

# CENTRAL

# Chimes



*Central Presbyterian Church*

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

Dear Congregation,

As we enter into the dull greyness and wetness that is February in Illinois, I want to point out three suggestions. No big surprises with these, but even though they may be familiar, we can undervalue them just due to that familiarity. What might be new, though, is who you do them *with*.

First, this month includes Valentine's Day, so express LOVE to your loved ones in some *new* way, using your hands and feet. Take them somewhere *new* to eat, or learn a *new* game together, a *new* bookstore or shop to explore, perhaps in a *new* town you've never seen. If you regularly volunteer for Meals on Wheels or the Food Pantry, do one of these with a loved one you haven't been able to spend much time with recently, and then thank them with lunch or dinner or coffee somewhere.

Second, February is Black History Month, and I want to encourage you, if you haven't been there, to check out the *Springfield and Central Illinois African-American Museum*, just south of Oak Ridge Cemetery at 1440 Monument Avenue. I've lived here a long time but just recently went for my first time. It is really well-done, the staff are friendly, and it's easy to see everything in two hours or less. The displays are compelling and well-presented, much of it about the 1908 Race Riot. It is important to know our past, even when it is difficult, lest we needlessly repeat it.

Later in February, we will again be entering the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday, on the 22nd. I hope as a church family we will take every opportunity to "lean into" what the Lent season commemorates, and that it can help us draw closer to God. When we observe it, we are remembering two events. First, it is forty days to parallel Jesus' temptation and time of fasting at the start of his ministry. We remember his denying himself by leaving aside some of the distractions and comforts that compete for our time and attention, keeping from hearing what God might want to tell us. That is the core reason why we sometimes fast from things at Lent; it is so we can turn off the noise of something that competes for attention with what God might want to tell us.

The season of Lent is also when we, as a church and as individuals, remember and reflect on Jesus' incredible sacrifice, suffering profoundly—both physically and spiritually—by taking on mankind's sin and dying on a hard, splintered cross for us. I encourage you, if you don't already, to take the bulletins home and reread the lectionary readings during the week and let them sink in. No need to force a feeling; just read them slowly and let the words hit you where they will.

Did I tell you lately how much I love preparing the sermons? I am sure Marty and Jonah feel the same, and we always appreciate your comments and questions, even when they might reveal that we left something out or made it unclear. Thank you for letting us serve CPC!

Robert Lackie, Preaching Associate  
(217) 971-8641  
[Lackier26@gmail.com](mailto:Lackier26@gmail.com)



## Highlights of Regular Session Meeting on January 19, 2023

- **MOTION: That the following be approved for the Financial Assignments for 2023:**  
**Church Treasurer – Rhonda Plaeger**  
**Major Maintenance Fund Treasurer – Rhonda Plaeger**  
**Trust/Investment Treasurer – Janene Tice & Chris Ford**  
**Weekly Money Counters – Beth Kiningham, Rebecca Rowe, Alice Studzinski, Rhonda Plaeger, Mary Gheen**  
**Memorial – Coleen Janssen**  
**Bereavement – Beth Kiningham**  
**Clerk of Session – Jane Stephenson**  
**Motion made by Jane Stephenson, seconded by Steve Territo. Motion carried.**
- Checking account balance as of December 31, 2022: \$60,945.55.
- **MOTION: To approve Budget A which currently exists of three (3) supply ministers.**  
**Motion made by Steve Territo, seconded by Patrik Claussen. Motion carried.**
- **MOTION: That a \$500.00 donation be distributed from the Ebersolt fund to each of the following entities: Potter Drug Store; Petersburg Pharmacy; Senior Transport, and Menard County Friend in Need. Motion made by Steve Territo, seconded by Ron Sanert. Motion carried.**
- Home Communion was delivered to 4 homes and 7 members.
- A thank you was received from Town and Country Women for Central's donation to the Jaycee Park Renovation.
- Central will be joining the Methodist Church for a joint Ash Wednesday service which will be held at the Methodist Church. A time for the service has not been determined.
- Mission/Outreach continues to provide food from the Food Pantry to the Pop-up Food Pantry at County Market on a weekly basis.
- 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 \$17,834.13 above budget and YTD expenses are below budget by \$2,329.11, which puts us below our overall budget. Regardless of budget, our income, YTD, is \$21,633.64 above our expenses.
- We currently have an outstanding pulpit supply team, but our budget is in the positive because we do not have a full time minister. Budgetary line items will increase considerably once we hire a pastor.
- Treasurer's report and financials were reviewed.
- General, MMF, Obligated Funds were also reviewed.
- The 2023 budget has been completed with 30 pledging units and the budget has been completed following our current three-person pulpit supply team as well as for a full-time pulpit supply minister.
- Mileage reimbursement rate for 2023 is 65.5 cents per mile.
- The annual report has been completed.
- The Audit for 2022 to be scheduled.
- Presbytery grant monies from the Reading Rocks program have been returned to CPC.

Initial distribution will be as follows:

- Petersburg Family Dental \$400.00
- PORTA schools for unmet needs:
  - Elementary School \$250.00
  - Central School \$250.00
  - High School \$250.00
- Gift Certificates from County Market for the Food Pantry \$250.00 (fifty @ \$5 each)
- Diaper bank \$200.00
- Menard County animal shelter \$200.00
- Give & Take for utilities \$300.00

#### Building

- A contract has been signed and tuck pointing will be completed in the spring.

#### Personnel

- Personnel policies will be reviewed and submitted to Session for approval

Submitted by Jane Stephenson & Steven Territo, Co-chairs

## **2023 Per Capita**

The Per Capita amount for each member for 2023 is \$36.25.

### **What Does Per Capita Mean?**

It is a Medieval Latin term that literally translated means, “by heads.”

### **What Is It For?**

Per Capita takes all the expenses of the Presbytery, the Synod, and General Assembly and breaks those costs down by the actual head count of the total population of *active members* in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

### **Why Do We Pay It?**

As Presbyterians, we are connectional people – meaning that we understand the importance of being connected with other Presbyterians. Per Capita payments help our denomination to take our combined efforts to effect change in our country and around the world through the various ministry and mission programs at the various denominational levels.

### **Who Pays It?**

Every *active member* is assessed \$36.25.

### **Who Is An Active Member?**

*Adults* and *confirmed Youth* who participate in the work and worship of church; who have joined the church; and who are listed on Central’s rolls (official records of the church that are reported to the denomination).

## **Annual Congregational Meeting**

Our Annual Congregational Meeting to review the 2022 Annual Report is scheduled for February 12, 2023 immediately following worship. The Nominating Committee will present a slate for election of Elders, Deacons, and 2023 Nominating Committee. Installation of the newly elected officers will take place following the election. We will need a quorum to conduct this necessary church business, so please plan to be in attendance on February 12!

## Lent 2023

Lent for the year **2023** starts on **Wednesday, February 22, and ends on Thursday, April 6, Holy Thursday.**

Lent is a Christian annual period that starts on Ash Wednesday lasting for 40 days (not including Sundays) representing the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness. This 40-day period for Christians is a time to reflect, fast, and give penance in preparation for the resurrection of Christ Easter Sunday.

### Is Lent 40 Days?

Lent for Christians starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on either the evening of Maundy Thursday or on sundown of Holy Saturday (day before Easter Sunday). However, the practices of Lent do not end until sundown on Holy Saturday for all Christian denominations. So it is 44 days from Ash Wednesday to Maundy Thursday and another two days with Good Friday and Holy Saturday added to give a total of 46 days for Lent. But Sundays are excluded from fasting during Lent and with 6 Sundays removed from the count we get Lent being a 40-day liturgical period.

## Lenten Studies

### Men's Lenten Breakfasts

Men's Lenten Breakfasts will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 22. Breakfast starts at 7:00 a.m., followed by a devotion reflecting the season of Lent at 7:30, and dismissal by 7:45. Central Presbyterian Church will be hosting the March 29 breakfast. John Godbey will welcome volunteers willing to help out! The schedule is as follows:

February 22	St. Paul's Evangelical Free Church, 209 W. Douglas
March 1	Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 120 W. Church
March 8	United Methodist Church, 221 W. Jackson St.
March 15	First Baptist Church, 103 W. Sangamon
March 22	St. Peter Catholic Church, 711 S. 6 <sup>th</sup> St.
March 29	Central Presbyterian Church, 210 W. Douglas
April 5	TBD

### Women's Lenten Studies

Women's Lenten Studies will begin on March 1. Refreshments start at 9:30 a.m. with a lesson starting at 10:00. Central Presbyterian Church will be hosting on March 15. Please contact Coleen Janssen to find out how you can help! The schedule is as follows:

March 1	United Methodist Church, 221 W. Jackson St.
March 8	St. Peter Catholic Church, 711 S. 6 <sup>th</sup> St.
March 15	Central Presbyterian Church, 210 W. Douglas
March 22	St. Paul's Evangelical Free Church, 209 W. Douglas
March 29	First Baptist Church, 103 W. Sangamon

## **Ash Wednesday Service**

United Methodist Church of Petersburg will be hosting a combined Ash Wednesday service with Central Presbyterian Church again this year. Time of service at United Methodist Church is yet to be determined.

## **Easter Lilies**

Easter lilies will again this year be available for order from Roseview Flowers. The cost is \$20 and our order will be placed mid-March. Order forms will be available in the March Chimes and in the Narthex.

## **Keep Connected!**

Although Central does not have an installed pastor at this time, Preaching Associate, Robert Lackie, is available to the congregation each **Wednesday** from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you wish to make an appointment to visit with him, please call his cell phone, 217-971-8641, or the church office.

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, Tuesday & Wednesday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or

Friday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; or leave a message anytime.

Camilla Long, Deacon Chair, 217-306-8086

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

## **Chimes Deadline**

Please have your articles and pictures for the March, 2023 *Chimes* submitted to the church office no later than **Friday, February 17**. A *Microsoft Word file* attached to an email is the preferred method of submission. **Please reference “Chimes article” in the subject line.** Please email the church with any suggestions as to what you may want to see in the *Chimes*. Our email address is office@central-pres.org.

## **Menard County Food Pantry**

The Menard County Food Pantry is open and staffed by volunteers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. for any resident who resides within the PORTA School District.

Food donations are needed for the two Petersburg area Food Pantries, especially the Micro-pantry next to County Market. Please put food items in the large basket in the Narthex to be taken to the Micro-pantry.

## **Diaper Bank Needs**

The Diaper Bank, located at the Menard County Housing office, 101 W. Sheridan Rd., Petersburg, IL 62675, is currently not open to the public. However, if you are in need of any supplies, either visit in person (there is a doorbell at the front door) or call the office at 217-632-7723. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Senior Services Center is now in the Menard County Housing building, and they have a good supply of adult briefs and pads.

The Diaper Bank is currently well stocked with most sizes of infant diapers, but could use newborn and size 1 diapers as well as baby wipes at this time. Rather than purchasing items to donate, a monetary donation is always accepted.

**Health Notes: : submitted by Alice Studzinski**

The following is a compilation of excerpts from an article by Missy Buchanan published January 13, 2023, in the Presbyterian Outlook magazine entitled, “*I’M JUST HERE: Tips for adult children and older adults to navigate faithful aging.*”

Missy Buchanan offers advice for those caring for aging parents, noting it isn’t a reversal of roles, rather, an evolution of a relationship.

Adult children and aging parents alike desperately need the church to help them build resilient, grace-filled relationships for the journey of aging. Both generations need practical advice, training and encouragement to have difficult conversations about late life in God-honoring ways.

Here are a few tips to help adult children and older adults take the first steps toward navigating the journey together.

1. Learn to stand in the other generation’s shoes. Adult children should assume a posture of humility and imagine the frustrations and fears their aging parents must feel as they endure relentless change in this season of late life: physical decline, loss of loved ones through death or a move, loss of home and cherished belongings, loss of independence and the ability to drive, and loss of energy, hearing and vision. The impact of these accumulated losses is typically unique to late life and is best understood as compounded loss.

Aging parents should likewise try to step into the shoes of their adult children and remember what those hectic middle years of life were like. Their adult children are likely juggling careers, parenting responsibilities and school, community and church activities while also navigating the unfamiliar landscape of being a caregiver for their older loved ones. Not surprisingly, they are experiencing their own tsunami of mixed-up emotions.

2. Recognize that it is not a role reversal. Contrary to what we often hear, describing the adult child–aging parent relationship as a role reversal is faulty at best. Even if an older loved one requires assistance with basic daily needs, they should not be thought of as a child. Believing that younger and older adults somehow switch roles specifically endangers the well-being of the aging parent. The idea robs the older person of dignity and respect at a time when they are the most vulnerable, and it dismisses the life experiences they have accrued over the years. Imagine what five-year-old child has been the CEO of a company, served as a union shop steward, or raised a family of five. Certainly, in some situations an older loved one’s mental state requires that adult children make decisions on their behalf — but respect and dignity should always be topmost in the minds of adult children. Instead of considering it a role reversal, consider the dynamic to be a role shift, in which the adult child takes on new responsibilities for the aging parent, while each holds steadfast to the adult child and aging parent identifications.

3. Include aging parents in conversations. Oftentimes well-intentioned family members treat aging parents as if they are invisible or somehow incapable of participating in conversations. People talk above them or past them, forgetting to include them. Adult children need to be intentional about how they engage their aging parents in decision-making conversations, especially those that directly impact their parents’ lives. Adult children should not assume they know what’s

best for an aging parent or what their parent is thinking. Adult children would do better to lead with questions that show respect and help the two generations work together toward a solution. “Mom, Dad, what do you think we should do?” “What do you think would be the best way forward?”

4. Talk so the other generation can hear. Another communication pitfall between adult children and aging parents can be explained by something my grandson said when he was five years old. In the midst of a disagreement, he told his older brother, “My ears hear you but my heart just can’t.” It’s true. Sometimes the struggle to communicate has to do more with emotions than with audible words. All desperately need God’s abundant grace as they continue to grow in faith and understanding on the journey.

An example is the adult daughter who looks through her aging mother’s refrigerator and notes the expiration date on the milk. She makes an unsolicited comment with a huff of frustration: “Mom, your milk expired day before yesterday.” The aging parent bristles. In her mind, the adult child is implying something more: “You can’t take care of yourself. It’s time we move you to a nursing home.”

It is not unusual for aging parents to feel that their adult children are spying on them, actively looking for signs that they can no longer take care of themselves. Understandably, older loved ones often respond defensively. Even so, direct and healthy communication is needed. Adult children who regularly show respect and empathy for their aging parent will have greater success in communicating and working together.

5. Find purpose in the journey. Having a purpose gives older adults reason to get excited about living. Think of the retired art teacher who joyfully creates paintings that can be reproduced on notecards and sold to fund a mission project. Consider the 84-year-old accountant who volunteers at his church, helping newly single parents create budgets and make wise financial decisions. Imagine the resident of a senior living community who leads a memoir-writing class, assisting other residents to write their life stories as a gift for their families.

To finish well, older adults need inspiration and ideas for ways to use their gifts, talents and life experiences to serve others, in spite of their own physical limitations. They need family members to remind them of God’s promises, even as they embark on the journey of aging together. Adult children, meanwhile, need support and encouragement from their faith community as they try to steady their aging parent on the rocky path. All desperately need God’s abundant grace as they continue to grow in faith and understanding on the journey.



<i>Worship Attendance</i>			
January 1	13	January 22	25
January 8	26	January 29	29
January 15	27		
Average Worship Attendance: 24			

## Cheeseburger Soup

Allreipes!

Rich and tasty cheeseburger soup. If you want it with a little kick use sharp Cheddar cheese, but any Cheddar is good.



### Ingredients

4 Tbsp. butter, divided	1 tsp. dried basil	¼ cup all-purpose flour
½ lb. ground beef	1 tsp. dried parsley	1 ½ cups milk
¾ cup chopped onion	4 cups cubed potatoes	2 cups cubed Cheddar cheese
¾ cup shredded carrots	3 cups chicken broth	¼ cup sour cream
¾ cup chopped celery		

### Instructions

1. Melt 1 tablespoon butter in a large pot over medium heat; add ground beef, onion, carrots, and celery. Cook and stir until beef is browned and crumbly 5 to 7 minutes.
2. Stir in basil and parsley. Add potatoes and broth and bring to a boil; reduce heat to low and simmer until potatoes are tender, 10 to 12 minutes.
3. Melt remaining 3 tablespoons butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Add flour and whisk until smooth, about 1 minute. Gradually whisk in milk; simmer and stir until sauce is thick and smooth.
4. Stir sauce into soup, stirring constantly. Bring to a boil; reduce heat to low and stir in cheese until melted. Add sour cream; stir until just heated enough.

Nutrition Information: Per serving: 411 calories; total fat 27g; saturated fat 15g; cholesterol 81 mg; sodium 596mg; total carbohydrate 23g; dietary fiber 3g; total sugars 5g; protein 19g; vitamin c 18mg; calcium 333 mg; iron 2mg; potassium 677mg.

## Red Velvet Cheesecake Swirl Brownies

<https://sallysbakingaddiction.com/red-velvet-cheesecake-swirl-brownies>

Chewy, moist, decadent red velvet brownies swirled with cheesecake.

### Ingredients

#### Red Velvet Brownies

2 large eggs	1/8 tsp. salt
½ cup (1 stick) unsalted butter	1 Tbsp. liquid red food coloring*
1 cup granulated sugar	¾ tsp. white vinegar
2 tsps. pure vanilla extract	¾ cup all-purpose flour
¼ cup unsweetened cocoa powder	

#### Cheesecake Swirl

8 oz. cream cheese, softened	1 egg yolk
¾ cup granulated sugar	½ tsp. pure vanilla extract

### Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Spray 8x8 baking pan with nonstick spray. Set aside.

#### Make the brownie layer first:

In a small bowl, beat the 2 eggs together. Set aside. Melt the butter in a large microwave safe bowl in 30 second increments until melted. Stir in 1 cup sugar, 2 teaspoons vanilla extract, cocoa powder, salt, food coloring, and vinegar. Mix each of those ingredients into the batter in that order. Whisk in the eggs, then fold in the flour until completely incorporated. Do not overmix. Pour the brownie batter into prepared baking pan, leaving about 3-4 Tablespoons for the top.

#### Make the cheesecake swirl:

With a hand-held mixer on medium speed, beat the softened cream cheese, ¼ cup sugar, egg yolk, and ½ teaspoon vanilla in a medium bowl until completely smooth – about 1 minute. Dollop



spoonsfuls of the cream cheese mixture on top of the prepared brownie batter. Cover with the last few tablespoons of brownie batter. Glide a knife through the layers as best you can (both layers are pretty thick), creating a swirl pattern.

Bake the brownies for 28-30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean. Allow the brownies to cool completely before cutting into squares. Cover brownies and store at room temperature for 3 days or in the refrigerator for up to 6 days.

**Notes:**

**Freezing Instructions:** Brownies will freeze well, up to 2 months. Thaw overnight in the refrigerator.

**Double Batch:** Simply double all the ingredients and bake in a 9x13 pan for around 45 minutes – give or take. Same oven temperature.

\*If using gel food coloring, reduce to 1 and 1/2 teaspoons.

Adapted from Food Network, with a few changes.

Author: Sally Prep Time: 20 minutes Cook Time: 30 minutes Total time 3 hours Yield: 16 brownies



Feb. 3	Doug Stark	Feb. 16	Jackie Horn
Feb. 8	Lindsey Carter	Feb. 20	Dan Stephenson
Feb. 8	Blair Rowe	Feb. 21	Lakin Bennett
Feb. 11	Lori Ann Denton	Feb. 22	Matt Hutton

*Happy Anniversary!*

Feb. 1 Ben & Beth Kiningham



	<i>Usher/Greeter</i>	<i>Liturgist</i>	<i>Communion Steward</i>
Sunday, Feb. 5*	Jan Costello	Rebecca Rowe	Rebecca Rowe
Sunday, Feb. 12	Janet Scheina	Sherri Roberts	
Sunday, Feb. 19	Pat Claussen	Steve Territo	
Sunday, Feb. 26	Jin Satorius	Ron Sanert	
Sunday, March 5	Dave Long	Camilla	
Long	Barb Sampson		
Sunday, March 12	Jane Stephenson	Linda Claussen	
Sunday, March 19	John Godbey	Cindy Godbey	
Sunday, March 26	Steve Territo	Julia Territo	

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

**Preaching Schedule**

Sunday, Feb. 5	Martin Nagel
Sunday, Feb. 12	Robert Lackie
Sunday, Feb. 19	Jonah Steele
Sunday, Feb. 26	Robert Lackie



**Members:**

Harriet Carter	Mary Mies	Marilyn Schafer
Barbara Churchill	Jo Ann Morris	Judy Stahl
Family of G. Max Gebhards	Ken Morris	Nancy Van Etten
Steve Hollis	Rebecca Rowe	Lisa Willhite
Beth Kiningham	Dale & Mary Rose Satorius	Linda Williams

**Friends of the Congregation:**

Jim Allen (P. & M. Montgomery's cousin)	Bob McLin (B. Winkelmann's brother)
Jane Arnold (K. Westervelt's mother)	Wayne Patterson (P. & M. Montgomery's friend)
Kim Bixby-Barber (P. & M. Montgomery's friend)	Family of Jeff Rebbe
Lois Bastien (D. & C. Long's friend)	Jay Rebman (L. Claussen's friend)
Dale Blout (B. Satorius' father)	Dorothy Ricketts (R. Plaeger's mother)
Judy Boutelle (Rev. J. Boutelle's wife)	Sheila Smoron (Pastor M. Smoron's wife)
Tim Carter (R. & S. Sanert's brother-in-law)	Gary Sorenson (L. Williams' friend)
Susan & Geordie Crossen (K. Hutton's in-laws)	Ann Termine (C. & R. Ford's friend)
Barbara Deihl (L. Williams' cousin)	Dean Territo (S. Territo's father)
Michelle Rankin Eddings (M. Montgomery's friend)	Cindy Thomas (R. Ford's niece)
Greg Grogan (C. Long's brother)	Libby Trone
Liam Grogan (C. Long's nephew)	Alana Wachtel (M. Montgomery's cousin)
Barb Harrison (N. Mehr's Sister-in-law)	Carol White (J. Morris' friend)
Marlene Hartsook (R. Ford's sister)	Mike Whitehurst (P. & M. Montgomery's friend)
Kelly Holtsman (B. Churchill's daughter)	Clara Willox (R. & C. Ford's granddaughter)
Theresa Hulbert (P. Claussen's friend)	Lauren Woodley (J. Satorius' friend J.D. Proehl's granddaughter)
Anthony Long (D. & C. Long's son))	Debbie Woods
Dave & Diane Ludington	

*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	Displaced peoples in the world
Pray for racial equality	Pray for the people who are affected by the Ukraine/Russian conflict
Peace between nation neighbors	Pray for our country
Victims of gun violence/mass shootings	

**Please continue to keep our healthcare workers and those in the educational field in our prayers. 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!**

*Please keep the church office informed of members or friends that need to be placed on or removed from our prayer list by sending an email to: [office@central-pres.org](mailto:office@central-pres.org). or calling the church office at: 217-632-2651.*