

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

January –March, 2023

Special points of interest:

- From the Pastor's Pen (p 1)
- Music Ministry Update (p 2)
- Supporting Teachers & Children (p 3)
- Advent Special Events (p 4)
- CFAA Winter Flyer (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 Note from Director of Music Ministries Finance Team Update New Funeral Director	2
Supporting Teachers and Children Birthdays-January-March Memorials & Honorariums	3
Pictures of the Advent Season Realm for Church Contributions CSCPC Daily Prayers	4
Church Scholarship Info CFAA Fall Showcase Thank you Volunteers CFAA Winter Session	5
CFAA Winter Session Flyer	6



From the Pastor's Pen

Happy New Year! As we begin this new year, I would like to encourage all of you, as well as myself, to organize and commit to your prayer life. Prayer is one of the ways we can communicate with God and grow a stronger relationship with Him. But I can tell you from first person experience that some days, prayer can be hard... very hard... and on other days prayers flow out much more easily and freely. The word "prayer" derives from the Latin word, *precarious*, and it captures the heart of why we sometimes pray, which is out of precarious events and circumstances in our lives. We also pray because we are in awe of God's omnipotent power and because we are grateful for God's unending grace & mercy. Prayer is important because it helps us to stay close to God and helps us to grow in our relationship with God. When we pray, we are opening our hearts to Him and He is able to work in us and through us.

C. S. Lewis said,
"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me." Prayer is important because it makes us more like Jesus and because it reveals to us the heart and mind of God. There are many passages in the Bible that emphasize the importance of prayer... Ephesians 6:18 says, "Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints." Romans 12:12 says, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." Philipians 4:6 says, "Do not be anxious

Volume 23, 1-3 Issue

about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Prayer was important to Jesus because it was his connection to the Heavenly Father. It equipped him for the struggles and temptations he was about to face and enabled him to sustain his intimate relationship with God. Jesus also received guidance, desires, and strength from God in his time of prayer. If the goal of a Christian is to become more like Jesus Christ, then that process should include imitating his life of prayer. As we pray, we will become more like Jesus, and we will find that prayer changes us. Being obedient to God means we will actively submit ourselves in prayer. In every prayer, we know God hears our prayers. There is never a time when He doesn't hear. Whether the answer is yes, no, or wait, we are called to pray, and we can be assured God will answer. Let us pray continually.

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
Joni Turner	Director of Central Fine Arts Academy
Allyson Haenlein	Administrative Assistant
Lauren Perkin	Financial Administrator
Donna Young	Financial Secretary
Erin Osborne	Children's Activity Director
Anthony Tucker	Custodian
Chet Knapp	Clerk of Session

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School	9:15am
Worship	10:30am

DEADLINES

*The spring 2023 issue deadline is
March 6, 2023.*

Articles received late will be included the next month.

Sunday Bulletin: Thursdays, 10:00am



THE MONTH OF JANUARY

Canned Vegetables

THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Canned Soups

THE MONTH OF MARCH

Dried or Canned Beans; Packaged Rice

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

*In November, we delivered 96 pounds of food to
the pantry.*

In December, we delivered 122 pounds of food.

*The total donations for 2022 were 863 pounds of
food to the pantry!*

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!

From our Director of Music Ministries:



Greetings and Happy New Year from the Music Ministry!

2022 was a wonderful year of growth and change for our music ministry and congregation as a whole. Throughout the 2022 calendar year:

- The Handbell ensemble grew in size by more than doubling its personnel.
- The choir maintained a regular rehearsal and Sunday worship schedule after the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, we, as a ministry, increased our rehearsal time from 45 minute weekly rehearsals to 2 hour weekly rehearsals.
- A beautiful Yamaha piano was installed in the sanctuary, creating a more worshipful and musical atmosphere.
- We shared in joint worship with our sister church, IBE, in April.
- We were led closer to God through the words and music of Dawn Smith Jordan in July 2022.
- The members of Central learned over 40 new contemporary worship songs that we can now sing as a congregation.

Over the course of the next year, we will continue to strive for musical excellence in our worship by finding new and innovative ways to engage our congregation. If you feel called to join in leading worship through music, you are welcome to join either the handbell ensemble or the choir. The handbells ring 6:00-6:30pm and the choir rehearses from 6:30-7:30pm in the choir room, both on Wednesday evening. Those without handbell experience are encouraged to attend 1:1 coachings on Wednesday's from 5:30-6:00pm

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](#) or copying and pasting the URL below. Your hymn and contemporary music suggestions will be considered and used when possible.

<https://forms.gle/VumM8GbaQu66seEM6>

Yours In Christ,

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

UPDATE FROM THE FINANCE TEAM:

Income to the budget as of 12/31/22: \$364,438

Expenses from the budget as of 12/31/22: \$390,986

Capital Reserve Fund Balance: \$320,867

Teresa Canipe to become Funeral Coordinator

The Worship Team is happy to announce that Teresa Canipe is serving as our new Funeral Coordinator. In her role, Teresa will coordinate with Mark and the various church teams to ensure a smooth service and experience for the bereaved family. Thank you for your service to our church, Teresa. You are truly a blessing!

Supporting children and teachers:

CSCPC Helps Children Who Deal with Housing Insecurity

Too many children have no stable housing and so are frequently moving: sometimes staying in shared spaces with friends or relatives, sometimes in shelters or poor quality hotels. In North Carolina, 1.9% of all children with unstable housing—perhaps higher in Charlotte. Steele Creek area schools see the impact on the children everyday: academically but also lacking of warm clothing and sufficient food. School social workers and counselors are the connection to these families.

This is how Central is helping these children:

- Week-end food bags for students at Steele Creek Elementary (12) and South Pine Academy (15) each week. Your donations to the Dare to Care Fund and help in assembling the bags are much needed and appreciated.
- Gift cards (\$50) to allow the families of the Steele Creek children to buy the clothing and items most needed. The Mighty Acts class provided these cards from monies raised in the annual golf tournament.
- Clothing items and a Christmas gift for 2 students attending Southwest Middle School and living in hotels. Mighty Acts members selected the items and wrapped them for Christmas.

“Central Steele Creek Church Family”-Thank you for all you have done for the families and students at Steele Creek Elementary School! Your resources to help with food insecurities is immeasurable. We thank you for thinking about our school community during this holiday season when this is a difficult time for some families. Words cannot express how thankful we are for all the opportunities you provide for our school. Have a blessed New Year! We look forward to continuing to work with your church family. Sincerely, Mrs. Frazier, Steele Creek ES Counselor”

Teacher appreciation

Through the Angel Apple Tree Fund, Central was able to provide \$25 gift cards for classroom supplies to all the teachers at Steele Creek Elementary. These gift cards definitely help because teachers are experts at finding the best value for items to help their students. In addition, the gift cards show that the community supports them and recognizes their dedication, professionalism and hard work in teaching our children and grandchildren. On the day that the gift cards were delivered, Central also provided snacks to the teachers and staff. Please see the note from one teacher.

“Thank you, Pastor Mark and the Central Steele Creek Church, for the \$25 gift card to Walmart. I really appreciate it very much. In addition, thanks for the wonderful snacks you provided for us in our lounge. They were delicious! Most importantly, thanks for the prayers that cover us each and everyday.

I pray that the Lord will continue to bless you and your church family throughout the year of 2023 with His grace, mercy, and love!”

Willena Rick, 2nd grade teacher



Birthdays-January

- 1-Sylvia Hendrix
- 3-Darby Noblett
- 5-Barry Choate
- 7-Brandon Russell
- 8-Glenn Litaker
- 9-Jeanne Smith & Donna Young
- 10-Della Medlin & Chris Knapp
- 11-Bryce Stevens
- 13-Joyce Smith
- 14-Brandon McGraw & Hugh Shannon
- 24-Kenny Burns
- 27-Bob Blackwelder & George Hege
- 28-Reuben Mozingo
- 30-Anthony Tucker
- 31-Bill Young, Jr

Birthdays-February

- 3-Peyton Burgess & Liz Litaker
- 6-Clifford Austin
- 8-Carolyn Arbuckle
- 14-Jim Patterson
- 15-Beth Boykin
- 17-Adam Wilson
- 19-Mable Osborne

Birthdays-March

- 1-Devon Osborne
- 3-Larry Arbuckle, Michael Lee & Jill Wortman
- 8-Chelsea Hunter & Paul McNeill
- 12-Charles Wilkerson & Beth Young
- 13-Emily McNeill
- 17-Judy Brown & William Cook
- 18-Allison Burgess
- 19-Ken Price
- 20-Elaine Hood
- 23-Richard Hayes
- 25-Cheyenne Beaty, Dylan Beaty, Colby Perez & Pam Murphy
- 26-Betty Helton
- 27-Diane Wilson, Page Courts & Roger Palmer
- 31-Ann Clapham

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of Eddie Fowler, Jr. Joy Cheek

In memory of Robert Caudle; Annette Caudle, Herman & Teresa Canipe, Susan Osmar

In honor of Lynn Snuggs; Joy Cheek, Glenn & Liz Litaker

Special Events of the Advent Season



Central Daily Prayer for 2023

- Monday... Growing faith for you and your family
- Tuesday... Central to fulfill its “Central Focus” and the Mission of the church
- Wednesday... Arrival of new members and Unity among current members
- Thursday... Growth of Central Fine Arts & Y Arts Preschool programs
- Friday... God’s grace to be revealed in our church, community, country, and the world
- Saturday... Sunday Worship Service to be powerful, encouraging, and inspiring

REALM for Church Contributions

Please note that effective January 1, 2023, all church contributions, whether received online, via mail or in the Sunday morning offering plate, will be captured in REALM. An annual statement of your total year’s contributions will be made available to you either via email, if you have an email address in REALM, or via mail if you do not, at the beginning of 2024. You will also have the ability to view your year-to-date contributions using REALM.

With this change, we would also like to announce that Jeanne McGrath is retiring as Financial Secretary after many years of dedicated service to this position. Donna Young will be assuming the position of Financial Secretary and is available at 803-325-5431 to answer any questions you may have about our transition to REALM for all church contributions. You should also call Donna in 2023 if you need help in viewing your contributions in REALM.

Finally, we no longer will be assigning unique envelope numbers to individuals or families. We will have generic, unnumbered envelopes available by request in 2023. Please see a member of the Finance Team if you would like envelopes or have any questions.

Church Scholarship Applications

Applications for the 2023 Central Steele Creek Church Scholarship (In memory of Marion Blackwelder) and the Pete and Gertrude Gallant Memorial Scholarship for 2023 are available in the church office. Any church member (church membership required) who is planning to attend an institution of higher learning in the 2023 - 2024 school year is urged to submit an application for both scholarships.

The CSCPC Scholarship is awarded on a year to year basis, so past recipients must reapply again this year.

The Gallant Scholarship is awarded yearly and if the recipient maintains acceptable grades, he or she will automatically receive the award in the next year with the possibility of receiving it up to 4 years.

Applications will be accepted through May 7, 2023. This year's recipients will be announced on Graduate Sunday. If you have any questions please contact Mike Brown.

JANUARY HEAD ELDER & USHERS

Head Usher: Rhonda Weaver

Ushers: Lester Weaver, Judy Brown

FEBRUARY HEAD ELDER & USHERS

Head Usher: Pam Brooks

Ushers: Diane Price, John Burgess

MARCH HEAD ELDER & USHERS

Head Usher: Charlie Bricker

Ushers: Teresa Canipe, Herman Canipe



Fall Showcase:

Celebrating young musicians and artists

The Fall Session concluded with a Showcase on December 16th. The Showcase is an informal recital where we celebrate what students have learned in the past few months. Shown in the following pictures are piano, violin, guitar and voice students along with art pieces from sculpture class. A touching time was when the voice students, led by Minah Lee, sang The Twelve Days of Christmas in memory of their voice teacher, Todd Geer, who recently passed. In addition, instructors Gail Boyer, Ian Reilly and Billy Rone played a piece as a tribute to Mr. Geer.



CFAA Winter/Spring Session: January 17th, 2023 to May 6th, 2023

Registration is strong for the Winter/Spring Session. As of early January, more than 50 classes are scheduled for piano, drums, violin, guitar and voice. The classes are held on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoon.

Music sight lessons for adults and older youth will be offered this session. These lessons can help increase confidence and enjoyment in singing. Our new voice teacher, Gregory Geiger, has more than 30 years of experience teaching private students singing, sight singing, ear training and diction for adults, high school and younger students. Please spread the word about these new lessons.

The Winter/Spring Session is from January 17th to May 6th. Since these are private lessons, new students can be added throughout the session. More information about the program is at <https://centralfinearts.org/>
Please see flyer on the next page.

"Thank you" to the many CFAA Volunteers.

Classes on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons require church volunteers to comply with the church's Child and Youth Protection Policy. Thank you for the dedication of **Judy and Mike Brown, Michele Devine, Sandy and Pat Hart, Chris Knapp, Cathy Lee, Mark Lee, Ann Mozingo, Rick Murphy, Diane Price and Carolyn Rogers.**

If you would like to help for the upcoming session, please contact Jeanne Smith at jessmith8412@gmail.com

CENTRAL FINE *arts* ACADEMY



Winter/Spring 2023 Session

PIANO • GUITAR • VIOLIN • DRUMS • VOICE • SCULPTURE
INQUIRE ABOUT ADDITIONAL
CLASSES AT ARTS@CSCPC.ORG

Lessons for All Ages
January 17th – May 6th

Tuesdays at 4:30 – 7:30 pm/Saturdays at 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Experienced, Excellent Teachers

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

Group Lessons: \$25 for 45 minutes and \$45 for 90 minutes

Payment plans and scholarships available



SCAN ME

For more information and
registration on-line at
CentralFineArts.org

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