

Sharing the Heart of Christ from the Heart of the City

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE WINDOW

SEPTEMBER 2025

LOVING GOD
LOVING EACH OTHER
LOVING THE WORLD



Some Information to Ponder

Did you know that each of the gospels are typically represented by an image? The four images are as follows: an ox, an eagle, a man, and a lion. Now, someone might ask, why are those particular images for these first four books of the New Testament? The gospel of Luke has the image of the ox because after the preface of this gospel, there is a reference to the priestly office of Zechariah. The ox was the sacrificial animal for the priests, so the ox was chosen to represent the Gospel of Luke. Most commentators agree that Matthew has a human symbol, because of the Gospel beginning with the Genealogy of Jesus. The gospel of Mark begins with the phrase “a voice crying out in the wilderness (Mark 1:3),” and this is the reason some scholars feel that the lion is the symbolic presence to prepare the way for Jesus at the beginning of the Gospel of Mark. Finally, the image of the eagle is thought to symbolize the Gospel of John. According to Jerome, a fourth century CE scholar, translator and theologian wrote, the gospel of John is “hurrying to the heights born aloft on Eagle’s wings” to proclaim Jesus as the word of God. The preceding information came from the book, *Four Gospels, One Jesus* by Richard Burridge.

There is more that can be said about these symbols and how they represent the Gospel Accounts. Each Gospel has its own personality and uniqueness, just as these symbols do. So, in addition to my encouraging everyone to see the symbols on the church sanctuary doors, I am also encouraging people to read the Gospels in their entirety. It is apparent as someone reads one of the Gospels that it has its own perspective and feel to it. I could write on and on about the uniqueness that I have experienced with the Gospels, but I hope that each of you in this faith community will take the time and read the Gospels. Not only is it our primary source for information on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, but each author adds something to the perspective of the Son of God and our savior. Blessings be on us all as we enter into a new fall season, and new church year.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Chris

LOVING GOD

WORSHIP UPDATES

Thank you for a wonderful last month of Summer Worship at Central! May God be glorified!

Special thanks goes to all of our special musicians: Melissa Winegardner, Wayne Decker, Jocelyn Merriman, Dana Harriger, Alyssa Little, Amanda Bietsch, Jill Work, Galen Work, Andrew Pozzuto, Marcus Rauhut, and Pat McNamee.

We are going back to two services in September!

9am Traditional

10am Sunday School

11am Contemporary

On Sunday September 14th, we will be dedicating the new Garden Worship Space during the 11am worship service. We invite you to join us! We ask each family unit to write their family name on a rock for our installment. Bring a rock of your own or use one of ours! Also, if you are interested in getting plugged in to our worship teams in any way, please see Erin Adams or email her at erinmregan@gmail.com

Adult choir (ages 12 and up) begins again on September 3rd! We will be meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:15pm this year.

Invite your friends, neighbors, coworkers, and family members to worship with us & may we create weekly offerings together that please our God.

LOVING GOD

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Whew!! Where did the summer go??? I hope by the time you are reading this I am back playing again.

My summer was very nice. I enjoyed time with family, including some of my relatives that I had not seen in person for almost 6 years. In fact that happened ON my birthday, so that was a very nice surprise!! Old Home Week was the first week in August and that gave me time to enjoy some of those events in the Greencastle area with my niece on John's side. Again this was relaxing and a nice break.

What I did NOT expect was the two-week break I got in the middle of August. For those who haven't heard, my youngest kitty BIT me hard as I was trying to get her in the carrier for a vet appointment. So I have been listening to the doctors and taking my antibiotics as told. I don't do that well with antibiotics, but it could have been much worse.

Life is that way. Things go along smoothly, but then oops!! We hit a "bump in the road." I thank all of you who prayed for me and for those who filled in during worship for me. My hand seems to be healing nicely and I am feeling fine most of the time. I thank God for my family, my church friends, especially Pastor Chris and Erin, for prayers, and most of all I am thankful that we have a GOD who never changes. HE is always there for us, guiding us and showing us HIS LOVE, even when we hit "bumps in the road."

Looking forward to the start of a new season, new time schedule, 2 services, choir back in worship and seeing all of you again. (And by the way, my kitty is fine.)

To God be the glory!!

Helen Wingert, Organist

A Note From Erin

I was reminded recently about the movie *Hope Floats*. Do you remember it? Sandra Bullock's character gets the shock of a lifetime on a live Talk Show when her best friend and husband confirm that they are having an affair with each other. Don't worry - the movie has a happy ending. But there's a scene near the beginning where Bullock's character's daughter, Bernice, is desperate to not be left by her Daddy. He has packed a suitcase, is heading to the car, and Bernice is following him with a suitcase of her own. Several times, the Dad tells her that she cannot come with him, but the little girl is persistent, attempting to put her bag in his trunk & sticking her arm inside his car window. Eventually, the Dad honks the horn to scare Bernice out of the window and drives away, leaving his family behind to start a new relationship with the formerly mentioned "best friend". After several seconds of wailing deep and guttural tears, Bernice's mom walks over, scoops her up, and carries her back to the house. I imagine that anyone who sees that scene would be absolutely heartbroken by it & I still can't believe that little girl didn't win an Oscar for her gut-wrenching performance. But the reason I bring this up is I see so much of that little girl in us.

We fear being left behind. We fear not being enough. We want so desperately to be loved in the ways we love. We chase what's comfortable. We are terrified to let go. We cling to things/people/ideas which would disappoint, harm, or neglect us. I won't get into the reasons why we have these tendencies (for surely, there's a great variety amongst our church family); however, it's quite possible that the need to feel like 'I matter' is a universal need in each of us.



For those of us who believe that the Triune God is Creator, Savior, Redeemer, Reconciler, Advocate, and Friend, we know that we have been chosen over and over again. And through every heartbreak, every trial, every obstacle, and every car that drives away, there's a Good Good Father that will never leave, abandon, or betray us. As my 4-year-old likes to remind me, "They're never alone, Mommy! They always have Jesus in their hearts!" This doesn't take our pain away or make our struggles any less real, but I am comforted to have personally experienced and to have witnessed that our God is like Bernice's mom: with us, scooping us up, and holding us for as long as we need.

Prayer Action Team

September Verse of the Month

So do not fear, for I am with you;
Do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
– Isaiah 41:10

Read over this verse each day. Think about the words. Rejoice and find hope in this promise from God.
You are not alone. He is your help and your strength.

Prayer Champions!

A new school year has begun. Whether the child/youth you pray for is starting preschool or going to college or any grade in between, **THEY NEED YOUR PRAYERS!!** New beginnings are exciting, but also can be a little uneasy. Pray for:

- Protection of mind, soul and body
- Wisdom in decision making and choosing actions & words
- Good friends who build them up and encourage their faith
- Kindness – for them to receive it and to give it

Please take a few minutes to write them a note of encouragement (or even send a text). Some example of encouraging words & verses include:

- You are loved and prayed for. Jesus is with you always.
- You've got this and God's got you.
- Jesus is with you. You can talk to Him anytime, anywhere.
- Jeremiah 29:11
- Proverbs 3:5-6
- Isaiah 41:10
- Joshua 1:9

[NOTE – if you share a verse, please write it out in the card, so they can easily re-read it often.]

If you would like to learn more about the Prayer Champion Ministry,
please contact Cheryl Whalley or Sandy Wilson (309/714-1557).

September 2025

Central Presbyterian Youth Update



Central's Red Cross Blood Drive

On August 1, we held a Red Cross Blood Drive at Central. If you recall, this was an event motivated by youth interest and organization. Kelsey Reiff (a senior at GAHS) coordinated with Red Cross representatives, attended phone conferences, recruited volunteers, and more (many of you saw her at the church helping folks register to donate blood).

We ended up with 27 units donated to Red Cross, which means we met our goal for the event. As part of Red Cross's student leadership program, Kelsey will now be afforded the opportunity to earn a large scholarship for college.

New Art Space in the Middler Room

Over the past 6 months, I've been thinking about ways to integrate more arts and creativity into our youth program offerings (especially as I see my incoming youth). To accomplish this task, I've been meeting with a few youth and one of my volunteer leaders to brainstorm ideas and put some things into place.

One of the things we wanted to do was create a dedicated arts space for the youth. After some thought and discussion, we decided to see what we could do with the Middler room. My volunteer Ellie (a Shippensburg University student studying Art Education) offered to design and paint a mural. See the an in-progress pic above!

Sunday School

Just a reminder that youth Sunday School will kick off on September 7! I'm looking forward to seeing students and volunteers downstairs from 10:00-11:00.

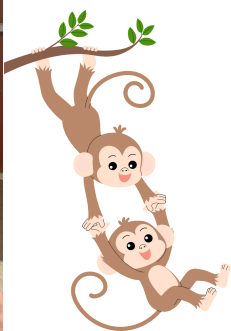
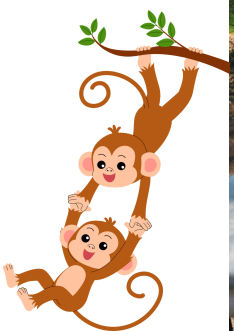
Central High School Basketball Practices

We've started up our practices again in anticipation of the winter season! We practice every Thursday from 6:00-8:00 in the gym. Any high school boy that doesn't play for the school is eligible to play. Middle school boys are also welcome to come play at practice.



As I look back over the summer, I can only smile. Kids' Club was so much fun. We sang songs, played games, learned about the Fruits of the Spirit, and, of course, ate snacks. The children enjoyed Vacation Bible School as we trekked through the Alaskan wilderness to learn that God is our true north. Our final Kids' Club summer event was at Caledonia. It was wonderful to see the children playing in the creek and helping one another over the rocks. Then there was Backpack Blessing Sunday. It brings me joy to see the children with their backpacks (some of the backpacks larger than the people wearing them) ready for the new school year. They may be excited, scared, or a little of both, and I hope having the opportunity to know that a church family is praying for them is comforting. I know it did for me when I was a teacher.

Now August has come and gone. The school year has started. The first-day jitters are gone. It is time to get back to work. On the third floor, we will step into safari gear as we enter Africa and learn that life is wild, but God is good. I love reusing the old VBS curriculum for Sunday school. I can take one night of VBS and stretch it over four Sundays. My team and I have found that the children really get more out of the lessons since we have more time to talk about them. Plus, we get to play in a fun theme. African safari, here we come! Don't worry; we will do our best to keep the monkeys from escaping.



LOVING THE WORLD

Diaper Depot

On August 16, the Diaper Depot was privileged to serve **191 families**, including **22 first-time visitors!** Thanks to the generosity of our community partners, each family received fresh eggs, peaches and corn **provided by The Gleaning Project & SCAPP**. In addition, English & Spanish language Bibles were available to our families as well as gently used baby clothing. And of course, our famous breakfast of pancakes and sausage was served throughout the morning.

We continue to be grateful for the support of **Keystone Health and WellSpan Health**, who faithfully provide educational and informational resources each month. In addition, families could choose from a variety of school supplies and children's books for their kids.

None of this would be possible without our amazing volunteers. Their time, energy, and compassion are the heart of this ministry. We thank God for each of them and the love they pour into serving others.

Did you know that Diaper Depot also provides adult diapers and briefs? We have been blessed by some very generous donations of these supplies to assist families and older adults.

Save the Date!

Our next Diaper Depot will take place on **Saturday, September 20:**

- **Set-up begins at 9:00 a.m.**
- **Doors open at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Doors close at 12 noon and clean up begins.**

Diaper packing will be held on Wednesday, September 17 at 1:00 p.m. in Friendship Hall.

Whether you're coming to receive support or to lend a helping hand, we invite you to be part of something truly special. Together, we are sharing Christ's love and blessing our community in many ways.

Thank you for being part of the Diaper Depot family!

COMMUNICATIONS



We've been having some issues with our weekly emails going to people's Spam or Junk folders. If you miss a week or two of our weekly emails, check your spam/junk folders! If the emails are in there, make sure to move them to your inbox so that your email account doesn't send them to spam/junk anymore. Thanks!

Have you visited our website?
Go to www.centralonthesquare.org and explore what Central has to offer!

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

Facebook: facebook.com/centralonthesquare

Instagram: instagram.com/centralonthe2



TikTok:

Are you signed up for our church-wide emails? [Use this link to sign up!](#) By the way, **if you need something publicized in the next Friday blast, please send your information to Erin no later than Tuesday afternoon.**

COMMUNICATIONS

f FACEBOOK:

Central on the square



TWITTER:

Centralonthe2



INSTAGRAM:

Centralonthe2



TIKTOK:

@centralonthe2

Church Website:

www.centralonthesquare.org

Are you on our email list?

If not, would you like to be?

Notify:

ERINMREGAN@GMAIL.COM



Diaper Depot 2025 Volunteer Info & Dates

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

2025 Event dates:

September 20

October 11

November 15

December 13



FINANCE REPORT

AUGUST 2025

Thank you for your incredible generosity! Your investment in our mission allows us to provide essential services and drive meaningful change right here in our community. You are a crucial part of this work, and we are deeply grateful for your commitment.

Financial Report:

	August 2025	YTD Jan-Aug 2025
Donations Received (as of (8/26/25))	\$21,747.01	\$251,193.35
Income Received from Trusts	\$1417.02	\$72,034.92
Allocation from Investment Fund		\$40,000.00
Total Income	\$23,164.03	\$363,228.27
Expenditures (as of 8/26/25)	\$29,368.69	\$425,646.71
Net Income/(Loss)	(\$6204.66)	(\$62,418.44)

Join us in generosity

A quick and easy way to give gifts of support.

Visit our website to give by credit/debit card or through a bank ACH transaction.

Give once or set up recurring giving.



Donate in person to the church office.



Text the amount you would like to give to:



<https://centralpc.breezechms.com/give/online>

(717) 347-0371

Checks are always accepted

Mail to the church: 40 Lincoln Way West, Chambersburg, PA 17201

If you have any questions: Please contact Alexis Helman at accounting@centralonthesquare.org.

Thank you for your faithful generosity!

Or scan the QR code:



Online giving - no stamp required!



TRUSTEE NEWS

Part-time Custodial Associate Central Presbyterian Church Chambersburg, PA

Central Presbyterian Church in downtown Chambersburg, Pennsylvania is looking for a dedicated part-time Custodial Associate to join our team. If you have an interest in cleaning, strength in thorough implementation of instructions and schedule flexibility, this could be the perfect opportunity for you.

This position is a great fit for someone who enjoys working independently and takes pride in a job well done. You'll be responsible for supporting the lead custodian in maintaining the cleanliness of the entire church building, including the sanctuary, classrooms, gym, kitchen, stairwells, restrooms and parking lots; ensuring all areas meet our high standards of cleanliness and safety. You'll also assist with event setup and cleanup and report any maintenance issues to the lead custodian.

This role requires a high school diploma or GED, and previous custodial experience is preferred. The ideal candidate will be a strong communicator with a positive attitude, who can work well with staff and church members. You should also be able to lift and move furniture and supplies and be flexible to accommodate the schedule of church activities, including occasional weekends and holidays.

This is a part-time position, 15 hours per week, with the possibility of additional hours to cover for the lead custodian or assist with events. To apply, please send your resume to Church Administrator, Alexis Helman, at accounting@centralonthesquare.org.



EPC Book Group

Do you enjoy reading and then discussing books? Did you know that Central has a book group that meets the second Thursday of each month from September until May? The book group is casual, friendly, and open to members and non members alike. We meet at 2 p.m. in either the Parlor or Semper Fi Classroom located across from the Pastor's Office. Below are the meeting dates and the books we will be discussing, join us for one or all of the discussions, we love to talk about books.

- September - we are not meeting this month
- October 9 - The Women by Kristin Hannah
- November 13 - Skipping Christmas by John Grisham
- December - Traditionally we do not meet
- January 8 - The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles
- February 12 - The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis (this book MAY change, under discussion)
- March 12 - All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
- April 9 - Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure by Matthew Algea
- May 14 - The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald



Pastor Nominating Committee

The PNC continues to hold regular meetings. We have several promising leads, but it is still premature to provide additional details.

Worship Schedule

Starting on Sunday, September 7th, we will return to our regular worship schedule.

- ☑ 9:00AM: Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
- ☑ 11:00AM: Contemporary Worship, The Garden

Breakfast Bar

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting our quarterly breakfast bar on Sunday September 14. Breakfast options will include waffles, French toast sticks, sausage, fruit, and yogurt. The breakfast bar will be served between the worship services. Gather with others after the 9:00 service, come early for the 11:00 service, or prepare a plate to enjoy during Sunday School. Savor some yummy breakfast foods and share some wonderful fellowship time with other Central folks. Hope to see you there.



SIMPLE SUPPER & PUMPKIN DECORATING

WHEN: Wednesday, October 15

Friendship Hall

6:00 PM - Dinner

6:30 PM - Pumpkin Decorating

DINNER - Baked potato bar with chili and all the toppings.

Chicken nuggets and French fries for the kids

Lemonade, water, and coffee

Bring a pumpkin dessert to share if you wish.

PUMPKIN DECORATING - Pumpkins and decorating supplies will be available at no cost.

Seasonal fun for the young and young at heart!

Come join us for a night of fellowship and fun.

STAFF

CHRIS SCHWAB, INTERIM PASTOR

ERIN ADAMS, WORSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

BREE RAUHUT, KIDS' MINISTRY DIRECTOR

ROSS WINEGARDNER, YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

HELEN WINGERT, ORGANIST

SHELLEY MARANGONI, PLAYSCHOOL CENTRAL DIRECTOR

ALEXIS HELMAN, CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

BROOKLYN SHEARER, CHURCH SECRETARY

SCOTT SHEARER, CUSTODIAN

Faith, Food, Fellowship
SUPER SENIOR LUNCHEON

The Super Seniors are continuing their popular **Know Thy Neighbor series!**

Join us for our monthly luncheon, held every second Wednesday of the month at 11:45 a.m. in Friendship Hall.

This event is open to everyone, and lunch is available by donation.

Each month, we welcome a special guest from our community to share their story.

You'll hear about the work they do and how their faith influences their life and career. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect, enjoy a meal, and get to know our neighbors.



September's Luncheon

Wednesday, 10th at 11:45am



Our September speaker for the KNOW THY NEIGHBOR SERIES is Carissa Martin. Carissa Martin is the founder and executive director of Monarch's Way, a residential, Christian school dedicated to helping at-risk girls break free from life controlling behaviors and circumstances. Carissa's passion to see people living fully alive and flourishing in their destiny shows up in every conversation and interaction that she has with others.

Her Joy filled presence along with her Isaiah 61 heart to heal the broken -hearted and set the captives free, will inspire and motive you. Come discover how her personal "Moses burning bush moment" has become a modern day miracle where young girls' lives are being transformed.

Bring a friend... this event is not to be missed!



Reservations are required so we can ensure we have enough food for everyone. Please call the church office at 717-264-4113 or email Brooklyn at brooklynatcpc@gmail.com to reserve your spot well in advance of the meeting. We can't wait to see you there!