CENTRAL Chimes
Central Presbyterian Church
PETERSBURG, ILLINOIS

Hello Friends,

I'm thinking today about how much I appreciate our Sunday Morning Worship Services, right here at Central Presbyterian Church! We have had an extra special summer this year with all of you who signed up for Worship Enhancement. I want to say a special THANK YOU to Ethan and Ava Satorius for participating this year. It is such a blessing to our congregation as we see these two special young ones growing up, and we are excited for what God is and will continue to do in their lives!

As I already said, I really appreciate our Sacred Hour on Sunday Mornings. I want to thank all of you for your faithfulness to Holy Scripture in "not giving up meeting together, encouraging one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25) These moments that we spend together on the first day of the week are precious, powerful, and an essential part of our worship.

We gather together to thank God. This is the PRIMARY reason why we gather! God created us. God created us special. God created a Kingdom and a Family so that we would always belong. God created a covenant of grace and mercy so that we might experience forgiveness. God created a purpose so that we are motivated to get out of bed in the morning. There are so many reasons to give God our praise and glory and thanks. This is why we gather on Sunday Mornings.

There is another reason why we gather. Hopefully, our Sunday Services "recharge our batteries" for the coming week, so that we might better serve our Savior in our day-to-day walk. I know I need to re-focus on a regular basis, and our worship times help me to see WHAT and WHO is really important in my life. The music that we share helps us to re-attach to the priorities of The Disciple for the week, and the readings and reflections on Holy Scripture do the same. Holy Communion, shared on the First Sunday of the Month, allows us to strengthen our bond with each other and with Christ in a way that words cannot express.

This is not just a weekly habit for us, gathering together in the Name of Christ on Sundays, it's our Sacred Obligation and our Spiritual Sustenance.

Thanks Be to God, Amen!

Ryan Edgecombe, Pastor
Edgeness79@hotmail.com

Administration Committee News

Financial

- June financials show YTD income $4,642.90 above budget (not counting the $20K CD) and expenses were under budget by $815.89. Regardless of budget, our income is $23,230.17 below our expenses and is in line with our anticipated 2026 shortfall.
- The $20,000 CD has been included in Income starting this month and has not been transferred from Edward Jones as of yet which is why it appears that we are way under budget on Income.
- The checkbook balance, including Obligated Funds, is $24,962.09. (Obligated funds are $9,928.89 with the largest portion being the Scouts' monies at $6,337.06). The checkbook balance does not have two months' worth of expenses so we are transferring $5K from the Edward Jones MM account to the General Fund Checking Account. This transfer will be reflected in next month's financials. The Committee is monitoring this ongoing and will transfer additional monies as needed in $5K increments. There is $15,000 remaining in the MM account.

Building and Ongoing Projects

- Central hosted the Methodist youth during the week of July 13, with approximately 30 high school students staying with us.
- Mark Goeringer cleaned the carpets in the Fellowship Hall.
- The Memorial Committee is looking into having the southeast entry doors scraped and painted.
- The Committee is investigating recovering the stained-glass windows on the east side of the church building facing 8th Street.
- A new A/C unit was installed in the Office. This was paid through the Capital Purchases line on the budget.
- A new computer monitor has been installed in the Office.
- The Committee is researching automatic door openers for both of the public restrooms.

Submitted by Steven Territo, Chairperson

There are Children Going to Bed Hungry Tonight

Dr. Joe Pettigrew

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in."
Matthew 25:35

We often sit down to a warm meal without a second thought, surrounded by the comforting abundance of our daily lives. Yet, as the sun sets this evening, there is a heartbreaking reality we must gently acknowledge. There are children going to be hungry tonight. It is deeply painful to imagine a child going to sleep with an empty stomach, entirely unsure of when their next meal will arrive. This hidden struggle happens in distant countries, but it also happens right in our own local neighborhoods. When we allow ourselves to truly see this immense need, our natural response is often a heavy mix of profound sadness and quiet helplessness.

Jesus intimately understands the deep physical and spiritual needs of His people. During His earthly ministry, He never ignored the hungry crowds. He specifically calls us to be His hands and feet, actively sharing His boundless love with a hurting world. When we witness the painful reality of hunger, the Creator invites us to respond with immediate, tangible compassion. You do not have to solve the entire global crisis on your own. God simply asks you to faithfully use whatever

resources you have to bless the people He places on your path. By stepping out in genuine love, we transform our quiet prayers into powerful action.

Take a quiet moment today to reflect on how you can actively help feed those in desperate need. You might donate to a local food bank, pack an extra lunch for a struggling neighbor, or support a faithful relief ministry. As we nurture our spiritual growth together, let us build a deeply supportive community that refuses to look away from suffering. Ask the Holy Spirit to soften your heart and gently guide your hands. When we share our daily bread, we offer far more than just physical nourishment. We deliver the immense hope and steady comfort of Jesus Christ directly to those who need it most.

Quotation Station for August

(Quotes on "Laughter")

"Laughter is the closest thing to the grace of God." --Karth Barth

"Laughter is the most beautiful and beneficial therapy God ever granted humanity." --Chuck Swindoll

"You have as much laughter as you have faith." --Martin Luther

"The secret of life lies in laughter and humility." --G. K. Chesterton

"Joy and laughter are the gifts of living in the presence of God and trusting that tomorrow is not worth worrying about." --Henri Nouwen

"Humor is, in fact, a prelude to faith; and laughter is the beginning of prayer." --Reinhold Niebuhr

Monthly Riddles/Jokes (Dog Days of Summer—August)

Why did the dog stay out of the sun?
Answer: He didn't want to become a hot dog!

What did the dog say when he sat on sandpaper?
Answer: Ruff!

Where do dogs stay when they go camping?
Answer: In a pup-up tent!

What do you get when you cross a dog with a telephone?"
Answer: A Golden Receiver!

What's a dog with surround sound called?
Answer: A sub-woofer!

Presbytery of Great Rivers Newsletter

Presbytery of Great Rivers sends out, via email, a bi-monthly newsletter to anyone that subscribes to it. If interested, simply go to office@greatriverspby.org, click on "newsletter" option, and fill out the necessary information requested. You will also be given the choice of accessing previous issues.

Worship Enhancement

A special "Thank You!" to Bob Pinkston, the Ladies' Ensemble, and the Sangamon Valley Chord Company for their Worship Enhancement contributions during the month of July.

Come for Lunch!

Lunch with Ryan will resume on Wednesday, August 19 at 11:30 a.m. in Central's Fellowship Hall. All are invited to attend and asked to bring a dish to share.

Chancel Choir Begins a New Season

Central's Chancel Choir will begin practicing each Wednesday beginning again in late August/early September—watch Sunday bulletins for the first rehearsal date. They will provide Special Music on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of most months September through May. New members are always welcome! Contact Rich Ford with questions.

Giving from God's Gifts

As we approach our season for the 2027 Stewardship Drive, the Admin. Committee asks that each member prayerfully consider how you can contribute to Central Presbyterian—through gifts, talent, and time. It will take contributions from all to continue the work that our church has enjoyed through the years.

The following was written by Leslie Koh for June 15 this year in Our Daily Bread devotional. May it inspire you.

Stanley's generosity never ceased to amaze me. He often bought meals and gifts for elderly church members, cleaners in his neighborhood, or anyone who needed cheering up.

Equally amazing was that even though Stanley wasn't wealthy or savvy at investing, his small investment did impressively well, enabling him to keep giving. Whenever someone thanked him, he'd point upwards and smile, as if to say, "It came from God, not me." God, he often said, helped him to help others.

This was what Paul alluded to in 2 Corinthians 9 as he wrote about giving. Proud of the Corinthians' readiness to help fellow believers (v.2), he hoped to pick up a collection they had started (v.3). Imploring them to give generously and cheerfully, he noted that God would not only reward those who gave (vv.6-7) but also bless people so they could give even more (v.8).

God doesn't expect us to give what we're unable to give (8:12). Rather, He entrusts us with money, time, or talent to "abound in every good work" (9:8), and He supplies what we need so we "can be generous on every occasion" (v.11). That's why we can give in faith and with a cheerful heart (v.7), knowing that we give only from what we've been given. In the process, we bring praise to God's name (v.13).

Thanks for Giving!

Thank you to all those that donated your spare change to Kemmerer Village. A check in the amount of $50.00 is being sent to them from Central Presbyterian Church.

Thank You!

As your Administrative Assistant, I want to say "thank you" for the new computer monitor recently installed in the office as well as the new air conditioner unit. Both items are very much appreciated! Thanks to Dave Long and Steve Territo for their help in doing so. Joni Higginbotham

Chimes Deadline

Please have your articles and pictures for the **August 2026** ***Chimes*** submitted to the church office **no later than Friday, August 21!** A ***Microsoft Word file*** attached to an email is the preferred method of submission. **Please reference "Chimes article" in the subject line.** Please email the church with any suggestions as to what you may want to see in the ***Chimes***. Our email address is office@central-pres.org

Keep Connected!

Pastor Ryan Edgecombe is in the church on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you wish to make an appointment to visit with him, please call the church office at 217-632-2651. You may also call or text his cell phone: 217-972-4859.

Members are encouraged to continue to stay connected with the church family. If you have an emergency or are in need of assistance from Central, please contact:

Church Office, 217-632-2651, Tuesday & Wednesday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.,
Friday 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; or leave a message anytime
Pastor Ryan Edgecombe, 217-972-4859
Marilyn Montgomery, Deacon Chair, 217-341-5361
Jane Stephenson, Clerk of Session, 217-341-7599

Another option for keeping connected is through the use of the **Central Presbyterian Prayer Chain** on Facebook. Group prayer is so powerful. The congregation is encouraged to reach out with any prayer request—nothing is too trivial! The posts are seen only by group members. If you are a Facebook user but not yet a group member, look us up and join today!

Menard Caring Food Pantry / Diaper Bank

August is **"Boy Are We Hungry"** ***(Chef Boyardee canned goods)*** at the Food Pantry**.** Donations can be put in the basket in the Narthex.

Rather than purchasing items to donate, a monetary donation to the **Diaper Bank** is always accepted.

For questions or information regarding the **Menard Caring Food Pantry or Diaper Bank**, please contact Lindsay Wilken, Coordinator at 217-717-2551, or Anne Smith, Menard Caring Treasurer at 217-303-8968.

July Scenes from Central

Sweet Macaroni Salad

Taste of Home

Ingredients

1 Pkg. (16 oz.) elbow macaroni
4 medium carrots, shredded
1 large green pepper, chopped
1 medium red onion, chopped
2 cups mayonnaise
1 can (14 oz.) sweetened condensed Milk
1 cup cider vinegar
1/2 cup sugar
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper

Directions

1. Cook macaroni according to package directions. Drain and rinse in cold water; drain well.
2. In a large bowl, combine macaroni and vegetables. Whisk together remaining ingredients until smooth and sugar is dissolved; stir into macaroni mixture. Refrigerate, covered, overnight.
   Prep/Total Time: 20 minutes + chilling Yield: 16 servings)

Strawberry Pretzel Salad

Taste of Home

Ingredients

2 cups crushed pretzels (about 8 oz.)
3/4 cup butter, melted
3 tbsps. sugar

Filling:

2 cups whipped topping
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, soft
1 cup sugar

Topping:

2 pkgs. (3 oz. ea.) strawberry gelatin
2 cups boiling water
2 pkgs. (16 oz. ea.) frozen sweetened sliced strawberries, thawed
Optional: Additional whipped topping and pretzels.

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350^0. In a bowl, combine the pretzels, butter and sugar. Press into an ungreased 13x9 inch baking dish. Bake for 10 minutes. Cool on a wire rack.
2. For filling, in a small bowl, beat whipped topping, cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Spread over pretzel crust. Refrigerate until chilled.
3. For topping, dissolve gelatin in boiling water in a large bowl. Stir in sweetened strawberries; refrigerate until partially set. Carefully spoon over filling. Refrigerate until firm, 4-6 hours. Cut into squares. Serve with additional whipped topping and pretzels if desired.

Total Time/Prep: 30 minutes + chilling Yield: 16 Servings

Caprese Skewers

Taste of Home

Ingredients

24 grape tomatoes
12 cherry-size fresh mozzarella cheese balls
24 fresh basil leaves
2 tbsps. olive oil
2 tsps. balsamic vinegar
12 skewers

Directions

1. On each of 12 appetizer skewers, alternately thread 2 tomatoes, 1 cheese ball and 2 basil leaves.
2. Whisk olive oil and vinegar; drizzle over kabobs.

Total Time/Prep: 10 minutes Yield: 12 Kabobs

Happy Birthday!

Nonagenarian

August 27 Emma Lou Denton 522 W. Washington, Petersburg, IL 62675

Octogenarian

August 8 Jerry Tice 16756 Schirding Ave., Petersburg, IL 62675

August 1 Sue Wilson
August 10 Ellie Price
August 12 Jim Mies
August 13 Alice Studzinski
August 16 Marion Ring
August 23 August Wankel
August 26 Grady Winkelmann
August 26 Alyssa Canady
August 29 Linda Claussen
August 29 Gage Godbey
August 29 Marcy Newbold
August 30 Jackson Phillips

Happy Anniversary!

August 25 Dan & Jane Stephenson
August 28 Jim & Mary Mies

worship leader

	Usher/Greeter	*Liturgist*	*Communion Steward*
Sunday, August 2	Ben Kiningham	Beth Kiningham	Jane Stephenson
Sunday, August 9	Jane Stephenson	Dan Stephenson	
Sunday, August16	Camilla Long	Rhonda Plaeger	
Sunday, August 23	Julia Territo	Camilla Long	
Sunday August 30	Jim, Ethan, Ava Satorius	Linda Claussen	

If you cannot fulfill your duty as usher/greeter or liturgist, please find someone to take your place.

Also, let the church office know of the changes as soon as possible.

Worship Attendance

July 5	**21**	July 19	**26**
July 12	**30**	July 26	**27**

Average Worship Attendance: **26**

Members:

Will Carter
Rich Ford
June Gamage
Steve Hollis
Ben Kiningham
Orene Lynn
JoAnn Morris
Charles (Sandy) Sandberg
Ron & Susie Sanert
Jim Satorius
Judy Stahl
Lisa Willhite
Linda Williams

Friends of the Congregation:

Jim Allen (P. & M. Montgomery's cousin)
Tim Bellinger (R. Plaeger's nephew)
Clarice Blout (B. Satorius' grandmother)
Dale Blout (B. Satorius' father)
Judy Boutelle (Rev. Boutelle's wife)
Larry & Peggy Brandon (Pastor Ryan's friends)
Danny Coffey (J. Goeringer's brother)
Serge Davis
Terry Davis (Pastor Ryan's friend)
Barb Deihl (L. Williams' cousin)
Bill Dennis (Pastor Ryan's friend)
Gregg Denton (E. Denton's son)
Sandy Dierks
Pastor Ryan Edgecombe
Vicki Edgecombe (Pastor Ryan's mother)
Cheryl Esela (L. Claussen's sister)
Linda Ewing (D. & C. Long's friend)
Susan Gaither (L. Williams' friend)
Greg Grogan (C. Long's brother)
Liam Grogan (D. & C. Long's nephew)
Tyler Gurski (B. & A. Studzinski's grandson)
Marlene Hartsook (R. Ford's sister)
Lucien Hill (grandson to friend of M. Montgomery)
Angie Hodgson (C. Drake's sister)
Kristina Hutton & boys (D. & C. Long's daughter)
Baby Hayes Johnson
Karen Kelso (C. Godbey's sister-in-law)
David "Anthony" Long (D. & C. Long's son)
Kathy Long (D. & C. Long's sister-in-law)
Katie Niccolls (J. Koch's granddaughter)
Veronica Nunez (J. Higginbotham's great granddaughter)
Janice Perry (daughter of a friend of Pastor Ryan)
Jay Rebman (L. Claussen's friend)
Steve & Kim Rebbe (C. Ford's friend)
Abbey Reynolds (P. Reynolds' daughter)
Kathy Ruppel (M. Montgomery's friend)
Dawn Schafer (S. Schafer's daughter-in-law)
Harry Schirding
Co Shelton (J. Tice's friend)
Kay Siegrist (L. Williams' friend))
Jeff Smith (D. & C. Long's friend)
Nancy Swift (R. Pinkston's cousin)
John Territo (S. Territo's brother)
Randy Throckmorton (former CPC member)
Family of Rhonda Tippett
Gene Treseler
Blair Wallace (R. Rowe's daughter)
Family of Joan Weston (Pastor Ryan's friend)
Family of Carol White (J. Morris' friend)
Eric Wiant (D. & C. Long's friend)
Clara Willox (R. & C. Ford's granddaughter)
Caity Willox (R. & C. Ford's daughter)
Lauren Woodley (J. Satorius' friend J.D. Proehl's granddaughter)

Please pray for all we know who are homebound, residing in care facilities, undergoing surgery or medical treatment, serving in the military, or who are away from their family and friends.

In Our Communities and In Our World:

Our Country and our World
Peace between nation neighbors
Victims of gun violence/mass shootings
Our youth so that they may find Christ!
Displaced people in the world
Victims of sexual assault
Racial equality
Homeless Veterans

Please keep the church office informed of members or friends that need to be placed on or removed from our prayer list. Send an email to: office@central-pres.org or call the church office at: 217-632-2651 with updates.