

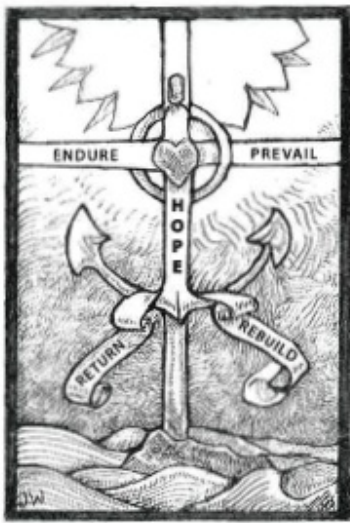


The Weekly News

January 15, 2025

A Thank You from Black Mountain

Central recently received a personal 'Thank you' letter from our friends in Black Mountain. Here is the letter.



Thank you!

In this season of advent as we wait in anticipation for the gift of incarnation, we are grateful and mindful of the ways in which you have been "God with us" in the greatest sense of the word.

In the wake of Hurricane Helene, we have witnessed neighbors helping neighbors, countless acts of kindness, and an unwavering sense of faith. Your financial support has been a beacon of hope during this extremely challenging time. Thanks to you, our dedicated staff and volunteers have been able to assist families in crisis, helping them find safety, stability, and a path to recovery.

We are thankful for the compassion of our community, the tireless efforts of our staff and volunteers, and your partnership in this important work. Together, we will continue to recover and rebuild as we restore hope in our Swannanoa valley!

**Wishing you and your loved ones a meaningful advent
and a very merry Christmas filled with
peace, love, joy, and hope.**

Reverend Mary Katherine Robinson
on behalf of Black Mountain Presbyterian Church

*THANK YOU FOR BEING A BEACON
OF LIGHT HERE IN OUR VALLEY.*

*- Perry Spill
CHURCH MEMBER*



BLACK MOUNTAIN
Presbyterian Church

Deadline to select congregants to serve on the Nominating Committee is January 26!

It is time to begin considering congregational leadership for 2025! The first step in that process is to elect Nominating Committee. This year, the Nominating Committee will be chaired by LaShawn Green and Adam Seeley.

But here is where you come in: We also need to elect four congregational members to serve alongside these leaders.

The primary task of the Nominating Committee is to discern the next class of spiritual leaders for CPC by bringing to the congregation a slate of ruling elders

and deacons.

We want the Nominating Committee itself to represent a wide variety of experience, backgrounds, and voices so we can make sure we are listening as broadly as possible to what God hopes for us. PLEASE consider either nominating yourself or someone else for this important function of our ministry. The deadline for nominations is January 26.



You can nominate someone by sending an email to skershner@cpcatlanta.org, filling out a nominating card in the pew racks, scanning the QR code or by visiting <https://form.jotform.com/250143826835155>



The church offices will be closed Monday, January 20 for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.



GIVE

You may give to Central online using this QR code or by going to cpcatlanta.org.

DEADLINE REMINDER: As a reminder, our deadlines for the Wednesday e-

Children & Youth

We had a meaningful Advent season with our Central family, including the pageant! We also supported Aubrey Johnson's performance in the Ballethnic Nutcracker this year (photo at right) with an intergenerational outing. This phenomenal production got us all in the spirit!



This weekend, a group of Central youth are traveling to Montgomery, Alabama to experience the [Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Sites](#) as well as explore the civil rights history of Montgomery. We are excited to report back on what we learn, connect with other Centralites who have made this journey, and plan a return trip for the Central family. We're grateful to Rob Forbes and Jeff Hilimire for co-chaperoning! - *Susan Landrum*

Connect

Central Women
Thursday, January 16
7 p.m.
Home of Jill Lum

All Central women (and guests or friends!) are welcome to join us for our first gathering of 2025. We will meet Thursday, January 16 at Jill Lum's house at 1328 Avalon Place, NE, Atlanta 30306. We will gather for drinks and appetizers at 7 p.m. and will begin our meal by 7:30. Our program typically starts around 8 p.m. and we will conclude by 9:30 p.m. Facilitated by psychologist Melanie Bliss, we will discuss self-care practices with practical suggestions and considerations for winter months, challenging times, and adaptation as life circumstances



SELF-CARE

change.

Please sign up here to bring a contribution to our meal or a donation to the kitty. Your sign up is your RSVP, and while we encourage advance sign-ups, we will always welcome last minute additions. Questions? Please contact **Debbie Miller** or **Melanie Bliss**.

Sign Up to Join Us

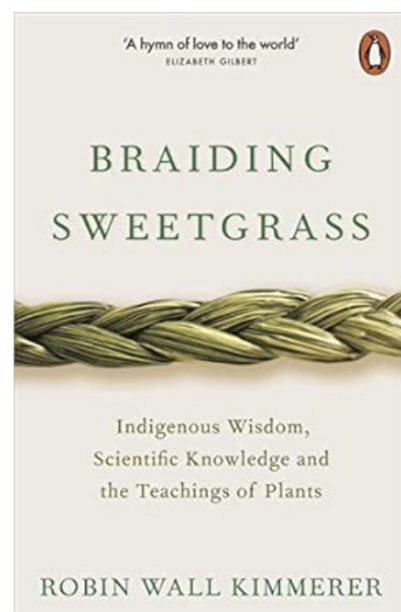
Thirsty Thursdays
Thursday, January 23
7 p.m.
Manuel's Tavern

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, January 28
7:30 p.m.
Home of Debbie & Jerry Miller

Central's book club, Bookworms, will meet on Tuesday, January 28, at the home of Debbie and Jerry Miller, 1721 Noble Dr NE, Atlanta 30306. We'll gather at 7:30 when Ann Hunter will facilitate our conversation about Robin Wall Kimmerer's lovely and inspiring twining of "science, spirit, and stories," *Braiding Sweetgrass*. As a Potawatomi woman who serves as the SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor of Environmental Biology and as the founder and director of the Center for Native Peoples and the Environment, Kimmerer fuses traditional native wisdom and contemporary environmental science in this provocative and heartening book. Questions? Contact **Linda McCord**.



Serve

MLK Day Volunteer Opportunity

Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity for MLK Day? Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM) is having a workday on Monday, January 20. Volunteers will gather at 9:45 a.m. for a workday running from approximately 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (but with flexibility team to team). This is a great opportunity to see the campus and support the work of MDM!



The work goals include improving the landscaping, updating the playground and cleaning the library. For the landscaping projects bring rakes, shovels, work gloves, and other yard clearing tools. For the library clean up, please bring garbage bags, Lysol wipes, a duster, paper towels, Windex, microfiber cloth, and/or sponges.

Contact Anne Blankinship at 404-398-1186 or anne.blankinship@gmail.com for more information and to sign up. It would be great to grab lunch in Clarkston afterward and enjoy some fellowship.

The Bashor Night Shelter needs meals

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 date:

- Dinner for 70 men on Thursday, Jan. 30

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, January 19, 2025

Isaiah 62:1-5 + John 2:1-11

The Rev. Shannon J. Kershner preaching

Learn

Winter Studies 2025 Focuses on Israel-Palestine Conflict

The 2025 Central Winter Studies program will provide an opportunity to learn more about the Israel-Palestine conflict - not only the current and tragic armed conflict, but the ongoing tensions between neighboring peoples and the historical roots of those tensions. The program will provide five sessions, all of which will take place in the Oglesby Atrium space (aka the Central Outreach and Advocacy Center space, on the basement level of the Oglesby Building).

January 19: Rev. Dr. Fahed Abu-Akel, Palestinian by birth and former Moderator of the General Assembly of the PC (USA), will provide his unique perspective on the Israel-Palestine conflict.

January 26: Martha Moore-Keish (on the faculty of Columbia Theological Seminary) and Susan Landrum (a member of Central's staff) will discuss a trip they took to Washington D.C. and N.Y.C. in the spring of 2024 to learn more about the Israel-Palestine conflict.

February 2: A panel of Centralites who have visited Israel/Palestine in recent years will talk about their experiences and observations while in the Holy Land

Give

New Crew Socks Needed

The foot clinic is in need of men's white crew socks that are new (in this case we cannot accept gently used) and more than 50% cotton. If you would like to donate, please drop off your gifts to the church office labeled "for foot clinic." And for all of you creative souls who are drawn to colored and cute socks, please remember we need basic white, mostly cotton men's crew

socks. In this case, uniformity helps. If you have questions, please contact **Martha Crenshaw**.

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](#)

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.

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





cpcatlanta.org

Central Presbyterian Church | 201 Washington Street SW | Atlanta, GA 30303 US

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