

Choir Rehearsals in December
7th, 8th, 14th, 17th 21st

Sundays in December
Worship
10:00am~Sanctuary

Mondays in December
Bible Study
11:30am~Parlor
Badminton/Pickleball Group
6:00pm~Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, December 1
Miriam Circle
9:30am~Parlor

Wednesday, December 2
Martha Circle
11:30am~ Parlor

Thursday, December 3
Ministry of Christian Discipleship
9:00am~ Zoom

Sunday, December 6
Social Justice Advocates Meeting
11:15am ~Community Room

Tuesday, December 8
Personnel
9:30am~Zoom
Properties
11:30am~Zoom

Sunday, December 13
Second Sunday Potluck
11:15am~Fellowship Hall

Thursday, December 17
Worship & Common Life
9:30am~Zoom

Monday December 21
Session
5:30pm~Zoom

Sunday, December 27
Deacons
11:15am~Community Room

See Advent Schedule on the page 3

PASTOR'S Pen

HORIZON by Jan Richardson,
from *Night Visions: Searching the Shadows of Advent and Christmas*

The season of Advent
means there is something on the horizon
the likes of which we have never seen before.
It is not possible to keep it from coming,
because it will.
That's just how Advent works.
What is possible is to not see it,
to miss it,
to turn just as it brushes past you.
And you begin to grasp what it was you missed,
like Moses in the cleft of the rock,
watching God's hindquarters fade in the distance.
So stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder.
There will be time enough for running.
For rushing. For worrying. For pushing.
For now, stay.
Wait.
Something is on the horizon.

Advent is a season of waiting - waiting for Christmas, waiting for the babe of Bethlehem to be born. That may seem a strange thing, after all, the blessed event took place thousands of years ago!

So why are we waiting for something that already happened? That is the wonder of this season. Well, this is a time when we recognize and remember the miracle of the incarnation, *and* also name the truth that God can be born anew in each one of us everyday; that the in-breaking of God's kingdom is still happening all around us; that there is even more yet to come. It is sort of like waiting through a dark night for the sun to rise. Sometimes it can feel far off or unsure, even though the sun came up yesterday and the day before that, and so on. But we wait in hope. And we wait with action. Thus the name of our Advent and Christmas theme, Until the Dawn: Actions for the Work of Advent. Together we trust in God's presence, and we also await the full dawning of all that God hopes for this world.

So, ready or not, here we go - Advent is here, and Christmas is coming. We have well and truly begun the season of the already and the not yet. The time of waiting, and watching - of hoping and praying - as we anticipate the coming of the Savior who is right here in our midst. I pray you will take

make the choice to pause, to breathe deeply, and look toward the horizon now and again so you might glimpse signs of the Holy One in our midst this season and beyond.

With hope, peace, joy and love,
Jennifer



ADVENT TEA
3pm on Thursdays,
December 3, 10, 17 & 24
CPC Parlor

Step away from the hustle and bustle of the holidays for a time to connect with one another and remember the reason for the season. You can enjoy a cup of tea along with some moments of calm and good conversation as we share together. Though this is scheduled when book group typically meets, you DO NOT need to read anything in advance. Pastor Jennifer will share some music and/or short readings focusing on the traditional themes of each week of the Advent season(Hope, Peace, and Joy) to facilitate our time of reflection and sharing together. Each week will stand alone, so come when you can - all are welcome!



LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE
Sunday, December 20th
4:30 PM
CPC Chapel

For those who have experienced loss or grief of any kind, the joy of the holiday season can often feel elusive and out of reach. As a result, along with other churches around the world, we have adopted the practice of having a Longest Night service during the Advent season. This service is designed to provide space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance in the midst of the holiday hustle and bustle. The hope is that this service will make space for difficult emotions which are often heightened at this time of year. Friends, this service is for you. Bring your grief. Bring your weariness. Bring your fear. Bring your anger. Bring your fatigue. Allow yourself a quiet space to reflect and draw near to God. We hope this time of worship can be a gift to you, providing a space of calm, quiet, and healing, that you may find peace and hope in your journey.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Martin
Director of Music: Kendra Taylor, PhD
Pianist: Michelle Sulaiman, DMA
AV Technician: Sunny Waldorf
Office Manager: Monique Jones~Rodriguez
Financial Secretary: Arlene Hudgins
Maintenance/ Custodian: Jose Toban
Childcare Provider: Violet Hines

SESSION

Charlie Wade
Rick Larson
Barbara Cookson
Pam Sheridan
Nancy Richter
Nani Cagney
Jean Tesche
Kathleen Beisse
Scott Pratt

DEACONS

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

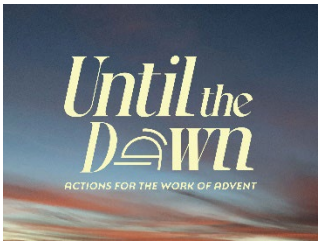
ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

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

OFFICE CLOSURES THIS MONTH



Friday, December 25
Friday, January 1



UNTIL THE DAWN: ACTIONS FOR THE WORK OF ADVENT
ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP @ CPC

We began the season of Advent on the last Sunday in November, introducing the theme for the season, *Waiting for the Dawn: Actions for the Work of Advent*. Although the season began on November 29th, you can still pick up devotional booklets and advent calendars at the church to use throughout the month of December.

The theme for the season focuses on the actions we can take as we wait with hope through the night for the coming of the light. Night is often a time when the way forward may seem unclear, when our senses are heightened and fear may creep in. Yet the darkness also brings gifts— rest, regeneration, dreams, intimacy with God. In our sacred stories, angels often arrive in the night, calling for courageous action and singing good news. As we walk through the darkest time of the year together, awaiting the dawn of Incarnation, let's remember that God's steadfast love and mercy are just as dependable as the daily sunrise. And as we wait we will be inspired by our scriptures to take action that help us resist despair and put our prayers in motion. Here is a glimpse of how we will continue to explore this theme together as we worship through this season and into Christmastide.

Advent 2, December 6th - *Until the Dawn: Start Somewhere*
Mark1:1-8. Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

Advent 3, December 13th -*Until the Dawn: Speak Up*
John 1:6-8, 19-28, Isaiah 61: 1-4

Advent 4, December 20th -*Until the Dawn: Take Courage*
Luke 1:26-38, Luke 1: 46b-55

Christmas Eve, December 24th - *Until the Dawn: Angels Sing*
We will have two services on Christmas Eve, as well as the opportunity for a contemplative labyrinth experience.

Intergenerational Service - 5:30pm, Chapel
This short service is designed to be meaningful and accessible for the youngest among us, as well as the young at heart. All are welcome!

Candles, Carols, & Bells – 7:30pm, Sanctuary
This traditional service rings in the celebration of the Incarnation with liturgy, song, and candlelight. Bring a bell if you are able! We will also be live-streaming this service via Vimeo if you would like to join in virtually. All are welcome!

Candlelight Labyrinth – Fellowship Hall
Between services & Following later service
A contemplative opportunity for those who welcome a quieter, reflective observance. Come, walk the labyrinth, pray, and enjoy the music and scriptures that will be a part of this experience. All are welcome!

December 27th, 1st Sunday after Christmas: *Lessons & Carols*
We will gather in the chapel for this celebration of the story of the season filled with opportunities to sing together! Come join as we celebrate the good news of the Incarnation together!



CHRISTMAS BONUS DONATIONS
It is the time of year when the Personnel Committee asks for your help to contribute toward a Christmas bonus for members of Central's staff.
We are asking a little early this year as we would like to be able to distribute the bonus to staff in the mid-December paycheck, The dates for collecting the donations are **November 29 and December 6.**

On these two Sundays, someone from the Personnel Committee will be standing outside the office with the donation box. You can also mail your donation to the church: 555 E 15 th Ave, Eugene OR 97401. If you write a

check, please note in the memo line "Christmas Bonus."

We would like to receive all the donations by December 11. Your support will allow us to recognize our staff for all they do for the church throughout the year. Thanks for your support!



CENTRAL'S 2026 CHRISTMAS PROJECT
"So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love." (Corinthians 13:16)

This year, Central will be helping some 65 families from Rainbow Village Low-Cost Housing. Central is working alongside three other Presbyterian churches and a fourth non-profit organization.

We are asking people to donate in support of this outreach. A small team of Deacons will prepare a Christmas stocking filled with the following items for each of our Rainbow Village Families:

- a Christmas card.
- a WINCO gift card for an amount that matches the size of the family.
- a Walmart gift card to purchase Children's presents.

Additional details will be provided between now and **Sunday, December 6, 2026**. Central's Christmas Project Stockings will get blessed during Worship on **Sunday, December 13**, and delivered over to the Rainbow Village office on Monday morning, December 14.

In Christ,
Quentin Holmes and Laurie Inglis
Deacons Co- Moderator and Vice-Moderator



Christmas Joy Offering
Nancy Richter

"What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

The **Christmas Joy Offering** is one of the Presbyterian Church, USA's regular Special Church-wide Seasonal Offerings. When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we share our love with the leaders of our church—past, present, and future. our gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.

Our gifts also make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. At these Presbyterian schools and colleges, they teach that faith is to be lived out in the world. And our Christmas Joy Offerings support children at risk and nurture the faith of youth and young adults – future leaders of the church -through ministries like the Presbyterian Youth Triennium and the Young Adult Volunteer program.

By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, we are offering dignity, support, and encouragement to assist those in need in the faith, be it past, present, or the future. We appreciate the generosity of this congregation in the support of these Special Offerings: "For when we give a little, it adds up to a lot."

Christmas Eve Offering
FISH Propane Program

This year's Christmas Eve Offering will be dedicated to **FISH and their Propane Program. FISH** works with Lifestyle Propane to provide 5 gallons of propane every 60 days (2 months) to help the unhoused, those living in their cars or a recreational vehicle, or those living in the Safety Spots for their heating and cooking purposes. During the winter months, this assistance is especially appreciated by those living in very cold and wet conditions. Those receiving this assistance must provide their own propane tank or cannister(s).

The Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship appreciates this congregation's continued generosity and support of the various offering programs of monies, food and other means for those individuals and families in need in our community throughout the years. "For if we all give a little, it adds up to a lot."

November & December Coin Offering
Willamette Valley Crisis Care
Nancy Richter

The Coin Offering for November/December 2026 is Willamette Valley Crisis Care (WVCC). When CAHOOTS stopped operations in Eugene on April 7, 2025, it left a huge vacancy in the emergency care system for the city. Most of the call types previously answered by CAHOOTS now fell under the jurisdiction of the Eugene Police Department. Between EPD and Mobile Crisis Services of Lane County, Welfare Checks dropped. Emergency call assist rates increased for call types commonly answered by CAHOOTS, and arrest rates doubled.

Willamette Valley Crisis Care was founded by four people who had been workers at CAHOOTS. Laurel Lisovskis, LCSW; Berkley Carmine, QMHA, MFA; Michelle Perin, LCSW, MS, EMT; and Alese "Dandy" Colehour, QMHA, EMT, MSW candidate were all very familiar with providing mobile crisis care on the streets of Eugene and are dedicated to creating community-led wellness-centered alternatives to public safety and crisis responses.

Through training, consulting, and strategic partnerships, WVCC works to ensure safety means care, dignity, and accountability for every community member. Willamette Valley Crisis Care has been awarded a major contract to provide training and technical assistance to Just Safe's Scaling Safety Initiative. WVCC will support leaders in community-based public safety to increase the capacity of consent-based, unarmed civilian response.

The Ministry of Mission and Christian Discipleship thanks the congregation for the continued support of the Coin Offering ministry. We are always looking for non-profit agencies and organizations to shed a light on their community-based programs as they strive to meet the needs of the community we all live in; "to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, house the unhoused, minister to those on the margins" as we were commissioned by our Lord Jesus to do. Remember: "**When we all give a little, it adds up to a lot!**



2nd
Barbara Cowan

11th
Janet Edmonsond
Margaret Knudsen

14th
Shirley Griffith
Alison Kelly

18th
Wesley Lachman
Charlie Thomas

23rd
Monique Jones Rodriguez

25th
Del Hawkins
Patty MacAfee

27th
Wendy Unsain



21st
Kirsten Kelso & Jennifer Martin



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