



Sharing the Heart of Christ from the Heart of the City

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE WINDOW

OCTOBER 2025

LOVING GOD
LOVING EACH OTHER
LOVING THE WORLD

FROM THE PASTOR

In a world that is increasingly divided, it's easy to fall into the mindset that difference equals division. We see this play out in our communities, workplaces, and even within our churches. But what if the diversity in our thoughts, backgrounds, and perspectives isn't something to fear or resist, but something to celebrate and embrace?

The Apostle Paul, in his letters to the early churches, frequently spoke about the unity of believers in Christ. There were a number of instances of people not agreeing with one another. The first letter to the Corinthians is an attempt to deal with a community that had multiple divisions and conflicts. One of his most profound teachings comes from the twelfth chapter, where he compares the church to the human body. "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ" (1 Corinthians 12:12). Despite the differences in our gifts, talents, and backgrounds, God has made us one in Christ.

We are not called to sameness and uniformity but to unity. Being different from one another does not mean we must be divided. In fact, it is in our differences that we see the beauty of God's creation. Each person brings something unique to the table, something that enriches the whole community. The challenge is not to erase those differences, but to learn how to appreciate and love one another despite them.

Think of a choir. If every member sang the same note, the music would be dull and lifeless. But when the choir members harmonize, each voice bringing its unique sound, the music becomes rich and beautiful. The same is true of the church. When we allow our differences to come together in unity under the guidance of Christ, we create a harmony that reflects God's glory.

One of the experiences I truly enjoy is saying the Lord's prayer together amongst a mixed group of people. As many know, there are different versions of the spoken Lord's prayer. But whether we individually say "debts," "sins", or "trespasses," we return back to unison as we complete the prayer. We may be different at times, but we can still be unified.

As we move forward, let us remember that the church is not a place where we are all expected to think alike or live alike, but a place where we are called to love alike. Our differences don't have to lead to division. Instead, they offer us the opportunity to build a stronger, more vibrant community in Christ.

Let us pray for hearts that are open to one another, for the courage to embrace our differences, and for the wisdom to know that, in Christ, we are truly one.

God's peace to one and all

Pastor Chris



LOVING GOD

WORSHIP UPDATES

It has been wonderful to return to our two service schedule on Sunday mornings! Big shout-out and thanks to Amy Weibly for the beautiful handbell special music piece on 9/7 and to the choir and praise band for leading worship while I (Erin) was away. Thank you, also, to all who made The Garden Worship Center dedication so beautiful, supported, and special. You fill my heart with gratitude and love!

Choir meets Wednesday nights at 6:15pm and we would LOVE to have you sing with us!

Bell choir will begin rehearsing for Christmas Eve on Sunday October 19th at 12:15pm. Let me know ahead of time if you'd like to participate. erinmregan@gmail.com

I am hoping to reinvigorate the worship dance team here at Central! Let me know if you'd like to participate. erinmregan@gmail.com

As always, continued gratitude to the A/V team, slideshow team, and music teams here at Central. You help to facilitate beauty, vulnerability, joy, honesty, and a fragrant offering unto our Lord.

To God be the glory!



LOVING GOD

From The Organ Bench

As each month speeds by I keep saying I can't believe it's almost a new month already. Here we are again facing a new month.

Musically, choir has started for the fall and we are looking ahead to Advent and Christmas already. The date has been set for the Advent Noontime Musical (organ) Meditation. It will be Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2025 starting at noon for approximately half an hour. So please put the date on your calendars now and plan to bring friends, relatives, etc. I am already excitedly looking for some new music to share at that program.

I attended an American Guild of Organists meeting recently in our area. The speaker was from Delaware and talked with us about what is happening nationally with opportunities for organists. Then he shared some of his compositions that he has written. It was a nice time of fellowship with other organists.

This brings me to saying that we need each other. It is always so refreshing to get together with others who share a lot of the same joys and concerns. May God guide and direct us as we worship and strive to do HIS WILL together.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!!

Helen Wingert, Organist



Unlikely Volunteers

Do you hide behind the person in front of you when you hear someone say they are looking for volunteers? Do you try to not make eye contact because you don't want to be asked? Do you not answer the email and pray no one calls you on the phone to ask you to do something you don't feel you have the skills to do? If we are all honest, we can probably raise our hands and admit to doing all three things at some time of our lives.

As many of you know because you have been praying too, my Dad went home to be with the Lord at the end of July and honestly it's been hard. To say that grief makes you question things would be an understatement. I'm not usually one to be so vulnerable in my writing, but going through the loss a loved one changes what you do or don't do anymore.

Having been a member of Central for over 25 years now, I have certainly had the thoughts I expressed to you in the first paragraph. If we are having an honest conversation with ourselves, you probably can admit its been you too! I wanted to share this God-Moment with all of you. I pray that maybe somebody needs to hear it today or at the very least you indulge me for a few minutes!

Back when Dominic and Alydia were in middle school, Don and I were asked to teach the Middler's Sunday School Class. Our first thought was, Us?, Why? We are not scholars, we don't have all the answers, and man... we don't feel equipped. On top of that, the curriculum was called: Can I Ask That? A curriculum designed for kids to ask questions that maybe were not "Church" questions about life, love, and Church. Although we were scared, we kept asking each other: Do you love kids? YES...then do this. So we signed up and it ended up lasting for years until both of our parents were experiencing illnesses and traveling, even on Sundays, was becoming our reality when we stepped down. I actually cried because although I told them how I didn't have all the answers, how sometimes life was challenging for us, we also told the kids if you want some imperfect people who will love you and be there for you...that's us! These kids had become so important to us.

Over the last few years, God has brought us full circle. In PlaySchool Central I have hired two of the girls we taught as Middlers. Here they are teaching me new things about cultures and languages and walking beside me as we communicate to Non-English students and parents at PlaySchool Central. Then, two years ago, when we had to place Don's Dad at a Dementia, long-term care facility, one of the caregivers was another student we had taught in Middle School. I don't know if she even realized how comforting it was to see a familiar face and to know she would help us care for Dad.

(Continued next page)

A Note From Erin

I would just like to thank you all for praying.

I firmly believe in the power of prayer and I have seen amazing things happen when “2 or 3 are gathered in His name”; speaking of, my nephew is doing great! 15 days of a fever was a loooooong time and, I’m not going to lie, we were scared. But Arthur miraculously healed on his own & I believe that’s because y’all prayed. Thank you.

Will you continue to pray?

- Will you pray for our world? Our nation? Our community? Our church?
- Will you pray for the people God listed more in scripture than anyone else: “the foreigner, the orphan, the poor, and the widow”?
- Will you pray for the themes that God listed in scripture: unity, peace, forgiveness, repentance, an end to idolatry, good stewardship, hospitality, joy, purity of heart, justice...?
- Will you pray for our church leaders: Pastor, Session, Deacons, Trustees, Staff, PNC, Greeters, Mission Team, Worship Teams...?
- Will you pray for our youth and children & for the adults that are leading them?
- Will you pray for our missionaries and mission organizations that we support?
- Will you pray for individuals of our church family who are suffering or struggling?

I could go on and on. I believe we are in desperate need of devoted prayer warriors and ANYONE can participate from the comfort of their own homes. Find a closet, go inside, and pray like lives depend on it. Holy Spirit, come. Let’s do this together. In Jesus’ name.

Unlikely Volunteers

As we have now had time to reflect, we are able to see how God has helped us to come full circle. In times where we needed help, God has brought those now grown kids, back to us. I can’t guarantee that if you volunteer, you will have the same full circle moment. I can tell you that God definitely uses unlikely volunteers and somehow turns your small offering into immeasurable blessings.

Thanks for letting me share and be vulnerable with you. Maybe you too feel unlikely, maybe not having a permanent Pastor makes you feel like you can’t possibly be involved, maybe you are scared that you don’t feel equipped...maybe God is calling you to step up...maybe volunteering will be God’s way of showing you immeasurable blessing? As one of Central’s staff, I pray that we have more volunteers, that more people will simply just “Show Up” and I’m excited to see what God will do with our humble offerings.

Joining You in this Journey,
Shelley Marangoni (& Don!)



Prayer Action Team



OCTOBER PRAYER FOCUS

A teacher of the law asked Jesus of all the commandments which is the most important. Here is His reply from Mark 12:30-31 – “Love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.”

Quite simply = 1st love God with everything in you!! 2nd Show love to everyone!! One of the ways we love God is to pray. Talk to Him anytime, anywhere and about anything. One of the ways we love others is to pray for them. This month we are focusing prayer on those in schools. Below is a prayer you can lift up all throughout October.

Father God, we ask your protection over every child and youth in school from preschool through graduate work. Protect them physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

We ask physical, emotional, mental and spiritual protection around each teacher, administrator, support staff member, and bus driver.

Lord God, we pray for your powerful intervention against anyone with evil intent toward those in schools.

In the precious name of Jesus we pray, Amen.



VERSE OF THE MONTH

“The LORD is good,
a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in Him.”

-Nahum 1:7



PARENTS NOTE: This is also the verse your children have been learning in “ROAR” Sunday School. Talk about what a ‘refuge’ is and share some times when God has been a refuge for your family. A fun family challenge is to learn it together 😊 An easy way is to write it on a big piece of paper or dry erase board. Then cover or erase a word or two at a time; reading it and filling in the blanks until you know it without having to read the words on the paper! Have fun digging in to God’s word together!

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



Dear Central:

We hope you enjoy this peek into our day here at PlaySchool Central. This year's school-wide theme is: Let There Be Light! - Genesis 1:3 What is a school-wide theme? Each year we choose a theme to study or be curious about with our students. As teachers, we strive to keep up with the latest updates in Early Childhood Education and study alongside of our children. They have so much to teach us, if we take the time to listen.

Research into the topic of classroom environments has much to teach us. At PSC, we believe the environment is the third teacher. The materials we choose and how we set up the classroom centers are all specially designed for the children to play, wonder and learn. Light is a way to draw softness and curiosity into our space. Light is a sensorial experience and allows our children to see things from a different perspective. Sometimes we play with light from flashlights, LED candles, the overhead projector and of course the sun that makes our shadows. We invite you along with us this year as we shine some light onto our school journey and explore all the ways light can teach us.

God designed the sunflowers to stretch toward the light as they grow. Sunflowers will be our first topic of study in God's Big Backyard. How does this amazing plant grow? What happens to the seeds? What do living things need to grow? The children will be given materials and see if they can design a sunflower and figure out how to make it stand!

We will also be showing the children how God's Light shines through us as we continue to learn and grow this year. As a staff, we are reflecting how we can shine for God this year and how we can be a light-filled team. Thank you for praying for us and the children.

*Joining You in Shining Some Light,
Shelley Marangoni
Director of PlaySchool Central*



October 2025

Central Presbyterian Youth Update



Central's Community Meal

On September 28, Central held the free community meal. Our youth were a big part of the effort! We had youth working (and some supervised children) working the cider press and apple grinder all afternoon. It was hard work out in the sun (we thought we'd get a bit of fall weather, but oh well). Regardless, it was a good opportunity to be in community with one another and serve our broader community.

Sunday School

Over the past few weeks, our Sunday school has focused on the presence of God in our lives, especially as we undergo change. The youth have been reflecting on past and present change to examine the ways that God is with us, and can help us grow and develop for His aims through these changes.

Monday Night Tutoring and Open Gym

Our youth have been busy on Monday nights. We've had three Central youth join in the tutoring program this month, which has been awesome! We've been helping our refugee families with reading and writing English, while also working on homework and school projects.

Also, some of the basketball youth have taken this time to work out and spend time together. It's been a busy, and exciting time!

Youth Creative Arts Ministry

We will kick off our youth creative arts program on October 16! Youth will come together to work in the new art space in the basement to stretch their creativity. Hopefully you'll see some of the work soon!

Trick or Treat on Main

On October 25, the youth will be decorating the church and taking part in the annual Trick or Treat on Main event downtown. From 10:00-1:00, we will be handing out treats and doing crafts with our friends downtown. Usually, we have 1,000 people come through. Join us for the fun!



Greetings from the third floor! We have been on safari learning that when life is wild, God is good! Our first Bible point is when life is unfair, God is good.

You may have heard some loud noises one Sunday. No, it wasn't elephants. I demonstrated unfairness by giving the children balloons. They were to keep them from hitting the floor. After a while, I pulled out a leaf blower and blew the balloons all over the place. Thus, making it harder on the children to keep those balloons up. Despite how fun this was, the children recognized how unfair it was as well.

Then the children heard the story of the Israelites as slaves in Egypt. Moses asks for his people to be free, and Pharaoh punishes them by making them work harder with less materials. We talked about the unfairness in this situation, and how God is still good no matter what happens.

Undeniably, it is most important that we remember God is good no matter what. I leave you with the Bible verse the kids are learning with this Bible point. "The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes." Nahum 1:7





On September 20, the Diaper Depot was honored to serve **190 families**, offering not only essential diaper supplies but also a warm, welcoming experience filled with extra blessings. Thanks to the generosity of **SCAAP**, each family also received **Clementine oranges and apples** to take home. **Fresh eggs** were also provided, donated by **Pete & Gerry's**.

A hearty **breakfast of waffles, pancakes and sausage** was prepared and served by our dedicated team of volunteers. **Chick-fil-A of Chambersburg** returned this month to complement our breakfast with **fresh fruit and brownies**.

Our guests received important **child safety information and health resources** from **Keystone Health** and **WellSpan Health**, both of whom were present to share their expertise and support. In addition, our local doula offered **clothing and other useful items** to our families.

We are so very grateful to all of our **community partners** and how Diaper Depot has grown and become known throughout Chambersburg and beyond. Of course, none of this would be possible without our amazing team of **dedicated volunteers**. Their time, energy, and compassion are the heartbeat of this ministry, and we are incredibly grateful for all they do.

Mark your calendars! Our next Diaper Depot will take place on **Saturday, October 11**. **Set-up begins at 9 a.m.**, and **doors open at 10 a.m.** Whether you're coming to receive support or to lend a helping hand, we welcome you to be a part of something truly special.

Thank you for being part of the Diaper Depot family—together, we are blessing our community in many ways!



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.

- 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



COMMUNICATIONS

 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

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.**



FITNESS MINISTRY:

While I (Erin) am recovering from an ankle sprain, the Monday and Wednesday fitness classes are no impact! All workouts are being done from a chair or from the floor. Mondays and Wednesdays 9:20-10am!



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:

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:

	September 2025	YTD Jan-Sept 2025
Donations Received (as of (9/24/25))	\$54,197.01	\$306,210.56
Income Received from Trusts	\$1,417.02	\$73,451.94
Allocation from Investment Fund		\$40,000.00
Total Income	\$55,614.03	\$419,662.50
Expenditures (as of 9/24/25)	\$29,974.28	\$476,243.78
Net Income/(Loss)	\$25,639.75	(\$56,581.28)

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.

Text the amount you would like to give to:



(717) 347-0371

Donate in person to the church office.



Give once or set up recurring giving.



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

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:



Faith, Food, Fellowship

Super Senior Luncheon

On October 8th, 2025 you will be introduced to one of Chambersburg's greatest secrets! THE GOSPEL TIDE BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION aka THE TIDE MINISTRY (www.thetide.org) has been broadcasting here locally since 1946, and is an international Christian ministry organization reaching millions of people in relatively unevangelized regions of the world in multiple languages. More specifically, they are present in 12 countries, with an audience of 900 million listeners, speaking over 30 different languages!



Representing THE TIDE MINISTRY will be Don Shenk, Executive Director. Don was born to missionary parents in what was then Southern Rhodesia, and is a graduate of Messiah College in Mechanicsburg, PA. Prior to joining The Tide ministry in 2001, Don and his wife Becky served BIC (Brethren in Christ) World Missions for 12 years, teaching at a Bible School in Zimbabwe, Africa. In addition to teaching at Ekuphileni Bible Institute, Don served as Academic Dean, Director of Student Ministries, and developed and implemented a manual skills training program to enable rural pastors to minister bi-vocationally.

Having invested 28 years living in Zimbabwe, and numerous visits to Africa, Eastern Europe and several countries in South Asia as a ministry administrator, he has served as a resource person for church conferences and International Leadership training events throughout the world. As the world becomes more and more of a global village. Dons greatest passion is to reach people, and bring them into the church.

Please join us in Friendship Hall for a free lunch and great fellowship. Donations are greatly appreciated and will go towards future luncheons. We do ask that you RSVP to this event 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!



CPC News



Thanksgiving Food Basket Ministry

The deacons are beginning to collect donations for Central's annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Ministry. Your generous donations will support families in need throughout our community! The congregations' ongoing support for this ministry is greatly appreciated!

The Presbytery of Carlisle is looking for stories from its churches to celebrate how we are sharing the Gospel in our communities. They want to hear about what mission or ministry most excites our congregation! The Presbytery will share four of these stories at their meeting on November 19th. If anyone is interested in sharing their story, please email Alexis Helman at accounting@centralonthesquare.org.

As of 2026, the Presbytery is in need of a **Recording Clerk**. The Recording Clerk is responsible for preparing minutes of the Presbytery meetings with assistance from the Stated Clerk. The compensation is \$250 per meeting and requires attendance at the Presbytery meeting (either virtual or in-person).



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