

# CENTRAL CALLING

CENTRAL STEELE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Charlotte, North Carolina 28273

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www.cscpc.org churchoffice@cscpc.org

## March 2021

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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

It was on March 11, 2020 that the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a World Pandemic. Central gathered in-person on March 15 to worship, but the Session decided to cancel in-person worship and shift to Virtual Worship, in compliance with the order of the North Carolina Governor. Our members stepped up and helped with the Virtual Worship and we made the best of the challenging situations for the next 5 months as we worshiped together through the use of the internet. We resumed in-person worship in September of 2020 under the leadership and direction of the Re-Opening Task Force and the Session. Central is truly grateful to have servants with wonderful technical gifts and talents who took the lead in creating the capacity to livestream our Sunday morning worship service. We went from 0 to 100 mph... digitally speaking... in a short period of time so that our members with compromising and underlying health conditions can join Sunday worship service from home. We owe our thanks to the members of the Publicity Team for their talents, efforts and sacrifice in making this possible for Central. We are approaching one full year since the beginning of this COVID-19 pandemic and this is the worst kind of anniversary we can experience in our lives. About 500,000 people have lost their lives in America because of this terrible virus and millions more have been compromised in their health because they contracted this virus, including some of our members. Tens of millions of people have lost their jobs and hundreds of thousands of small businesses were forced to close their doors. Kids were relegated to using Zoom and video classes in order to attend school during their most important and formative years. This has been a very difficult and challenging year for all of us.

We are beginning to see Central members coming back to in-person after receiving

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their vaccinations. There's great joy in seeing familiar faces, with masks on, coming back to church after being away for many months. I hope to see many more faces returning back to church in the coming weeks and months. Let me also take a moment here to acknowledge all the members who came in-person week after week to serve and to encourage one another during this pandemic. Your selfless service is very much appreciated and your support will not be forgotten by a grateful church. In this Season of Lent, my hope is that all of you will experience the renewing work and movement of the Holy Spirit in your daily life. Approach the throne of God's grace with hearts of repentance and seek to draw closer to our God with humble and contrite hearts. Psalm 51:17... *"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise."* I pray that Acts 3:19-20 will be a daily inspiration for you during this Lenten Season... *"Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you."*

In Grace & Peace,  
Mark



## Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 704-588-1211

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Mark Lee	Pastor
Emily Cheek	Interim Director of Music Ministries
Nadja Sefcik-Earl	Director of Handbells
Christy Martell	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 (some classes on hold)	9:15am
Worship	10:30am

## DEADLINES

**April 2021 issue deadline is March 25th.**  
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 MARCH

**Dried or canned beans; packaged rice**

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



I want to thank you for your support and kindness of sympathy after the death of my brother.

Teresa Canipe



**SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH**  
Set your clocks ahead one hour!

## Faith & Justice Bible Study

Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16, 23 (7-8 PM)

A four-week Bible study led by Kathy Bricker will explore the topic of Faith and Justice. Join us via ZOOM as we discuss topics like: 1) How is justice related to faith? 2) What is your responsibility to a neighbor who isn't willing to help himself OR might put you in danger? 3) Is an "eye for an eye" justice or revenge? 4) What does the Bible say about justice, mercy, and faith?

ZOOM reminders will be sent out weekly.



### From our Interim Director of Music Ministries:



Dear Central Steele Creek congregation,

The Central Ensemble is continuing to accept new members. You do not have to have any prior music training to join this group, just a passion of praising God through song. We meet weekly on Wednesday's from 5:30pm-6:15pm. At rehearsals, each member is required to wear a mask while singing and chairs are socially distanced to reduce risk of infection. If you are interested in joining the Central Ensemble, please contact me: [EmilyCheek@cscpc.org](mailto:EmilyCheek@cscpc.org) !

For the month of March I would like to highlight contemporary Christian artist: Lauren Diagle. She has emerged as a popular artist in the past few years and has touched people of all ages with her music. Diagle was born and raised in Louisiana. At age 15 she developed an illness called "Cytomegalovirus" which caused her to be homebound for many years. This experience pushed her to dive deep into her faith and her passion for music. In her early adulthood she auditioned for American Idol and made it to the top 24. After her time on American Idol, she began producing her own music from a Christian perspective. In 2015, she released her first single "How Can It Be" and now has 3 albums produced. She has won many awards including Grammy's and American Music Awards. I personally enjoy Diagle's lyrics and unique style when comparing her music to other current contemporary artists.

Here are some songs that I think you all should listen to throughout this month; enjoy!

1. How Can It Be
2. You Say
3. Salt and Light
4. Rescue
5. Look Up Child
6. Trust in You

### FINANCE TEAM UPDATE

Spending (for budgeted items) as of 1/31/21: \$28,410  
Income (for budgeted items) received as of 1/31/21: \$29,697  
Capital reserve fund balance (1/31/21): \$289,744

# One Great Hour of Sharing

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing: (1) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, (2) the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and (3) Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

**Please contribute to the One Great Hour of Sharing fund, anytime during Lent. You may place a donation in the offering plate, send a donation to the church office or contribute on-line (special offerings). Thank you**



## **PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees.

## **PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM**

Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.

## **SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE**

Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

## **MARCH HEAD ELDER & USHERS**

**Head Usher:** Diane Price

**Ushers:** Mike Brown, Judy Brown



For the next several months, we will be highlighting the teachers of the Central Fine Arts Academy. The Academy is an outreach of Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church and has been in existence since May 2019. Many prayerful hours of planning brought the program to fruition and our hope is to continue to provide excellent arts instruction to students of all ages for years to come.

Lori Cauley  
CFAA Director



**Nicholas Pierle** joined the Central Fine Arts Academy staff this past fall. He is currently teaching piano and voice for The Academy. Mr. Pierle also teaches elementary general music and choir with the St. Patrick and St. Ann Catholic Schools in Charlotte, NC. Mr. Pierle received the Bachelor of Arts in Music: Vocal Performance from High Point University and the Master of Music degrees in Choral Conducting, Vocal Performance, and Vocal Pedagogy from East Carolina University. Mr. Pierle's positive spirit and musical expertise are a valued addition to our staff.

**Ladies of the Church:** Christian Education is planning to host a Spring Gathering for all ladies of the church. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 15 for a one-day morning event at the church which will include a Bible lesson, refreshments, and getting to see each other! A children's program is also being planned. All Covid-19 precautions will be in place. Contact Diane Price @ 704-589-6027 to register or for questions. Hope to see ALL of you there!



## Support of Students and Teachers at Steele Creek Elementary

Thank you for supporting students and teachers at Steele Creek Elementary School. The Pandemic has made instruction and learning difficult for both students and teachers. As teachers came back for workdays prior to in-class instruction starting again in February, we were able to provide encouragement and support. Through your donations, Central provided \$25 gift cards to 42 teachers who work directly with students. All the classroom teachers and those supporting special education, music and art received the cards to help them purchase extra supplies or equipment for their classroom. We also provided the entire staff with snacks to show our appreciation.



Would you be willing to help again this spring? We would like to again provide these



snacks on a monthly basis March through May. Please remember: due to Covid-19, we will need to provide store bought and individually packaged items. Examples are snack size (lunch box) packages of cookies (like Oreos), individual bags of chips, Lance crackers, etc. We should skip cookies, cupcakes, etc. from the store bakery, etc. since they are not individually packaged at the manufacturer.

If you can help, please drop off the items by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in at the church office during the week or in the kitchenette next to the parlor on Sundays. For this month, the date is March 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Preschool News



The Pre-K wanted to thank everyone who contributed to our Class for Valentine's day! It helped make the day extra fun!

And also a big thank you to those who donated magazines, they were just what we needed. In March we are looking forward to celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday and talking about all the good things that March brings us, like Spring! We are going to discover how the wind blows, the colors of a rainbow and talk about the wonder of the cycle of a butterfly. We will continue to talk about our daily devotional lessons and memorizing our weekly bible verses. We will fly on a kite tail as March will keep us super busy!

Christy Martell, Director

## Birthdays-March

- 1-Devon Osborne
- 3-Larry Arbuckle, Michael Lee, Jill Wortman & Manley Caudle
- 4-Sue Birch
- 8-Chelsea Hunter & Paul McNeill
- 10-Christy Martell
- 12-Charles Wilkerson & Beth Young
- 13-Emily McNeill
- 17-Judy Brown & William Cook
- 18-Allison Burgess
- 19-Ken Price
- 20-Elaine Hood
- 23-Richard Hayes
- 25-Pam Murphy, Cheyenne Beaty, Dylan Beaty & Colby Perez
- 26-Betty Helton
- 27-Diane Wilson, Page Courts, Roger Palmer & Doug Youngblood
- 31-Ann Clapham



## MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of Roger Tripp, Teresa Canipe's brother; Toni & Greta Lambert

## Church Scholarship Applications

Applications for the Central Steele Creek Church Scholarship ( In Memory of Marion Blackwelder ) for 2021 and applications for the Pete and Gertrude Gallant Memorial Scholarship for 2021 are available in the church office. Any church member ( church membership required ) attending an institution of higher learning in 2021-2022 is encouraged to submit an application for both scholarships.

The CSCPC Scholarship is awarded each year for that school year only.

The Gallant Scholarship is awarded yearly and if the recipient maintains an acceptable grade point level he or she will automatically receive the award in the next year with the possibility of receiving it for 4 years.

Applications will be accepted through May 7, 2021. This year's recipients will be announced later that month, hopefully on Graduate Sunday if we return to regular church services.

If you have any questions, please contact Mike Brown.

### Lent 2021 at Central



During Lent, let us join together as we prepare our hearts and minds to seek repentance of our sins and spiritual renewal and growth in Jesus Christ.

Join us for this brief, yet powerful time of devotion on Zoom as we draw closer to our Lord.

#### Lenten Wednesday Zoom Devotions

- March 3 @12noon
- March 10 @12noon
- March 17 @12noon
- March 24 @ 12noon

#### Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://zoom.us/j/97267385725?](https://zoom.us/j/97267385725?pwd=cys3bXc1MkpYWExkeVh2NW9LYllydz09)

[pwd=cys3bXc1MkpYWExkeVh2NW9LYllydz09](https://zoom.us/j/97267385725?pwd=cys3bXc1MkpYWExkeVh2NW9LYllydz09)

Meeting ID: 972 6738 5725

Passcode: 358384

## DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES UPDATE

The Personnel Team has been seeking a long-term Director of Music Ministries (DOMM) for Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church since January 2021. Due to Covid 19, we have had to search, interview, communicate, arrange schedules, etc. by emails and Zoom.

We have been blessed with Emily Cheek as our interim DOMM. She has provided us with her talent in voice, piano and guitar and with music that reflects and enhances Rev. Lee's sermons and Bible verses that are used during the Sunday services. Sadly, she must leave us soon to pursue completing her degree in music therapy. If you get a chance to thank Emily, please do so.

The Personnel Team is close to selecting a long-term DOMM. We have had a lot of candidates from around the country and locally. We started out with about 20 potential candidates. We pared the list down to four candidates that received a second interview and provided performances. All four of them have good qualities, talents, and personalities. We will prayerfully select the best DOMM candidate that is a good fit for our church and the congregation.

Thank You!

Personnel Team

Charlie Bricker  
Beverly Cheek  
Pat Hart  
Debbie Stikeleather  
Diane Wilson  
Donna Young

### February 22 Food Share: 130 families served in just one hour!



Volunteers Chet Knapp & Beverly Cheek

# Update: Y School Plus @ Central

The YMCA is continuing to support students and their families with the School Plus program for remote learning. Recently, the Y program had to adapt as Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools started transitioning the students back to in-person classes in late February. Elementary students attend classes at their school 2 days a week, continuing with 3 days remote. Middle school students will attend in-person classes one week, with 2 weeks remote.

We have the opportunity to show our active faith. This has been a challenging year for the students. There are concerns about learning gaps, even with a support program such as the Y School Plus. Central members can help to support these students.

- **Schoolwork Assistant:** Work with staff to help children with remote learning and homework in a way that extends children's understanding and interest. Helping children feel successful by giving positive feedback and support. There are 2 time slots each day: 10:30 – noon or 1 pm – 2pm, from now until the end of June. This will be most effective if you could commit one day a week (or more) for a few weeks at a time. Even if you wish to wait until after your Covid-19 vaccine shots, you can register as a volunteer for that later time. The registration information is at <https://ymcacharlotte.volunteermatters.org/project-catalog/239>. Please register soon.
- **Be a Friend (Remotely):** You can be a friend by sharing notes, pictures to draw, reading materials, etc. to one of the elementary students. Ann Mozingo shared the pleasure that she has in gaining a young friend. Ann will help others get started, sharing her expertise as an elementary teacher.
- For more information: contact Jeanne Smith at [jesmith8412@gmail.com](mailto:jesmith8412@gmail.com)





# CENTRAL FINE *Arts* ACADEMY

VIRTUAL



**GUITAR • VOICE • VIOLIN • PIANO  
ART/DRAWING • DANCE • PERCUSSION**

**Spring Session: March 29th – May 21st  
Live, Online Lessons, Flexible Scheduling  
Certified, excellent teachers  
Cost: \$25 for 30 minutes; \$45 for 60 minutes**

<http://cscpc.org/cfaa/>

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