



Central Press

SEPTEMBER 2021

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

Calendar

September Wednesdays

(except 5th Wednesday)
Food Pantry
& Clothes Closet

September 6

Labor Day
Church Office closed

September 14

B & G Committee mtg.

September 14, 28

Staff meeting

September Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Julie Smith | 8 |
| Evelyn Torkildson | 13 |
| Neta McCall | 15 |
| Susan Watt | 20 |
| Allison Dodds | 20 |
| Peg McMahon | 24 |
| Cheryl Cornett | 29 |
| Julia Bushue | 30 |
| Gregory Bonds | 30 |

Sept. Anniversaries

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Pat & Ray | |
| Haguewood | 17 |
| Peg McMahon & Sandae Custard | 27 |

Sept. Worship Leaders

| | |
|----------------|----|
| David Alonzo | 5 |
| Sandae Custard | 12 |
| Jim Corwin | 19 |
| Sara Boyd | 26 |

Life's Ironies *by David Alonzo*

As Central is in a period of transition, I am writing for the monthly newsletter of the church. The pastor of a church is usually the person in the spotlight, but for a little while everyday church folk will be in the spotlight. I will act as spotlight operator for a little while and will be calling on church folk to highlight something about themselves that may have helped make them who they are. First I'd like to spotlight myself.

When I started kindergarten, I attended school at Douglass Elementary School, named for the great abolitionist. This was in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1958. Ironically, my first high school teaching position was orchestra director at Robert E. Lee High School in Tyler, Texas. I had gone to desegregated schools all of my public school years. Of my grade K-7 teachers, five of the eight were Black. Texas schools, on the other hand, had only been integrated for about ten years! It was shocking to hear teachers in the lounge bemoaning how the school had changed since the school allowed "them" in. I guess they hadn't noticed that this new teacher sitting in the lounge didn't have white skin.

As I put the spotlight on everyday church folks, please think about an iceberg. Only about ten percent of an iceberg can be seen with the naked eye. Ninety percent is below the water. As you to share your story, I encourage you to share something that is part of that ninety percent.

Sept. Ushers/Greeters

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Anna Lisa Lawton | 5 |
| Sonja Carlson | |
| Carla Ingram | 12 |
| Susie Hanna | |
| Don Haring | 19 |
| Lynda Raner | |
| Allison Dodds | 26 |
| Sonja Carlson | |

Note:

Letters will be mailed soon with schedules for Worship Leaders and Ushers/Greeters along with updated instructions on the duties of each. If you find your name on a list on a date that you will not be attending worship, it is your responsibility to provide a substitute by trading dates with someone else on the list or calling on someone not on the list. Be sure to notify the church office of the change so it can be printed correctly in the Sunday bulletin. If you need a current church directory, call or email the office (816 931-2515) (jan@centralpreskc.org) or stop by the office on Sunday. Current directories are on the right side of the bottom shelf of the bookcase.

Transition Team Update

Friends,

An update on the transitional/interim pastor search: over the last few weeks we have met almost daily to review the 33 resumes we received for our position. We had three candidates who self-referred (sent their resumes directly to the committee) and 30 matched by the job board at PCUSA. Within each resume, the candidates answered four questions about personal growth, ability to lead and manage change, and to what setting they each felt God was calling them to serve. They all included their statements on faith as well.

After many hours of consideration, we have narrowed the list to seven ministers who closely match the leadership qualifications, skill sets, preaching style, and core beliefs Central seeks in its transitional pastor. We have notified each candidate via email of our interest and look forward to scheduling informal, "get to know you," interviews in the next couple of weeks. Our work will continue as we review videos of their sermons, continue to assess their qualifications, and learn more about them. We are certainly excited to finally speak with them in person!

While this seems to be moving rather quickly, we continue to pray before each meeting that God's presence will be with us as we work to discern God's plan for our church. Please continue to keep us and these candidates in your prayers. As always we welcome your questions.

Warmly,

The Transition Team

Lynda Raner

Susan Borge

Jim Corwin

Peg McMahon

Anna Lisa Lawton

Pantry News by Julie Smith

As we entered the summer months our pantry underwent some changes in how we are able to serve the clients in the safest manner possible. We are in an area in which many people are choosing not to be vaccinated for the COVID 19 virus and that is a concern for us in our interacting with them. We decided to allow people to have more choice of clothing, opening the pantry waiting area up and allowing each person to select several items of clothing. We had not allowed this service for over 15 months and the "regular patrons" we excited to see that return.

Over this last few months we are seeing more young people starting employment and we are grateful to the generosity of the church and the work of the volunteers preparing the return of clothing selections.

The garden continues to provide collard and mustard greens, several colors of onions, leeks, scallions, and will soon have okra, tomatoes and peppers. This addition to the food we distribute is a major asset to our patrons. According to the FOOD RESEARCH AND ACTION CENTER "In a representative survey of SNAP (food stamps) participants, the two main barriers to obtaining a more healthy diet is the higher cost of healthy choices and the high cost and availability of proper cooking equipment and/or storage." We are pleased to be able to have the food choices for our patrons. Thanks to Rebecca Merola (and all the volunteers who help) for her commitment to this service and all the many hours she spends preparing and tending to the plants.

Currently we are not accepting clothing donations.

Upcoming Guest Preachers

| | | |
|------------------|----|--|
| September | 5 | Rev. Jill Burris Linn |
| | 12 | Rev. Dale Jackson (new Executive Presbyter) |
| | 19 | Rev. Becky Chamberlain |
| | 26 | Rev. Ellen Marquardt |
| October | 3 | Rev. Joe Carle |
| | 10 | Rev. Eric Garbison |
| | 17 | Rev. Joe Carle |
| | 24 | Rev. Eric Garbison |
| | 31 | Elder Derron Story |

Having surgery or a medical procedure?

There are members who will be honored to pray for you during the procedure. Please contact Carol Ann Schmitt as listed in the Church Directory or contact the office. Thank you.

Please note: *Our new Presbyter for Vision & Leadership, the Rev. Dale Jackson, will be preaching on Sept. 12th. He will be able to stay in the pulpit after service to answer any questions we may have, provided we have them. So, please email the church office (jan@centralpreskc.org) with your questions by Sept. 6th so that this time can be scheduled. Please use "Questions for Rev. Jackson" as your subject line. Thanks for your help.*

Central Presbyterian Church
3501 Campbell
Kansas City, MO 64109
Phone: 816 931-2515
churchoffice@centralpreskc.org

Central Church

*We worship and work for a just
and loving world, as Jesus did,
through prayer, community service,
ministries of compassion, social
justice and spiritual friendship.*

Provide SUNDAY FLOWERS

An opportunity to give of yourself for
the enrichment of our common life.

**Sign up on
hallway bulletin board**

Central Presbyterian Church Staff

Heidi Peterson, *Pastor*

Cindy Sheppard,
Director of Music

Sarah Jacobs, *Organist*

Jan Powell, *Secretary*

Julie Smith
Director Community Ministries