



**CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

The Weekly News

August 7, 2024

Blessing of the Backpacks





Central held our annual Blessing of the Backpacks this past Sunday during worship! We are holding all of our students of all ages in our prayers as they venture back to school.



Palmer interviewed on WABE news site

Central member and author Hannah Palmer continues to gain coverage of her work, especially her recent projects involving how East Point racial history contributes to its lack of public swimming pools. You can read her latest interview on WABE news [here](#).

Ghosts of East Point's past: How the city's racial history contributes to its lack of public swimming pools



Wylde Centaur performing August 9

Cool down with some refreshing craft beers as Central members Philip Covin and David Hunter and their band **Wylde Centaur** heat up the stage with classic rock tunes! All are welcome to come out and enjoy some rock n' roll, delectable eats from a local food truck, and fellowship fun in the



sun on Friday, August 9 at **Wild Heaven Beer** in Avondale (135B Maple Street, Decatur, GA 30030). The show begins at 6:30 p.m.

Do you have an item for the e-news? Contact Director of Communications Mark Wallace Maguire at mwmaguire@cpcatlanta.org

Sign up now for the All Church Retreat



All are invited to enjoy fellowship with Central members at the annual Labor Day retreat. Our theme for this year, 'In Times Like These,' reflects our conversations of lament, finding strength, and is a call to action. *You can click the video above to get an overview!*

The event takes place Saturday, August 31 beginning at noon through Monday, September 2 at 11 a.m.

Central leadership is excited to share with you more information about activities for children and youth.

On Saturday afternoon, children will spend the day exploring Montreat and engaging in activities and art with a theme of "Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs." We will use an adapted set of activities from Illustrated Ministry to bring the theme to life and enjoy the gifts of Montreat and

community. We will continue this theme on Sunday morning before worship as well during the adult programming block. Children will be led by our seminary intern (more info to share on this soon!) and Val and Pearl - two amazing Black Mountain locals who partnered with us last year.

Youth (grades sixth and up) will join George Rinker and Susan Landrum on Saturday afternoon for a focused time together exploring Montreat and engaging in activities and art incorporating this year's youth group theme of "Caring Connections: Healthy Relationships with Self, Family & Friends." Susan and George are working together to ensure a meaningful and fun afternoon. On Sunday morning, youth will have the option to either create crafts and art or hike Lookout before worship. Those in eighth grade and up will also have the option for an Asheville excursion with Susan during free time on Sunday or they may choose from the other structured free time options in and around Montreat.

Retreat organizers are also enthused to announce that George Rinker, MS, MDiv., LPC has come aboard for multiple activities. He will lead our youth during the Saturday program times with content that aligns with our retreat theme. George is a friend of Central and has previously worked with our youth during All-Church Retreat. You may learn more about him [here](#) or via the link below.



Youth are invited to stay together in a special section within Winnsborough with Susan and other chaperones.

Plans are also in the works for our youngest Centralites during the Saturday program times.

If our parents, children or youth have any special requests for Sunday activities, please reach out to Vanessa Hunter at veegabriele@gmail.com

More details are coming! Stay tuned.

<https://counselorinasheville.com/more-about-me/>

We will be lead by The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wagner, who serves as the Assistant Professor of Preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary, and is a long-time friend of Central. You can read her bio below.



Registration costs include housing, program, Saturday lunch and evening meal and Sunday evening meal as well as housing in a traditional Montreat lodge. This year, we are trying something new and optimizing capacity to reduce expenses. Lodges available for adults and families will be Reynolds and Winnsborough. We will not have Glen Rock Inn or Apartments. The cost cap for families will be \$415.

Also new this year, we will offer an "a la carte" Premium Option. There will be

no cost cap available for this category. We have provided for a non-subsidized lodging category by reserving 15 rooms at William Black Lodge (located behind Assembly Inn). Maximum 2 adults per room at William Black Lodge. If you select this option, please contact **Vanessa Hunter** to confirm details.

Registration fee waivers are available. To learn more, ask questions, or request a waiver, please contact Vanessa Hunter at **veegabriele@gmail.com**

Please sign up soon to we can get a head count for this special time together! Read more and register via the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/CPCAllChurchRetreat>

Serve

Central OAC seeks clothing, snack donations

We are grateful for the many donations you have made to Alison's Boutique, our work clothing closet for those securing employment! At this time, however, we cannot accept any more clothing donations. Our storage space is full which is a good problem to have. We will let you know when we are ready to accept additional donations. In the meantime, if you have any questions about Alison's Boutique or the Main Frame, please reach out to Sonja Hodges, **shodges@centraloac.org**.



Although we do not need any clothing donations at this time, we are in need of the following items: SNACKS AND A VARIETY OF HYGIENE ITEMS. Here is a link to our Amazon wish list if you would like to see what we need and order from there. If you have any questions, please email Amy Kirkland at **akirkland@centraloac.org**.

Thank you for all the ways you support Central OAC!

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.](#)

Sunday Sign-Ups for collecting friendship pads

We have put our Lemonade fellowship on hold for the summer. However, we still need assistance collecting friendship pads each week. Collection of the friendship folders is an excellent family activity! Please note the need to move easily in both the sanctuary and balcony. You may sign up via the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C49ADAD2FABF49-50442701-friendship>

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

Sunday, August 11, 2024
Psalm 130+ Ephesians 4:25-5:2
The Rev. Kate Culver preaching

Learn

Bookworms begins September 24

Bookworms, Central's book club, is open to all readers. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month (note the exception in November / December) at members' homes to discuss the books and their impact. Check out our reading list for the upcoming program year and plan to join us! Questions? Contact [**Linda McCord**](#).

Date	Title	Facilitator	Host
Sept 24	<i>Somehow</i> , Lamotte	Julie Boggs	Wade & Julie Boggs
Oct 22	<i>Demon Copperhead</i> , Kingsolver	Linda McCord	Frances St John
Dec. 3	<i>Heaven & Earth Grocery Store</i> , McBride	Vicki Collier	TBD
Jan 28	<i>Braiding Sweetgrass</i> , Kimmerer	Ann Hunter	Debbie & Jerry Miller
Feb 25	<i>An Unfinished Love Story</i> , Goodwin	Ellen Thompson	Ellen Thompson
Mar 25	<i>The Women</i> , Hannah	Vicki Norman	TBD
Apr 22	<i>They Flew</i> , Eires	Rod Hunter	Rod & Ann Hunter
May 27	<i>The Pool Is Closed</i> , Palmer	Hannah Palmer	Martin & Linda Lehfeldt

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, 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 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.

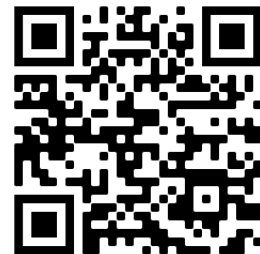
Give through REALM Connect mobile app
Give through the Realm Connect mobile app; download from your device's store.

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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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.

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



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