

**Nov. Anniversary**

Cindy Sheppard & 13  
Louise Desmarteau

**November Preachers  
and Speakers**

Rev. Becky  
Chamberlain 7  
Sarah  
Dunne Pickrell 14  
Comm. Pastor  
Nick Pickrell 21  
Kathy Sheppard 28

**Transition Team Update** *by Anna Lisa Lawton*

Friends,

Happy Halloween from the Transition Team! October has been an interesting month for us on our candidates. We have had in-person interviews with both potential pastors including one who flew in from the Chicago area. An important step in the process is that members from Heartland's Commission on Ministry must meet with and interview each candidate in order to ensure a good "fit" for both Central and the Presbytery. This has become standard practice throughout PC(USA) for both transitional and called pastors.

While this occurred earlier in the month with one candidate, the other has been out of the country since the beginning of October and will be interviewed sometime the first week of November. The team cannot move forward until both fit interviews have taken place. We, as always, ask for your prayers that we may discern God's plan for Central and know that we are excited to move forward in finding our Transitional pastor!

Peace,  
The Transition Team

Peg McMahon Lynda Raner Susan Borge  
Jim Corwin Anna Lisa Lawton

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"Back to the kitchen table, I would then take all the green tomatoes and wrap each one in a piece of newspaper and pack them in a cardboard box. I would check on these once a week and rotate them, checking on how they were turning red but also making sure they were getting enough air and not becoming moldy. Usually, we ended up with about 75% of the green tomatoes turning red which we made into pasta sauce. Not much went to waste in the Merola household.

"I consider this education from my family a great gift and continue using these skills to this day."

**Advent 2021** *by Cindy Sheppard*

The season of Advent is almost upon us. Advent is that time in the church calendar when we spend the four Sundays prior to Christmas anticipating the coming of Christ yet again. Each week we will light an advent candle and reflect on the meaning of Christ coming into the world, taking on the vulnerability of humanity. Our Advent theme this year will be:

***Hope for Creation***

**God has endowed and gifted humans with the responsibility to provide constant care for His creation.** And all the ways in which we fall short of that call remind us that we are in need of a greater Savior. Christ's arrival marks the beginning of restoration; a point at which God can restore all relationships. Thus, in waiting for Jesus to come to Earth, we are also waiting to be whole once again.

**Yes: creation itself is on tiptoe with expectation, eagerly awaiting the moment when God's children will be revealed.**

**(Romans 8:19 - New Testament for Everyone)**

**Advent 1: Preparing Our Hearts**

**Advent 2: Practicing Hope**

**Advent 3: Practicing Generosity**

**Advent 4: Anticipating Renewal & Restoration**

With your help, we will also prepare e-devotions/meditations to be sent daily via e-mail. During Advent we are preparing our hearts for Christ's coming, and the act of writing/sharing a meditation is an outward practice of this inner preparation. If you have general holiday reflections to share, or a meditation that ties in with our Advent theme of *Hope for Creation*, or thoughts about a favorite Christmas or Advent carol or scripture, we would love for you to submit these for inclusion in our e-devotions. You do not have to have great writing skills, just a willingness to share your thoughts *in writing*. We will be happy to edit for clarity, if needed. Please send your submissions to Cindy ([cindy@centralpreskc.org](mailto:cindy@centralpreskc.org)) by November 21.

**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.*

*There is a volunteer **Pastoral Care team** available for your pastoral care needs. For information, please contact the office.*

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## Central Church

*Practicing love  
Serving our neighbors  
Worshipping God  
Because Jesus*

### **Central Presbyterian Church Staff**

**Cynthia Sheppard,**  
*Director of Music*

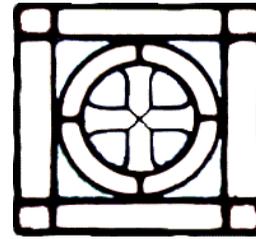
**Sarah Jacobs**  
*Organist*

**Jan Powell,**  
*Secretary*

**Julie Smith**  
*Director Community Ministries*

**Provide  
SUNDAY FLOWERS**  
An opportunity to give of yourself for  
the enrichment of our common life.

**Sign up on  
hallway bulletin board**



# Central Press

NOVEMBER 2021

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

## Calendar

### **November Wednesdays**

Food Pantry  
& Clothes Closet

### **November 9**

B & G meeting

### **November 9, 23**

Staff meeting

### **November 17**

Session

## Nov. Worship Leaders

Phil Utton 7  
Sara Hirsch 14  
Robertta McBride 21  
Rebecca Merola 28

## Nov. Ushers/Greeters

Matthew Mullins 7  
Susan Borge  
Chris James 14  
Dean Frech  
Phil Utton 21  
David Aguiar  
Sara Hirsch 28  
Susan Borge

## November Birthdays

Cindy Sheppard 3  
Mary K Marxsen 5  
Jan Powell 13  
David Aguiar 13  
Audrey Giersch 13  
Agnes Everet 16  
Mary Merola 17  
Jim Corwin 24

## Life Stories edited by David Alonzo

*This month the spotlight is on Mary Merola. If you have ever watched one of her cooking segments on YouTube, this story will shed some light on why they are so good. Move over Martha Stewart!*

### **The Art of Munding**

“Growing up in Chicago, our family garden was a big deal. Dad planted in May, and we enjoyed fresh vegetables all summer. It was a great source of pride for him. I thought all families had gardens but knew ours was special. I later learned most people just bought their produce from grocery stores and felt sorry that they did not have the joy of planting seeds, watering them, watching them grow and then the eating the harvest.

“My father decided when it was time to pull the last harvest and would spend all day on a crisp October morning collecting tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, zucchini and all the herbs he had left for the ladies of our household to cook and preserve for the winter.

“I would look forward to working in the kitchen with my mother and Aunt Rose. They would cover the Formica kitchen table with newspapers where all the tomatoes would be sorted by type and level of ripeness. When I got home from school I would trim them, retaining the good parts, and tossing the wormy or damaged sections in a big pail. This was called ‘munding’. Munding is a serious art and over the years I became quite a pro. To this day I take great pride in my ability to dive into a box of tomatoes, peaches, cantaloupes, or any fruit or vegetable and mund them up beautifully. Most people don’t realize just how much food goes to waste simply because they don’t know how to mund fruit and veggies.

*continued on page 2, LIFE STORIES*