



## Joy

It may seem odd to bring up “joy” at a time like this. After all we are staying at home, separated from family and friends, working long distance, and wondering what’s next. Joy may seem so bogus right now. And it just might fall flat if it’s an attempt to conjure upbeat feelings. But we have a story, a person in our extended family, who has some experience with all this and more. And he loves to talk about joy.

In the letter to the Philippians, the Apostle Paul writes to his congregation to describe pretty much what we are experiencing-- separated from his people, writing his letter from faraway Rome, and not sure what’s coming next. He has no choice about his situation, or so it seems. He is in a Roman prison, awaiting his trial, and quite possibly his execution. He says two things that catch my attention-- that we share a common life in Jesus Christ that makes us friends with each other and with God, and that common life is guided by giving ourselves away in love to each other, as Jesus has done.

In situations beyond our immediate control, this self-giving love is definitely under our control. Our faithfulness in creating a loving community together, our obedience to the love we have been given and that we share, is the source of joy, the only source, that is deep and lasting and sustaining. Paul is able to write:

*“If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus...”* And in closing he writes, *“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.”*

Happiness comes and goes, but joy remains. It is partly a feeling, but even more a way of being together and a way of acting together. And it all fits into an overarching reality that God is creating to redeem this world. Life may seem out of control. The gift we have been given by God is a community of love, emulating the sacrificial love of Jesus. And in that living together there is joy to be shared.

## What’s Inside for You?

- Newark Presbytery on Building Closure
- Learn About Our New Ways to Give
- The Community Room Project Moves Forward
- Meet Our New Logo



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# Presbytery Update

## Presbytery of Newark Letter on Church Closings



Last week the Presbytery of Newark sent a letter to all presbytery congregations regarding the temporary closing of churches in this presbytery due to the coronavirus. The letter can be found as an attachment in our daily email, and on the home page of our website under "Newark Presbytery Guidance". It is recommended reading. The current wisdom is to follow the lead of state and local governments as well as the advice of health professionals. The recommendation from the presbytery is to remain closed through May and reassess at that time, which our Session has agreed to follow. Our Session is meeting weekly to discuss the latest information on the coronavirus. But at least for the month of May we plan to continue our virtual ministry. Session has directed the worship committee to study how our church may open for worship in a safe and proper manner when the time is appropriate. In the meantime, church leadership is committed to providing support and help to the congregation. If you or someone you know is feeling distressed or lonely, please contact the pastor or a deacon or an elder. They are ready to provide support and help. Please contact them. And join in our online worship this Sunday and coffee hour afterwards. Pass the word that all are welcome!

## Worship Committee

### Enter the Lord's House With Gladness

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." - Psalm 122:1

Many of us are wondering when that time will be when we can return to worshipping together in our Sanctuary as the body of Christ. No one knows for sure. But we do know there are ways we can worship together safely in the large space we have.

The Worship Committee has been meeting weekly to discuss new ways to worship while being confined to our homes. It's time to put a plan in place for worshipping safely while practicing social distancing in our Sanctuary. Stay tuned.

Ann Arndt,  
Worship Committee Chair

"But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,  
whose confidence is in him.  
They will be like a tree planted by the water  
that sends out its roots by the stream.  
It does not fear when heat comes;  
its leaves are always green.  
It has no worries in a year of drought  
and never fails to bear fruit." Jeremiah 17:7-8

# Communications & Spiritual Outreach

Over the past months, the Communications & Spiritual Outreach Committee has been working diligently to enhance our communications tools for the church. This included identification of our audiences, exploring and documenting “who we are” to better tell our story, and developing visual tools for our communications uses. On April 28, Co-Chair Lynn Selassie presented the group’s work and final recommendations for a logo to Session. It was approved for immediate use. Here are the results and some elements the committee considered in the process.

1. Core logo, full color, as our go-to for most uses



2. Logo with slogan for select use



3. Grey scale for black and white printing/projects



## CPC Identity – Who are we?

- Warm, welcoming, hospitable
- Doing God’s work in Montclair
- Diverse, inclusive congregation
- Energetic, eclectic, creative people
- Multi-generational congregation
- Connecting people of all ages and ethnicities
- Embrace music and arts
- Connecting with community



Our suite of logo options includes a vertical layout for situations when that orientation is needed. We found, for example, that a horizontal version works well for Facebook but a vertical one is needed for Instagram.

## *Thank You to the Committee*

Lynn Selassie (Co-Chair)  
Don Waisanen (Co-Chair)  
Karen Noble  
Diallo Hall  
Morgan Moulongo  
Lauren Waisanen  
Dave Arndt

## May Opportunities to Give

### One Great Hour of Sharing and Virtual Lilies

Due to the corona virus pandemic, we are extending the time to donate to One Great Hour of Sharing and Virtual Lilies (Toni's Kitchen) to **Friday, May 8th**.



Virtual Lilies Project



### The Human Needs Food Pantry (HNFP)

HNFP re-opened its doors to clients on a limited basis. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, however, the Pantry is not accepting food or clothing donations. Rather, the Pantry is accepting monetary donations. If you would like to contribute, during the month of May, Central will be collecting money to donate to HNFP.



For any of these funds, please mail your checks to the church at 46 Park St., Montclair, NJ 07042. Please make sure you fill in the name of the organization you would like your donation to go to in the lower left-hand corner of your check. You can also use our new online giving tool for your Red Wagon/Human Needs Food Pantry giving.

Thank you and peace be with you and your family,

The Mission Committee

## New Ways to Give

### Central is Now Enabled for Online and Text Giving

In April the Finance and Stewardship Committee launched two new ways to give to Central. Using the platform EasyTithe.com you can now make donations by texting "Give" to **973 315 6494** or through our own secure giving site **[easytithe.com/app/giving/centralmontclair](https://easytithe.com/app/giving/centralmontclair)**. Both debuted in our daily email on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Either way you will have the following options:

- Your Pledge
- Plate Offering
- Red Wagon (Human Needs Food Pantry)
- Per Capita

Give Now

Check our website home page for the "Give Now" button, and details coming soon including a "how to" for recurring gifts, receipts, and FAQ on security (bank level P21 SSL). *Thank you to committee members David George, Frederick Moulongo, Peter Dancy and Cecil Mitchell for this timely work.*

# The In-Choirer

I hope you all are doing as well as you can.  
I miss you all, and I'm sure we all miss our fellowship.

These few weeks of congregation-less Sunday worship have been challenging, and I'd like to think we've risen to it. We purchased a camera called a Mevo, which allows us to stream events live to Facebook and YouTube in very high-quality. To that, we have hooked up a sound mixer and a really high-quality microphone that's better than the one in the camera.

At the outset, I was trying to play the organ, follow the service, and produce the video live in real time. I found this a bit difficult, so Dave Arndt has stepped into that breach and done a wonderful job, on top of providing wonderful trumpet sounds on Easter. And Pastor David has stepped up big time, embraced all aspects of the technology, and communicated God's word to us daily and kept us together in a very meaningful way. Kudos to all involved in keeping our Sunday worship going!

Our choir is still 'active' via weekly get-togethers over Zoom. We can't sing together online because of the inherent latency (delay in sound from when you produce it to when it gets heard) on Zoom, but we are at least socializing and keeping up with each-others' lives. We are certainly ready to sing when the time is right!

Instead of the choir, you have perhaps had the chance to focus more on the sounds of our organ during services. Central Presbyterian is blessed with a marvelous pipe organ with an interesting history. Its original incarnation was built by the venerable E.M. Skinner firm in 1921. It was then modified by Aeolian-Skinner in 1948, adding a Solo division. It was then completely rebuilt by Austin in 1957, retaining only the Solo division from the previous organ. Much of the original Skinner organ wound up at other churches in NJ, but the Austin with the fabulous sounding Skinner Solo division has remained virtually unchanged since it was built. There is a stoplist and more historical info on the church website in the Music section.

Combined with the wonderful reverberant acoustical space we have, it creates a mighty and beautiful sound, and I am really enjoying its being a major presence in these services, I hope you are too.

I pray that I'll see you all soon. Until then, my best wishes for health and happiness.

Yours in Christ,  
*Ed*



Ed Alstrom, Music Director,  
on Central's pipe organ.



# Faith & Community for Kids

## Second Saturdays at Central:

Thank you to everyone who “hopped” onto our Facebook Livestream “Virtual Egg Hunt” on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. It was a lot of fun! Additionally, our Second Saturdays families (and social media followers) received access to two YouTube videos: a story time with the Easter Bunny and “Surprise Egg Reveals” with Nina and Sidney Moulongo. We extend a BIG Thank You to the Moulongo family for helping to make our April Second Saturday events possible! Lili was a great Easter Bunny!



Sidney and Nina Moulongo making their video

Our May event is a Virtual Talent Show featuring Jason Didner and the Jungle Gym Jam (our original headliner) as well as people from the Second Saturdays community. Tune into YouTube at 3pm on May 9<sup>th</sup> for this event.



123 Kids Steering Committee Meetings are going virtual. If you would like to join the steering committee, email Lauren Waisanen at [lauren@commupward.com](mailto:lauren@commupward.com) to be added to the email group.

Volunteer Reading at Child Cares has been canceled for the foreseeable future.

## Connect Montclair:

Community Movement Project continues to offer a virtual adult pilates/barre class on Fridays at 2pm. Little Movers has transitioned to a “pop-up” class on Facebook Live. Be sure to Follow **Community Movement Project** on Facebook to get important updates about classes. Both are pay-what-you-can. Class information is shared via email and social media and is also on the website, [www.communitymovementproject.org/schedule](http://www.communitymovementproject.org/schedule).

The Red Cross April blood drive was canceled by the ARC due to lack of personnel. We will plan to have our May blood drive unless otherwise canceled by the ARC. Blood donations are still needed and due to cancelations the supply is critically low. Central is committed to providing a space and opportunity for blood collection while taking every precaution necessary (along with the added protocols put in place by the Red Cross).

The Montclair Orchestra drops videos of recent concerts every Wednesday at 2pm. The last several weeks have featured performances at Central. Head to their Facebook page to listen to the wonderful offerings and relive what a full sanctuary looks like!



Lauren Waisanen  
Community Coordinator  
*with Levi*

# MAY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
For Zoom Access:  Committee meetings or B.L.T: <a href="mailto:pastor.centralpresbyterian@gmail.com">pastor.centralpresbyterian@gmail.com</a>  For CMP Classes: <a href="http://www.CommunityMovementProject.org">www.CommunityMovementProject.org</a>					<b>1</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> CMP for Adults – Pilates/Barre Blend with Erin Carlisle Norton, Zoom	<b>2</b> <b>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study, Zoom
<b>3</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Live Streamed via Facebook <b>5:00 PM</b> Confirmation Class, Zoom <b>5:30 PM - 7:00 PM</b> Youth Group, Zoom	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Session Meeting, Zoom  <b>7:30 PM</b> Christian Ed. Committee meeting, Zoom	<b>6</b> SESSION REPORTS DUE <b>11:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> BLT, Zoom <b>7:30 PM</b> Personnel Committee meeting, Zoom	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> CMP for Adults – Pilates/Barre Blend with Erin Carlisle Norton, Zoom	<b>9</b> <b>3:00 PM</b> Second Saturdays
<b>10</b> <b>Mother's Day</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Live Streamed via Facebook	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Session Meeting, Zoom	<b>13</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Staff meeting <b>11:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> BLT, Zoom	<b>14</b> NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	<b>15</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> CMP for Adults – Pilates/Barre Blend with Erin Carlisle Norton, Zoom	<b>16</b> <b>8:00 AM - 9:00 AM</b> Men's Bible Study, Zoom
<b>17</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Live Streamed via Facebook <b>5:00 PM</b> Confirmation class <b>5:30 PM - 7:00 PM</b> Youth Group, Zoom	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Session Meeting, Zoom <b>8:00 PM</b> Worship Committee meeting, Zoom	<b>20</b> <b>11:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> BLT, Zoom	<b>21</b> Newsletter Submissions Due	<b>2:00 pm</b> CMP for Adults – Pilates/Barre Blend with Erin Carlisle Norton, Zoom	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Live Streamed via Facebook	<b>25</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>11:00-11:30 am</b>	<b>26</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Session Meeting, Zoom <b>7:30 PM</b> Stewardship & Finance Committee, P.S.	<b>27</b> <b>Newsletter Mailing</b> <b>11:00 AM - 12:30 PM</b> BLT, Zoom <b>7:30 PM</b> Deacons meet, Zoom	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> CMP for Adults – Pilates/Barre Blend with Erin Carlisle Norton, Zoom.	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> <b>Pentecost</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Live Streamed via Facebook	Staff gather on a Zoom call for a “huddle” at 1 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.  Community Movement Project Little Movers (preschoolers) with Denise Kulhan, Zoom, has shifted to a “pop-up” class on Facebook Live. Follow Community Movement Project on Facebook to get important updates about classes.					

# Community Room Update

## Moving Forward:

Many thanks to the collective efforts of The Community Room Team including Erin Norton, Karen Noble, Lynn Selassie, Mark Schoonfield and Morgan Moulongo. This group worked for the past few months to deliver a well-researched plan to the Buildings and Grounds Committee. In April, the designs were shared with Session, and work began.

Working with a commercial designer, the group selected wall colors and flooring materials to welcome our community, provide a warm and hospitable environment, and show how we appreciate a diverse community of all ages.

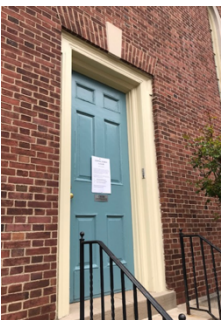


In progress: Wall, wainscot, and trim colors get a test

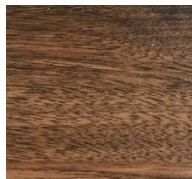
Physical improvements include: Restored and painted walls, windows, baseboard heaters, and cabinets; New high-traffic vinyl flooring; and re-sized and repurposed pews to line the perimeter of the room.

The original scope of the project expanded to consider the adjoining hallways. In May, Buildings and Grounds will work with Session to determine if it's the right time to complete the hall. If so, this work will go forward in May.

*Special thanks to Erin Norton for inspiring and mobilizing with her vision, and to Mark Schoonfield for his above-and-beyond support of this project.*



Interior doors will match exterior doors  
"Hallowed Hush" color



High-Traffic Flooring  
Color – Rocca Oak

## Treasurer's Report

For the month of March 2020, Central Church collected \$37,256 in revenue (including transfers from investment funds and interest income of \$7,500) and paid \$32,846 in expenses. Therefore, the church received about \$4,410 more in revenue than it paid out in expenses. The money in the checking account decreased substantially to \$54,950 as a large check cleared to the vendor for the steeple repair job. Pledge income was about \$3,900 less than budget. Money received was \$6,000 less than budget but remains in-line with YTD budget. First quarter actual expenses are about \$3,350 less than the amount budgeted. Due to the challenging financial environment exacerbated by the Coronavirus, the investment balances have decreased by approximately 11.5% from February month-end which is reflective across all markets.

Submitted by: Linda Bowers FinancialSense Bookkeeping

Cecil Mitchell, Treasurer

Ron Naspo, Assistant Treasurer Pat Dancy, Assistant Treasurer



# Profit & Loss Budget Performance

March 2020

				Mar 20	Budget	Jan - Mar 20	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense								
	Income							
		4000 · Plate Offerings		129	500	875	1,500	6,000
		4060 · Memorials/Steeple Lighting		0	167	100	500	2,000
		4100 · Pledges		9,118	13,083	30,749	39,250	157,000
		4150 · Special Pledges		0	125	0	375	1,500
		4200 · Special Offering		1,440	375	1,440	1,125	4,500
		4250 · Per Capita Assessment		0	125	0	375	1,500
		4400 · Rental Income		16,562	17,063	49,433	51,190	204,760
		4450 · Church Use		2,300	1,500	6,890	4,500	18,000
		4600 · Investment & Interest Income		1,007	3,333	19,858	10,000	40,000
		4700 · Miscellaneous Income		200	1,060	200	3,179	12,714
		4800 · Funds Transfers		6,500	5,878	19,500	17,634	70,536
	Total Income			37,256	43,209	129,045	129,628	518,510
	Gross Profit							
				37,256	43,209	129,045	129,628	518,510
	Expense							
		5000 · Salaries, Benefits & Taxes		15,796	17,966	49,913	53,899	215,596
		5010 · Payroll Tax Expense		1,110	1,091	3,253	3,272	13,088
		5020 · Personnel Recruiting		0	42	0	125	500
		5050 · Church Utilities		4,236	3,708	13,620	11,125	44,500
		5060 · Manse Utilities		337	521	2,266	1,563	6,250
		5100 · Buildings Maintenance		9,627	11,945	34,633	35,835	143,340
		5150 · Insurance		0	1,917	9,760	5,750	23,000
		5200 · Professional Fees		550	508	2,325	1,525	6,100
		5250 · Church Office		543	983	2,690	2,950	11,800
		5300 · Worship & Arts		0	750	321	2,250	9,000
		5350 · Fellowship		0	42	90	125	500
		5400 · Outreach		770	833	1,293	2,500	10,000
		5450 · Per Capita Assessment		0	250	891	750	3,000
		5500 · Mission		0	833	1,100	2,500	10,000
		5550 · Special Offering Expense		0	375	1,769	1,125	4,500
		5600 · Christian Education		-190	600	1,231	1,800	7,200
		5700 · New Begin - Community Outreach		68	833	781	2,500	10,000
	Total Expense			32,847	43,197	125,936	129,594	518,374
	Net Ordinary Income							
				4,409	12	3,109	34	136
Net Income								
				4,409	12	3,109	34	136

## May Birthdays

2	Barbara Eveleth Eugenia Bishop
4	Neal B. Day
5	Nina Moulongo
6	Harry Robinson, IV
9	Craig Woodward
11	Curran Schestag
12	Larry Stauffer
16	Loren Hoyt
17	Marylyn Smalls
20	Pam Osborne
24	Lidet Hall
26	Mark Johansen

## Continuing Education & Small Groups

### Men's Bible Study

May 2, 16, and 30  
8am-9am via Zoom

### B.L.T. (Bible.Lunch.Together.)

Wednesday Bible study for all  
11 a.m. through lunch,  
We are currently reading Mark's gospel, discussing  
parables, healings, and teachings of Jesus.

Please contact the office if you would like Zoom access  
information. [Office.centralpresbyterian@gmail.com](mailto:Office.centralpresbyterian@gmail.com)



**CENTRAL  
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MAY 2020