

Connection Card

Thanks for joining us! If you're visiting we'd love to meet you! Please fill out this card, detach it, and place it in the offering plate.

- 1st Time Guest Return Guest
- Regular Attender Member
- Updating Personal Information

Service attending today:

- 9am 10:45am 5pm

name

email

phone

address

city state zip

I am interested in learning more about:

- Membership Baptism
- Bible Studies Small Groups
- Children's Ministry
- Service Opportunities
- Other:

I would like a pastor to contact me:

- Yes No

This Week @ Central

Learn more at www.centralpres.com/events

Sunday

Prayer Group
Prayer Room, 8am

Worship
9 & 10:45am, 5pm

Sunday School
9 & 10:30am

Tuesday

Women In Ministry
Fellowship Hall, 9am

Wednesday

Men's Fellowship
Parlor, 12pm

EquipCentral
Dinner, 5:30pm
Classes, 6:30pm

Thursday

Women's Study Group
Parlor, 9:30am

Friday

Women's Study Group
Parlor, 9:30am

EquipCentral Menu

Bacon Wrapped Meat Loaf

Strawberry & Craisin Salad

Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Roasted Vegetables

Rolls & Butter

M&M Fudgy Oat Bars

Upcoming Events, News, & More

The Central Christian School online auction opened Friday and continues until April 1.

Anyone may register to bid on some terrific packages at www.biddingowl.com/centralschoolstl. All proceeds support the school.

The next Central blood drive is Monday, April 3 from 2 to 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Donating blood is easy and can literally save lives. To sign up or for more info, visit www.centralpres.com/blood.

This past Thursday, Central hosted a multi-church event featuring "Fight the New Drug," a group committed to educating students about the effects of pornography on their minds, hearts, and the world around them. **Our Student Ministry team has assembled a great list of resources for parents who would like to be well-equipped to engage this topic with their kids.** You can find the list at www.centralpres.com/parent-resources.

Camera operators are needed for the 9 and 10:45am services! If you've watched our Livestream then you know the value of being able to see as well as hear the message. No previous experience is necessary, just a willingness to

learn and serve. Contact Pam Smith (techarts@centralpres.com) for details.

Does pledging matter? Yes!

By pledging your financial commitment to Central, we are better equipped to plan and manage our ministry efforts. You can still make your 2017 pledge online at www.centralpres.com/giving. Will you commit to partner with us so that together we may continue to faithfully proclaim the gospel?

Giving online is both safe and easy! You can make one-time gifts or create recurring contributions through our website or via the Central Pres app. Give online at www.centralpres.com/give or download the app at centralpres.com/gettheapp.

Spring Storm, Central's annual retreat for grades 4-6, is coming up, and registration is now open! The retreat will be April 28-30. You can register at centralpres.com/springstorm.

If you are a high schooler and are interested in being a Spring Storm intern this year, please contact Jenny (jsmith@centralpres.com) for an application.

To learn more, visit www.centralpres.com



March 26, 2017



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www.centralpres.com

www.facebook.com/CPCStL

Welcoming Strangers

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."
Matthew 25:35

From 2014 to 2015, St. Louis had an 8.9 percent increase in foreign-born residents, according to the U. S. Census Bureau. That growth was greater than the increase in any of our nation's other twenty largest metro areas.

A dedicated group from Central faithfully ministers to our new neighbors. "Harvest" is a ministry whose mission is to share the love of Christ with the international "harvest" God has brought to St Louis. They do so primarily through building gardens. To date, Harvest has provided more than 60 raised-bed gardens for refugees from Nepal, Burma, Afghanistan, and Congo over the past four years.

In addition to gardening, volunteers organize other events throughout the year with refugee families. These include Bible studies, neighborhood Bible camps at the home of a refugee family, and other fun family events.

In 2016 Harvest began a collaboration with the students at Nahed Chapman New American Academy (formerly

known as International Welcome School) to build and maintain gardens as part of their science curriculum. It's taken about a year and much prayer, but God has used these efforts to reach some of the families of the children we have gardened with at the school.

The second Saturday of each month Harvest partners with New City Fellowship for an area-wide church "workday." The goal is to combine Bible-based teaching, Spirit-led deeds, and intentional relationship-building into practical service.

The next opportunity is Saturday, April 8. Harvest meets at New City Fellowship-South, 3502 Grace Avenue, for coffee and prayer then heads out to serve. On April 8, Harvest is building gardens for families from Syria, Afghanistan, and Congo. The Congolese family speaks a bit of English but primarily Swahili and French. When asked why they came to St Louis, their son (age 13) looked us in the eyes and stated clearly, in English, "we came to find peace."

For more information, contact Deb Sommer (debsommer@sbcglobal.net) or Sara Kramer (sbkramerreliv@mac.com).

Help Make Easter Happen

The days are starting to get a bit longer, spring break is upon us, and that means Easter is near. Only one month away to be exact!

As you would expect, Easter is a busy time for churches. Google statistics show more people search for the word "church" than at any other time of the year, and it is typically the highest-attended day, topping even Christmas. Many people who don't otherwise attend will join friends or family on Easter Sunday.

Central is no exception as we welcome many people from out-of-town and see a lot of extended families worshiping together. This is wonderful, and we give thanks for every person who comes through the doors.

To welcome everyone well and make sure Easter Sunday is as enjoyable as possible for all, we need your help! From greeters to parking volunteers to ushers, extra hands are needed. If you can give a small amount of time to help, please contact Kate (kspielman@centralpres.com or 314-727-2777).

2017 Easter Schedule

This year Central will celebrate Easter with four services: 7:30am at the World's Fair Pavilion in Forest Park, 9 and 10:45am in our Sanctuary, and 5pm in the Student Center. Between the two morning services on our campus we will have the usual time of connecting downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Be sure to stop by for a cup of coffee and a snack. There may be no better – or easier – time to invite someone to attend church with you!

The story of Easter as reflected in our worship actually begins on Thursday. We will once again have a special evening service at 7pm in recognition of Holy Thursday. Our Good Friday service will also be at 7pm, and both services will be in the sanctuary. Rather than three disparate events, taken collectively, the Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday services tell a cohesive story of our redemption through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Watch for more explanation of this very special week coming soon!

Tear Here → ← Tear Here

Central's Bible Reading Plan

Also available on our app, centralpres.com/gettheapp

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Monday, March 27

- Judges 1-3
- 1 Corinthians 12

Tuesday, March 28

- Judges 4-5
- Psalms 39, 41
- 1 Corinthians 13

Wednesday, March 29

- Judges 6-7
- Psalms 52
- 1 Corinthians 14

Thursday, March 30

- Judges 8
- Psalms 42
- 1 Corinthians 15

Friday, March 31

- Judges 9-10
- Psalms 49
- 1 Corinthians 16

Saturday, April 1

- Judges 11-12
- Psalms 50
- 2 Corinthians 1

Sunday, April 2

- Judges 13-16
- 2 Corinthians 2

PRAYER REQUEST

At Central, we believe in and depend upon the power of prayer. If you have a specific need or concern for which you would like prayer, please describe it below, tear off this panel, and drop it in the offering plate. The officers and intercessors covenant to pray for your requests as long as you desire. All requests will be treated as confidential.

Name (optional):

- I would like a pastor or elder to contact me
- Sick or homebound and would like a visit
- I would like a women's intercessor to contact me

Tear Here → ← Tear Here