



# **Heritage Sunday**

## **Central Presbyterian Church**



**Celebrating Our Heritage**

# Central Presbyterian Church

6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

(870) 879-9074

Sunday, November 2, 2014

**31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**PRELUDE AND PROCESSIONAL**

Wendell Hall, Bagpiper

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP**

Dr. Bill Detmers

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Psalm 34

**Leader:** I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

**People:** **O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.**

**Leader:** Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.

**People:** **The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

**All:** **Let us worship God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN #327**

*From All That Dwell Above the Skies*

**FILLING THE BAPTISMAL FONT**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

**"God of life, we confess that we have often turned from you and wandered in our own wildernesses of fear and doubt. Sometimes when you offer your love to us we turn away, unable to believe that you actually love us. Forgive us when we are unloving, when we do not serve others but serve only ourselves. Heal us, merciful God. Help us be faithful servants."**  
**(Silent Prayer) In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

**KYRIE ELEISON** ("Lord, Have Mercy")

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

Leader: Hear the Good News!

**People:** The Psalms assure us that the Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy. As far as the East is from the West, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Leader: I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**All: Amen!**

**\*GLORIA PATRI** ("Glory be to the Father") *Hymnal #581*

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Dr. Betty Wright

Leader: As Christ has brought us together in this place as one Body, may we truly be the Church united in Your presence. The Peace of Christ be with you all!

**People:** And also with you. (Please extend the hand of friendship to all those around you.)

## TIME WITH OUR YOUNG ONES

Rose VonTungeln

*Preschool-aged children may go to the nursery after the children's message. Children of kindergarten age and above may remain in worship.*

## ANTHEM

*There Is A Higher Throne*

Getty

## MINUTE FOR MISSION

Dr. Bill Detmers

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. David S. King

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Joshua 3:7 - 17

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Thessalonians 2:9 - 13

## GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 23:1 - 12

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Rev. David S. King

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*A Brief Statement of Faith*

Rev. Susan Carter Wiggins

One: In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,

**All: we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.  
We trust in Jesus Christ,  
fully human, fully God.**

Men:        Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
healing the sick  
binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Women:    Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

One:        God raised Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.

**All:        We trust in God,**  
**whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

*Choir:      In sovereign love God created the world good*  
*and makes everyone equally in God's image*  
*male and female, of every race and people,*  
*to live as one community.*

**All:        God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.**  
**God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

Men:        Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,

Women:    Like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,

**All:        God is faithful still.**

One:        We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

*Choir:      The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,*  
*sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,*  
*and binds us together with all believers*  
*in the one body of Christ, the Church.*

Men:        The same Spirit  
who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

Women:    engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

One: In a broken and fearful world  
the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,

**All: to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

One: In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,

Men: even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Women: With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

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**\*HYMN #65**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

Dr. Betty Wright

**OFFERTORY**

Wendell Hall, Bagpiper

**\*DOXOLOGY** ("Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow") *Hymnal #607*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

Dr. Betty Wright

**SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS** (You are each encouraged to give voice to your concerns or to name those for whom you love and pray.)

**KIRKIN' O' THE TARTANS**

Revs. Susan Carter Wiggins and David S. King

(Prayers will be offered by each pastor as individuals bring forward a piece of tartan cloth or other "family cloth" to be blessed during the Kirkin' o' the Tartans.)

**THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Revs. Susan Carter Wiggins and David S. King

**INVITATION**

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast which he has prepared.

## **THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give thanks to you, O God, creator, redeemer, sustainer of all. You made your covenant with us, calling us to love and serve you. When we are wandering in sin you forgive us and lead us home. We give thanks for Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lived and died and rose for us, and is coming in glory to reign.

With thanksgiving, we remember how Jesus took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me." With thanksgiving, we remember how Jesus took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Remembering Christ's saving love, we celebrate this holy meal and offer ourselves to you, O God, with gratitude and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, on your people gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. By your Spirit make us one body in Christ, one in mission and ministry to the world. Nourish us in faith, hope, and love, and strengthen us for service, until we feast with you in glory. All praise and honor and glory are yours, holy God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

*Please come to the front using the center aisle, beginning with the back pew. Break off a piece of bread and dip it into the cup. After you have communed please return to your seat using the side aisles. If you prefer, remain in your seat and we will come to serve you.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (Unison)

Dr. Betty Wright

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this holy meal and united us with Christ. Strengthen us in your service so that our daily living may show our thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. David S. King

(We use debts and debtors.)

**\*CLOSING HYMN #326**

*For All The Saints*

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. David S. King

**POSTLUDE AND RECESSIONAL\*\***

*Hosanna*

Wachs

## EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

*Go forth into the world with rejoicing to love and serve the Lord.*

**\* Those who are able, please stand.**

**\*\* You may remain for the postlude or leave as you so choose.**

**Ushers: Lawrence Fikes and Connie Detmers**

**Lay Reader: Dr. Bill Detmers**

**Communion Stewards: Betty Coles, Stan Fisk, and Buzz Roberts**

**Acolyte: Austin Smith**

**Banner Bearers: Josh Sturgeon, Logan Mosley, and Weston Mosley**

**Greeters: Sue & Frank Merritt, Jane & David Judkins, Kenny Bonds, Dale Dixon, Don Harris, Jr., and Jodie Henslee**

## There Is A Higher Throne

There is a higher throne  
Than all this world has known,  
Where faithful ones  
From every tongue will one day come.  
Before the Son we'll stand,  
Made faultless through the Lamb,  
Believing hearts find promised grace;  
Salvation comes.

Hear heaven's voices sing!  
Their thunderous anthems rings  
Through emerald courts and sapphire skies; their praises rise.  
All glory, wisdom, power, strength, thanks and honor are to God Our King,  
who reigns on high, on high forevermore.

And there we'll find our home;  
Our life before the throne.  
We'll honor him in perfect song  
Where we belong.  
He'll wipe each tearstained eye  
As thirst and hunger die.  
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King;  
We'll reign with him.

Hear heaven's voices sing!  
Their thunderous anthems rings  
Through emerald courts and sapphire skies; their praises rise.  
All glory, wisdom, power, strength, thanks and honor are to God Our King,  
who reigns on high, on high forevermore.  
Forevermore.

**Joshua 3:7-17**

The LORD said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.'" Joshua then said to the Israelites, "Draw near and hear the words of the LORD your God." Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into the Jordan. So now select twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap."

When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

**1 Thessalonians 2:9-13**

You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

**Matthew 23:1-12**

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

## **First Presbyterian Announcements**

**The Discernment Task Force and the Session** invite FPC members to attend the **Second Listening Session TODAY**, 3pm in the Youth Building.

**Women's Bible Study** meets Mondays at 1:00pm & 5:30pm. They are studying Beth Moore's "Children of the Day."

**Neighbor to Neighbor** is in need of cake mixes! We have collected 46 we have 54 more to go before November 1st! Please drop off in box in front of church office.

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing** will begin soon! Please contact Pauline Cherry at 540-7056 to volunteer.

**Christian love and sympathy** is extended to Lyle Williams following the death of her husband, Frank, and the loss of her home. Many of you are asking "What can I do?" If you'd like to help Lyle, Walmart cards will be greatly appreciated as she begins to rebuild her life. You can bring these to the church office and we will see that they get to Lyle. Also ... a "Calendar of Friends" has been created for Lyle. If you'd like to participate call Joel Anderson: 870-692-0704 for more information.

### **Prayer Concerns for the Week of November 2, 2014**

#### **Presbytery of Arkansas**

Nov. 2 Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals / First, Arkadelphia

#### **Homebound Members**

Martha Andrews, Jean Atwood, Jean Deal.

#### **Christian Love and Sympathy**

to Mildred Bradley, and family on the death of her grandson, Brad Warwick, who joined the Church Triumphant on Tuesday October 21, 2014. Brad was the son of Ann Bradley McBride.

#### **Members**

Betty Abbott, Julianne Bitely Kinchen, Mildred Bradley, Caroline Briggs, Pat Brown, Wilson Bynum, Lawrence Dawson, Pud Harris, Kelly Byus, Corinne Hunter, Lois Lea, Quinshawn McDuffy, Betty Nealey, Jimmie Don Norsworthy, Coy Nixon, William Nuckolls, Lorrie Puddephat, Vernita Self, Lyle Williams.

#### **Friends of the Church**

Sharon Blakenship, Mae Emma Carter (Carolyn Carter's mother-in-law), Jack Cockrum, Harley Cox, Sue Cox (Lindsay Collins' mother) Jim Cross, Robert Davidson, Barbara Davidson, Keith Deere, (Friend of Lawrence Kenney), Linda Eubank, Daniel Frazier, Edie Railsback Gill, Nicholas Hayman, Rebecca Hill (Cindy Williams' sister), Anthony and Xavier Jones (Carolyn Carter's uncle and cousin), Biz Kinney, Ronald Knighton, Tommy May, Mary McBee, Tony Menotti (Tina Smith's family), Joe Mutton, Marty Nord (Martha Andrews' daughter), Lynne Trulock Ravellette, Judson Self and Melissa Self-Scott (Sabrina Self's siblings & Vernita Self's children), Jane Starling, Lyn Shoffstall (Lisa Price's sister), Cynthia Railsback Stone, Chuck Stowe (son of Mary McBee), Robin Wagner, Don Watson (Jo Neal's father), Beverly, Leon, Justin.

#### **Missionaries**

John & Gwenyth Haspels-Ethiopia  
Dan & Marilyn Wilson-Iraq

**CENTRAL PRAYER CONCERNS FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2, 2014**

**MEMBERS:**

**Mildred Turner**  
**Emil Brown**  
**Bernice and Gene Lackey**  
**Friends and family of Jo Weaver**  
**Logan Mosley**  
**Laura Hayes**  
**Hester Insley**

**Mary Wooten**  
**Mary Kientz**  
**Agnes Hughes**  
**Valerie Reichen**  
**Bea Magee**  
**Nell Horne**  
**Mildred Gaunt**

**FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:**

**Mary Ward**, mother of Dana Neal  
**Annette Knuckles**, co-worker of Tommy Dunlap  
**Cathryn Bennet and Rhonda Bennett**, customers of Laura Cosner  
**The family of Herman Nickolson**, friend and coworker of Bubba VonTungeln  
**Joshua Chambliss and family**, nephew of Rose and Suzy VonTungeln  
**Juliet Walker**, sister of Bubba VonTungeln's co-worker  
**Judy and Larry Fetters**, friends of Rose VonTungeln  
**Rhett Lunningham**, nephew of David Judkins  
**Ryker Cheek**, nephew of Bubba VonTungeln  
**Dad and Stepmom of Vance and Jennifer Freeman**, cousins of Amanda Chandler  
**Betty Seymore**, aunt of Pat Drewett  
**Mary McBee**, friend of Karen & David Perdue  
**Connie Johnson**, daycare teacher of Langston Cosner  
**Johnny & Ginger McCaleb**, son and daughter-law of Donna McCaleb  
**Brooke Wells**, granddaughter of Connie & Bill Detmers

**Carolyn Stover**, co-worker of Maggie Shell-Howsen & friend of Central  
**Monica Milligan**, mother-in-law of Michael VonTungeln  
**Lou Ann Barker**, niece of Frank Merritt  
**Doris McCoy**, mother of Kay Cromwell  
**Wanda Vining**, mother-in-law of Pat Drewett  
**Cathy Risinger**, sister of Kay Cromwell  
**Helen Gaunt**, sister-in-law of Mildred Gaunt  
**Joe Ward**, uncle of Dana Neal  
**Dan Loomis**, former pastor  
**Matthew Stoddard**, nephew of Amanda Chandler's co-worker  
**John Hensley**, friend of Laura and Rick Pierce  
**Kristina Ward**, friend of Amanda and Michael Chandler  
**Judy Curry**, Jo Weaver's hairdresser  
**Ray Nitcher**, friend of Jo Weaver  
**Franklin Ward**, uncle of Dana Neal  
**Cissy Bailey**, sister-in-law of Betty Coles  
**Anne Logan**, friend of Jo Weaver

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:**

**Presbyterian Church of Bull Shoals**

**First, Arkadelphia**

**OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD**

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church where we come together **to celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith and serve the needs of others.** This Congregation opens wide its doors and our hearts and offers welcome to all in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Transitional Pastor**

David S. King

**Secretary**

Erin Shaw

**Choirmaster/Organist**

Marty Shell

**Nursery Attendant**

**Youth Sponsors**

Marty Shell

George Mosley

Amber Poss

**Website:**

[www.centralprespb.com](http://www.centralprespb.com)



## *Announcements*

**Neighbor to Neighbor's Holiday Projects are**

**Underway!** Central has been asked to provide 100 cans of cranberry sauce by **Wednesday, November 5**, for the Christmas baskets. Cans may be placed in the box behind the round table in McElyea Hall. At last count we had 47 cans, and we need 53 more to reach 100.

**There Will Be a Congregational Meeting** Sunday,

November 9, at the end of worship. The purpose will be to elect a Nominating committee for the Sessional Class of 2016.

**The Evening Circle Will Meet** Monday, November 10, at 6:30 p.m., in the Perdue Library

**The Presbyterian Women Are Planning Their Fall**

**Rummage and Bake Sale!** The sale will be Saturday, November 22, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Clean out the closets, utility room, and garage and bring us your "gently used" items! If it's sellable, we want it, except for clothes. Your contributions will help fund Neighbor to Neighbor, CASA, the Salvation Army, and Vera Lloyd. Thank you! See Laura Pierce or Betty Coles for more information.

**The Session (Board of Elders)**

**Class of 2014**

Tommy Dunlap

Bill Detmers

Lan Kelley

Pat Drewett

**Class of 2015**

Marty Shell

Betty Coles

Amanda Chandler

Jewelie Mills

Laura Pierce (clerk)

**Standing Committee Moderators**

Jewelie Mills

Budget & Finance

Amanda Chandler

Building & Grounds

Amanda Chadler

Education

& Laura Pierce

Tommy Dunlap

Fellowship & Nurture

& Lan Kelley

Missions & Outreach

Pat Drewett

Bill Detmers

Worship & Music

& Marty Shell

## Central Presbyterian Church

### Brief History

*Our church was organized April 3, 1910, in a vacant store building on the corner of 16<sup>th</sup> & Poplar. This property was purchased for \$1,300.00. The charter members named their church "The S. C. Alexander Memorial Presbyterian Church" in honor of Dr. S. C. Alexander, a venerable Presbyterian minister.*

*The Charter Members were as follows:*

<i>Mrs. A. A. Boyd</i>	<i>Mrs. C. C. Lovelady</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Blakely</i>	<i>Mrs. Carrie Lawton</i>
<i>Mrs. T. R. Craig</i>	<i>Mr. John L. Martin</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. J.A. Crawford</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. S.J. McCarra</i>
<i>Mrs. Mabel Chatfield</i>	<i>Mrs. John H. McCain</i>
<i>Mrs. Mary Dykes</i>	<i>Mrs. J. J. Jones (later Mrs. Ella McVey)</i>
<i>Mrs. Mary A. Davis</i>	<i>Mrs. Lillian Mohler</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. Eton</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Charles Reynolds</i>
<i>Miss May Eton</i>	<i>Miss Adeline Reynolds</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Hudson</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schmidt</i>
<i>Mr. W. A. Kientz</i>	<i>Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Shelby</i>
<i>Mr. J. C. Sauerbrunn</i>	<i>Mrs. C. W. Weilbacher</i>

*Dr. A.A. Boyd, who had come to us from Sedalia, Missouri, was duly installed as the first pastor of the little church of thirty-two charter members. Started as a mission church, aided by Pine Bluff Presbytery and the First Presbyterian Church of this city, though so few in number, we were able to pay \$200.00 toward the pastor's salary.*

*The sanctuary at 16<sup>th</sup> & Poplar was erected in 1912, and dedicated on September 30, 1914. The minutes of a congregational meeting held on November 1, 1925, reflect that the church be named "Central Presbyterian Church," our present name. In 1949, a brick manse was built and in 1962-65, an Education Complex was born at the 16<sup>th</sup> & Poplar site. In the late 1960's and early 1970's our membership was around 320.*

*Services of the Church during this time period:*

*The Anthony School for preschoolers was held in our Educational Complex during week days.*

*Central Church sponsored: Boy Scout Troop, Cub Scout Troop, Girl Scout Troop, Order of the Arrow, Cancer Dressing Group, Central Homemakers Club, Vacation Church School, Voting booth for elections*

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Central Church celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in April of 1960, and the following verse from a beloved hymn appeared in the booklet commemorating that occasion: ***"I love Thy Church, O God! Her walls before Thee stand, Dear as the apple of Thine eye, and graven on Thy Hand."*** Central celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in April of 2010.

Central Presbyterian Church served the Pine Bluff community for more than 87 years at its original location at the corner of 16<sup>th</sup> and Poplar. Plans to relocate were begun in early 1980, when the site at Trinity and Ridgway was made available. Groundbreaking services for the current location were held on September 15, 1996, and construction was completed in October 1997. Church offices were moved to the new location November 17, 1997. The first service was held November 30, 1997, and the Service of Dedication was held March 15, 1998.

In 1991, the Dollarway Presbyterian Church chose to merge with Central and closed their doors on Dollarway Road. In 2009, The Belair Church, a merged congregation formed from Second Presbyterian and Riverside Presbyterian Churches of Pine Bluff, closed its doors and merged with Central. The Dollarway Church brought a beautiful Celtic cross that now hangs at the front of the sanctuary and the Belair church brought some of their lovely furnishings that are in the narthex. The three congregations have seamlessly become one, to the advantage of everyone. Central Church has a congregation of dedicated souls.

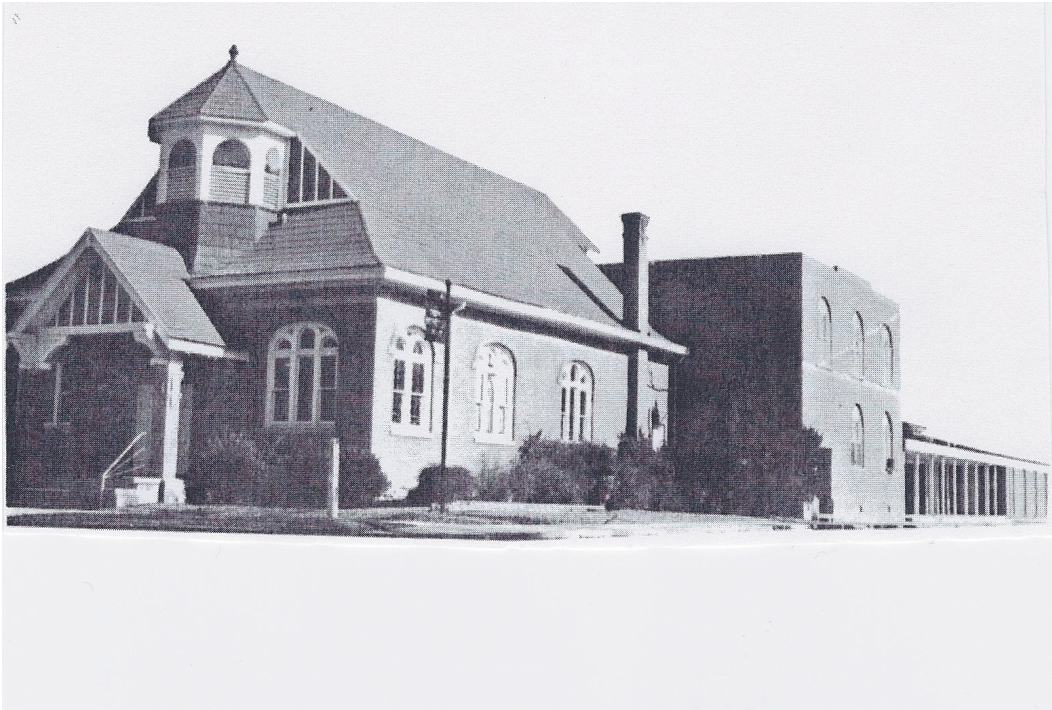
The current, 22,416 square-foot facilities includes a sanctuary with seating for 250 and a narthex. The large multi-purpose fellowship hall with stage, commercial kitchen and two Sunday School rooms was renamed and dedicated in honor of M. L. McElyea and in memory of Fannie McElyea on November 20, 2005. The Education wing features three Sunday School classrooms, nursery, office for the Choirmaster, choir room and a conference room. The Administrative wing, renamed and dedicated in honor of the late Murray Reichen on September 16, 2005, features administrative offices for the pastor, secretary and treasurer and the church library named in memory of John Armer Perdue, Jr. and Elise Russell Perdue. A separate youth activities building completes the campus.

A covered drive-through and entry walkway provide all-weather access to the north entrance of the narthex. The walkway features four memorial brick panels, which display the names of members, family, friends and former pastors.

#### **Central Presbyterian Church Pastors:**

Andrew C. Boyd	1910 – 1920
Joseph E. Wallace	1920 – 1924
J. Marion Stafford	1924 – 1928
John D. Spragins	1928 – 1942
George T. Johnson	1943 – 1948
Jasper W. Bryson	1949 – 1960
Robert R. Shepperson	1961 – 1967
Robert I. Doom	1968 – 1975
David J. Gallaher	1976 – 1988
Debra C. and James D. Freeman	1990 – 1995
Dr. Daniel G. Loomis	1996 – 2001
David S. King	2004 – 2006
Dr. Daniel K Festa	2009 – 2013

## Central Presbyterian Church Locations



16<sup>th</sup> and Poplar



Trinity and Ridgway