

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

October 2021

Special points of interest:

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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

October 2021

Hi everyone! It appears summer weather of humid 90 degree days are behind us and we can enjoy the crisp and cool fall weather... especially at night as we try to sleep with open windows and fresh air. As the season changes from Summer to Fall, I want to encourage all of you that we are called to share the Gospel message to a Steele Creek community that has changed dramatically in the last 30 years and is continuing to evolve.

Many churches have closed their doors in the last 30 years and many more have experienced heavy decline in church membership and attendance during the same period. There are many opinions as to why the churches have been declining and in my humble opinion, the decline of the modern church is not going to stop anytime soon... unless there are some major transformations taking place in God's churches, including Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church. Bill Hull says, *"The prognosis is that the church will continue to decline gradually and will fall far short of staying up with population growth."* While the communities around us have changed and become more and more diverse, the churches have not changed and lack plans to reach the surrounding communities. Today's churches cannot rely on the ministry paradigms from the heydays of 1960s to 1980s, but a new ministry paradigm must be discovered, developed, and implemented. The implementation and success of the new ministry paradigm will depend on the people who possess passion, spiritual gifts, and leadership to move people towards God's agenda. Andy Stanley writes in his book, *'Deep & Wide: Creating Churches Unchurched People Love to Attend'*... *"The uncertainty and need for change in our current church culture underscore the need for bold leadership. Leadership that is willing to embrace the*

unchanging mandate prescribed to us in the first century and to proclaim it in such a way that our twenty-first century audiences will understand and receive it." I believe Central has leaders who understand that changes are needed and difficult, but necessary decisions need to be made to bring transformation in the life of the church to impact our diverse community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We are grateful to the Cultural Diversity Team as they work with an architect to bring much needed renovation to the sanctuary. We want the sanctuary to be a welcoming destination for visitors from our community and I would encourage all of you to read the letter from Lynn Snuggs and his team. The Cultural Diversity Team will make recommendations to the Session and decisions will be made in the Session to make our sanctuary more functional and appealing to future visitors to the church. Central has been a declining church for many decades and through much needed changes and transformation, we have opportunities to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and make Central an appealing destination for future members.

The Panthers are off to a great start and my 2nd favorite football team is undefeated through the first 3 games of the season. October 10th is going to be an interesting day as my hometown Eagles will visit Charlotte to play and hopefully defeat the Panthers... (hahaha). Now, as your pastor, I do not condone gambling on any level, but a meal at John's Restaurant is a wonderful way to enjoy Christian fellowship :-). I hope you don't mind if I wear my Eagles Jersey on that Sunday... Fly Eagles Fly!!!
In Grace & Peace,
Mark



Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

Phone: 704-588-1211

Fax: 704-588-1461

Mark Lee	Pastor
Nick Pierle	Director of Music Ministries
Nadja Sefcik-Earl	Director of Handbells
Anna Edwards	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

November/December 2021 issue will be combined and the deadline is November 5th..

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 OCTOBER

**Boxed Baking mixes:
Cornbread, cake, pancake**

Please place items in the donation box located in the Church Narthex. Last month 67 pounds of food were delivered to the pantry.



**WE'VE
MOVED!**

As of October 1, the new address for **Bob & Linda Blackwelder** is:
12940 Dorman Road
#2202
Pineville, NC 28134

Their email address and telephone number will remain the same.

NOVEMBER HEAD ELDER & USHERS

Head Usher: Charlie Bricker

Ushers: George Hege, Pam Brooks

From our Director of Music Ministries:



Greetings, all!

Happy Fall! As we look to the close of another year, we continue the growth of the music program! We are looking to grow two ensembles within our church: The Central Ensemble and the Praise Band. The Central ensemble is the choir that sings during service. Not only does the ensemble prepare offerings, but they assist with leading other hymns and contemporary songs throughout the service. The choir meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:15. Following choir rehearsal, the Praise Band will begin to meet from 6:15-7:00. If you play an instrument, sing, or want further information regarding this band, please contact me, and I can share further information!

As I continue to plan music for our weekly worship, I would greatly appreciate your input. Please consider suggesting music for our worship by [clicking here](https://forms.gle/VumM8GbaQu66seEM6) or copying and pasting the URL below. Your hymn and contemporary music suggestions will be considered and used when possible.

<https://forms.gle/VumM8GbaQu66seEM6>

I look forward to the growth of our music ministry!

Yours In Christ,

Nick Pierle
Director of Music Ministries
nick@cscpc.org
<http://cscpc.org/small-groups/music/>

UPDATE FROM THE FINANCE TEAM:

Spending (for budgeted items) as of 8/31/21: \$231,837

Income (for budgeted items) received as of 8/31/21: \$222,276

Capital reserve fund balance (8/31/21): \$306,333



Dear Friends, Thank you for your cards and prayers as I continue to heal from the recent injury to my ankles. With love, Mable Osborne

Thank you for your acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy shown following the passing of my brother. Your support was greatly appreciated. Ruby Potts.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of Jim Martin; Donna Young

In memory of Alliene Burns, mother of Kenny Burns; Donna Young

In memory of Linda Hardisty, sister of Chris Knapp; Donna Young

In memory of Milton Lynch Walker, brother of Ruby Potts; Donna Young



Your support is needed as Central Fire Arts Academy welcomes back students this Fall!

The CFAA provides a positive and creative environment for children in the Steele Creek community. It also is an important way that we can connect with young families and provide the nurture and support that a faith community provides. These are opportunities for you to help:

- Relax and talk with parents in the Central Café (Tuesday evening or Saturday afternoon).
- Help monitor the classes so that CFAA can meet the youth protection requirements.
- Share information about the CFAA programs with family, friends or on social media.
- Be a member of the church oversight board.
- Please contact Jeanne Smith (jesmith8412@gmail.com) to volunteer or for more information.

The Fall Session will run from October 5th to December 11th and will include:

- Group lessons** for elementary students (Grades K – 5th) in sculpture, snare drum, guitar, violin, voice and dance.
- Private lessons** for students of all ages in piano, guitar, snare drum, and violin.
- Tuesday evening** (5:30 – 7:30 pm) and **Saturday afternoon** (1:30 – 3:30 pm) classes.
- Saturday morning** (9:00 – 10:00 am) dance program for pre-K children.
- A **showcase** is planned for mid-December at the end of the fall session.
- A newly decorated **Central Café** for parents to relax with church members.

See more details on the CFAA website: <https://centralfinearts.org/>.

CFAA is introducing a new program: **Dance with Me** on Saturday mornings (9 – 10 am).

Dance with Me is a dance class designed specifically for dancers 3-4 years old and a parent/guardian. Little ones will develop motor skills and coordination through creative movement and physical exploration. It is an opportunity for parents, grandparents, or guardian to bond with their child by learning new skills all while stretching and strengthening your bodies. This new program was developed by the director, Anna Edwards, and dance teacher, Corrine Chiusano. It is being promoted through the area preschools and the Y Arts Preschool.

Please welcome our new Director of the Central Fine Arts Academy: Anna Edwards!



Anna Edwards is a dancer and teacher from Gastonia. Anna earned her BA in Dance from UNC Charlotte and her MFA in Dance from Hollins University. Residing in the Charlotte community, she teaches dance for students ranging from toddlers to adults. In addition, she teaches at Johnson C. Smith University as an adjunct lecturer in dance and is co-founder and teacher at the dance program at Belmont Parks and Recreation. Stepping into the role of Director of the Central Fine Arts Academy, Anna is excited for the opportunity to engage with students that are interested in a variety of art forms! She hopes to grow the program to welcome new students to our high quality group classes and private lessons.

To the Men of Central Steele Creek Church

It is time to get together for dinner and socializing. Mark your calendars for a men's only gathering Thursday October 14 at 6pm in the church FLC. Bring your friends and family members. RSVP by October 8 so we can make plans for dinner and other activities by contacting the church office or Russell Helms at 704-905-8436 or russell.helms@desouttertools.com,

Veterans Day Picture - If you are a veteran or the

family member of a veteran and would like to be a part of our special service on November 14, please send a picture to the church office by October 15. A digital picture is preferred and should be sent to churchoffice@cscpc.org.

Paper pictures can be dropped off at the church office.



DANCE WITH ME

SATURDAY MORNINGS

9-10AM



- 3-4 YEARS OLD WITH AN ADULT
- DEVELOP MOTOR SKILLS AND COORDINATION
- BOND WITH YOUR CHILD BY LEARNING NEW SKILLS ALL WHILE STRETCHING AND STRENGTHENING YOUR BODY.
- CREATIVE EXPLORATION



REGISTER AT
CENTRALFINEARTS.COM

CENTRAL FINE Arts ACADEMY



Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church
Charlotte, NC

**GUITAR • VOICE • SCULPTURE
DANCE • PERCUSSION • VIOLIN**
Group and Private Lessons Available!

In-Person Fall Session: October 5th - December 7th

Tuesdays at 5:30 pm-7:30 pm | Saturdays 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Certified, Excellent Teachers

Cost: \$25 for 60 minute group lesson.

Private Lessons: \$25 for 30 minutes and \$45 for 60 minutes.

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

704-274-1878 • Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church
9401 S. Tryon Street • Charlotte, NC 28273

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.



Scout News

The Cub Scouts of Pack 45 had a great time on Saturday, September 25th, 2021 attending the Trailblazer event at Camp Belk. This event was sponsored by the Mecklenburg Council of the Boy Scouts. The youth enjoyed themselves and had a great adventure. They were able to repel off a wall. We even had one parent participate! They were taught how to shoot arrows with one hitting the bulls eye dead center. One of our youth was able to shoot a bb gun and hit a balloon target in the wind.





JOB FAIR

CENTRAL STEELE CREEK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 23, 2021
10 AM - 2 PM

Local employers will be on-site conducting interviews for immediate hire at their businesses.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| •Warehouse | •Hospitality |
| •Administrative | •Logistics |
| •Technical | •Machine Operators |
| •Non-Profit Groups | •Law Enforcement |

SATURDAY OCTOBER 23RD AT 10 AM - 2 PM
9401 S TRYON ST, CHARLOTTE, NC 28273

Kids can enjoy the fall festival while you attend the job fair.

Join us for a

Fall Festival

PRESENTED BY



OCTOBER 23, 2021
10 AM - 2 PM
9401 S Tryon St, Charlotte, NC 28273

Music • Food • Games • Crafts
GREAT FAMILY FUN!

Dear church family,

I am excited to share about my internship with you all as I am approaching the halfway mark. Living in Salt Lake City, Utah has definitely been a difficult transition for me as I am navigating living on my own in a new place during a pandemic. The air quality has been questionable as the wildfires have been spreading in nearby cities and Covid-19 cases have been rising, as I'm sure you have all been experiencing in North Carolina. Although it has been difficult, I feel encouraged when I receive letters and other types of communication from you all and it reminds me that even when I feel alone, I have a strong support system from home. Since I started at the hospital I have been gradually taking on responsibility to where I now have my own caseload of patients and am transitioning in the next few weeks to being on my own. There are five music therapists on staff at the hospital which has allowed me to experience each unit and see a variety of patients. So far my favorite units are the NICU and Oncology units, but I do enjoy the other units as well. I have consistently been in awe seeing how God is present in every aspect of healing, and even occasionally in death with the patients here. I see God in every single nurse, doctor and other staff who work tirelessly each day to contribute to each patient's experience as these families navigate one of the hardest times of their lives. These nurses, doctors, therapists, and specialists who work here use their gifts God has blessed them with every single day to create medical miracles. I have personally seen many children close to death recover, and for that I thank God for his many blessings. There have also been patients who I have lost, and for that I thank God for granting them peace from prolonged suffering and try to be hopeful He will hold the families close with comfort. It is a difficult thing to be a faithful person and experience child suffering and loss every day. It is something I have been praying about and speaking with my therapist about so that I can find my own way of understanding and continue believing. I feel in some ways, we have all experienced this struggle in the past year and a half with the Covid-19 virus. Seeing this worldwide struggle and watching the numbers of death continue to rise is a traumatic experience in itself, even if we aren't seeing it first hand. Therefore, I encourage all of you to really look inward and focus on how God is showing up in these hard times. How is God blessing you and your family with health during this pandemic? How can you see God's continued grace and blessings even if you have lost someone during this pandemic? The more we can see God in others, the more we can strengthen our faith and heal as a nation during this wild and divisive time.

Again, I appreciate your continued support for me while I am living in Utah and want to thank Mark for encouraging me to share about my time during internship.

Emily Cheek

MISSIONS UPDATE:

Serving our Neighbors—Food Insecurity

Help Assemble Weekend Food Bags, after Worship Service on Sunday, October 3rd. The Weekend Food Bags provide kid-friendly food items to children whose families are housing unstable, often with no permanent home. Each week, Central will support 25 children at Steele Creek Elementary and South Pine Academy. Please join the Mission Team in the parlor after worship service on October 3rd to help assemble the 100 bags needed for October. We plan to have Assemble Sundays on the first Sunday of each month.

The Weekend Food Bags (Dare to Care) has been an outreach ministry for several years. We work closely with the guidance counselors who identify the students in need of this support. The contents of the bags are chosen to be child friendly (children could prepare on their own; kid enjoyable food) as well as non-perishable, non-breakable. We also avoid products containing peanut due to common peanut allergies.

Food insecurity and housing insecurity were identified as major concerns by our community neighbors this spring. One in 5 children in Charlotte is considered to come from food insecure families. Feeding America research has found that that a child's mental and physical health suffers when he/she does not get enough to eat.

- They struggle academically, due to difficulty with learning & concentration.
- 2 ½ times more likely to have poor overall health. The negative health aspects extend into adulthood.
- They are significantly more likely to be involved in fights/violence at school.

Students have free lunch and breakfast during the week at school, but need extra support on the week-ends. We look forward to seeing you on October 3 after worship!

Food Share: October 29th

There is another opportunity to serve our neighbors who are dealing with food insecurity on Friday, October 29th, 9:45 – 11:30 am at the church parking lot through the Food Share program. Loaves and Fishes provides families with a box of fresh groceries. As volunteers, we help organize the food boxes, set-up the drive-through location and load the grocery boxes into cars. Families register with Loaves and Fishes prior to the event. They will line-up in the church parking lot, allowing the cars to drive through and receive the food box.

Central hosted 4 Food Share events this past year. We will work in partnership with the Steele Creek Y staff. Please volunteer by contacting Jeanne Smith at 704-408-7445.



LOAVES & FISHES

Groceries for Neighbors in Need

Missions: Supporting Students at Area Schools

Thank you for your many donations which allows Central to support area students.

Backpack Sunday, previously known as Rally Day, was celebrated with the blessing of our volunteers who give their time for our Christian Education programs. They include Sunday school teachers, Children's Church, women's circles and Bible study. A special "Thank You" was given to Mike Brown who has been a devoted volunteer for many years.

School Backpacks, donated by members of our church, were displayed on the alter. Among them were 28 backpacks which the Mighty Acts Class filled with school supplies that were to be delivered to the new elementary school in our area, South Pine Academy. In addition, 38 backpacks were delivered to Steele Creek Elementary and 32 backpacks delivered to Southwest Middle.

Thank you to everyone who generously contributed backpacks and school supplies to help our children in need this school year.



Ms. Frazier, the counselor at SCES with the backpacks!



The Steele Creek YMCA Preschool Academy is off to a great start! Preschool has always been essential but due to the pandemic, preschool has become even more of a necessity. Our preschoolers are making new friends, learning life skills, most of all, becoming independent kids and amazing learners. Our Preschool Academy focus on helping our students grow socially, spiritually, and academically, through our hands-on, immersive, and sensory-rich arts curriculum. Some of our students are returners but many are new to us. We are delighted to welcome so many new families into our preschool family so we can all grow together!

Jasmine Young, Director



Birthdays– October

- 1-Rick Murphy
- 2-Ian Osborne
- 13-Robert Grier & Ralph Grier
- 20-Ellie Bostick
- 23-Sandy Hart
- 24-Ben Huffaker & Edmundo Perez
- 25-Charlie Bricker
- 26-Katie Noblett
- 30-Amber Hilliard
- 31-Martha Osborne

