



Central Press

MARCH 2019

Central Presbyterian Church ■ 3501 Campbell ■ Kansas City, MO 64109

Calendar

March Wednesdays

Pantry & Clothes Closet

March 3

Administration Com.

March 5

PW p.m. circle teleconf.

March 9, 16, 23

Bell Choir rehearsal

March 10

Congregational mtg.

March 12

Staff meeting

B & G Committee

March 20

Session

Worship Leaders

Allison Dodds 3

Ray Hill 10

Dylan Little 17

Matthew Mullins 24

Jonna Wood 31

Ushers/Greeters

Sandae Custard 3

Scott Vroegindewey

Roberta McBride

David Aguilar 10

Jim & Pattie Corwin

David Alonzo

Matthew Mullins 17

Sarah & Mark Thurman

Neta McCall

Mark Murphy 24

Phil Utton

Pat Haguewood

Allison Dodds 31

Ray Hill

Lent, Mutual Care and Prayer

March 6 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. Our observance will be at 9 a.m. in the food pantry/clothes closet area. It is a pantry day so clients and volunteers will be there. The congregation and friends are welcome to join us. The service itself will include scripture, prayer, a brief explanation of what Lent is, and what Ash Wednesday signifies. The pastor will offer the opportunity for private prayer with persons who desire that, and the imposition of ashes will be available to everyone.

Lent is traditionally a time of repentance and introspection. The colorful banners in the sanctuary will be traded out for deep purple banners to mark the change in liturgical season. For the six weeks of Lent, Sunday worship will include a time of silence during the service, and a sung call to prayer to signal that this is a time of renewed reverence, and reflection.

Hand Bells will be a feature of worship March 24.

Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these forty days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts. All that we do and pray is in the name of Jesus, for in his cross you proclaim your love forever and ever.

(Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers—for Lent)

3.3.19 Communion**Servers**

Allison Dodds
Mark Murphy

March Birthdays

John Ditch 8
Thomas Thurman 9
Charlotte Thurman 17
Carol Marley 29
Doug Tilton 30

Anniversary

Barb & Chuck Curry 15

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, March 10 following worship to hear from the Administration Committee planned funding strategy for new roof, 3rd floor HVAC and solar energy installation.

Events

CD Release Concert for Jeff Clayton's second original recording. Among the musicians performing his music with him are Cindy Sheppard, cello and Heidi Peterson, vocals. Sunday, March 10, 7:30 p.m. @ the Buffalo Room of the Westport Flea Market. Tickets: <https://jeffclayton2019.eventbrite.com> or at the door.

Dear Friends . . .

According to legend, an aging knight was responsible for guarding the Holy Grail. This guardian, sometimes called "the Fisher King", had a disabling wound that prevented him ever from standing, (he fed himself by fishing, seated in a boat) and kept him eternally in pain. Many Arthurian knights sought the Holy Grail. But only one—Perceval—attained it because he was the only one to turn aside when the Holy Grail was within his grasp and ask its suffering guardian, "What ails thee?"

When someone is troubled, sick or dying, the caring love of people who also know themselves to be vulnerable has a strangely stabilizing and anchoring power.

In the church our care often takes the form of prayer. On Sundays in worship it is our practice at Central to allow time for sharing of gratitude and concern. The persons and circumstances named are then lifted up in the prayers of our community. Elder Carol Ann Schmitt is helping us to extend the spiritual friendship we experience in those common prayers beyond the time of Sunday worship.

In addition to verbal offerings of prayer, each Sunday there will be a blank book in the front of the sanctuary. You are invited to record particular requests for prayer in this log, including names, dates and times of joyous events, scheduled surgeries or medical procedures, as well as more global or chronic concerns. Someone(s) from the circle of volunteers Carol Ann has assembled, will then spend time in focused prayer for you, your loved one, friend or co-worker. The knowledge that prayer is being offered intentionally and personally has the power to bring comfort; and to open an ethereal channel of strength, love or joy that connects us to God and to one another through the body of Christ.

If you would like to be a participant in this practice of prayer, please speak with Carol Ann. If you would like to request prayer for yourself or someone near to you, please make use of the prayer log that will be in the sanctuary on Sundays.



Pantry News by Julie Smith

In January and February the food pantry and clothing closet served 88 households (7 new) with 106 adults and 11 children. Our pantry served 1,329 households in 2018 with 1,622 adults and 209 children. This is an overall increase of patrons served of over 100 households from the last several years and we are grateful to the church and the work of the pantry volunteers who are here to make this a welcoming and friendly place for everyone (those being served and those serving).

We have had a turnover in volunteers the last few months and are in need of persons to help with the weekly food distribution, either interviewing the patrons, helping them select items in the clothing closet or the food pantry. We open our doors at 8 am and are finished by noon every Wednesday. I want to thank Susan Borge, Sonja Carlson, Susan Wyssmann, and Lynda Raner for covering during the shortages in the clothing closet. It takes the dedication of the volunteers to make this all possible and I appreciate all of their hard work commitment to this cause.

Up On The Roof

The Session has approved a plan to move forward with a major roof top project. A number of factors have coincided to make this decision timely. 1) Expensive repairs are needed to the 17 year old HVAC system that serves the third floor of the church. 2) The roof, which has been patched repeatedly, is reaching the end of its viability. 3) The increasing cost of traditional energy along with developments in renewable energy has made solar technology reasonable as well as earth-friendly. New, efficient HVAC units will go in first; followed by a new roof; followed by installation of solar panels. The work will begin soon. The congregational meeting on March 10th is to finalize the plan for financing the project.

Holy Happy Hour — Shrove Tuesday

(for the whole congregation)

Tuesday March 5 any time after 5:00 p.m. @ Charlie Hooper's in Brookside

Heartland Men's Chorus

will perform Saturday, March 23, 2019, 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 24, 2019, 4:00 p.m. at The Folly Theater. Their program, "Stonewall" commemorates the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots

Looking further ahead

Kansas City Women's Chorus will perform at the Folly under the direction of Dr. Cynthia Shepard Friday, April 5 at 8 p.m. & Saturday, April 6, 2:30 p.m. The concert, "Unsung", includes a suite of 7 songs written about women who helped shape society.

Pantry Offering for March

Socks & Underwear

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Central Church

*Practicing love
Serving our neighbors
Worshipping God
Because Jesus*

COFFEE HOUR needs YOU!

Sign up to host on hallway bulletin board

One Great Hour of Sharing

In the church season of Lent we collect a special mission offering: **One Great Hour of Sharing**. The funds are divided between:

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%) which works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters;

Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%) which takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed;

Self-Development of People (32%), which invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the life-diminishing impact of these societal ills.

We will dedicate the offering in worship on Palm Sunday, April 14.

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

Heidi Peterson, *Pastor*
Cindy Sheppard,
Director of Music

Sarah Jacobs, *Organist*
Jan Powell, *Secretary*

Julie Smith
Director Community Ministries