



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NEWS AUGUST 2020

Guest Preacher

On August 9, I will be preaching for Old First Church of Newark and their pastor, Rev. Dr. Betty Tom, will be preaching for Central. And we will both attend coffee hour at Central after worship that day. We believe it is good for our congregations to hear a variety of voices in preaching.

Rev. Dr. Betty Jean Tom was born and raised in Indianapolis, Indiana. Rev. Tom professed a saving hope in Jesus Christ and was baptized at the age of 12 while growing up in the New Liberty Baptist Church. Rev. Tom grew up serving in the church in various capacities and believes that she was, "born to serve God". The benchmarks of Rev. Tom's ministry are her desire to advocate for those who have no voice, her love for prayer, praise and worship, and the study of God's Word. The scripture that best informs Rev. Tom's ministry is **Colossians 3:17, "and whatever you do in word or deed do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."**

Rev. Tom, formerly a teacher and school counselor in the Indianapolis Public School and Warren Township School districts for 22 years, holds a Doctor of Ministry from

McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL, (2013); a Masters of Divinity from Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, IN (2003); a Master of Science degree in Education from Butler University, Indianapolis, IN (1986); and a Bachelor of Science degree from Ball State University, Muncie, IN (1978). Rev. Tom has served churches in Indianapolis, New York and New Jersey (currently).

Rev. Tom is a lifelong learner, social justice advocate and spiritual leader. She is an active member of the National Association of Presbyterian Clergy Women, and serves on the advisory board for the Presbyterian Hunger Program. Rev. Tom has written articles, essays and devotionals for the Indianapolis Star Newspaper, Presbyterian Today magazine, PHP Post. She has conducted several seminars and workshops on women in ministry with an emphasis on ministry as a second vocation and mission oriented ministry.

Rev. Tom is a philanthropist, an avid football and basketball fan; she enjoys reading, writing, good jazz music, collecting books on prayer, water aerobics and swimming. Betty Tom is married to the Rev. Phil Tom and their blended family includes 6 children and a new grandson, Parker.

Peace be with you.

What's Inside for You?

- Scenes of Summer: Backyard Campout Photos
- Connect Montclair: Blood Drives Save Lives
- COVID Task Force at Work on Stage 2 Plans



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Faith & Community for Kids

Second Saturdays at Central: The Backyard Campout

Thanks to everyone who joined in on our *Backyard Campout* last month! Central families had fun making s'mores, putting up tents, and even had a "camptire" story via Zoom. Photos clockwise from bottom left: Miles Norton focuses on the story; Nina Moulongo hoists a lantern; Emily Osborne demonstrates the perfect s'more; Carolyn Buck's dog, Blue, and his tent; Joel and Sam Waisanen mastermind their fort; Sidney Moulongo "tests" the marshmallows; summer food on the grill.



The 123 Kids Steering Committee met July 19th. Minutes are available upon request. The next meeting is August 16th at 2pm via Zoom. We are beginning to plan for Season 4 of Second Saturdays. If you would like to join the steering committee, please email Lauren Waisanen at lauren@commupward.com.

Bulletin Board



Photos: The American Red Cross sets up a full room of equipment each month to support their blood drive. They have donor information screening cubicles, blood collection tables, and a donor recovery area.

Blood Drives a Success

Central resumed hosting our monthly

American Red Cross (ARC) blood drive in May. Since then, each of the appointment-only events has been fully booked.

This program is part of *Connect Montclair*, an initiative born from our New Beginnings church renewal process started in 2015. Thanks to the efforts of Lauren Waisanen, Community Coordinator, we initiated a relationship with ARC. When their Park Street facility closed in 2018, we became a natural local partner for hosting their ongoing blood drives.

We are honored to provide a space and opportunity for blood collection while taking every precaution necessary (along with the added protocols put in place by the Red Cross).

The next blood drive is **August 13th via SIGN UP ONLY**. The ARC will not accept Walk-Ins. **Call: 1-800-RED-CROSS to register.**

August Birthdays

10	Tom Goulder
11	Ernest Mitchell
18	Joel Waisanen
	Max Marone
24	Peter Dancy
27	Henry Eveleth
29	Brian Cattell
	Silas Hall
	Lilith Claire Marone
30	Elizabeth Burkland
31	Caroline Schestag

COVID-19 Update

Stage I Plan and Next Steps

Session has appointed a task force to create protocols for re-opening our church buildings. The task force is composed of Scott Osborne, Mark Johansen, Kim O'Hare, Frederick Moulongo, and Pastor Noble. They are studying reports by health professionals, state and local governments, and guidelines from the Presbytery of Newark. Session has approved Stage 1 protocols which address the present use of buildings by staff and tenants. Buildings are currently closed for church members. But the task force is now working on Stage 2 guidelines that may begin to bring the congregation together for worship and small group gatherings. When these guidelines are done and approved by Session and Presbytery, they will be shared with everyone.

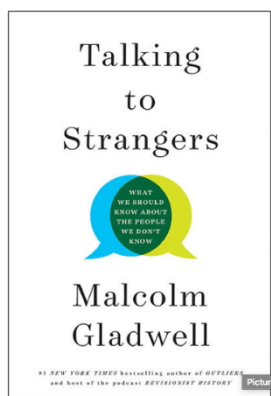
Continuing Education & Small Groups



Brief Meditation

Wednesdays, 12:15 pm via Zoom

This small group experience began in June and will continue throughout the summer. The class explores a variety of practices including contemplative prayer, body prayer, and Taize singing. Join Kara Johansen, Karen Noble and Pam Osborne who will lead us through 15-20 minutes each week of learning and experiencing a spiritual practice. Materials from past class sessions are now available via our church emails and website so that you may practice at your own pace and convenience.



Book Group – A Report

This summer, Christian Education said “yes” to us continuing the congregation’s conversation on race and equity in a book group on "Talking to Strangers" by Malcolm Gladwell. By hosting we hoped to provide some structure for a conversation that holds great meaning for us and is almost inescapable in our lives today. We are grateful to this community for coming together. The experience helped us feel seen and supported. But there’s more. We were moved to an unexpected degree by *how* people showed up. You were intimately earnest, courageous, and humble. For those who were not able to participate this time, we have seen here a commitment to eradicating the harmful impacts of racism and social injustice. We see members of our church body taking personal inventory, seeking new tools, and connecting with others in meaningful ways. We are heartened by you and proud to walk this walk of Christ with you. – *Frederick and Morgan Moulongo*

Treasurer’s Report

For the month of June 2020, Central Church collected \$17,025 in revenue (including transfers from investment funds and interest income of \$7,253) and paid \$36,245 in expenses. Therefore, the church received \$19,400 less in revenue than it paid out in expenses. The money in the checking account increased to \$28,970 from \$19,950 at the end of May 2020 due a transfer from an investment account of \$25,000. Pledge income is substantially off of budget as is the income from projected Church Use - rent from Park Street Academy and IHN. June 2020 expenses are about \$7,000 less than the amount budgeted. Donations from the Special Offerings collected in May were paid out to the recipients (HNFP, Toni’s Kitchen and OGHS).

The investment account balances are reflective of month-end June 2020 and have made gains over the past few months reclaiming much of the losses suffered in the beginning of the year.

Submitted by: Linda Bowers FinancialSense Bookkeeping

Cecil Mitchell, Treasurer; Ron Naspo, Assistant Treasurer; Pat Dancy, Assistant Treasurer

June 2020

[illegible]

AUGUST 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10:00 AM WORSHIP, Live Streamed via Facebook 11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Zoom 5:30 PM Youth Group, Zoom	3	4 7:30 PM Christian Ed. Committee meeting, Zoom	5 12:15 PM - 12:30 PM Brief Meditation, Zoom 7:30 PM Personnel Committee meeting, Zoom	6 SESSION REPORTS DUE 12:30 PM Hymn Time, FB	7	8
9 10:00 AM WORSHIP, Live Streamed via Facebook 11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Zoom	10	11 7:00 PM Session Meeting, Zoom	12 12:15 PM - 12:30 PM Brief Meditation, Zoom	13 12:30 PM Hymn Time with Ed Alstrom, FB 1:30 – 6:30 PM Red Cross Blood Drive	14	15
16 10:00 AM WORSHIP, Live Streamed via Facebook 11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Zoom 2:00 PM 123 Kids Steering Committee	17	18 8:00 PM Worship Committee meeting, Zoom	19 12:15 PM - 12:30 PM Brief Meditation, Zoom	20 12:30 PM Hymn Time, FB	21	22
23 10:00 AM WORSHIP, Live Streamed via Facebook 11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Zoom	24	25 7:30 PM Communication Spiritual Outreach, Zoom	26 12:15 PM - 12:30 PM Brief Meditation, Zoom 7:30 PM Deacons meet, Zoom	27 12:30 PM Hymn Time with Ed Alstrom, FB	28	29
30 10:00 AM WORSHIP, Live Streamed via Facebook 11:00 AM Coffee Hour, Zoom	31					



The Human Needs Food Pantry (HNFP) re-opened its doors to clients on a limited basis. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, however, the Pantry is not accepting food or clothing donations. Rather, the Pantry is accepting monetary donations. Central will be collecting money to donate to HNFP through August.

Please make a gift on our giving page at:

<https://app.easytithes.com/app/giving/centralmontclair> or send in your check to 46 Park Street, Montclair, 07042. *The Mission Committee thanks you!*



Thank you to our vocal soloists who are sharing their talent with us in our new way of producing Sunday's worship service. Here Valerie Spain sings on Sunday, July 12, 2020.



**CENTRAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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AUGUST 2020