



## The Weekly News

March 27, 2024

### HOLY WEEK WITH CENTRAL

Holy Week began Sunday, March 24 with Palm/Passion Sunday. Central is participating in a variety of events throughout the week as we commemorate this time. Below are the details. Have questions? Contact **Melissa Johnson**.

#### Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday will take place at various homes throughout the city. Please use the links below to sign up for dinners and service at the home you wish to attend.



Bill and Marcia Crosland

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C49ADAD2FABF49-48353725-maundy>

Frances St. John

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C49ADAD2FABF49-48353681-maundy>

Linda and Martin Lehfeldt

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C49ADAD2FABF49-48353680-maundy>

The Lum Family

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C49ADAD2FABF49-48353671-maundy>

#### Good Friday

Our Good Friday service will be a service featuring the members and choirs of Covenant and Morningside Presbyterian Churches. We hope you can join us for this time at 7 p.m. If you are unable to, the service will be live-streamed.



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## Easter

**9:45 a.m.**

Join us for breakfast and fellowship in Tull Hall from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m on Easter Morning. We'll have plenty of Flying Biscuit sandwiches, muffins, fruit, juice, and coffee for the whole family. We will be selling our Fair Trade coffee, chocolate and olive oil from Equal Exchange as well as fair trade coffee from our border partners - Cafe Justo. Come and help support our brothers and sisters around the world!

The event is free and no registration is required. Because there's no better time for fellowship and reconnecting with others than Easter morning! For questions, contact [\*\*Marcia Catterall\*\*](#).

**11 a.m.**

Worship with Communion. The Rev. Shannon J. Kershner preaching.

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### EASTER

**9:45 a.m.**  
Easter breakfast and fellowship in Tull Hall.

**11 a.m.**  
Service in the sanctuary with communion.

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## Campbell-Eagan Building sustains water damage

The Campbell-Eagan Building sustained water damage due to an issue with the sprinkler system in the gymnasium Tuesday night. Clean up and restoration services have been at the church throughout the day assessing the situation and working. This situation will not affect any of Central's scheduled events this week or on Easter Sunday. Parking in the alley will not be available until further notice. Please use parking spaces around The Capitol and along Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive.

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**Rev. Shannon J. Kershner featured  
on 'Preachercast'**



Central's Senior Pastor, The Rev. Shannon J. Kershner, was recently interviewed on, The Bridge for Early Career Preachers "Preachercast." In this podcast, Shannon has a dynamic conversation with Richard W. Voelz, associate professor of preaching and worship, and Rev. Mandy England Cole, program associate. You can listen to the episode in full via the link below where Shannon discusses a variety of topics, including sermon preparation as a spiritual discipline, her love of preaching, and her affinity for Central.

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2132429/14693832>

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## Seeking Nominations for Ruling Elders and Deacons

On February 4, our congregation elected Kevin Byers, Eleanor Dake, David Enniss, and Bessie Green to the 2024 Nominating Committee. They join Philip Covin, Chair (representing Session), LaShawn Green, Vice Chair (also representing Session), and Rob Forbes (representing Diaconate). The Nominating Committee asks your help in identifying qualified leaders to serve on the Session and the Diaconate.

Click [here](#) to open the nominating form.

Electing Deacons and Ruling Elders is a privilege and a responsibility for members of Central Presbyterian Church. This is an exciting time to participate in the leadership of our church. Please reflect and pray about those whom you think God is calling to the next class of Ruling Elders and Deacons. And yes, you may also nominate yourself!

**Please submit your nominations, including self-nominations, no later than Friday, April 12.** The 2024 slate of officers will be voted on at a congregational meeting on **Sunday, May 5.**

**Note: The following CPC members are not eligible for nomination because they will continue serving on Session or the Diaconate:**

**Elder Class of 2025:** Robert Catterall, Philip Covin, Ann Hunter, Hannah Palmer, Anne Sciarrone

**Elder Class of 2026:** Gary Cornell, Denise deLaRue, LaShawn Greene, John Heidbreder, Adam Seeley

**Deacon Class of 2025:** Betty Carroll, Vanessa Kirk, Debbie Miller, Ellen Thompson, Isabelle Werber

**Deacon Class of 2026:** Martha Kimes, Rachel Hull, Ed Galloway, Liz Jaffe, Terrylynn Pons, Anne Blankinship

With gratitude, we thank the following CPC members for their service on Session and the Diaconate:

**Elder Class of 2024:** Janet Abercrombie, Lewis Amos, Julie Boggs, Kelly Bray, Sarah Cook, Mary Sidney Kelly Harbert, Tom Holcomb, Ximena Leroux  
**Deacon Class of 2024:** Ed Carwile, Eleanor Dake, Rob Forbes, Emmalee Hackshaw, Zac Hilimire, Ben Sutton

Questions about serving? Contact Philip Covin at [covin8@yahoo.com](mailto:covin8@yahoo.com)

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**Centalite Emmet Bondurant recognized for pro-democracy and indigent defense work**

***Central member Emmet Bondurant has been awarded the highest honor from the American Bar Association.***



This recognition places him among esteemed company, with past recipients including notable figures such as U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Thurgood Marshall, and Sandra Day O'Connor. Bondurant's contributions to federal reapportionment cases in the 1960s and his role in transforming Georgia's indigent defense landscape demonstrate his commitment to justice and advocacy. His efforts in organizing Georgia's first statewide public defender system and leading the statewide public defender standards council have undoubtedly made a significant impact.



It's a well-deserved honor, and he will be celebrated at the association's annual meeting in Chicago in August. Congratulations once again to Emmet Bondurant on this remarkable achievement!

*If your band is performing around town, you are in a play or part of an event in metro Atlanta, we want to hear from you! Contact **Alex Johns** or **Mark Wallace Maguire** so we can add your information!*

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## Parking on Washington Request

Central would like to kindly request that members **not** park at our entrance on Washington Street unless there is a significant issue of mobility. This entrance to the church is often vital to our disabled member's ability to park and attend service. If you are parking on Washington without a mobility issue - such as to unload, please move your car no later than 10:30 a.m. on Sundays.

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### Thirsty Thursdays 7 p.m. Manuel's Tavern

Central members meet monthly at **Manuel's Tavern** for a time of informal fellowship. While this event was initially for Young Professionals, the event is open to all ages. Guests are welcome and no RSVP is required! Below are the dates through May 2024. Manuel's is located at 602 North Highland Avenue Northeast, Atlanta, GA 30307.

April 25  
May 23

Questions? Contact **M.E. Davis** at [maryelizabeth.pope@gmail.com](mailto:maryelizabeth.pope@gmail.com)


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## Serve

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## Outreach and Advocacy Center Annual Fundraiser - In Their Shoes: 10 Mile Challenge

**COAC IMPACT**  
**BY THE NUMBERS**



**IN THEIR SHOES: 10 MILE CHALLENGE**  
**HOW TO PARTICIPATE**

Join Us	Walk & Fundraise	Celebrate
NOW — MARCH 24	MAR 24 — APR 21	SUNDAY, APRIL 21 AT 12PM*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Register as an individual OR create a team</li> <li>Set a fundraising goal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise money as you walk! Ask friends and family to support you/your team.</li> <li>Walk 9 miles of your own pace over the course of 4 weeks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather to celebrate and walk the last mile together in downtown Atlanta at Central OAC HQ 201 Washington St. 30303</li> </ul>

\*Optional: Arrive at 11 AM to hear Pastor Dr. Kimberly Foster give the opening prayer and the Central OAC Church before the first mile walk and celebration.

Join us and register today at [CentralOAC.org/InTheirShoes](https://CentralOAC.org/InTheirShoes)

**IN THEIR SHOES**



ATLANTA GEORGIA

APRIL 21 2024

Central Outreach & Advocacy Center  
**10 MILE CHALLENGE**

We are excited about our annual fundraiser on April 21! Our goal is to raise \$120,000.

You can participate by:

- Registering (\$35, includes lunch) and walking nine miles on your own over the next few weeks
- Starting or joining a “team” - your dollars raised will tally together
- Donating above and beyond the registration fee - any amount is greatly appreciated.

It’s also okay if you can’t walk! We appreciate your generous support. Learn more on the OAC website under “Get Involved” - In Their Shoes is at the top. You can also [click here](#).

More details to come about how we will celebrate the OAC together on April 21 and walk the 10th mile together.

*Click the images above for more information.*

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## Support Memorial Drive Ministries in Unique Ways!



MEMORIAL DRIVE MINISTRIES

## "WELCOME KIT" DONATION DRIVE!

To benefit refugee families in partnership with The Welcome Co-Op and the MDM community

**STEP 1: PURCHASE TOWEL, WASH CLOTH, TOOTHPASTE, TOOTHBRUSH, SHAMPOO, DEODORANT, SHAVING CREAM, DISPOSABLE RAZORS, TOILET PAPER (AT LEAST 4 ROLLS), & BATH SOAP**

**STEP 2: ASSEMBLE THESE INTO A CONTAINER (EITHER BAG OR BOX)**

**STEP 3: DELIVER ON SUNDAY APRIL 14TH BETWEEN 2PM AND 4PM TO MDM - 5140 MEMORIAL DRIVE 30083**

We will also accept notebooks, packs of pens, feminine hygiene products, & small stuffed animals.  
ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW. Thank you!



Please join Central in supporting refugee families through a "Welcome Kit Donation Drive" organized by Memorial Drive Ministries.

MDM is collecting new items to create warm welcome kits distributed upon their arrival. The donation of new items ensures these families feel supported as they start anew in our community.

Please note, all donations must be new and can be dropped off at 5140 Memorial Drive, Stone Mountain, GA 30083 by Sunday, April 14, between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Members can also drop off their items at Central!

Your support is greatly appreciated in making a difference in their lives.

## Rehoboth Bluebird Box

A sign of spring and renewal, bluebirds are believed to be messengers of hope and happiness during transitional times.

As we transition to a new year, you can invite bluebirds to spread joy and prosperity by providing a safe nesting site to establish new beginnings.



HE MOVED FROM THERE AND DUG ANOTHER WELL, AND THEY DID NOT QUARREL OVER IT; SO HE CALLED IT REHOBOTH, SAYING, "NOW THE LORD HAS MADE ROOM FOR US, AND WE SHALL BE FRUITFUL IN THE LAND." *Genesis 26:22*

### Rehoboth

The wood used for these bluebird boxes is Philippine Mahogany and comes from the sanctuary of former Rehoboth Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Ga. While Rehoboth - meaning "open spaces" - has closed as a congregation, its mission continues through church-based nonprofit, Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM). Located in the most diverse sq. mile in North America, MDM is a place of sanctuary and service for the Clarkston, Ga community.

These bluebird nest boxes are the fruit of combined creativity and craftsmanship of Brian Bishop, Elder, Deacon at Central Presbyterian Church and beloved Reverend Stephen Bacon. To honor the work and legacy of Rehoboth, Steve Bacon, and members of the greater Presbyterian community, proceeds of the birdhouses will be donated to MDM. To learn more and support the mission of Memorial Drive Ministries, please visit [mdmatt.org](http://mdmatt.org).




### Bluebird Nesting

Just as the church provides a safe and welcoming "open space" in the community, bluebirds also require a nurturing habitat to welcome the genesis of new life. In the South, bluebirds may begin looking for nests as early as January, so please prepare for your feathered friends. For important information about bluebird nesting conditions and how/where to properly install, maintain, and protect their nest box, please scan the QR code or visit [nabirdclub.org](http://nabirdclub.org) or [audeobon.org](http://audeobon.org).



There is another wonderful chance to aid Memorial Drive Ministries by acquiring a Bluebird box. By providing a safe haven for these exquisite birds, you're not only supporting new beginnings but also embracing the spirit of spring.

Crafted from Philippine Mahogany sourced from the sanctuary of the former Rehoboth Presbyterian Church in Decatur, these Bluebird boxes are both meaningful and sustainable.

To discover more about purchasing a Bluebird box, please visit [here](#) or click on the flyer above. A suggested donation of \$50 helps support MDM's endeavors. Please mark any Bluebird box gifts as attn; David Roth.

## Humanitarian Response in Israel/Palestine

We have witnessed the millions of people caught in the middle of the devastating conflict between the government of Israel and Hamas. This humanitarian crisis is dire, and the loss of human life is unimaginable. Through



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Church (USA) is providing assistance to those most vulnerable and supporting partners in Palestine and Israel who are responding to the needs of their neighbors. Our biggest concern is the safety and care for those caught in the middle of this conflict and in need of humanitarian aid, no matter their religious beliefs, politics, or nationality.



PDA has approved solidarity grants and will continue supporting our partners providing humanitarian assistance. Response efforts will encompass a wide array of vital humanitarian interventions, including but not limited to medical supplies, shelter, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene), food and non-food items and delivering crucial psychosocial support to individuals.

Years of recovery lie ahead. Will you stand in the “GAP” for all affected by this conflict?

### **Give. Act. Pray**

- **Give:** [Click this link](#) to give to Disaster Relief for Israel/Palestine (please note Middle East in the Disaster Supported box).
- **Act:** Urge the U.S. government to advocate for an immediate cease-fire and the end of the blockade on Gaza to ensure urgent access to humanitarian aid, and call for engaging a diplomatic solution to the conflict.
- **Pray:** Our best response is prayer. Pray that through the response of the faith community, survivors and those offering assistance will be reminded of the hope that is found in Christ.

*[You can also click here to read more.](#)*

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## One Great Hour of Sharing Makes a Difference in the World

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God’s love with our neighbors in need around the world.

Your contribution to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering does help to make a difference through:



- **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance – Receives 32% of funds**



Works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters, and support for refugees.

- **Presbyterian Hunger Program – Receives 36% of funds**

Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.

- **Self-Development of People – Receives 32% of funds**

Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty, and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

To see how each of these agencies work to make a difference, click [here](#).

Received during the season of Lent (February 14 – March 31), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way the Presbyterians come together each year to work for a better world.

*[Click here to view a video about the on-going story of OGHS.](#)*

*[Contribute now by clicking here.](#)* Envelopes will be in the pew pockets should you prefer to give in that way.

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## Sunday Sign-Ups: Friendship & Fellowship

We are grateful for the many ways we're reconnecting in this new season. We need the support of our Central family to sustain two crucial ministries: the collection of the friendship folders and the hosting of our lemonade fellowship hour. Both of these Sunday activities are simple, fun, and crucial to our continued engagement of visitors and of course, connecting with one another. Here are a couple of notes:

1. Individuals or groups (such as committees) are invited to host the lemonade fellowship. Supplies are provided.
2. Collection of the friendship folders is an excellent family activity! Please note the need to move easily in both the sanctuary and balcony.

Please use this [Sign-Up Genius](#) to claim a few Sundays that work for you to plug into these volunteer opportunities.

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## Flip Flops for Bashor Night Shelter Guests

The Foot Clinic of the [Bashor Night Shelter](#) gives

each guest a pair of flip flops to wear in the shower to avoid catching or sharing athlete's foot. It is difficult to find them in the winter and they are frequently more expensive than in the summer. If you find yourself in Walmart or the Dollar Store or a similar place, will you please pick up a pair or two of men's flip flops, sizes 9 to 14, and bring them with you to church? There will be a box in the narthex where you can put your gifts. Thank you!



## Tower Bell Ringers

Thanks to all our "regular" ringers for taking care of the tower bell each Sunday. If you would like to sign up for a Sunday in March or beyond, click on the link below.

If you still aren't sure about it, go to the bell tower on Sunday morning and observe our expert ringers in action!

[\*Sign Up as a Tower Bell Ringer\*](#)

## Worship

Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024

**Psalm 118:1-12, 14-24**

**Mark 16:1-8**

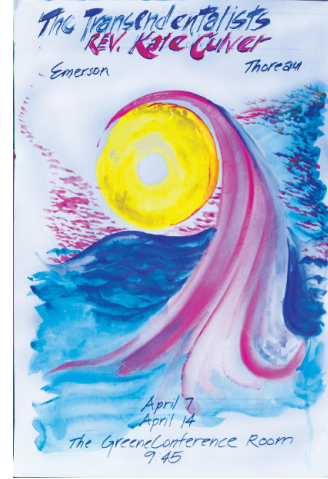
The Rev. Shannon J. Kershner preaching

## Learn

**Central will not have its Sunday School classes on Easter Sunday so that we may have fellowship in Tull Hall with Easter breakfast.**

**The Transcendentalists |  
Issues in Theology Class  
April 7 and 14  
9:45 a.m.  
Greene Room**

Rev. Kate Culver will be teaching a two-part series on American Transcendentalism in the Issues in Theology class on April 7 and 14, based on Ralph Waldo Emerson's famous essay, "Nature." Transcendentalism was the first distinctively American theology, a 19<sup>th</sup> century form of liberalism with an emphasis on the nearness of God known intuitively, and a kind of "warm" mystical turn, in contrast to the "cold" Calvinist and Unitarian orthodoxies of the day. The class convenes at 9:45 a.m. in the Greene Room, just off of Tull Hall, across from the Taylor Conference Room.

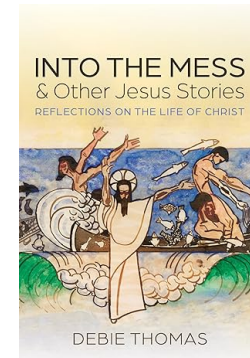


Copies of the essay will circulate in advance to class members, and new members can get a copy from Rod Hunter, [rhunt02@emory.edu](mailto:rhunt02@emory.edu). All are welcome—those who have read the essay and those who have not! The class is convened by Tina Sizemore and Rod Hunter.

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### **Grappling with Jesus's Teachings | A Sojourners Class Brotherhood Room Sundays 9:45 a.m.**

The stories of Jesus' teachings that we find in the Gospels can present challenges in understanding and interpretation. In this class, we will grapple with these challenging stories with help from the thought-provoking essays of Debie Thomas in her recently-published book, *Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories: Reflections on the Life of Christ*. The "Wonders" section of this book, on the miracles of Jesus, provided the source for lively class discussions this past fall. In February and March, we will discuss stories from the "Teachings" section of the book: the beatitudes, the ten bridesmaids, the good Samaritan, and more. Join us for enriching dialogues that promise to offer fresh perspectives on Jesus' teachings.



The Sojourners class meets from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. in the Brotherhood room. Information about this class is available from Ed Carwile ([carwile1230@earthlink.net](mailto:carwile1230@earthlink.net)) and Robert Catterall ([rfcatterall@gmail.com](mailto:rfcatterall@gmail.com)).

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## **Central Women Schedule of Upcoming Events**

All the women of Central are invited to join the group for any or all of our upcoming programs. We'll have dinner at 7 p.m. followed by our varied and compelling programs. Questions? Contact **Linda McCord** at [lindasavagemccord@gmail.com](mailto:lindasavagemccord@gmail.com)

4/18/24: Home of Julie Boggs  
1507 Peachtree Battle Ave Nw, Atlanta, 30327

Althea Brown and  
Filmmaking

Julie Boggs

5/16/24: Home of Frances St. John  
4555 Crestwicke Pointe, Atlanta, 30319

Artists in Our Midst

Linda McCord

# Give

## Automated Giving through Realm

If you would like to make your pledge payments electronically, you can do so through your Realm account by visiting [cpcatlanta.org](https://cpcatlanta.org), navigating to the giving page, and selecting 2024 Member Giving from the drop-down menu. To set up scheduled giving, you can choose “give multiple times” with a start date and ending date and gifts will process automatically on the schedule you choose (monthly, weekly, bi-monthly, etc.).

### Realm does not update your scheduled gifts automatically with your new pledge

Should you already have an automatic gift set up, you may need to adjust the gift to match your new pledge or set up a new 2024 gift while canceling the 2023 gift if it does not have an end date. If your 2023 automated giving had an end date of December 2023, you will need to set up a new scheduled giving for 2024. This is done by logging into your Realm account, going to your giving tab, and clicking on the schedule button. You can use the three dots on the right to edit, hold, or cancel your giving. If you have any difficulties, please reach out to Kristie Johns (770) 888-9292 or [kjohns@cpcatlanta.org](mailto:kjohns@cpcatlanta.org) for help.

## 4 Ways to Give



Mobile Giving



Online Giving



Text Giving



Cash/Check

There are four easy ways you can make your contribution to the mission and ministry of Central Church.

### Give through REALM Connect mobile app

Give through the Realm Connect mobile app; download from your device's store.



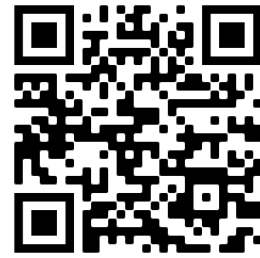
**2023 Pledge:** You may pledge through this [link](#)

**Give online**

Visit the **CPC website** to securely make your contribution.

**Text to give\***

Text **CPCATLANTA** to **73256** followed by your gift amount.



**Mail a check to our address**

201 Washington St SW, Atlanta, GA 30303

**Please give generously, and thank you!**

*\*Messages and data rates may apply. Message frequency varies.*

*Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.*

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Terms of Service - <https://legal.acst.com/terms-service-use>

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If you have any difficulty logging in to your profile or making your online gift within Realm, please contact **Melissa Johnson**.

Questions about your giving statement? Please contact **Kristie Johns** at (404) 601-3128.

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Acting boldly and compassionately to serve  
people who are hungry, oppressed,  
imprisoned or poor.



[cpcatlanta.org](http://cpcatlanta.org)

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