

THE VOICE

APRIL 2017 VOLUME 69 • ISSUE 4

A Fresh Outlook on Faith

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CONCERTS & SERVICES

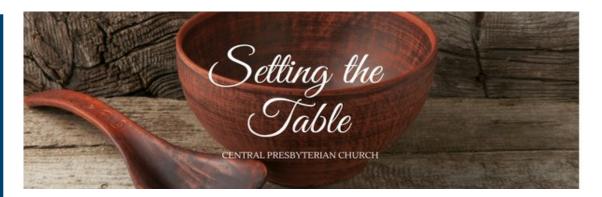
EVENT
Date | Time

Denver
Philharmonic Orchestra
April 7 | 7:30pm

Good Friday Service : Pergolesi's Stabat Mater April 14 | 7:00pm

Evergreen Chorale Spring Concert April 28 | 7:30pm

Divine Color Art Exhibit Coffee Hour Open House April 30 | After Worship



Holy Week

Communion for Holy Week will be conducted as a part of the Lenten Home Groups. You are invited to participate during Holy Week Even if you have never attended a Jesus Creed small group you are welcome to any of these Maundy Thursday suppers. If you plan to attend please RSVP to the person listed below *This interactive celebration of the Lord's Supper is appropriate for all ages.*

Sunday, April 9 | Hale Neighborhood 4:00pm | Zemanick Family home 1255 Elm St., Denver, CO RSVP: Stan Jewell stan@centraldenver.com

Tuesday, April 11 | Downtown Denver 7:00pm | Jean Herman's home 177 Larimer St., #1410, Denver, CO RSVP Jean Herman jean.herman@gmail.com

Wednesday, April 12 | Downtown Denver 6:00pm | East Room Central Presbyterian Church RSVP: Stan Jewell stan@centraldenver.com Monday, April 10 | Stapleton Neighborhood 7:00pm | Kent and Freddie Groff's home 10193 East 29th Ave., Denver, CO RSVP: Kent Groff kentiragroff@comcast.net

Tuesday, April 11 | Denver Tech Center 6:00pm dinner | 7:00pm for discussion Jack Westfall and Audrey Yee's home 9122 East Tufts Cir., Greenwood Village, CO RSVP: Louise Westfall Jouise@centraldenver.com

Stations of the Cross

I thought it was a Catholic thing. We're not supposed to worship material objects, are we? Why the focus on Jesus' suffering -our cross is empty because Christ is alive!

These are some comments I've heard about our practice of creating scenes from Jesus' final walk to the hill of execution and then using these scenes (or stations) as tools for prayer and contemplation. Though they were once an exclusively Roman Catholic tradition, Protestants are learning to reclaim visual arts in service to worship. These creations are not idols, but help orient our thinking towards Christ. Remembering the particularity of Jesus' suffering can be a potent reminder that Jesus understands the many ways we suffer and is a very present spiritual help in these difficult times. Walking to the different stations is a way of remembering that we are making a spiritual journey in this life, and allows us to commit ourselves once more to walking with Jesus, through the valley of the shadow of death. and beyond. Join us on April 9 and April 14 to experience this prayer practice. Thanks to Peter Aitkens, Kent Groff, Jean Herman, Marty Jewell, Billie Tigyore Lusk, Jack Westfall, and Pastor Louise for the stations they made, and to the Aron and Becze Families, and children of Central who colored other scenes from Jesus' last earthly days.

SAVE THE **DATE**

Pree 'n Pree

Sunday, April 9 at 5:00pm in the Narthex

As Earth Day approaches, the theme of unearthing emerges. What are you unearthing and bringing into awareness, or what are you burying, like an ostrich, that buries it's head in the sand? What have you unearthed or buried in the past that either served or did not serve you well? What have you learned from your past experiences that provided guidance for what you're experiencing now?"

Join us for a Spirit filled and thoughtful dialogue.

Refreshments will be provided. Bring a friend or come alone. All are welcome. Pree 'n Pree curates contemplative space for expansion of the soul through dialogue the arts & sacred literature. For more information contact preenpree@gmail.com



Sunday, June 4 after worship at Congress Park.

We will be celebrating Pentecost, Confirmation, and High School Graduation for our annual church picnic this year. Join us once again in Congress Park following worship for food, fellowship, and maybe some Spike Ball.

Summer of Service

Service is Central returns for the 3rd year! Look forward to a variety of opportunities to connect with our mission partners throughout the summer. Details will follow in the May VOICE.

Domestic Mission Trip

July 8 - 12 in Alamosa, Colorado

Please mark your calendar for this years domestic mission trip to Alamosa, Colorado. We will embark on an intergenerational partnership with La Puente, an organization serving Colorado's San Luis Valley by providing food, shelter, and advocacy for the homeless and community members in crisis. La Puente endeavors to meet immediate needs and to empower people to live independently with dignity. Potential activities include working with PALS (Positive Activities Lead to Success) children's program for at-risk youth, gardening projects, clean-up activities and educational activities. There will be several different housing options, from individual to group formats.

VOICE



All Church Retreat

Details will follow in future issues of THE

Highlands Presbyterian Camp Labor Day Weekend, September 1 - 3 1306 Business Highway 7, Allenspark

Join your church family for an afternoon, a day or the weekend in beautiful Allenspark, Colorado this Labor Day weekend! Central has a long tradition of retreating over this weekend and the retreat team is excited to provide a weekend with opportunities to have rest, recreation, worship and fellowship for all ages! We will begin taking registrations in early May. If you have questions or would like to help, contact Stephanie stephanie@centraldenver.com

MINISTRY **TEAM**

Louise Westfall louise@centraldenver.com

Parish Associate Stan Jewell

stan@centraldenver.com

Director of Children and Family Ministries Stephanie Fritz

stephanie@centraldenver.com

Associate Director of Music Sarah Eaton sarah@centraldenver.com

Director of Youth Bear Redmon

bear@centraldenver.com

Director of Music Wil Smith wil@centraldenver.com

Church Administrator **Bear Redmon**

Building Superintendent Joe Martell ioe@centraldenver.com

Finance Office Kathy or Jen accounting@centraldenver.com

20s/30s Group | Chris Gibson cgibsonrealtor@gmail.com

Adult Education | Anne Bond (Chair 2018)

Budget and Finance | Bill Jones (Chair 2017), Jean Hart (2019) Michael Hoffman (2018)

Building and Property | Zach Warren (Chair 2019), Bill Jones (2017), Lynne Brown (2018)

Children and Family Ministries | Cheryl Fleetwood (Chair 2018), Jean Hart (2019)

Communications and Marketing | Chris Gibson (Chair 2018), **Dave Ramsey** (2019)

Deacons | **Bruce Heagstedt** (Moderator 2017)

Endowment | Derek Jones (Chair), Judy Heagstedt (2019)

Mission and Outreach | Gina Batali-Brooks (Chair), Jon Dreux (2019)

Music & Arts | Jean Herman (Chair 2017), Larry Armstrong (2017)

Personnel | Eric Bartczak (Chair 2017), James **Eklund** (2018)

Representative Nominating | Audrey Yee (Chair)

Task force for Capital Campaign | David Daniel (2018), Lynne Brown (2018)

The Generosity Team | David Daniel (Chair 2018)

Worship | **BJ Eaton** (Chair 2019)

THE VOICE

THE VOICE is published monthly. Article submissions are due no later than the second Monday of the month.

Joe Martell Editor and Publisher Jane Brown Copy Editor

April Worship Schedule

April 2 | Communion and Baptism of **Owen David Crane** | Pastor Louise Westfall preaching on John 11:1-45 Setting the Table for Grace (5): In Life and in Death

April 9 | Palm/Passion | Children's palm processional; interactive reading of the Passion according to Matthew; prayer and contemplation at the Stations of the Cross created by Central members. | One Great Hour of Sharing Offering received.

Good Friday April 14 | Church open from 11:30am – 1pm for those who wish to pray at the Stations of the Cross.

Community Good Friday | 7pm | Worship service at Central with Trinity United Methodist and Montbello Community Churches joining us. | Prayer and contemplation at the Stations of the Cross.

Easter April 16 | The glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection and new life with the resurrection cross of flowers, lilies, and special music. | Pastor Louise Westfall preaching on Matthew 28:1 -10 Setting the Table for Grace (6): There You Will See Him

April 23 | Reverend Ethan Raath will preach. | Prayer Shawl dedication

April 30 | Pastor Louise Westfall preaching on Luke 24:13-35 *How He Is Made Known to Us*



FROM YOUR **PASTOR**

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, Wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love Whom we had slain, Thinking that He'd never wake to life again, Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Up He sprang at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain; Up from the dead my risen Lord is seen: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

When our hearts are saddened, grieving or in pain, By Your touch You call us back to life again; Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

This carol (one of my favorites) written by John Crum describes Christ's resurrection using an image from the natural world, much as Jesus did when he said Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. [John 12:24] We celebrate Christ's rising at Easter as a sign that life is eternal, and love endures forever. Hallelujah!

Resurrection faith doesn't remove the sting of death or the grief we feel at the loss of cherished loved ones. But it helps us remember that the worst thing is not the last thing. Love lives again.

May the touch of the Risen Christ raise up new life and hope in us all.

Yours in faith.

Pastor Louise Westfall

Louise





ADULT EDUCATION

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:00AM. Adult Education at Central asks questions, goes deeper, delights in diverse perspectives, pursues truth, honors all people, trusts God. Expect to be challenged, provoked, inspired, amazed and grateful.

In the East Room

During Lent we will be using the Jesus Creed home group studymaterial on Sunday Morning in the east room.

The Jesus Creed Week 5

April 2

Led by **Kent Groff** the theme of the week is "What Kind of Society Should Christians Make?"

The Jesus Creed Week 6

April 9

Led by **Jack Westfall** the theme of the week is "Living the Jesus Creed"

Stories from a Greek Refugee Camp

April 23

Harrison Feind of LaFayette, volunteered through A Drop in the Ocean, a Norwegian refugee organization in a camp in Greece. Hear of the life of a Syrian Refugee first hand.

Refugees in Denver - "Who Is My Neighbor? April 30

A Biblical Response to Refugees In Our City with Ben Sooy from Hope In Our City, one of



Central Presbyterian's local ministry partners. Hope In Our City builds friendships in refugee neighborhoods to foster healthy community in Denver and make generational impact.

SCOT McKnight

Where Is God When I'm Afraid?

Sisters in Spirit Women's Retreat

Highlands Presbyterian Camp & Retreat Center April 28 through 30

1306 Business Highway 7, Allenspark, CO

Let's face it, we live in a world with many opportunities to be afraid. So much of our world, our nation, our daily input from others is influenced and driven by this strong emotion FEAR. When we feel afraid, it is easy to feel alone or isolated, and even wonder, "where are you, God?" To be clear, fear is a gift of God that warns us we need to pay attention to our environment and our safety. And yet, fear increases adrenaline in our system, which impacts our health. When we are experiencing fear, we cannot access the cerebral part of our brain to make wise choices, decisions, or even consider options.



During this weekend, we will consider how our own perspective of God impacts our understanding of fear. We will explore the impact of fear in our lives and in our bodies. We will practice techniques of moving fear through our bodies, so that we can be fully present and responsible in our lives and authentically connected to each other. We will also wonder, what would we be doing if we were not so afraid? Keynote speaker is **Reverend. Dr. Dee Cooper**.

For more information: <u>denpres.org/community-events/2017/4/28/womens-retreat-sistr</u>

THERE WILL BE NO ADULT EDUCATION ON SUNDAY, APRIL 16 DUE TO EASTER.

Central's Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at Central Presbyterian Church combines caring for others and the ancient art of knitting. This ministry reaches out to those in need of comfort or to share in their joy.

The shawls are made by the loving and caring hands of members and friends of the Central family. Although the Ministry only began in 2015, already 22 shawls and 5 prayer bears have been shared. With each shawl and bear go the prayers and blessings from Central that these shawls and bears may provide warmth, comfort, and assurance in the love of God and in the love and concern of their family in Christ.



These shawls have been shared with many people locally, but also in an extended way through family and friend connections. In fact, the love and concern carried by these shawls extend all the way to Cape Town, South Africa. Shawls were blessed and sent on their way to Rondebosch United Church to comfort friends of Rob and Celeste Habiger who are battling cancer and to the sister of Tanya Adams, who recently suffered the tragic and unexpected loss of her husband while pregnant with their first child.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

-Psalm 139



Children, Youth and Families

April 2

- 9am Breakfast Club and Children's Choir on the 3rd floor
- 10:30am Communion Sunday/Worship with your family

Palm Sunday April 9

- 9am Breakfast Club and Children's Choir on the 3rd floor
- **Meet for Palm Processional in Narthex/lobby at 10:25am
- Children will depart for Bible Story Room and Bible Trek after Time for Young Disciples

Easter April 16

Happy Easter!

- Worship at 10:30am meet at 10:25am to carry in Lilies
- Nursery open for children through 1st grade during Worship

April 23 and 30

- 9am Breakfast Club and Children's Choir on the 3rd floor
- 10:45am Bible Story Room and Bible Trek (3 years-4th grade)

Middlers (5th - 7th grade) April 30

 Middler End of Year Outing to Jump Street 12 - 3:30pm

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The One Great Hour of Sharing was started in 1949 and is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising the funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster. What started as an hour-long radio appeal has evolved over the years, varying from eight to twenty-nine participating denominations, and has become the most participated in offering in the PC(USA).

Today, projects supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing are underway in more than 100 countries and the United States. The projects are carried out through three programs in the Presbyterian Mission Agency:

- Presbyterian Disaster
 Assistance (PDA) Coming
 along side communities after
 a natural or human-caused
 disaster
- Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) - Working to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes
- Self-Development of People (SDOP) - Investing in community groups who are in poverty so that they can be self-sustaining

New Genesis Transitional Community for the Homeless, which is housed at Central Presbyterian is receiving 32% of this offering.

When we receive the offering on Palm Sunday, **April 9**, please give generously. It is also possible to give by text. Text your whole dollar gift to **720.370.0310** followed by **OGHS**.

2017 One Great Hour of Sharing Goal **\$3,500!**

Did you know?

- New Genesis is a community of recovery that recognizes homelessness as a temporary situation, not as a personal weakness.
- New Genesis' unique treatment design allows individuals to recapture their independence by demonstrating responsibility and accountability.
- New Genesis promotes an optimistic and enthusiastic environment, guiding individuals toward the realization of their emotional and practical goals.
- New Genesis currently provides housing and services in Denver for more that 1,500 homeless men, women and children per year.
- As the homeless population grows its crucial that programs similar to New Genesis be prepared and able to provide adequate housing and case management.
- Without guidance and tools repetitive homelessness is inevitable. New Genesis strives for 80% of its population to leave homelessness and never return.



MUSIC NOTES

Come hear Giovanni Pergolesi's beautiful and haunting *Stabat Mater*, performed by Central's soprano **Stephanie Ball**, alto **Teleri Gee** (right),, string quartet and harpsichord at our Good Friday service on **April 14** at 7pm. This service continues our Good Friday partnership with **Trinity United Methodist** and **United Church of Montbello**, this year taking place at Central.

The Stabat Mater is a text that has been set to music by many composers over the years which tells the story of the crucifixion through the suffering of Mary, mother of Jesus. This setting, by **Giovanni Pergolesi**, was written in 1736 and

composed in the final months of his short but creative 26 years of life. It immediately found popularity in the 18th century, and continues to be one of the most popular settings of the Stabat Mater today.

Other concerts at Central this month include the **Denver Philharmonic Orchestra** on Friday, **April 7** at 7:30pm for *Prost*, a celebration of Germany's musical history, with guest conductor Mark Mast from the Bavarian Philharmonic Orchestra. Tickets are available at <u>denverphilharmonic.org</u>. On Friday, **April 28** at 7:30pm, the **Evergreen Chorale** performs a concert called *Sun, Moon, Earth and Sea*, a concert featuring works by contemporary composers Eric Whitacre, Ola Gjeilo, Eriks Esenvalds, Frank Ticheli and others. Tickets are

available at evergreenchorale.org.



And finally, **Stacy Lewis'** exhibit *Divine Color* will be on display in the Sturgeon Room Gallery, **April 10-June 10**, with a coffee hour reception after church at 11:30am on Sunday, **April 30**. There will also be a wine and cheese reception Friday, **May 12** from 5:30 to 8:00pm.

Stacy's art reflects the intersection of energy and spirit on canvas through vibrant acrylic color. She leverages the inherent power of color, blending acrylics with mixed media creating a range of abstract expressionist pieces designed to reflect an emotion, person, place or object

(Left- One of Stacy's pieces: Color Cravesse)

Easter Lily Dedication

Complete the Easter lily form indicating those whom you wish to honor or remember in the church bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Flowers are \$17/each. Return the completed form to the church office or drop in the offering plate with your check no later than **April 9**. You can also email your short dedication to joe@centraldenver.com. Lilies may be picked up following the 10:30am worship service on Easter Sunday.

Thank you for adding to the beauty of Central on Easter morning!

Easter Lily Dedication Form

Your Name
Phone/Email
Number of Plants X \$17/each = \$
Brief Dedication:





Sustainability Corner

Earth Day is **April 22** and **Central's Green Team** wants to remind everyone that there are reusable bags and water bottles in the coat room if you need them.

Interesting **FACT**: the largest selling beverage in the United States is bottled water! Just think of all those plastic bottles in our landfill. What could you do to alleviate this condition? Please recycle responsibly.



All of the plastic in this artwork was found in a dead fish.





Church Directory

Central's last photo directory was published in 2011, so now would be a great time for you to get you and your family photographed!

There will be no obligation to purchase any photographs and you will receive one free photo for just participating. You can bring extended family members for the photo shoot and the photo you select for the directory does not have to be the same as your complementary photo.

Mark your calendar for the initial photo shoot dates: **May 31, June 1,2 and 3**. More information and sign ups will be available in the near future.

Women's Thursday Bible Study: Who is Jesus?

Who is Jesus? This study explores the question through the lenses of Mark, Matthew, Luke, John, Paul, Hebrews, the non-canonical gospels, the Abrahamic Faiths, and contemporary cultural interpretations. It notes that each of us who reads the New Testament is an interpreter of the text, and that how we interpret depends in part on who we are.

All women welcome from 10:00am – 11:30am on **Thursday, April 6** at the home of **Sue Wilcox** (2479 South Clermont Park, #G10, Denver 80222).

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT

Central Prayer Shawl Ministry | Monday, **April 10** at 6:30pm in the **Prayer Room of the Shepler Heritage Center**. No experience is necessary and all are welcome.

Central Men's Night Out | Thursday, **April 27** at 7:00pm. For more information contact **Larry Armstrong Larry@Larry@DArmstrong.com**.

Domestic Mission Trip Informational Meeting | Sunday, **April 9** immediately following worship in **Collier Chapel**. Join us to learn more about the intergenerational domestic mission trip to La Puente in Alamosa, Colorado July 2017. For more information contact **Gina Batali-Brooks** gina.batalibrooks@gmail.com.

Serendipity, an informal group open to all women, meets **April 20** at 7pm at **Jean Herman's** home (1777 Larimer St. Denver 80204). We build friendships through fellowship, so please join us! RSVP to Jean at jean.herman@gmail.com or 720.932.7961.

Walk the Labyrinth | Every Wednesday from 11:30am to 1:00pm in the Narthex.



THE CHURCH MOUSE



Sometimes, I like to think that I am a high-tech mouse. While I admit that it's hard to find a smart phone in my size, I try to keep up with the technical trends and appreciate good technology when I see it. That's why I was so excited when we got the new TV and DVD player in the Sturgeon Room, making that multi-purpose room even more useful. We no longer have to use the bulky, low-quality projector screen! The TV was donated by **Debbie and** Mark Sheets, who have been teaching Bradley Childbirth classes for years at Central. It is especially neat that the beautiful cabinet housing the new equipment was

made by Central's own **Tom Crane**, a member of the Property Committee and budding cabinet maker. Maybe I'll work hard to become a carpentry aficionado, as well!

CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

Baptisms

Owen David Crane, son of Tom and Teresa Crane, will be baptized on Sunday, April 2.



Communion

Communion will be served on **April 2**. Please remember canned goods or a monetary gift in support of hungry families served by Metro Caring.

Deaths

Brandon Loyd Eaton, son of BJ and Sarah Eaton, passed away on Monday, March 27.

Altar Wings

My coiled soul, my foiled self now springs to LIFE: it is enough

for living resurrection faith.

But if I doubt this mystery
wherever I see
LOVE
altaring violence

there is the risen Presence.

-Kent Ira Groff©





