

CENTRAL CALLING

CENTRAL STEELE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9401 S. Tryon Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28273

phone...704-588-1211 fax...704-588-1461
www.cscpc.org churchoffice@cscpc.org

**June
2020**

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We're on the web...
www.cscpc.org
or Facebook.com/
Central Steele Creek Presbyterian

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FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Since the death of George Floyd, an African-American man, in the custody of a white police officer on Monday, May 25, in Minneapolis, our country has been erupting with protests of emotions, frustrations, anger, bitterness and despair. My family lived in the suburbs of Minneapolis for almost 8 years and I have driven by the street where Mr. Floyd's life was taken away by a white police officer who placed his knee and his full weight on George's neck for more than 8 minutes, even after he became unresponsive. The cops already placed handcuffs on George and still knelt on his neck like a hunter taking a trophy photo over an animal. I did not want to watch the video because I knew I would be overcome with emotions and become angry... once again... towards police brutality and unequal treatment of people of color by the police and by the society in general. As a minority person myself, I have experienced racism in my life and always worry about my children going through similar negative and hurtful experiences. I have thought that only way my children can overcome racism is by becoming "successful" in life and that would lead them to be accepted by the society at large. I still want our children to be successful, but no amount of success will eradicate systemic and institutional racism in our country... spiritual transformation of hearts and minds to view each other as equal human beings in the image of God is the only way to bring cleansing to sin of racism. Galatians 3:25-29... *"But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise."* Paul reminds us that we are all equal and one in Christ... no one race of people are superior to another.

Since my installation as the pastor at Central in

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November of 2019, I have been focused on helping our church to grow in faith and also grow in membership. The social unrest and protest over race inequality have brought an added purpose to my work as a pastor. God has placed me, A Korean-American, in a church that is 99% white in order to raise up disciples of Jesus Christ who will humble themselves and love "ALL" people, no matter the color of their skin. My hope is that our church will reflect the diverse nature of our community and be a dwelling place where people will come and hear the Gospel message of hope, love, grace and everlasting life through faith in Jesus Christ. I have great hope that our society and our nation can overcome the injustice of police brutality and treatment of people of color. I am already seeing positive influences taking place in the midst of the protests around the country, which has been very diverse in participation. Several years ago a football player named Colin Kaepernick began kneeling during the national anthem in protest of police brutality and racial inequality in the United States. He was heavily criticized for his "peaceful" protest and he was even called "un-American" for kneeling during the national anthem. During all the protests across the country following the murder of George Floyd, I witnessed many white police officers and white politicians condemning the "murder" of George Floyd and marching with the protesters in solidarity of their message. Many of the officers joined the protesters in "taking the knee" to support the message of the protesters... this would not have happened before.

We are far away from achieving human equality in this country and this world... but I am hopeful that we are headed in the right direction. Christians need to embrace God's calling to love one another and serve one another without prejudice of color or ethnicity.



— Mark



Presbytery of Charlotte

2831 N. Sharon Amity Road, Suite A

Charlotte, NC 28205-6605

704-535-9999 Fax: 704-537-3476

www.presbyofcharlotte.org

Dear Presbytery of Charlotte Leaders,

Across America and the seven-county Presbytery of Charlotte, people of faith were outraged over the murder of Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia. Now, we are all witness to the brutal police slaying of another black man, George Floyd in Minneapolis. As people of faith, we must not allow Ahmaud Arbery's modern-day lynching and George Floyd's shocking death to become two more footnotes in the long history of unanswered violence against black and brown people.

Only people of color can know the deep trauma of this repeated pattern – but it's time for the rest of us to rise up. Tolerance, complacency and silence in the face of such acts only encourages the institutionalized racism that is baked into our city, state and nation. We pray urgently for an awakening in the hearts of all to heal America's original sin and its life-robbing legacies.

Scripture commends those who run the race and keep our faith that is built on the twin pillars of God's love and justice. We honor how many have acted in solidarity with Ahmaud and his family by running 2.23 miles in recognition of his birthday, February 23. Dismantling racism, however, requires that we run a far longer, more demanding distance, one that calls those of us in positions of privilege and power to name the unmistakable, toxic truth of white supremacy. In our churches and across the community, we must strive for the long-term and just cure that will require sacrifice if we are to transform the institutions and systems that shape our every-day living.

As a Matthew 25 presbytery, our promise to follow the Prince of Peace demands that we confront racism when we see it, in any form, however subtle or obvious, public or private. To follow Christ's command to love neighbor as self is to ensure that ALL of our neighbors not only can walk or run down the street without fear for their lives but that they enjoy true equality and equity in our nation's promise.

Yes, in these pandemic days, we are confronted with a new challenge. The truth is that Covid-19 is only deepening old, racial disparities. We must recognize how these times will heighten the anxiety and fears of some who may be more prone to act violently. At the same time, we must not lose sight of the longer challenge to bring about repair, restoration and reconciliation of all of God's people, just as we are reconciled to God in the risen Christ.

We are far, far beyond "enough is enough." On this Pentecost, let us receive anew the gift and empowerment of the Holy Spirit to close the gaps that divide us individually and structurally. We urgently pray that a new, lasting fire of conviction will burn in all of our hearts to make black lives matter once and for all.

Rev. Dr. Willie Keaton and Rev. Dr. John Cleghorn
Co-Chairs, Presbytery Anti-Racism Ministry Team

Rev. Dr. Jan Edmiston
General Presbyter, Presbytery of Charlotte

Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 704-588-1211

Fax: 704-588-1461

Mark Lee	Pastor
Nadja Sefcik-Earl	Director of Handbells
JoAnna Harrigan	Director of Preschool
Lori Cauley	Director of Central Fine Arts Academy
Allyson Haenlein	Administrative Assistant
Lauren Perkin	Financial Administrator
Jeanne McGrath	Financial Secretary
Anthony Tucker	Custodian
Chet Knapp	Clerk of Session

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School	9:15am
Worship	10:30am

DEADLINES

July 2020 issue deadline is June 23rd.

Articles received late will be included the next month.

Sunday Bulletin: Thursdays, 10:00am

Articles received late will be included the next week.

Please let the church office know of any changes in your contact information, such as phone number, cell phone number, address, or email address. Thank you!



THE MONTH OF JUNE

Baby Food & Formula

**Please place items in the donation box
located in the Church Narthex.**

In March approximately 46 pounds of food were donated.

CSCPC WOMEN'S GROUPS

ON HOLD

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of Charles Winter; Teresa & Herman Canipe

In memory of Pam Shaney New; Emma B. Young/Living the Word class, Paul & Martha Sigmon, Rozanna Lawing, Judy Corbett, Robert & Linda Blackwelder, Barbara & Barry Choate, Greta & Toni Lambert, Sandy & Pat Hart, Kay & Jim Patterson, Donna Young, Wade & Cindy Shepard, Mike & Judy Brown

In memory of Tommy Therrell; Paul & Martha Sigmon, Emma B. Young/Living the Word class, Manley & Annette Caudle, John & Charlotte Burgess, Wade & Cindy Shepard, Jimmy & Debbie Burgess, Greta & Toni Lambert, Bud & Pauline Shaney, Kay & Jim Patterson, Pat & Sandy Hart, Barbara & Barry Choate, Herman & Teresa Canipe, Mary & Jack Phillips

In memory of Chip Summers, former Pastor at Central; Greta & Toni Lambert

Central Fine Arts Academy Going Virtual

The Central Fine Arts Academy is currently conducting a pilot program with on-line classes in voice, guitar, violin, dance and drawing. Organized by Director Lori Cauley, this is a special 4-week session which will end in a virtual student showcase. We hope to share some of the student performances with you in worship service. Most CFAA instructors are also public school teachers and so they are experienced in providing on-line instruction. We will use feedback from the students, parents and teachers to provide guidance for future on-line programs.

Going forward, we hope that we can continue to provide on-line classes in addition to the small group classes, and private lessons. This could open up opportunities to work with more children. We know that travel to Central on a Tuesday evening at 6 pm does not work for some parents.

Regretfully, the Summer Camp for the first week of August has been cancelled. We are concerned that getting children together to play instruments, sing, etc. is not wise with all the uncertainties of Covid-19 control.

Continued Support to Students with Food Insecurity

With Central's continued support, we have been able to meet urgent needs at both Winget Park and Berewick Elementary Schools in May. Last week, a principal reached out because a family with three children was almost out of groceries. The counselor at Berewick is working with 6 student families who are homeless.

Soon after the public schools closed, the school staffs identified student families that were hit very hard by Covid-19 and struggling. Many of the families were already vulnerable due to lack of affordable housing, chronic health problems, etc. When jobs were lost, they needed extra help. We have been able to provide emergency help. There is concern that the need for groceries will continue for these families into the summer months. If you would like to help, please mail a check to the church and designate Food support for students on the memo line.

Literacy Support

The Summer Reading Book project has been put on-hold for this spring. This is an annual project of the four Presbyterian churches (Central, McClintock, Mt. Olive, and Steele Creek at Pleasant Hill) which provides reading books to 350 children who need additional reading support in the Steele Creek/Berryhill communities. The literacy specialists at the 7 elementary schools have been informed that the project is on hold due to the difficulty of distributing the books to the selected children while the schools are closed. However, we look to provide student support during this coming academic year.

Church Service to Resume July 5

The Session has decided to reopen the church on Sunday, July 5 for in-person worship. We will gather to worship and partake in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The Task Force has met for the past month and prepared some important guidelines as we prepare to reopen the church for worship services. Here are the guidelines...

- Total worshipers and worship leaders/workers must not exceed the number allowed by State/County restrictions.
- Limit entrance to the sanctuary building to two doors - main doors and the side door with the handicap ramp.
- Require use of masks to enter the sanctuary; urge people to bring their own but have some cloth masks available for those who fail to bring one.
- Have hand sanitizer to be made available for use when entering and leaving the sanctuary.
- Block off entire rows of pews and sections of pews to be used to ensure adequate social distancing is exercised.
- Ushers to wear gloves; ushers not to shake hands; ushers take temperatures of people entering - deny entry if temperature is elevated; ushers monitor seating to ensure social distancing is exercised.
- Do not use printed bulletins - order of worship to be displayed on screens. Announcements and prayer request list to be printed and made available to worshipers as they enter sanctuary.
- Offering plates to be placed at the entrances; plates not to be passed during worship.
- Eliminate passing of the peace from the worship service.
- Congregational and choral singing to be discontinued. Special music may be offered by soloists, small ensembles, instrumentalists, recorded music. Live performances to be given from the choir loft or pulpit level (except for piano music). The Director of Music Ministries will be asked to coordinate this effort.
- Rev. Lee to move up to the pulpit level to lead worship. First two rows of pews to be blocked off to prevent use by worshipers except for the pastor's family.
- Discontinue celebration of communion by intinction. Elements are not to be passed among worshipers; self-contained juice & cracker cups be used instead. These containers to be given to worshipers by the ushers when worshipers enter the sanctuary.
- Sunday School / Circles: Nursery and children's classes to be canceled through August and reevaluated at a later date for possible further extension. It is recommended that, when the church initially reopens, children attend church with their parents. Only permit adult Sunday School classes to meet. Individual Sunday School classes and circles to decide if and where to meet being mindful of social distancing mandates.
- Central should immediately beef up its digital platform to enable live-streaming of worship.



Worship Outlook for Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

During the past 15 years, Central has experienced consistent decline in membership and church attendance... this is not an opinion, but basic fact. Also during the same period, current church members have become older in age and the church has not been able to attract new members to offset the loss in membership and attendance. While there have been a lot of changes in the number of church members and attendees on Sunday morning, what has not changed is the makeup of the church... in other words, not much has changed in how ministry is conducted at Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church. Despite the declining membership of the church, there was no change in the DNA and makeup of the church to reach out to a community that has been and is still going through changes and transformations. While there are many adjectives that can be used to describe the churches of today that are growing and attracting new members, let me share one adjective that is universal among all growing churches... "DIVERSE". When I say "diverse", I'm not just talking about the physical makeup of the congregants, but I am also referring to the ministry paradigm of the church... particularly the Sunday morning service and need for small group ministries. While there are other valuable and important ministries in the church, the Sunday morning service and Small Group ministry will be the face of the church that will attract visitors and potential new members to the church. Small Group ministry will need to be both in-person and digital, not only because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, but also because digital platforms will be essential in the future. More details about the small group ministry will be provided later, but let me share about Sunday morning service.

Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church is in the process of transforming our Sunday worship service from Traditional to a more Blended worship service. Let me first share what Blended Worship Service looks like... it means incorporating various and different musical traditions into a worship service with style of music that connects with a broader spectrum of current and prospective members of the church. Along with blended style of music, a Blended worship service is also less liturgical and more simplistic in style with main focus on the Word, Music and Offering. The goal of Blended Worship Service... or any worship service for that matter... is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Our society is very much multi-cultural and multi-generational and what is relevant to one person may not be so relevant to the person next to him/her. When we limit our worship to a narrow musical tradition and/or narrow traditional liturgical elements, we will not be able to reach the current makeup of our society-at-large. The increasing homogenization of congregations based on worship style works against genuinely multi-cultural and multi-generational churches.

Blended worship can meet the needs and musical preferences of heterogeneous congregations and in today's church climate, these are the only type of churches that are experiencing any growth in their church attendance. The vision for Central is to allow various segments and generations in the congregation to worship God as a body of Christ. We want to create a spiritual environment where a visitor can encounter the Living Lord without feeling like he/she has walked into a church from the 1960s or 70s. Blended service is a recognition that quality worship music exists both among the music of the past and among songs more recently composed, which is called "contemporary praise" music. In our Blended services, we will focus on three most important elements of a worship service... God's Word, Music & Offering.

We do not have all the answers for solving the decline of membership and attendance at Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church. But one important fact and/or data that we do have is this... Ministry paradigms and pattern of worship service from the past have not helped in growing the church and if we do not change and transform, then Central will not be around much longer. We hope that Central will be a spiritual home for many people for many years to come and our Blended service is just one of the instruments of change in hopes of growing our church. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the church will need to go through some immediate short-term changes and our Task Force is making some recommendations related to the worship service...

- No Choir... solos, duets and small ensembles only
 - No congregational singing
 - No Passing of the Peace
 - Everyone must wear a mask during the service and maintain social-distancing guidelines
- No paper bulletin

It will be very challenging to prepare and execute worship services under these new-normal circumstances, but we are hopeful that our worship will bring glory to God and lead to spiritual growth among our members and visitors. In the near future, I will be collaborating with our new Director of Music Ministry in planning future services as we return back to on-campus worships. Once we have a structure of the worship format, we will share that with the Worship Committee and the Session. While I do not have all the details of the worship service at this time, I can share that it will be simple and contain the three elements of God's Word, Music and Offering. We will also need to expand our Digital Platforms so that people can join us for worship from their homes. There will be some of our members with compromising health conditions who will choose to stay home and we would like to "Live-Stream" our worship for them and other people interested in our church.

In Grace & Peace,
Mark



The family of Charles Winter would like to thank everyone for the prayers, calls, cards, letters, meals and memorials that were sent in the passing of Charles- husband, Dad and friend. It is greatly appreciated.
Donna, Kim, Chris, Paul & Sophie

Words cannot express our gratitude for the outpouring of cards, calls, memorials and expressions of love in the loss of our daughter and Pauline's brother from a congregation that we totally love and could not make it without. God Bless each of you. Bud & Pauline

Reuben and I are most appreciative of all the notes and memorials for Reuben's sister, Amy Eberhardt, who passed away April 11, 2020.
Ann Mozingo

Congratulations to the church Scholarship Recipients !!!

**Emily Cheek, Karis Lee,
Devon Osborne, and Kate Noblett**

The 2020 Central Steele Creek Church Scholarship (In memory of Marion Blackwelder) was awarded to Emily Cheek, daughter of Andy and Beverly Cheek and granddaughter of Joy Cheek and the late Jerry Cheek. Emily is a senior at Appalachian State University with a major in Music Therapy.

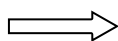
The Pete and Gertrude Gallant Memorial Scholarship for 2020 was awarded to Karis Lee, daughter of Rev. Mark and Minah Lee. Karis is a sophomore at Queens University with a major in Psychology.

In addition, Devon Osborne will receive his Gallant scholarship award for his second year. Devon is the son of David and Martha Osborne and is a student at UNC-Pembroke majoring in Business Administration.

Also, Kate Noblett will receive her Gallant scholarship award for her fourth year. Kate is the daughter of Jim and Karen Noblett and granddaughter of the late Charles and Sarah Blackwelder. Kate is a senior at Winthrop University majoring in Early Childhood Education.

For the benefit of our new members, Marion Blackwelder was the daughter of Charles and Sarah Blackwelder and niece of Jack and Mae Austin, all long time members of Central Steele Creek. Marion was a student at Brevard college and died in an automobile accident in December 1979. The Central Steele Creek Scholarship Fund was started in 1984 as a tribute to her memory. The award is made yearly and only the interest is used to finance the scholarship, with the principal remaining untouched. Additional donations are gratefully accepted as the cost of a college education continues to rise.

CONTINUED



Greetings from the Preschool.....

I pray you are all fine and staying well.
This has been a very trying time for everyone and it is becoming more evident that we will be returning from quarantine to a new normal. We are excited for that return, whatever it may bring. I miss people!

My teachers and I have remained in contact with our parents and children during these last 2 months and they remain grateful for us and our school. I mailed work and activities to each child's home in April and May and they shared pictures of the kids happily working. This has shown us that if something is special and important to you, you find a way to make it work! We have remained connected to our families the best way we can, and we miss the children dearly.

We will soon say goodbye officially to our 2019/2020 school year and begin preparing for the next. We will clean out classrooms and continue enrollment over the summer. We are currently a little more than halfway full. Please continue to pray for our preschool as we navigate through these uncharted waters and continue to do God's work for these children and families in every way possible!

Miss Joanna

Women's Retreat Update

Due to all the restrictions we are currently under and the uncertainty of the foreseeable future, the Women's Retreat scheduled for this August 28-30, 2020 has been POSTPONED. Bonclarken will honor our deposit for our new retreat date which is scheduled for NEXT August 20-22, 2021. While this is still in the summer, it does give us the facilities we have had in the past. If this date does fit your schedule, your deposit will be refunded.

So, let's all pray this pandemic is over soon and rejoice in knowing we have a wonderful weekend already planned for next year! And, we do have a few spots left so maybe some of you who could not go this time will be able to join us next time. It might even be a little cooler in the foothills then!!

Scholarship Recipients continued:

The Pete and Gertrude Gallant Memorial Scholarship was established in 2014. The Gallants were long time members of our church and their daughter Carol Gallant has funded the scholarship in their memory. This scholarship is given to the recipient for four consecutive years provided that the student maintains acceptable grades in their field of study.

FINANCE TEAM UPDATE

Income (for budgeted items) needed as of 4/30/20: \$142,180

Income (for budgeted items) received as of 4/30/20: \$116,199

Capital reserve fund balance (4/30/20): \$295,149

Regular church office hours

will resume on Monday, June 8... but there are some mandatory guidelines for anyone coming to the church office.

- Please wear a mask as you enter the office. Remember, you are protecting the health and wellbeing of others when you wear a mask.
- Maintain Social Distancing protocol... at least 6 feet apart.
- Outside door will remain locked, but Allyson will open the door for visitors.

JULY HEAD ELDER, USHERS & COMMUNION SERVERS

Head Usher: Lynn Snuggs

Ushers/Servers: Tim Hood, Russell Helms, Mike Brown

Communion Server: Pam Murphy

Congratulations to ALL our students who have managed to complete this school year from home! It has been an exceptional time, and there have been many challenges the past few months. While we have no graduating seniors this year, we do have scholarship recipients. We hope everyone will have a great summer and start the new school year with renewed joy! Marion Blackwelder scholarship -- Emily Cheek
Pete and Gertrude Gallant Memorial Scholarship :
Karis Lee
Devon Osborn (second year)
Katie Noblett (fourth year)

June 13th Mighty Acts Charity Golf Tournament

Contact Becky or Russell Helms to support our June 13th Mighty Acts Charity Golf Tournament. Funds raised will go to support needy families and children in the Steele Creek community.

- Player fee \$60.00pp; sponsor fee \$100.00 - same as last year
- Location: Spring Lake Country Club, York, SC - 1:00pm shotgun start
- Lunch, awards, prizes, and beverages included at no additional cost.

Golfer registration forms and sponsor forms are available on our church website at cscpc.org and on FB, in the church office, or call or email Becky Helms at 704-488-0486, rebechel3@aol.com. Donations for golfer goodie bag items, prizes, and beverages are greatly appreciated.



Meet Elizabeth Beamis

The Personnel Committee of Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church is pleased to present Elizabeth Beamis as our new Director of Music Ministries.

Elizabeth has a Bachelors degree in vocal performance and a Masters degree in voice pedagogy (CCM). Voice pedagogy is the study of the art and science of voice instructions. She most recently was the Director of Music at Saint Andrew Lutheran Church in Centreville, VA where she conducted and accompanied the music ensembles. She has worked in several churches since 2014 as a pianist, organist, soloist and/or director of music.

Elizabeth is trained in and enjoys all music genres. We believe she will be an asset to Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church as we move to a more blended style of worship.

Please join us in welcoming Elizabeth to our church. Attached is a link where you can listen to some of her musical abilities: (copy and paste it into a browser)
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6HjWzDY05IzQmws0oZJV2icECbvgQbVA>

Birthdays– June

- 1-Beth Patterson & Pauline Shaney
- 2-Anna Davis
- 3-Michael Tolley
- 5-Wil Caselli & Aman Hyrams
- 6-Rhonda Weaver
- 7-Jim Martin
- 8-Dustin Shaw
- 9-Nadja Sefcik-Earl
- 13-Matthew Lee
- 17-Joy Cheek
- 19-Ralph Hamilton
- 20-Erin Osborne
- 23-Bob Caudle & Helen Perkin
- 24-Suzi Elliott
- 25-Hunter Wilson
- 29-Renee Daniel

