

April 19, 2009

2nd Sunday of Easter worship

Sermon

Catherine Neelly, preaching

Scripture

Acts 4:32- 35

John 20:19-33

Hymns

The Strife is O'er

You Have Put on Christ

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Music

Exuberance

by Margaret Tucker

Genesis Handbell Choir

Oh, How Good is Christ the Lord

arr. by Jeff Reeves

Bethlehem Choir; Melissa McNair, Director

Jubilee!

by Arnold Sherman

Genesis Handbell Choir

Come, We Who Love the Lord

by Carol Barnett

Chancel Choir

Carillon Sortie

by Henri Mulet

Michael Morgan, Organ

Flowers

Flowers in the Sanctuary on Sunday

are given in loving memory of

Bob Beachy and Bruce Beachy

by Doris Beachy

fellowship

Sunday Lunch Menu

Jumbo Stuffed Pasta Shells

Mediterranean Vegetable Blend

Caesar Salad

Tiramisu

centraltopics

But What Are We Learning?

Steve Bacon, Director, Lilly Residency Program

Eight months! Really, only that long.

Sometime a few weeks ago we crossed that line where memory blurs the pages of the calendar. Their voices are familiar, their smiles accustomed. It seems quite normal to see them in the sanctuary and in Tull Hall, in living rooms and beside hospital beds.

We've not quite taken them for granted, but they have woven themselves into the fabric of our congregational life so well that we know they really belong here.

Our resident pastors bring their experiences and giftedness along with the insight of a fresh look at the familiar as we plan and engage in ministry at Central. The worship during Holy Week was especially enriched by their participation.

On Sunday April 26th at 2:00 pm we will have the opportunity to participate with Catherine in an important milestone in transition into ministry. Some Centralites traveled to South Carolina and Pennsylvania to join with congregations and Presbyteries who knew Ericka and Emily as "candidates" to share with them in worship as they, "with prayer and the laying on of hands in ordination" were set apart for the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Catherine has chosen the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, the presbytery "of call," and Central as the congregation to gather in worship for her ordination.

But what are we learning? This, after all, is the question that defines the uniqueness of a residency program. The Lilly Foundation's generous grant involves us in an effort across denominational lines to engage with other congregations, seminaries, and pastoral supporting agencies to gather practical wisdom for the enrichment of the pastoral vocation.

We engage this question intentionally here at Central in seminars and personal conversations but also in moments of serendipitous insight. Our residency committee guides and encourages our learning.

Additionally, the Lilly Foundation gathers the resident pastors along with participants in other experiences of the Transition into Ministry program annually for several days of enrichment and debriefing mixed with good food and fellowship. Bi-annually they organize a similar experience for those of us who direct and coordinate these experiences.

Our resident pastors will travel to Indianapolis next month for their first Lilly gathering. Last month Gary and I made a similar trip which included insightful presentations and productive work groups. The Foundation shares the results of these meetings generally in articles and books and more specifically in a variety of forums with those engaged in the preparation of women and men for ministry.

But what are we learning? Specifics are far too numerous to mention here, but the most basic insight is that classroom preparation for ordination must be continued and complemented with careful attention to the practical wisdom of experience to achieve the fullness of God's calling to the ministry of Word and Sacrament.

Steve

Only 5 more weeks of church school.

NEW Adult and Children's Summer Programs coming soon!

Adult Education

Late Spring, Through May 17

Stories That Heal

Class will investigate the power of stories to heal our bodies, minds, and souls. Mary Amos, pastoral counselor and marriage and family therapist will lead class. Jean Ellen Jones, Convener. *Keystone Class, Room G-4, Oglesby Building*

Faith & Family Bible Study

Discussion of current topics. Beth Johnson Paulsen, Leader: Kelly Bray, Convener. *The Atrium, Ground floor, Oglesby Building*

Living What We Believe

Dust, Bullhorn, Lump are titles of Rob Bell's work. These *Nooma* videos challenge us to look from Jesus' perspective and carry this into today's world. Ed Carwile, Convener. *Sojourners Class, G10, Oglesby Building*

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

Part II—April-May
Contemporary Essays
Presenters: Individual Class Members, John Huss, Convener. *Issues in Theology Class, Room G-1, Oglesby Building*

The New Christian Community and Its Witness

Survey the New Testament looking through the lens of community. 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.*

Youth Fundraiser 2 Weeks to Invest in Youth Stock!

This summer, Central youth are going on a mission trip to the Iona Community in Scotland. The youth fundraiser is a stock sale and there are two remaining weeks to invest. Proceeds from the sale of stock will support the youth trip to Iona.

On April 19th and 26th, after worship, the youth will sell "Certificates of Stock" at \$25 a piece. Stockholders have the following guaranteed return on their investment:

- ♥ a handwritten letter and postcard from a youth while on their trip.
- ♥ an invitation to a dessert and coffee reception Sunday, August 23rd at 7:00pm in Tull Hall. During the stockholder reception, there will be a presentation from the participants about their trip to Iona.

Youth Stock has been rated a "strong buy" from previous investors. Read why you might consider a similar investment this year.

"Anne and I have enjoyed purchasing stock which doesn't go down in value. Being older members, we are particularly appreciative of this opportunity to connect in a small way with Central youth, since we were destined to join the church without our son and daughter having the opportunity to become part of this wonderful community as youth or children. Where we came from, the sorts of activities Central's youth can participate in, virtually as a matter of course, were both unknown and indeed unimaginable. How precious it is to support the future church today!" ~ John Huss

"I support the youth fundraising for mission trips because mission trips were fundamental points in my faith development. Over years of mission experiences, as I stepped out in faith to show God's love to others, I was more convinced about how much grace and love Jesus Christ has for me and how the Holy Spirit moves within the entire church community around the world.

"And, I love the kids. Since at this point in my life I'm not able to volunteer as youth group advisor, contributing to the mission trip is a way to stay actively involved. I look forward to all those postcards and letters from the kids on their trip!" ~ Kristin Ruby

Save the date!

Saturday, September 5 — Monday, September 7

2009 All-Church Retreat
Montreat, North Carolina

Reclaim, Reconnect, Recreate, Rejoice

Soul Food: Reclaiming the Psalms

Clint McCann, Jr.
Michael Morgan



Women's Studies Guest Speaker Moni Basu — April 16

All women of Central are urged to attend Women's Studies on Thursday, April 16, at the home of Linda Lehfeldt. Our guest speaker will be Moni Basu, who has worked as a reporter and editor at *The Atlanta Journal Constitution* for the past 18 years. She has reported extensively from her native India and visited Iraq seven times since 2002.

To enjoy a sample of Ms. Basu's perspective and insight about the war in Iraq, go to the archive of her columns about her trip to Iraq last year at

http://www.ajc.com/metro/content/shared-blogs/ajc/georgiansatwar/entries/moni_basu/

For 26 years, Central's Women's Studies group has provided an opportunity for all the women of Central to gather for fellowship, dinner, and programs on various topics of interest.

We meet at 7:00 pm for fellowship and enjoy dinner together before our program.

For information about the group or directions to the April location, contact Julie Boggs or Carolyn Clarke.

Imaginative "Brides for Indians" Story Will be the Talk of April Bookworms

One Thousand White Women by Jim Fergus combines very colorful white brides with late 19th century history of the American West for a convincing and entertaining read. The

bookworms will meet to discuss it all at 7:30 p.m. on April 28. Judy Kislak and Leslie Pope will host; Sherry Wright will be the discussion leader. For information about Bookworms or directions to the April meeting, contact Jean Ellen Jones.



BOOKWORMS

The Return of *A Wing and a Prayer* Origami Crane (Bird) Project

The congregation is invited to help make Origami Birds. Origami Bird Kits may be picked up in the main office or Music Suite, by Sunday, April 26.

Please watch *The Weekly* for additional announcements for *A Wing and a Prayer*.

For more information, please contact Dave VanderMeer at 404-601-3138 or dvandermeer@cpcatlanta.org.

Cancer Ministry Meeting Update

The Cancer Ministry will not meet during May. Please reserve Sunday, June 7, 6:00 p.m. for the "Celebration of Hope and Healing" Dinner in Tull Hall. An invitation will follow soon.

Sunday, May 3 following worship



In Our Thoughts and Prayers (updated April 7)

Members

Receiving Hospice Care: Ernest Arnold
Ill or Recovering from Illness or Surgery: Lee Ebeling; Henry Hill, Ella Nancy Ireland; Claire Pearson; David Porter; Nancy Wilkes; Ruth Windsor, Jerry Veldhuis

Home-bound: Willene Braun

Family and Friends

Jeff Chestnutt, Carolyn and Tom Thorsen's grandson; **Murphy Davis**; **Gabrella Gaines**, Claudette Gallman's mother; **Jack Groth**, Lisa Groth's father; **Eleanor Jones**, Diane Terry's sister; **Thad Kelly**, Caroline Kelly and Mary Sidney Harbert's father; **Abby Lewis**, Brittain "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 "Grits" Skinner's father

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

Robin Zamarripa in the death of her father, Robbins E. Dorsey

and to

Susan Hills in the death of her father, John Broom



Youth Sunday April 26

Is Your Pledge Up To Date?



Alternative Transportation Sunday April 26

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.