

THE HERALD

**He is
Risen!**



Happy Easter Season

Happy Easter! By now, almost everyone knows the famous Easter greeting among Christians. One says, “He is Risen!” with another replying, “He is Risen indeed!”

We apologize for this newsletter arriving a little late, but because of the way Easter fell on our Calendars, we were left with two options: either include Easter photos in the May edition of the newsletter or delay our April issue by a few days and then allow all the Holy Week service photos to be contained in one edition.

However, truth be told, we are still in the Easter season and will be for the next month and a half. Here at Central, we typically follow the liturgical calendar, which means that the next 40 days are part of the Easter season, which then concludes with Ascension Sunday. This is the day we Christians observe as the time when Jesus returned or ascended into Heaven.

I’d like to close with a great Easter hymn which can be found in the United Methodist hymnal called “Easter People, Raise Your Voices,” and it’s sung to the melody of “Angels, From the Realms of Glory.” I especially want to call your attention to stanza Three which opens with the phrase “Everyday to us is Easter with it’s resurrection song.”

My hope and prayer for each of you is that you will live as “Easter people” sharing the good news of hope and love that is found in Christ Jesus.

Blessings to you,
BJ

*Easter people raise your voices
Sounds of heaven in earth should ring
Christ has brought us Heaven’s choices
Heavenly music let it ring
Alleluia. Alleluia.
Easter people let it sing.*

*Every day to us is Easter
With its resurrection song
When in trouble move the faster
to our God who rights the wrong.
Alleluia. Alleluia.
See the power of heavenly throngs.*

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*Central unconditionally
welcomes and affirms all
people to the journey of
faith in Jesus Christ.*

A look at our finances

Year to Date
(As of 3/31/24)

Receipts Received: \$74,103.84
Receipts Spent: \$93,022.33

You can donate to Central by visiting, www.centralbc.org and clicking on the [give now](#) link or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.



Gifts to Central

In Memory of:

**Mary Jane Moran
for the Music Ministry**

**From: Andy and
Malinda Rawls**

O God, our Father, at Easter time we remember the great hope of eternal life which you have set before us, and we feel within our hearts the longings for goodness and for you. Grant that nothing may hinder the hope of eternal life from coming true, and the desire for goodness and for you from being realized.

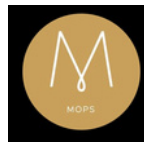
- From *Prayers for the Christian Year* by William Barclay

Announcements and Special Events



Food Pantry

Join us for our next food giveaway on Thursday, April 11 at 10am. We're looking for volunteers to help out – if you're interested, please give our church office a call.



MOPS Mothers of PreSchoolers

Our Mothers of PreSchoolers, MOPS, group will resume their twice-a-month gatherings, April 12 and 26, at 9:30am in the main building.

Pay It Forward Postponed



The “Pay It Forward” event has been postponed. We will announce a new date very soon.

Church Workday



The Buildings and Grounds Committee is planning a church-wide workday on Saturday, April 20, starting at 8am. There will be indoor and outdoor projects and volunteers are needed. A sign-up sheet will be available in the church lobby.

New Projectors for the Sanctuary

On February 5, the new projectors were installed in the sanctuary to enhance worship. Nick Burrows brought Jared Haynes, the media person from First Baptist, and the necessary scaffolding to reach the ceiling mounted projectors. Nick and Jared were assisted in the install by Tim Lauxman and Andy Rawls, who selected the projectors, BJ, who ordered the projectors, and Michael Flenniken and Sonny Gallman, who provided muscle and logistical support. The new units are twice as bright as the old ones and greatly improve sharpness. Thank you, team!"





Sonny's Sayings

This was a different Easter, it felt like that to me. Of course, every Easter is different in one way or another. But the world seems fraught. There is tension of an election year here in the US. The constant reality of gun violence. Then abroad, there is the war in Ukraine. The war in Gaza. The trouble in Haiti, in Sudan. Climate change. And then, within our faith family, we had several members who were in the hospital, and several who were convalescing at home. It just felt different.

Of course, many Easters have been fraught with change, war, disease, and other events: the Easters during the World Wars of the last century; Easters during plagues; Easters where communities were recovering from floods or natural disasters. The Church has trumpeted the message of Holy Week, of the crucifixion and the new life that comes after, through it all.

There are times when those trumpets have seemed empty to the suffering world, and sometimes to the believers who sound the trumpets. Times when we look around at the world and ask, "How can we sound the trumpet of resurrection in the middle of this (whatever 'this' may be)?" But the power of Easter comes when the Church claims the resurrection in precisely those moments, when all seems lost.

Remember that the women told the good news of the resurrection to disciples who were mired in guilt, anger, and devastation. The women told the good news to people whose lives seemed destroyed. And yet, their claims, and the disciples' experience, of the Risen Christ, spawned a courageous community that brought hope to the world. The words of those women were light spoken into darkness.

As we walk through Easter, we manifest that same light when we become that courageous community that brings hope and speaks the resurrection into a fraught world. I pray that this Easter, for you, will be a time of sounding the trumpets of God's good news in Jesus Christ. He is Risen, indeed!

Book Club Luncheon

Recently, the Women's Book Club enjoyed a luncheon at Stavros Pizza.



Easter Egg Hunt



Potpourri

by Elaine Hardy

April 4, National Greeting Card Day. No, I am not working for Hallmark, but it is a perfect day to drop a card to someone you have missed seeing in worship, to someone needing encouragement or just to say “Hello.”

CBF Florida Spring Celebration, May 4, 8:30 am -3:00 pm, FBC St. Petersburg.

As a church partner with CBF we are part of something great. This spring we celebrate our collaboration with four mission partners. The morning hours will be spent with Trina Harris-Touching Miami with Love; Rick and Ellen Burnette-Cultivate Abundance; Jason Coker-Together for Hope and Missy Ward Angalla-Amani Sasa. In the afternoon there will be a multicultural worship service featuring Francis Angalla. Registration ends April 26. Cost is \$15.

Stetson University, Spring Choir Concert, a part of the Spring Tour, April 18, 7:00 pm, Lee Chapel, DeLand. The select touring choir, under the direction of Dr. Timothy Peter, looks forward to making connections with musical communities, churches, and Stetson alumni. It is worth the drive.

National Coffee Cake Day is later this month. Who'da thunk it?! This one will be a family favorite.

French Applesauce Cake

- 1 pkg. yellow cake mix
- 1 pkg. (small) Jello French vanilla flavor instant pudding
- 4 eggs
- 1/3 c oil
- 1/3 c sour cream
- 1 c Motts applesauce
- 1 c chopped raisins

Blend all ingredients in a large mixing bowl. Beat 4 minutes at medium speed. Pour into a greased and floured Bundt pan. Bake at 350 for 50-55 minutes. Cool in pan 15 minutes. Remove and cool on rack. May be topped with confectioner's sugar glaze if desired.

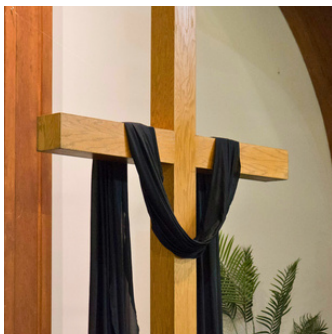
Holy Week Service Photos

Photos from our Palm Sunday service.



Holy Week Service Photos

Good Friday service.



Easter celebration!



Youth Update

Thanks to your generosity the Youth group raised over \$1200 from the Chili and Soup cookoff. Stay tuned for their next fundraising venture.

“The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad; The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God. From death to life eternal, From earth unto the sky, Our Christ hath brought us over With hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, That we may see aright! The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light; And, listening to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain, His own “All hail!” and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth her song begin! The world resound in triumph, And all that is therein; Let all things seen and unseen Their notes of gladness blend; for Christ the Lord hath risen, Our joy that hath no end.”

**What's Happening at Central?
April 2024**

- April 4 @ 10:00am Craft Class
- April 11 @ 10:00am Food Pantry
- April 12 @ 9:30am MOPS
- April 15 @ 4:00pm Deacons Meeting
- April 16 @ 5:00pm Stewardship Mtg.
- April 20 @ 8:00am Church Work Day
- April 26 @ 9:30am MOPS

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Weekly Events

Sundays

- Sunday School at 9:30am
- Sunday Worship at 11:00am
- Shine at 5:00pm
- Youth at 5:00pm

Tuesdays

- Bible Study via Zoom at 10:30am
Meeting ID: 3262313643
Password: 882551
- Women's Book Club at 12:30pm

Wednesday

- Lunch with the Pastor at 12:15pm
- Connections at 5:15pm

Thursdays

- The Chosen at 5:30pm

Servant Leadership

- Ministers.....All Members
- Senior Pastor.....Dr. Sonny Gallman
- Minister of Senior Adults and
Office Manager.....Rev. BJ Meyer
- Pianist.....Meg Pokorny
- Maintenance Supervisor.....Steve Lauxman
- Custodian.....Nicole Mott
- Bookkeeper.....Becky Price

Thank You Central Servants

On Sunday, March 10, Central honored Gail White for her years of faithful service to Central.

Gail faithfully assists BJ in the office and frequently covers for BJ when he is away visiting or in staff meetings. Gail also serves on the Senior Adult planning team, prepares the elements for Communion twice a month and assists with the preparation of the monthly newsletter mailing.

We are grateful to Gail for her hours of volunteering. Gail, we love you and appreciate all that you do for Central.



Every day to us is Easter with its resurrection song.



APRIL 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Birthday <i>Carolyn Schaeffer</i>	2	3	4	5	6
7 Birthdays <i>Skip Newton Kaija Peterson Darla Petty</i>	8 Birthday <i>Aiden Lauxman</i>	9	10	11	12	13
14 Birthday <i>Beverly Walton</i>	15 Birthdays <i>Kippi Dobbins Pam Hawk</i>	16	17 Birthday <i>Jim Ellinor</i>	18	19 Birthday <i>Joan Williams</i>	20
21	22	23 Birthday <i>Diana Allen</i>	24 Birthday <i>Mike Smith</i>	25	26 Birthday <i>Barbara Frase</i>	27 Birthdays <i>Nancy Flenniken Vann Arland Meadows Flo Mose</i>
28	29	30 Birthdays <i>Noah Burrows Terri Kendall</i>				