



# Central Presbyterian Church

*Where Christ is Central to All we Do!*



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October 14, 2021

**Masks are required while in the buildings until further notice.**

*Responses to messages left at the church office will be delayed;  
please email when possible.*

*office@cpcwaco.org; pastorjudith@cpcwaco.org; drodgers@cpcwaco.org*

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## Invitation to Inreach !

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### TONIGHT: Men's Bond Night

5:45 pm Meet at Rudy's for dinner, after which we will go to see the new Bond film! Call or email Jay for more information!



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### Help Us Support Area First Responders

We are collecting packaged snack items to be included in a treat bag for First Responders. **Please bring items, such as: packaged nuts, candy bars, peanut butter crackers, etc.** to the church to show our appreciation for the dedication shown by our police and firefighters. The items will be sorted into decorated bags with notes of thanks on Oct. 23rd. Our youth and children will be packaging the goodies and delivering them. Individually wrapped home-baked **items can be brought to the church between 10:30 and 11 on the 23rd.**

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### Interested in Kitchen Events?

If you like fellowship and are handy in the kitchen, and would like to help serve our congregation (drive-thru dinners) and community (gratitude deliveries to "helpers"), please join our group by contacting Melissa Rhoden ([email](mailto:melissa@centralpres.org) or 254-722-2678).

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## From Josquin to Jazz: 500 Years of Sweet Music

The music department at McLennan Community College is proud to announce the MCC Choirs' Fall Concert at Central Presbyterian Church on Monday, October 25 at 7:30 PM.

Three MCC choirs will present this free concert in the sanctuary of the church. Classic choral music, as well as spirituals, will be featured. Invite a friend!

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## Invitation to Outreach

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### Mission Partnership News!!

This year, we will be hosting the Christmas Toy Store for Mission Waco in our Activity Center--what an opportunity to serve the community!!

Joyce Brammer, with Mission Waco, and Cheryl Stephenson, Toy Store and Volunteer Coordinator may be seen on our campus between now and early December as they begin purchasing toys, decorating, and setting up shop.

Yes, this means the Biker Run will END here this year--watch your newsletter for more information, and please let us know if you feel called to help in any way.

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### Mark Your Calendars!! Movie Night

Bring a friend or two or six  
for a Halloween movie night

on **Friday the 29th of October.**

The showing will be outside by the Activity Center.

Popcorn and treats will be served.

*Bring your blankets to sit on or snuggle in  
and join the fun!!*



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### JOIN the TEAM

Sunday, November 14th, CPCWaco will participate in the  
**2021 CROP Hunger Walk**

benefitting Church World Service and Caritas.

Sign up [here](#).

We will walk beginning at 3pm in Bledsoe Miller Park.

Contact [Denyse](#) for more information!

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## Invitation to Upreach!

## CPCWaco Hybrid Worship

You Are Invited to Follow Jesus!

Meet , Greet, and Worship via [Zoom](#) (click to join anytime 9:10-11:45am);  
worship live (at 10:45am, or anytime convenient for you) on [Facebook](#);  
or come in-person (masked) to worship in the Sanctuary.

Welcome and Announcements  
Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prelude *The Heavens Are Telling* (from "The Creation") Franz Joseph Haydn

Call to Worship

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it;  
**the world and those who live in it.**  
O praise the Lord with me,  
**let us exalt God's name together.**  
Jesus says to us, "Come and see!"  
**Who, me? Where will we go? Who will we see?**

Hymn # 69 (GTG) Here I Am, Lord

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry,  
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright,  
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts of love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go, Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.*

Call to Confession  
Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.  
God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer.  
(time for personal prayerful confessions)  
Amen.**

## Assurance of Pardon

Friends, we are followers of Jesus, yet we stumble and fall along the way. The good news is that Jesus does not condemn us, but lifts us up to continue the journey. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and loved. Amen.

***Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.  
In m heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.***

Gospel Reading: John 1:6-9

Message for Young Disciples

Gospel Reading: John 1:19-50

Sermon *How Do Christians RSVP?*

Invitation to Discipleship

If you need a community to belong to, if you are thirsty for the word of life and want to live as a disciple of Jesus, join us in Christ's ministry and mission. You are welcomed, affirmed, and needed here!

The call of Christ is to willing and dedicated discipleship. Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility.

By God's grace, we are saved and enabled to grow in the faith and to commit our lives to serve Christ. Let us affirm our commitment as disciples:

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

**I will, with God's help.**

Prayer

**Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us; and by your Holy Spirit you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. Establish us in your truth and guide us by your Holy Spirit, that we may grow in faith, hope, and love, and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, who alone is the Head of the Church and in whose name we pray. Amen**

Call to Offering

Offertory *All Nature's Works His Praise Declare* arr. Eugene Butler

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn # 377 (PH 1990) Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

***Lord, you have come 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.***

Passing of the Peace of Christ.  
Charge and Benediction  
Postlude

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## Prayer Concerns

- for people caught in times of war or famine;
- for all who sorrow, and for those who rejoice;
- for those in need of healing, and for those called to heal;
- for people called to bear the Good News in word or deed;
- for all involved in systems of education and health and pandemic relief;
- for the family of former member, Larry Leshikar, as they grieve (Funeral Friday 10am @ Oakcrest FH)
- for Luna (10 year old fighting Cancer), Martha, Les (going to his eternal home any day now) & Joyce, Sara, Billie Kathryn & Carl (and driver Jay, as they travel to Plano for more pre-op tests), Rita & Ken (recovering from heart valve replacement), David R & mother, Sara, Haley, Andrew S, Cheryl, and all who need healing, strength, & comfort;
- for guidance, strength, open-mindedness and kindness;
- for our congregation to sense God's presence, strength, and Call to serve; and
- for everyone born, a place at the table!

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## Pastor's Ponderings

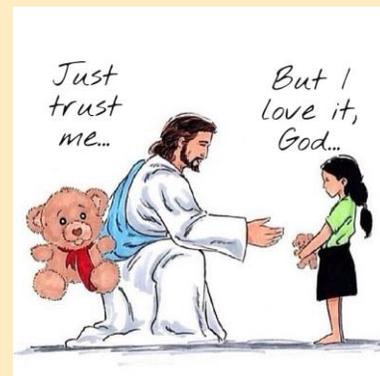
*“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. ~Isaiah 43:18-19*

It is tempting to pine for what we have lost--and there has been some real loss! But as the seed has to die in order for a new plant to germinate, bud and bloom, so we may need to let go of some of the ways we have lived in order to make room for the New Thing God is doing through Christ in us!

When I preached last week on spiritual decluttering, I focused on our own individual journeys with Jesus, but the same principles apply to our fellowship gathering, as well. Have you walked through the building, opening doors, and really looking at our spaces, and our stuff--is any of it getting in the way of something new?

Please join me in praying for God to open our minds and eyes to recognize where our old things or old ways are slowing or delaying the new things God is doing.

Please also join me in the practice of following Jesus and welcoming God's children, all the different kinds, even and especially when it is inconvenient. (Lk 18:15-17, Mt 19:13-15, Mk. 10:13-16)



God IS doing a new thing!

Grace and Peace, Judith

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## Celebrating Birthdays

David Rodgers - October 12

Gail Hegar - October 14

Madison Rhoden - October 15

Rich Riley - October 21

Matt Bierwirth - October 23

Patricia Tolbert - October 27

Charlie Tolbert - October 30

**(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!)

