

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

September 2020

Special points of interest:

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- Teacher Recognition (p 3)
- Pop Up Food Share (p 3)
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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

September, 2020

We have now arrived in the month of September and I always get excited about this time of the year because schools are back in session... kids out of the house and back in school. But this school year is completely different due to the challenging circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. I also look forward to the start of college and NFL football seasons, but there's so much uncertainty about these sporting events finishing their seasons, let alone even getting started at all. While many people are disappointed and even upset about schools going online and college football season being cancelled due to the spread of the virus, I have found that many of the same people complaining also refused to wear masks in public and practice social distancing to mitigate the spread of the virus. One of the more recognizable college football coaches in America, Nick Saban, made this statement back in the spring as the virus was spreading... *"All of us want to make sure we play football this fall. And to make that happen, we must be sure we stay at home if we have symptoms. Wash your hands often, follow all social distancing guidelines and please wear a mask anytime you're around other people."* While there are many lessons to be learned during these difficult and challenging times, I am reminded about humility, personal responsibility and accountability. I also believe churches and believers of today are missing these same characteristics and exhibiting too much hypocrisy, which is causing people to abandon the church and in many cases, not even try to come to church and come to faith in Christ. And we wonder why the church is declining... it's not only because of old fashioned practices, but lack of humility, accountability and personal responsibility.

Let me make it clear that I am a sinner in need of God's grace and forgiveness each day and I

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have no right to judge others (Matthew 7). But I am also compelled to encourage myself and God's people to stop being hypocrites... causing people in the society to view the church and Christians as self-centered and self-serving religious freaks. As I write this article, I came across the headline about a well known religious figure named Jerry Falwell Jr., who is/was the president of Liberty University, a Christian college in Virginia. If you are not aware of this man, just simply google his name and you will see the scandals he has been and is currently embroiled in as a professing Christian. Full disclosure... I am currently a candidate in the Doctoral Program at the School of Theology of Liberty University. Let me share an excerpt from Liberty University Online Honor Code... "Sexual relations outside of a biblically-ordained marriage between a natural-born man and a natural-born woman are not permissible at Liberty University. In personal relationships, students are encouraged to know and abide by common-sense guidelines to avoid the appearance of impropriety. Activities inconsistent with these standards and guidelines are violations of the Online Student Honor Code." The president of the university has made a lot of accusatory and judgmental statements about other people in the past, while trying to hide his own flaws and hypocritical actions in his life. While style of worship and lack of changes in church programs can be viewed as reasons for decline in membership, I believe hypocrisy and lack of accountability are also important reasons for decline as well. I hope and pray that our church and our members can reveal Jesus Christ through humility, accountability and self-responsibility in our faith and also during this difficult pandemic. Stay safe and God bless.

—Mark

Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

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Mark Lee	Pastor
Elizabeth Bemis	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 (on hold)	9:15am
Worship	10:30am

DEADLINES

October 2020 issue deadline is September 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 SEPTEMBER Boxed Cereals

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



My sincere thanks to our church family for all the cards, gifts, well wishes and to all those who organized the Saturday Celebration in my honor. But mostly the expression of love I felt for our family from the entire congregation. I am truly humbled and grateful beyond words for each of you and am blessed to be a member of this congregation. With love and gratitude, Bud

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of David Arthurs, father of Beverly Cheek; Mike & Judy Brown, Rhonda Weaver, Dorothy Williams, Bob & Susan Hunter, Jeanne Smith, Greta & Toni Lambert, Sandy & Pat Hart, Martha & Paul Sigmon, Emma B. Young/Living the Word class, Kay & Jim Patterson, George & Marilyn Hege

In honor of Bud Shaney; Sandra Burke, Sandy & Pat Hart

In honor of Martha Osborne; Rhonda Weaver

In memory of Clint Burke; Bob & Susan Hunter, Paul & Martha Sigmon, Emma B. Young/Living the Word class, Greta & Toni Lambert, Dorothy Williams, Herman & Teresa Canipe, Mike & Judy Brown, Pat & Sandy Hart, Kay & Jim Patterson, Barbara & Barry Choate, George & Marilyn Hege, Jeanne Smith

FAITH AND POLITICS –A short study

How interested and involved in politics are you? In this election year, politics has spilled over into all parts of life. Join a ZOOM bible-based study led by Kathy Bricker where we explore the following faith questions:

- Wednesday, September 9, 7:00pm – Session 1
Is God a Republican or a Democrat?
- Wednesday, September 16, 7:00pm – Session 2
Is it a sin not to vote?
- Wednesday, September 23, 7:00pm – Session 3 Why do some politicians lie and make bad decisions in their personal lives?
- Wednesday, September 30, 7:00pm – Session 4
Is it ok or not ok to talk about politics in church?

Please email Allyson in the church office, churchoffice@cscpc.org to sign up for this study and to receive your weekly Zoom link to the class.

FINANCE TEAM UPDATE

Spending (for budgeted items) as of 7/31/20: \$198,876

Income (for budgeted items) received as of 7/31/20: \$185,425

Capital reserve fund balance (7/31/20): \$303,170

Church Office is Open

Here 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 well-being 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

Secret Saints!

I want to thank all of you that have volunteered to be a "Secret Saint" to support our college students during this very unusual school year. We are truly blessed to have such caring members of our congregation and want you to know how much you are appreciated. Blessings, Ellie Bostick

Treats for Steele Creek Elem Teachers:

Thank you for donating so many snacks for the teachers at Steele Creek. Mike, Judy and I delivered them on Friday and they took up 2 counters in the teacher breakroom. See the attached pictures. This morning, I received this thank you email from the principal, Karen Dozier:

"I want to thank Central Steele Creek Church for the tasty treats for the staff. It was HUGE and we have snacks even for tomorrow."



Sunday School Teacher Recognition

Traditionally at this time of year, our church honors our Sunday school teachers during a church service. Due to social distancing we are unable to do it in person this year, so the Christian Education Committee would like to recognize in this newsletter those teachers who served in the 2019 - 2020 school year.

Teresa Canipe - Toddlers

Diane Price and Pam Brooks - Elementary Grades

Russell Helms - Mighty Acts

Judy Corbett - Emma B. Young /Living The Word

Kathy Bricker, Pat Hart, and Judy Brown -
New Covenant

Barry Choate, Herman Canipe, Jr. and Mary Phillips - Dean Bassett Class

The church is grateful for your dedicated service and hope you will consider continuing to teach when things return to normal.

In accordance with the church's distancing policy, there will not be any regular Adult Sunday School classes for the near future. Instead of Sunday adult classes, it has been suggested we have weekly Bible studies during the week using Zoom. This will be similar to the classes that were led by Rev. Lee in June.

Prayers that all of you, teachers and students, stay safe, and hope to see you back in church when this crisis is over. The Christian Ed Team

STEELE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT PLEASANT HILL

will be a food share site for Loaves & Fishes on Wednesday, September 23. Food box pickup time will be from 10:30 am to 11:30 am by the food insecure individuals. Pre-registration is required for the event at www.loavesandfishes.org.

Their telephone number is 704-523-4333. If you know of anyone in need, please share this information.



**POP UP
FOOD SHARE**

Birthdays– September

1-Noell Duran, Holly Lawhorn & Lauren Shaw

3-McKenzie Clapham

4-Matt Smith

7-Marilyn Hege & Pam Wilkerson

8-Tricia Young Herrington

10-Stephen Perkin

11-Katie Hunter

16-Hayden Griffin & Jessica Manner

18-Mary Young

20-Martha Sigmon, Sharon Wilson &
Mary Pat Fowler

24-Hayes Shepard

25-John Williams

28-Susan Hunter



Ladies of the Church -- Christian Education is planning to host a Fall Gathering for all ladies of the church. This will be a one-day Saturday event at the church in October or November and will include a Bible lesson, refreshments, and getting to see each other again! All covid-19 precautions will be in place. Details will be announced as soon as they are confirmed. Hope to see ALL of you there!

Church Service to Resume September 6

With the air conditioner replaced, we will gather to worship and partake in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on September 6th. Below are the guidelines for safe in-person worship:

- 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.
- Hand sanitizer 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.
- No 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 placed at the entrances; plates not to be passed during worship.
- Eliminate passing of the peace from the worship service.
- Congregational and choral singing discontinued.
- Special music offered by soloists, small ensembles, instrumentalists, recorded music. Live performances to be given from the choir loft or pulpit level (except for piano music).
- Rev. Lee leads worship from pulpit level. 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.
- No nursery or children's Sunday school classes. Children attend church with their parents. Only 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.

PRESCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Below is a list of things that our Preschool is in need of. If you can donate any of these items, the Preschool would be most appreciative! You can drop off donations in the church office and be sure to designate them "Preschool". Thank you.

- * Paper Grocery Bags
- * Ziplock Baggies of all sizes
- * Plastic Sleeve Protectors
- * Index Cards
- * Large and Small White Non-Coated Paper plates
- * Red, Yellow and Green Small Pom Poms (need enough for children to keep at home for various small motor activities)
- * Colored Sharpies
- * Dry Erase Markers

Missions: School Supplies Needed even with Covid-19



School supplies are still needed – even with students involved in remote learning assignments as well as when schools re-open for in-school classes. We will start collecting the items now to take advantage of the Back-to-School sales.

Your donations can be left at the church office or brought to Narthex when worship services begin again. We will store the items at the church and deliver them as the teachers need the supplies.

- #2 pencils (Ticonderoga type)
- pencil sharpener - individual
- Scissors – child size
- Glue sticks
- Crayons, colored pencils and markers
- Highlighters
- Plastic folders with pockets (3 prong)
- Spiral bound notebooks (individual and 5 subject) or Composition notebooks
- 1 ½, 2 and 3 inch notebooks
- Dividers
- Notebook paper (wide ruled), Index cards, graph paper
- Ruler
- Plastic Pencil Box
- Plastic pocket folder with 3 prongs
- Erasers – chunky pink or pencil caps
- Also: Earbuds, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, wet wipes, book-bags



Greetings from the Preschool...

Hello Everyone! I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am the new director of our preschool. I am not new to the school though. I am entering my 11th year and I started out in the 2's classroom, then I worked in the 3's and then I became the Pre-K teacher. The year of 2020 has brought a lot of changes to our preschool. We had to shut down in March due to Covid and as you all know we were unable to open our doors to finish out the school year. It was a very sad time for our teachers who dedicated so much of themselves and for the students who loved coming to school everyday. Becoming director of the preschool in the middle of a pandemic has come with it's challenges. I have had teachers who could not return at this time, I have had to address many concerns about how we will operate in a way that will provide a safe and healthy environment for the children. But, when we lean on the Lord and trust him to open our eyes to what he wants us to see, it always becomes clear. It became very clear to me that opening our school doors was not going to work in the traditional manner this year. So, we are going to roll with the times and I will be hosting our first ever virtual Pre-K Classroom. I am very excited about this opportunity! I will work with the children and their parents throughout the Fall while they remain at home and my goal is for us to open our doors in January. Life is an adventure!

Proverbs 3:5



Live, online interactive small group classes and private lessons for:

Violin, Guitar, Dance, Drawing, Percussion and Voice.

Group lessons are designed for students in grades K - 5. Private lessons are for kids of all ages!



CENTRAL FINE ARTS VIRTUAL ACADEMY

Registering Now

Cost: \$25 / 30 minutes
\$45 / 60 minutes

Registration Fee: \$20

Registration and
information at
<http://cscpc.org/cfaa>

Questions about format,
scheduling, instrument rentals
and more call Director Lori
Cauley at 704-274-1878.

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The information in this flyer is neither endorsed by nor necessarily reflective of the views of the Board of Education, the District or any CMS school.