

The *Central* Idea

Central Presbyterian Church
"Celebrating God's Wildly Inclusive Love"



February 2010



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The deadline for each month's issue of *The Central Idea* is the 15th of the preceding month.
Please send your article to office@centralchurchky.org

The deadline for the March issue is February 15.

Mark's Remarks

Dear Friends,

This seems like a strange time of year when we trade the beads and revelry of Mardi Gras for the solemn, reflective mood of Lent. Sometimes, as in the televised New Orleans Mardi Gras celebration, the change seems so abrupt it is often hard to shift gears. We are left wondering what we will do with Lent--a season of reflection and repentance that falls between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week.

Long ago I read an article that suggested we use the season of Lent to remember that life is "lent" to us by God. Our life is a gift and we might use this sacred season to reflect on how we might better use this wonderful gift God has given us. Since Lent is connected with repentance, or changing our behavior, I would remind you of my favorite Frederick Buechner quote. He says: "*...true repentance spends less time looking at the past and saying 'I'm sorry,' than looking to the future and saying 'Wow!'*" (from "Wishful Thinking: A Theological ABC")

Repentance seen in that light gives us encouragement to seek God's help in looking forward and saying "Wow!" It gives us hope that we are work in progress as we wait for the Spirit to reveal to us who we are to become. This kind of reflection might encourage us to live the kind of life our Creator intended for us to live.

During this holy season of the church year, may we remember that life is a gift "lent" to us from our blessed Creator. Let's make the most of our lives this Lent!

Love and Peace,

Mark Baridon, Co-Pastor

Taize Evening Prayer in Lent

Join us on Thursday evenings from 8:00 p.m. until about 8:45 p.m. for evening prayer in Lent, February 18 through March 25 in the chapel. Invite a friend to join you for this quiet, contemplative service. Communion will be celebrated each week.

Thinking Out Loud

Rev. Ann Deibert

I am really looking forward to our Passion Summit on Saturday, February 27. I hope you've got it on your calendar and are planning to be there too. Why? I think we're on the edge of some significant shifts in our life together and I'm excited about that. Okay, I'm also a little nervous about it because you never know exactly where the Spirit will lead. But overall, I think this is going to be a great experience for all of us who attend.

The session has been talking for several months now about our need for a clearer focus in our life together. It's not that anything's gone wrong with our ministry as we're currently doing it together, but we've lost our leading edge.

Every community goes through this. Initially, there's a very clear direction that is exciting and meaningful and people are drawn to be part of the community because of that direction. Then that clear direction becomes more commonplace and even less distinctive and the community starts to get a little ho-hum about who they are and it's time to find that sense of clear direction again. That's what the Passion Summit is all about.

Here's the good news. The Passion Summit is not about writing a mission statement. We're not going to create a vision document or write a report about what we should be doing. We're going to talk about what is emerging in our own lives as a passion, find other people in our congregation who share that passion and then make some plans to live out that passion together. It's a six-month project and at the end of six months we'll see where we are.

Part of what I'm most excited about in the Passion Summit is finding out what you are passionate about; what God is calling you to do; what God wants to bring to life in your life and in our life together.

A lot of times a small group of people will get together and decide what the whole group of people will be passionate about. But the whole group might not be that interested in the small group's idea. The Passion Summit is time for you to say out loud what you are passionate about, what you sense God urging you to do and be at this time and place.

And the other thing I'm excited about? The more people who come to the Passion Summit, the more passion we'll discover! And the more we live from a place of passion (as opposed to obligation or "shoulds"), the more exciting it is to live and we discover the amazing things God's Spirit wants to do in and through us.

Chances are there will be a number of similar passions among us all (but it won't be all the same, I'm sure) and that will help us find the leading edge, the clear direction, in which God is calling us as a congregation. It won't be because we've come up with a statement about what God is doing at Central, it will be because we're engaged in doing what God invites us to do.

It could quite possibly be, that lots of what we're doing already is what people are passionate about and we'll bless that and know God's leading in that. It could also be that something new and brilliant, full of light (it's Epiphany, after all) and joy will emerge and we'll bless that too and know God's leading.

So, will you come be part of it? I'm looking forward to what we'll discover about one another and about God's Spirit in our midst.

Saturday, February 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided for \$7 (*Qdoba* taco bar). Ready to say yes? RSVP by calling the church office (587-6935) or send me an email (ann@centralchurchky.org).

If you'd like to be part of getting ready for the Passion Summit, let me know. There's some praying to do, some inviting people to do and some setting up tables and chairs to do.

Highlights of December Session Meeting

- * Rev. Jud Hendrix talked with us about the Passion Summit he will lead at Central on February 27, 2010. He has led this process at Covenant Community NCD twice a year for several years. The overall issue addressed is: What does God want to do with us as individuals and as a church?
- * The first non-member wedding has been scheduled in June 2010.
- * Preliminary Report on Pledges for 2010: \$207,980 has been received in pledges for 2010 from 71 pledging units. Calls will be made in January 2010 to those who have not yet pledged. The goal is \$247,269. Commitment Sunday was December 6, 2009.
- * Accepted the resignation of Joe Edmiston as treasurer, at his request. Ms. Susan Miller has been hired to be Central's treasurer. Ms. Miller comes to us highly recommended by the Director of the Peace Education Program, where she is employed as their treasurer.
- * Elected Ms. Susan Miller as treasurer, as required by the Book of Order.
- * Elder Sally Baker reported:
 1. B-Dry Company is working on waterproofing a wall in the basement (beginning in the blower room for the organ and continuing into the Community Room closet, a continuation of work they did in some Sunday School classrooms a few years ago.
 2. GuideOne Insurance Company has approved additional monies for cleaning the basement.
 3. We are awaiting a response from MSD (Metropolitan Sewer District) to two bids from plumbers submitted to them for flood abatement work in the basement.
- * Received the annual report on the church's Property and Liability Insurance coverage, as required by the *Book of Order*.
- * Received the annual report on the teachers and curriculum in the Christian Education Program, listing educational opportunities, curriculum and teachers, as required by the *Book of Order*.
- * To fulfill a requirement in the PCUSA process for Young Adult Volunteers, the session voted unanimously to recommend Elder Molly Atkinson as a suitable person for appointment to PCUSA mission service.
- * Rev. Ann Deibert noted she will be away March 8-15, 2010 to participate in Presbyterian CREDO offered by the Board of Pensions to randomly selected PCUSA pastors. The Mission Statement of CREDO: To provide opportunities for clergy to examine significant areas of their lives and to discern prayerfully the future direction of their vocation as they respond to God's call in a lifelong process of practice and transformation.
- * Elected Elders Myrtle Bingham, Joe Edmiston and Eileene MacFalls to serve as elder commissioners to the Saturday, February 20, 2010 presbytery meeting at 10:00 a.m. at Harvey Browne Memorial PC. Mr. Jack Mong, an affiliate member of Central, will be examined for ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Rev. Mark Baridon will be installed as moderator of the presbytery at the end of this meeting.
- * Removed inactive members and Clergy Friends as recommended by the pastors: Mr. Jared Baldrige, Ms. Erica Lyon and the Rev. Linda Reichenbecher.
- * Membership Report: 168 members; 5 affiliate members; 23 clergy friends =196
- * Average Worship Attendance Report: November 2009 = 138 (November 2008 = 135)

Eileene MacFalls, Clerk of Session

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Aidan Barnett	2
Courtney Hoekstra	2
Molly Atkinson	4
Carla Curry	4
Philomena Derenoncourt	5
Marty Spiegel	5
Diane Houghton	6
Troy Koch	9
Lisa Kolb	9
Rick Tabb	9



Joseph Smith	11
Ginny Copenhefer	13
Beth Olliges	16
Mary Isert	19
WS Walston	19
Joseph Brown	21
Mary Zimmer	21
George Edwards	24
Robb Gwaltney	25

Special Gifts(received since the January issue of *The Central Idea*)*** In honor of Central's staff**

* Eileen Blanton and John Nelson

*** For the Children and Youth Fund****In honor of Althea and Grayson Dryden**

* Frank and Reah Allen

*** For the Music and Arts Fund****In honor of the Chancel Choir and Central Orchestra**

* Guy Younce

*** For Help Ministries of Central Louisville**

* George and Jean Edwards

*** Special Gift - Undesignated**

* Reah Allen

The Special Gift envelopes are an ongoing opportunity for you to give to Central throughout the year. Our thanks to you for your generosity and thoughtfulness!

Eileene MacFalls, Clerk of Session

Non-Uppity Discussion Leaders Look at New Video Series in Faith Forum

During February, the Faith Forum class will be using the new DVD series "Uppity Women of the Bible." The series features Hebrew Bible professor Dr. Lisa Wolfe. Combining careful scholarship with humor and fresh insights, Dr. Wolfe presents just what we need for lively, thoughtful discussion of *Ruth*, *the Song of Songs*, *Judith*, and *Esther*.

Feb. 7—*Ruth*—led by Linda Bennett

Feb. 14—*Song of Songs*—led by Ginny Copenhefer

Feb. 21—*Esther*—led by Gillian Miller

Feb. 28—*Judith*—led by Donna Morton

The Faith Forum class meets in the "Forum" room adjoining the chapel at 9:30 every Sunday. Please come and invite a friend!

First Friday Friends — Friday, February 5

- * We will meet at the Baxter Theatre for food, fellowship, and films!
- * Please check the bulletin or watch for an e-mail announcement of when to meet and which film has been selected.
- * We will gather after the movie to eat and discuss!

Bring a friend or come alone and meet a friend!



Tired of paper? Want to Read the *Central Idea* On-line?

If you're ready to give up your mailed, paper copy of the monthly newsletter in favor of reading it each month on-line, email Reneitha Causey in the church office (office@centralchurchky.org) and let her know. We'll send you an email each month with the link to the current issue. You can also find past issues on our website: www.centralchurchky.org.

Worship with Covenant Community Church on February 7

Covenant Community Church (www.cccoflouisville.org) will join us for worship on Sunday, February 7. Their worship planning team and our staff and interns will plan the service together for that morning. Covenant Community is hearing God's call to engage the city more intentionally in their ministry. They are making connections with several congregations, including Central, that serve the neighborhoods in and around downtown. We will worship together and then share a potluck meal afterward for conversation about how our two congregations might partner together in ministry. Mark your calendar and bring a dish to share. It will certainly be a lively conversation.

Birthday Celebration!

George Edwards is turning 90! We are celebrating at Central on Sunday, Feb. 21. George's son, Pastor Riley Edwards will preach during the morning service. There will be a reception in honor of George after worship. Please come!

Join the Lunch Bunch for Brunch Sunday, February 21 (Third Sunday)

We meet after worship at *The Bristol*, 614 W. Main Street.

- * Buffet lunch with the food readily available
- * Cost is \$13.99, plus beverage, 10% senior discount for those over 60, and kids menus are available
- * Free parking on Sundays in the parking garage behind *The Bristol*, on 6th Street
- * Your guests and friends are welcome
- * Reservations are not necessary
- * Ask the host for the Central table.

Fair Trade Products

Fair Trade products will be on sale after worship on Sunday, February 7.

Along with coffee & tea, try the new Fair Trade snacks from American Farmers:

- Roasted Salted Pecans
- Organic Dried Cranberries
- Tamari Roasted Almonds

For information about the Presbyterian Coffee Project go to: www.pcusa.org/coffee

Rosalie Bush-Ryall





<u>Tue Feb 2</u>	<u>5:30pm – 8pm</u>	<u>AIM Boar Meeting - FR</u>
	<u>7pm – 8pm</u>	<u>Tuesday study group</u>
<u>Thu Feb 4</u>	<u>6:30pm – 8pm</u>	<u>Music Rehearsal for Taize - C</u>
<u>Fri Feb 5</u>	<u>7pm – 8pm</u>	<u>First Friday Friends - Baxter Theatres</u>
<u>Sat Feb 6</u>	<u>9am – 12pm</u>	<u>Sanctuary reserved</u>
<u>Sun Feb 7</u>	<u>8:45am</u>	<u>Orchestra Rehearsal - S</u>
	<u>9:15am</u>	<u>Choir Practice - ChR</u>
	<u>9:15am</u>	<u>Child Care for Infants to 5-Years-Old - LL</u>
	<u>9:30am</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>Coffee and Snacks - C</u>
	<u>11am</u>	<u>Worship - S</u>
	<u>12:30pm – 1:30pm</u>	<u>Fair Trade Sale - FR</u>
<u>Tue Feb 9</u>	<u>7pm – 8pm</u>	<u>Tuesday study group</u>
<u>Sat Feb 13</u>	<u>9am – 12pm</u>	<u>Sanctuary reserved</u>
	<u>2pm – 4pm</u>	<u>Friendship House - C</u>
<u>Sun Feb 14</u>		<u>Mardi Gras Sunday</u>
	<u>8:45am</u>	<u>Orchestra Rehearsal - S</u>
	<u>9:15am</u>	<u>Choir Practice - ChR</u>
	<u>9:15am – 12:15pm</u>	<u>Child Care for Infants to 5-Years-Old - LL</u>
	<u>9:30am</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>Coffee and Snacks - C</u>
	<u>11am</u>	<u>Worship - S</u>
<u>Mon Feb 15</u>	<u>6:30pm – 8:30pm</u>	<u>Music Rehearsal for Taize - C</u>
<u>Tue Feb 16</u>	<u>3pm – 9pm</u>	<u>Buddy Dinner - C</u>
	<u>7pm – 8pm</u>	<u>Tuesday study group</u>
<u>Wed Feb 17</u>		<u>Ash Wednesday</u>
	<u>6:30pm – 7:30pm</u>	<u>NA - HI - FR</u>
	<u>7pm – 8pm</u>	<u>Ash Wednesday Service - C</u>
<u>Thu Feb 18</u>	<u>6:30pm – 9pm</u>	<u>Taize Evening Prayer - C,FR,AR,L</u>
<u>Sat Feb 20</u>	<u>9am – 12pm</u>	<u>Sanctuary reserved</u>
	<u>12:30pm – 3:30pm</u>	<u>Urusuine Group - L</u>



Sun Feb 21	8:45am	Orchestra Rehearsal - S
	9:15am	Choir Practice - ChR
	9:15am	Child Care for Infants to 5-Years-Old - LL
	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Coffee and Snacks - C
	11am	Worship - S
	12:15pm – 2pm	Lunch Bunch - Bristol
	12:30pm – 1:30pm	Reception for George Edwards' 90th Birthday - C
	3pm – 7pm	Voices of Kentuckiana - C
Mon Feb 22	1pm – 9pm	Peace Education - FR, C
	6pm – 9pm	Session Meeting - FR
Tue Feb 23		Peace Education Workshop - FR, C
	7pm – 8pm	Tuesday study group
Wed Feb 24	8am – 5pm	Peace Education Workshop - FR, C
Thu Feb 25	6:30pm – 9pm	Taize Evening Prayer - C,FR,AR,L
Fri Feb 26		set-up for Passion Summit - C, FR
Sat Feb 27	9am – 12pm	Sanctuary reserved
	10am – 3pm	Passion Summit - C
Sun Feb 28	8:45am	Orchestra Rehearsal - S
	9:15am	Choir Practice - ChR
	9:15am	Child Care for Infants to 5-Years-Old - LL
	9:30am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Coffee and Snacks - C
	11am	Worship - S
	3pm – 7pm	Voices of Kentuckiana - C

Central Presbyterian Church

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Come to the Passion Summit

Saturday, February 27, 2010

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Lunch will be provided for \$7 (*Qdoba* taco bar)

Ready to say yes?

RSVP by calling the church office (587-6935)

or send an email to (ann@centralchurchky.org).

If you'd like to be part of getting ready for the Passion Summit, let Ann know.

There's some praying to do, some inviting people to do and some setting up tables and chairs to do.