

In The Centre

— Monthly Newsletter and Calendar



Centre Presbyterian Church, 83 New Park Rd., New Park, PA 17352
 Phone: 717-993-2345 Find us on the web: www.centrechurchpa.org

Pastor Don's Keyboard

Remembering...

This is one of the first photos I took at Centre Presbyterian Church in February 2018. I was struck by her beauty and somberness. I find this is a good place to live each day...embracing the beauty around us while we hold in our hearts the sorrows of our world. The two seem to keep us in a place of humble gratitude.

As we approach Memorial Day, let us again cherish those loved ones we so dearly miss. May the pain of separation and the hope we have in Christ for a glorious reunion, weave together to wrap us in the comfort of God.

Thank you for being that community of care and comfort in Christ for so many.

Gratefully Yours,
Pastor Don



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Wisdom for Each Day from God

Take time each day to connect with God

- **365 Promises of God - for May**
<https://www.365promises.com/may-devotionals.html>
- **Daily Bread** devotional <https://odb.org/>
- **D365** devotional <https://d365.org/>



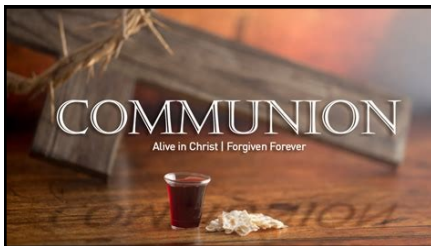
Worship



Preaching topics for May 2021

- May 2nd** — 5th Sunday of Easter, James 4, **Communion**
- May 9th** — 6th Sunday of Easter, James 5, Mother's Day
- May 16th** — 7th Sunday of Easter, Philippians 1
- May 23rd** — Pentecost, Acts 2
- May 30th** — Trinity Sunday, Philippians 2

Spring Communion—May 2nd



On Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 11am we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together in the Sanctuary of Centre Church and online.

Please set your table at home with the communion elements you wish to use. **Sealed communion juice/wafers cups** are available for pick up in our church garage (left side).

Login via: 1) Our Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/centrechurcpa/>

2) Zoom ONLINE: <https://zoom.us/j/426946488?pwd=MFVFO2Y0VjBLMTY4YjBLEtBpenp0UT09>

3) ON YOUR PHONE: Dial +1 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 426 946 488 Password: 280239

Monday Evening Bible Study

All are Welcome to: First Look Bible Study

This month: **James and Philipians**

Monday nights at 7pm

(no experience needed)

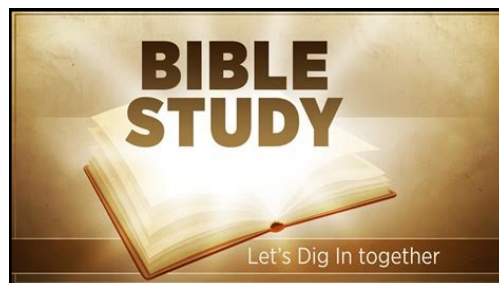
Schedule: Mondays, May 3, 10, 17, and 24

Join via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86828779296?pwd=Sm95dlhPSmxjTzBJckZ6SVlnZmRPQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 2877 9296 Passcode: 930546

OR – **Join by telephone:** 1 301 715 8592



Tuesday—Noon Prayer Meetings



1. Join Zoom Meeting from your computer or ipad:

<https://zoom.us/j/104976436>

OR

2. Call in at 1 929 205 6099, Meeting ID: 104 976 436

Everyone is welcome to this time of prayer.

Join us online or on your phone, wherever you are!

Thank You Note

Our family would like to thank our Centre family for the outpouring of love and support during Reed's battle with Covid and since his passing. Each card, phone call, and gesture was deeply appreciated.

We look forward to you joining us for his Celebration of Life service on Saturday, August 7, 2021.

Sincerely, Connie and family



Leading in Faith

Session Meeting Notes

During the April 20th Session meeting held via Zoom, the following items were covered:

- Members shared memories of Reed Anderson and prayed for peace for his family and friends.
- It was approved that two signatures will be required on Raymond James funds transactions.
- Pastor Don reported that he is scheduling ministers to fill the pulpit on Sundays in July and August.
- It was the consensus of the Session to not approve weddings or other services in the sanctuary through May, 2021. This will be reviewed on a month-to-month basis.
- Presbytery Stated Clerk, Rev. Dr. Michael Wilson addressed several concerns raised by the Pastoral Nominating Committee. Michael will provide information on the hiring of a Transitional Pastor.
- Preliminary plans for a Celebration Party honoring Pastor Don's time and work at Centre, were discussed and Sunday, June 27th, following worship, was set for that event.
- The Nominating Committee was charged with the selection of a member to fill the vacancy on the Session.

Trustees Update

1. On April 7, 2021, the project of raising all the railings on the church porch and new steps, from 36" to 42" was completed. Next a uniform building code inspector will come to determine if Centre is in compliance. All parts of the railing will be painted to match the original "almond" color as closely as possible.
2. At the Congregational Meeting on April 11th, the congregation approved the recommended plan from the Trustees to do a major upgrade to the interior of the manse. Also approved was the use of up to \$100,000 of funds in the Memorial Fund to pay for the upgrades. Bids have been reviewed and the Trustees have selected D&D Scarborough, Inc. of Stewartstown, PA, as the building contractor for this project. Work began on Friday, April 16th with the removal of the original equipment in both bathrooms.
3. The pine tree at the south end of the manse was removed as it was deemed too close to the house. This will allow more sunshine which will help keep the house warmer.
4. INSECTS—Jeff Fitch has treated the outside perimeter of the manse, the Education Building, and the church for ants and other insects. There had been a small swarm of flying ants inside the sanctuary. The termite problem discovered in the manse office will require a different treatment inside and outside.
5. The Trustees are planning a self-help project to upgrade the long handrails on the south side of the Education Building. They are rusty. There will be a lot of sanding before the fun part of painting can begin. This project will commence when the weather is warmer.



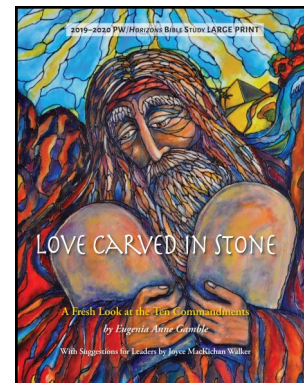
Women of Centre News

The next Women of Centre Circle meeting will be held virtually and in person (socially distant) on **Tuesday, May 4th at 7:00pm**. Using the guide, "Love Carved in Stone", our Bible study will focus on the commandment Thou Shalt Not Kill. The purpose is to understand the many faces of murder and how the beloved community is to honor life by refusing any and all death-dealing behaviors. The in-person meeting will be in the social hall of the education building. The links for Zoom and phone-in access are found below. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend either in person (socially distant) or remotely.

Join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86560466734>

Join via Telephone: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 865 6046 6734

****The Women of Centre Coordinating Team meeting will be held at 6:00pm on May 4th, prior to the Circle Meeting. It will also be virtual and in-person. All coordinators are encouraged to attend.**



Faith Formation

Vacation Bible School

June 21-25, 2021

6:00-8:15pm each evening

Includes: Bible stories, music, crafts, recreation, science projects, snacks and mission.

For ages pre-K thru 8th grade



As Knights of God, the kids will go on a quest in search of the King's Armor!!

Volunteers are needed for helpers in classes, crafts and refreshments. Senior high students in need of volunteer hours—we can help you get those!! Contact Betsy McPherson at 717-487-8072 or betz721@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer to help.



Outreach & Mission

Deacons Update

You did it!!! You donated enough food items to actually "STUFF THE SUV!!"

These items were delivered to Mason-Dixon Community Services for distribution to those in need in our area. Thank you so much for your generosity!!



"Many hands make light work!"
Thanks to everyone who helped "stuff the SUV" after church on April 25th!!



Blankets Plus Sunday News Flash!!!!
Thanks to all those who contributed! Centre collected a record **\$2000.00** to go to Church World Services Blankets Plus project!!! Please know that your donation makes a difference—in the USA and worldwide!!

Hands Across the Street Mission Opportunity

We will be serving at Hands Across the Street on **Saturday, May 8th, starting at 10am**. The plan is to help distribute food to those in need. We will meet at the location, 291 South 4th Street, Columbia PA. Please call or text Kristi Wilt at 717-578-8150 if you would like to serve or have any questions. This is an excellent opportunity for fellowship and outreach as we serve others in need.

Mission Spotlight - Dorothy and Gordon Gartrell, serving in Brazil



In 2015 we began serving a church in Governador Mangabeira, Bahia, just two hours west of Salvador, the capital where we had worked. At the first service we had five members present. Until the 1990's there were no local middle schools or high schools in the town, so the teen-agers went to Salvador, the state capital, to study and very few ever returned.

We worked on reaching out to young adults in the community. Family members of members joined the church and in time others joined. There was no "women's group," all adults fellowshiped together. The leaders developed leadership skills and before we left, they developed activities, reaching out to the church and community. We were active in the community, using our spiritual gifts to serve in a variety of ways.

Ways to Support Our Missionaries:
Pray & Write - See our bulletin board for information
Give - To our Benevolence Fund for our six missionaries
<https://centrechurchpa.org/> click on "Giving"

Thank you for your support over the years! You have enabled us to bring Christ to many lives. We will return to Brazil, as soon as it is healthy to do so to say good-bye and give away, sell, or bring back our things, so please continue to support us. May Lord bless each one of us.

In Christ, Gordon and Dorothy

Celebrations

Happy May Birthday!!



- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 1— Kristalyn Bohr | 16—Deklan Moore |
| 1— John Wilson | 19—Ernest Price |
| 2—Jason Harrison | 19—Christopher Rhein |
| 3—William Harrison | 19—Gloria Thompson |
| 6—Megan Rhein | 20—Angie Marsteller-Agee |
| 7—Hank Leighty | 22—Claire Wilson |
| 7—Ross McGinnis | 24—Marcia Scotten |
| 16—Susan Biller | 28—Bob Scarborough |

Happy May Anniversary!!

- 9—Mike & Dana Broadway
- 13—Dennis & Laura Walters
- 18—John Hope & Barbara Anderson
- 23—Jeff & June Stratmeyer
- 26—Rick & Terri Marsteller
- 29—Steve & Linda McElwain



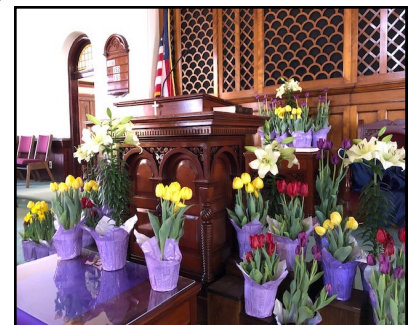
Easter at Centre



Where are those Easter eggs?



Bible Jeopardy— led by Betsy McPherson



Flowers beautified the sanctuary. Thank you Jamelyn Scott-Smith and Joyce Scott.

May Assignments

Trustee of the Month - Mike Linkous 410-382-9045

May 2021

“Centre is a Christ-centered, community focused, fully alive church that grows as it serves”.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9:45—Sunday School— 11:00— Spring Communion Worship Service in the Sanctuary and on line	3 7:00—First Look Online Bible Study	4 12:00—Prayer Meeting Online 6:00- WoC Coordinating Team Meeting 7:00—Women of Centre Circle Meeting	5	6	7	8 10:00—Hands Across the Street— Columbia, PA
9 9:00—VBS Team Meeting 9:45—Sunday School 11:00—Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Online	10 7:00—First Look Online Bible Study June Newsletter Items Due	11 12:00—Prayer Meeting Online 7:00—Trustees Meeting	12	13	14	15
16 9:45—Sunday School 11:00—Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Online	17 7:00—First Look Online Bible Study	18 12:00—Prayer Meeting Online 7:00—Session Meeting	19	20	21	22
23 9:45—Sunday School 11:00—Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Online	24 7:00—First Look Online Bible Study	25 12:00—Prayer Meeting Online	26	27	28	29
30 9:45—Sunday School 11:00—Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Online	31 MEMORIAL DAY					

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Centre Presbyterian Church

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Update on Pastoral Search Process

With the retirement of Pastor Don Hackett set to begin in July 2021, our pastoral search process has begun.

Here's what is happening now and in the future:

Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC)

1. Those elected to serve on the PNC include: **Elders – Donald Wilson, Mary Linkous, Deacon – Marg Graybeal, Trustee – Hugh Scott, Women of Centre – Jackie Smithson, Youth – Ian McPherson, Member at Large – Kristina Wilt.**
2. The PNC is preparing a Ministry Information Form (MIF) that will be approved by Session and the Donegal Presbytery Committee On Ministry (COM). Your member survey results are helping the PNC describe our church and what we desire in our new pastor. **If you have additional thoughts on what you would like to see in our next pastor, please share them with a PNC member ASAP.** This information about our church is provided to potential candidates.
3. Our Personnel Committee and Treasurer are preparing a financial review, pastor position description, pastor search budget, compensation package range, and other documents for Session and the Presbytery's Connecting our Ministries Commission (COM) review and approval.
4. The PNC will advertise the position, receive resumes, interview candidates, select a candidate for vote, and present the terms of call to Session for approval.
5. The candidate will meet with the Presbytery of Donegal's COM to discuss the fit between the candidate and Center and Examination Commission for membership in the presbytery.
6. The candidate will be introduced to the congregation in various ways.
7. A congregational meeting will be held to vote on whether or not to request that the Presbyter of Donegal install the candidate as Centre's next pastor.
8. The PNC will oversee the welcome and ongoing support of the approved candidate.

Please pray for our PNC and for wisdom as we discern our direction and leadership for the future.
