

CENTRAL CALLING

CENTRAL STEELE CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Charlotte, North Carolina 28273

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September-October, 2023

Special points of interest:

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- Community Outreach (p 3)
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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

Volume 23, 4 Issue

Hello Central Family & Friends,

September is here and that means "Back-to-School" for your children and grandchildren. Minah and I dropped off our boys at their college a couple of weeks ago and they are enjoying their college experience... particularly Matthew, who is a freshman. It was quite emotional for us... more so for Minah as she cried & cried... as we took our youngest to college and set him free from our protection and guidance. Matthew would tell you that he has been set free from a hostage situation... haha!! As your children & grandchildren embark on a new school year, I pray and hope that all of them will experience God's blessings and find success in their academics and extra-curricular activities.

This month also kicks off the new NFL season and there is cautious optimism for the Carolina Panthers. Do you know the definition of "cautious optimism"? It means... "one believes something good will probably happen but lacks total confidence that it will definitely occur." If you are beyond cautiously optimistic about the Panthers and totally believe in the team to win it all this year, then take a look at the Super Bowl odd for the Panthers... +8000. In case you're not familiar with gambling odds, let me explain what +8000 means. If you bet \$100 dollars that the Panthers will win the Super Bowl and through God's miracle it actually happens, then your payout will be \$8,000 dollars. If you think that's a lot of money and entertaining the idea of placing a bet with hopes of the Panthers winning the Super Bowl, let me share the immortal words of Clint Eastwood from the movie, 'In The Line of Fire'... "That's not gonna happen." Why not spend your money on something that will surely bring great joy and happiness and great return on your investment... Central Sanctuary Renovation Project.

September is also a time of renewal, reset, and refreshment in the church calendar as we seek to worship our God after a busy summer for everyone. As we seek to worship our Lord at Central in this Fall Season,

I want to share the words of A.W. Tozer regarding the components of true worship... "Worship is not confined to emotion and feelings but is an inward attitude and a state of mind subject to degrees of perfection and intensity. It is not possible to always worship with the same degree of wonder and love as at other times, but wonder and love always has to be there." I hope you can come and join us for worship as we approach the throne of God's grace with wonder, love, and dependence on Jesus Christ. Dependence on Jesus Christ is about self-surrender, which is allowing God to take control as we participate in the journey of faith in humble obedience. This is a call to become a disciple of Jesus Christ, which requires more than just profession of faith in Jesus Christ. Dietrich Bonhoeffer says, "The call goes forth, and is at once followed by the response of obedience. The response of the disciples is an act of obedience, not a confession of faith in Jesus." After repenting of his sins and accepting Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, Apostle Paul became a disciple of Christ in worship when he surrendered his heart and mind to Jesus Christ. His ambition and passion in life flowed out of his Christ-centered motives and dependence on Jesus Christ. As disciples of Christ seek to influence others to follow Jesus Christ through the life-changing gospel message, dependence on Jesus Christ is a necessary spiritual ingredient. I pray that you will be dependent on Jesus Christ and help Central to be a church that is dependent on Jesus Christ.

In Grace & Peace,
Mark



Central Steele Creek Presbyterian Church

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Mark Lee	Pastor
Scott McKenzie	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 winter 2023 issue deadline is
October 23, 2023.*

Articles received late will be included the next month.

Sunday Bulletin: Thursdays, 10:00am



THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Boxed cereals

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

*Boxed baking mixes; cornbread, cakes,
Pancakes, etc.*

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

UPDATE FROM THE FINANCE TEAM:

Income to the budget as of 7/31/23: \$229,570

Expenses from the budget as of 7/31/23: \$238,143

Capital Reserve Fund Balance: \$337,166

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!

SEPTEMBER HEAD ELDER & USHERS

Head Usher: Martha Osborne

Ushers: Charlotte Burgess, Chet Knapp

OCTOBER HEAD ELDER & USHERS

Head Usher: Jeanne Smith

Ushers: Ann Mozingo, Reuben Mozingo

From our

Director of Music Ministries:

Wow! I can't believe how much wonderful music has been created and presented for worship in the short time that I have been at CSCPC. The welcome that I have received has been so great and I have already made many new friends. As we continue our musical journey toward the holiday season, I invite you to join us in celebrating the glory of God, by joining either the handbell choir or the Adult vocal ensemble. There are no requirements other than being enthusiastic about our worship music program. Coming down the path are some exciting services that you will want to attend.

- ◆ For "All Saints/Souls day, we are creating a service that features the choir doing a wonderful version of "When the Saints Go Marching In" accompanied by some of the best jazz musicians in the area.
- ◆ For Thanksgiving, we will be hosting a combined special service with other churches in our area. This service will feature Americana music, also accompanied by some great musicians.
- ◆ During Advent, there will be several special music offerings, including the "hanging of the greens" and the "Ceremony of Carols" (a reading of the Christmas story with many familiar carols) We will also have a Christmas Sing-A-Long prior to one of the services and of course, a meaningful Christmas Eve candlelight service, that will include 30 minutes of very special music by area musicians before the service.

I am so excited about preparing my first holiday season at CSCPC and hope you will consider participating with the choir or handbells! I'm also grateful for the warm welcome and the opportunity to serve God with this wonderful congregation.

Much Music and God's Light,
Scott



MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

In memory of Della Medlin; Kenneth Gill, Mike & Judy Brown, Joy Cheek, Barbara & Barry Choate, Lynn Snuggs, Circle of Friends

In memory of Mildred Mitchell, mother of Pam Wilkerson; George & Marilyn Hege, Ken & Diane Price



Birthdays-September

- 1-Holly Lawhorn & Lauren Shaw
- 3-Mckenzie Clapham
- 4-Matt Smith & David Dillard
- 7-Marilyn Hege & Pam Wilkerson
- 8-Tricia Herrington
- 11-Katie Hunter, Kendall Wilson, Michele Devine
- 16-Hayden Griffin & Jessica Manner
- 18-Mary Young
- 20-Martha Sigmon, Sharon Wilson, Mary Pat Fowler
- 21-Dash Wilson
- 24-Hayes Shepard
- 25-John Williams
- 27-Wren Wilson
- 28-Susan Hunter

Birthdays-October

- 1-Rick Murphy
- 2-Ian Osborne & Duke Stevens
- 13-Robert Grier & Ralph Grier
- 17-Zackery Wortman
- 20-Ellie Bostick
- 23-Sandy Hart & River Gordon
- 24-Edmundo Perez
- 25-Charlie Bricker
- 26-Katie Noblett
- 30-Amber Hilliard
- 31-Martha Osborne

SEPTEMBER 17th, ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PLEASANT HILL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION.

Our Annual Meeting, which includes picnic/covered-dish lunch and Business Meeting, will be held on Sunday, September 17th, beginning at 12:30 p.m. We will gather in the Multi-purpose Room of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church at Pleasant Hill. Please join us for good food and fellowship, followed by information on our projects and the election of new Officers.

PEWS ANYONE?

Are you interested in owning one of our pews in the sanctuary? Ten pews are designated for removal when construction of the sanctuary begins January 2024. Eight pews are in the choir loft. The front row of lower seating has two pews that can be claimed. Please contact one of the sanctuary renovation task force members by **November 1st** so your pew(s) can be reserved in your name. Otherwise, the architect will make other arrangements to have the pews removed. If you feel so led, consider a donation to the sanctuary renovation fund. Thank you, Jeanne Sikes McGrath, Herman Canipe, Jim Cook, Becky Helms



Fall Session Starts September 19th

The Central Fine Arts Academy is steadily growing. Registration is underway for the Fall 2023 Session with more than 50 students registered as of late August. This is thanks to the many Central volunteers who promoted the CFAA classes at Open Houses for the students and parents at 9 elementary and middle schools.



Michele Devine's granddaughter, Reagan, created interest in the Sculpture lessons by showing her sculpture pieces.

Piano remains the most popular lesson. The numbers of students for classes in voice, guitar, drums, sculpture and violin are growing. Ukulele will be offered for the first time this fall.

Week-end Food Bags

Please join in assembling the weekend food bags, after worship service on Sunday, September 10th. The Weekend Food Bags provide kid-friendly food items to children whose families are without a permanent home. Each week during the school year, Central supports 25-35 children who are identified by the counselors at Steele Creek Elementary and South Pine Academy.

Food Share August 15, 2023

We had another opportunity to serve about 95 families in our community who are dealing with food insecurity on August 15th through the Food Share program. Loaves and Fishes provided the families with a box of fresh groceries.

We had a great team of volunteers which organized the food boxes, set-up the drive-through location and loaded the grocery boxes into cars. A special thanks to Boy Scout Troop 45 and the other young people who were able to help during summer break.



CENTRAL FINE *arts* ACADEMY



Fall 2023 Session

PIANO • GUITAR • VIOLIN • DRUMS
VOICE • SCULPTURE • UKULELE

Lessons for 5 year olds to Adults
September 19th - December 16th

Experienced, college trained instructors

Tuesdays at 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm/Saturdays at 1:30 - 4:30 pm.

Private and group lessons at affordable prices.

Scholarships and payment plans available.



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

**SANCTUARY RENOVATION TASK FORCE UPDATE #1
TO THE CONGREGATION
BY JEANNE SIKES MCGRATH
SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023**

Thank you Central for your pledges to support the sanctuary renovation project.

- In May following Johnny and Russell's announcement about our successful pledge campaign, a Sanctuary Renovation Task force was formed, at the request of Session. Herman Canipe, Jim Cook, Becky Helms, Lynn Snuggs and I were asked to serve and accepted the call. This task force will see renovation through to completion.
- On May 30th, a little over two months ago we held our first meeting with the architect to learn where we are on various aspects of the design phase.
 - That meeting involved reviewing options for surroundings for the front doors and lighting in the sanctuary.
 - The structural engineer came and inspected the stage area and crawl spaces where the ADA compliant lift will go and looked at crawl spaces.
- Beginning mid-June, the production team held meetings with three audio visual design firms for proposals for sound equipment and fixed areas for cameras for live streaming.
 - The production team decided July 25th to hire an AV firm and are now working with the architect and electrical engineer.
- The architect is creating the working, technical drawings and will be submitted to Mecklenburg County Building Code Department by the deadline at the end of August.
- The task force continues to collaborate with the architect through the design phase and after approved and permitted by the Building Code Department, begin seeking bids for a general contractor in September.
- Once the general contractor is selected and meetings take place, the goal is to have all construction materials ordered by the end of the year for construction to begin in January 2024 ...which is about five months from now.
- We will continue worshipping in the sanctuary through the holidays and year end.

We will keep you updated as we go along.

- It is because of you, our members, the project planning for Sanctuary Renovation, which began several years ago is finally becoming a reality.
- If you have any questions, please reach out to anyone on the task force. Thank you.

**Partnership with
Steele Creek Elementary**

Central continues its support of Steele Creek Elementary. We work closely with Principal Looney, Assistant Principal Hill and the counselors to address student needs.

The school is now classified as Title 1 which means that a majority (57%) of students come from low income families. It continues to have a very diverse population with 40% of the students being English learners and 10 % of students with learning disabilities.

There is a positive school environment. This past year, the school was rated as high growth. This was only possible with committed teachers and staff who provided the extra support needed for this student population. The school goals are

1. Building a learning environment which supports and celebrates students, so they want to be at school.
2. Improving academic proficiency of all students.
3. Maintaining highly qualified teachers in each classroom. 95% of the teachers are returning.
4. Increase parent participation

We are committed to helping in 2023-24 by:

1. Week-end food bags for homeless students (supplied each week).
2. Student recognition
 - To celebrate students who meet academic goals by providing a simple breakfast for the student and a parent, twice in the academic year.
 - To encourage all students work hard, study diligently, and exhibit good behavior. Provide simple snacks, such as popsicles or popcorn for special award gatherings.
3. Support for Children
 - Addressing the emergency needs for children and their families. In past years, we have provided winter coats, grocery cards, socks/underwear/sweatpants.
4. Teacher support so they know that the community cares:
 - Catered lunch on to celebrate the start of the school year.
 - Quarterly teacher appreciation snacks.
 - Providing a used refrigerator for teachers' lunches



Teacher Luncheon on 8/25/23:

Prepared and served by a Central Team led by Martha Osborne



Refrigerator for teachers room. Thank you Chelsea Hunter and John Burgess for making this possible.