



March 15, 2009

worship

Service for the Lord's Day

Scripture

I Corinthians 1:18-21
John 2:13-22

Sermon

Prime Real Estate
Emily Wilmarth preaching

Hymns

In the Cross of Christ I Glory
How Lovely, Lord
How Firm a Foundation

Music

Prelude on "Hyfrydol"
by Charles Callahan
Michael Morgan, organ

A Hymn to God: Creator
by John Ferguson
Text by Michael Morgan
Chancel Choir

Toccata on "How Firm a Foundation"
by Claude Murphree
Michael Morgan, organ

fellowship

Sunday Lunch Menu

Fried & Baked Chicken
Rice

Blue Lake Green Beans
Tossed Salad

Birthday Cake Celebration
Florrie Palmer 100th

centraltopics

In This Community of Faith

Gary W. Charles, Pastor

In the twelfth chapter of his first letter to the Corinthian community, Paul draws one of the great images of the church. I appreciate the wisdom of this entire chapter, but two verses, in particular, have been especially poignant in our community's life during the past week. Toward the close of this eloquent chapter, Paul (I like the word "writes") pens, "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it" (I Cor. 12:26-27). "One suffers, all suffer; one is honored, all rejoice" can sound simple and even trite, like a proverb tossed out in casual conversation. Lived out in the experience of the community of faith, it is anything but simple and trite.

When a speeding car overturned and crushed the car of Bill and Gay Culp, killing them instantly, I witnessed this community of faith live into Paul's image, "If one member suffers, all suffer together." I have been overwhelmed by the suffering love that this community has felt for two members of our body who died way too soon, for their family, for Gay's school, and for their adopted "bell" family.

Over the last six months, a company of more than 40 mostly youth and adults have prepared to stage Andrew Lloyd Weber's, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Bill had taken a night of photos for this show the night before the accident and he and Gay were headed to the show on Friday night when the accident occurred. Rather than cancel the show the next night, these faithful youth honored their commitment as well as the memory of Bill and Gay by offering this timeless story of our faith in a God who is present even in the midst of tragedy.

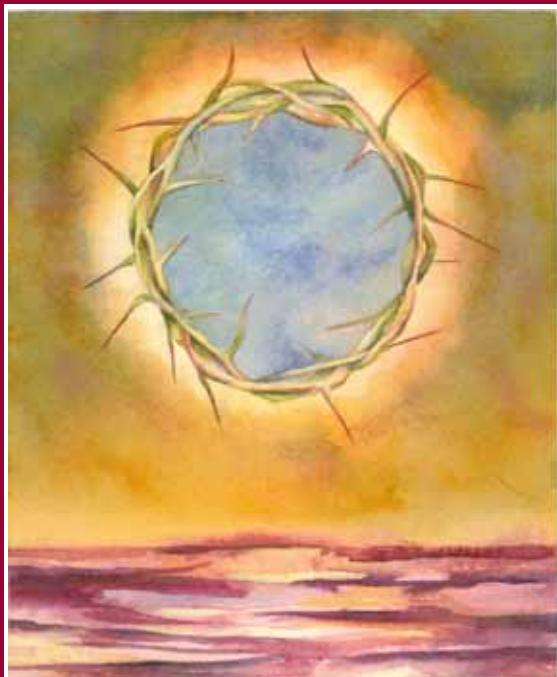
Then, just days after the tragic auto accident, another of our most beloved members, Marshall Neil, died. As I shared this news with the community, I heard voices crack in deep sadness as they remembered a friend who loved Central with a fierce passion and who was beloved by this community.

Over the past year, Marshall had been planning for and anticipating the 100th birthday party for Florrie Palmer. "Miss Palmer," as she is affectionately called by Marshall's family, was instrumental in providing a loving "second home" for Marshall and his sisters. On Sunday, March 15, we will celebrate Florrie's wonderful life with a party after worship and, then on Sunday, March 22, we will celebrate our hope in the resurrection and our joy in having been a part of Marshall's life with a memorial service after worship.

Typically, Lent is a season in which we reflect on the suffering love of Christ for the world. Lent came early to Central this year and with it came the words from Paul that mean more to me now than ever: "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."

May we continue to be the "body of Christ" to those who are here and even more, for those who are not yet here.

Grace and peace,



T aizé

Prayer S ervices

7:00 p.m. Tuesdays
During the month of
March & April 7
in Rand Chapel

Lenten Mid-Week Communion S ervices

12:15 p.m. Wednesdays
March 4 through April 1
in Rand Chapel

E gg Hunt

Saturday, March 28
9:30 a.m. at the Home of
the Knight Family



LENTEN DISCIPLINES



Way of the Cross

The new art exhibit in Tull Hall is the work of liturgical artist Kathrin Burleson. Each of the paintings, numbered from one to fourteen, represents a stop or "station" along the path Christ took from Maundy Thursday through Easter. With each is a scripture reading and a prayer. You may choose to use this exhibit as a Lenten discipline, moving through the series in order, and stopping to reflect and pray at each.

Carbon Fast

Care for Creation invites you to join a 40 day discipline to reduce your consumption and to rethink the way our lifestyles impact people living in poverty.

A Wing and a Prayer

A prayer discipline including folding origami cranes for the sanctuary peace crane mobile.

Meditation S pace

Quiet...prayer...self-guided meditation...reflection...
all ages...anytime ...COME!
Brotherhood Room.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

Daily Lenten Readings are available in a link on the e-Weekly, on the www.cpcatlanta.org website or in hardcopy available in the narthex.

Lenten Banners in Vestibule

The hangings in the vestibule are the work of liturgical artist Ellen Phillips, assisted by Ann Bryan, Berta Irwin, Joan Murchison, and Sandra McDonald. Special thanks to Lewis and Sheron Fabrics for their donation to this project. The texts will change each week to reflect the scripture of the day.

Late Spring, March 22—May 17 with a two week break April 5—12

Stories That Heal

This class looks beyond the hard scientific data supporting mind/body connections to explore the possibilities for spiritual growth when individuals must face a serious health condition or other difficult life situation. Reading stories from the book, "Kitchen Table Wisdom," by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D., the class will investigate the power of stories to heal our bodies, minds, and souls. Several of Central's physicians and mental health professionals will participate by sharing their experiences and providing a sounding board for the discussion.

Mary Amos, pastoral counselor and marriage and family therapist, will lead the class. Jean Ellen Jones, Convener. Keystone Class, Room G-4, Oglesby

Living What We Believe

The topics for our five week series start with Dust and Bullhorn and conclude with Name, Lump and Noise. Rob Bell, creator of the Nooma video series, presents in ten to twelve minutes ways to explore our world from the perspective of Jesus. He also presents a challenge for each person to carry beyond our time together. Why did Peter leave his fisherman job to follow Jesus? Why did walking on water not last for Peter? Other OT and NT scripture stories will be addressed also. Join us for all five classes if you can, it will be worth your time and effort.

Ed Carwile, Convener. Sojourners Class, Room G-10, Oglesby

Faith & Family Bible Study

Have you ever been in a discussion on a current topic with a friend, work colleague, or relative and wished you had a deeper knowledge of the Bible to support your values and beliefs? What does the Bible actually say regarding some of the more high profile topics around the dinner table or water cooler? Now is your chance to find out. Beth Johnson Paulsen will be leading Faith and Family through a Bible study to discover what is actually addressed (and in what context) for many subjects including, but not limited to: Role of Women in the Church, Caring for Creation, Homosexuality, Affluence and Wealth, War, and more. This is an opportunity to grow and learn in your Bible knowledge. Please come and join us for fun, fellowship, and learning.

Beth Johnson Paulsen, Leader: Kelly Bray, Convener, The Atrium, Ground floor, Oglesby

Continuing ...

Who (or What) Comes After the God of Metaphysics?

Text: The Religious, edited by John Caputo (Blackwell Readings in Continental Philosophy)

April-Mary will focus on Part II: Contemporary Essays with selections from among others Jean-Luc Marion, Richard Kearney, Walter Lowe, Charles Winquist, Merold Westphal, and John Milbank.

Presenters: Individual Class Members, John Huss, Convener. Issues in Theology Class, Room G-1, Oglesby

The New Christian Community and its Witness

Join us as we survey the New Testament looking through the lens of community. We will look at all 4 gospels as we re-discover the birth of the new Christian community that John the Baptist preached about and Jesus subsequently began.

Brenda Spruell, Convener. The class will use the New Standard Revised Bible as text and follow "The Present Word" Study Guide. Brotherhood/Study Class, Parlor, off Tull Hall.

Did You Know? Special Adult Class March 22 & 29



Dr. Carol Newsome, Professor, Candler School of Theology, will lead a special two week Adult class on Sundays, March 22 & 29 on the *Book of Job* in Oglesby G-10. A scholar of the wisdom literature, Dr. Newsome has published the monograph, "The Book of Job: A Contest of Moral Imaginations." Dr. Newsome has been a member of the international team of translators of the Dead Sea Scrolls since the mid 1980's, and was the first woman named to this team. Concerned with the ways in which women are portrayed in the Bible and the ways in which the Bible has come to be interpreted by women, she is co-editor with Sharon Rindge of the "Women's Bible Commentary," which has sold over 75,000 copies. Other regular adult classes will begin their late spring offerings at the same time. Persons who elect to attend these and others persons who miss Dr. Newsome's presentation may see a video link of it at our website www.cpcatlanta.org.

Young Adult Retreat

April 17-19
Lake Burton
A Time to Retreat,
Relate, and Release

Questions?
Contact Erika Rembert
404-601-3119

Or email:
erembert@cpcatlanta.org



Bookworms to Discuss 2005 Booker Prize Winning Novel

The March meeting of Bookworms will be held on the 24th at the home of Lynn Jones at 7:30 p.m. *The Sea* by Jon Banville, prized as an “elegiac, gorgeously written novel,” will be the topic. The reviewer is Marion Satterfield. For more information about Booker Prize winners, visit www.themanbookerprize.com.

The Bookworms group is for all Centralites and friends who love to read and talk about what they have read. They meet evenings, in members’ homes, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, September through May. Bookworms welcomes newcomers. Becoming a member of the group is easy: Simply show up at the next meeting, no formal registration required, no application form to battle.

Any questions about the Bookworms or directions to this month’s meeting? Contact Jean Ellen Jones.



Mission Trip Blogs

Keep up to date with our folks working in New Orleans <http://www.cpcnneworleans.blogspot.com/> and Mexico <http://cpctomerida.blogspot.com/>



OAC Saturday Service Days

Saturday Service Days offer an opportunity to participate in the work of the Central Outreach and Advocacy Center (OAC), interact with our guests and discover ways to get involved in ending the cycle of homelessness.

Saturday, March 28

Saturday, April 25

Saturday, June 13

9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Lunch served for volunteers and guests at 11:30 a.m.

Some of the activities (working side-by-side with guests) include:

- Making sandwiches
- Preparing snack bags
- Preparing personal hygiene kits
- Restocking the emergency food pantry
- Organizing household items donated for persons moving out of homelessness
- And more!

Service Includes Advocacy. Each Saturday, learn of a specific issue which is preventing a guest from finding a job or housing and how you can advocate on their behalf.

For more information, or to let us know which date you’ll be attending: email info@centraloutreachandadvocacy.org or call (404) 659-7119 and ask for extension 151.

Save the Date – March 20

Road Scholars on are on the Road again. We have seats reserved for us on March 20 for the Beltline Tour. The tour starts and ends at the Inman Park Marta Station. The tour starts at 9:15 a.m.; if you arrive early, stop by the home of Rudy & Linda Massengill (who live across the street from the MARTA station) any time after 8:30 to wait for the trolley and have a cup of coffee. The tour ends at 12:30 p.m.; we will go to lunch somewhere close by.



Gary and Caroline have reserved the first two seats. Please let Doris Beachy or Debbie Miller know if you are interested. For more information on the tour go to beltlinepartnership.org.



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

Offering of Letters for Bread for the World

The Issues and Advocacy Committee invites everyone to participate in an Offering of Letters for Bread for the World after worship this SUNDAY, MARCH 15. Please come during lunch to hand write a letter to each of your congress people, advocating for this year's Bread for the World campaign. The 2009 campaign urges Congress to rework our outdated U.S. foreign assistance policy to make it more effective in reducing poverty. We will have paper, pens, envelopes, and sample letters - we (and CONGRESS!) just need your personal, handwritten touch!

Questions? Email ewilmarth@cpcatlanta.org or go to www.bread.org.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

(updated March 10)

Members

Receiving Hospice Care: Ernest Arnold

Hospital: Ruth Windsor, Angela Long, and Alison Main

Ill or Recovering from Illness or Surgery: Glen Cornell, Henry Hill, Nancy Ireland, Caye Oglesby, Nancy Wilkes, and Jerry Veldhuis

Home-bound: Caroline Alexander

Family and Friends

Connie Bozeman, Marci Bozeman's mother; **Ann Brown**, Becca and Karen Brown's mother; **Murphy Davis**; **Gabrella Gaines**, Claudette Gallman's mother; **Earl Gribble**, Kristi Wooten's grandfather; **Martha Haythorn**, Mary Stoops and Trace Haythorn's daughter; **June Holman**, Barb Palmer's mother; **Eleanor Jones**, Diane Terry's sister; **Thad Kelly**, Caroline Kelly and Mary Sidney Harbert's father; **Abby Lewis**, Grits Skinner's friend; **Joan Lilley**, Robin Costa's mother; **Tamara Lopata**; **Bobby Meadows**, Esther Meadows' brother; **Lati Perez**, Maureen Thompson Hunt's niece; **Frank Prebble**, Paul Prebble's father; **Bill Skinner**, Brittain Skinner's father; and **Dick Smith**, Clif Smith's father, and Beth Gault's father-in-law

Serving in the Military

Robert Coker, friend of Emily and Jeff Hilimire; **Bryan Gerhardt**, friend of Ellen and Stephen Smith; **Tom Kelly**, friend of Bill Wilson; **Blake Leverett**, grandson of Frank and Sally Brown; **Erik Olson**, son of Chuck & Ann Veldhuis Olson and grandson of Jerry & Alice Veldhuis; **Connor Riley**, friend of Michael Richards; **Chaplain Jeff Ross**, friend of Central; and **Robert Starnes**, grandson of Betty Starnes

The congregation extends its deepest sympathy to **Sally Dobbins** in the death of her mother, Sue Dale Dobbins, on March 8.

The memorial service for Sue Dale Dobbins will be held at Central on Sunday, March 15, at 2:00 p.m. in Rand Chapel.

In Memoriam

The Reverend Marshall Neil

June 7, 1933—March 4, 2009

Blessed are those who die in the Lord from henceforth.

The memorial service for The Reverend Marshall Neil will be held at Central on Sunday, March 22, at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, followed by a reception in Tull Fellowship Hall.



Care for Creation

Soil is covered with nitrogen-based fertilizers that create algae blooms in our water and lead to dead zones in our oceans. Pesticides that contaminate our land also kill bees, butterflies, and other important insects.

Loving Creator,

You have created a miraculous world in which the lives of the tiny earthworm, the fierce lion, and the gently waving wheat are woven into a web of interdependence. Give us the knowledge to tread lightly so that all may enjoy the world you entrusted to us.

Women's Studies for March: "Stepping Out in Faith: Jews, Muslims, and Christians Together"

Women of all ages are invited to join us on Thursday, March 19th for conversation with Tayyibah Taylor (Editor-in-Chief and Publisher, Azizah Magazine), Joshua Lesser (Rabbi, Congregation Bet Haverim), and Caroline Kelly (Associate Pastor, Central), as they share stories of their friendship and faith. We will explore together how sharing friendships with people of different faiths impacts your own faith while supporting and/challenging your perspective. The gathering time is 7:00 p.m. for a potluck dinner before the program—at Carolyn Clarke's home. Contact Carolyn, Julie Boggs, or Cheryl Gosa for more information.



Central Presbyterian Church • PC(USA)
201 Washington Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-659-0274 - www.cpcatlanta.org



Congregational Meeting

The session has called a congregational meeting on Sunday, March 22, immediately following worship, for the purpose of electing 8 elders, one youth elder and 5 deacons to the Class of 2012. The Nominating Committee has published its recommended list of nominees with brief biographies as an insert to this week's issue.

***Central Presbyterian Church** is a community of disciples of Jesus Christ who come together in central Atlanta to worship, serve, and be nurtured by God. We come as to a wellspring, bringing our thirst and emptiness, only to discover that our cup is filled by the living Word Who sends us to be with those in need, and to call forth God's justice in a chaotic world. We live out the ongoing story of "The Church that Stayed," joining generations of Central members and others who share this vision to proclaim the Gospel.*