



## The Weekly News

October 16, 2024



### A Stewardship Reflection from Jackie Randolph

I am so honored to have been asked to write about Stewardship and Central Presbyterian Church. Being a relatively new member to Central, there are many things that attracted me to join and give, but I need to provide a little background information first.

I recently relocated from Snellville to Kennesaw to be closer to my granddaughter and “soon to be” grandson. It was difficult to leave my home and church of 30+ years but I knew God was leading me in this decision. I visited several churches in the Kennesaw area, both virtually and in person. There was no church that I thought I would join. Then one day, I was invited to join the handbell choir at Central. This was a music group I had been missing as I played handbells before, and so I said yes!

I started attending the worship services and that soothed my wandering soul! The preaching, the music, the outreach and social

justice, and the youth programs were wonderful! To add to this, such a friendly and loving congregation!

I feel so blessed to be a part of worship by playing handbells, since I can no longer sing as I used to because of an illness and operation that affected my vocal cords. As a music teacher of 34+ years, music is very important to me.

Central is a church that doesn't just talk the talk, it walks the walk. Won't you join me in giving of your time, talent, and treasure for God's glory and the betterment of God's awesome creation?

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**Dedication Sunday is November 3.** You may pledge via Realm by clicking this [link](#). Commitment cards will be mailed this week. Questions? Contact Kristie Johns at [kjohns@cpcatlanta.org](mailto:kjohns@cpcatlanta.org).

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## Central participates at Pride Festival & Parade

Central had a strong presence at the Atlanta Pride Parade Sunday as we celebrated God's love for all people! Thank you to Susan Landrum for the photos.





## GFADP holds meeting at Central



Central hosted our mission partners Georgians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (GFADP) last week in Tull Hall. Central members and staff met with our friends with GFADP before traveling across the street to hold a vigil at the Capitol.





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Thank you for your donations for Black Mountain!



Shortly after 11 a.m. last week, roughly 4,000 pounds of donations from Central were loaded to be transported to our friends at Trinity Presbyterian Church before being driven to Black Mountain, N.C. where they were offloaded at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church before being distributed to those in need. Black Mountain Presbyterian Church has served as a hub for relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Helene's destruction. We are grateful to all of our members and mission partners for the immense amount of items donated and brought to the church two weeks ago. For those of you who would like to

donate funds to Black Mountain Presbyterian Church's (BMPC) community support, you may give through Realm by clicking the button below. Central will ensure that these funds go directly to BMPC. If you'd like to support efforts throughout the region, donate to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance by clicking the buttons below.

[Online Donation BMPC](#)

[Presbyterian Disaster Assistance](#)

November 3, 2024 2:30 p.m. Central Presbyterian Church

# Eternal LIGHT

An All Saints' Worship Service

FEATURING THE COMBINED CHOIRS OF CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,  
COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & MORNINGSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH





Central OAC Executive Director Kimberly Parker was recently interviewed by Central member [Jeff Hillimire](#) on his podcast. You can view the entire interview via the link below.

YouTube Video

**LIVE on Planting Seeds**  
What it takes to lead a nonprofit for 20 years!

Jeff Hillimire  
Purpose Group

Kimberly Parker

0:01 / 21:42

YouTube

# Oakhurst Porchfest 2024

Oct 19 @ 1PM • 236 W. Hill St. Decatur, GA 30030

## WYLDE CENTAUR



Central's own Philip Covin and David Hunter, and their classic rock cover band, **Wylde Centaur** will be performing again this year at Oakhurst Porchfest on October 19. Come out to this family friend event with more than 200 performances all afternoon throughout the Oakhurst neighborhood. Wylde Centaur hits the stage for 60 minutes of U2, Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Cranberries, REM and more at 1 p.m. at 236 W. Hill Street, Decatur, GA 30030. This event stays on a strict schedule, so don't be late!

Also performing is Bitter Sweet Reunion (BSR) featuring Centralites Kelly Bray and Chris Sciarrone. BSR is a new version of the band partly responsible for bringing both families to Central in the 1990s (see below for a throw-back black and white photo from the band's early days!). Come enjoy covers as diverse as Cowboy Junkies and the Velvet Underground, along with original compositions in an Alt-Indie-Folk Rock style. at 4 p.m. at 127 Greenwood Place in Decatur.

Check out the Oakhurst Porchfest website for the full line up and an interactive map of the area here: <https://www.oakhurstporchfest.org> Be sure to also follow Wylde Centaur on Facebook for upcoming dates and showtimes: <https://www.facebook.com/wylde.centaur>.





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**DEADLINE REMINDER:** As a reminder, our deadlines for the Wednesday e-weekly is Monday at noon. If you have an announcement, please email Hala Hess White at [hhwhite@cpclanta.org](mailto:hhwhite@cpclanta.org)

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## Connect

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### **Thirsty Thursdays** **October 24** **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! Manuel's is located at 602 North Highland Avenue Northeast, Atlanta, GA 30307.

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

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### **Central Women** **October 17** **7 p.m.** **Home of Julie Boggs**

Central women will meet tomorrow Thursday, October 17 at 7 p.m. at the home of Julie Boggs. After food and fellowship, we'll discuss our group and how we might continue or modify our meeting format of a meal and program on third Thursdays. Bring your ideas and questions for a lively discussion! Please use SignUp Genius to let us know that you will attend and what you'll contribute to the meal.

Central women is open to all women of Central and we encourage people who have never been before to attend our meeting as we think through how to move forward.

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## Serve

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### Memorial Service Reception

Robin Line's memorial service is this Saturday, October 19 at 2 p.m. If you would like to help with the reception please review the available slots below and click the button to sign up.

[SIGN-UP](#)

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### Central Organizing Safety Team

Members and staff are exploring new ways to make our church buildings and the events we host both welcoming and safe. We want to provide a comfortable environment, and we also need to set clear expectations surrounding the use of our facilities when we gather.

Central's Facilities Committee and staff have begun working with Pegasus Solutions Group, a security firm composed of experienced emergency, fire, and safety professionals, to improve access to and security within our buildings. Part of that work is developing a staffing plan for different types of events. One suggestion, based on what security firm staff have initiated in their own congregations, is to gather a group of members to be trained as a safety team. Members know more about church buildings and the people who use them than anyone else.

With training and guidance provided by Pegasus, the team will learn how to respond to certain types of situations so that we are prepared to take action if needed. This is particularly important during the upcoming months as we approach the November election and its aftermath.

The goal is to find 10-15 members interested in participating. Members with medical or security training will be particularly helpful, as are those who frequently usher or serve Sunday breakfast. Team members would be on call each Sunday morning on a rotating basis to assist professional security staff in meeting the medical and security needs of members and guests.

Once this team is in action, you will notice an increased presence of members and security staff on Sunday mornings. We hope you will support this effort in

the spirit of caring for one another.

If you are interested in helping church staff and members by serving on the safety team, please plan to attend our first training session on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 12:15 p.m. in the Greene Room. The topic for the first session is *Basics of Safety Management in Church Programming*. We'll meet again at the same time on Nov. 3 for the final training session: *Central Campus and Specific Strategies*.

If you can't attend, please contact Gayle Knight at [gsknight1952@gmail.com](mailto:gsknight1952@gmail.com) to express interest. Thank you!

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## The Bashor Night Shelter To Open Soon

This ecumenical ministry of hospitality to our homeless brothers has operated since 1980, providing nightly meals and a safe warm place to sleep. The Mission Committee is seeking Central groups to serve on the following dates:

- Lunch bags for 70 men on Friday, Nov. 8
- Dinner for 70 men on Wednesday, Dec. 11
- Lunch bags for 70 men on Sunday, Jan. 5

If your group is interested or if you have questions about the details, please contact Chris Sciarrone at [sciarrone.chris@gmail.com](mailto:sciarrone.chris@gmail.com) or 404-966-0380.

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## Sunday Sign-Ups for collecting friendship pads

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 by clicking [this link](#).

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## Beginning Nov. 6: Souls Needed to Soothe Soles

The weekly Central Foot Clinic at the Bashor Night Shelter in our gym begins on Wednesday, Nov. 6. Volunteers are needed each week until March 26. No experience necessary and volunteers do not need to commit for the entire time. We gather a shortly after 7 p.m. each Wednesday, except during the holidays, and finish by 9:30 p.m. Parking is available in the parking garage or on the street free after 7 p.m. Please come and see for yourself. For more information, contact Martha Crenshaw at [mhcrenshaw@yahoo.com](mailto:mhcrenshaw@yahoo.com) or by phone: 404.444.1958.

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Sunday, October 20, 2024  
**Psalm 91:9-16 + Mark 10:35-45**  
The Rev. Shannon J. Kershner preaching

## Learn



# SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

BY ROBERT CATTERALL

Another fall, and another set of compelling,  
thought-provoking and enriching adult  
learning offerings for Centralites.



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**The Rev. Gibson "Nibs" Stroupe: *She Made a Way***  
**Sunday, October 20**  
**Parlor**  
**9:45 to 10:45 a.m.**



On two Sundays at the end of October, Rev. Nibs Stroupe will join Central to teach and preach. This Sunday, October 20, he will teach a combined adult class based on his most-recent book, “She Made a Way: Mother and Me in a Deep South World.” Described as “a memoir of survival and growth under the twin threats of white supremacy and male dominance. It is an intimate story of perseverance and coming of age: how a single, white working mother and her only son made their way in the patriarchal and racist world of postwar Helena, Arkansas, a Mississippi river town.” Central member John Blake wrote the forward to the book. This special class will take place in the Parlor off of Tull Hall.

The following Sunday, October 27, Rev. Stroupe will be our guest preacher.

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**Issues in Theology** will not meet this Sunday.  
Please join Rev. Gibson "Nibs" Stroupe for a  
combined class in the Parlor.

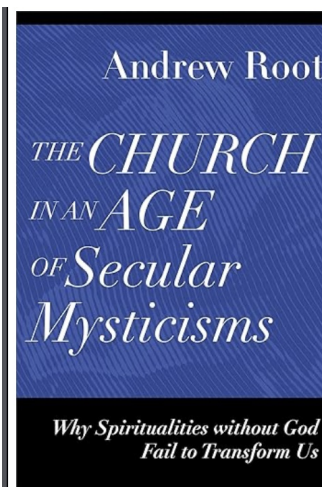
**Sundays**

**Greene Room**

**9:45 to 10:45 a.m.**

This class will pick back up on its discussion of Andrew Root’s “The Church in an Age of Secular Mysticism.” Following a few weeks exploring that topic, the class will announce an updated curriculum.

Click [here](#) for more about the book.



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**Sojourners Class** *will not meet this Sunday. Please join Rev. Gibson "Nibs" Stroupe for a combined class in the Parlor.*

**Brotherhood Room**

**9:45 to 10:45 a.m.**

The Sojourners class will return to the brief but powerful essays on Jesus' life and teachings found in Debie Thomas' book, *Into the Mess and Other Jesus Stories: Reflections on the Life of Christ*. Thomas focuses particularly on teachings of Jesus and events in the life of Jesus that present challenges in understanding and interpretation, and she acknowledges these challenges and provides her own refreshingly candid thoughts and associated questions for consideration. The "Wonders" and "Teachings" sections of the book have provided a basis for rich discussion in past class sessions.

This fall, the class will turn its attention to Thomas' essays in the category that she calls "Mysteries," covering Jesus' washing of the Disciples' feet, the crucifixion, the empty tomb, and more. Join us for conversations about Jesus' life and teachings that perhaps will be different from many you've had before. The Sojourners Class meets in the Brotherhood Room, off of Tull Hall. The class convener is Ed Carwile ([carwile1230@earthlink.net](mailto:carwile1230@earthlink.net)).

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**Bookworms**

**Tuesday, October 22**

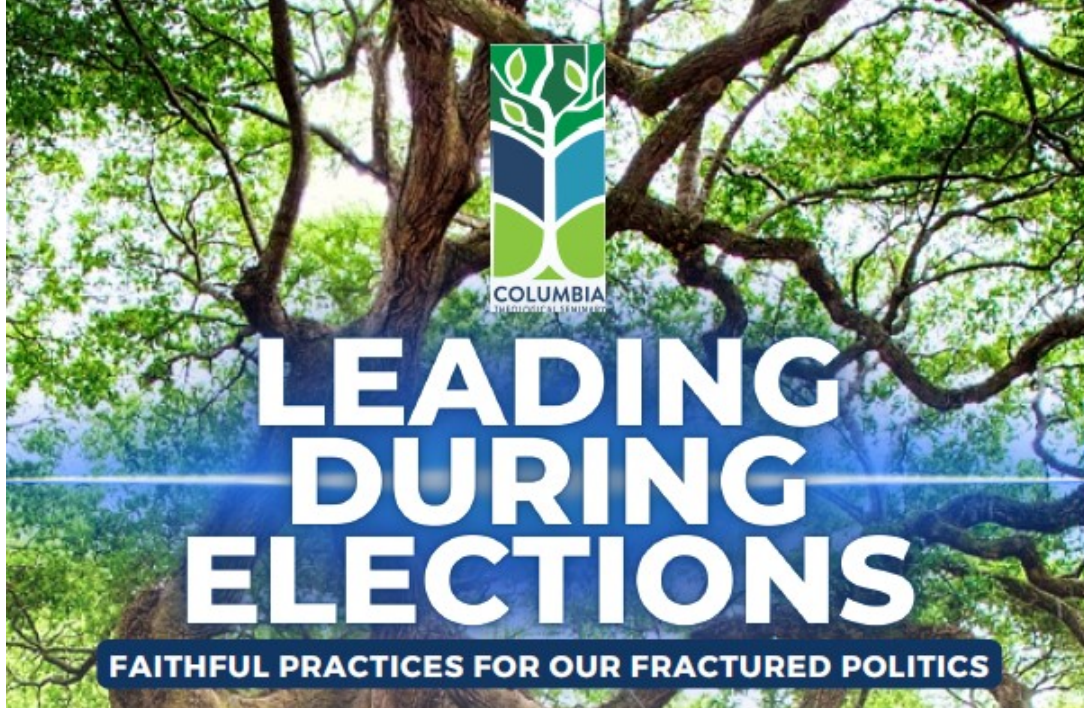
**Home of Frances St. John**

**7:30 p.m.**

Central's book club, Bookworms, anticipates a lively conversation about Barbara Kingsolver's Pulitzer prizewinning novel "Demon Copperhead" at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 22, at the home of Frances St. John, 4555 Crestwicke Pointe, Atlanta, 30319. You are encouraged to bring your reactions, whether you've finished, couldn't finish, or have yet to start reading this celebrated book. Perhaps your reading of "David Copperfield" or "Hillbilly Elegy" informs your understanding in ways you'd like to share. Called by the judges' panel of the British Women's Prize an "exposé of modern America, its opioid crisis, and the detrimental treatment of deprived and maligned communities," "Demon Copperhead" was unanimously determined as their winner, with the chair reporting that the panel was "deeply moved by Demon, his gentle optimism, resilience, and determination despite everything being set against him. "Demon Copperhead" packs a triumphant emotional punch, and it is a novel that will withstand the test of time."

We'll meet for light refreshments and an animated discussion of these and other ideas. Questions? Contact [Linda McCord](#). Please plan to join us! We look forward to seeing you on the 22nd.

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Columbia Seminary invites you to use its resources, and to share information about *Leading During Elections* widely. It is offering 20 different workshops/interviews on a variety of topics related to faith and politics via its Moodle site. You can access the information using the QR code.



And we note that though the program is obviously geared toward U.S. citizens, there are many resources within it that are applicable to political settings outside the United States.

If you have questions, please reach out Dr. Helen Blier in the Center for Lifelong Learning.

## Give

### OAC Seeks Snacks for Guests

At Central Outreach and Advocacy Center (OAC), we are seeing an increase in guests who show up daily to receive services and check mail. We like to be able to give a snack to every person who shows up. We are currently handing out 150 to 200 snack items per day which is a lot! If you could help us with snacks, we would greatly appreciate it!

Three easy ways to donate:

1. **[Amazon Wish List](#)**
2. Purchase the items and drop them off at the OAC.
3. Donate money (either **[online](#)** or by check) and indicate that the money is for snacks. We will then purchase snack items with your donation.

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## 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.

**[Click this link](#)** to give to Disaster Relief for Israel/Palestine (please note Middle East in the Disaster Supported box).

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

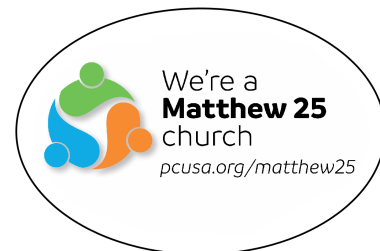
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If you have any difficulty logging in to your profile or making your online gift within Realm, please contact **[Melissa Johnson](#)**.

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.



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