



**CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Weekly Newsletter

January 21, 2018

This Sunday @ Central

9:00 a.m. Children's Choirs
Courtyard Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Church School for all ages (see article below for Adult Winter Studies topics/dates)

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
Michelle Hwang Preaching

12:00 Noon **Help Make Sunday Lunch Sustainable!**

Help make Sunday Lunch sustainable! Weekly Sunday lunch is an important part of congregational life at Central, and the church is taking steps to make Sunday lunch more financially viable for years to come. Be looking for more information in this newsletter next week, and please make every effort to RSVP using the link in the newsletter on Wednesdays.

[Click here](#) to RSVP.

Lunch is \$8 for adults and \$3 for children, and it is a wonderful time of fellowship.

This week's menu:

Fresh fruit and salad bar
Corn bread muffins
BBQ chicken
Roasted Potatoes
Black eyed peas
Corn on the Cob
Assorted Desserts

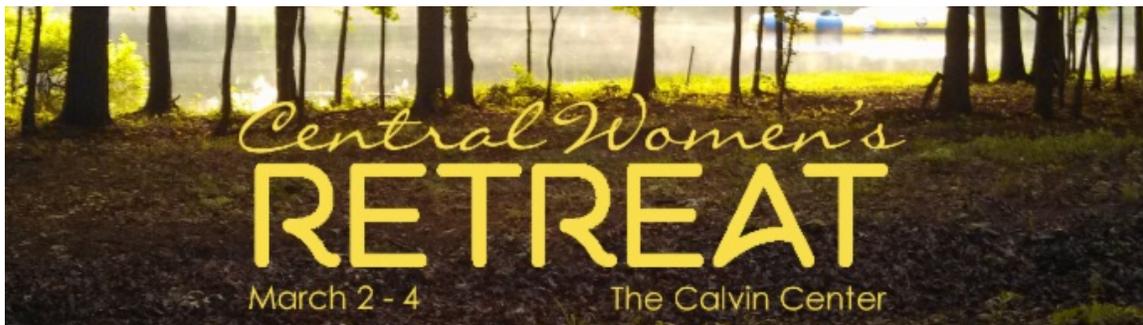
Food Service Task Force Members: Anna George Traynham (staff), Wills Moore (coordinator), Ann Hunter, Becky Battle, Tom Leslie, Dean Hammond (Administration Committee Chair), Gary Cornell (Operations Ministry Coordinator), Luis Suazo (Cashier Coordinator) and Trudy Loper (CDC Board Chair).

UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Place these important dates on your calendar and watch upcoming editions of the newsletter for information on each.

- January 21** Third Sunday Fair-Trade Sale
- January 28** Town Forum (topics: 2018 Budget and News from the PNC)
- February 4** Children's Sabbath
Congregational Meeting
- February 6** Prayer Labyrinth and Taizé
- February 11** Celebrate Central's 160th Birthday
- February 14** Ash Wednesday (services: 12:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel)

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



Central Women! It's that time of the year again-our annual retreat weekend. We will gather at the Calvin Center on Friday, **March 2**, at 5:00 p.m. Our retreat will conclude on Sunday, March 4 at noon.

This year our leader is Beth Johnson. Beth will lead us in exploring The Household of God: Sex, Celibacy, and Siblings. We will examine the multiple ways early Christians talk about families and family values, the ways they use kinship language to talk about God and themselves, and how these texts contribute to contemporary debates about families and family values.

We have secured lodging for the same prices as last year.

Register now by clicking [this link](#). If you have not set up your account within MyCPC, registering for this event is the perfect time to do so; just [click here](#). Starting this Sunday, you may also register in Tull Hall before and after worship.

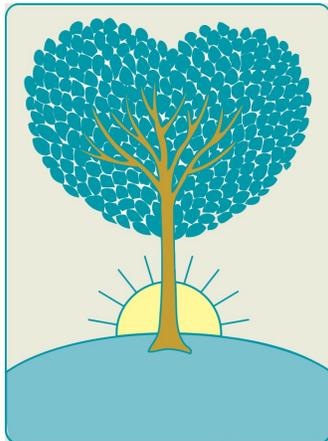


Central Women is for all the women of Central - you're invited!
We meet on the third Thursday of month, so the first gathering of 2018 will be **THIS Thursday, Jan. 18** at Jill Lum's home. Supper will be served; please plan to join us and rsvp using Sign-up Genius.

As the group determined last year, the September, January and May events will focus on fellowship, so there is not a formal "program" this month. We will have a bit of "business" as we

are looking to finalize the list of hosts and programs for the rest of the year. If you will not be with us on Thursday but would like to offer your home, email Sally Wood (sallyashe@yahoo.com) and Larken McCord (larkenmccord@gmail.com).

Thank you for your patience and commitment as we have been finding our way this year. We look forward to welcoming the new year with new and renewed relationships and energy and we hope to see you on Thursday!



Potluck and Presentation

The Cancer Ministry invites Central members who have been affected by cancer to a potluck dinner meeting on **Sunday, January 21**, at 6:00 pm, at the home of Frances St. John: 4555 Crestwicke Pointe, Atlanta 30319

Following dinner, there will be a program on the Stephen ministries led by Deacons Anne Blankenship and David York, along with a worship service and communion led by Pete Paulson.

Those who are experiencing cancer or have family members experiencing cancer are invited.

Please RSVP to Frances at fstjohn@bellsouth.net or 770-845-5094 with the food item you will bring....salad, vegetable or dessert.



Comedy of Errors

Friends - On January 7, Jeff Watkins from The Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern Playhouse (www.shakespearetavern.com) opened our Adult Education Sunday School Class discussing ways Central could connect with the arts in Atlanta.

The Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern is currently performing 'Comedy of Errors' and several Centralities have planned to see 'Comedy' on **Thursday January 25 at 7:30 p.m.** The ticket price is \$22 (\$3 less for seniors). There are other discounts for educators and members of the military. The Tavern opens at 6:15 p.m. to begin serving dinner ([Menu](#)). People begin lining up to enter the tavern around 5:45pm as

seating is first-come, first-serve.

Several of us will get there early to reserve table(s) needed for our group. If you want to eat, you should get there at least by 7 to get food before the show starts. For more info about location, parking and food, [click here](#) or call the Tavern at 404-874-5299.

The play is 2 Acts:
Act 1 - 50 minutes
15-minute intermission (can still get desserts)
Act 2 - 45 minutes

The play will end around 9:30 p.m. Contact Peggy Hendrix if you have questions. If you buy tickets, please let Peggy know so we will know how many tables we will need.

Peggyhendrix2000@yahoo.com
404-378-6995
Cell: 404-771-8940

January Congregational Forum

The January Congregational Forum, sponsored by the Transition Team, will occur after lunch on

Sunday, January 28. This month's program will be a "State of the Union" report by Interim Pastor David, followed by Q&A. It will include the results of the stewardship campaign, status of the budget, and a progress report on Project 2018 (the Session's effort to develop a budget, program and staffing plan that will be sustainable for several years). In addition, the food service team and the Pastoral Nominating Committee will both provide brief updates.



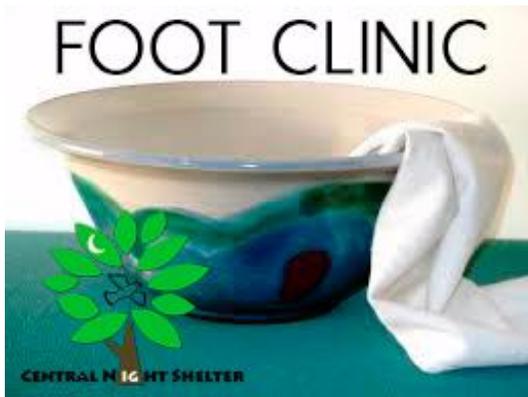
Provide a Meal for College Ministry

Central is glad to partner with other Presbyterian churches in supporting Ukirk Atlanta, a Presbyterian campus ministry at Agnes Scott, Emory, and growing. Ukirk is in need of meals for their weekly campus ministry

gatherings! [Please click here](#) to sign up to provide one meal on a Sunday or Thursday night this semester.

Join a Choir in 2018!

Have you considered joining one of our choirs? Well, now is the time to do so in 2018! We have choirs for children, youth, and adults as well as Handbell Choirs, and Visual Artists. All are welcome! Contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music and Fine Arts for more information: dvandermeer@cpcatlanta.org



The Foot Clinic needs your help!

Every Wednesday night during Shelter season (November 1 - March 31), volunteers wash the feet of guests who request it, trim their toenails, smooth their calluses, massage their feet, and give them new socks.

We are in need of **flip flops** (which prevent the spread of athlete's foot in the showers) and **shoe insoles** (which can prolong the usefulness of old shoes). There is a basket in the narthex marked "Gifts for the Foot Clinic."

We are also in need of more volunteers. If you are interested in serving, please contact Beth Paulsen (johnsonb@ctsnet.edu) or Ellen Logan (elogan@gsu.edu).



Lenten Small Groups

Have you ever found yourself amid Lent, a significant season in the worship life of the Church, and wished you had some help cutting through the noise of life so that you could more closely attend - to scriptures, to intuitions, to questions, to the voices of others, or to your own voice? Do you wish you had

an opportunity to get to know a group of people at Central on a deeper level? If so, here is some really good news!

Central is hosting Lenten Small groups: groups of up to 12 people, meeting in the homes of Central members around the city, weekly throughout the 6 weeks of Lent (February 1-March 24). To sign up for a group, visit the table in Tull Hall on Sunday after worship or email Central member Steve McKinney at smckinney.0601@gmail.com.

These are the small group choices:

Group #1: At Central Presbyterian
Host/Leader: Anne Sciarrone
Day/Time: Sunday 6:00-7:30pm

Group #2: Emory Area in Decatur
Host/Leader: Mary Jane Cornell
Day/Time: Mondays at 7:30pm

Group #3: Buckhead
Host: Sherry Wright Leader: Kip Ladd
Day/Time: Mondays at 7:30pm

Group #4: Morningside
Host: Debbie Miller Leader: Steve McKinney
Day/Time: Tuesdays at 7:30pm

Group #5: In Midtown
Host: Steve Wade Leader: Katie Leware
Day/Time: Tuesdays at 7:00pm

Group #6: Decatur/Emory
Host: Doris Beachy Leader: Anna George Traynham
Day/Time: Thursdays at 10:00am

Group #7: Buckhead
Host/Leader: Dave Vandermeer
Day/Time: Thursdays at 7:00pm

Group #8: South Atlanta
Host/Leader: Linda and Martin Lehfeltd
Day/Time: Thursdays 3:00-4:30pm

Group #9: College Park or East Point
Hosts/Leaders: Anne Watkins and Hannah Palmer
Day/Time: Mondays at 6:30pm



Presbyterians for a Better Georgia

Faith • Service • Advocacy

Advocacy Training Workshop

Tuesday, January 23

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m

Trinity Presbyterian Church
3003 Howell Mill Road
Atlanta, GA 30327

Special Presentations by:

William McFarland

Georgians Advancing Communities Together

Laura Colbert

Georgians for Healthy Future

Rep. Terry Rogers, District 10



www.p4bg.org

Registration is \$8 to cover soup and salad.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

When a Snack Matters

Throughout downtown Atlanta, many places offer daily meals to those experiencing homelessness. Central OAC is not one of those places, but we do offer snacks to our guests-but not to anyone who simply asks.

Why not? At the OAC, we believe that people who are hanging out in our lobby and not receiving services have ample opportunity to get to one of the many soup

kitchens. However, guests who come to us for services might have to miss a meal in order to get the help they need from us. We don't want our guests to go hungry because they were waiting to apply for their birth certificate or getting assessed for the Main Frame Job Readiness program. So, we offer snacks to these individuals (and their kids, too!).



In order for these guests to receive the nourishment they might need, **we'd like your help!** A great way to contribute to our work is to provide healthy snacks like granola bars, peanut butter or cheese crackers, packs of peanuts, small cans of fruit or apple sauce, etc. If you're interested in donating snacks, please leave them in the large bins at Central or in the church office marked "Central OAC." You may also visit our "Wish List" on our website and order them online to be shipped directly to the OAC. The link is:

<http://centraloac.org/get-involved/wish-list/>

We are grateful for your contributions that will help our guests stay strong and healthy as they work to overcome homelessness!

A Few Thoughts from Kimberly Parker

I have recently been asked by various people at Central Presbyterian, "Is it okay to give money to someone experiencing homelessness?" I certainly cannot tell people they are wrong if they do this. However, if I am pressed on the matter, I will lean towards an answer of "I believe it's better to not give money directly to a person, but instead to an organization that is working with those experiencing homelessness." I know this sounds like a plug to donate to Central Outreach & Advocacy Center, but that is not at the heart of this message.



The issue of homelessness is complicated. Many barriers exist. There is no easy fix. It takes time. It takes relationship building. It takes navigating through difficult processes and systems. It takes resources.

A little bit of money going directly into the hands of someone who is experiencing homelessness is not going to lead them out of the situation. Through our experience of working directly with guests experiencing homelessness every day, the OAC staff and Central church staff have come to believe that it is better to give money to organizations that are providing the programs and services that are designed to assist people in overcoming all of the barriers.

I recently wrote a blog post for Central OAC (centraloac.org/blog-2) that may tell you more about the OAC as an organization, the reasons we do not give money directly to people experiencing homelessness, and the work we do with that money to help open doors out of homelessness, instead. If you want to talk afterwards, I am always open to conversation.

People at Central Presbyterian truly care about others and that includes our brothers and sisters who are "outside." I simply hope we can all work together to best serve them!

Adult Studies at CENTRAL



Winter Studies Program Begins Sunday January 7th *Please note program changes on Jan. 7th and 14th*

Program title: Recommitting to Community

Program sub-title: Revitalization of Atlanta communities, and what that can mean for Central Presbyterian Church

Program abstract:

Community revitalization is evident in multiple parts of the Atlanta area, with Beltline-fueled development being but one example. Recent announcements and activities indicate that the community revitalization wave will soon reach Atlanta city-center areas that are practically next door to Central Presbyterian Church. The 2018 Winter Studies program is focused on commitment to community - on engaging to help ensure the presence of actual communities of people in the city, as opposed to just redevelopment in a commercial sense. We will hear about revitalization of Atlanta communities from experts in the public and private sector, how the arts can be a vital part of building and enriching real communities, and what all this can mean for Central Presbyterian Church.

Program schedule (all sessions will be from 9:45 - 10:45 AM in the Oglesby atrium):

- Sunday, January 7 - How the arts can enrich community, and how Central can help - Jeff Watkins, Artistic Director of Atlanta's Shakespeare Tavern Playhouse, will lead a discussion on how the arts can enrich community, how some of Central's spaces could help in-town artists and arts groups thrive, and how art can help tell Central's story to visitors.
- Sunday, January 14 - A vision for a master plan for Atlanta's city center - Audrey Leous, Project Manager, Planning and Urban Design with Central Atlanta Progress, will discuss CAP's "master plan" vision for Atlanta's city center.
- Sunday, January 21 - Community revitalization in Atlanta: the view from City Hall - Tim Keane, Commissioner, Department of City Planning at the City of Atlanta, will provide the perspective from City Hall on Atlanta community revitalization.
- Sunday, January 28 - Central issues for our changing region - urbanization, displacement, and the suburbanization of poverty - Central member Ryan Gravel will put his vision for the Atlanta Beltline in the context of regional dynamics that are reshaping where and how we live. He will cover an array of challenges from housing affordability to transportation technology and discuss ways Central can advocate for an inclusive and equitable future for all Atlantans.