Sharing the Heart of Christ from the Heart of the City

#### CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE WINDOW JANUARY 2024

#### LOVING GOD LOVING EACH OTHER LOVING THE WORLD

## From The Staff

Dear Central Church Family,

"Thank You" are such little words. Too small to convey the deep appreciation we have for this church family! We are blown away with gratitude for the very generous Christmas gift to each of us. We thank you for your outpouring of love at Christmas and throughout the whole year.

2023 has been a year dedicated to renewal at Central. A year seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we strive to share the 'Heart of Christ from the heart of the city'. Through all the ups and downs, joys and sorrows, celebrations and stresses you have prayed for us, encouraged us, and supported us. You live out the words of 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." Growing together in faith, celebrating with each other, lifting each other up, and supporting one another through hard times, all make this a community of believers that have become a family. Thank you for all you have done!

We thank God for each of you! Wishing you a year ahead full of God's blessings, joy, and peace!

Helen

Paster Sott

Worship Updates

A multitude of thanks to the choir, praise band, dance team, tech team, bell choir, special musicians/vocalists, and ALL who made the Advent and Christmas season so beautiful and powerful. The Church is the PEOPLE, and you, my friends, are great ones. Thank you.

We begin our two-service schedule again in January:

#### 9am traditional worship 10am Sunday School 11am contemporary worship

May God bless our efforts and lead us in giving Him glory!

# Growing In Prayer

#### Prayer Ghampions 🤕

A new year is beginning, and your child/student will face new opportunities and new challenges. Drop them a note to let you know that you are thinking of them and keeping them in prayer. Encourage them to remember that Jesus is always with them, and He will help them through each and every day. THANK YOU for praying!!!!

#### RESOURCES TO HELP YOU HAVE TIME ALONE WITH GOD EACH DAY ...

Spending even a few minutes each day alone with God is a wonderful way to grow in faith. Each month the Prayer Action Team is highlighting two resources -- one digital and one book to help encourage you in your faith walk.

If you have daily devotional materials that you would like us to highlight in the future, please contact Sandy Wilson. There are so many wonderful tools out there! May we all walk closer with Jesus in 2024!

#### DIGITAL RESOURCE:

HomeWord Daily Devotionals -- <u>www.homeword.com</u>

These devotionals come via email. Go to the website and on the home page there is a link for 'Newsletter sign-up'. When you click that link it takes you to a list that includes daily devotionals and other free resources. Each daily devotional includes Scripture and a short message relevant to life today. HomeWord helps families succeed by creating Biblical resources that build strong marriages, confident parents, empowered kids and healthy leaders. Founded by Jim Burns, HomeWord seeks to advance the work of God in the world by educating, equipping, and encouraging parents and churches.

#### DEVOTIONAL BOOK RESOURCE:

Experiencing God Day by Day -- by Henry T. Blackaby and Richard Blackaby Written in a format of one page per day with Scripture and a devotional that helps us dig deeper into the Scripture truth. It includes thought-provoking questions for you to ponder throughout the day helping keep your focus on God, and living your life guided by Him. Henry Blackaby = pastor and writer with multiple publications including the excellent Bible Study -- *Experiencing God. (Note from Sandy – this is one of the best Bible studies I have ever done. I highly recommend it!)*  WEAVING US TOGETHER Connection Section

#### JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY		WEDNESDAY		FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	IOAM 3 Women's Bible Study	8:15AM 4 Immerse Bible Study 9:25Am Workout with Erin	5	8AM 6 Men's Breakfast
IOAM 7 Youth & Kids' Sunday School Coffee & Fellowship Parent's group Semper FI Class Sermon Discussion group 5:30PM ZOOM PRAYER	8:I5AM 8 Immerse bible study	9:25AM 9 Workout with Erin	IOAM 10 Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Hybrid Class by Pastor Scott- Subject to be determined	8:15AM 11 Immerse Bible Study 9:25AM Workout with Erin 2PM CPC Book Group	12	13
IOAM 14 Youth & Kids' Sunday School Coffee & Fellowship Parent's group Semper Fi Class Sermon Discussion group 5:30pm Zoom Prayer	8:15AM 15 Immerse Bible Study	9:25AM 16 Workout with Erin	IOAM 17 Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Hybrid Class by Pastor Scott- Subject to be determined	8:I5AM 18 Immerse Bible Study 9:25AM Workout with Erin	19	IOAM 20 Diaper depot
IOAM 21 Youth & Kids' Sunday School Coffee & Fellowship Parent's group Semper Fi Class Sermon Discussion group 5:30PM Zoom Prayer	8:15AM 22 Immerse Bible Study	9:25AM 23 Workout with Erin	IOAM 24 Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Hybrid Class by Pastor Scott- Subject to be determined	8:I5AM 25 Immerse Bible Study 9:25AM Workout with Erin	26	27
IOAM 28 Youth & Kids' Sunday School Coffee & Fellowship Parent's group Semper FI Class Sermon Discussion group 5:30PM ZOOM PRAYER	8:15AM 29 Immerse Bible Study	9:25AM 30 Workout with Erin	IOAM 31 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM Hybrid Class by pastor scott- subject to be determined			



#### Our Inclement Weather Policy is as follows:

Pastor Scott and Custodian Scott Shearer will confer and decide whether worship services and Sunday School should be cancelled. If there is to be a cancellation, Pastor Scott will, by 8 AM on Sunday, notify the congregation and staff by email and the Phonevite "robocall" system.

LOVING GOD Pto the ar

Does it bear good fruit in me?

The truth is that we have SO many options these days on what we can invest in... our time, our energy, our resources... I (probably like many of you) have a hard time choosing what to say yes to because I want to do it all! So, in an effort to focus in on whatever my "best yes" is, I'm going to ask myself this question all year long:

"Does it bear good fruit in me?"

You know the fruit I'm referring to:

LOVE. JOY. PEACE. PATIENCE. KINDNESS. GOODNESS. FAITHFULNESS. GENTLENESS. and SELF-CONTROL.

If it doesn't produce the Holy Spirit in me, I'm going to say no. What is your goal this year? May God be our guide!



The December Diaper Depot at Central brought 222 families to the church door who were served with 302 packages of diapers. Each family was given one dozen eggs and an opportunity to take home spaghetti or butternut squash. Recipes were provided for each variety of squash.

The Lions Club continued their annual distribution of cold weather gear. Families had their choice of hats, scarves and gloves to help weather the upcoming cold season.

Diaper Depot is a blessed ministry that illustrates how a community can come together to help the least of these. Consider coming to observe or volunteer. When you do, you will be blessed. In Genesis, Abraham is told he will be blessed to be a blessing. We are in the same way blessed.

Future dates: January 20, February 17, March 16. Also, sorting and packing of diapers is completed on the Wednesday before the distribution. In January, the packing will be completed during the Martin Luther King Day of Service.



Are you following us on Facebook? Instagram? TikTok? If not, we'd love for you to start!

Are you signed up for our church-wide emails? Email <u>erinmregan@gmail.com</u> to get the sign up link.

Keep your eyes open for a revived CPC website! The welcoming team is working with AW Designs to create something very user-friendly and eyecatching.

To God be all the glory!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!! I hope everyone had an enjoyable, blessed Christmas. As I reflect a bit on last year I want to thank you ALL for the cards, gifts, and prayers throughout the year.

I was so thankful to be able to play for worship through the Christmas season, especially with my eyes not being up to usual. I am hoping and praying that cataract surgery will help that in this new year. God has helped heal my wrist issue that was a problem earlier and I trust HE will help with my eyes as well.

I would be remiss if I did not express my deep personal appreciation for the very generous monetary gift given to me by the congregation at Central for Christmas. It is so wonderful to be able to be part of the staff at such a caring church of God's people doing ministry in so many ways. I am using part of this gift to help some of that ministry.

As I look forward to 2024 I do not know what is in store. We never do. But I pray that GOD will continue to lead and guide us day by day and season by season to do HIS WILL including the music in worship of which I love being a part.

May you all have a HAPPY, HEALTHY, and BLESSED NEW YEAR!!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!

Helen Wingert, Organist

#### COMMUNICATIONS

FACEBOOK:
CENTRAL ON THE SQUARE
TWITTER:
CENTRALONTHE2
INSTAGRAM:
CENTRALONTHE2
TIKTOK:
@CENTRALONTHE2

WWW.CENTRALONTHESQUARE.ORG

ARE YOU ON OUR EMAIL LIST? IF NOT, & YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE, NOTIFY ERINMREGAN@GMAIL.COM



#### Diaper Depot 2024 Volunteer Info & Dates

Diapers are packed the Wednesday before the event at 3pm in Friendship Hall, and it usually takes 1 - 1.5 hours.

Set up starts at 9am on Saturdays, and the doors open at 10am. Everything will conclude when the leftover diapers are stored at around 12:30pm.

<u>Packing dates:</u>	<u>Event dates:</u>		
MLK Day	January 20		
February 14	February 17		
March 13	March 16		
April 17	April 20		
May 15	May 18		
June 12	June 15		
July 10	July 13		
August 14	August 17		
September 18	September 21		
October 9	October 12		
November 13	November 16		
December 11	December 14		

## CPC Kids' News













#### Beginning January 7th the Sunday morning schedule changes to:

9am – Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

- 10am Sunday School for children on the 3rd floor -- We start back on our STELLAR lessons!!!
   Parents sign children in each week and indicate if they will pick up their child(ren) on the 3rd
   floor at 11am or have teachers bring them to meet parents in Friendship Hall for
   Contemporary Worship. (Nursery will also be available from 8:45am to 12:15am)
- 11am Contemporary Worship in Friendship Hall

# Youth Ministry

#### Faith

Here is an overview of our Christmas season in Sunday School. 1. Christmas is good news of great joy for all people! 2. Jesus came for a reason, so we could get to know Him! 3. The Bible is about real people and their faith experiences. 4. Just like the shepherds, God invites us to experience Him personally, not just rely on what others say about Him. 5. There are ways we can learn more about who Jesus is and what He did for us, such as coming to church, reading our Bible, and prayer. There are several ways to respond: 1. Continue to show up at church 2. Ask questions of those we know who have a strong faith 3. Make a personal decision to follow Jesus and live out our faith every day. The challenge that the youth were left with was to journal about "One step I can take to get to know Jesus better."

#### Food

The youth at Central are so blessed with food that is provided by generous volunteers at most of our events and Sunday school. December food providers: Wyatt and Kelly Dietrich, Bonnie Fortuna, Julia Blaker, Deb Miller, Mary Mohr and Faye Hall. If you would like to provide a snack or food for the youth please reach out to Julia Blaker at 615-587-8423.



#### Fun

We have had a lot of fun this month at youth group. I love to see Central youth bonding over silly relay games and games with strategy and fun all in one. Some of the games we played this month were Candy Relay, dodgeball, sardines, candy cane-themed games, Cotton ball Santa, Christmas Family Feud, and Pass the Present.

#### Upcoming

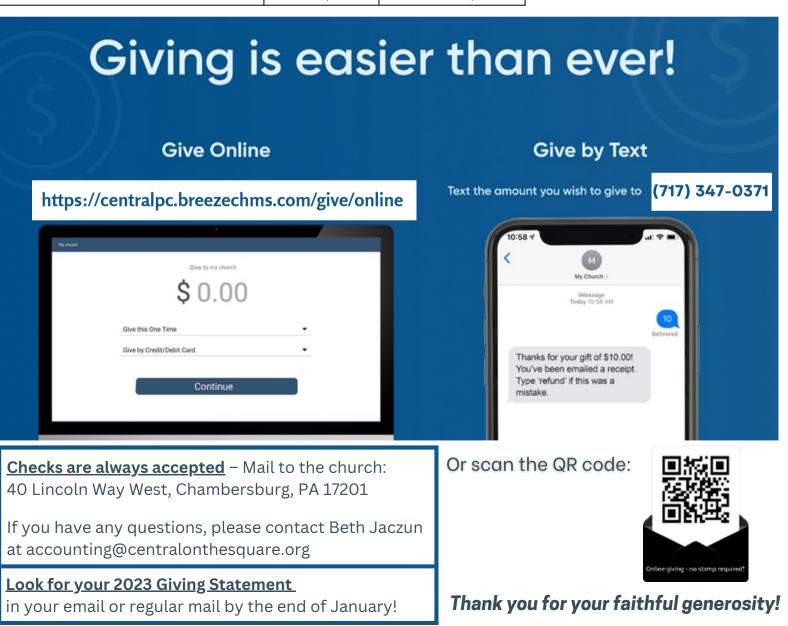
- Jan. 7th Faith, Food, Fun in Youth room
- Jan. 12-13th Over night Lock-in
- Jan. 21st No Youth Group
- Jan. 28th Faith, Food, Fun in the Youth room

**Finance Report** 

THANK YOU! We are especially grateful for your generous giving during December. Your contributions allow Central to continue to grow in discipleship and mission.

#### Financial Report:

	December 2023	<u>YTD Jan-Dec. 2023</u>
Donations Received (thru 12/27/23)	45,626.00	443,869.77
Income Received from Trusts	1,293.98	70,353.57
Allocation from Central Fund	0.00	60,000.00
Total Income	46,919.98	574,223.34
Expenditures	59,529.43	608,592.46
Net Income	-12,609.45	-34,369.12



### **CPC News**

#### Thanksgiving Basket Thank You's

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights. – James 1:17

Mary thanks \* Blessings, Shae Marvich + Family

Thank-you so much for the box of Thanksgiving trimmings + Furkey delivered by the "Othice of the Aging and church. It has been a difficult year for our family with appointments and therapy for which we travel to Chambersburg from Waynes boro M-F. Warmest wishes for a

happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. My husband and I are up in our years dealing with health issues and never expected we'd be caring for our 2 granddaughters and 1 great granddaughter all on the "Spectrum" Despite being very busy, we are blessed (as they have brought us much joysend

by caring people who have helped us along the way.

hank you so much for the gifts of thankegeving turkeys and denners. Uow! all we heally blessed to receive such bounty. May you all be blessed 100 fold In leturn for your getting Everything is appreciated that were so blessed by you Darbara Ahr Director YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IS MUCH APPRECIATED

Thank you for your generous donation!

-Minnie Goshorn + Franklin County CYS

my family is groteful for the turkey bastker what a blessing you are. Than ks.

> Marisa and Family



REV. SCOTT BOWERMAN, PASTOR

ERIN ADAMS, WORSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

SANDY WILSON, KIDS' MINISTRY DIRECTOR

HELEN WINGERT, ORGANIST

BETH JACZUN, FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

SHELLEY MARANGONI, PLAYSCHOOL CENTRAL DIRECTOR

ANDREA HADIK, YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

JUDY YOUNG, COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

ALEXIS HELMAN, SECRETARY

SCOTT SHEARER, CUSTODIAN