

Central Scene

The Monthly Newsletter of Central Presbyterian Church, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

September 2016

Congregational Meeting Called

The Session of Central Presbyterian Church has called a Congregational Meeting to be held at the end of worship on Sunday, September 11, for the purpose of 1.) electing the officer nominating committee for the Sessional Class of 2018, and 2.) to hear and act upon the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee. All those who worship with us are welcome to attend; only members of Central may vote.

PNC Committee Update

We are grateful and blessed to announce to you we have selected a candidate for our ministry here at Central. At the congregational meeting on September 11, you will be presented with information on our ministerial candidate and his salary package for approval.

We have searched for over a year, looking through resumes, reviewing sermons, phone calls, interviews. We truly believe that it was the guidance of the Holy Spirit that led us to our candidate. It is an exciting time in the life here at Central. Come be a part of a new beginning.

NAMI Classes to Begin in September

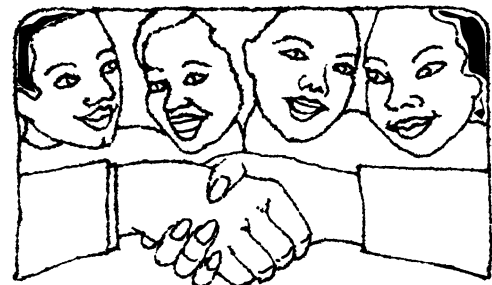
A NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program will begin Tuesday, September 6, at 5:30 p.m., at Freeway Medical in Little Rock. This is a series of 11 weekly classes (originally 12, the last two have been combined) structured to help care givers understand and support individuals with serious mental illness while maintaining their own well being. There is no cost to participate, but registration is required. To register or for more information, contact Connie Detmers at 879-4514.

Rally Day to be held in September

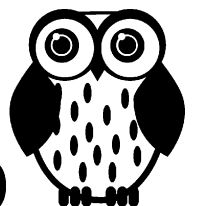
Join us on Sunday, September 18, for Rally Sunday. During worship that morning we will have Sunday School Promotions as well as Sunday School Teacher Recognition for the 2016-2017 year.

We Are Planning a Trip to Texas Roadhouse!

Join us for trip to Texas Roadhouse on Saturday September 17. We will meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. and take the church van to the restaurant. If you would like to travel with us, please sign the sheet in McElyea Hall. For questions or more information, contact Laura Cosner at 870-718-6841.



WELCOME!



Central Presbyterian Church
6300 Trinity Drive
P.O. Box 1105
Pine Bluff, AR 71613

...a congregation of the Presbyterian Church
(U.S.A.) through the Synod of the Sun and the
Presbytery of Arkansas.

Directory

Office Phone Number (870)879-9074

E-mail:
centralpc@cablelynx.com

Website:
www.centralprespb.com

Transitional Pastor: David S. King

Choirmaster/Organist: Marty Shell

Secretary: Erin Shaw

Nursery Attendants: Laura & Zac Conser

Treasurer: Connie Detmers

Clerk of the Session: Betty Coles

Presbyterian Women Moderator: Betty Coles

Youth Advisory Team:

Marty Shell

Maggie Shell-Howsen

Dana Neal

SESSION

Class of 2016

Nelson Buchanan

Tommy Dunlap

Jemmie Moseley

Benjimen Neal

Class of 2017

Denise Mosley

Laura Cosner

Betty Coles (clerk)

Marty Shell

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Central Presbyterian Church is open to all who profess faith in Jesus Christ as

Lord and Savior. New members will be received upon baptism and profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith, or by letter of transfer.

CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

To celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith, and serve the needs of others.

A Word from our Transitional Pastor

We Presbyterians call ourselves a “Confessing Church,” which is a little confusing. Yes, we start our worship confessing our sins, listening for words of God’s forgiveness. But more than that, during worship we like to say something about what we believe, and statements like that are called “creeds” or “confessions.”

Presbyterians have a Book of Confessions which now includes twelve statements of what we believe. Each reflects the issues and concerns of the time when they were written.

The best known and oldest is The Apostle’s Creed, which was likely composed a few hundred years after the time of Christ. It has been widely used for centuries by “Western Churches,” those rooted in Europe and “The New World.” The Nicene Creed is almost as old, is also part of our tradition, and is more widely used among “Eastern Churches,” particularly those with those who began in Eastern Europe. Some of the others include The Scots’ Confession, written by John Knox in 1560, and The Westminster Confession and The Westminster Catechisms, from the mid-1600’s in England. Uniquely American are The Confession of 1967, and A Brief Statement of Faith from 1991. And now, after several years of study and consideration, our General Assembly voted in June to include a new one: The Declaration of Belhar. It is the first widely used statement of faith written in the Southern Hemisphere.

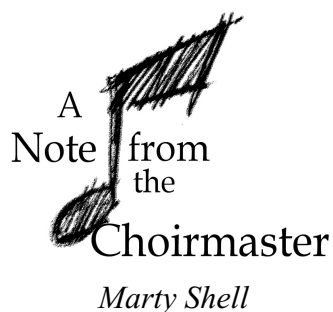
This new statement of faith was created by the Dutch Reformed Missionary Church – one branch of our Presbyterian family – in South Africa about fifty years ago. It speaks eloquently of God’s love for all people, particularly in the light of the heresy of considering people of a certain skin color to be less important than the rest of us. We will use parts of this document, along with the other creeds and confessions we usually use, during our worship from time to time.

Let me know what you think. Let’s talk about it.

See you Sunday,

Dave





School is back in session and we are getting back into our regular routine. We hope you have enjoyed our summer selections as we have enjoyed sharing familiar old gospel hymns with you. We will go back to our regular anthems this month.

We will soon begin work on our Christmas Cantata. If you would like to share your talents with us, just let us know! We do have an empty chair or two we would like to get filled.

It's Time to Update Our Church Directory

Please contact the church office if your current directory entry is incorrect or needs to be updated because your information has changed in the past year. We are looking for updates on the following information: current family information; names, addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, birthdays, and anniversaries. To make changes to your entry, you may give us a call at (870) 879-9074, e-mail us at centralpc@cablelynx.com, or drop a note in the mail.

News from the Disaster Preparedness and Response Subomittess of the Presbytery of Arkansas

August 8-12, two dozen Presbyterians from 6 Presbytery of AR congregations descended on McGehee, AR, to repair walls and flooring in four of the 100 or so houses drenched by 15" of rain in mid-March.

Susie and Curtis Wright of Westminster Presbyterian Hot Springs coordinated the team; Brigadier General, Retired, Wesley Jacobs, volunteer Disaster Coordinator for the City of McGehee and Regional Disaster Coordinator for the AR United Methodist Conference, was construction manager. Curtis, who with Susie has now organized 11 mission trips, said that McGehee has the best work organization he has ever experienced. Our Arkansas Presbytery mission team made a good impression on Wesley and he is eager to host more Blue Shirt teams.

We intend to continue our support for McGehee recovery. Since recent flooding in South Louisiana may draw potential volunteers away from McGehee, Susie (501-620-3335) is organizing a follow-up trip to McGehee, October 3-7. Volunteers are crucial to stretch donated dollars for recovery for those who can least afford their own repairs. If anyone is interested in donating money toward supplies for this trip, or volunteering to work, please contact Zac Cosner (870-550-9825)

Central Notes

- ▶ **The Evening Circle Will Meet** Monday, September 12, at 6:30 p.m. in the Perdue Library.
- ▶ **The Men of the Church Will Meet** Saturday, September 17, at 8 a.m., at the Corner Café in Watson Chapel.
- ▶ **The Monthly Fellowship Luncheon Will Be Held** Sunday, September 18, following morning worship. All are invited to join in this time of fellowship.
- ▶ **The Session Will Meet** Sunday, September 18, in the conference room following the luncheon.
- ▶ **Dave and Karen Will Host Vespers at Trinity Village** Sunday, September 18, at 4 p.m. in the Great Hall. All are invited to attend.
- ▶ **We Are In Need Of Volunteers** to help seal the playground equipment. If you would like to help, contact Zac Cosner, 870-550-9825.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AUGUST 2016 SESSION MEETING

Meeting on a lovely Sunday afternoon, August 21, the Session:

- ▶ Reviewed and accepted the Financial Statements for June and July.
- ▶ Adopted revised Building Use Policies for outside groups who use our facilities. Dave will schedule meetings as soon as possible to go over these Policies with groups who already meet here.
- ▶ Asked Dave to continue to try to schedule roofers about repairing leaks in McElyea Hall.
- ▶ Heard that we are continuing to try to find replacement tiles for two problem areas in the Narthex.
- ▶ Heard a positive report about Vacation Bible School in July. The kids learned some Bible basics, made some neat crafts, sang some familiar songs and learned new ones, and they and a few of their teachers bounced themselves silly in the Bouncey House. Dave reported that about a dozen adults also came to VBS, spending time together looking at the great themes of the Bible.
- ▶ Also heard about the Lock-In in the Youth Building on August 12 and 13, the weekend before school started, when sleep finally came just before the wakeup call for a hot breakfast.
- ▶ Discussed the Presbytery's annual Jr. High YouthQuake at Ferncliff Camp for sixth- through ninth- graders coming up September 23 - 25. Again this year, Zac Cosner and Denise Mosley have volunteered to chaperone.
- ▶ **Once again, we gave thanks for so many adults who volunteer so much of their time and so much of themselves to provide these positive experiences for our kids.**
- ▶ Considered ways to revitalize our Young Adults Class on Sunday mornings, particularly now that our nursery is available at that time for pre-schoolers.
- ▶ Heard the Fellowship and Nurture Committee report on the Blue Moon Sunday meal and fun in July.
- ▶ Also heard that Committee's plans for our annual Trunk or Treat Halloween fun in our front parking lot on Sunday afternoon, October 30. More details as the time gets closer, but please put it on your calendars now.
- ▶ Began planning for our annual Heritage Sunday worship with Faith and First Presbyterian churches scheduled for Sunday, November 13.
- ▶ Received another positive report from the Pastor Nominating Committee.
- ▶ Heard that the Men of the Church will meet on Saturday morning, September 18, at 8 a.m., at the Corner Café.
- ▶ Agreed with Dave's recommendation that we purchase a new software program used by many churches, which will help us better maintain our records, and will produce reports that will be more concise and easier to understand. The cost will come from gifts and not from our budget. Making the software change will mean being able to keep all the church files in our computer in the church office, freeing up a PC to be placed in the church library and another PC for the incoming pastor.
- ▶ Sent a letter to the Session of First Presbyterian, bring them up to date on our pastor search, offering to hold Heritage Sunday at Central, and inviting them to other activities we are planning.



The newsletter deadline for the October issue of **Central Scene** is **Monday, September 19**. Please turn in all articles, announcements, and meeting dates to the church office by the end of the day.



Important Dates September

- 05 Labor Day - Office Closed**
- 06 NAMI Family to Family Classes
Begin - 5:30 p.m. - Freeway Medical - LR**
- 11 Congregational Meeting - end of morning worship
Youth Fundraiser Luncheon - following morning worship - McEleya Hall**
- 17 Men's Breakfast Meeting - 8 a.m. - Corner Cafe**
- 18 Rally Sunday
Fellowship Luncheon - 12:15 - McEleya Hall
Session - 1 p.m. - conference room
Trinity Village Vespers - 4 p.m. - Trinity Village Great Hall**
- 19 Newsletter Deadline**
- 23-24 Jr. High YouthQuake - Ferncliff Camp - LR**
- 25 Called Session Meeting - 10:15 a.m. - Conference Room**

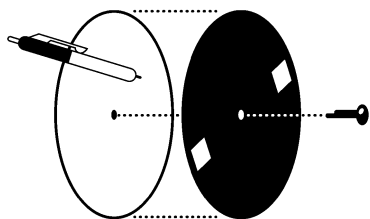
Youth News

Many thanks to Maggie and Dana for organizing our youth lock-in. We had so much fun! It was a great night, full of games, crafts, movies, food and snacks. Thanks to everyone who pitched in and provided time, talents and direction for this event. The camp out theme was enjoyed by all, and the tent helped to set the mood along with the microwave smores. There are pictures from the lock-in on the church website. Thanks to everyone!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11. We will have a youth fund raiser luncheon following morning worship. The meal will include salad, spaghetti with all the trimmings, and desserts! Cost for the luncheon will be \$8.00 per adult, kids 6-12 \$5.00, 5 and under free. Be sure to stay after the service for the food and fellowship. We greatly appreciate your support of our youth programs.

We are in need of volunteers to begin our Sunday afternoon programs with our youth. We need volunteers to lead a short lesson, craft, games and simply spread a little fun! We need your help, just twice a month, 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, excluding holidays. Let one of the youth sponsors know if you can help. We will be calling on people to help, so please volunteer now!

This craft will remind you that God is always with you.



- A large round bowl
- 2 large pieces of construction paper
- A pen
- Scissors
- A ruler
- A brad
- A Bible or search engine

1. Turn the bowl upside down and trace around it on both pieces of paper.
2. Cut out the circles. Draw a dot in the center of each.
3. On one circle, trace and cut out two 2" squares opposite each other, with the dot in the middle.
4. Align the dots and place the brad through both circles.
5. In the space left by one square, write a fear you have. Then write a comforting Bible verse in the other square.
6. Rotate the circle to a new blank space, and write another fear and verse.



THE LORD WILL PROTECT

God always watches over us, during good times and bad.

Start at 19. Draw from 19-18, 18-17. 47-62, 62-77. 22-21, 21-20. 50-51. 82-81, 81-80, 80-65, 65-50, 50-35, 35-20. 24-38, 38-53. 24-40, 40-55. 17-32. 47-48. 32-47. 26-41, 41-56, 56-71, 71-86. 56-57, 57-58. 55-54, 54-53, 53-68, 68-83. 55-70, 70-85. 58-43. 57-73, 73-88. 43-28, 28-27, 27-26.

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>> "So do not __ __ __ __, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God." Isaiah 41:10, NIV <<

Answer: fear

Central Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 1105
Pine Bluff, AR 71603

Return Service Requested



03 William Graves	14 Jameson Massey
08 Sue Merritt	15 Myra Baran
09 Lisa Perdue	19 Danny Reeves
09 Meg Hayes	21 Walter Collins
09 Amanda Chandler	27 Rett Baran
10 Blair Elise Perdue	29 Ann Perdue
14 Steven Howsen	29 Lynda Vick

Celebrating 
An Anniversary This Month

05 Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Wooten
06 Mr. and Mrs. Jay Cromwell
12 Mr. and Mrs. Randy Neal
23 Mr. and Mrs. David Perdue

Lectionary Readings for the Month of September

Sunday, September 4

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer. 18:1-11; Ps. 139:1-6, 13-18; Philem. 1-21; Luke 14:25-33

Sunday, September 11

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer. 4:11-12, 22-28; Ps. 14; 1 Tim. 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

Sunday, September 18

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer. 8:18-9:1; Ps. 79:1-9; 1 Tim. 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

Sunday, September 25

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer. 32:1-3a, 6-15; Ps. 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Tim. 6:6-19; Luke 16:9-31

Regular Group Activities at Central

Are you looking for a way to become more involved in the work of the church or community? Maybe you would like to find a positive way to increase your social interaction with others? Are you in need of support for a personal issue with which you are dealing? Central offers, or is host to, many groups and activities that could help you do all of those things and more. Below is a list of group activities here at Central. We invite and encourage you to participate in as many of these activities as you would like. We hope you will join us!

Ballroom Dance Lesson: 2nd Saturday - 7:00 p.m. - McElyea Hall

Ballroom Dance: 2nd Saturday - 8 to 11 p.m. - McElyea Hall

Blue Moon Sunday: 5th Sunday - 5 p.m. - McElyea Hall

Central Choir: Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. - Choir Room

Men of the Church Breakfast Meeting: 3rd Saturday - 8 a.m.

Monthly Fellowship Luncheon: 3rd Sunday - 12:30 p.m. - McElyea Hall

Noon Bible Study: Thursday - 12 p.m. - Perdue Library

Presbyterian Women Evening Circle: 2nd Monday - 6:30 p.m. - Perdue Library

Regular Session Meeting: 3rd Sunday - 3 p.m. - Conference Room

Square & Folk Dancing: Monday - 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. - McElyea Hall

“The Firm Believers” Aerobics: Mon. & Wed. - 9 to 10 a.m., Tues. & Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - McElyea Hall

Trinity Village Vespers: 3rd & 5th Sunday - 4:00 p.m. - Trinity Village Great Hall

Youth Group: 2nd & 4th Sundays - 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. - Youth/Activities Bldg.

For more information on any of the activities listed, contact the church office at (870) 879-9074.



Memorial & Gift Opportunities

Youth Trip Fund

Each summer, our Youth take a vacation trip. We have traveled to many different locations like Magic Springs, Silver Dollar City, Six Flags and even Disneyworld! Our youth really look forward to this trip each year, and work hard fund-raising year round to help cover the costs of the trip. However, the cost of travel, food and lodging can be expensive. Your gift would go a long way to help offset these costs!

Landscape Fund

We have completed the first stages of our Landscaping Project, but there is still a lot to be done. If you would like to contribute to this ongoing project in memory or honor of a loved one, or just give a gift toward the completion of this project, please designate your desire on the memo line of your check or attach a note to your gift indicating your wishes.

Playground Equipment

We are also seeking special funds to continue work on our playground to support our growing group of young people. If you would like to contribute to this effort in memory or honor of a loved one, please designate your desire on the memo line of your check or attach a note to your gift indicating your wishes.

Music Department

In years past, one of the ways in which members and friends have remembered loved ones was to purchase new music for the choir as a memorial dedicated to that special someone. If you would like to remember or honor someone special with a memorial gift of music, please contact the church office for details on how you can underwrite the purchase of new material for our growing music program.

Youth Program

Our Youth program is thriving! One way that you can support this growing ministry in our church is by providing a meal for one of the weekly youth group meetings. The average cost to feed the group is \$40, but any and all gifts are appreciated!

Memorial Bricks

If you have thought about making a lasting memorial to someone dear, now is a wonderful time to purchase a memorial brick on the sidewalk leading to our North entrance with their name permanently inscribed. The cost for each brick is \$65. If you would like to buy a memorial brick, please call the church office to request an order form. Please submit the information you wish to appear on the memorial brick with your check. Text must not exceed three lines of more than 15 characters (including spaces) per line. Bricks can be given in honor of a loved one, as well.

