

## of Christ from the Heart of the City

LOVING GOD  
LOVING EACH OTHER  
LOVING THE WORLD



### FROM THE PASTOR



### Hope in the Midst of Despair

*31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? 33 Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? 36 As it is written,*

*"For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."*

*37 No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:31-39)*

We will be entering this month into the period of Lent. This is a time of self-reflection, of pondering what Jesus did for all of us. Jesus took on a great burden for us, so that we might all have everlasting life. Jesus provides for us hope, with which we can use to guide ourselves through life. This hope is something we need to remember at all times.

But what about in times of sadness, somebody might ask. It is hard to see the hope in troubled times, another person might think. I do not see hope when there is conflict or problems, someone else could mutter under his or her breath. Well, it is true that hope may become more elusive when times get harder. But hope is always there. Hope is there because of the actions of God through Jesus Christ. We will face difficult times in our lives. There may have been problems and challenges for the church in the past, or even in the present, but the hope through Jesus Christ is still there. Even when there are disagreements between people, there is still hope and the opportunity for gain.

We may find ourselves at times being weighed down by our thoughts and we may lose sight of hope and the future. Just because we are distracted by our own thoughts, does not mean that hope is gone. There were times when the disciples despaired about life. Even Jesus struggled with hope and was depressed about his own future. God provides us with hope, and that hope is our light for the future. It is this hope which can point us in the right direction for the future. This hope can assist this congregation to solve the problems it encounters. This God given hope is our future after this world.

*(Continued on the next page)*



On January 17, the Diaper Depot was honored to serve **172 families, including 13 new participants**. Thanks to the generosity of **Pete & Gerry's**, each family received fresh eggs, and SCAAP provided apples. The **"Needlers" at Quincy Village** donated hand knit hats and scarves to our families! Our local doula, Andrea, had multiple baby items which were available for parents to select as well. Keystone Health provided a variety of educational resources and community information to help serve our clients.

And of course, a delicious breakfast of pancakes and sausage was served throughout the morning. 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.

### **Save the Date!**

Our next Diaper Depot will take place on **Saturday, February 21:**

- **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, February 18 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!**

FROM THE PASTOR  
— • —  
 Hope in the Midst of Despair

Let us realize that the worries of this earth can obscure our vision. We can get weighed down by the concerns of this world, and lose sight of the future. Whatever we experience, the hope which God gives us can be our guide. We can have hope in the happy and sorrowful times, and we can have hope for the future and what we will encounter there. Let us remember to focus on Jesus, and working together for the hope he made a reality for us. Peace be with us all during this season of Lent. Peace and Grace to one and all.

Pastor Chris



# Prayer Action Team



## February Verse of the Month:

*“The LORD your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you. He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”*  
*Zephaniah 3:17*

February is typically the month we think about love. Love for our family, our friends, our neighbors and all those we care about. It's a month of flowers and chocolates and joy. But life doesn't always go smoothly. Relationships hit bumps in the road. We do and say things we regret. When those things happen we can begin to feel we aren't very loveable. This month's verse speaks about the depth of God's love for us. Take a moment to read it slowly and really hear the words in your head and your heart.

♥ GOD IS WITH YOU ♥ HE WILL TAKE GREAT DELIGHT IN YOU ♥  
 ♥ HE WILL QUIET YOU WITH HIS LOVE ♥ HE WILL REJOICE OVER YOU WITH SINGING ♥

Let those words sink in. Read them over and over this month. Find comfort in His love and share that love with others.

## February Prayer Focus!



There are so many things happening in our lives, in our community and in our world right now. During this month let's spend some time praying for some of the major areas of need.

Take a copy of this short list of needs and keep it nearby. Whenever you have a minute, ask God to shower compassion, strength, healing, protection, peace, and wisdom on these:

- First responders who need to be out in cold and dangerous weather to help and protect us.
- Those who are homeless and need shelter, food, and basic necessities.
- The many who are struggling with illnesses and serious health concerns.
- Peaceful resolutions to the turmoil in our country and the world and an end to violence.



LOVING ONE ANOTHER

# CPC Kids' Ministry

We have had an interesting winter to be sure. One day it is almost 60 degrees, and the sun is shining; the next day, it is 10 degrees with a negative wind chill. The weather changes so fast that it's hard to know what to expect. I remember growing up, we could guarantee cold temperatures and plenty of snow from November to March. But things have changed, and really everything changes at some point.

On the third floor, the kids have been learning that when life changes, God is good. We followed the Israelites across the Red Sea and through the wilderness, discovering how God helped them overcome challenges and showed His goodness. When talking to the kids about this story, I explained that parts of life are always changing, but no matter what God is good. They may change schools, change friends, or change towns, but God is good through it all.

It is easy to forget or overlook this as adults. When changes are difficult or sad, we tend to despair easily. At least, I know I do. I think this is why verses like Philippians 4:13 and Joshua 1:9 are so popular. We need that encouragement to handle life's changes. After doing this unit with the kids, I want to encourage us all to praise God for His goodness in those hard, changing times as well. Quite a challenge, I know! But how wonderful for us to remember that God is good, all the time; and all the time, God is good.





LOVING GOD

# A Note From Erin

I grew up watching Mr. Rogers.

For years, that beloved man spoke calmly, intentionally, and directly into a camera feed that reached millions of families. He began feeding his fish in each episode because a little girl wrote him a letter expressing concern that the fish weren't eating. He used puppets to teach lessons, wore unassuming clothing, visited every-day people doing every-day work, and always treated everyone he encountered with dignity & respect.

When he wasn't on camera, he could often be found visiting sick children in hospitals, answering letters with empathy, and sharing the good news of Jesus as a Presbyterian minister and a disciple of Christ.

I love Mr. Rogers. And I thank God that there are still people, much like him, who not only speak about their faith, but live it out.

When Mr. Rogers addressed tragedies on tv, he said, "But when we get sad and angry, you and I, we know what to do with our feelings so we don't have to hurt other people... Always look for the people who are helping... you'll always find someone who's trying to help."

These days feel very full of grief and tragedy.

So what can we do?

I think we can do four things:

1. Keep our faith and hope in Jesus. He already has the victory.
2. Look for and support the helpers. They are out there.
3. Become a helper. Use what we have, do what we can, from where we are.
4. Live out our faith. Thinking about it & talking about it is good. But to live it out... that's better.

Loving you, friends.

LOVING GOD

# Worship Updates

Much love and gratitude to all who helped the worship services in January be so wonderful and meaningful!

In February, we will have our normal worship schedule every Sunday (weather permitting). 9am traditional, 10am Sunday School and fellowship, 11am contemporary. February **communion** will take place on February 1st.

Interested in joining the choir? We would love to have you rehearse with us on Wednesday nights at 6:15pm!

The Bell choir will begin rehearsals for Easter on Sunday February 22nd at 12:15pm. We will meet weekly. Please let Erin know if you are interested in participating ([erinmregan@gmail.com](mailto:erinmregan@gmail.com)).

# From The Organ Bench

What a start to a new year!!! I am hoping February allows us to slow down and catch up. January really was filled with all sorts of happenings. First and foremost among these was the church's election of The Rev. Dr. Calvin James Davis as our called pastor to begin in July!! What a thrilling weekend that was! I look forward to working with him and his wife, and having them minister among us.

I am always indebted to the many people who help me along life's way!! Recently I was forced "off the organ bench" by a sudden stomach bug that hit me Saturday evening. Not good timing, or well, maybe it was. God always knows best and works things out for His purposes. It turned out that when I was unable to play on January 18, I called Erin. It turns out her mother was here on a visit for Calvin and Nick's birthday celebration. Both Erin and her mother filled in for me at the last minute. THANK YOU!! THANK YOU, BOTH!!

There were so many others who offered to help, etc. Everyone was so caring and considerate. Pastor Chris was definitely understanding as well.

Normally I would have played for the Martin Luther King Jr. service. I also missed that.

There are not enough words to describe how gratifying it is to be part of a caring church family!!! THANK YOU ALL, MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH as well as others. May that same caring be shown to everyone always!!!!!!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

Helen Wingert, Organist



## CPC 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.**

- 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



# February 2026

## Central Presbyterian Youth Update



### Bowling for a Cause

On January 11, we had our bowling outing to support Victory House homeless shelter for local veterans. Nearly 30 people came out for the Central team. It was an awesome afternoon of bowling and fun with people from all ages in the Central family!

### Basketball Season

Our boys are halfway through the regular season. We've got a very competitive team this year, so be on the lookout for information about playoffs. In February we have regular season games on 2/5, 2/10, and 2/17. All games are at 7:15 in the Chambersburg Rec. Center.

### The Workshop Schedule

Our creative arts ministry is now moving to twice a month meetings! We've had great turnout so far, with young people expressing a wide range of creative talents, including poetry, short stories, painting, ceramics, and "felting" (that was a new one for me). If you'd like to get involved, reach out and let's talk!

### Souper Bowl

On February 8, we will be taking collections for our annual Souper Bowl event. This is a time we take donations for a local organization helping feed community members in need. This year, we will be supporting Meals on Wheels. Come support us!

### Pancake Dinner

On February 17, we have our big annual Pancake Dinner and Talent Show to support our Youth Missions budget. This is a fun night for the whole congregation with plenty of food and laughs. If you're interested in participating as a talent, send me an email at [winegardner.ross@gmail.com](mailto:winegardner.ross@gmail.com).

## UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

**PEER TUTORING: 2/2, 2/9, 2/23**

**BASKETBALL PRACTICES: 2/3, 2/12**

**THE WORKSHOP (CREATIVE ARTS): 2/12, 2/26**

**PANCAKE DINNER AND TALENT SHOW: 2/17**

# Communications



Have you visited our website?

Go to [www.centralonthesquare.org](http://www.centralonthesquare.org) and explore what Central has to offer!



Are you on our email list?

If not, would you like to be?

Notify: [Erinmregan@gmail.com](mailto:Erinmregan@gmail.com)



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

Facebook: [facebook.com/centralonthesquare](https://facebook.com/centralonthesquare)

Instagram: [instagram.com/centralonthe2](https://instagram.com/centralonthe2)



Tik Tok:

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.

## FITNESS WITH ERIN

We have moved to a 3-day schedule for free fitness classes!

Mondays - lower body

Tuesdays - cardio & abs  
(no Wednesday)

Thursdays - upper body

All classes will take place from 9:20-10am.  
To be kept in the loop with any changes, email [erinmregan@gmail.com](mailto:erinmregan@gmail.com).



## CONNECT WITH US:



YOUTUBE:

@CentralontheSquareLivestream



TIK TOK:

@centralonthesquare2



FACEBOOK:

Central on the square



INSTAGRAM:

centralonthe2



TWITTER:

@centralonthesquare2



## DIAPER DEPOT, 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.

### 2026 Event Dates:

February 21<sup>st</sup>

August 15<sup>th</sup>

March 21<sup>st</sup>

September 19<sup>th</sup>

April 18<sup>th</sup>

October 10<sup>th</sup>

May 16<sup>th</sup>

November 21<sup>st</sup>

June 13<sup>th</sup>

December 12<sup>th</sup>

July 11<sup>th</sup>





FAITH, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP

# SUPER SENIOR LUNCHEON

## KNOW THY NEIGHBOR: Rev. Dr. Andrew Hart

Our Super Senior's continuing series, KNOW THY NEIGHBOR, is proud to present Rev. Dr. Andrew Hart, who currently serves as the Chaplain at Wilson College here in Chambersburg.

### Academic Background

Dr. Hart attended Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, NC, for his undergraduate studies, where he majored in Political Science and graduated Magna Cum Laude. He then earned his Master's in Political Science from the University of South Carolina. Following his masters, he was awarded a Fulbright grant to study at McGill University in Montreal.

### Ministry and Scholarship

Feeling a call to serve the church, he attended Princeton Theological Seminary and went on to serve congregations in:

- Lancaster, South Carolina
- Long Island, New York
- Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

Dr. Hart holds a Doctorate of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary, where he focused on the overlap of PTSD and spiritual life. An accomplished writer and researcher, he has published extensively across journals and anthologies and is the author of *The Same God, Different Pulpits*.

### Current Role & Upcoming Event

In addition to his role as Chaplain at Wilson College, Dr. Andy Hart teaches Religious Studies. We invite you to hear him speak on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 AM in our Friendship Hall at Central. There will be a free provided lunch. Donations to help us keep this program funded are greatly appreciated!

### How to RSVP:

Please RSVP by calling 717- 264-4113 by February 9<sup>th</sup> or by email to Brooklyn at [brooklynshearer@centralonthesquare.org](mailto:brooklynshearer@centralonthesquare.org) to save your seat!

**LUNCH: Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 AM**  
**in Friendship Hall at Central Presbyterian Church**

# FINANCE REPORT

December 2025

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Main Sources of Income	Jan - Dec 2025	January 2026
DONATIONS (As of 1/28/26)	\$419,957.88	\$53,599.39
TRUST INCOME	\$78,193.43	\$2,413.92
ALLOCATION FROM CENTRAL FUND	\$40,000.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$538,151.31	\$56,013.31
<b>Church Expenses</b>		
EXPENDITURES (As of 1/28/26)	\$629,412.34	\$43,432.73
<b>NET INCOME/(LOSS)</b>	<b>(\$91,261.03)</b>	<b>\$12,580.58</b>

*THANK YOU!*

*Your generosity fuels everything we do. Because of you, families receive help, individuals find hope, and our community grows stronger together. We're truly grateful to have you as part of this mission.*

## JOIN US IN GENEROSITY!

### Giving Options

A quick and easy way to give a gift of support. Visit our website to give by credit/debit card or through a bank ACH transaction.



#### TEXT

Text the amount you would like to give to (717) 347-0371



#### ONLINE

Give once or set-up recurring giving at <https://centralpc.breezechms.com/give/online>



#### IN PERSON

Donate in person at the church office.



#### BY MAIL

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

If you have any questions: Please contact Alexis Helman at [accounting@centralonthesquare.org](mailto:accounting@centralonthesquare.org).





## FROM YOUR SESSION:

Session has called a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 8, immediately following the 9:00 AM worship service, in the sanctuary. The purpose of the meeting is to (1) elect church officers and at-large members of the 2026 Nominating Committee and (2) dissolve the PNC. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on Sunday, February 15.

Dear Members of Central Presbyterian Church,

We are deeply grateful for your generous financial gift of \$1949.00 to Little Daisy's Closet. Your willingness to give reflects a heart of compassion and a commitment to serving others through faith and love.

Through your donation, you are helping us live out our mission of serving families with dignity, kindness, and grace. Because of you, children receive clothing, parents experience relief, and families are reminded that God sees them and cares for their needs.

Your generosity is a beautiful example of faith in action, and it allows us to continue being the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

Thank you for trusting Little Daisy's Closet and for partnering with us in this work. We pray that God blesses you abundantly for the love you share with others.

With heartfelt thanks and prayers,

John B. McCrae, Founder & President

Dear Members of Central Presbyterian Church,

On behalf of Chambersburg Area School District (CASD), I would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your generous donation of Be Kind shirts and gift cards. Your kindness and thoughtfulness have made a meaningful impact, and we truly appreciate your support.

Contributions like yours help us continue our mission and serve our community with greater reach and compassion. The Be Kind shirts and gift cards will be used to encourage positivity and provide tangible support to those in need.

I would also like to extend a personal thank you to Cindy Shoemaker and Ross Winegardner for serving as my connection to Central Presbyterian Church and for their continued encouragement and support. Their willingness to advocate on our behalf and support me personally is deeply appreciated.

Thank you again for your generosity and for the spirit of kindness that Central Presbyterian Church so clearly embodies. We are grateful for your partnership and support.

With sincere appreciation,  
Gaby

*Gabriela Juarez*, MSW, LSW

Chambersburg Area School Social Worker  
McKinney-Vento Liaison

Gabriela.Juarezlemus@casdonline.org  
Ph: 717-709-4002

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SCOTT SHEARER, CUSTODIAN

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CUSTODIAN