

# Central Scene

Central Presbyterian Church



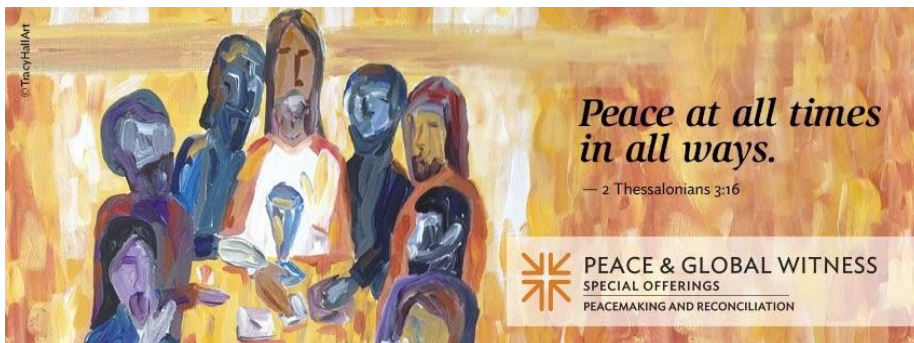
## Church Mission Statement

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

## 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.

## A Special Invitation



Most of us don't get any mail except for what? Bills and junk. But once in a while, now and then, a pretty envelope, perhaps hand-addressed and with something nice inside, is nestled among the coupons and ads and utility bills.

An invitation.

It's something different and it feels good. It feels good to be invited.

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## Upcoming Events

This Year's PW Fall Gathering will be at Westover Hills in Little Rock on Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Registration is \$10 and includes lunch. For more information contact Betty Glenn at [bettycarl@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bettycarl@sbcglobal.net)

We are collecting 60 three ring binders for neighborhood children in need through our partnership with Neighbor to Neighbor. Please leave all donations on the table in McElyea hall.

Directory update forms are available in the Narthex and the website. We'll use these to build a new Church Directory available in the fall and a new CPC Prayer Chain phone list.

July 18<sup>th</sup> is our monthly Fellowship Luncheon following the worship service. All Members, Visitors, and Guests are invited to join in this fellowship meal.

The Session will meet following the fellowship luncheon.

Jr. High Youthquake will take place Sept. 27-29<sup>th</sup> at Ferncliff Camp and Conf. Center. If you have a youth in 6<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grade interested in attending, please let Zac Cosner know.

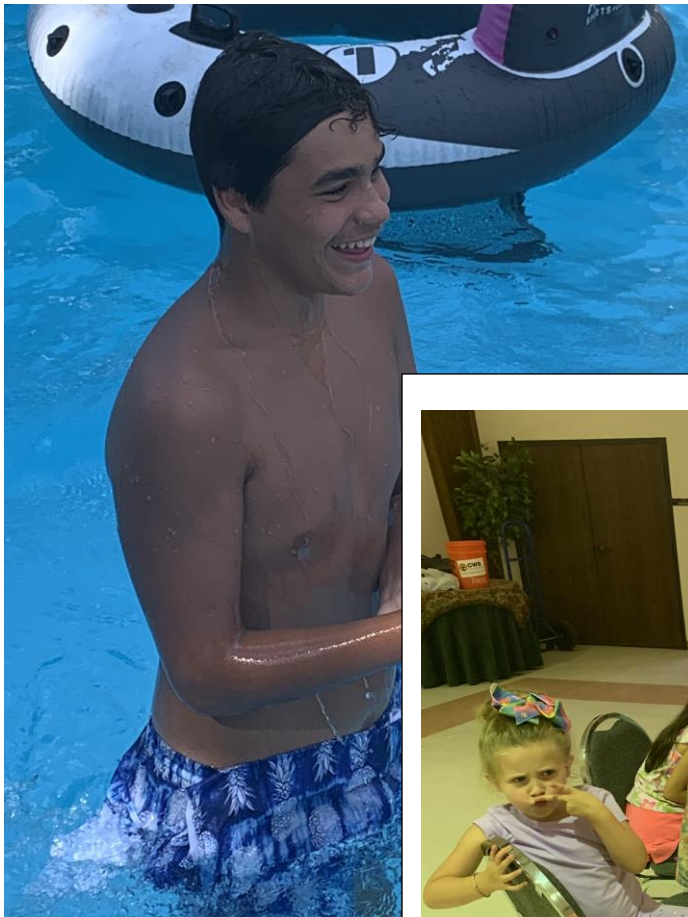
Sunday School 9:45 am

Young Adults Sunday School 9:45 am

## It's Been a Busy Summer at CPC!

We had a cookout, went to see Toy Story 4, and had a pool party! Thanks to everyone who participated and helped coordinate these events!





# History/ of Hymns

By C. Michael Hawn

## *“The Church’s One Foundation”*

By Samuel J. Stone

Glory to God Hymnal, 321

Samuel J. Stone (1839-1900) wrote this hymn as one of twelve published in *Lyra Fidelium: Twelve Hymns on the Twelve Articles of the Apostles’ Creed* (1866). At the time of its publication, Stone was a young priest at New Windsor Parish Church, a poor district at Lavington, Oxford, in England. Earlier, during his education at Charterhouse (1853-1858), he won a prize for composition in English verse. He continued his education at Pembroke College, Oxford (1859-1862), leading to his ordination as a deacon in 1862 and as an Anglican priest in 1863.

Controversy over critical biblical methodologies was heating up. Interestingly enough, the theological battle over the nature of the Bible was waged not on the island of Great Britain, but by two bishops serving in South Africa. One of Stone’s hymns was composed in support of the conservative stance promoted by the Bishop of Cape Town, Robert Gray (1809-1872). Gray defended the traditional dating and authorship of the Pentateuch.

An adversarial position was advocated by his popular colleague Bishop John William Colenso (1814-1883) of Natal, South Africa. Colenso was the author of several scriptural commentaries including *The Pentateuch and Book of Joshua, Critically Acclaimed* (1866) that espoused source-criticism, an emerging scholarly method of biblical criticism for dating and establishing the authorship of Scripture. Following closely on Colenso’s work was the appearance of the documentary hypothesis (known by the acronym JEPD) in a seminal text by German scholar Julius Wellhausen (1844-1918), who, drawing upon the work of others, published *Geschichte Israels. Bd. 1* (“History of Israel, Vol. 1”) in 1878. These were heady days that shifted the tectonic plates of biblical understanding.

The animosity between these two South African bishops resulted in an unsuccessful attempt by Bishop Gray to remove Bishop Colenso from his post and have him excommunicated.

“The Church’s One Foundation” speaks specifically to article nine of the Apostles’ Creed, “(I believe in) the Holy Catholic Church: The Communion of Saints.” The hymn itself is based on I Corinthians 3:11: “For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (KJV). This hymn, as well as others in the collection, was intended to serve pastoral, devotional, and catechetical purposes, according to hymnologist Albert Bailey, aiding in the “interpretation of the Apostles’ Creed for the benefit of certain cottagers in his Windsor suburb who were accustomed to repeat it as one of their private prayers” (Bailey, 1952, 377).

Ultimately, the polemical use of the hymn outweighed its pastoral intent. A skilled poet, Stone wrote a sarcastic “Soliloquy on a Rationalistic Chicken” in three stanzas that refutes any attempt to grapple with the scientific and philosophical views of his day. In the earlier stanzas, the chicken asks several questions: “How did I get in there?” followed by “Where was I of yore?”, and concluding with “Why didn’t I get out before?” The concluding stanza follows:



Samuel J. Stone

I meet the notion with profound disdain;  
 It's quite incredible; since I declare  
 (And I'm a chicken that you can't deceive)  
 What I can't understand I won't believe.  
 Where did I come from then? Ah! Where indeed?  
 That is a riddle monstrous hard to read.  
     I have it! Why, of course,  
 All things are moulded by some plastic force  
 Out of some atoms somewhere up in space,  
 Fortuitously concurrent anyhow! –  
     There now!  
 That's plain as is the beak upon my face. (Bailey, 1952, 376)

This, perhaps, prepares the reader for the assault that Stone sees as threatening the church over the dating and authorship of Scripture. Stanza three speaks specifically to the potential schism in the church as a result of different views of Scripture:

*Though with a scornful wonder  
 We see her sore oppressed,  
 By schisms rent asunder,  
 By heresies distressed,  
 Yet saints their watch are keeping;  
 Their cry goes up, "How long?" [Psalm 13:1]  
 And soon the night of weeping  
 Shall be the morn of song. [Psalm 30:5]*

An omitted original stanza three carries the tone of the debate to the level of a diatribe complete with name-calling:

*The Church shall never perish!  
 Her dear Lord to defend,  
 To guide, sustain, and cherish,  
 Is with her to the end;  
 Though there be those who hate her,  
 And false sons in her pale,  
 Against or foe or traitor [sic]  
 She ever shall prevail.*

The church exists in a constant state of controversy and potential schism. In many ways, this text articulates feelings that are as fresh as ever.

British hymnology scholar H. E. C. Stapleton offers insight into the hymn's popularity: "The strength of the hymn lies in the simplicity and directness of its message, the vividness of its metaphor, and the deliberate and distinct echoes of words and phrases from Scripture. In *Lyra Fidelium* there are no less than four biblical quotations annotated to each verse; in one, seven. It was hailed in Stone's own time as 'the battle-song of the Church'" (Stapleton, "The Church's One Foundation").

More than twenty years later in 1888, the popularity and influence of the hymn was manifest at the Lambeth Conference, assemblies of the bishops of the Anglican Church held every ten years and convened by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Accounts indicate that it was sung with vigor at all of the major services of the Conference. Australian hymnologist Wesley Milgate records the effect of the hymn on those who sang it in *A Companion to Together in Song*: “Sung by a large congregation, some people say this hymn was really more than they could bear. It made them feel weak at the knees, their legs trembled, and they really felt as though they were going to collapse” (Milgate, 2006, 335).

For those concerned that a hymn might be written for the purpose of advocating one theological position over another – what some might call “propaganda” – there is significant historical precedent for the use of hymns in this manner. Except perhaps for hymns that cite Scripture exactly, all hymns promote the author’s experience and perspective in some way. It is up to the broader church to either validate or ignore that perspective in its choice to place a hymn in a collection and “to sing or not to sing” the hymn in worship.

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Sometimes the church talks about the work we do as an obligation or a duty. We start thinking about the sign-up sheets and the time requirement, the money and ... But I try to remember 'invitation' instead. Every time we are asked to give of ourselves, our time, our talent and our treasure, it helps to think of it as an invitation to imagine and be a part of God's reign on earth. And on World Communion Sunday, I can think of no more appropriate word than 'invitation.

Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, invites us to the table. And not just us, but Christ invites, and we open doors open to believers from all over the world, and we even profess that believers from every time and place join us. At this table we proclaim that Christ joins us into one body despite our differences. Christ invites and our doors open to the broken, the hurting and the survivors of violence—those who suffer, as he suffered, to be nourished by his compassion. Christ invites, and our doors open to those all those who work for reconciliation and advocate for God's justice, which makes for peace.

Christ invites, and we also offer ourselves to the pursuit to end violence and bring about reconciliation through the Peace and Global Witness Offering. Through our gifts, we offer a healing hand to women experiencing abuse, here in this country and in places like Guatemala, even as we seek to remedy the structures that create their vulnerability.

Our giving offers a word of peace to those incarcerated here and those crushed by civil war in places like the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Our offering draws together those who were once at war, creating opportunities for veterans from this land to return to Iraq and build relationships that offer a start to healing and understanding.

It is one of the ways we RSVP 'yes' to Christ's invitation and offer, as the words in 2 Thessalonians say, 'peace, at all times, in all ways.' At Christ's table, and in these gifts, we are invited to believe those words. But for peace to truly be offered 'at all times, in all ways' we will start at THIS time and in THESE ways. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. On October 6<sup>th</sup> we'll be taking the Peace and Global Witness Offering. Please Give Generously. Text PEACE to 20222 to give \$10 today.



Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs!  
Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible.

Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse.  
Circle them in the puzzle below.

Proverbs 6:6 _____	Exodus 16:20 _____
Psalms 78:45 _____	1 Sam. 24:14 _____
Matt. 23:24 _____	Isaiah 50:9 _____
Judges 14:8 _____	Isaiah 59:5 _____
Acts 12:23 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	Leviticus 11:22 _____
Leviticus 11:22 _____	
Deuteronomy 7:20 _____	

M	O	T	H	S	G	N	A	T	B	H
A	N	T	A	L	L	C	H	P	E	O
G	R	A	S	S	H	O	P	P	E	R
G	F	C	R	I	C	K	E	T	S	N
O	L	S	P	I	D	E	R	S	B	E
T	E	C	L	O	C	U	S	T	D	T
S	A	E	F	K	A	T	Y	D	I	D
G	F	L	I	E	S	W	O	R	M	S

Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet, maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket

## Central Presbyterian Church

6300 Trinity Drive  
P.O. Box 1105  
Pine Bluff, AR 71613  
...a congregation of the  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
through Synod of the Sun and the  
Presbytery of Arkansas.

### Directory

Office Number (870) 879-9074  
Email: office@centralprespb.com  
Website: www.centralprespb.com

### Secretary :

Justine Anton

### Soundboard Operators:

Zac Cosner  
George Mosley

### Presbyterian Women Moderator:

Kay Cromwell

### Session

#### Class of 2019

Zac Cosner

George Mosley

Brad VonTungeln

Logan Mosley

#### Class of 2020

Laura Cosner

Suzy VonTungeln

Denise Mosley

Jemmie Moseley

#### Standing Committee Moderators:

Zac Cosner

Suzy VonTungeln

Jemmie Moseley

George Mosley

Denise Mosley

Laura Cosner

Budget & Finance

Fellowship & Nurture

Missions & Outreach

Building & Grounds

Education

Worship & Music

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the September issue of Central Scene is August 20. Please let us know if you would like to continue your subscription by emailing us at office@centralprespb.com.

# Lectionary Readings for August 2019

**Eighteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
August 4**

Hosea 11:1-11  
Psalm 107:1-9, 43  
Colossians 3:1-11  
Luke 13:13-21

**Nineteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
August 11**

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20  
Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23  
Hebrews 11:1-3,  
8-16  
Luke 12:32-40

**Twentieth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
August 18**

Isaiah 5:1-7  
Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19  
Hebrews 11:29-12:2  
Luke 12:49-56

**Twenty-First Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
August 25**

Jeremiah 1:4-10  
Psalm 71:1-6  
Hebrews 12:18-29  
Luke 13:10-17



**Welcome  
New  
Members**

**Welcome Munn Family!  
Jessica Dominik Sylva Skarlett**



**In Loving Memory of  
Raymond Turner**

Walter & Bernice Collins  
Kay Cromwell

**In Loving Memory of  
Danleigh Cosner**

Greg and Marla Shapiro

**In Honor of  
Jemmie Moseley**  
Lawrence Fikes

**In Loving Memory of  
Jimmy Horn, Sr.**

Walter & Bernice Collins  
Connie C. Jessie  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Theis

**In Loving Memory of  
Bill Ross**

Lawrence & Mary Shannon  
Fikes

# AUGUST 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	15	16	17
18 Fellowship Luncheon Session Meeting	19	20	21 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Choir Practice 6:30 pm	29	30	31

## Upcoming Events:

### August 18<sup>th</sup>

Deadline for Binders  
Fellowship Luncheon  
Session Meeting

### September 1<sup>st</sup>

Directory Update Form  
Deadline

### September 27-29<sup>th</sup>

Jr. High Youthquake at  
Ferncliff Camp and  
Conference Center

**Sunday School for  
All Ages at 9:45 am**

**Choir Practice  
Wednesdays at  
6:30pm**

Central Presbyterian Church

P.O Box 1105

Pine Bluff, AR 71603



05 Kessler Perdue    06 Lawrence Fikes  
13 Robert Brown    16 Mike Kelley  
20 Broc Detmers    24 Charlotte Perdue  
24 Mary Kientz    28 Allison Mosley  
29 Brynne Massey



01 Mr. and Mrs. James Hayes  
09 Mr. and Mrs. Emil Brown  
11 Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Judkins  
15 Mr. and Mrs. George Mosley  
17 Mr. and Mrs. Mike Kelley

*If you or a family member has been omitted or would like to be added to the Birthday and Anniversary list, please contact the church office.*