

Central Presbyterian Church

FALL PROGRAM GUIDE

FALL 2024

Program Guide

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A LETTER FROM PASTOR JOSH

Friends,

I am very excited about this coming year. We have many great things happening as we launch into this program year.

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who painted the office over the summer; you should check it out if you haven't seen it. A huge thank you to everyone who helped cover all the many roles while Pathman was away.

This fall, we have many wonderful activities, including the Crop Walk on September 22, Rise Against Hunger on November 3rd, and Deck the Halls on December 1st.

One event that I'm particularly excited about is on Sunday, October 20th. Following worship, we will screen the film *1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted the Culture*. This is a unique opportunity to learn and discuss an important topic. The film will be followed by a shared lunch, providing a chance for further conversation and fellowship.

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1946 SCREENING

*Sunday, October 20th after
worship.*



This 2022 film has won over 20 different awards. This documentary follows two researchers as they explore how the word “homosexual” ended up in the Bible. They discover in the Yale Archives that the translation team for the 1946 Bible realized their error and adjusted the translation in 1971. But the damage had already been done, and hundreds of millions of Bibles with incorrect translations had been published. It also follows the journey of the film’s Director, Sharon Roggio, whose father is a Conservative Baptist Pastor, as he learns she is a lesbian and he responds by writing a letter telling her to repent. In addition, it features Hebrew Scholars, a Rabbi, and NT Greek Scholars. In addition to the screening, we will have activities and lunch for middle school and younger children.

Through the first half of the year, our personnel and finance teams have been diligently working on a plan to hire a new Children and Youth Director. We are hopeful to share an update with the congregation soon. In the meantime, the three-month-old Children and Youth Christian Formation team has been working tirelessly behind the scenes. They have been meeting weekly, reflecting on our current model and the insights gained through parent listening sessions. The committee's aim is to bolster our ministry to children and youth and pave the way for the next director. We understand that the average children and youth director doesn't stay for more than two years, so we are actively working to set the next director up for success and a longer tenure. With this in mind, we are reconfiguring some of our program offerings and actively recruiting additional volunteers; we are thrilled that 63 people have responded.

During our worship services, we will continue to offer the enriching Godly Play and Worship Bridge experiences. These sessions are designed to provide spiritual nourishment and a sense of connection.

FAITH FORMATION HOUR

After worship (10:45-11:30 a.m.), we will have opportunities for all ages during our Faith Formation Hour. During that time, we will offer the following opportunities:

Adults: Reading the Bible Together and In the News classes, fostering a deeper understanding of our faith and the world around us.

For kids & youth, starting September 15th, we are working to expand our offerings with the following:

K-2nd Grade: This class will do some singing, share a story, and do an activity together.

3rd-5th Grade: Will meet for a discussion, activities, and games.

6-8th Grade: The Middle School Class will explore the “Echo the Story” discussion series. They will examine different stories from the Hebrew Scriptures, beginning with Creation and continuing through King David. This promises to be a fun and energetic time!

9th-12th Grade: We will offer a Confirmation Class. This class is meant to prepare students to join Central Presbyterian Church. There will be a confirmation Parent/Youth meeting on September 15. The class will meet twice a month from September to May. On Sundays, when we don't have confirmation, we will still get together for a lively discussion and a chance to catch up with our friends. We will be reflecting on video-led discussions and enjoying time together. Registration for Confirmation Class is required and available on our website.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

We will also be adjusting our Wednesday evening offerings for our Tweens & Youth.

Our Tween and Youth music program (grades 3 to 12) will meet in the choir room from 6 to 7 p.m. Following Tween and Youth Music, we will offer Impact Youth Group (6-12 grade) and 345 Tween from 7-8:15. 345 Tween will begin meeting every week starting September 11. The tweens will play games, have fun, and spend time together. Your Tween won't want to miss this.

Impact Youth Group 6-12 will continue with slight changes. We will continue to focus on games, discussions, and friendships. This year, we plan to spend most of our time together but also have age-related breakout conversations with middle and high school students.

This promises to be a fantastic year as Central continues to be Determined to Love, Invited to Wonder, and Inspired to Serve.

Prayers and Blessings,

Pastor Josh

SUNDAYS

at Central

Each Sunday we gather together to worship,
fellowship, and learn. All are welcome and invited.

IN THE NEWS

Led by Rev. Jane Deford, this class is a topical study. We generally read a relevant article or story and discuss in a single session. Upon occasion, this group will focus on another topic, often at the request of those attending the class, wanting to extend the study for added discussion or perhaps the group has discovered a link to another topic that they would like shared. This class is perfect for inquisitive CPC'ers who enjoy extending their knowledge in multiple directions. This class can also be joined via Zoom.

Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

GREAT COURSES

Join us as we continue with our video lecture series from the Great Courses Company. This fall we are watching "The History of Christianity II: From the Reformation to the Modern Megachurch," by Molly Worthan, Ph.D. of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. These 36 lectures explore the complex journey of the Christian faith from the turn of the 16th century to the modern and global present day. Each half hour lecture is followed by a group discussion. Each lecture can be appreciated without the context of the other lectures. This course is offered virtually through a Zoom link. All are welcome.

Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

READING THE BIBLE TOGETHER

Join us as we read each book of the Bible together. This course is led each week by a class volunteer who reviews commentary in advance and guides us through the reading and facilitates discussion of the text. Come join us as we seek to gain a deeper appreciation of God's plan of salvation through the timeless teachings of these scriptures. All are welcome, both in-person or virtually by Zoom link.

Sundays at 11 a.m.

Adult Faith Formation

SUNDAY CLASSES

Central Kids & Youth

SUNDAY PROGRAMS

NURSERY

- **Sunday mornings during 9:30 Worship**

For ages 0-3 with paid staff caring for children.

GODLY PLAY

- **Sunday mornings during 9:30 Worship**

For children ages 4-2nd Grade.

WORSHIP BRIDGE

- **2nd & 4th Sunday of each month during worship beginning September 22nd.**

For grades 3-6. Kids will leave as Passing of the Peace ends and spend the time of sermon, anthem and offering engaged in more active and interactive worship practices.



Central Kids & Youth

FAITH FORMATION HOUR CLASSES

KINDERGARTEN - 2ND GRADE

We'll do some singing, share a story, and do an activity together. We're going to have the best time!

3RD-5TH GRADE

Lots of fun with activities and games plus a chance to have a discussion about a weekly topic or lesson.

6TH-8TH GRADE

- **Echo the Story**

Join us to explore the "Echo the Story" discussion series. They will examine different stories from the Hebrew Scriptures, beginning with Creation and continuing through King David. This promises to be a fun and energetic time!

9TH-12TH GRADE

- **Confirmation Class**

This class is meant to prepare students to join Central Presbyterian Church. There will be a confirmation Parent/Youth meeting on September 15. The class will meet twice a month from September to May. On Sundays, when we don't have confirmation, we will still get together for a lively discussion and a chance to catch up with our friends. We will be reflecting on video-led discussions and enjoying time together.

All Faith Formation Hour Classes take place at Central on Sunday mornings from 10:45-11:30 a.m.

WEEKDAYS

at Central

Throughout the week we offer connection points for Bible Study, fellowship, and even groups based on hobbies or skills. Check out our current offerings and get connected.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

CENTRAL OFFERS A WONDERFUL WOMEN'S MINISTRY THROUGH SEVERAL DIFFERENT SMALL GROUPS, ALSO KNOWN AS CIRCLES.

DEBORAH CIRCLE

Third Thursday of each month from 7-9 p.m. in the Prayer Room. This group will be studying "Becoming Fully Brewed: A Guide to Following Jesus in a Deeper, Authentic Way"

LYDIA CIRCLE

First Tuesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. in the Prayer Room. This group will be studying "The Great Courses' Study of the Jewish Roots of Jesus."

SARAH CIRCLE

Third Wednesday of each month from 7-9 p.m. in the Prayer Room. Study to be announced shortly.

MIRIAM CIRCLE

Fourth Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Prayer Room. This group will be studying "Sacred Encounters The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts."

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE GROUPS VISIT CPCDOWNTOWN.ORG/WOMEN



STANLI CUSHMAN PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Meets the third Tuesday of each month | 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Room 117

A prayer shawl can be seen as a symbolic "hug" from God, and a group of knitters and fringers at CPC pray over each shawl as it is made. Shawls go to church members and members of the community with a need for caring and comfort. The group also knits hats to keep people warm. We meet the third Tuesday of every month.



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

Chancel Choir - Practice resumes September 5th and meet regularly Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. New members are welcome!

Adult Handbell Choir - Practice on Wednesdays from 7:15-8:15 p.m. at Central. Join us beginning September 11th. All levels of experience welcome!

Spirit Rising Praise Band - Practice on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. at Central. Join our modern praise band! Please reach out to Nancy Kammerer, at nkamm23@outlook.com for more information.



WEEKDAY GROUPS

KIDS & YOUTH

at Central

Kids & Youth at Central is all about raising up the next generation of kind, compassionate, leaders who love Jesus, while making friends and having fun (and eating ice cream, we love ice cream.)

TWEENS & YOUTH WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ARE OUR CHANCE FOR 3RD-12TH GRADERS TO GET TOGETHER, HAVE FUN AND LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD DURING THE WEEK.

TWEENS & YOUTH MUSIC OFFERINGS

Music hour is offered for students in grades 3-12 each Wednesday from 6-7 p.m.. There will be opportunities to do so many fun things, including:

CHAPEL CHOIR
KIDS HANDBELL CHOIR
KIDS & YOUTH MUSICAL

345TWEEN

Now on Wednesday nights, and meeting every week! 345Tween is for students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade from 7-8:15 p.m. and will begin meeting every week starting September 11. The tweens will play games, have fun, and spend time together. Your Tween won't want to miss this.

IMPACT YOUTH

Impact Youth Group is for students in 6th-12th grade. We will continue to focus on games, discussions, and friendships. This year, we plan to spend most of our time together but also have age-related breakout conversations with middle and high school students.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE GROUPS VISIT
CPCDOWNINGTOWN.ORG/YOUTH



PRAYER CHAIN

We have an active Prayer Chain of well over one hundred members (intercessors) who pray for others as needs arise. Would you like to be a part of this prayer ministry? Here is what is involved:

- When a prayer request is made, intercessors receive an email stating the person's name, how we can pray for that person, and a prayer. We never know when or how often prayer requests will come. Intercessors then pray for the person and continue to pray for that individual in the days/weeks that follow. Updates are sent out, if and as they are available. Intercessors respect the confidentiality of those for whom they are praying.

Imagine the strength of a long chain of interconnected people of faith, praying on someone's behalf, ready right away to lift arms and prayers high to God Almighty. If you would like to serve on the Prayer Chain, please contact Debbie Gordon at dgordon@cpcdowningtown.org.

CROP WALK

Sunday, September 22nd at 2 p.m.

Join us as we walk to end hunger! Central is the host location for the 2024 Downingtown walk, and we hope you'll join us! Registration for this event is required, and can be done at events.crophungerwalk.org/2024

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Sunday, November 3rd

Join us for this annual family-friendly service opportunity! We will fill bags with rice and package meals for people around the world who find themselves hungry due to lack of food or an emergency situation.

ALL AGES PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Save the Dates

ADVENT SEASON

Sundays
December
1st-22nd

Join us to celebrate the Sundays of Advent. A special Advent devotional will also be available through this season.

Sunday,
December 1st

Deck the Halls! An advent/ church decorating event for the congregation to enjoy following Worship. Guild will be providing a light lunch.

Sunday
December 8th

Join Missions as we work to raise money for HEIFER at our annual event at CPC. Donations towards animals are taken for HEIFER and thank you cards are given out to those purchasing the animals.

Thursday,
December 19th

The Longest Night. Join us at 7 p.m. to take a look at the mystery and wonder that Christmas can provide for you during a busy, and sometimes difficult season.

Tuesday,
December
24th

Christmas Eve at Central. We will host our family-friendly service at 4 p.m. and our candlelight service at 7 p.m. on December 24th.





**DETERMINED.
INVITED.
INSPIRED.**

CONTACT US

PHONE | 610.269.1576

EMAIL | OFFICE@CPCDOWNTOWN.ORG

OFFICE HOURS | M-TH 9 A.M. - 2 P.M., CLOSED FRIDAY

WEBSITE | CPCDOWNTOWN.ORG

FACEBOOK | CPC DOWNTOWN