

The Weekly News

October 30, 2024





A Stewardship Reflection

from Eleanor and Jeff Dake

On the back of our minivan is our Central magnet. Have you seen them? It reads: Love is Central. Central is love. And for our family, that's very true. There have been lots of big and small moments of love we've received throughout the sprawling Central campus over the last 15-plus years—Eleanor putting on her wedding dress in the Greene Room, hearing kids rehearse their pageant lines at the final dress rehearsal, decorating tables before serving dinner in the Night Shelter, having our children baptized by their grandfather at the font, wiping away tears in Tull Hall following a memorial service, our now ten and six year old sliding down the stair rail on the way to the garage, Taizé in Rand Chapel.

The list could go on, but what we always, always receive is the gift of knowing we'll be accepted here with love. It's part of what then allows us to leave Central and do our best to put God's love into action and share it out into this world.

For our family, part of the way we do so is by pledging a financial gift and committing our time and talents throughout the year. Join us as you can.

This Sunday: Commitment Sunday, Luncheon, Requiem for All Saints' Sunday

The first Sunday in November is filled with opportunities to express fidelity to our community, to break bread together, and to worship together.

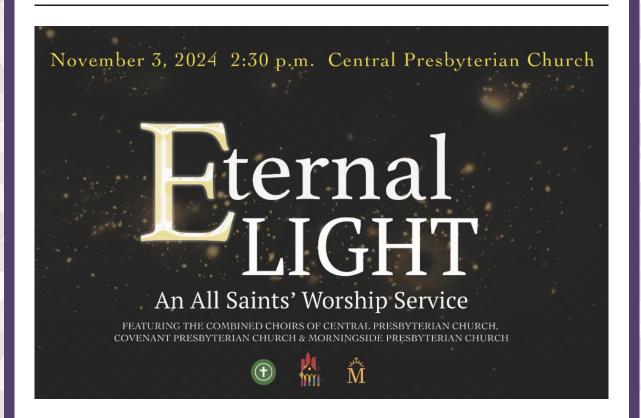
At 11 a.m. our first Sunday communion service will include the dedication of pledges for the upcoming year. A special luncheon follows. The Center for Civic Innovation's presentation has unfortunately been postponed. At 2:30 p.m. the combined choirs of Central, Covenant, and Morningside churches will lead us in a requiem for All Saints' Day.

If you have not already, please let us know you are planning to attend the luncheon.

RSVP for Lunch

During the worship service this Sunday we will collect and bless pledge cards for 2025. Please bring your commitment card and participate as we offer our time, talent and treasure to our faith community - together, for another year.

The cards were mailed a few weeks ago. You can also pledge via Realm by clicking this *link*. Questions? Contact Kristie Johns at



HOMELESS REQUIEM

WE WILL REMEMBER

The Cathedral of St. Philip is hosting a holy evening of remembrance and community at its 36th Annual Homeless Requiem this Friday, November 1. Find out more by clicking the button:

Requiem Details

The Work Continues on Black Mountain

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



Parker Speaks at GSU's Honor College





Central OAC Executive Director Kimberly Parker recently shared insight on the housing crisis as part of a panel convened by the Honor College at Georgia State University. New Angles on Human Rights is a series that explores the "web of complex issues that pertain to human rights." Parker spoke at the session focused on housing. Central members Ryan Gravel and Dr. Sarah Cook were also part of the event.

Congratulations to Central member Sydney Langdon who will be honored as the "Philanthropic Leader of Tomorrow" by the Atlanta chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals when it meets next week to observe National Philanthropy Day. Among her many accomplishments, Langdon has served on the AOC board as development chair.





DEADLINE REMINDER: As a reminder, our deadlines for the Wednesday eweekly is Monday at noon. If you have an announcement, please email Hala Hess White at *hhwhite@cpcatlanta.org*

Connect

Thirsty Thursdays
Third 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! Manuel's is located at 602 North Highland Avenue Northeast, Atlanta, GA 30307.

Questions? Contact M.E. Davis at maryelizabeth.pope@gmail.com

Bookworms Tuesday, Dec. 3 Heritage Place

This month, Bookworms will NOT meet on the fourth Tuesday because of the Thanksgiving holiday. The group will meet next on Tuesday, December 3, at the community room of Heritage Place, 211 Colonial Homes Drive, Atlanta 30309. Ellen Thompson will host our gathering when Vicki Collier will lead our conversation about "Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride. Plan to join us to discuss this "charming, smart, heart-blistering, and heart-healing novel." (*NYT*)

Questions? Contact Linda McCord.

Serve

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* or by phone: 404.444.1958.

Safety Team Training Continues

The safety team volunteers meet again this Sunday at 12:15 p.m. for the second, and final, training focusing on *Central Campus and Specific Strategies*.

Members and staff have been 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, please contact Gayle Knight at **gsknight1952@gmail.com** to express interest. Thank you!

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* or 404-966-0380.



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*.

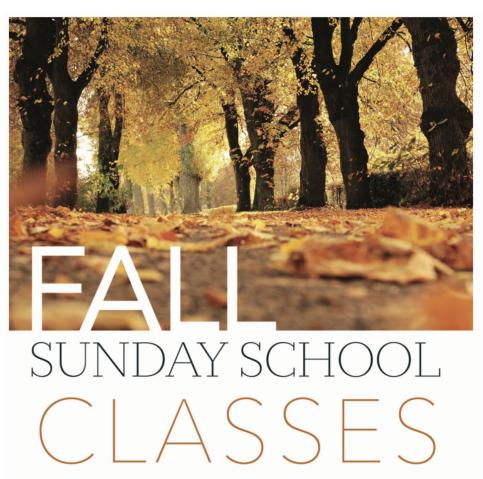
Worship

Sunday, November 3, 2024

Isaiah 25:6-9 + Selections from Hebrews, chapters 11 & 12

The Rev. Shannon J. Kershner preaching

Learn



BY ROBERT CATTERALL

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

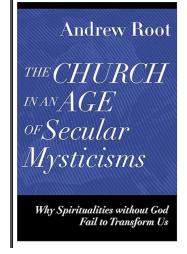


Issues in Theology Sundays

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 Mysticisms." Following a few weeks exploring that topic, the class will announce an updated curriculum.

Click *here* for more about the book.



Sojourners Class Sundays 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*).

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10 1:30 P.M.







A Celebration of Atlanta's Historic Sites

Join the Atlanta Preservation Center for a tour of Central Presbyterian Church

Tickets are \$19.50 and available via eventbrite

eventbrite

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10 1:30 P.M.

The Atlanta Preservation Center's Tour of Central Sunday, November 10 1:30 p.m.

The Atlanta Preservation Center, the city's private non-profit preservation organization, is known for its tours of Atlanta's historic churches. Join them to tour our faith home and you just might learn something you didn't already know about our sacred space.

Founded in 1979, the Atlanta Preservation Center promotes the preservation of Atlanta's architecturally, historically and culturally significant buildings, neighborhoods and landscapes through education and advocacy.

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.

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.

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.

people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.









cpcatlanta.org

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