



September 22, 2020

Responses to mail, reimbursements, messages, etc. will be delayed, please use email or text, where possible.

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Invitation to Innovate!

PW Bible Study on Lamentations Starts Today!

1 PM Social

1:30 Bible Study

Click below to join us!



World Communion Sunday is this coming October 4th. In addition to bringing non-perishable foods by the church for our monthly food donation, we will be collecting our denomination-wide Peace and Global Witness Offering.

This offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world. Peacemaking is active, not passive; doing, not sitting idle. We, the church, must focus our attention on seeking peace and reconciliation, together building God's house of peace where all are welcome, where all find compassion, peace and justice. Your gifts will help more people experience the freedom and dignity that Christ offers for everyone. Let us offer the peace of Christ in all times and all ways!

You may remember that 25% of this Offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation initiatives in our own community (perhaps through some new innovative partnership for peace?). Another 25% stays in Grace Presbytery, and the remaining %50 goes to support our global mission partners.

Join Central's Virtual CROP Walk Team!!

CPCWaco invites you to join our team for the Virtual Heart of Texas CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, November 15, 2020. Over the past 50 years, tens of thousands of walkers have raised more than \$500 million through the annual CROP Hunger Walk. The Heart of Texas walk always raises around \$2500, making it one of the most successful fundraisers for a small community walk. For 2020, our local beneficiary is Caritas of Waco. For more information, click the picture below.

Join our team as a walker or sponsor a member of our team who will walk in isolation or with their family. Contact [Denyse](#) for more information or to sign up.



Creating Sacred Community Online

(Buttons for Zoom and Facebook can take you to our Sunday services)

Sunday Morning - Click [HERE](#) (a link to our Zoom services on Sunday)

9:10 AM Gathering/Fellowship

9:35 ish Adult Sunday School

Genesis Class is studying from the Letter to the Romans with Rev. Rodgers on Zoom.
The Men's Class studies from the lectionary with Jay, meeting this Sunday in the Memorial Garden. (Masks, distancing, and remaining outdoors will be observed).

10:30 AM Gathering and Prayer

10:40 AM Worship in the same zoom space ([link](#)), though we will also go [live on Facebook](#) (that's a link to our Sunday Worship at 10:45. A recording will remain posted for viewing "on demand" later).

When joining us for worship, whether "in sync" or "on demand," please use the chat room or comments section to pass the peace and let us know you are "here."

Order of Worship for this Sunday, September 20, is at the bottom of this email.

Baylor Band Impromptu Concert on Fountain Mall

During our sharing of prayer concerns in the Genesis Sunday School Class, we heard a story of taking lemons and making lemonade. The Baylor Bears community found out that they would not be able to play football this past weekend. The news was sudden and heartbreaking, but the band had an idea! They could provide a much needed morale lift by marching onto the field (well, the Fountain Mall field) anyway.

Click on the picture below take a look at how the band plays on!



Prayer Requests

- for Denyse's father Frank, as he continues treatment for lymphoma (you can get updates on his care and condition here: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/frankseaman>);
- for Allison's mother Michelle, also being treated for cancer;
- for Don, who was recently hospitalized, and Pat;
- for the Tolberts as they make their move to Houston this weekend;
- for Bill Carson, for Carl and Billie Kathryn, Les and Joyce, and for all who are isolated at home;
- for Courtney, a young mother (with a two year old) recently diagnosed with Stage 3 Ovarian Cancer;
- for Victor's mother to sense comfort and peace surrounding her at Wesley Woods;
- for Latisha, who remains hospitalized;
- for Vicki K, who recently lost her father;
- for the Baylor band, and all students/teachers/educators making the most of a very unusual school year;
- for cities and nations who suffer from natural or social disasters;
- for everyone born, a place at the table!

Celebrating Birthdays

Randy Castillo - September 26

Judith March Hardie - September 28



Morgan Williams - September 29
 Nancy Jackson - September 30
 Danny Boykins - October 2
 Betty Ringo - October 4
 Les Fisseler - October 5
 Betty Crouch - October 9
 Michelle Deivanayagam - October 10



(We are missing many birthdays in our database; please let us know yours!
 We need the year to enter the date in the database, but will never print it!)

From the Finance Committee

Passing along some good news!

We wanted to thank everyone for their continued response to our previous report concerning the church finances. Our receipts for the month of August exceeded our monthly expenditures by \$3,565.07 leaving us with a surplus of @ 2,967.30 year to date. Again, while going to church has been different during this pandemic, Central Presbyterian has continued its mission and has also continued to pay its staff and benevolence commitments (and its electricity and water bills).

from Pastor Judith

Peace and Reconciliation--Even When It's Not Fair!

Greetings,

The words kind of ring in my head a bit, and seem most real when I think about raising my kids. Those words, "That's not fair!" were often said with such conviction...and they were not wrong. Although it rings in my head as something my kids said, it is also something most of us have at least thought, if not said a time or two. Sometimes folks get something better than we feel they deserve (like the late laborers in the vineyard from last Sunday's sermon). Sometimes we don't get the promotion or raise we think we deserve. And sometimes, we don't get to play ball (or do any number of things) as scheduled because of, well, you know--the virus.

The Gospel of Christ that we study and follow calls us to model selflessness, love and forgiveness, even when the people or situations involved don't deserve it. Two Sundays ago, we looked at Christian methods of peacemaking and reconciliation between persons and groups. One Sunday ago, we considered how abundant our forgiveness (and acceptance) needs to be in this life--not because the other person might deserve it, but because we need to be able to keep moving forward without being burdened or bound by unforgiveness. And yesterday, we looked at what it means to give people dignity and pay them what is right. These three things, learning to show love through peacemaking, to give forgiveness abundantly, and to give of ourselves generously, are bound together in the true heart of Christ!

In the coming days and weeks, as I continue to work with Session and our Upward/Worship Committee, please keep these three lessons in your hearts. We are working on creative new ways we might be able to gather together in worship and fellowship. If you have any ideas, please share them. Our ultimate goal is to follow and worship Christ while taking care of ourselves and serving our community. And, of course, our planned readings in Matthew seem to travel this course with us!

- 9/27 What Does It Mean to Follow Jesus? (Matthew 21:23-32)
- 10/4 What Kind of Fruits Can We Produce? (Matthew 21:33-46)
- 10/11 Why Have We Been Chosen and Invited? (Matthew 22: 1-14)

Grace and Peace,
 Judith

Sunday Worship

Order of Worship September 27

Call to Worship

When I think of God's presence in the world, I am grateful:

Grateful for the presence of hope; grateful for the gift of life.

And when I think of God's presence in my life, I am humbled:

Humbled by the gift of grace; humbled by the invitation to begin again.

And when I think of God's presence in this community, I am glad:

Glad to be surrounded by holy people worshipping our Holy God.

Thank you all; thank you, God.

Hymn # 2130 The Summons

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

***Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?***

***Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?***

***Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?***

***Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.***

Opening Prayer.

O God, from your providing hand even the dissatisfied and grumbling receive what they need for their lives. Teach us your ways of justice and lead us to practice your generosity, so that we may live a life worthy of the gospel made known through your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Exodus 17:1-7

Hymn #356 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

***Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, Mount of God's unchanging love!***

***Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.***

***O to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, Bind my wandering heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.***

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we carry the burdens of words said we wish we had not said; of acts done in anger or pride that we wish we could undo. We hold grudges for a long time, and we do not seek reconciliation with those from whom we are estranged. Forgive us. Forgive those words and deeds and inactions that cause you and others sorrow. Restore us, renew us, and give us the strength, courage, and love we need to be your gracious people. Amen.

Children's Message

Matthew 21:23-32

Sermon

Offering/Offertory

Hymn # 377 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

***You have come up to the lakeshore, Looking neither for wise nor for wealthy.
You only wanted that I should follow. O Lord, with Your eyes You have searched me,
And, while smiling, have called out my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me,
Now with You I will seek other seas.***

***You know that I own so little, In my boat there's no money nor weapons,
You'll only find there my nets and labor. O Lord, with Your eyes You have searched me,
And, while smiling, have called out my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me,
Now with You I will seek other seas.***

***You need the caring of my hands. Through my tiredness, may others find resting.
You need a love that just goes on loving. O Lord, with Your eyes You have searched me,***

*And, while smiling, have called out my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me,
Now with You I will seek other seas.*

*You, who have fished other oceans, Ever longed for by souls that are waiting,
My dear and good friend, as thus You call me. O Lord, with Your eyes You have searched me,
And, while smiling, have called out my name. Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me,
Now with You I will seek other seas.*

The Weekly News is published each Tuesday and sent to members via email.
It is also mailed to members who do not have email or desire a printed copy.