Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church CEN RAL CALLING

9401 S. Tryon Street Charlotte, North Carolina 28273

February 2017

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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

I have seen the business that God has given everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time. (Ecclesiastes 3:10-11)

I read an editorial this morning on Brenda Barnes, the former CEO of PepsiCo. I had never heard of her, to be honest, but evidently she made news back in the 90s when she quit her job as a top PepsiCo executive to become a full time parent. Who in their right mind would do that? Barnes died last week at the age of 63 from a stroke. She had become an advocate for a more parent-friendly corporate environment. Much of our economy functions, she insisted, as if children didn't exist. As such, it forces parents to make excruciating decisions. Do we follow our dreams (our callings even?) or do we raise our children? Time will not allow us to do both.

I obviously did not know Brenda Barnes. I don't know what the end of her life was like or how she viewed her life looking back on it. I *have* known lots and lots of people on their deathbeds. I have never heard one person wish they had spent more time climbing a ladder. I have heard more regrets than I care to count, though, about broken relationships and lost time.

The problem, of course, is that being a parent is so, well, ordinary. There's nothing glamorous about it. It is true that we recognize the "dad of the year", but that's only given to "successful" dads. I have yet to meet an "ordinary dad of the year", one who sacrifices his dreams to hang out with his kids all day, to take them to the park, to clean up their messes, to do the discipline thing, to read to them, to cook for them, to help them with their homework, to watch fifty episodes of Dora the Explorer on a rainy day because what else is there to do? As then comedian Al Franken once said at a college graduation, "Kids don't want 'quality time.' They want quantity time, big, stinkin', lazy, non-productive quantity time.' That's the trick. Quantity time. We're doing such important things that we don't have much "big, stinkin' lazy non-productive quantity time."

But maybe that's the whole idea, that God has entered into our ordinary time and made it

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holy. All those impressive numbers, degrees, promotions, and accolades may not be as valuable as we think. God after all has made everything suitable for its time. That's the whole point. God has entered our ordinary time and made it holy. If that's the case, then folding the laundry, or making supper, or making beds at Room in the Inn, or setting up for Communion... whatever we do that's so ordinary may just be touched and blessed and ordained by God Almighty.

Charlotte just lost one of its finest citizens in Ruth Samuelson. I didn't know Ruth well, but had the opportunity to have breakfast with her once at Bruegger's Bagels in Cotswold of all places. I thought we would talk for maybe a few minutes and then find something more important to do. But she gave me all the time in the world. I disagreed with her on a few things. but that didn't seem to matter. She treated everyone that way. And when she was offered the job of Speaker of the House, she turned it down to spend more time with her family. "Not many people are willing to walk away when they're getting ready to be handed the keys to the NC House," said fellow legislator Charles Jeter.

So remember as you go about your ordinary life that it's God who gives the meaning. It's God who makes ordinary stuff holy. It's not our accomplishments or ambitions or the bullets on our resume. It's what God does with plain, ordinary people like you and me doing plain, ordinary stuff for the Kingdom... That's what counts and that's what makes meaning. So go out there and do what you do, with the overwhelming peace of knowing that God has made you and all you do beautiful in its time.

-Luke



Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 704-588-1211 Fax: 704-588-1461

Pastor
Director of Christian Ministries
Director of Music
Associate Director of Music
Director of Handbells
Director of Preschool
Custodian
Administrative Assistant
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Clerk of Session

SUNDAY SCHEDULE Sunday School

Worship

9:15am 10:30am

DEADLINES

2017 issue deadline is February 22 Articles received late will be included the next month. Sunday Bulletin: Thursdays, 10:00am Articles received late will be included the next week.

Please remember to turn in your 2017 pledge cards!



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

CSCPC WOMEN'S GROUPS

Circle of Friends 10:00am, Room 300, Saturday, February 4

Circle #1 10:00am, Room 300, Tuesday, February 7

Deborah Circle 5:30pm, Room 300, Tuesday, February 14

THE BEGINNING OF THE CONVERSATION



"The blessings that Jesus conveys in the Beatitudes are not pie-inthe-sky wishes. These blessings are not winning the lottery. Jesus' Beatitudes are geography—they tell you where to stand. They re-form the landscape into the contours of God's hope. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus opened his ministry by going up on a hill and preaching a sermon. He opened the sermon that opened his ministry...by talking about blessings. Jesus' blessings were not conventional or received wisdom. They were not superstition or a grab at magic. They changed the geography of life. When geography changes around us, then all the usual paths, trails, roads, and byways are likewise transformed. Our travels and our trajectory have to adapt to the contours of our new surroundings.

Fred Buechner once wrote, "If you want to know who you really are as opposed to who you think you are, look where your feet are taking you." The Beatitudes tell us where our feet should take us, they tell us where we should stand.

You're in the right place if

- ...you are in a place where you can be poor in spirit;
- ...you are a mourner seeking comfort,

...you walk with the meek, if you look around, and you are surrounded by folks who hunger and thirst for righteousness. ...you are merciful, if you are pure in heart.

...you are a peacemaker, even if you get persecuted for it.

You walk there. You stand there. You will find the landscape of your life changed. You have to walk differently on this new terrain. We have to get our bearings carefully in these new surroundings. Together, we head out on a new trajectory, watchful and hopeful all at the same time. And when we begin to experience the very geography of our troubled world being healed, we know we are in the right place. Now, that...that is a blessing."

taken from *Journal For Preachers, Volume XL, Number 2*. Lent 2017; "Geography" by Mark Ramsey, pg. 24.

Pastor's Reading Corner Recommended Book List



Scripture and the Authority of God: *How to Read the Bible Today.* N.T. Wright; Harper One, 2011



Pastor's Bible Study

Join Luke on Tuesdays, March 7, 14 & 28 in RM 300 from 11:00am-12:00pm for a study of Hosea.

In May, join British for a study on Romans on Tuesdays, May 2,9, 15 & 23 from 11:00am-12:00pm in RM 300.



AKILAH'S YAV ADVENTURE

After 5 months in the Philippines, I've finally gotten into a pattern; a regular everyday routine that gives me a sense of normalcy. I can speak a little of the local dialect, I can successfully navigate the city using the limited modes of transportation, and I recently started living on my own, without a host family. Obviously, it hasn't always been this way. So, I figured I would share a couple stories that reflect my adjustment to living in the Philippines.

I'll start with learning the language. Naturally, you want to learn the local language when you move to a new country and plan on staying for a while. So, that's what I did! My site coordinator found Flanny (the other YAV staying in the same city as me) and me a language instructor. We were so excited to start learning the language and we attempted to use the few words we knew whenever we went out in public. I'm sure our accent made it sound weird and we messed up a few times, but we tried really hard to speak a few simple words everyday.

After a month or so, I realized that whenever we used a specific word, "Salamat" - which means "Thank You" some of the friends we made would giggle and mimic us. I tried to ask what was wrong, but never really got a straight answer. I eventually asked my language instructor what we were saying wrong. It was at that point that I realized intonation and inflection make a world of difference. In the local dialect, even a slight emphasis change in a certain word can change the entire meaning of the word. Luckily, in the case of "Salamat," the meaning never changed, however, I realized we were saying it in a lack luster type of way. I mean, imagine that you say "Thank you" to someone, but you're completely monotone, with no emotion behind it. That is the equivalent to how we were saying "Thank you." We've learned our lesson now, but I never realized how important inflection is until that point.

Now, on to transportation. It takes a little getting used to here in the Philippines. Different cities have different types of transportation. Here in Dumaguete, most people ride motorbikes, although I see compact cars frequently too. As for public transportation, you use pedicabs for shorter distances and the bus system for longer distances. Pedicabs are like motorbikes with a sidecar, plus they have a fixed price, either 8 or 10 pesos, depending on your destination.

Well, being foreigners, some, not all, pedicab drivers think we're easy targets to make a few extra pesos. I made a habit out of asking friends how much it costs to get to a certain place, just so I know how much to give the driver. I've had to sit in the pedicab and wait for my change a few times because the driver thought I didn't know how much it really costs. Being on a tight budget, I can't afford to pay



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Happy Valentine's Day! Everyone at preschool knows that I love the month of love! To take one month and focus on love seems right to me. Hopefully that one month leads to the next month and the next and the next.

In February we will learn about healthy habits, from heart health to dental health. We will talk about making smart Choices that will strengthen our bodies and minds. We will encourage Children to be active and not lazy. We will also talk about President's Day and love for our Country. I am always grateful to live in a country where we can worship the One and Only Son of God and be fully confident that at the end of the day, He is over all.

Registration for the 2017-2018 preschool year begins this month. If you know of anyone with a 2-5 year old interested in enrolling them in a preschool program please give them our information. Our email is preschool@cscpc.org and our phone number is (704)588-9542. This outreach of your church is precious!

I hope that you will not miss any opportunities to share Christ's love with others. I also hope that you will not miss an opportunity to receive Christ's love from others.

Love, Miss Lisa

AKILAH'S YAV ADVENTURE (CONTINUED)

extra for a short ride in the pedicab. After a while, I got used to giving exact change, since I know where I'm going now and how much it costs to get there. Sometimes, I think back to when I first got here and realize that I've overpaid quite a few times, just because I wasn't used to getting around and how much everything costs.

So far, being here has been a great experience. These stories I have are just the growing pains of adjusting to a new country, culture, and people. I'm not an expert by any means, but I think I've gotten used to my everyday life, here in the Philippines.

Akílah

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of Carrie Sue Grier; Ruby Potts, Bill Gordon, Mary & Jack Phillips, Vickie & John Nicholson, Frances Campbell, Tricia & Guy Gosnell, Joyce Quinn

In memory of Dolores Smith, mother of Donna Winter; Joyce Quinn

In honor of Stan Morris; George & Marilyn Hege

In memory of Reverend Dr. Joe E. Stowe and in honor of his wife, Beverly B. Stowe; Dr. & Mrs. William B. Stowe

Central Steele Creek **Presbyterian Church Scholarship**

(In Memory of Marion Blackwelder)

Applications are available in the Church Office for this year's scholarship. Any church member (church membership required) attending an institution of higher learning in 2017-2018 is encouraged to submit an application. This scholarship is awarded on an annual basis, so past recipients and other sophomores, etc. must reapply this year.

For the benefit of the new members, Marion Blackwelder was the daughter of Charles and Sarah Blackwelder and niece of Jack and Mae Austin. She 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 awards are made yearly and only the interest is used to finance the awards with the principal being untouched.

Additional donations are gratefully accepted as the cost of college keeps rising.

Pete and Gertrude Gallant Memorial Scholarship

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

Applications for both scholarships are available in the church office. Deadline for submitting applications is May 5, 2017. This year's recipients will be announced on Graduate Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Brown.



Severe Weather Closing Announcements:

Please check news stations WSOC-TV, WBTV, News 14 and WCNC-TV for cancellations of any church events.



Grief Share meetings will begin on February 12th at Good Shepard United Methodist Church in Room 322 from 5:00pm-7:00pm. The group will meet for 11 sessions and the cost of materials is \$15.00. Please contact Jeanne Sikes or the church office for more information.

Please join us for the wedding of Jeanne Kiker Sikes & William Joseph McGrath, Sr. Saturday, February 18th at 2:00pm Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church.



There will be a dessert reception following the ceremony in the Family Life Center. If you would like to send a gift, the couple has asked that charitable gifts be sent to either Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church or Levine Children's Hospital Pediatric Cancer Research c/o Carolina HealtheCare Foundation PO Box 32861, Charlotte, NC 28232.

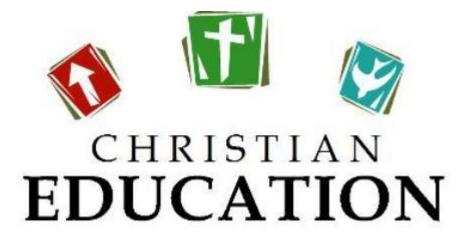
SAVE THESE DATES:

Daylight Savings begins: March 12th Set your clocks ahead!

Cub Scout Yard Sale: Saturday, April 29th Start cleaning out those closets!

Vacation Bible School: Saturday, June 17

The Steele Creek Lodge will serve lunch on Sunday, February 12, 11:30am-1:30pm. The meal will be baked chicken, 2 sides, a drink and dessert for a minimum donation of \$7.00 per person. Hope to see you there!



Teachers Workshop

For current teachers (Sunday school, Circle, etc.) and those interested in teaching.

Sunday, February 12, 2017 11:45am – 2:30pm FLC Room 300 Lunch will be served!

<u>RSVP to the church office ASAP</u> (childcare provided upon request)

Top 6 Reasons to Attend...

#6 - Share your knowledge and experience
#5 - Learn something new
#4 - Bond with other teachers
#3 - Grow in faith
#2 - It won't be boring
#1 - Free food and good company

SCHEDULE FOR HEAD ELDERS/USHERS/COMMUNION SERVERS

(Updated January 25, 2017)

FEBRUARY, 2017

Elder: Dave Barbee Ushers: Judy Brown, Paul McNeill & Mary Deal Communion Servers: Beverly Barbee Bud Shaney Scott Moss Jack Phillips Sharon Wilson Stephanie Vojvoda Rozanna Lawing Charlotte Burgess

MARCH, 2017

Elder: Kathy BrickerUshers: Miles Shepard, Becky Helms & Diane WilsonCommunion Servers:Charlie BrickerAnn MozingoRhonda WeaverBob HunterStan MorrisEric SmithReuben MozingoClifford Austin

APRIL, 2017

Elder: Jonathan DorrUshers: Teresa Canipe, Lynn Snuggs & Pam MurphyCommunion Servers:Eric RobinsonJohn BurgessDebby MossJohn MatsonRichard MossJoyce Martin

Joan Hedgepeth

MAY, 2017 Elder: Andy Cheek

Ushers: Charles Wilkerson, Lynn McNeill & Clint Burke Communion Servers: Beverly Cheek Joy Cheek Jim Patterson Mary Deal Rick Murphy George Hege Pam Murphy Robert Grier

JUNE, 2017

Elder: Chris Knapp Ushers: Diane Price, Joyce Smith & Ellie Bostick Communion Servers:

Chet Knapp Annette Caudle Mike Brown Judy Brown Jerry Cheek Donna Young Lauren Shaw Kenny Burns

Bob Blackwelder

JULY, 2017

Elder: Russell Helms Ushers: Pam Brooks, Joyce Martin, Tim Hood Communion Servers: Becky Helms Jeanne Smith

Joe McGrath Miles Shepard Sallie English Jeanne Smith Glenn Litaker Liz Litaker Rock English

AUGUST, 2017

Elder: Herman Canipe, Jr.Ushers: Stephanie VojvoJa, Sandy Hart & Joe McGrathCommunion Servers:Teresa CanipeKathy BrickerDiane WilsonRichard HayesTim HoodRuth LawrenceLynn SnuggsMarge Caselli

SEPTEMBER, 2017

Elder: Susan OsmarUshers: Donna Young, Lauren Shaw & Richard MossCommunion Servers:George BostickMichael FairclothEllie BostickJessica SmithCharles WilkersonRobert StallingsJean TaylorBill Gordon

OCTOBER, 2017

Elder: Martha Osborne Ushers: Rick Murphy, Ge∪rge Hege & Ann Mozingo Communion Servers: Lynn McNeill Andy Cheek Paul McNeill Lynn Snuggs David Osborne Judy Corbett Martha Sigmon Chris Knapp

NOVEMBER, 2017

Elder: Ardy SkidmoreUshers: John Matson, Joan Hedgepeth & Eric RobinsonCommunion Servers:Clint BurkeJoyce MartinRussell HelmsHerman Canipe, Jr.Sandra BurkeRenee PerezWade ShepardDella Medlin

DECEMBER, 2017

Elder: Jessica SmithUshers: Rhonda Weaver, Bob Hunter, Stan MorrisCommunion Servers:Ken PriceSusan OsmarDiane PriceMartha OsbornePam BrooksArdy SkidmoreDoug YoungbloodGary Russell

JANUARY, 2018

Elder: Robert StallingsUshers: Michael Faircloth, Sharon Wilson & Scott MossCommunion Servers:Sandy HartJonathan DorrPat HartJohn Burgess, Jr.Joyce SmithJoe StuartDave BarbeeJoyce Martin

FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Christian Ed, 4:30pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm	2 Preschool, 9:00am Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery, 7:00pm	3 AA, 12:00pm Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm	4 Y Basketball Clinic 9:00am Circle of Friends, 10:00am
5 Sunday School, 9:15am Children's Choir, 9:50am Worship, 10:30am Guest Outreach Team, 11:45am	6 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm RITI, 3:00pm Publicity Team, 5:30pm Boy Scout Leaders, 6:00pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm	7 Preschool, 9:00am Circle #1, 10:00am B&G Team, 6:00pm Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm	8 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Choir, 6:45pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm	9 Preschool, 9:00am Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery, 7:00pm Emmaus Board, 7:00pm	10 AA, 12:00pm Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm	11 Y Basketball Clinic 9:00am
12 Sunday School, 9:15am Children's Choir, 9:50am Worship, 10:30am SS Teacher Workshop, 11:30am Chrysalis Group, 2:30pm	13 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm RITI, 3:00pm Staff Support Team, 5:15pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm Worship Team, 6:30pm	14 Preschool, 9:00am Deborah Circle, 5:30pm Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm	15 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Finance Team, 5:45pm Choir, 6:45pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm	16 Preschool, 9:00am Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery, 7:00pm	17 AA, 12:00pm Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm	18 Y Basketball Clinic 9:00am
19 Sunday School, 9:15am Children's Choir, 9:50am Worship, 10:30am	20 Preschool Closed AA, 12:00pm RITI, 3:00pm Cub Scout Leaders, 5:30pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm	21 Preschool, 9:00am Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm	22 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm Choir, 6:45pm Boy Scouts, 7:00pm Cub Scouts, 7:00pm	23 Preschool, 9:00am Session, 6:00pm Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm Food Addicts in Recovery, 7:00pm	24 AA, 12:00pm Bridgewater BB, 6:00pm	25 Y Basketball Clinic 9:00am
26 Sunday School, 9:15am Children's Choir, 9:50am Worship, 10:30am	27 Preschool, 9:00am AA, 12:00pm RITI, 3:00pm Central Ringers, 6:15pm	28 Preschool, 9:00am Men's Basketball Ministry, 6:00pm				

Birthdays-February

- 3 Liz Litaker
- Luke Tolley
 Clifford Austin Jack Phillips
- Wanda Morris 7 Teena Benton Scott Caudle
- 8 Olivia Waite Carolyn Arbuckle
- 12 Haley James Alan Davis Letarshia Robinson
- 14 Jim Patterson
- Lisa Caudle
- Adam Wilson
 Davey Barbee
- John Hayes
- 19 Mable Osborne
- 25 Hope Moss

26 Tim Osmar Gracyn English Smith27 Connie Hillard

27 Connie Hillard28 Dave Barbee



Worship Child Care — February 2017					
Volunteers			Volunteers		
February 5	Pam Brooks	Kenny Burns	Open	Open	
February 12	Donna Young	Lauren Shaw	Open	Open	
February 19	Mary Deal	Open	Open	Open	
February 26	Hope Moss	Megan Tolley	Open	Open	
Worship Child Care Sign Up Genius link www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0548AFAD2BAAFF2-2017					