Please put Per Capita in the memo line. Thank you so much.



**March/April Coin Offering
Trauma and Healing Project
Nancy Richter**

This unique organization began in 2004. Its' current director is Elaine Walters. The Trauma Healing Project (THP) is dedicated to ensuring that everyone has access to trauma-informed and effective wellness services. Their vision is to develop a vibrant and connected community where anyone impacted by violence, abuse, or other trauma receives the support and attention they need to fully recover and to reach their highest potential.

They work with community members, professionals, and organizations to raise awareness and to identify, develop, support and promote many options for healing and for preventing trauma. The THP now offers two acupuncture clinics: full-body and ear acupuncture for stress and anxiety relief. Their Gentle and Restorative Yoga class is now in person and online, and Nia Moving to Heal is offered through Zoom.

Central Presbyterian Staff & Committees

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

SESSION

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

DEACONS

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

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 April Central Newsletter are due on Monday, March 16 2026.



their website, info@healingattention.org or call them at 541-687-9447.

The Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship wants to thank you for your continued support of the Coin Offering program. We always love hearing about other community non-profit organizations, so if you know of any, please seek out a member of this Ministry team (Susan Schroeder, Pam Sheridan, Jane Holmes, Nani Cagney, Barbara Cookson, or Nancy Richter). Remember, "When we all give a little, it adds up to lot." Your support of the March/April coin offering is greatly appreciated, and we welcome your suggestions for other non-profit organization recipients.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
February 18- April 5, 2026
Nancy Richter

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of three Presbyterian Church (USA) special offerings. Our denomination, along with others, has been supporting this offering for more than 75 years. It is usually collected during Lent and supports three separate mission programs.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance receives 32% of the offerings, which are used to work alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-cause disasters and to support refugees.

Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36% of the offerings, which are used to take action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and address the systemic cause of poverty so all may be fed.

Self-Development of People received the remaining 32% of the offerings and uses them to invest in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty, and justice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

Thank you for your support for One Great Hour of Sharing that responds directly to the needs God has called us to fulfill in Isaiah 58 and Matthew 25. Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports programs in over 100 countries, including the USA. "If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.)



Though He Kill Me
Wesley Lachman

*Though he kill me, yet I will trust in him
but I will defend my ways to his face.
This will be my salvation,
that the godless shall not come before him.
~ Job 13:15-16*

This passage from the book of Job came to me the other day. Job is defending his faith before his detractors. He knows that at the end, God will ask for his life. Despite that, Job declares that he will trust God.

Indeed, at the end, God will ask each of us for our lives, as for all the creatures on the earth. And we shall have to answer. There are a variety of opinions as to what happens after death. Some paint glorious pictures: family reunions, clouds and heavenly singing, peaceful life unending with God. But there are very few things that can truthfully be said about this. No one knows what will happen tomorrow, much less after death. All we have are dreams and stories about it.

Like Job, we will be able to converse with God as we approach death: *Help me, Lord. Understand this. Forgive this, Lord. Help my friend, Lord.* But the godless cannot come before God, for they do not know the Lord. Because Job has trust in God, he can speak with God at the crossroads of his life and death. We who, like Job, know God, can speak to him then, and that will be our salvation.

If we can trust God in this dangerous and lawless time in which we now live, can we not also trust in what is planned for our death? *Though he kills me, yet will I trust him*

Lent & Holy Week at CPC

10:00 am, MARCH 1 ~ The Good News is Great Love of God & Neighbor

We will celebrate worship with communion as we look together at Luke 7:36-50 and Matthew 25:35-40.

10:00 am, MARCH 8 ~ The Good News is Together, the Impossible is Possible

This third Sunday in Lent, we hear the good news from Mark 6:32-44 & Ephesians 3:20-21. We will also be welcoming a guest oboe player for special music. Plan to stay after for the second Sunday potluck!

10:00 am, MARCH 15 ~ The Good News is Protection & Care for the Vulnerable

Come hear the good news from Matthew 19:13-15 & Deuteronomy 24:17-22 as we worship together.

10:00 am, MARCH 22 ~ The Good News is Rooted in Justice, Mercy, & Faithfulness

The fifth Sunday in Lent we will hear the good news from John 8:2-11 & Matthew 23:23.

10:00 am, MARCH 29 ~ The Good News is Inspiring Us to Act

We will celebrate Palm Sunday, remembering Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as we turn to Mark 11:1-11. There will also be special music as we welcome a guest violinist.

7:00 pm, APRIL 3 ~ The Good News is Revealed Through Non-Violence 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 5 ~ The Good News is Alive in the World

Resurrection Sunday Worship

Join in this celebration of Christ's resurrection, as we join our voices together with our choir and guest musicians, rejoicing together in the redeeming work of Love which conquers even death! We will hear the story of that first Easter morning from Matthew 28:1-10, and celebrate Communion together. Plan to stay for the fellowship and the Easter Egg Hunt for children following worship.

BLACK THISTLE STREET AID KIT COLLECTION



Throughout the Lenten Season

During Lent, we will be collecting items primarily to create emergency first aid kits for Black Thistle Street Aid to hand out to our neighbors in need. If you would like to participate, please bring any of the following items to the church and place in the box marked *Black Thistle* in the Narthex.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Band-Aids (a variety of sizes)
- Single-use antibiotic ointment packets
- Single-use alcohol wipes
- Individually wrapped gauze pads (non-stick kind)
- Non latex gloves
- Cotton balls
- Q-tips
- Individually wrapped cough drops
- Individually wrapped gauze sponges
- Small containers of saline (optional)
- Emergen-C - single-use pouches
- Individually wrapped tampons/pads
- Hand & toe warmers
- Hand sanitizer - small bottles
- Wool socks
- Pregnancy tests
- 4x4 gauze pads-wrapped
- Flashlights - very small



Join us for a Postcard Writing Party!

Postcards to Voters are friendly, handwritten reminders to targeted voters in close, key races coast to coast. We will meet on Wednesday,

March 11, from 1:30 pm- 3:00 pm in the Community room. We'll provide postcards, stamps, pens, and information to write on the postcards. Questions? Contact Pam Sheridan or Patty MacAfee.



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Fred Beisse
Ed Degner
Don Piper
Judy Romans

March 8
March 11
March 20
March 28



Celebrating 50 Golden Years!
Join us in congratulating Mel & Linda Anderson on
their 50TH Wedding Anniversary!

