




A Festive Invitation



Please plan to join us
Sunday, November 21st
11 am – 2 pm

Thanksgiving Coffee Hour

Followed by

Hanging of the Greens



The Deacons invite you to a special Thanksgiving coffee hour following worship on Sunday, November 21st. In lieu of our traditional luncheon we will gather outside the sanctuary for yummy baked goods and hot beverages. You are then invited by Worship and Arts for the Hanging of the Greens. This will be our second year to decorate outside with Christmas lights – our touch to brighten the neighborhood with Christmas spirit. Please join in to help bring this festive display to life. *We will put them up on the 21st but wait until after Thanksgiving to turn on the lights.*

Stewardship

Tis the Season for Tithes- from Stewardship

First, thank you to all of you who are continuing your support of Central Presbyterian Church with your plate offerings, pledges and gifts to our various programs and vital mission work. Your donations are critical especially as we search for a new pastor, and maintain our operations through the wet weather season.

Please always know your gifts are greatly appreciated. However, we are experiencing a substantial deficit in gift giving over the past year no doubt due to the COVID 19 pandemic impact on our congregation with all kinds of losses and life changes.

Thankfully, we are now able to pass the peace and share prayers in person, as well as maintain long distance connection though our live streaming broadcasts. This is truly a blessing as we approach the Holiday Season.

Please consider making your gift by mail to the Church office at 46 Park Street, Montclair, NJ 07042 or via our online giving option through our secure software Easy Tithe. You can find the link on the www.centralpresbyterian.net website. For those attending Sunday's worship on Facebook, the Easy Tithe link is at: app.easytithe.com/app/giving/centralmontclair

Continued

Stewardship - *Continued*

When you give online, remember to make sure you select your gift from the drop-down menu, which includes options such as pledge, plate offering, Red Wagon or “other” when you give. We want to be sure your gifts are directed to the proper category. If you know your envelope number for your pledge, please add it in as well.

As we prepare for the Thanksgiving and Holiday season, I hope you will experience many blessings and count Central Presbyterian Church as a significant source of community, hope and a blessing too, so please give generously.

With great gratitude for your consideration and gifts.

Emma Justice
Chair, Stewardship Committee

Pastoral Transition

Dear Members,

I am excited to report that Session has approved the Ministry Information Form (MIF) our Interim Pastor Search Committee (IPSC) put together. Kudos to this committee for completing the task with diligence. This document was submitted to the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) where prospective candidates can read about our congregation and our pastoral profile. The IPSC will then start receiving applications.

The Clerk of Session,
Frederick Moulongo

Building Closure

Education Building Closure: 11/20 - 11/28

Please note, on the dates Saturday, November 20th through Sunday, November 28th, our Education Building will be closed. Basement-level water damage remediation requires asbestos removal within the Park Street Academy space. This will be done by a New Jersey state certified removal company. To ensure the highest level of safety for all Central occupants the Education Building will be vacant during this remediation process. Sanctuary access will not be impacted.

The church staff will work out of the sanctuary during this week. Sunday School will also temporarily move to the sanctuary's choir room during the closure.

For any questions or concerns about how this may impact your program or plans, please contact the office. Call (973) 744- 5340 or email office.centralpresbyterian@gmail.com

Birthdays

4	Sengal Selassie
6	Michael Fitzgerald
9	Emily Osborne
11	Shawn Schestag
16	Marilyn Stone
17	Mark Schoonfield
18	Katie Goulder Drew Schestag
19	Valerie Price
20	Susan Worth
22	Kirk Woodward
28	Montex Pinder
29	Erin Ann Woodward

Faith & Fellowship



YOUNG FAMILIES

Sunday, Dec. 5, 11:15 - Noon

Parents with young children are invited for an informal time of fellowship in the Pastor's Study – no planned program. Christian Education will supervise play time in the gym for the kids and make sure everyone has had a coffee hour snack. We hope you enjoy this time to connect.

Program contact: Carolyn Buck – goulderbuck@verizon.net



YOUTH GROUP

1st and 3rd Sundays, 5:30 – 7:00 pm

On Nov. 7 our middle and high school youth will meet at church. On Nov. 21 we will be off-site together for a fun activity. Stay tuned for details!

Program contact: Carolyn Buck – goulderbuck@verizon.net



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays after Time with Young Disciples (10:15 am)

We appreciate the reports of kids, teachers, and parents enjoying the return of Sunday School. We hear the Pastor's Study has been cozy as a waiting spot until the classroom update is complete. Coming soon!

Program contact: Carolyn Buck – goulderbuck@verizon.net



COMMUNITY MOVEMENT PROJECT

Fall Session Continues:

Tuesdays through December 21

10-11 am in Grace Hall

Pilates/Barre Blend (Adults)

Suggested Donation: \$15/class

Register and More Info: www.communitymovementproject.org



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

1st and 3rd Saturdays at 8 am

Program contact: Contact Scott Osborne at 201-704-2510
or scott.osborne@verizon.net

THE IN-CHOIRER

I hope your Pandemic recovery and return to quasi-normalcy are going well. Let's hope that's the road we're on, anyway.

Those of you who have been at church on Sundays may have noticed that the Choir has been singing every Sunday. This is not a small thing! They have been gracing Sunday worship with their presence since way back on *July 18*. This is remarkable on many levels.

First of all, we would need to have sensible church leadership that would consider this and deem it safe enough to allow, and we have that. (You may have no idea how many churches lack sensible leadership – I've worked at several and can vouch!). Secondly, we had to have a choir that was willing to come back. Well, *everyone* in the group has come back, and has kept coming back every week!

Thirdly, we had to be blessed with a space that was large enough that our singing did not pose a health risk, and our magnificent high-ceiling and open building has played into our favor.

You may know that a lot of other churches do not have their choirs back yet, for any of these reasons and more. We are one of the few smaller churches to have our Choir active. We are very, very blessed to have had our choir back for more than 3 months now. They are very happy about it, and so am I, and I'm guessing you are too.

It is a challenge for me to pick music for Sunday worship these days, without a firm handle on who the Pastor will be or what they are preaching on until early that week. When David was here, he had themes planned out a good two months in advance, and I could pick music two months out and rehearse it with the choir.

I am finding out who the Pastor is and what the themes are on Tuesday or Wednesday (sometimes I get lucky and it's in house on Monday), and (cont.)

picking an anthem (and sometimes hymns as well) and e-mailing the music to the choir members. Then we convene 4 or 5 days later on Sunday morning before the service at 9:15am, rehearse the piece for the first time, and praise God with it an hour or so later.

So, the wonderful sounds you hear from our choir are being done on minimal rehearsal, a testament to their talent, flexibility, passion, and good humor. They are doing a sensational job, especially under the circumstances, and the bond between us seems stronger than ever. I genuinely adore these people. You should thank them whenever you see them.

The choir has not had the benefit of weeknight rehearsals yet, but that changes by the time you read this! We start Thursday evening rehearsals on 10/28, so now we can be even better and more prepared, and have even more fun than we already have, if that's even possible.

If you have thought about joining choir, now is a good time. Come out on a Thursday night, or talk to us after service on Sunday. Don't worry if you are not a great singer; we will pull you through. At least you should feel free to give it a try, no obligation. We will start doing Advent and Christmas music soon, and that's the funnest season to sing. Join us, or *tell a friend who is looking for a place to sing to join us*, or at least come see a rehearsal!

Other than that, the Hammond organ I brought in has been a wonderful addition, for me and I hope for you too. I am using it frequently, alongside our wonderful pipe organ and piano. And Dave Arndt and Cathy McMahon and doing a fabulous job bringing our services to the Internet, and through Facebook and YouTube spreading Central's message and music to a wider audience.

Central continues to thrive amid uncertainty, and I am grateful to all of you for your continued encouragement and support.

Ed Alstrom, Director of Music

November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Education Building Closed November 20-28	1	2 10:00 AM CMP - Adult Pilates/Barre Blend 6:00 PM Christian Ed. Committee 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Private Event	3 7:00 PM Interim Pastor Search Committee 7:30 PM Personnel Committee	4 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	5 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Apex - Orchestra Concert	6 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
7 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship w/ Sunday School, Lord's Supper; Baptism of Andrew and Trevor White 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Youth Group	8	9 10:00 AM CMP - Adult Pilates/Barre Blend 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Private Event 7:00 PM Session Meeting	10 7:00 PM Interim Pastor Search Committee	11 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	12	13
14 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship w/Sunday School	15	16 10:00 AM CMP - Adult Pilates/Barre Blend 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Private Event 8:00 PM Worship Committee	17 7:00 PM Interim Pastor Search Committee	18 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	19	20 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
21 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship w/Sunday School 11:30-2:30 PM Deacons Thanksgiving Coffee Hour & Hanging of the Greens 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM Youth Group	22	23 10:00 AM CMP - Adult Pilates/Barre Blend 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Private Event – Grace Hall 7:30 PM Communication Spiritual Outreach	24 7:00 PM Deacons meet	25 Thanksgiving Day Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27
28 First Sunday of Advent 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship w/Sunday School	29	30 10:00 AM CMP - Adult Pilates/Barre Blend 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Private Event				

A Halloween "Thank You"

Thank you to Christina and Brian Cattell for leading the way for our 2nd ever "Halloween Trail" event. Born of the wish to bring families together safely during our COVID "learning curve", this all-outside afternoon proves to be a hit. On Saturday, October 23rd from 3- 5 pm we had over 100 children and their parents come through our winding campus trail. We provided polaroid family portraits, a scary sensory-tunnel (complete with smoke and flashing lights!), a mini pumpkin patch experience, as well as candy-filled cauldrons along the way. Thank you to the many adult and youth volunteers who made this happen. The day was joyous and the church grounds were busy with Halloween fun.



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