9401 S. Tryon Street Charlotte, North Carolina 28273 phone...704-588-1211 fax...704-588-1461 www.cscpc.org churchoffice@cscpc.org

Volume 21, Issue 9

#### September 2021

Special points of interest:

- From the Pastor's Pen (p 1)
- Note from DOMM (p 2)
- Cub Scout News (p)
- Missions Updates (p 4 & 5)
- Women's Retreat (p 6)

We're on the web... www.cscpc.org or Facebook.com/ Central Steele Creek Presbyterian

#### In this issue: From the Pastor's Pen 1

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

Central Fine Arts Academy 3 Relationships: Y & Mighty Acts

4

Cub Scout News Missions Update: Food Insecurity

Missions Update: 5 Supporting Students Arts Preschool

Women's Retreat 6 September Birthdays Memorials & Honorariums Secret Saints – Thank you!

Central Serves Event 7
Flyers



#### From the Pastor's Pen

September, 2021

Exactly one year ago, I wrote that we are facing unprecedented challenges as the new school year begins. Even though we are a full year removed from the beginning of last school year, the circumstances surrounding this new school year look just as challenging and perhaps even worse than the last one. The biggest difference is that schools will have inperson learning and not depend on Zoom lessons. I really hope our children and grandchildren can remain in school for the whole year and remain safe and well... despite a more contagious and dangerous Delta variant of COVID 19 virus. Please join me in lifting up prayers for the teachers, staff, students and their families as we begin this new school vear.

Central is seeking to fulfill our Mission... "Worshipping and Serving Christ in the Heart of Steele Creek" and we are excited about an event on Saturday, October 23 from 10am to 2pm. We are calling this event "Central Serve" and we are hoping to invite our Steele Creek community to our church campus for an event that will consist of a Job Fair and Fall Festival. The Central Serve Team has been meeting, praying and preparing for this event as we partner with Steele Creek Police Department, Steele Creek YMCA, Arrowood Business Association and other local businesses and employers. Our hope is to provide an opportunity for businesses and employers in Steele Creek to meet potential employees during a job fair on our church campus. Many families are faced with challenging financial circumstances and we hope to connect employers with people looking to provide for their families. There will also be a scaled -down Fall Festival... filled with food, games and fun for the families of our community. The Steele Creek Police Department will bring their K-9 and

Motorcycle Units and possibly the Mobile Library as well. YMCA is planning to bring a Bouncy House and other fun activities for families. Central's Fellowship Team will have more activities for children and their families, along with delicious food. Here is how you can help... please be in prayer that God will bless this event as Central seeks to serve the community of Steele Creek. You can also help by volunteering in preparation and also on the day of the Central Serve event on October 23. We need everyone to help out and participate on that day as we greet and welcome our neighbors from the community to our church campus. The Centrál Serve Team needs as many volunteers as possible for the Job Fair and Fall Festival, as well as cleanup afterwards. Members of the Central Serve Team will begin making announcements, starting in September, to share the vision and mission of this event, as well as pleas for volunteers, support and most importantly your prayers.

I will be wrapping up my sermon series on the "Essence of a Christian Community" soon and begin a new series called "Experiencing True Joy in Life." We will study the book of Philippians and examine the spirituality of the believers in Philippi and how they were able to experience true and everlasting joy in the midst of their daily challenges and struggles. I hope you can join me in-person or through our livestream broadcast. Stay safe and well.

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
Director of Central Fine Arts Academy
Allyson Haenlein
Lauren Perkin Financial Administrator
Jeanne McGrath Financial Secretary
Anthony Tucker Custodian

#### **SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

Clerk of Session

**Chet Knapp** 

Sunday School (some classes on hold) 9:15am Worship 9:15am 10:30am

#### **DEADLINES**

October 2021 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. In the last 2 months 140 pounds of food were delivered to the pantry.

#### **OCTOBER HEAD ELDER & USHERS**

Head Usher: Becky Helms

Ushers: Mike Brown & Judy Brown



Thank you to everyone for your cards and words of sympathy after my dear sister's passing. You

certainly are a caring congregation. Chris Knapp

## From our Director of Music Ministries:

Greetings, all!

We have had a wonderful summer of music-making, and I look forward to continuing the growth of our community and music program. In August, we worshiped in the hymn-sing style and welcomed my dear friend Tom Lyons to play organ. This was a wonderful service to take part in, and I anticipate we will use this form of worship two to four times throughout the year. Thank you all for your feedback on that service.

Beginning on September 1, the Central Ensemble will begin rehearsals. Please consider joining this choir. Although we are taking COVID precautions, we have many great things planned for the remainder of the calendar year. This ensemble meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-6:15pm in the choir room and sings at one to two Sunday services each month. Our Handbell Ensemble will continue ringing on Monday evenings also. This ensemble rings once a month. Lastly, we will begin forming a Praise and Worship Band this September, which will also rehearse on Wednesday evenings. Please contact Nick if you are interested.

As I continue to plan music for our weekly worship, I would greatly appreciate your input. Please consider suggesting music for our worship by <u>clicking here</u> 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:**

A HUGE THANK YOU to LAUREN PERKIN, our Financial Administrator! I am excited to announce that our second Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan is 100% fully forgiven. Our first PPP loan was 100% fully forgiven as well. It is such a blessing that our Church is this fortunate to have been able to apply to receive the PPP loan and also to have both loans fully forgiven. Fortunately, the loan funds provided added financial security during months when giving was low, but we have been able to save most of them in our bank account for future needs. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our Church in light of recent events over the last year.

Thank you,

Holly Clapham (Finance Team Lead)

Spending (for budgeted items) as of 7/31/21: \$197,086

Income (for budgeted items) received as of 7/31/21: \$190,958

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Capital reserve fund balance (7/31/21): \$303,865



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

The Central Fine Arts Academy (CFAA) will welcome back students for classes this Fall. We are planning to hold in-person classes, knowing that this will help students progress further and will help the church build relationships with the students and families. However, we will continue to monitor what is happening with Covid-19 and will adjust the program as needed. The Fall Session will run from October 5<sup>th</sup> to December 11<sup>th</sup> and will include:

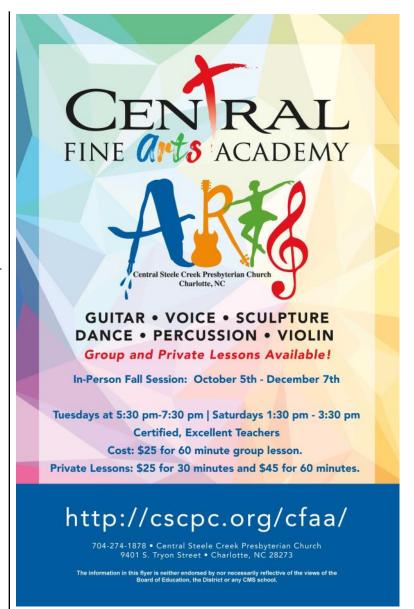
- Group lessons for elementary students (Grades K – 5<sup>th</sup>) in sculpture, snare drum, guitar, violin and dance.
- Private lessons for students of all ages in guitar, snare drum and violin. (Note: We are also looking to hire a voice and piano teacher.)
- Tuesday evening (5:30 7:30 pm) and Saturday afternoon (1:30 3:30 pm) classes.
- A **Showcase** is planned for December 12<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup>.
- A newly decorated Central Café for parents to relax.

Your help is important: The CFAA provides an avenue for provide children in the Steele Creek community with a positive and creative environment. 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 or Saturday).
- Be the second adult in the classes so that CFAA can meet the child protection requirements.
- Send out messages on social media about the program. Contribute ideas for CFAA promotion.

Thank you for all who helped to distribute flyers to families at the Start-of-School Open Houses at the area elementary schools. Thank you to members who shared the flyer on social media.





#### **RELATIONSHIPS:**

## The Y Afterschool Program & the Mighty Acts Class

The Mighty Acts class gave over 50 pencil pouches filled with school supplies to the students participating in the Y Afterschool Program this fall. These and a small party with juice and cupcakes were given to the students on the first day of school!





#### **Cub Scout News:**

Our Pack 45 went to the Reed Gold Mine in August. It was really hot but it was nice and

cool underground.

We had a great time exploring the mine and saw how gold was discovered here in North Carolina.







#### **MISSIONS UPDATE:**

#### Serving our Neighbors Food Insecurity

Thank you for all who helped with the Food Share, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Church members were joined by the Boy Scouts to provide fresh fruit and vegetables, frozen chicken or meat, eggs, and milk to 70 families. With everyone's help, this happened in just an hour. Food Share is a program through Loaves and Fishes. As volunteers, we helped organize the food boxes, set-up the drive-through location and loaded the grocery boxes into cars. (First 2 pictures)





On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, church members and many boy scouts stepped up again to help distribute food boxes at a **Mobile Food Pantry at Steele Creek Elementary.** We joined SCES staff in loading boxes from Second Harvest into cars from student families. Principal Karen Dozier was appreciative that our partnership brought together the largest group of volunteers which they have had for food pantry events. (Boy Scouts helping load boxes)



#### Y Coffee:

Coffee, cold water and a message of support were provided to the families of the more than 100 children who attended the Y summer camp on our campus.

# Missions: Supporting Students at Area Schools

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

**Students with housing instability:** School counselors are asking our support for students who must deal with housing instability. The students 'families could be homeless, living with friends or relatives in a temporary situation, or living in hotels. In addition to academic support, there are physical needs which must be addressed.

1. Weekend food for Steele Creek Elementary and South Pine Academy students: With housing instability, families are challenged to provide consistent meals. On the weekends, the students do not have support of school-based breakfast and lunch meals. As we have for many years, Central will continue to provide bags of kid-friendly and non-perishable foods to help feed selected students for the week-end. We deliver the bags each week, so that counselors can put one into a child's backpack on Friday afternoon.

Please help assemble these bags after worship service in mid-September.

- 2. For Southwest Middle, Central is providing:
- 10 Backpacks (Note: there is a need for more larger sized backpacks)
- 20 Hygiene kits (toothbrush, tooth paste & deodorant)
- Breakfast bars and juice.

The students also need school clothing. SWMS is asking for new or gently used clothing which will fit their school uniform requirements: tan, khaki, or navy blue slacks, knee length shorts, skirts or skorts; collared short or long sleeve shirts in navy, white, red, gold or yellow. Sizes 10–20. If you have items to donate, please contact Kelsey McDonald, counselor at 980-343-5006.

## School supplies and backpacks:

Central members donated many school supplies and backpacks to be used by Steele Creek Elementary students. Thank you for your generous support.



South Pine Academy: South Pine Academy is the new CMS elementary school in Steele Creek. This is the 7<sup>th</sup> elementary school in our area – reflecting the high growth of our community. It is located on Sandy Porter Road, near the intersection with S. Tryon. The school will start as Pre-K to 4<sup>th</sup> grade this year, adding 5<sup>th</sup> grade the next year. Over 550 students are expected, drawing students from Lake Wylie, Steele Creek, Nations Ford, and Sterling elementary schools. Many students come from medium to high poverty households. (continued adjacent column)



**Arts Preschool:** Please share this information with family, friends and neighbors:

Steele Creek Preschool Academy will open its doors in September. This is a joint partnership between Central and the Y. The focus will be Preschool Education through the arts in a caring and nurturing environment for children ages 2 to 4 years old. Hands-on early childhood learning experiences will help children develop key school readiness skills, ready to transition to kindergarten. The program focuses on learning through music and dance, visual arts, and drama – all specifically designed to encourage a young child's creativity and personal expression. The curriculum connects and integrates life skills, literacy and learning in a faith-based environment. All classes will be taught by well-qualified preschool professionals and trained professional teaching artists who understand that learning is an integral part of a child's future growth and development. Preschool Director, Jasmine Young has 6 years of experience in preschool education and child development in the Steele Creek community.

#### **Program Details:**

- Schedule: September 7, 2021 May 27, 2022
- \* Daily Schedule: 9 am 1 pm
- Location: Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church at 9401 S. Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28273
- Age specific arts based curriculum built into the schedule every day (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts etc.)
- Flexible enrollment options:2,3,4, & 5 day options available for ages 2-4
- Financial Assistance may be applied to your tuition costs, if you qualify.

**Registration:** online under the Steele Creek "Branch" at <a href="https://www.ymcacharlotte.org/programs/childcare-education/preschool">https://www.ymcacharlotte.org/programs/childcare-education/preschool</a> or contact Jasmine Young at <a href="Jasmine.Young@ymcacharlotte.org">Jasmine.Young@ymcacharlotte.org</a> or call at 704-716-4900.

**South Pine continued:** Based on these demographics, the school meets the criteria to be a Title 1 school and so there will be extra funds for academic support. However, community support is welcomed to help address the food, clothing and emergency needs as well as encouraging students.



Women's Retreat ----- In the picturesque valley surrounding Hendersonville, eighteen ladies came together for our retreat held at Bonclarken Conference Center. It was a welcomed weekend that included Bible study, music, fellowship, and delicious food. Kathy Bricker led us in a discussion of three parables -- The Good Samaritan, The Hidden Treasure, and The Shrewd Manager. On Saturday morning our pastor, Mark Lee, led the discussion of The Prodigal Son. Thanks go to Mina Lee, Charlotte Burgess, and Judy Brown for the wonderful music and devotions led by Sue Birch. Kathy Lee arranged for us to visit Parker-Binns Vineyard on Saturday where we had lunch while overlooking the beautiful vineyard. After our service on Sunday morning, Jeanne McGrath presented each member with a bookmark she created based on our viewing of the movie "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood". This retreat was the first for several of our ladies, two of them guests of members, and they shared with us how much the weekend meant to them. We have come home renewed in the spirit and look forward to next year!













## **Birthdays-September**

1-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

21-Annette Caudle & Dash Wilson

24-Hayes Shepard

25-John Williams

28-Susan Hunter



#### **MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS**

**In memory of Jim Martin;** Herman & Teresa Canipe, Debra & Mark Clapham, Dorothy Williams, Martha & Paul Sigmon, Barry & Barbara Choate

**In memory of Alliene Burns**, mother of Kenny Burns; Debra & Mark Clapham, Dorothy Williams

In memory of Linda Hardisty, sister of Chris Knapp; Debra & Mark Clapham, Dorothy Williams

**In memory of Milton Lynch Walker,** brother of Ruby Potts; Martha & Paul Sigmon, Debra & Mark Clapham

**Secret Saints!** I want to thank all of you that have volunteered to be a "Secret Saint" to support our college students during this 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









CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CENTRAL

# 23, 2021 2 PM OCTOBER 10 AM

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

-Administrative -Warehouse **Technical** 

Hospitality Logistics Non-Profit Groups

Machine Operators 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.