

**CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

9191 WOODWAY DRIVE WACO, TX 76712  
(254) 754-3544 CPCWACO.ORG



**January 17, 2019**

**This Sunday:**

**9:30 am - Sunday School - 1 Corinthians 12:1-11**

**10:45 am - Worship**

**Rev. Judith March Hardie preaching**

John 2:1-11

**Potluck immediately following worship**

**Greetings from Pastor Judith**



*Stuck.* Have you ever felt stuck? Whether you've been stuck in a rut of day-in and day-out habit, stuck in a bad job or relationship, stuck in the mud, or had your head stuck in a railing like this little boy? Being stuck is no fun; it can hurt and have lasting effects!

a change in routine, some willingness to do something more intentionally. When we are stuck in a job or relationship it's not quite that simple. Willingness to take action is key, but you don't just quit your job or cut ties

willy-nilly. Seeking information from another perspective, a job or a marriage counselor, perhaps.

Sometimes it is not the job or relationship at all that are the problem, but something in one's own life that can be changed, healing and renewing relationships and career paths.

Churches can also get stuck, especially small ones. I've known churches to have been focused on growth, and even survival, for so long that they have forgotten, neglected or lost their special God-given purpose. Sometimes churches stay small because there is a very human desire to keep things the same. Sometimes churches stay small because it is the perfect size for people to know one another and align with their corporate purpose. One thing is (well, several things are) sure for us: we have a good number of willing and committed Christian servants; we have a large amount of usable space; we have a sweet, sweet spirit in our fellowship; and, we have the desire to grow! But do you know what? I think, perhaps, that the push and desire to grow might just be keeping us stuck.

It's kind of like a person who wants to lose weight, counts calories and focuses on dieting, yet stays stuck. Sometimes, when that person instead chooses to focus on health-mental, spiritual, physical health, and good nutrition-then the weight also trends towards health. That is what we want to do as a small church-focus on being a healthy congregation, on being healthy disciples, worshipers and servants. Because, in the end, healthy, stable congregations, both big and small, are able to do more to share the light of Christ than unhealthy, anxious and worried ones.

Funny thing is, no matter how we are stuck, our perspective generally perpetuates the situation. I don't know if you've seen the YouTube video that went viral, but it shows how the little boy is finally freed. All the usual things are attempted, from lubing his head to prying the bars. In the end, the little boy stand up, turns his body sideways, and slips through the bars to freedom. May we also become willing to stand up into our own giftedness and claim the light and liberty that is ours in Christ!

Grace and Peace, Judith

**150th Anniversary**

Save the DATES! We hope all of you have already marked your calendars for **Sunday, February 17, 2019**, when we will celebrate Central's 150th anniversary with a special worship service and festive luncheon. To highlight Central's many years of faithful service to the community, there will be an All-Church Service Day on **Saturday, February 2, 2019**. We hope that EVERY member, together with friends and family will

participate (wearing the new anniversary t-shirt or polo --order forms are in Narthex) in one of the planned service events:

- Caritas Hidden Treasures Resale store -- Sort donated items with Don Wall and others. (adults, older youth, ages 10-15 with a parent)
- Children Serving the Community -- Assemble blessing bags for the homeless and make cards to deliver along with homemade cookies to Woodway firefighters and police. (children, youth and adult leaders, and bakers)
- Sewing for Hospitalized Children and People Using Walkers -- Sew colorful pillowcases and pocket bags for walkers with Laura Clifton and Tricia Tolbert. (adults who can cut fabric, iron, or sew)

Sign-up sheets are now available in the Narthex. Please sign up, and join us as we celebrate a history of service. And, more importantly, join us as we celebrate our New Beginning through Christ, as we step out to serve and follow Christ, who is Central to All we Do in God's Name!

### Prayers

Prayers for Brenda Shuttlesworth, the Director of Habitat for Humanity, who was to have been with us in church this Sunday. Her mother, Elizabeth Bakke, is in Hospice Care and has taken her final turn in her earthly journey. May all her friends and family know God's gentle care during these end times.



**January 20** - Potluck Lunch - please bring a dish to share.

**January 22** - Presbyterian Women, 1 pm

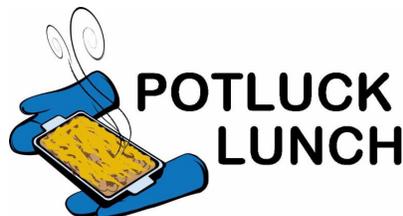
**January 27** - Annual Congregational Meeting, following worship

**January 27** - World Religion Day - Greater Waco Interfaith Dialogue, 3 pm, Providence Pavillion (building closest to Hwy 6 Post Office)

**February 2** - All-Church Service Day - sign up in the Narthex

**February 9 & 16** - Church Clean-up Days (watch for details, projects, and improvements) in preparation for welcoming guests and celebrants for our 150th

**February 17** - 150th Church Anniversary Celebration



**Don't forget to bring an item for the potluck Sunday!**



### Celebrating Birthdays

David Fleuriet - January 17

Phil Oliver - January 17

Nancy Cagle - January 18

Anne Stewart - January 18

Wren Williams - January 18

Gwynn Range - January 19

Margaret Pauling - January 20

Jeanette Bloemer - January 22

Rita Smotherman - January 28

(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!)



The Weekly News is published each Thursday and sent to members via email. It is also mailed to members who do not have email or desire a printed copy. Printed copies are also available in the church narthex. Church activities and pertinent event information is available on the church website: [cpcwaco.org](http://cpcwaco.org)