

Connection Card

Thanks for joining us! If you're visiting, we'd love to meet you! Please fill out this card, detach it, and place it in the offering plate.

– May 26, 2019 –

- 1st-Time Guest Return Guest
 Regular Attender Member
 Updating Personal Information

Service attending today:

- 8:30am 11:15am

name

email

phone

address

city state zip

I am interested in learning more about:

- Membership Baptism
 Bible Studies Small Groups
 Children's Ministry
 Service Opportunities
 Other:

I would like a pastor to contact me:

- Yes No

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This Week @ Central

Learn more at
www.centralpres.com/calendar

Sunday

Prayer
 Prayer Room, 7:30am

Worship
 8:30 & 11:15am

Sunday School
 10am

Student Central
 Student Center, 10am

Wednesday

Men's Fellowship
 Parlor, 12pm
 Karl Kindt, Speaker

Giving to Central is easier than ever!

Simply text CENTRALPRES to 77977. You can make a one-time or recurring gift in about a minute. You can also give securely on our website at www.centralpres.com/giving.

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Upcoming Events, News, & More

To learn more, visit www.centralpres.com or call 314-727-2777

Are you missing a pair of glasses, a set of car keys, or an umbrella? We have A LOT of items in our lost and found, and TODAY is your chance to claim your missing stuff before it is donated to charity. Please stop by the Fellowship Hall today to see all these forgotten items.

You are invited to the Men's Fellowship Lunch this Wednesday, at 12pm in the Parlor. This week, our special guest speaker is Karl Kindt. Lunch is only \$5.

The annual Middle School Mystery Trip is just around the corner! We'll leave CPC for the unknown destination on Wednesday, June 5 at 6:30pm and return on Saturday, June 8. Cost to attend is \$140. For more information or to register, visit www.centralpres.com.

On Sunday, June 16, our high schoolers will be returning to RYM Colorado. Rising 9th-12th graders will travel by charter bus to Estes Park, CO, to have fun together, be challenged and encouraged by the word of God and in worship and grow together. The cost to attend is \$475. If your student is interested in attending, visit www.centralpres.com for more information or to register.

Ever wondered what it's like to sing in the choir? Then Summer Choir is for you! It's a fun way to try it out with zero commitment. Summer Choir helps lead worship at the first service and there are two more weeks to join in – June 2 and 9. Rehearsal is 30 minutes before the service at 8:30am in the Choir Room.

Make plans for VBS! Kids Night Out will be every Wednesday in July. Watch for more info coming soon to centralpres.com/kno Interested in helping out? Contact Karen Brown (kbrown@centralpres.com).

The next VIP luncheon for those 60 and over is Thursday, June 13, at noon. The featured guest will be Bill Wichman. Cost for lunch is \$5 per person. To RSVP, please contact Tina Duke (tduke@centralpres.com or 314-727-2777).

If you are visiting with us, welcome! We're thrilled you are here. Be sure to stop by the Fellowship Hall on the lower level between the morning services for coffee and a snack.

CarePortal connects local churches to provide vital support to kids and families in crisis. Sign up to be part of this great ministry at tinyurl.com/welcome-careportal.



CENTRAL
 CELEBRATING 175 YEARS

InfoCentral

May 26, 2019



Praising God's Faithfulness

Did you know that today in America, the average Protestant church size is 89 adults according to research conducted by the Barna Group? According to Carl George and Warren Bird (How to Break Growth Barriers, Baker Books; April 4, 2017), fully 85% of all Protestant Churches in North America never break the 200 person attendance mark. Despite the long odds facts such as these represent, April 19 marked the 175th anniversary of the founding of Central Presbyterian Church.

For perspective, our founding year of 1844 was 17 years prior to the beginning of the Civil War. Originally named Fourth Presbyterian Church, the church started with thirty-two members in a small frame building in 1844. We were an early church plant of Second Presbyterian Church, located only a few blocks away from our original Sixth Street and St. Charles beginnings.

As that new body of believers built their first "permanent" location in 1848 at Eighth and Locust, their sanctuary was capable of seating six hundred congregants! That was bold, trusting anticipation of growth in a city of only 40,000 people and many, many other churches.

As we reflect on our history, we must ask how our past has relevance to who we are today and who we may be tomorrow? As Christians, we believe that all of history, from the beginning of time, is God's story. It is his plan working out through the lives of his people. In that belief, who we have been as a church over the decades, is most certainly part of who we are today and who we might become tomorrow. Our past can't help but to impact our present and inform our future.

As we celebrate 175 years, our objective is not to focus on us, but rather to praise God for his steadfast faithfulness to his people. He has been with us through our good times as well as our challenging times as a church body. We have moved through five locations in St. Louis and we've been led by eighteen senior pastors. But through it all, God has been the sustaining force. Our early forefathers believed in a God of big capabilities who wanted them to make a significant difference for his kingdom in the St. Louis community and beyond. He was, is, and shall forever remain faithful. Are we bold enough to have that same trust and expectation in the same God today?

Your Generosity Matters

For 175 years at Central, we have been blessed with the resources necessary for ministry to lift high the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the world is changing for the better because of it.

None of this ministry would be possible without your generosity. To do the ministry that we are called to, it requires all of us to be part of the mission in the giving of our tithes and offerings. What a joy to be able to empower God's mission in this way!

For 2019 through April, our giving is a little behind normal levels. Between January 1 and April 30, we received \$931,125.37. We are grateful for every dollar given, and we are striving to be godly stewards. But this number is short of our budgeted giving by about \$150,000. Please rest assured that this does not mean that we are incurring debt; we have a modest cash account to manage the variability of our cash flow month-to-month. But we want you to know that we are a bit behind at this point in the year. If we all contribute together, we can easily get back on track for the year.

Please continue to partner with us financially. Our ministry depends on your generosity. To donate, visit centralpres.com/giving, or stop by the business office.

Rollin', Rollin', Rollin'...

In August, Central will once again send a group of our high school students and leaders to Honduras. There, they will support the work of the Micah Project and Central missionary Michael Miller. They will be bringing with them badges rolled by Central's White Cross.

To make a bandage, old sheets are torn into 3-inch strips, excess threads are removed, then the strips are sewn into 3-yard lengths. These are then rolled, tied, and boxed for shipment. A Bible verse is rolled into each bandage to encourage whomever uses the bandage.

After the bandages are packed, the work will be rewarded with a famous Julie Kraus lunch for only \$5. During lunch, a staff member will share a short devotional.

This is an amazing opportunity not only to prepare bandages for people in need but also to get plugged into the church community. If you are interested in helping, and if you want to enjoy a delicious lunch, come join us every Tuesday in June and July this summer from 9:30am-12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Central's Bible Reading Plan

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Monday, May 27

- Proverbs 4-6
- Romans 8

Tuesday, May 28

- Proverbs 7-9
- Romans 9

Wednesday, May 29

- Proverbs 10-12
- Romans 10

Thursday, May 30

- Proverbs 13-15
- Romans 11

Friday, May 31

- Proverbs 16-18
- Romans 12

Saturday, June 1

- Proverbs 19-21
- Romans 13

Sunday, June 2

- Proverbs 22-24
- Romans 14

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PRAYER REQUEST

At Central, we believe in and depend upon the power of prayer. If you have a specific need or concern for which you would like prayer, please describe it below, tear off this panel, and drop it in the offering plate. The officers and intercessors covenant to pray for your requests as long as you desire. All requests will be treated as confidential.

Name (optional):

Please share my request with:

- All intercessors
- Active elders only
- Pastors only
- Please contact me about my prayer request

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