

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

February 2021

Special points of interest:

- From the Pastor's Pen (p 1)
- Note from Interim DOMM (p 2)
- Message from Session (p 3)
- CFAA Spotlight (p 3)
- Congratulations Grads! (p 5)



From the Pastor's Pen

Lenten Season will begin with Ash Wednesday on February 17 and Central will gather in-person and also through livestream to prayerfully worship our God. The Lenten season developed as part of the historical Christian calendar and is typically celebrated by Catholics and some mainline Protestant churches that follow a liturgical calendar. Although its format has varied throughout the centuries and throughout different cultures, the basic concept remains the same... to open our hearts to God's refining grace through prayer, confession, fasting, and offering as we anticipate the Holy Week.

Similar to the Advent Season, Lent is a time to draw closer to our God, so that when Good Friday and eventually Easter comes, it is not just another day at church but an opportunity to receive God's overflowing grace. Lent is an intensely penitential time as we examine our sinful natures and return to God seeking His forgiveness and mercy, which He surely bestows upon us as we seek Him with genuine, submissive, repentant and humble hearts. Lent is also an opportunity to contemplate what our Lord really did for us on the Cross. How much He suffered for us so that we can be redeemed in our relationship with God as His children. During Lent, Central will have a weekly time of devotion and prayer on Wednesdays at 12noon and we will do so virtually on Zoom. I hope you can be a part of our virtual Lenten devotion each Wednesday.

Here is a wonderful passage from the Bible that is very helpful for us as we prepare for Lent. Mark 1:12-15... *The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God,*

Volume 21, Issue 2

and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

In Grace & Peace,
Mark



Lent 2021 at Central



Ash Wednesday Service:

Wednesday, February 17, 7:00pm.

In person & Live Stream.

Imposition of Ashes

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

- Feb. 24 @12noon
- 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=cys3bXclMkpYWExkeVh2NW9LYllydz09)

[pwd=cys3bXclMkpYWExkeVh2NW9LYllydz09](https://zoom.us/j/97267385725?pwd=cys3bXclMkpYWExkeVh2NW9LYllydz09)

Meeting ID: 972 6738 5725

Passcode: 358384

We're on the web...

www.cscpc.org

or [Facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/CentralSteeleCreekPresbyterian)

Central Steele Creek Presbyterian

In this issue:

From the Pastor's Pen 1
Lent 2021

Loaves & Fishes 2
Memorials & Honorariums
Finance Team Update
Note from Director of
Music Ministries

Message from Session 3
CFAA Spotlight
Missions: Teacher
Appreciation
Thank you

Preschool News 4
New Bible Study
YMCA Program Update
February Birthdays

Scholarship Info 5
Congratulations Grads!
Food Share Update
Angel-Apple Tree Update

Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 704-588-1211

Fax: 704-588-1461

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

March 2021 issue deadline is February 22nd.

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 FEBRUARY

Canned Soup

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

Last month we sent 108 pounds of food to the pantry.

Please note new address:



Doug Youngblood
Merrywood Retirement Living
3600 Park Rd. Room #H209
Charlotte, NC 28209

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of Herman Canipe, Sr; Mark & Debra Clapham

In memory of Noel Duran; Donna Young

In memory of Moosook Song Lee, Minah Lee's mother; Mark & Debra Clapham, Jim & Debbie Stikeleather, Donna Young.

FINANCE TEAM UPDATE

Spending (for budgeted items) as of 12/31/20: \$346,184

Income (for budgeted items) received as of 12/31/20: \$346,479

Capital reserve fund balance (12/31/20): \$287,459

From our Interim Director of Music Ministries:



Dear Central Congregation,

I hope that the start of 2021 has been good to you all. As we enter into the second month of this year and the pandemic persists, I want to share a few virtual resources with you to encourage worship music in your daily lives. Since our worship services are now blended, below are a few traditional and contemporary resources for you to look at.

For those of you who enjoy traditional church music, a church member has shared a resource with me for a weekly worship through zoom which feature many popular composers who create many of the pieces played and sang in traditional churches today. It is called "Worship Songs Live" with Joseph Martin and it occurs every Tuesday night at 8pm. This week, their guest will be Heather Sorenson, and they will be reviewing new Spring music from Hal Leonard and Shawnee Press. If you are interested in participating, please contact me at EmilyCheek@cscpc.org.

For those of you who would like to learn more contemporary worship music, I would like to share an artist of the month for you all to listen to. To start, I would like to introduce you all to a church called "Hillsong". Originating in Australia, Hillsong is a contemporary church that has expanded throughout the world to share the word of Jesus Christ. They have two groups within their organization that compose music: (1) "Hillsong Worship" and (2) "Hillsong UNITED". The mission of "Hillsong Worship" is to build the local church and local churches across the world through passionate and genuine worship. Hillsong Worship's focus is to make sure they're doing their part in resourcing to local church worship teams. The mission of Hillsong UNITED is to write songs that awaken churches and individuals to the fact that we are redeemed and called into the story of God. Unlike Hillsong Worship, Hillsong UNITED focuses on reaching individuals inside and outside the church through their unique musical sound. Although Hillsong Worship and Hillsong UNITED's missions are different, they still follow the same vision of Hillsong Church which is "to reach and influence the world by building a large Christ-centered, Bible-based church, changing mindsets and empowering people to lead and impact in every sphere of life." I had the incredible opportunity to hear them perform live when I was in high school and have been consistently moved by their music. Below are some of my favorite songs from each group, but feel free to research and learn more!

Hillsong Worship:

What a Beautiful Name
King of Kings
Cornerstone
Hosanna
Who You Say I Am

Hillsong UNITED:

Oceans
Touch the Sky
Another in the Fire
Lead Me to the Cross
Even When it Hurts

Message from the Session: Restructuring

Last September, Session acted to reduce the number of active elders serving from twelve to nine to better fit the size of Central's membership. Session also acted to investigate a restructuring of its committees not only because of the reduction in active elders, but also to seek the best structure to support and further the mission of Central. In October, a Task Team comprised of Elders Charlie Bricker, Becky Helms, Diane Price, Wade Shepard and Jeanne Smith were asked to examine alternatives to the existing structure and report back to Session with their recommendations. The Task Team presented its recommendations at Session's January 23 Planning Retreat and Session subsequently approved the new functional structure to facilitate and accomplish the work and worship of Central. The new ministry teams, supporting teams and team leads are as follows:

- **Worship and Spiritual Formation Ministry Team**
 1. Worship Planning Team— Elder Weaver, Lead
 2. Christian Education and Ministries Team – Elder Price, Lead
 3. Cultural Diversity Team – Elder Snuggs, Lead
- **Ministry to Congregation & Administrative Ministry Team**
 1. Congregational Care Team – Elder Bostick, Lead
 2. Personnel Team – Elder Bricker, Lead
 3. Finance Team – Elder Clapham, Lead
 4. Buildings & Grounds Team – Elder Snuggs, Lead
- **Outreach & Technology Ministry Team**
 1. Outreach Team – Elder Osborne, Lead
 2. Community Service Team – Elder Smith, Lead
 3. Marketing Team – Elder Helms, Lead
 4. Information Technology Team – Elder Wilkerson, Lead

Thanks to the members of the Task Team for their good work, and prayers for the team leads as they settle into the new organization.

Support Teachers at Steele Creek Elem:

Would you be willing to donate snacks or treats for the teachers at Steele Creek Elementary - as they prepare for in-person classes in February? It is requested that we 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. If you can help, please drop off the items at the church office between now and February 11th.



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

Meet Yamuel Perez-Sanchez the guitar

instructor for the Central Fine Arts Academy. Mr. Sanchez has been with the academy since the beginning in September of 2019. He holds degrees in music, special education, and is working on a doctorate degree in Transformational Leadership. He and his wife, Bibiana, have one daughter, Leonor.



Bryson Granger is a Central Fine Arts student who has taken guitar from Mr. Sanchez since September 2019. Bryson's mom, Jamila Granger, wrote, "Mr. Perez has had an amazing impact on Bryson! His encouragement has nurtured his growing love of learning to play the guitar. Bryson now looks forward to his lessons and finds the songs coming easier to him. All this is due to the kindness, patience, teaching skill and amazing talent of Mr. Perez. We have been blessed to have him as Bryson's guitar teacher!!"

Mr. Sanchez states in his biography "We need people who can guide us positively. Their support and help are essential because they define and transform our learning experiences." We are so fortunate to have Yamuel Perez-Sanchez positively guiding our students. His talents paired with his quiet, kind spirit are truly an asset to the Central Steele Creek Presbyterian family.



I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, thoughts, cards, and well-wishes during my recent hospital visits and procedures. I am much better and looking forward to a time when we all can feel comfortable about gathering. Thanks again!
Best regards,

George Hege

Preschool News

It is so hard to believe February is here! Virtual Pre-K has been so busy learning all about what Winter brings that January just flew by! February brings us many things. We will be learning all about America and we will be exchanging Valentine's and treats with our friends and learning that, We Love, Because He First Loved Us. Also, February is our healthy month. We will be learning about proper nutrition and how to take good care of our minds, body and spirit. We will be doing this by using the Fruit of the Spirit. We will learn all nine attributes; faith, love, peace, joy, happiness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. We will discuss one a day and talk about ways we can walk the path that God has made for us to follow. By the end of 2 weeks, the children will be able to recite all nine attributes.



I would like to ask if anyone has magazines that they no longer want, we need pictures of foods. You can bring the magazines in or you can just bring in the pages for us and leave it with Allyson. We will be talking about good foods and foods that are not so good for us and we will be doing a project with the photos. So any food pictures, would be greatly appreciated. Also, if you would like to contribute Valentine treats for the children's bags, they would really love it! We have missed so much this year being virtual. They will be missing their Valentine's Pizza Party that we traditionally have every year and I have been trying to lift the children's spirits as much as I can by having them make each other cards and bring in treats to share. They drop whatever they have to share off in a special box I put outside, then I gather it all up and put everything in gift bags for each child. We did this for Christmas and we are also celebrating birthdays this way. The children are having a lot of fun, sneaking around and dropping off treats for each other!

Christy

FEBRUARY HEAD ELDER & USHERS

Head Usher: Charlie Bricker

Ushers: Teresa Canipe & John Burgess

♥ Happy Valentines Day ♥

Y Youth Programs at Central

The YMCA continues with the School Day Plus program for the CMS spring semester. In the program, students are supported as they study through remote learning with their own classroom teacher. The Y provides supervision, learning and homework support, and a time for exercise and fun. There are 36- 40 children from families whose parents work or who are in foster care.

The Y have been successful in following Covid-19 protocols. There have been no health issues with the students or staff since they started in August. The students work in small clusters and so both the Y youth building (former manse) and upstairs classrooms in the Education Building are used.

There are opportunities for our church members to help the students – both in-person and virtually. We are working with Y to define these opportunities for mentoring and tutoring. If you would like more information, please contact Jeanne Smith (jesmith8412@gmail.com or 704-408-7445).

Birthdays-February

3-Peyton Burgess & Liz Litaker
4-Luke Tolley
6-Clifford Austin & Jack Phillips
8-Carolyn Arbuckle
12-Haley James
14-Jim Patterson
15-Beth Boykin
17-Adam Wilson
19-Mable Osborne
25-Hope Moss
26-Tim Osmar
27-Connie Hillard
28-Dave Barbee



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.



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.

Food Share: Helping families with groceries

On February 22nd, Central will host the February Food Share event which provides groceries to families. Please consider volunteering on Monday morning, February 22nd from 9:45 -11:45 am. Contact Jeanne Smith to volunteer. You can also help by sharing the event information so many families can be helped: on social media, through community organizations, and by telling others in your neighborhood. We will have the details on registration by mid-February.



This is a program sponsored by Steele Creek Y along with Central. We have worked together to serve more than 200 families in Steele Creek through the Food Shares in December and January.

Loaves and Fishes provides frozen meat, fresh produce, and other groceries. The boxes of groceries are distributed from 10:30 - 11:30 am in the parking lot. Participants

come to the church campus so that boxes can be loaded into their cars, using a drive-through style for safety. The food is free but participants must pre-register.

Congrats to our Grads!



Current COVID 19 guidelines may prevent us from shaking hands and hugging but they won't prevent Central from finding good reasons to celebrate in creative ways. On **February 21, 2021**, we will honor our two Mid-Year Graduates, **Emily Cheek** and **Erin Osborne**, during our 10:30 AM Worship Service. We hope you will be able to join us, either in-person or via live-streaming, to help honor and acknowledge these amazing women for their scholastic accomplishments.

We won't be able to celebrate with a reception afterwards, but you can grab a bag of cookies on your way out, and extend a masked smile and warm wishes to the graduates. You can also mail a card or note to their home addresses to express how proud you are of them.



Emily Cheek



Erin Osborne

Angel-Apple Tree Update



Thank you, Central members and friends. Through your generous donations, Central will provide \$25 gift cards to the Steele Creek Elementary teachers. The gift cards will be used for student-centered activities or special classroom supplies. We will distribute the gift cards to the 31 classroom teachers and the 11 teachers who work with students with special needs in mid-February as the schools come back to a hybrid (in-person and remote learning) schedule. Principal Ms. Dozier and Assistant Principal Looney have said how much the teachers will appreciate the financial support and the encouragement from our congregation.