

CENTRAL STEELE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CENTRAL CALLING

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Charlotte, North Carolina 28273

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November 2016

Special points of interest:

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- Cub Scout Happenings (p 4)
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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

Austin, Texas

I lived here for over six years. My wife, Leah, and I spent the first years of our marriage here. In fact, we got engaged on the front porch of the Texas Capital Building on THE star of Texas. Leah worked on the corner of Congress and Cesar Chavez, just off the Colorado River. I served four years in the Army at Fort Hood, about an hour northwest of here. I felt called to ministry here and went to seminary here, at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. We spent most of our 20s here. We grew, met lots of wonderful friends, started our careers, and had a blast... all here in Austin.

I left Austin eleven years ago. I went back for just a day in 2008, but otherwise haven't been here since I left. It's surreal being back. Everybody said that it has grown so much that I wouldn't recognize it, but it looks pretty much the same to me. It's hotter than the Carolinas and the trees still aren't as tall. It's more casual and laid-back with the best music and best food of any city in the country. Our hang-out in seminary, the Crown and Anchor Pub, is still standing strong. In fact, I learned last night as I ordered my hamburger and fries, that the server was the same guy who, eleven years ago, supplied me and my classmates with a steady stream of cholesterol, calories, and the best malted beverages I've ever had.

Indeed, not all that much, from my initial observation, has changed about Austin. The thing that has changed the most, by far, is me. Leah and I were childless back then. In fact, I thought at the time that we would always be childless, *by choice*. Shortly after we moved to Charlotte, God had other ideas and I'm glad He did. I also, at the time, wanted to stay out here forever. Leah and I both came out here kicking and screaming, but had found a home, both in our respective careers and with our friends. I still often dream that I have moved back to

Texas. It's a sweet dream every time. And yet, I know with all my heart that moving back to the Carolinas was the best thing we ever did. I love Charlotte, too. We have made great friends there, as well, and we've built a home, a family, and a life. And it is a very, very good one.

I was also training to be a pastor for most of my time in Austin. I have actually been one for all my time in Charlotte. It's funny how that works. I saw a few students last night who asked me what it's *really* like to be a pastor. I told them that, like every job, in has its pluses and minuses, but it's great work. Much of it depends on what church you serve. I have been very blessed on that front. Many of my classmates weren't so lucky, and those who weren't are no longer in ministry. That's sad, but true.

Austin hasn't changed nearly as much as I have. Almost none of those changes in me were planned. It's not like I had a five year strategic plan in place when I left here and that now, looking back, I can check all those objectives off my list. I prayed fervently then, as I do now, that God would use me and give me something meaningful to do and give me the courage to do it. Looking back, God has definitely answered that prayer, most often in mysterious, unbeknownst ways that we can only see looking back.

All of which brings me to Central Steele Creek. It will be very, very interesting to see what a looking-back letter will look like for us ten years from now. Who we will be, where we will be, how we will be... we know none of that now. I pray that God will use us and give us meaningful work to do and will give us the courage to do it. That's my prayer. If the past is any indicator, I am fully confident that God will answer it.

—Luke



Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

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Luke H. Maybry	Pastor
British Hyrams	Director of Christian Ministries
Sheila Fetner	Director of Music
Tom Schmutzler	Associate Director of Music
David Hines	Director of Handbells
Lisa Caudle	Director of Preschool
John Granger	Custodian
Allyson Haenlein	Administrative Assistant
Rob Vojvoda	Treasurer
Jeanne Sikes	Financial Secretary
Charlotte Burgess	Clerk of Session
Pat Hart	Moderator of Deacons

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School	9:15am
Worship	10:30am

DEADLINES

December 2016 issue deadline is November 28

Articles received late will be included the next month.

Sunday Bulletin: Thursdays, 10:00am

Articles received late will be included the next week.



THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Boxed Pasta or Potatoes

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

CSCPC WOMEN'S GROUPS

Circle #1

10:00am, Room 300, Tuesday, November 1

Circle of Friends

10:00am, Room 300, Saturday, November 5

Deborah Circle

5:30pm, Room 300, Tuesday, November 8

THE BEGINNING OF THE CONVERSATION



"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9). Paul, the great leader of the early church, concludes, "Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor. 12:9-10). This passage is rarely cited by Christian leaders as a model for leadership. Why not?

The answer is that humans have a natural lust for power. Is it a remnant of our more primitive days when survival was all that mattered, when gaining and maintaining power meant living a longer life, obtaining more possessions, and building a greater sense of security? Actually, it's not only a remnant. Concern for survival and security lies at the heart of our lives even today and contributes to human sin. Much of human sin has to do with focusing on ourselves and our survival while we simultaneously ignore God and the welfare of others. We all want a better chance at survival and greater security, and these desires prompt some to be consumed with achieving their ambitions, gaining control, and wielding power in the drive to be successful, often to the point of sinfully caring only about themselves, not others, not God. The drive of ambition is a large part of modern-day ministry as evidenced by those whom we identify as successful pastors. In mainline and evangelical publications, seminars, and workshops, the pastors cited as successes and models are the ones who have taken new churches and led their growth to phenomenal sizes: 5,000, 10,000, 15,000, 20,000 members. How many pastors measure themselves according to these standards, and how many wish they had that kind of success? Here we see evidence of our ambition. Ambition is often a stronger force than a desire to serve God.

Taken from *Humble Leadership* by N. Graham Standish; Chapter 1, pgs. 8-9

Pastor's Reading Corner

Recommended Book List

Humble Leadership, N. Graham Standish; Alban Institute, Rowman & Littlefield, Lanham, MD; 2007



Stewardship Campaign:

Unlike previous years, we were not able to begin our campaign with a lunch this time. If you have not received your stewardship packet in the mail by this Tuesday, November 2, please let the church office know. Dedication Sunday will be on November 13th and we will be accepting pledges through Monday, December 12.

Church Treasurer Opportunity:

An opportunity to serve our church is available! In approximately one year our church Treasurer will be leaving the position creating the need for a successor. If you have an interest in serving as church Treasurer, here is your opportunity to "shadow and learn" from Rob Vojvoda for the coming year. Responsibilities would include recording and disbursing funds contributed to the church budget. All financial software is now available online from any computer. The daily bill payment is handled by our church Secretary which has greatly reduced the time requirement for this position.

Please contact Russell Helms or Rob Vojvoda with all questions and thoughts. Thank you.



Thank you to everyone for your kind words, cards, prayers, calls and visits during my surgery and the passing of my mother. I realize how truly blessed I am to have a church family like Central.

*Sincerely,
Teresa Canipe*



Children's Choir Update

RINGERS, SINGERS, AND DINGERS!

Sunday the 16th was a Red Letter Day for the children's choir - a new song, new faces, and instruments for the first time ever! The children had worked hard on learning the words, but adding the instruments put a whole new learning curve into the mix and required concentration and coordination. They were wonderful, and I continue to be proud of them. Thanks to the hard work of the children, their parents and teachers, and Tom Schmutzler, our fearless arranger, their performance was a huge success. Even the adult choir and congregation joined us in our happy song. Now on to the next songs - a hymn we hope the congregation will also learn and our praises for Thanksgiving and Christmas. These children are all the proof we'll ever need that music is a gift from God. Thanks and blessings,
Judy



PRESCHOOL NEWS

November is a beautiful time of year with God's creation ever changing. Whether it is the temperatures or the colors of fall, we should all slow down and take notice. This month in preschool we will talk about what Thanksgiving means and all the ways we can give thanks. We will continue to bring attention to the changes going on around us. We will talk about how God's love endures forever and for that we can be thankful.

I feel like I am constantly talking about slowing down and taking notice of those things we are surrounded by. I find that I probably do that more as a reminder to myself than anything else. Distractions are everywhere! We are distracted by technology. We are distracted by time. We are distracted by life and circumstances. Sometimes we spend a whole day distracted and not really seeing the blessings God has for us. They are everywhere and this past month they have been more in front of me than ever.

So I will say thank you for the people in this congregation who love me and my family and support this precious preschool. I will say thank you for the gift of time with special people, even though it doesn't seem like enough. I will say thank you for co-workers who carry the load when you can't. I will say thank you for little ones who can cheer you up with just a smile or funny look at the perfect time. I will mostly say thank you for a God who loves us so much it is overwhelming!

Have a Great Thanksgiving! Thank you for loving our preschool!

Love, Miss Lisa

Nursery Workers Needed

The Christian Education team is hiring two childcare workers. These workers will provide a consistent presence in the nursery on Sundays and possibly provide care for special events. These workers will be in addition to volunteers, cannot be church members, and must be of the Christian faith. A job description is available for interested individuals. Contact Diane Wilson (dianewilson327@gmail.com) or British Hyrams (british@cscpc.org) for more information.

COAT DRIVE

Help keep kids warm when winter comes. We are collecting new and gently worn, clean coats for the kids at Steele Creek Elementary. Check your closets, and be on the lookout for deals at local retailers. Girls and boys jackets, ages kindergarten thru 5th grade.



Sizes 10-16 are in greater need. Feel free to include toboggans, gloves, and scarves as well. Place them in the box in the narthex, and we will deliver them before Old Man Winter comes to stay!
Thank you!



This will be the 10th year that our church is participating in the Room In The Inn program! Thank You for all your work over the years!

Starting on Monday December 4, 2016 we will be providing beds and meals for some of the homeless men from the Charlotte area. The men are selected and screened by Urban Ministries and assigned to various churches throughout Charlotte.

Our church hosts the men on Monday nights from December until the end of March. Our members provides the volunteers in December. Pleasant Hill, McClintock, and Mt. Olive church members perform most of the duties the other months using our facilities.

Volunteers are needed to prepare meals (supper and breakfast), set up tables, set up the sleeping area, do laundry, act as overnight security, and transport our guests to and from Urban Ministries.

If you helped last year I will be contacting you within the next month to see if you are willing to volunteer again. Other church members who are interested in joining us, please contact Mike Brown (704-588-4805) or Della Medlin for further information.

CSCPC

Dinner & a Movie Night

When: Saturday, November 5 @ 5:45 (dinner) 6:30pm (movie)

Who: ALL members, visitors and friends are invited. (We have invited the Steele Creek Police and Fire Department families to be our guests.)

Where: Family Life Center. Also, the youth lounge will be available for parents of your children who might need an "intermission".

Cost: This is a free event but requires an RSVP and each family is asked to bring a dessert or candy with enough to share.

Special Note: Bring your favorite chair, blanket or Sleeping bag for a comfortable way to watch the movie. Otherwise FLC chairs are available.

RSVP: To the church office-704-588-1211



CUB SCOUT NEWS

The Cub Scout Pack 45 has had a busy October. We went to a camp and climbed walls, shot BB guns, played Indian games, and saw how metal arrowheads were made by a fire. Some of us went to a Webeloree with our Boy Scout Troop 45 and threw Scottish Hammers.

This November, we are going to Schiele Museum along with our normal meetings on Wednesdays at 7:00-8:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have anyone that would like to join us in fun, please contact Charlie Bricker at 704-654-0919



Please remember to set your clocks back on November 6th!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Our Mission Team will be supporting Operation Christmas Child this year. There will be plastic boxes in the Narthex. Please stop and pick one up! Collection week is November 14-21 and we will dedicate our boxes in church on November 20. If you have any questions, please contact Sallie English or the church office.

THANK YOU!



AKILAH'S YAV ADVENTURE

It's been a while!

October 15, 2016

It's been a very long time since I've posted a blog, so I'm going to separate my experiences into three separate posts. That way it's easier to read.

My first two weeks in the Philippines were difficult. Mostly because it took the entire two weeks just to get over the jet lag. My fellow YAVs and I were dead on our feet by 7pm, only to wake up at 3am and not go back to sleep. Towards the end of the first week, we could barely stay up until 9:30pm! Luckily that is not the case now.



We were in Manila for our first week in the Philippines and it was just like any other major city. There was a ton of traffic at all times of the day and night, so much pollution that it was common to see people wearing breathing masks. Of course, rush hour was a nightmare. We spent the first few days learning about the history of the Philippines and visiting major landmarks around the city.

It was surprising to see how influential other countries were and still are on the history and life of the Philippines and its people. The two major influences are the Spanish influence and the U.S. influence – it's a bit extreme. Although, food-wise, I'll have to give it to the Chinese; they introduced rice to the Filipino people. I'm told that it's not a meal if there is no rice; it's only a snack. I've concluded that according to that belief, I only have a meal a few times a year!



After Manila, we traveled to another island to a city called Dumaguete for a little bit of relaxation and fun. It's very much a college town. In fact, there are about four major colleges in the area, meaning there are a lot of young adults in the area. The traffic isn't so bad, but that's mostly because it's more affordable and convenient to travel by motorbike. It's also a very affordable city for foreigners, meaning there are a lot of retirement age people in this college town. Overall, it's a very lovely city, right on the water.

Some of you may have heard about the bombing in Davao, Philippines. If you haven't, now you have. It was a very tragic happening that affected the entire nation. Security was increased, literally everywhere, events and flights were cancelled – it was pretty bad. Davao was where I was originally supposed to serve my year, however since the bombing, I have been relocated to Dumaguete. I'll say much more about the city and what I will be doing here in my third blog post.

That concludes the first blog post. I will have the second up very soon. Thank you for being patient with me!

Akilah

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In Memory of Brenda Jones, sister of Joyce Quinn; Martha Sigmon, Emma B. Young class, Burns & Jean Taylor, Pat & Sandy Hart, Kay & Jim Patterson, Mary & Jack Phillips, Toni & Greta Lambert, Vicki & John Nicholson

In Memory of Geraldine Norman; Circle of Friends, Pat & Sandy Hart, Mary & Jack Phillips, Emma B. Young Class, Burns & Jean Taylor, Toni & Greta Lambert, Mike & Judy Brown, Herman & Teresa Canipe, Pearl Crocker, Kathryn Cooper

In Memory of Gloria Tripp, mother of Teresa Canipe; Mary & Jack Phillips, Susan Osmar

In Honor of John & Charlotte Burgess; Bud & Pauline Shaney



Glory to God Hymnal Dedication

IN MEMORY OF

Geraldine Norman

DONATED BY

Sheila Fetner

There are still 'Glory to God' hymnals available to have dedicated in 'honor of' or in 'memory of' a loved one. Please stop by or call the church office if you are interested.

Steele Creek Elementary School

*Our church is supporting Steele Creek Elementary students in many ways. These are additional needs.
Will you be able to help?*

*Please contact Jeanne Smith for more information:
by email (jeannes@netzero.com) or call 704-588-1665.*

Area	Partnering Need	Timeframe
Academic Support	Reading Buddy for one 3 rd grade student (North Star Program)	One hour weekly for the school year
	Reading with 4 th or 5 th grade students	Schedule to fit volunteer & school
	Science & Engineering Clubs (topic that you have interest and expertise)	1 hour weekly October – April Afterschool
	School Vegetable Garden Afterschool Club	Spring 1+ hour/week 3:00 – 4:00 pm
Evening or Weekend Events STEAM = Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math	Volunteers for STEAM or Science Night Out	SC: January (evening)
School support	Classroom volunteers: help with activity or mystery reader	Weekly or monthly
	Help families in times of critical needs/holiday meals	When family emergencies occur & at holidays
Staff Support & Teacher Appreciation <i>(For 90 teachers)</i>	Gift donations to recognize outstanding teachers	Monthly– Can choose Oct. – May
	Candy, dessert, small gift or meal for teacher appreciation week	May 1 st – 5 th 2017
Other	Proctors for End of Year Exams	May 2017
	Scholarship 5 th grade field trip class \$375 per student	By April

Did you know that a number of area businesses encourage their employees to volunteer? These include Duke Energy, Belk, Wells Fargo, Bank of America, and other companies. Please check with your company's policy.



Come Celebrate the 2016 Thanksgiving and Advent Season

Sunday, November 13	Worship	Dedication Sunday	Sanctuary
Sunday, November 20	9:00 am	Harvest Breakfast No Sunday School Shoebox Dedication Sunday	FLC
Tuesday, November 22	7:00 pm	Community Thanksgiving Service at Mt. Olive Presbyterian Church	Mt. Olive PC
Sunday, November 27	Worship	First Sunday of Advent	Sanctuary
Saturday, December 3	1:00pm	VIP Luncheon	FLC
Sunday, December 4	Worship	Second Sunday of Advent Combined Bell Choirs Advent/Christmas Music	Sanctuary
Sunday, December 11	9:00 am	Christmas Breakfast No Sunday School	FLC
	Worship	Third Sunday of Advent	Sanctuary
Thursday, December 15	9:30am	Preschool Christmas Program	Sanctuary
Sunday, December 18	Worship	Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Cantata	Sanctuary
Saturday, December 24	6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service	Sanctuary
Sunday, December 25	Worship	Festival of Lessons and Carols	Sanctuary

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Preschool, 9:00am Circle #1, 10:00am B&G Team, 6:00pm Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study, 7:00pm	2 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm C Ed Team, 4:30pm Cub Scouts, 5:30pm Choir, 6:45pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm	3 Preschool, 9:00am Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery, 7:00pm	4 AA, 12:00pm	5 Church Work Day 8:30am Circle of Friends, 10:00am Dinner & Movie Night, 5:45pm
6  Sunday School, 9:15am Worship, 10:30am Guest Outreach Team, 11:45am Cub Scouts, 1:00pm	7 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Publicity Team, 5:30pm Boy Scout Troop Leaders, 6:00pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm	8 ELECTION DAY Deborah Circle, 5:30pm Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm Young Adults Bible Study, 7:00pm	9 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Cub Scouts, 5:30pm Choir, 6:45pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm Emmaus Board, 7:00pm	10 Preschool, 9:00am Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery, 7:00pm	11 AA, 12:00pm Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm 	12
13 Sunday School, 9:15am Children's Choir, 9:50am Worship, 10:30am Fellowship Team, 11:45am Cub Scouts, 1:00pm Chrysalis Group, 2:30pm	14 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Staff Support Team, 5:15pm Worship Team, 6:00pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm	15 Preschool, 9:00am Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm	16 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Cub Scouts, 5:30pm Choir, 6:45pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm	17 Preschool, 9:00am Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm Session, 6:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery, 7:00pm	18 AA, 12:00pm Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm	19
20  HARVEST BREAKFAST, 9:00am Worship, 10:30am Deacons, 11:45am Cub Scouts, 1:00pm	21 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Cub Scout Leaders, 5:30pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm	22 Preschool, 9:00am Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm Combined Thanksgiving Service @ Mt. Olive PC @ 7:00pm	23 AA, 12:00pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm	24 	25 AA, 12:00pm	26
27  Sunday School, 9:15am Children's Choir, 9:50am Worship, 10:30am	28 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm	29 Preschool, 9:00am Finance Team, 6:00pm Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm	30 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Cub Scouts, 5:30pm Choir, 6:45pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm			

Birthdays-November

- 1 Diane Hayes
- 2 Sue Grier
- 3 Scott Moss
- 4 Rachel Cheek
- 5 Jacob Russell
- 6 Donna Stuart
- 7 Greta Lambert
- 8 Joyce Quinn
- 9 Brett Murray
- 10 Luke Romance
- 11 Allison Hart Koch
- 12 Kevin Kronk
- 13 Wade Shepard
- 14 Coelle Snyder
- 15 Dorothy Williams
- 16 David Hillard
- 17 Herman Canipe, Jr.

- 14 Tim Hood
- 15 Muriel Erickson
- 16 Karen Noblett
- 17 Clara Whitley
- 18 Bob Hunter
- 19 Johnny Burgess, Jr.
- 20 Jerry Smith
- 21 Debby Moss
- 22 Rozanna Lawing



Worship Child Care — November 2016

	Volunteers		Volunteers	
November 6	Open	Open	Open	Open
November 13	Open	Open	Open	Open
November 20	Open	Open	Open	Open
November 27	Barbara Choate	Open	Open	Open

Worship Child Care Sign Up Genius link

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0548afad2baaff2-sept>