



# CENTRAL SCENES

May 2009

The monthly newsletter of Central Presbyterian Church of Athens, GA

## Special Interest

- **Communion**  
Sunday, May 3
- **New Member Dinner**  
Sunday, May 3
- **Graduate Recognition**  
Sunday, May 3
- **Mother's Day**  
Sunday, May 10
- **Congregational Meeting**  
Sunday, May 17
- **VBS Registration Ends**  
Friday, May 15



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Office Hours: Monday-Friday  
8:30am-12:30pm; 1-4:30pm.



## Vacation Bible School

June 1-5, 2009

9:30 am—12:30 pm

Ages 4 years—rising 6th grade

*Crocodile Dock, where fearless kids shine God's light!*

This Cajun/Bayou adventure will be buzzing with fun while we learn that God is with us, powerful, does what He says He'll do, gives us life, and cares for us. **Register by May 15**, either online at [www.athenscentralpres.org](http://www.athenscentralpres.org) or at the table in the gathering area. Friends and family always welcome!

Central collects the **Mother's Day Offering** on Sunday, May 10. This offering supports the Caring Hands Fund of the Georgia Presbyterian Homes. As a Christian ministry, Presbyterian Homes provide a life-long home to more than 1,000 seniors. In the 60 years of service, no resident has ever been asked to leave due to outliving their financial resources. People who have given to others — served their families, churches, and communities for decades — now find themselves in need. The Caring Hands Fund has traditionally provided a guarantee that health services will continue to the residents whose funds have been depleted. In 2009, approximately \$3.5 million will be needed to bridge the financial gap between the amount that Medicaid provides and the actual cost of high quality care. The Caring Hands Fund also provides food scholarships, wheel-chairs, dentures, hearing aids, and other special care needs. Join members of more than 200 Georgia Presbyterian congregations who contribute yearly to the Caring Hands Fund through the Mother's Day Offering.



**Graduate Recognition Sunday** is May 3, at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Central will recognize its high school and college graduates and present them with a small token of our congratulations.

**Cruisers** will have a road trip to Madison on Tuesday, May 19 for their last meeting of the spring. Lunch (\$6) will be at 11:30 am in Fellowship Hall. At 12:30 pm the church van will leave for Madison to visit the pottery studio. The potters will show us different clay-



forming methods (throwing on the wheel, hand-building, etc.). They'll show us the huge gas kiln in which they fire their products and have some finished products to show us (you can make your own pot if you want!). Van will leave the church at 12:30 p.m. and return by 4:30 p.m. Please come for lunch even if you do not want to travel to Madison. Plan to join us for fun, food, and fellowship. RSVP 706-549-9284.

**Member News**



- 1<sup>st</sup> Charlie Cook  
Laura Patterson  
Paula Pinkerton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Robert Baxley
- 5<sup>th</sup> James Fenner  
Jill Stanley
- 6<sup>th</sup> Drew Orey
- 7<sup>th</sup> June Cooley  
Norma Craddock  
Barbara Williams
- 9<sup>th</sup> Jerry Hayes
- 10<sup>th</sup> Becky Boyd  
Scott Norris
- 11<sup>th</sup> Sally McKenna
- 12<sup>th</sup> Gary Huff
- 13<sup>th</sup> Jensen Brink  
Tom Williams
- 14<sup>th</sup> Justin Coleman  
Brett Patterson
- 15<sup>th</sup> Edith Spann  
Sharon Thomas  
Paige Thomas
- 16<sup>th</sup> David Pinkerton
- 17<sup>th</sup> Grace DeVine  
Lib Dolvin
- 20<sup>th</sup> Sherry Anderson  
Basia Hayes
- 21<sup>st</sup> Carl Cartledge  
Geoff Poss  
Stuart Thomas
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Kelly Anderson
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Leon Farmer  
Pat Wilson
- 24<sup>th</sup> Lewis Frazar  
Jo Carol Nessel-Sale
- 25<sup>th</sup> Mozelle Goodwin
- 26<sup>th</sup> Claude Williams
- 28<sup>th</sup> Diane Hudgins
- 29<sup>th</sup> Xandra Baxter
- 30<sup>th</sup> Cailyn Bloodworth  
Nathan Peacock
- 31<sup>st</sup> Jacob Bachman  
Mary Fenner

If you **WANT** to receive your monthly newsletter by US mail, and you are not getting it that way **now**, please let Terry know. Hard copies are also available at the church.

**From the Pastor's Study**

Greetings,

People sometimes wonder what goes on at church during the week. They may even ask me, "What do you do all week?" While much of the activity in any congregation centers around Sunday morning worship and classes, there are a lot of other things churches do. At Central there is a great deal of activity going on at the moment. Some of our programs are beginning to wind down before the summer. Classes are finishing up. Children are finishing their grades and preparing to move to another class this fall. Summer plans are being made. The youth program (grades 6 – 12), for example, is planning a busy summer of activities.

The kitchen renovation team is finalizing its plans for our new kitchen. There is a team of people working on plans for updating and renovating the contemporary worship space. We will host the Interfaith families again in June. A new member dinner is in the works to welcome those who have recently joined. This newsletter contains a proposal from the Session about a deacons ministry here at Central. Pine straw has recently been spread on the church grounds. Plans are already underway for our fall Wednesday night classes. Recruitment of teachers for the fall is beginning. Your ongoing gifts support various ministries and service agencies around town. Each week we conduct worship designed to inspire, encourage, and lift up the soul. In other words, there is a lot of activity going on in this congregation!

If you wanted to describe what we hope to achieve as a congregation, you might use three words. The first is, "believing." We are a believing community. We gather around our common faith in Jesus Christ. This does not mean our faith is perfect or that we never doubt. It does mean however that we have become (or perhaps are still in process of becoming) convinced that Jesus is God's Son whom he sent into the world for our sakes. The second word is, "belonging." The church is the gathering of God's people. Together we belong to God and belong to the family of God. This gives us a sense of community and is vital. Everyone needs some place to belong. The church is a place where we belong, because we have been invited by God himself. The final word is, "becoming." We are all still in process. We believe that we have not yet arrived at all God wants. We still have a ways to go. We have not reached all of our God given potential.

All our church activity has a purpose. It is to help you believe, belong, and become. It is also to invite others into that same process. Thank you for being part of this endeavor, which is from God. Thank you for believing. Always know that you belong. By God's grace we are becoming more of what God wants us to be, individually and as a church.

Sincerely,  
**Bob**  
Bob Bohler

**Session News**

► Thank you to everyone who has pledged and/or given to our capital funds campaign for April 1 through December 31 of 2009. Here is where we are as of April 20 —  
Pledged for April 1 - December 31, 2009 - \$55,815.00  
Needed for April 1 - December 31, 2009 - \$78,750.00  
Monies received so far (April 1-20) - \$15,488.00

If you have not pledged and/or contributed, pledge cards are outside the worship areas or please indicate "capital funds" on your check.

► The Session has called a congregational meeting Sunday, May 17, at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary, for the purpose of acting on a recommendation from the Session to reinstitute the office of Deacon.

► The Membership Ministry of the Session will hold a new member dinner on Sunday, May 3, from 6-8 pm in the gathering area. Invitations have been mailed to the new members.

► Plans are proceeding with the renovation of the kitchen. This renovation is being done using monies donated specifically for this purpose. The renovation project will not exceed this amount. Studies are now underway by various engineering consultants to design the structural, electrical, and plumbing needs. These studies are necessary for the permit process that will enable the church to receive construction permits. The goal is to be ready to begin construction in the middle of June, following Vacation Bible School. Thank you to those who came to the presentations of the initial kitchen design. Your comments were helpful and many good ideas have been made a part of the kitchen plan.

**May Volunteers**

Early Service Prayers

- 3 Liz Scott
- 10 Jennifer Horton
- 17 Bruce Lonnee
- 24 Rick Lanard
- 31 Bob Urich

Late Service Lay Leaders

- Don De Maria
- Paige Cummings
- Robert Baxley
- Cathy Hodge
- Laura Patterson

Elders of the Week

- Doug Bailey, Chris Wilson
- Naomi Lupton, Chris Whatley
- Gary Huff, Wayne Peacock
- Joelle Dunham, Howard Guest III
- Lynn Bloodworth, Paige Cummings

Prayer of Invocation

- Doug Bailey
- Naomi Lupton
- Wayne Peacock
- Joelle Dunham
- Paige Cummings

Traditional Service Ushers

- 3 Ed Law, Duncan & Margaret McGilvray, Donna Wood
- 10 Lewis & Diane Hudgins, Laddie & Sarah Scott
- 17 Mac Fite, Lanse & Laura Patterson, Donna Wood
- 24 Wes & Regina Clonts, Paige Cummings, Mike Swanson
- 31 Steve & Jackie Shepstone, Stuart & Sharon Thomas

Contemporary Service Ushers

- David & Landon Clark
- Skip Trimpe
- Barb Laughlin
- Cathy Norman
- Lynn Bloodworth

Communion Servers

- Early: Chris Wilson
- Late: Doug Bailey, Peggy Bailey, Alan Coleman, Jeani Goodwin, Cathy Norman

Gathering Hosts

- 3 David Clarke
- 10 Mike & Dawn Kenney
- 17 Rick & Julie Lanard
- 24 Bruce & Gina Lonnee
- 31 Lanse & Laura Patterson

- Wayne & Kim Peacock
- Cecil & Bonnie Pinkerton
- Mike Swanson & Paige Cummings
- Stuart & Sharon Thomas
- Robbie & Sarah Bryan

Wee Kidz Helper

- Kristen Brooks
- Crockett Floyd
- Isabella Gallo
- Brady Szymanski
- Hannah Lupton

Nursery

- Martha Elmore
- Jackie Shepstone
- Eva Nelson
- Ashley Wells
- Georgiana Sumner

Chancel Flowers

- Beth Ellis
- Mike Swanson
- Brenda Poss
- Deb Williams

**May Calendar**

- Friday 1 Noon Day Kitchen @ 11:00 a.m.
- Sunday 3 Graduate Recognition (11 service) & Communion (both services)
- Sunday 3 New Member Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.— Gathering Area
- Monday 4 NAMI Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.— Room 106
- Tuesday 5 Knitting Group @ 1:30 p.m.— Room 218
- Wednesday 6 WOW @ 9:30 a.m.— Room 100
- Wednesday 6 Wonderful Wednesday @ 5:45 p.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Thursday 7 Bridge Club @ 1:30 p.m.— Room 218
- Friday 8 NMLB @ 6:50 a.m.— Room 100
- Friday 8 Relay for Life Walk @ 6:30 p.m.— UGA Women's Soccer Field
- Sunday 10 Mother's Day & Mother's Day Offering @ both services
- Monday 11 Presbyterian Women Birthday Lunch @ 11:30 a.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Wednesday 13 Wonderful Wednesday @ 5:45 p.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Thursday 14 Athens Newcomer's Meeting @ 9:00 a.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Thursday 14 Bridge Club @ 1:30 p.m.— Room 218
- Thursday 14 CASA Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.— Room 218
- Friday 15 NMLB @ 6:50 a.m.— Room 100
- Friday 15 VBS Registration Deadline
- Saturday 16 Reynolds/Farmer Wedding @ 2:00 p.m.
- Sunday 17 Called Congregational Meeting @ 10:30 a.m.— Sanctuary
- Sunday 17 Deadline for early bird registration for DeSoto Caverns trip (Middlers)
- Tuesday 19 Knitting Group @ 1:30 p.m.— Room 218
- Tuesday 19 Cruisers Lunch @ 12:00 p.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday 19 Athens/Oconee Junior Women's Club @ 6:30 p.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Saturday 23 Williams/Gulyas Wedding @ 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 20 Mending Ministry @ 2:00 p.m.— Grandview
- Thursday 21 Bridge Club @ 1:30 p.m.— Room 218
- Thursday 21 DAR Meeting @ 12:00 p.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Sunday 24 Family Night Covered Dish Dinner @ 6:00 p.m.— Fellowship Hall
- Monday 25 Office Closed for Memorial Day
- Tuesday 26 Knitting Group @ 1:30 p.m.— Room 218
- Thursday 28 Bridge Club @ 1:30 p.m.— Room 218

- School Closing Schedule — UGA Commencement Saturday, May 9
- Clarke County Wednesday, May 20
  - Athens Christian Thursday, May 21
  - Oconee County Friday, May 22
  - Athens Academy Friday, May 29

SUNDAYS

Contemporary Worship 8:40 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:40 a.m.  
Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Nursery 8:40 a.m. - noon  
Gathering 10:40 a.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Dinner 5:45-6:30 p.m.  
Kidz Club & Preteen Xtreme 6:15 p.m.  
Middlers Youth Group 6:30 p.m.  
Senior High Youth Group 6:30 p.m.  
Adult Studies 6:30 p.m.

MUSIC SCHEDULE

Praise Team	Tue @ 6:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir	Wed @ 7:30 p.m.
HandBell Choir	Tue @ 12:30 p.m.
	Wed @ 7:30 p.m.
Children's Choir	Sun @ 9:40 a.m.

## The Office of Deacon

Over the past several years, the Session has discussed the possibility of reinstating the office of deacon in our congregation. After a number of discussions about the duties and organization of deacons, the Session makes the following recommendation to the congregation. As the congregation is the group that elects officers in the Presbyterian Church, a congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, May 18, at 10:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The purpose is to hear the report of the Session and vote on its recommendation to reinstate the office of deacon at Central Presbyterian Church.

### A Recommendation from the Session about Reinstating the Office of Deacon

Until about 40 years ago, the majority of Presbyterian churches had both elders and deacons. Beginning in the 1970's, most Presbyterian Churches went to a "unicameral" system with only a Board of Elders. In the last 10 years, however, many congregations have been reinstating the Board of Deacons with the primary emphasis of the Deacons being on congregational care.

The word "deacon" comes from a Greek word that means "one who serves." The first deacons were elected in the book of Acts, chapter 6 so the apostles could devote themselves to prayer and the Word. They served the church in the areas of compassion, witness, and service. Among the first deacons were Stephen, the first martyr and Phillip the evangelist. Our Book of Order recognizes this need in the life of the church and says, "It is the duty of deacons, first of all, to minister to those who are in need, to the sick, to the friendless, and to any who may be in distress both within and beyond the community of faith."

The office of Deacon is specifically suited for those whose gifts are geared toward compassion and service - obviously very valuable and needed gifts in the life of a congregation. For this reason, our Book of Order envisions that deacons will serve primarily in ministries of compassion.

This proposal recommends that the office of deacon be reinstated within the life of Central Presbyterian Church. If approved, there will be an eventual total of fifteen deacons - five in each class with each class serving a total of three years each. They will organize their work around the areas of "compassion, witness, and service" (G-6.0401) with a focus on congregational care. They will elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary from within their own number. No less than once yearly or upon request they will give a report of their work to the Session. The pastor will serve as a resource to the deacons in their ministry. Deacons will be nominated to the congregation by the Officer Nominating Committee which also nominates elders. The number of deacons will be gradually increased from five in 2010, to 10 in 2011, to 15 in 2012.

### Recommendation

*The Session recommends to the congregation that it reinstate the office of deacon in the life of Central Presbyterian Church. The deacons will work in ministries of compassion, witness and service, with a focus on congregational care. There will be three classes of five deacons each and each class will serve for three years. The Officer Nominating Committee will nominate for congregational approval those persons who will serve as deacons. The Session will continue to give oversight to all the work of the church.*

## Gathering

**Mother's Day** is Sunday, May 10. Mothers will be specially recognized at both services.

**Presbyterian Women (PW)** invites all women to the Birthday Offering Luncheon on Monday, May 11, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The attendees are asked to bring a salad to share, but it is not required. The Birthday Offering is one of two offerings sponsored by Presbyterian Women. Started in 1922, this endeavor was the idea of Hallie Winsborough who was touched by the needs she saw among Japanese women during her tour of overseas mission stations. Upon her return to home, she encouraged Presbyterian women to give one penny for every year of age. (With inflation, we now encourage women to give \$1.00 for every year.) Since 1922, PW has contributed well over \$25 million dollars. Grant money is awarded each year. Past recipients include child care centers, hospital physical rehabilitation wards, women's shelters, economic development cooperatives, water purifying systems, health-care facilities and temporary housing for refugee families.

**Cruisers** is Tuesday, May 19 at 11:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Lunch is \$6. Program is lunch and a trip to Madison to visit a pottery studio. Van leaves the church at 12:30 p.m. and returns by 4:30 p.m. RSVP 706-549-9284.

**Family Night Supper** is Sunday, May 24 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. No need to RSVP - just bring a covered dish to share! Call Regina Clonts 706-769-3234 or Alan Coleman 706-543-8902 for information.

**The Knitting Group** meets every Tuesday at 1:30 pm in Room 218. Call Jill Clement 706-548-1232.

**Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner** is 5:45 - 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Adults \$5, children under 12 \$2, family maximum \$15, and to-go boxes \$4. Menus: May 6 - Buffalo's chicken penne pasta; May 13 - Pizza, salad.

**The Bridge Club** meets every Thursday at 1:30 pm in Room 218. Call Charlie Cook 706-549-9161.

**Bell Choir Mini-Concert & Potluck Dinner** is Wednesday, May 20, 6-7 pm. Bring a dish to share and come hear an encore of all the pieces we've rung this winter & spring. Choir will play great crowd pleasers like "Simple Gifts" and "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy". All are welcome! Jill Crandall will be here, too!

## Growing

### SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9:40am

**KIDZ ROCK**  
3 yrs.-PreK Room 200  
K-1<sup>st</sup> grade Room 201  
2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade Room 202

**PRETEEN XTREME**  
4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade Room 207

**JUST4YOUTH** *OT Characters & Character*  
Middlers (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) Room 106  
Sr. High (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) Room 105

**ADULTS**  
**The Bible Adventures Class** Room 100

*The Book of Acts*  
**The Discovery Class** Room 211

*The Life You've Always Wanted*  
**The Friendship Class** Room 216

*Can We Trust the Gospels?*  
**The Road Less Travelled Class** Room 218

*Views Along the Road*  
**The Simply Christian Class** Room 208

*The Sermon on the Mount*  
**The Sola Scripture Class** McDonald Parlor  
*The Smaller Books of the NT*

### WEDNESDAYS — Ends 5/13

**KIDZ CLUB @ 6:15pm**

**PRETEEN XTREME @ 6:15pm** Room 207

**JUST4YOUTH @ 6:30pm**  
Middlers (6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade) Room 106  
Sr. High (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) Room 105

**ADULT CLASSES @ 6:30pm**  
*A Study of the Gospel of John* Rm 100 Bob Bohler  
*Caring for Aging Parents* Rm 218 Charlie Cook

### BIBLE STUDY

**Women Of Wisdom** Wed, @ 9:30 am

**No Man Left Behind** Fri. @ 6:50 am

**Middle School** (rising 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders) trip to Desoto Caverns is June 28-29. This overnight retreat in Childersburg, AL will be a great experience for our middle youth — we strongly encourage all middlers to attend. Early bird (discounted) registration ends on May 15 - register using the form on the summer events brochure. For information, contact Rev. Deb Trimpe, (706) 549-9284 or [debtrimpe@bellsouth.net](mailto:debtrimpe@bellsouth.net).

**5<sup>TH</sup> Graders Parents' Meeting** is Sunday, May 3, 12:15 - 1:15pm, Lunch served. You'll have a middle school student living in your home in a few short weeks - come hear about our goals for youth ministry, philosophy of ministry and all the fun that awaits your middler in the youth program. Please RSVP to [tziemer@bellsouth.net](mailto:tziemer@bellsouth.net) by Wed, 4/29 for lunch reservations.

## Going

**The Noon Day Kitchen** is Friday, May 1 at 11am. Call Wes Clonts at 706-769-3234.

**The Mending Ministry** is Wednesday, May 20 at 2pm at Grandview. Call Melody Cartledge at 706-316-1818.

**The Food Basket** needs spaghetti sauce, pancake mixes, muffin mixes, instant mashed potatoes, hamburger/tuna helper.

"Bear ye one another's burdens."  
Galations 6:2

**The One Great Hour of Sharing** Offering netted \$1,276.00 for the PCUSA disaster and emergency relief programs.

**Casa de Amistad** will have a yard sale on Saturday, May 16 at 7 am at 1875 Commerce Rd. Suite E Athens. To donate items or for more information contact Jose E. Torres at [josetorres07@hotmail.com](mailto:josetorres07@hotmail.com) or 706-714-6351. Since 2004 Casa de Amistad has been providing social services, education, and advocacy to the Latino community. Through problem solving, translation and referrals, Casa connects this group to the larger community. Casa de Amistad is a part of the Northeast Georgia Presbytery's Hispanic Ministry.

**The 2009 Chancel Flower schedule** has many open dates, including all of June. Sign Up Sheet is on the Sanctuary Guild door. Complete a postcard and bring it to the church office when you sign up.