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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

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

Worship
9 & 10:45am

Adult Sunday School
9 & 10:30am

KidCentral
9am; 10:45 (ages 3 & 4)

Student Central
Student Center, 9am

High School Night
Student Ctr, 6:30pm

Tuesday

Women in Ministry
Fellowship Hall, 9:30am

Wednesday

Men's Fellowship
Parlor, 12pm

EquipCentral
Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm

Thursday

Women's Study Group
Parlor, 9:30am

College Gathering
Washington U., 8pm

Friday

Women's Study Group
Parlor, 9:30am

Movie Night
Parlor, 6:45pm

EquipCentral Menu

- Chili Mac
- Chopped Salad
- Creamy Cheesy Corn
- Garlic Bread
- Chocolate Chip Cheesecake Bars

Upcoming Events, News, & More

To learn more, visit www.centralpres.com

We want to extend a very special "thank you" to all of our volunteers who served on Easter Sunday. Your efforts were greatly appreciated!

If you are visiting with us, welcome! We're thrilled you are here. Be sure to stop by the Fellowship Hall on the lower level between the morning services for coffee and a snack.

Spring Storm, the annual retreat for grades 4-6, is April 27-29, and registration is still open! You can register at centralpres.com/stormtime.

You are invited to the Men's Fellowship Lunch on Wednesday, April 18, at 12pm in the Parlor. Lunch is only \$5. This week, we have the pleasure of welcoming our new Pastor of Evangelism and Community, Ben Tzeng.

The Spring Missions Luncheon is Sunday, April 29, after the 10:45 service. Your family and friends are invited to join our mission team as we welcome our missionary Jamal, who serves the Middle East. This is a great chance to learn about Central's missions efforts around the globe.

Save the date! The annual Thrive baby shower is May 1.

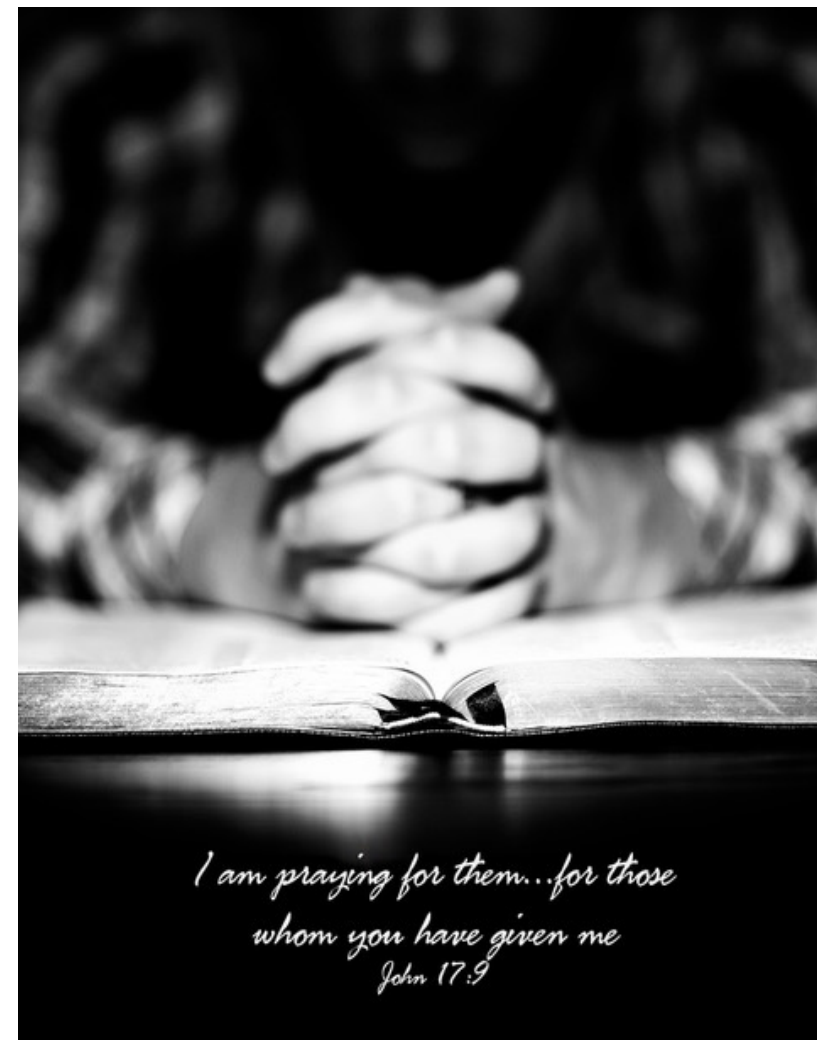
Reservation information is on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall. Donations are greatly appreciated and needed. Please send checks, made out to Central Presbyterian Church, to the church business office. Note "Thrive" on the memo line of the check, and write "Thrive" on the outside of the envelope.

On Friday, May 4, at 7:30 pm, Central is hosting the "Living Our Faith" concert. Join us in celebrating the Reformation's 500th anniversary. There will be musicians from Central, Central West End Church, and other area churches performing music old and new. Everyone is invited.

We would love to pray with you or for you! Use the tear-off panel to the left and drop your requests into the offering plate. There is a prayer team that meets at 8am each Sunday in the Prayer Room off the Davis lobby, and we offer intercessory prayer immediately after both morning services in the Prayer Room.



April 15, 2018



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www.centralpres.com

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Turning to the Lord

by Clay Smith

Last week, I shared with you the tragic, heartbreaking news from within our student ministry. Our hearts break over the anguish of the victim and the victim's family. As the church leadership focuses on caring for them and supporting our church community as we grieve and heal together, you may ask, "What do we do in the midst of the crisis we face?"

When he was facing his own darkest moments, Jesus' heart was turned towards his Father in prayer, and he prayed for his people, the people he loves. He prayed for us.

How do we move forward in the midst of crisis? I think it best that we follow the example of Jesus by turning to the Lord in prayer, that we might remember we are the people of God, a people who know that our God is the One-Who-Will-Provide. He will meet us in the midst of our heartbreak and sadness and meet our every need.

We are God's very own cherished possession. We glorify the Lord when we remember that it is his fierce love that makes us his people. He loves us not because of

anything we can offer or do, but simply because of who he is. Because of this great love, Christ died for us at just the right time. In the midst of our despairing and broken hearts, the love of God comes for us.

As we move forward, let us continue to implore one another to join together in prayer. Please pray for the healing and protection of the victim and the victim's family. Pray for our church, that we might be a source of hope and healing and that God would be glorified through his church.

In closing, please continue to remember that it does us no good to speculate about this crisis. Speculation about the "why" is merely a guess, and these guesses take us to even darker places. Likewise, there is no value in speculating as to the identity of the victim or the victim's family. In order to allow healing and to protect the privacy and dignity of the family, and indeed, the privacy and dignity of the entire student ministry, we must resist speculation. Thank you for honoring this request, dear friends.

Carver Conference

The Carver Project is a group at Washington University that seeks to interact with our culture in meaningful ways by establishing community through engagement and dialogue. On Saturday, April 28, from 10:30am-12pm, Central is hosting the Carver event: "Pastors' Dialogue: How Can Churches Bridge Deep Differences?"

This will be a powerful and thought-provoking discussion as you hear from four speakers, including one familiar face: Pastor Eric Stiller. Joining Eric will be Bishop Claude Alexander, Reverend Luke Jernagan, and Tish Harrison Warren. The panel will tackle issues like "How do we discuss our deepest differences with one another, and where can we find common ground without pretending that our differences don't matter?"

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. To sign up or for more information, please visit carverstl.org/new-events/. Please note: parking will only be available in the Central or CCS garages.

Movie Night

On Friday, April 20, at 6:45pm, the Life Team is hosting a movie night! We will watch the 2006 film *Bella*.

Bella is the story of an international soccer star on his way to sign a multimillion-dollar contract when a series of events unfold that bring his career to an abrupt end. A beautiful waitress, struggling to make it in New York City, discovers something about herself that she's unprepared for. In one irreversible moment, their lives are turned upside down, until a simple gesture of kindness brings them both together.

Bella won several awards, including the People's Choice at the Toronto Film Festival. *Bella* is rated PG-13 and is appropriate for teens and adults. After the show, we will have a time for discussion and a Q&A with the Life Team.

Admission is free, but donations will be accepted to help defray the costs of the evening. Free popcorn, cookies, and drinks will be provided.

Central's Bible Reading Plan

Also available on our app, centralpres.com/gettheapp

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Monday, April 16

- 1 Samuel 18
- 1 Chronicles 6
- Psalm 11
- Matthew 3

Tuesday, April 17

- 1 Samuel 19
- 1 Chronicles 7
- Psalm 59
- Matthew 4

Wednesday, Apr 18

- 1 Samuel 20-21
- Psalm 34
- Matthew 5

Thursday, April 19

- 1 Samuel 22
- Psalms 17, 35
- Matthew 6

Friday, April 20

- 1 Samuel 23
- Psalms 31, 54
- Matthew 7

Saturday, April 21

- 1 Samuel 24
- Psalms 57-58
- 1 Chronicles 8
- Matthew 8

Sunday, April 22

- 1 Samuel 25-26
- Psalm 63
- Matthew 9

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):

Please share my request with:

- All intercessors
- Active elders only
- Pastors only
- Please contact me about my prayer request

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