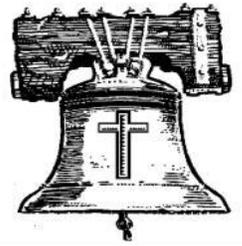


CENTRAL

Chimes



Central Presbyterian Church

P E T E R S B U R G , I L L I N O I S

Friends,

Our congregation arrived for worship on August 22, heart-broken after the tragic accident two days prior that took the life of our beloved member, Brian Satorius. Rev. Chris Williams stepped up to the pulpit to lead the morning's worship service, and he delivered an inspiring message and prayer of comfort and hope—reminding us that “God is with us,” our ever-present “Refuge.” Due to technical difficulties, the service was not available online. Rev. Williams graciously submitted the scripture passage and his sermon text to be shared with all.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.” The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

“Our Refuge”

It's been 15 years now, but I still remember being a first-year seminary student, in my first Theology class. The weeks' assignment was rather simple on the surface, write a one-page statement of faith; one simple page of what you believe. Compared to the 10 to 15 pages' assignments that were to come, this one seemed easy. It was not.

I initially sat down over the course of an evening and came up with a statement that I thought I could be proud of. It was a statement focused on happiness and joy being found in Christ. I shared a belief that Jesus had a sense of humor, and that church should be a place where we can sing, and praise, and laugh, and celebrate.

Before turning the paper in, I passed it on to a trusted mentor and advisor, the wife of my senior pastor. She was kind, but in the end, she pretty much torched my statement as being far too shallow and self-serving. She asked, “What happens when the church is not the place where we sing, and praise, and laugh, and celebrate? How does your faith enable you to both walk through the valleys of life, and to walk alongside others walking in that shadow?”

Today is the kind of day where I'm reminded that often, the most powerful expression of the church is found not in times of joy, but in times of heartbreak and sorrow. The church manifests the presence of Jesus most



powerfully when it steps into the void left empty by tragedy, sorrow, and deep loss. We experience God most intimately as we search for light in the middle of darkness.

That is the truth I meditated on as I scrapped my first draft and began anew on a statement of faith that represented me. And over the course of a long weekend, after hours of soul searching, prayer, and reflection, I came up with a statement that reflected the nature of God who not only reveals himself in the good times, but does so even more in the worst days of our existence.

After discovering the tragic news of Friday, I spent a great deal of time yesterday praying over what scripture to read today; praying about what God might call me to say to you. I found myself turning to the words of Psalm 46, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.” I find myself drawn to the idea of refuge here; a place where one can take shelter in the midst of the storm, a safe place in times of trouble.

As a pastor, I’ve been asked on occasion, “Why do bad things happen to good people? Why does God allow terrible pain and tragedy to occur in the world?” And I’ve heard all the bad answers before...that it’s part of God’s plan...that God needed a new angel...that it was punishment for societal sin. And all these answers are (since we are in church) trash. The truth as to why bad things happen? The answer, I don’t know. I am unable to understand.

Sometimes we as Christians like to think that if we are faithful disciples, we can escape the storms of life. We want to believe that if we go to church faithfully, and give our tithe, if we attend Bible study, and are kind and merciful to neighbors, that good things will happen to us. We hope that we will be spared from sickness, and tragedy, and misfortune...that the storms of life might pass us by.

But life tells us different because we have all seen storms in our lives. We have walked the ruins of homes destroyed by floods, or tornados, or fire. We have sat in that office as the word “cancer” rolls off the lips of the doctor. We have wondered where next month’s rent might come from after losing our jobs, and we have sat alone crying as a significant other announced it was over. Over the past year, we have born witness to a pandemic, to attacks on the streets of our nation, and in the halls of our capital. We have watched as people flee the horrors of wildfires and drought, and fight against the tribulations of racial injustice.

Friday’s accident is yet another reminder of how unkind and unforgiving life can be. It’s not fair to see a good life cut short so quickly. It’s not fair to see two kids go fatherless. It’s not right that we don’t get to see Brian sitting here today, like always, sitting in his pew.

But Psalm 46 doesn’t make those promises that God will spare us from the storms of life. It doesn’t say they will pass us by. It tells us mountains might shake into the sea and tremble at the tumult, that waters will roar and foam. The psalmist tells us that nations may rise in uproar, and kingdoms may totter on the brink. The very foundations of our lives...our hopes and dreams and futures may come crashing down around us. And we don’t know why.

But then the Psalm goes on to promise that in the midst of it all, God is there. God is with us. He does not abandon us.

Psalm 46 tells that God becomes our refuge in the midst of the storm; a place where we can find security and safety when our world is crashing down around us. We can turn to God and find strength for tomorrow. We can seek out comfort and hope for the future. We don’t need to ask the question, “why?” ... there is no answer; but we can ask the question, “who do we turn to?” ... and know that God is there for us.

But we can’t do it alone. So often, in my experience, that is what we are trained to do in our society. When we begin hurting, we try to turn inward. We bottle up our emotions and only

allow them to show in private. We are told in Psalm 46 though to “be still. Be still and know that I am God.” Part of that command to be still means letting go. Letting go of our need to be in control. Letting go of our need to not show any weakness. Letting go of the burdens we carry.

We do that in a number of ways. First, we do that through prayer. I have had many times in my life when I needed to seek out refuge in God. Prayer has always been a key part of that. For me it has always meant finding a space where I feel alone and free to talk to God in an honest and authentic way. Sometimes it has been alone in my car, or in a dark room in my house. Sometimes it has been alone in the church sanctuary at night with a few candles burning. Wherever it is...find a place that you can communicate with God. And remember that part of prayer is in the listening for God’s voice...you don’t always need to be speaking to God in prayer.

The second practice helpful to letting go, and letting God speak, is in allowing other people to help. God has gifted us with community, because our faith was never meant to be a solitary one. In times of trouble, God provides with companions on the way; and often God speaks most clearly through the words and actions of others. God provides refuge through the comfort, presence, and love offered up in friends and neighbors; a community of faith gathered in support of one another. As the church we are entrusted with the sacred call of being the very hands and feet of God in the midst of the storms life throws our way.

Friends, it has been a difficult week, and in the grand scheme of things, nothing I can possibly say here today is going to instantly make things better. But remember, God is here. God is with us in the midst of today’s storm, and God will see us through it. God is faithful, and we have the opportunity to continue being faithful in return, to him and to each other. You will be in my prayers in the days and weeks ahead.

May God grant comfort, healing, and peace... Amen.



Highlights of August 19, 2021 Session Meeting

- Checking account balance as of July 31, 2021: \$16,163.62.
- Our Stewardship campaign will be starting in September.
- Due to the surge of COVID cases the annual Worship in the Park has been canceled.
- Home Communion was delivered on August 5 to a total of 4 homes serving 8 members.
- Session is asking that at the end of the Worship service, when leaving the Sanctuary, the congregation please proceed outside and not congregate in the narthex.
- We ask that you continue to keep all of our health care providers in your thoughts and prayers.

Committee News

Administration

Financial

- Income year to date is \$4,164.50 below budget and YTD expenses are below budget by \$4,920.66 which puts us below our overall budget. Regardless of budget, our expenses are \$3,264.66 higher than our income.
- Treasurer’s report and financials were reviewed.

- General, MMF and Endowment funds were also reviewed.
- The annual Stewardship campaign will be starting in September.

Building

- Sidewalk patching was completed on the North side of the church leading to the ramp.
- A dehumidifier has been purchased for the maintenance room and installation will be completed this week.
- There was discussion of securing the window well on the South side of the church. Steve will contact Menard County Animal Control to remove our cat(s) and once completed, the window well will be secured and covered.
- Due to the increase in Covid-19 in the area, masks will be encouraged in the church and members will be reminded to not closely congregate within the sanctuary and narthex.
- The old office computer and screen need to be disposed of. The computer has been wiped clean and we are reaching out to members who could use the computer.

Steven Territo & Jane Stephenson
Administration Committee Co-Chairs

Worship in the Park - Cancelled

Due to COVID-19 and its variants starting to surge once again, it has been decided by the Worship Committee to cancel Worship in the Park on Sunday, September 12, for this year. However, there will be a special (informal) Sunday morning worship service in the church on that date at regular time.

Scripture Readers AND “Worship Enhancement”

We are needing volunteers to be Liturgist and/or Usher/Greeter during Sunday morning services.

AND

Also needed are volunteers to present for “Worship Enhancement” during worship. It does not have to be music. A hymn can be read, or a favorite scripture, or a story you find important or funny. Keep it simple and share your talent and your inspiration with us all. Please call (217) 414-9302 or email me at dado93047@yahoo.com to schedule a Sunday that works for you. Thank you!

Rich Ford
Worship Committee Chair

Emergency Contacts

Although Central does not now have an installed pastor, members are encouraged to continue to stay connected with the church family. If you have an emergency or are in need of assistance from Central, please contact:

Church Office, 217-632-2651

Camilla Long, Deacon Chair, 217-306-8086

Jane Stephenson, Clerk of Session, 217-341-7599

You are also requested to inform the church office of changes in addresses and phone numbers.

Menard Caring

I recently became a board member of Menard Caring and I'm interested in any suggestions or concerns you may have. Call or text me at 217-652-9596.

Are you interested in helping the community? There is a need for volunteers at the Menard County Food Pantry. Volunteering times are from 1 to 3 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday. If you want more information, call Keith Norris at 217-634-5085. He is on the Menard Caring Board. Your name could be added to the list.

A big shout out to our congregation for all their donations towards the Diaper Bank and Menard County Food Pantry! Thanks!

Cindy Godbey
Menard Caring

Every Sunday is Food Pantry Sunday

At this time, the Menard County Food Pantry is open only on a limited basis. The Food Pantry is staffed by volunteers on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month from 1 to 3 p.m.

In order to receive a food order, persons in need must contact the Menard County Community Services Office located in the Menard County Courthouse at 217-632-4412 to schedule an appointment to receive a food referral.



Food donations are needed for the two Petersburg area Food Pantries, especially the Pop-Up Pantry at County Market. Please put food items in the large basket in the Narthex to be taken to the Pop-Up Pantry.



Diaper Bank Needs

The Diaper Bank, located at the Menard County Housing office, 101 W. Sheridan Rd., Petersburg, IL 62675, is once again open to the public as of June 1. If there is a need for diapers or diaper supplies, you can either come in person or call the office at 217-632-7723.

The Senior Services Center recently moved into the Menard County Housing building. They have combined their supplies to now include adult briefs and pads. They are currently well stocked with infant diapers but are in need of size 4 and 5 diapers as well as baby wipes. Rather than purchasing items to donate, a monetary donation is always accepted.

Do You Know How You Can Give the Gift of Caring?

HSHS Home care Illinois Hospice program provides comprehensive care for people who are terminally ill as well as their families and loved ones. Becoming a hospice volunteer creates a way for you to make a tremendous impact on your community by giving families your help when they may need it most. If you are looking for a fulfilling, rewarding experience, and a feeling of community spirit, then this is the place for you. Volunteer duties include a variety of services based on the needs and strengths of each volunteer. We offer virtual opportunities as well! For more information about HSHS Home care Illinois Volunteer Services, please contact Cassie Delaney at (217) 814-5268, or by e-mail at Cassandra.Delaney@hshs.org.

Cassie Delaney – HSHS St. John's Hospital –Hospice Facilitator

Chimes Deadline

Please have your articles and photos for the October *Chimes* submitted to the church office no later than **Monday, September 20!** A Microsoft Word file attached to an email is the preferred method of submission. Our email address is centralpreschurch@sbcglobal.net.

The Joy God Provides

A cheerful Heart is good medicine.

Proverbs 17:22

When Marcia's out in public, she always tries to smile at others. It's her way of reaching out to people who might need to see a friendly face. Most of the time, she gets a genuine smile in return. But during a time when Marcia was mandated to wear a facemask, she realized that people could no longer see her mouth, thus no one could see her smile. It's sad, she thought, but I'm not going to stop. Maybe they'll see in my eyes that I'm smiling.

There's actually a bit of science behind that idea. The muscles for the corners of the mouth and the ones that make the eyes crinkle can work in tandem. It's called a Duchene smile, and it has been described as "smiling with the eyes."

Proverbs reminds us that "a cheerful look brings joy to the heart" and "a cheerful heart is good medicine" (15:30 nlt; 17:22). Quite often, the smiles of God's children stem from the supernatural joy we possess. It's a gift from God that regularly spills out into our lives, as we encourage people who are carrying heavy burdens or share with those who are looking for answers to life's questions. Even when we experience suffering, our joy can still shine through.

When life seems dark, choose joy. Let your smile be a window of hope reflecting God's love and the light of His presence in your life.

By Cindy Hess Kasper

Reflect & Pray

What else does the Bible teach us about the joy found in God? How does inner joy contribute to a healthy mind, body, and spirit? The joy You provide is my strength, dear God. Help me to be a messenger of Your love to others.



God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, And the wisdom to know the difference.



Cinnamon Swirl Coffee Cake Muffins

This delicious coffee cake muffin recipe is made with a tasty swirl of cinnamon all the way through. It's sure to be a crowd pleaser!

Author: Laura Fuentes

Ingredients:

Muffins

1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup brown sugar
2 teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon baking soda
⅛ teaspoon salt
¾ cup milk
⅓ cup melted butter
2 eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Cinnamon swirl

⅓ cup all-purpose flour
2 tablespoons brown sugar, packed
1 tablespoon granulated sugar
½ teaspoon cinnamon
2 tablespoons butter, melted

Crumb topping

2 tablespoons granulated sugar
½ teaspoon cinnamon

Vanilla glaze

¼ cup powdered sugar
½ teaspoon vanilla extract
2 tablespoons cream
(if using milk, use 1tablespoon)

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees and line muffin tin with paper liners, set aside.
2. In a large bowl, whisk flour, brown sugar, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt. Make a well in the center and set aside.
3. In a smaller bowl, or large measuring cup, whisk milk, butter, eggs and vanilla until smooth. Pour wet mixture into the dry bowl and mix (with a hand blender or by hand) until you have a thick but smooth batter.
4. For the crumb topping, stir together the flour, sugars, and cinnamon in a medium bowl. Add the melted butter and stir with a fork until the mixture is crumbly and resembles wet sand.
5. For the cinnamon swirl, combine the sugar and cinnamon in a small bowl.
6. Begin to assemble the batter inside the lined muffin tin by scooping 2 tablespoons of batter into each muffin cavity. Place a teaspoon of cinnamon sugar mixture on top, give it a quick swirl, and top with more muffin batter, filling the tin ¾ to the top.
7. Sprinkle about a heaping tablespoon of crumb topping on top of each muffin top, covering the tops.
8. Bake muffins for 15-17 minutes until the crumbly tops are golden and when a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean. Remove from oven and allow muffins to cool down to room temperature in the pan prior to transferring them to a wire rack to glaze.
9. Once cooled, drizzle a little glaze over cooled muffins.

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 15 – 17 minutes

Total Time: 25 – 27 minutes

Yield: 12 muffins

Category: Muffins

Nutrition: Serving Size – 1 muffin; Calories – 224;

Sugar – 17g; Sodium – 245.5mg; Fat – 8.8g;

Saturated Fat – 5.2g; Trans Fat – 0.0g;

Carbohydrates – 32.9g; Fiber – 0.0g; Protein – 3.7g

Cholesterol – 52.3mg

Scenes from Central



Beth Kiningham leads the service as Liturgist on July 18.



Ethan and Ava listen to Heather Carter's message for the Young Disciples.



On July 25, Sherri Roberts fills the role of Liturgist.



Jan Costello serves as Communion Liturgist August 1.



Emma Lou praises God and blesses us with music every Sunday--and sometimes even dresses to match the bulletin!



Becca Adams delivers the sermon on August 29.



During worship August 29, Wildwood Strings plays "Amazing Grace" for the Offertory and "My Country 'Tis of Thee" for the Postlude.

<i>Church Attendance</i>			
Aug. 1	18	Aug. 22	25
Aug. 8	23	Aug. 29	29
Average Worship Attendance: 24			



Members:

Mary Ella Allen
Barb Churchill
JoAnn Morris
Ken Morris

Family of Brian Satorius
Dale and Mary Rose Satorius
Marilyn Schafer
Janet Scheina

Judy Stahl
Linda Williams

Friends of the Congregation:

Stacy Acton (J. Stephenson's niece)
Dale Blout (B. Satorius' dad)
Alan Bronson (S. Wilson's friend)
Carolyn Carr (J. Tice's friend)
Jake Dennison (C. Long's friend)
Michelle Rankin Eddings (M. Montgomery's friend)
Mike Hance (husband of Kristi Hance; PES teacher)
Marlene Hartsook (R. Ford's sister)
Gloria Leamon
Bob McLin (B. Winkelmann's brother)
Andrew Raes (R. Plaeger's cousin)
Dee Ring
Ruth Ann Sampson

Sheila Smoron (Pastor M. Smoron's wife)
Gary Sorenson (L. Williams' friend)
Stahl family (S. Carlson's neighbor)
Cindy Thomas (R. Ford's niece)
Jeff & Amy VanDevender (Rev. G. Boutelle's nephew & niece-in-law)
Don Wells (S. McCullough's brother-in-law)
Carol White (J. Morris' friend)
Mike Whitehurst (P. & M. Montgomery's friend)
Clara Willox (R. & C. Ford's granddaughter)
Lauren Woodley (J. Satorius' friend J.D. Proehl's granddaughter)

Please pray for all we know who are homebound, residing in care facilities, undergoing surgery or medical treatment, serving in the military or who are away from their family and friends.

In Our Communities and In Our World:

All who are affected by COVID-19
(Including those not yet vaccinated)
Pray for racial equality
Peace between nation neighbors

Victims of gun violence
Displaced peoples in the world
Pray for our country

Please continue to keep our healthcare workers and those in the educational field in our prayers. Over these past many months, they have been a guiding light to all of us in their courage and dedication to keeping us safe and helping the future generation. Thank You!

As new COVID-19 numbers continue to rise and we are seeing an increase in people again being hospitalized due to it and the Delta variant, please pray for those affected.

During our time of social distancing, we desire to keep those in prayer who are in need. Please keep the church office informed of members or friends that need to be placed on our prayer list by sending an email to: centralpreschurcb@global.net or calling the church office at: 217-632-2651.



Nonagenarian

September 24 Alia Montgomery PO Box 13, Petersburg, IL 62675

Octogenarian

September 7 Orene Lynn 967 East F St., Moscow, ID 83843

Happy Birthday

September 1	Alan Horn	September 18	Andy Rowe
September 4	Michael Carter	September 20	Nancy Mehr
September 5	Joyce Goeringer	September 22	Zach Stephenson
September 5	Nile Sanert	September 23	Ava Jane Satorius
September 8	Zane Kyes	September 24	Chris McCullough
September 11	Bill Studzinski	September 24	Dee Ring
September 11	Gabrielle R. Goeringer	September 25	Kyle Wankel
September 13	Jake Godbey	September 26	Everett Hutton
September 14	Brittney DeCroix	September 27	Helen Deverman
September 15	Kathrin Roberts	September 30	Richard Ford

Happy Anniversary

September 2	Jeremy & Heidi Phillips	September 15	Matt & Ashley Rutz
September 4	Dave & Camilla Long	September 17	Pat & Linda Claussen
September 9	Dale & Mary Rose Satorius	September 17	Mark & Joyce Goeringer

**Please note that Sue Wilson's name was inadvertently omitted last month.*

August 1 Sue Wilson



	<i>Usher/Greeter</i>	<i>Liturgist</i>
Sunday, September 8	Dan Stephenson	Steve Territo
Sunday, September 12	Special (Informal) Sunday Service	
Sunday, September 19	Jane Stephenson	Rebecca Rowe
Sunday, September 26	Sherri Roberts	John Godbey

If you cannot fulfill your duty as usher/greeter or liturgist, please find someone to take your place. Also, let the church office know of the changes as soon as possible.

Obituary for Brian Matthew Satorius "Opie"

Brian Satorius, known by many as “Opie”, 47, of Petersburg, passed away tragically in a farming accident on Friday, August 20, 2021. He leaves behind his loving wife of 14 years, Brianne (Blout) Satorius, and their two children, Ethan (10), and Ava (6). Brian was born November 9, 1973 to Marsha (Kemper) Satorius of Petersburg, and James Satorius of Petersburg. Also surviving are his sisters Jennifer Satorius of Petersburg (Scott Hewitt), and Ashley (Satorius) Rutz (Matt), of Zionsville IN, a niece Raegan, and many other aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws, and countless friends. He was preceded in death by his brother Michael, and his grandparents.



Brian was a true hometown boy. He was a graduate of PORTA high school where he participated in many sports and FFA. In recent years, he has been involved in the Friends of the PORTA FFA alumni group. He always looked forward to his class reunions and keeping tabs on old friends through his wife’s Facebook account. Brian was an alum of 4-H where he enjoyed showing hogs. He has passed along that tradition with his son, who had his first county fair show this past summer. Brian graduated with his Master’s degree from the University of Illinois, and his Bachelor’s degree from Western Illinois University. He was in an engineering role at TeeJet Technologies, working with GPS products for over 20 years. His job took him all over the world to install, repair, and educate, making good friends along the way.

Brian was an avid sports lover. University of Illinois Men’s basketball was his favorite, with Green Bay Packers football as a close second. He and the family could often be seen in the backyard playing one sport or another. Passing on his love and knowledge of sports to his son, especially, brought him such joy. They would talk about his sports, how to improve, and plans for his next game. He has also groomed him to yell equally as loud at the tv during ball games.

Brian was a true advocate for agriculture. Farming was his passion. He was growing our farming operation, always finding ways to improve, while also bringing new opportunities, ideas, and education to others. Brian loved being a part of Farm Bureau, serving as the president in Menard County for many years, and being in various specialty groups on the state level. Brian was an alum of the Illinois Ag Leadership program where he made many great friends.

Brian had a strong faith and relationship with God. He was very active in the Central Presbyterian Church and has served in many roles.

Everyone who knew Brian loved him. He was so full of life. In a social situation, he could always be counted on for a “great idea” or for a hilarious, sometimes 20-year-old story to make people laugh. He was a family man; always being goofy together and down for a good snuggle. His daughter says “he was the best tickler” but that she is the better singer. He loved his family and friends fiercely and had a genuine love of this community. Brian’s absence will be felt forever, but his legacy will live on in his children and in all the lives he has touched. We are all better for having had him in our lives. Gone too soon but loved forever.

“The pain you feel is the price you pay for having had such a special person in your life”.– source unknown

Funeral will be held on Sunday, September 5, 2021 at 1 p.m. at Wankel’s of Petersburg, 18239 Kelly Street, Petersburg. There will be a Celebration of Life directly following. Graveside service will be in between for immediate family and a select few. Arrangements are being handled by Hurley’s of Petersburg. www.Hurleyfh.com .

Memorials may be made to the family for an education fund for Ethan and Ava. For those feeling compelled to contribute to Ethan and Ava's future. There were previously established educational and custodial accounts for each of them. Checks can be made out to Edward Jones or Alliance Community Bank, please indicate in the memo how you'd like the funds to be applied. They can be mailed or dropped off at a local location. Alliance Community Bank, c/o Brianne Satorius, PO Box 470, Petersburg, IL 62675, Edward Jones, c/o Brianne Satorius, 325 S 6th St., Petersburg, IL 62675.

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