

Central Baptist Church of Westerly, 16 Elm Street, Westerly, RI 02891

THE GOOD WORD

Carrying News of God's Work into the Community and World
September 2026
Volume 19 Issue 9

**Worship With Us At
Central Baptist**



**Sept 6th - 9:30AM
Sept 13th back to 10:30AM**

Our services can be seen on
Facebook Live or on YouTube.
Access is always available
through our church website:
www.cbcwesterlyri.org

**NEED A RIDE
TO CHURCH?**



Call 401-596-4929
Call the church before
noon on Saturday.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Church Office: e-mail
centralbaptistchurch16@gmail.com

Telephone : [401] 596-4929

Newsletter submissions:
Suzanne Vanaman
e-mail: suzyv64@verizon.net

Pastor Cal Lord: e-mail
calstigers@gmail.com

Assoc. Pastor Enrique Newman:
e-mail
pastorenriquenewman@gmail.com

Website:
<http://www.cbcwesterlyri.org>

YouTube:
www.youtube.com/@CallLord

**KidPreneur Marketplace
Returned to Central on August 14th**



CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Cal Lord, Jr., Pastor
 Assoc. Pastor, Enrique Newman
 Lynn Johnson, Music Director
 Dorothy McClure, Administrator
 Deb Peterson, Custodian
 Sofia Scarano, Custodian

Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 1:00PM

**NEWSLETTER TEAM**

Dorothy McClure
 Suzanne Vanaman
 and
 A host of other contributors

**Newsletter
Deadline**

Articles for *The Good Word*,
 are due the
15th of the month.
 Please submit articles
 as a WORD document
 if possible.

e-mail all articles to:
Suzanne Vanaman

Suzyv64@verizon.net

**Sunday, September 13, 2026**

The day begins with an Adult Bible Study at 9:00 am led by Pastor Dave Jordan in the chapel. It is followed by our Back to Church Sunday worship where we launch the fall Educational program. The children will be front and center as we kick off a new year of Kids Church and welcome our families and all of our attendees to celebrate what god is planning to do here at Central this Fall.



Following worship and Kids Church, we will head out back for an All Church Barbecue. There will be burgers and dogs, cold drink and more. Bring picnic food to share. We will have tables and chairs set up. Invite friends and neighbors to join you. Let's kick off the season in style.

There will be a Bouncy House, croquet, corn hole games and fun for the whole family. If there is one Sunday that you want to be here, this is it. Let's rally together to celebrate what God is doing here at Central Baptist.

If you can, please RSVP to the church so we can plan at centralbaptistchurch16@gmail.com



September

CHURCH MEETINGS

September 1
 6:00PM Mission Board

September 14
 5:30PM Board of Christian Ed

September 21
 4:30PM Trustee Board
 6:30PM Deacon Board



September 5th - 8:00AM

Fellowship Hall

All men invited

Questions see Skip Terwilliger

Bibles to give away...

Do you know someone who needs a Bible? We have Bibles for all ages on the back table in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to take one and share it.

PASTOR CAL'S CORNER



Dear Friends,

The first time I sat down with Rev. Dr. Joshua McClure to talk, he pointed to a blank wall in the fellowship hall at Pleasant Street Baptist Church and said, "That's where I saw the vision for our church. It had God's handwriting all over it and it was clear as day."

Rev. McClure asked me, "If God gives you the vision, you can't ignore it?" For the next several decades, the church grew. It's ministry expanded into housing, a North End Neighborhood Watch, Ezekiel Ministries which provided food and financial assistance to those in need, a busing ministry and so much more.

Why am I telling you this? Although we have a strong ministry here today, it is no secret that we are an older congregation. Many of our ministries are focused on meeting the needs of those who call Central Baptist their church home. As I have been prone to do in my forty plus years of ministry, I took the opportunity to of my fifteenth anniversary as the pastor at Central Baptist last Spring, to begin searching for a vision for the next five year mission.

That's when I had a vision of the writing on the wall here at Central. It involved a concerted effort to reach out to the next generation. The vision stems from Isaiah 43:19 where God says,

"See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."



Pastor Enrique and I have been circling around the edges of this vision for a few years with things like Anchor Church. Last year we hoped to be more engaged with Central Baptist Nursery School. The Sister's in Christ made a valiant effort but it didn't take hold. Which brings us to the present. You will notice some new things happening.

First off, we are fully committed to working hand in hand with Central Baptist Nursery School. We are going to build on what the Sister's in Christ began. Here is where we will need your help. We will be

looking for volunteers to read the Bible stories to the children and help them learn a few Bible songs. We will be looking for people to make healthy snacks and to be available to chaperone field trips and help with crafts on enrichment days. There is a sign up sheet at church. Please add your name to our list of volunteer helpers.

Second, we are hosting "Grandparents Day on September 13. Invite your grandchildren to church. There will be gifts, special crafts during children's church and our big barbecue following worship. Then sign up to attend our Grandparenting Matters Seminars on Sunday nights in September and October. These seminars will give you hints on how to share the gospel message with your teens, and young children in a way that will foster their relationship to Jesus.

Third, if you know people who have young children tell them about our newly formed Mom's Club. Young parents need support, especially if they don't live close to family. Then consider being part of a team of helpers who can offer child care at the meetings so the mom's can have some me time.

Fourth, on Sunday mornings we are looking for our senior to volunteer to offer nursery care for toddlers and/or to assist in our Kids Church program. As a growing number of families with children start attending worship, we will need more help with both of these programs.

Reaching young families may seem challenging but these opportunities to serve may be the important pieces to the puzzle where you and I can help make what seems impossible, possible.

God bless! See you in church. Pastor Cal.



Faith & Life with Pastor Enrique



SEASONS

My favorite season of the year is summer. However, I must confess that I'm slowly moving towards enjoying fall more and more. Eventually, I believe it might overtake summer as my most enjoyable season.

Every season in your life is God-ordained. King Solomon wrote, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). Life won't always be the same. Learning to appreciate every moment we face takes gratefulness and trust in God. There have been three seasons in my life in which I felt alone, aimless, and in despair. One of them was a season of transition. I had just started a job that was extremely stressful and demanding. The number of

responsibilities I had was far greater than I could adequately express. It was a season of frustration. Have you been through a season of difficulty?

The life that we have been given comes with many unpredictable moments and situations. Some can debilitate us, some can reset us, and some can show us purpose. Scripture says, "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (James 1:2-4). There will be a season of trials. Learn to lean on God. Scripture also says, "He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers" (Psalm 1:3). There will be a season of growth, fruitfulness, and blessing. Learn to enjoy it and give glory to God.

Life and health are not guaranteed any given day. What is guaranteed is that there will be a season to experience everything. The highs and lows are part of our human experience. We do not choose the season. However, we can choose our perspective and approach to each season.

Question: How do you handle the different seasons in your life? What's your approach?

Application: Enjoy every season of your life. Enjoy it with God by your side, Jesus in your heart, and the Holy Spirit as your guide.

Blessings,

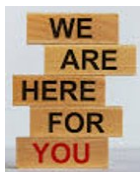
Pastor Enrique Newman, MDiv, MA
pastorenriquenewman@gmail.com

The Pastors are here for you...

If you are going into the hospital, would like a visit or would like to see one of the pastors, please call the church office (401) 596-4929 or you can also send an email:

Pastor Cal (calstigers@gmail.com) or

Pastoral Enrique (pastorenriquenewman@gmail.com).



Jonnycake Food Pantry Needs:

Condiments ~ Canned Meats ~
Side Dishes ~ Soup ~ Pasta ~
Coffee Crackers ~ Tea



Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.
Philippians 2:4 (NKJV)

We'll Celebrate Grandparents Day on September 13



Invite your grandchildren to church with you. Kids, invite your grandparents, your memes and papas, nanas and pop-pops to join you! An all church picnic will follow with good food, a bounce house and more. The fun begins at 10:30 am with worship and Kids Church. You won't want to miss it!

"Grandparenting Matters" Seminars Are Coming to Central in September

There is an old Egyptian proverb that states "*Dearer than our children are the children of our children.*" I've often heard from friends, "If I had known being a grandparent was so good, I would have had the grandkids first!" But what makes it so grand? Well for one, we get a 'do-over' and have learned a few things along the way not worth repeating. Purposeful grandparenting points and walks one's grandchildren toward Jesus, authentically, relationally and incarnationally modeling The Way, allowing them see in us faith, hope and love through the thick and thin of life!

Legacy Coalition *exists so that our grandchildren and their grandchildren will follow Christ!* Yet for many, grandparenting is not lived out as a God calling where grandparents intentionally see their biblical role and seek to fulfill it as disciple makers in the lives of their grandchildren. Therefore the Legacy Coalition's vision is to see *intentional* Christian grandparenting taking root and bearing fruit through the local church. This is one reason why we love and value you pastors!



In summary, being a grandparent is not just a good idea, it's a God-idea and He has spoken much to the matter, even though many of us, myself included, failed to catch it until recently! Grandchildren don't come with an instruction manual attached. We long to make an indelible impression on the lives of those whose photos we carry in our wallets and display on our refrigerators. It takes time, energy and wisdom to repurpose our roles as grandparents and pastors, learn new skills and gain new hearts and a vision for those who bear our names and are carriers of our blood and DNA.

Dr. Arthur Kornhaber put it this way: "*There are three times our lives are totally transformed by natural events without our having much to say about it: when we are born, when we die, and when we become grandparents.*"

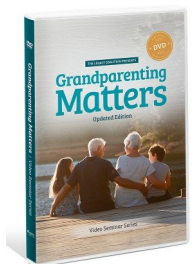
May God use you as parents, grandparents and pastors to see families, churches and nations totally transformed by *super*-natural events taking place in our homes, neighborhoods and parishes. And when that happens—may we have much to say and praise our God, the best and Grandest Father of all!

O God, you have helped me from my earliest childhood...And now that I am old and gray [or older and with dyed hair or no hair], don't forsake me. Give me time to tell this new generation (and their children) about all your mighty miracles. (Psalm 71)

THERE IS MORE TO PARENTING THAN RAISING CHILDREN; AND THE GREATER PURPOSE OF GRANDPARENTING IS TO POINT OUR GRANDCHILDREN TOWARD JESUS.

Coming in September...

Calling all grandparents! Do you want to know how to talk to your grandchildren on matters of faith? Join us on Sunday at 6:00pm for our Grandparenting Matters seminars beginning September 20th. You will learn how your influence matters and what the Bible says about your role. We will discuss how to overcome barriers and touch their hearts with the gospel message



Treasurer's Report

Regular Income	2026 Actual	July 2026 plan	Year to date	Year to date vs plan	2026 plan
Planned giving	\$16,207	\$21,558	\$169,867	\$155,963	\$267,400

Highlighting expense high and lows. Everything else is tracking according to plan.

Overages in Expenses 2026	Actual	2026 plan	Underspent in Expenses 2026	Actual	2026 plan
Building security	\$1,146.50	\$500.00	Building repairs	\$1,515.64	\$7,500.00
Snow removal	\$17,361.25	\$8,000.00	Lawn care	\$50.00	\$11,000.00
Intergenerational events	\$317.07	\$100.00	Pastors Cont. Ed	\$237.00	\$2,000.00
Pars. maintenance	\$18,488.96	\$7,000	Kids Church	\$56.00	\$1,000.00

We have tried to simplify our charts to reflect the impact that your faithful contributions are making in meeting our stewardship goals for the year and to highlight spending highs and lows. As you can see, although our giving was off a bit in July, but the generous donations and faithful support of Central Baptist members and friends over the course of the year have kept us on track to meet our goals.

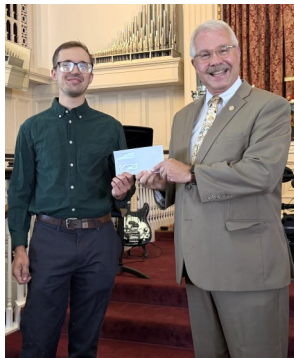
Here are some options for online giving:

- 1) Add CBC's address (16 Elm St., Westerly RI 02891) to your bank's Bill Payment site and schedule the bank to mail your check to the church. Add a memo if gift is for a special cause.
- 2) Text Giving is now available. Message the word "GIVE" to 401-414-4940 from your cellphone and easily send a donation.
- 3) Another option is to visit www.cbcwesterlyri.org. You can give either directly from your bank account or (for a higher fee) use a debit/credit card. The app uses the same security as banks, so your personal information is secure. Also, it allows you to schedule your donations in advance, so "once and it's done."



Central Baptist Scholarship Trust Fund

Established several decades ago, the Central Baptist Scholarship Trust funds college scholarships, summer camperships and lay conference grants. The scholarship trust was initiated when Robert Chamberlain was seeking way to honor his late wife, Barbara. From there the trust fund grew as thoughtful contributors added to it. One such person was Ruth Williams, who was a major supporter of this fund and gave sacrificially to substantially boost the trust fund. Today, we have just over \$300,000 in the fund. The interest is used to support the scholarship programs. We also receive a disbursement from a fund set up in the name of another former member, Elsie Jordan. Her annual donation helps support our youth ministry programs, as well as the scholarship program. Finally, the Sheffield Fund was established to assist those entering or continuing with professional ministry studies. Award winners in 2026 are Max Bertsch, Owen Murray, Raymond Payne, Enrique Newman, Na'vellah Njie & Kaitlyn Bryan.



Pictured above are Raymond Payne, Owen Murray, Pastor Enrique and Na'vellah Njie.

Why Attending Weekly Worship is Beneficial

Attending weekly church services is a practice that many people find deeply meaningful. It offers more than just a routine; it provides a space for spiritual growth, community connection, and personal reflection. Whether you are new to church or have been attending for years, understanding why weekly participation matters can enrich your experience and strengthen your faith.



The Role of Weekly Church Services in Spiritual Growth

Weekly church services serve as a cornerstone for spiritual development. They offer a dedicated time to step away from daily distractions and focus on faith. During these gatherings, individuals engage in worship, listen to sermons, and participate in prayers that nurture their relationship with God.

For example, sermons often provide practical lessons based on scripture that can be applied to everyday life. This consistent exposure to spiritual teachings helps believers deepen their understanding and live out their faith more authentically. Additionally, worship through music and communal prayer can uplift the spirit and create a sense of peace and purpose.

Regular attendance also encourages discipline in one's spiritual journey. Just as physical exercise strengthens the body, weekly church services strengthen the soul. This routine helps maintain a connection to faith even during challenging times.

One of the most valuable aspects of attending weekly church services is the opportunity to build and maintain a supportive community. Churches are more than places of worship; they are places where people come together to share life's joys and struggles.

Building Community Through Regular Attendance

Being part of a church community means having access to a network of individuals who offer encouragement, friendship, and support. This can be especially important during difficult seasons such as illness, loss, or personal challenges. Many churches organize small groups, volunteer opportunities, and social events that foster deeper connections among members.

For instance, joining a Bible study group or a volunteer team can create meaningful relationships that extend beyond Sunday services. These connections help individuals feel less isolated and more connected to a larger purpose.

Moreover, community involvement through the church can inspire acts of kindness and service, reinforcing the values taught during worship.

Practical Benefits of Regular Church Attendance

Beyond spiritual and community benefits, attending weekly church services offers several practical advantages. For many, it provides a structured way to start the week with intention and focus. The routine of attending church can improve time management and encourage a balanced lifestyle.

Additionally, church services often include opportunities for learning and personal development. Many churches offer classes on topics such as marriage, parenting, financial stewardship, and mental health. These resources can equip individuals with skills and knowledge that improve their daily lives.

Another practical benefit is the chance to engage in acts of service. Churches frequently organize outreach programs, charity drives, and mission trips. Participating in these activities allows members to make a positive impact in their communities and beyond.

Finally, weekly attendance can foster a sense of accountability. Being part of a faith community encourages us to live according to shared values and commitments, which can lead to healthier habits and stronger relationships.



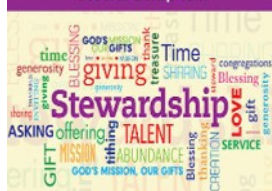
Come Join A Growing Church Community for All Seasons

Embrace the Journey and Come Join Us This Fall

Attending weekly church services is more than a habit - it is a journey of faith that nurtures the soul, builds community, and enriches life. Whether you seek spiritual growth, meaningful relationships, or practical support, regular church attendance offers a foundation for all these needs.

By prioritizing this weekly journey, you open yourself to the transformative power of worship and fellowship. Each service is an opportunity to renew your spirit, connect with others, and live out your beliefs in tangible ways.

Stewardship is...



STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Charging Forward in Stewardship

Stewardship is...



Rhinoceroses are remarkable creatures. Strong, sturdy and surprisingly fast, a rhino is built to protect. When it senses danger, especially near its herd or its young, it does not hesitate. It moves with focus, strength and purpose.

There may be a stewardship lesson for us in that.

God has entrusted each of us with gifts, time and resources to use for his kingdom. When opportunities come to serve, give, encourage or help, faithful stewards do not stand still and wait for someone else to go first. They respond with willing hearts and steady faith.

Stewardship is not passive. It calls us to move with purpose, give with conviction and serve with the strength God provides. May we be quick to answer God's call, bold in putting our faith into action and faithful in caring for the people and work God has placed before us.

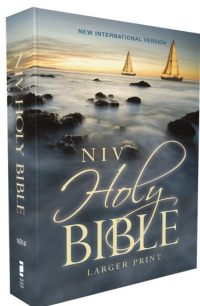
Top Ten Reasons to Join the Choir



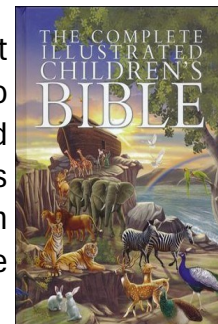
1. Friends! You will no longer be able to complain, "Church is so impersonal-- I don't know anyone there." You will make new friends in short order.
2. Psalm 100 will come to life for you as you make a joyful noise unto the Lord.
3. Intellectual stimulation - when you make music, you are using both sides of your brain simultaneously.
4. Serving the Lord - considering all He does for us, it's just a little giving back to Him.
5. Serving others - the congregation really loves it when the choir leads the singing.
6. Every once in a while, you might catch a glimpse of heaven's choir singing along with you. I'm not kidding.
7. You never know - your pastor and music director might decide to take the choir to Mel's Downtown Creamery for ice cream. It could happen. It's right down the street.
8. Choir parties - they're fun!
9. You will be setting a good example for all the children and teenagers.
10. Romance possibilities - that's how Pastor Cal and his wife, Lori, spent time together when they first started dating.

Choir rehearses every Wednesday at 5:30pm

Do You Need A Bible?



The Bible provides the foundation for our faith in God and a life that glorifies Him. It has been called "Life's Instruction Manual" given to us by our creator. That's why we are encouraging everyone to read through the Bible this year and working together to commit key verses to memory. If you need a Bible, we have one for you. We also have an assortment of Children's and Youth Bibles. Speak to one of the ushers on a Sunday morning. They will make sure you receive one.



Central Nursery School

Greetings,

Miss Leslie & Miss Tia are all rested up and ready to start the 2026-2027 CNS school year on September 14th. The doors will open at 8:30am to excitement and new faces ready to learn. After 10 out of our 11 preschool graduates tested "End of Kindergarten Year" last year we all look forward to having another successful academic school year.

On Friday August 28th CNS will have an Open House from 5:00pm-6:00pm. All students and their families are welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity for the children to meet all of their new friends, says "Hello" to their teachers and pick out their cubbies.

Blessings, Miss Dorothy

**Thank God for Teachers**

It is sometimes said that public school teachers do not teach values. Yet every day, countless teachers quietly model compassion, patience, integrity and kindness through the way they care for their students.

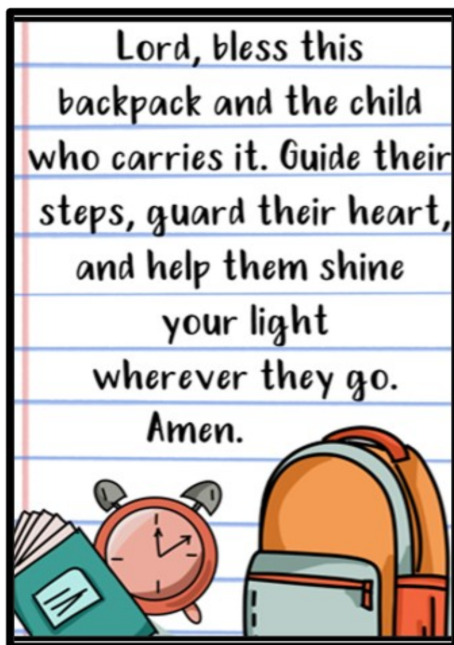
Many teachers go far beyond lesson plans and classrooms. They spend their own money on school supplies, workbooks, clothing, snacks and special needs for children who may otherwise go without. They encourage struggling students, celebrate small victories and offer steady support to children facing difficult circumstances at home.

Teachers also work with students from many different backgrounds and abilities. Some patiently help children learn English, while others devote extra time and care to students with learning, emotional or social challenges. In a world where many children face poverty, abuse, loneliness, neglect or uncertainty, a caring teacher can become a source of hope, stability and encouragement.

Many educators also serve faithfully in churches and communities, living out their faith through daily acts of love and service. Their influence often reaches far beyond what grades or test scores can measure.

As a church family, let us remember to pray for our CNS teachers, encourage them in their calling and thank God for the important difference they make in the lives of children every day.

**Thank you, Miss Leslie & Miss Tia,
for all that you do, seen and unseen.**





I have a great deal of respect for my dad who taught me at an early age that Sunday School (or Kids Church as we call it now) was important. From as far back as I can remember, all the way

through high school, I went to Sunday School. Even when I attended college, I continued to participate in Adult classes at Sunday School. My dad believed it was important for my younger brother and me to know Jesus, to understand the Bible, and to learn what it meant to be a Christian. I learned that church was a fun place to be and I made friends there. It would soon become a central and important part of my life.

I wonder what my life would have been like if I never went to Sunday School or if my dad didn't care about my spiritual growth and development. I'm sure it would have been different. What we learn at Kids Church is preparation for life. It equips us for our life's journey.

Read the letter of Jude! The point of the letter is clear. The world is filled with those whose goal is to teach us false truths that will undermine our core values. People will tell you that faith and values aren't important. But we know better. The Bible tells us so.

Kids Church at Central is the academy of faith. It is the place where our children learn to trust in God's love. This is the arena for teaching values to our kids that they can apply to healthy living, honesty, care for others and justice. Over and over again we teach our children to respect each other, to love their neighbors and to hold onto their faith even if they are picked on because of it. What they learn at Kids Church from the heroes of our faith; Abraham, Moses, Ruth, David and others, help build character and instill integrity into their lives. They will carry these gifts with them well into their life's journey.

So make it a point to bring your children and grandchildren to Kids Church when we start up again at 10:30 am Sunday, September 13. It is a gift that they will thank you for when they are older.

While you are at worship, they will be having fun, making friends and learning about the love of God.

Pastor Cal



S.A.L.T. Luncheons Return on September 23rd at Noon

Rhode Island seniors reported **\$22 million** in elder fraud losses to the FBI in 2025 with **581** victims aged 60 and older. Detective Howard Mills of our Westerly Police Department will share some details as well as how to protect ourselves.



****Sign-up on Bulletin Board.****

The Brothers in Christ men's ministry meet on the



last Monday of each month at 6:00 pm on the third floor of the Education wing of the building. We will meet in September on the 28th.

Newcomers and guests are always welcome as we continue to explore ways to encourage one another through this year's theme, "In God We Trust."

The Sisters in Christ women's ministry meets each month on the second Tuesday at 6:00 pm. Our next meeting will be September 9. Our topic will be "Joy" this month. We meet on the third floor of the educational wing at church.



All women are invited to participate in this wonderful fellowship opportunity. Are you looking for a place to get to know others? This is the place to be.

Schoolreaders
improving literacy • increasing life chances



We are looking for volunteers to come in once a week to read Bible stories to our Nursery School kids. We are also looking for additional helpers to chaperone field trips and help with crafts and enrichment days. This fall we want to engage our children and let them know we care about them and their families.



DEACON BOARD

God is our lifeline! However, sometimes we need an earthly lifeline. Fortunately, there are resources available. One resource is the medical alert system which provides seniors with 24/7 access to emergency help, fall detection, and peace of mind. This supports independent living both at home and on the go. Medical alert systems come in different shapes and sizes and are designed to connect seniors to trained emergency responders at the press of a button. They are well established and life savers for many. The Deacons' Fund has been used to provide this service in the past. We are very willing to cover this service again. The Deacons' Fund is always confidentially.

Please always pray for our pastors! - *Dear Holy Spirit, Today we pray for the fruit of the spirit in Pastor Cal's life—that love, joy, peace, and patience will guide; that kindness and goodness will be companions; that faithfulness will be the motto, and that gentleness and self-control will be evident to all. Help Cal to see each person today through Your eyes. And help them to see You in him. We love you, Lord, and we thank you for our pastor, in Jesus' name.*

John 13: 34-35 - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Order Your Memorial Garden Bricks today...

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Have you considered the benefits of Kids Church attendance for your child?

Here are 10 reasons to make it a priority in your family:

1. **Age Targeted Teaching:** Where else can your kids get Biblical instruction that's focused toward their developmental abilities
2. **Friends:** At KJids Church, your child will build positive friendships with their peers by discovering God's Word together.
3. **It's Fun:** Kidss Church! is not Disney Land, but our teachers do work hard to teach the Bible in ways that are relevant and fun for kids.
4. **Spiritual Mentors:** A dedicated teacher can be a Christian role model who supports you and helps inspire the faith of your child.
5. **Systematic Bible Learning:** Our curriculum is designed to give a broad foundation, so children will understand how all the parts of Scripture point to Christ.
6. **Praying Teachers:** Our teachers consistently pray for your child's faith to grow. Coming to Kids Church gives another occasion for God to answer those requests.
7. **Big Reward For A Small Investment:** If you're already coming to church, that time commitment will equal over 800 hours of additional Christian teaching before your child graduates.
8. **Send the Right Message:** Making Kids Church a priority shows your kids that God's Word really does matter.
9. **Adult Worship Time:** While the children enjoy their class, you can worship with other adults in church.
10. **You'll Be On Time:** Families who come to Kids Church always get to worship on time. It's the easiest way to avoid being late.



In The Spotlight

Spotlight on Pastor Enrique and Bridgid Newman.

Enrique and Bridgid Newman could not have come from more different backgrounds. Enrique was born in Boston but grew up in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. He is the son of a Honduran father and a Guatemalan mother with Jewish and Spanish heritage. Bridgid was born in Providence and grew up in Cranston, Rhode Island. She is a Rhode Islander through and through with Irish heritage. They met when they were both ready to get married and start a family. Their encounter was unusual at the time but has become very common today: online dating. They had both signed up for a dating website called Match.com. Enrique made the first move and invited Bridgid to meet for coffee and a walk. They made arrangements and met one afternoon in Providence. They walked to India Point Park, coffee and a smoothie in hand. They both enjoyed each other's company and did not want the date to end.

Enrique grew up in a Christian home. His dad was a missionary and pastor, and his mom was a stay-at-home mom. Tegucigalpa was the home base for the church-planting ministry to which God had called his dad. Enrique grew up with a younger sibling, Maritza, who now lives in Boston. He surrendered his life to Jesus at the age of 7 after hearing a church song about the omnipotence of God. It was there that his dad gave him his first Bible. Enrique always wanted to be a banker and grew up thinking about pursuing a career in finance. However, the Lord had other plans. After attending an undergraduate business program, Enrique surrendered his career to God. The turning point came when his mother, Silvia, died at the young age of 52. She had been married to his dad for 31 years and served faithfully as a missionary in Honduras for 23 years. However, God changed the direction of his life, leading him to embrace a calling to share the gospel and help people.

He served as a missionary in Honduras from 2007 to 2010, planting churches and supervising pastors. When he returned to the States, he spent nearly 10 years as a victim advocate, serving in the courthouse, assisting survivors of domestic violence, and helping families of felony crime victims navigate the parole board hearing process.

Bridgid grew up in a Catholic home. Her dad was the president of the unions in Rhode Island through the AFL-CIO, and her mom served as a Chief Nursing Officer for the Clinton Health Access Initiative. Bridgid grew up with two older siblings, a sister and a brother. She followed a completely different life path. She has dedicated her life to working for nonprofits that help underserved and underprivileged youth access education. Most recently, she has worked to help organizations secure funding for educational initiatives. A well-traveled woman, she enjoyed teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) in Japan, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Angola. She gave her life to Jesus at the age of 32.

As God brought their two lives together, Enrique took their relationship to the next level. After six months of courting and much prayer, he asked her dad for her hand in marriage. Enrique then invited Bridgid for a night walk at India Point Park in Providence. There, Enrique had set up candles in the shape of a heart. As Enrique walked Bridgid to the middle of the heart, Maritza, Enrique's sister, hid behind a tree and took pictures. Then Enrique proposed with the most beautiful engagement ring. Bridgid said, "Yes!" Six months later, they were married at the pier at India Point Park. This month, Enrique and Bridgid celebrate their tenth year of marriage. Their love for the Lord and commitment to each other have been blessed by God. Three beautiful girls later, Luna, Gia, and Danica stand as a testament to God's generosity and blessing in their lives. As a family, their goal is to impact their community with God's love, hope, and the message of Jesus' plan for salvation. Though their lives began with different cultural heritages, Enrique and Bridgid now share an even greater heritage: their heritage in the Lord and a legacy of faith they hope to pass on to their children and grandchildren.



Report from the Global Leadership Summit



Pastor Cal, Kathy Caval and Ed Lowe commuted to Norwood Baptist Church on August 6th and 7th to participate in the Global Leadership Summit that was

being simulcast from Chicago Illinois.

This conference presented a series of speakers to help participants identify the influence they've been given and define how to use it for good in their local church, their businesses and their community. More than a dozen speakers, including Craig Groeschel the founder of Life Church, Priscilla Shirer the cofounder of Going Beyond Ministries and Kelly Hoogstraten CEO of Wonder Project, described applying their own unique influence to build great organizations or further the growth of their ministry-outreach, themselves and/or their organization. The speakers also shared insights to promote making leadership growth a part of the culture in the local church in order to develop confident/equipped leaders, grow church engagement and momentum and to serve and reach their community in a tangible way for Jesus Christ.

The summit also allowed the three participants time for meeting and communicating with other local church leaders and discussing their application of influence in the local church.

Jonathan Harlowe from Norwood invited CBC parents and students to an Alpha on September 28th from 6-8pm. Participants will share a meal, watch a video and share questions/answers. Find out more about Alpha at <https://alphausa.org>

Senior Resources



We received a number of books that deal with issues of aging, memory, loss and financial planning for senior members. They are located on a table at the back of fellowship hall.

Feel free to take any that interest you.



Ladies ~ Safety First!

On behalf of Central Baptist Friendship Circle, the Westerly Police Department will present an informative seminar for all women and friends of Central Baptist Church on Thursday, September 3rd from 6pm-7pm. It will focus on practical ways to stay safe both in our community and online. This approximately one-hour presentation will provide valuable information, helpful safety tips, and resources to help you feel more confident and prepared in today's world. We encourage all women to attend this important and informative program. Refreshments will be served. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mark your Calendars!



Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, December 5 from 9am-1pm, we're looking forward to another wonderful day of fellowship, fun, and holiday shopping. Friendship Circle would love your help in making this year's bazaar a success! Volunteers are needed in a variety of areas, so if you have a little time to share, we'd be grateful for your helping hands. We kindly ask you for new items that don't work for your home but might make someone else happy. We are now accepting clean, quality donations for Grandma's Attic and Gently Used Christmas. Some of our most popular items from past years include outdoor décor and equipment, small appliances, linens, teacups and saucers, purses and bags, dishes, pitchers, and glassware. As you gather items to donate, please make sure they are clean and in good condition.

Your generous donations help make our bazaar a blessing to our church and community. Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and treasures. We look forward to celebrating the Christmas season together!

For info please see Cathy Burnside and Sarah Rofrano.



Read Through the Bible-Year 2

Monthly reading sheets are available in the church narthex.



Our Monthly Bible Memory Verse for September



"For We live by faith,
not by sight."
2 Corinthians 5:7





Library Corner & Library Room

The Library Corner bookcase is located in the back of Fellowship Hall.
New additions and suggested readings are available.

Please visit the complete Library Room down the Nursery School Hallway near Fellowship Hall.
There are many more titles and topics to catch your interest.
A sign-out sheet is available at both locations.
Why not read a library book to start the month.



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Soccer Skills Camp

Our Soccer Skills Camp was a great week of learning, growth, and fellowship, with 14 participants, ages 6 to 9, joining us this year. Our theme was "Work Ethic," and throughout the week, the kids learned new soccer skills while also discovering biblical principles they can apply both on and off the field as young athletes. They memorized Colossians 3:23, which reminded them to work wholeheartedly as they serve the Lord. Beyond the skills and lessons, the campers enjoyed building friendships and experiencing the camaraderie that comes from being part of a team. The week ended with a special World Cup Final celebration, where more than 40 people came out to support the kids and cheer them on. We are thankful for the opportunity to invest in these young athletes and look forward to what God will continue to do in their lives.



(Photo credit: Janet Gerbutavich) Thank you Janet



PERSECUTED CHURCH



Saudi Arabia - the Jesus Film

Sophia comes from a radical Muslim background but she had come to faith in Christ so had been disowned by her family. She had been threatened with death if she returned home but she heard that her eldest brother was terminally ill so she and a friend prayed about her visiting him. They felt at peace about it so she went to the hospital.

Her family were well known as religiously fervent and were from a large tribe that were vehemently opposed to Christianity, so when she entered her brother's hospital room and saw that there were many visitors, members of their tribe, she was taken aback but she ran past them to her brother's bedside. He lay quietly with his eyes closed, close to death. Sophia had brought a video player with the Jesus film loaded on it and she placed headphones on her brother's head. She didn't know if would hear it, but she had cued the video to the resurrection scene. In a low voice so no one could hear she told him "Listen and watch. This is Jesus, the healer who loves you and died on the cross for you. He has risen"

Somehow her brother opened his eyes and watched. Suddenly he came alive and spoke, "This is the one, He came to me and touched me. He has healed me, He has saved me"

All the tribal members present watched in disbelief.

Sophia's brother was released to his home and, under his protection, she witnessed to all her family and showed the Jesus movie. Her mother, sister and some other relatives came to the Lord.

This is an excerpt from a field report from the Jesus Film ministry that reaches countless thousands in restricted countries every year and reaps a harvest for the Kingdom where traditional means of preaching the gospel is severely restricted.

The Big Salad Cook-off

On Tuesday, August 11th, the Men's & Women's Ministries, Brothers in Christ and Sisters in Christ, met for the annual Crossover Ministry event. This annual cook-off is designed to foster community and connection between both ministries.

This year, the cook-off featured a salad-making competition, while last year's competition was chili. Both last year and this year, six contestants excitedly and enthusiastically prepared their specialty dishes to be judged. This year's salad cook-off competition winner was Jon Humphrey. We are grateful to everyone who participated. We look forward to next year's event.



Leadership Stories



Join us on Wednesday, September 2nd at 7:00 pm to hear a couple of leadership stories. They are interesting and offer real insights for church leaders as well as business owners. At the Leadership Summit last month, a few of us heard Julio Garcia talk about his rise from being a bus boy to the CEO of one of America's largest Restaurant Chains. He says "Leadership is not a privilege. It is a responsibility. It is a commitment to use your life to serve others. Julio says purpose is found in doing so.

Pastor and Auythor Andy Stanley said that great leaders ask great questions. Asking questions breeds curiosity and that is contagious. He says the first question is to ask yourself "What do we want to do that seems impossible right now? Then ask your core group, "Why not try something that might lead to the impossible being possible? Join us for an unforgettable 75 minutes!



Questions and Answers About Baptism & Church Membership

This Fall we are planning a service of believer's baptism for members of the Rodgers family, as they respond to Jesus' call. Whether you are new to Central Baptist or have been worshipping here for a while, some still have questions about baptism and church membership.

Q: What exactly is baptism?

A. Strictly speaking it is our response to the gracious invitation of God. It comes through Jesus. As we see his grace in our lives, we are called to respond in faith. The most natural means comes through our confession of faith where we are symbolically bury our old self in the baptismal waters and are raised up in the newness of life. That is why Baptist generally hold to two ideals concerning this act: That one should be a believer at the time of baptism and that baptism by total immersion is the most



meaningful form.

Q. Is baptism just for teenagers and children?

A. Definitely not! Actually the older you are the more meaningful it can be. Again, we call it "believer's baptism" and the only requirement is that you are old enough to make a profession of faith and a commitment to follow Jesus and live the Christian life.

Q. Does that mean I should be baptized again if I was baptized as an infant in another church?

A. Not necessarily. Although the theology surrounding our baptism differs between Baptist Christians and other church traditions, the important thing about baptism is the proclaiming and professing of one's faith. If you were baptized as an infant and claim that as an adult, most of our Baptist churches will recognize that baptism, although you might be asked to join the church by a "Confession of faith," especially if your former church cannot send a "letter of transfer."

Q. What is a "confession of

faith" and letter of transfer?"

A. There are three ways for a person to become a member of our Central Baptist Church.

- 1) Believer's baptism
- 2) A confession of faith
- 3) A letter of transfer

A "confession of faith" is a statement that you have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior. It often comes when your membership status in another church is unavailable for some reason.

A transfer of letter is obtained by asking our clerk to write to your former church requesting a letter stating you were previously a member there. Most Protestant churches recognize this and add their blessing.

Q. What do I need to do to be baptized and join the church?

A. Speak to the Pastors. One of them will make an appointment with you to discuss the benefits of being baptized and becoming a church member. You will receive some literature and a few follow up sessions to discuss it.

Elderly and Shut-In



Please remember our elderly and our shut-in members. It's always

nice to give them a call, ask if they need anything. You can also visit them or send a card. We are all Brothers and Sisters in Christ and should look after each other.

Deacon's Fellowship Fund

An offering is collected every month as we celebrate the Lord's Supper. We have funds in this Deacon's Fund available for those that are struggling to make ends meet. We can help with groceries, gasoline for your cars, home heating oil, and small home repairs. Speak to Pastor Cal, Pastor Enrique or Deacon Scott Gail if you have a need. Your request will be held in confidence.

We are here to help.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

JESUS,
keep me near the cross.



Sundays at 9:00 am - Led by Pastor David Jordan in the Chapel. The focus will be on the Minor Prophets and is titled, Men of God: Each with a Major Message! Come meet these prophets and learn about their prophecies. Class begins September 13.

Mondays at 10:00 am - Led by Pastor Cal Lord in the parlor. we will jump into Peter's two letters to the church to close out the spring study. Newcomers are always welcome! The coffee pot will be on. Come share the delights of reading scripture together... and a few snacks too! Class begins September 14.

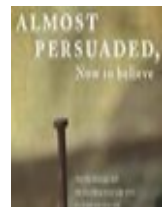
Mondays at 6:30 pm - Led by Pastor Enrique in the third floor classroom. This continuing study is designed to lead you into steady biblical growth as you walk through fifty commands of Jesus and learn to live them out. Guided by insights from John Piper's All That Jesus Commanded, you will be strengthened and supported in a continual journey of discipleship. This is a continuing study.

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm - Midweek worship & study led by Pastor Cal & Pastor Enrique. We are calling it "Journey 365" and we will be exploring the Apostle Paul's Pastoral Epistles (1 & 2 Timothy and Titus) as the focus of our midweek worship services this fall. We will start with singing and praise and then launch into our study. Worship returns September 16.

Thursdays at 10:00 am - Led by Geri Maloney. We will be discussing the word "Fortitude" and how to apply it in our lives. We will be looking at some examples of people in the bible that had fortitude and what they accomplished with it. Come and be fortified with strength and encouragement in order to face your challenges. This 4 week class begins September 3 thru 24th.

Thursdays at 6:30 pm - Led by Jon Humphrey and Phil Bryan. This men's study will be continuing this fall in its exploration of the gospel of Matthew. You can learn something new every week. Come weekly or drop in when your schedule allows. Every week is a new subject.

4th Saturday each month at 10:00 am - Spend an hour with Scott Gail and friends talking about the basic aspects of our faith. This study meets the last Saturday of every month in the church parlor and is using Rev. Joshua McClure's book, Almost Persuaded, as a guide. Call Scott at (401) 374-1435 with questions.



Ladies! Attend Living Proof Live with Beth Moore

You'll find space to rest, laugh and connect with women from all seasons of life at a gathering in Swansea, MA.

The dates are October 24 & 25.

The cost is \$95.



Scholarships are available.

"IF YOU CANNOT
FIND PEACE
WITHIN
YOURSELF,
YOU WILL
NEVER FIND IT
ANYWHERE
ELSE."

Pick up A Card!

If you're thinking about someone, reach out to them. Anita Greene has set up a table in Fellowship Hall. Choose a card and send it to them with a greeting. You never know what someone is going through. It's always a blessing when someone knows you are thinking about them or praying for them.



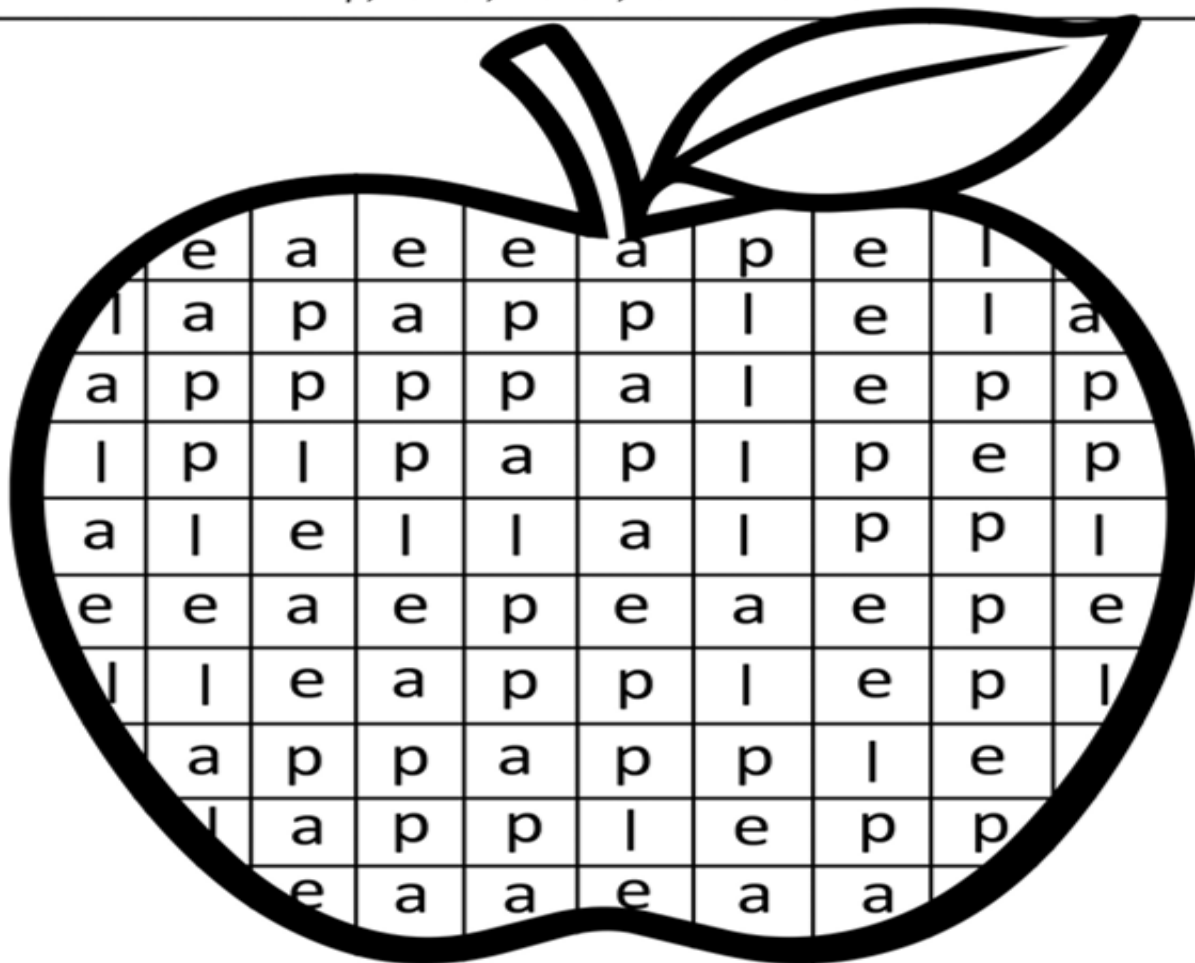
Just For Kids



Apple of Your Eye

“Apple of your eye” means something very special that you protect. As school starts again, remember what God says in Proverbs 7:2 (NIV): “Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye.”

*Can you find the word “apple” 12 times in the puzzle?
Look up, down, across, and even backward!*



SMILES AND SO FORTH



This is a story about four people named:

Everybody

Somebody

Anybody

Nobody

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have.

What's the point? It is this:

We need everybody to be that somebody that is willing to do what nobody else is doing that anybody could do. See a need at church? Go ahead and meet the need.

Bible Quiz

After his resurrection, Jesus asked one of his disciples the same question three times: "Do you love me?" The disciple felt hurt, wondering why Jesus kept asking. Who was this disciple?



- A. James
- B. John
- C. Philip
- D. (Simon) Peter

Answer: D (John 21:17)

A Prayer for Joy and Laughter

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
Give me the wit to see a joke
To get some humor out of life,
And pass it on to other folk.

—Anonymous

When the Road Gets Rough



It had been a long trip home, and the weary traveler still had miles to go. So when a sign appeared reading, "Rough Road Ahead - 4 miles," he braced himself. Rough was an understatement. The lanes narrowed, the shoulder disappeared, and traffic slowed to a crawl. Drivers carefully weaved around potholes and construction equipment, inching forward one stretch at a time. But just as the sign promised, after four difficult miles, the road opened up and smoothed out again.

Jesus offers a similar kind of clarity about life. In John 16:33 (NIV), He says, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Notice He doesn't say we might face trouble. It is part of the journey. There will be stretches that feel slow, uncertain and hard.

Notice that Jesus didn't say we "might" have trouble. Sooner or later, problems will come. The road will get rough. But Jesus has already defeated everything the world can throw our way. We just have to keep moving, fueled by hope.

The promise is just as certain as the warning sign. The rough road does not last forever, and it does not have the final say. Christ has already gone before us, and smoother ground is ahead.

Prayer List

Mary Lee Bilyou
 Bob Booth
 Joan Cushman
 Dwight
 Susan Eldridge
 Marcia Erskine
 Mark Faiola
 Katie Feinstein
 Arline Fitzhugh
 Martha Geehan
 Judy Grady
 Mary Anne Jordan
 Ava

Dan LaPointe

Richard Lord

Ann Mason

John Millett

Paulette Retsinas

Gil Scott

Karen Stellmaker

Ruth Ann & Jim Stewart

Ron Taddie

Our Missionaries

Our Kids' Church Program

Our Pastors

Unsaved

World Peace



If you'd like to receive notices of prayer requests, please email the church with your preference, (email or text) and we will add you to the list.



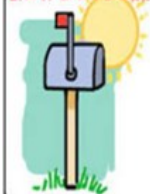
Scott & Dale Rahl - 2nd
 Doreen & Roger Gerrish 3rd
 Carol & Joe Potter - 11th
 Chris & Sarah Murray - 16th
 Duane & Carrie Maranda - 17th
 Nancy & Jonathan Gibson - 24th
 Lynn & Paul Johnson - 25th
 John & Linda Hume - 26th



Paul & Susan Eldridge
 Diane & Bob Chipperfield
 Jared & Marissa Lombardo
 Brian & Michelle Moore
 Joanne & Mark Faiola
 Ken & Laura Fargo
 George & Mary Ann Rezendes
 Ed & Kathy Lowe
 Randy & Melissa Lestinsky
 Jon & Patti Solis
 Brigid & Pastor Enrique Newman
 Bill & Terri Plumley



3 Ray Marra
 5 Barbara Higgins
 5 Ruth Stewart
 6 Joyce Collings
 7 Sharon Arruda
 9 Max Bertsch
 9 Lori Lord
 10 Gil Scott
 11 Jordan Leihbacher
 14 Serena Bates
 14 Roger Gerrish
 15 Kathy Giblein
 15 Rita Harvey
 16 Bob Chipperfield
 17 Todd Higgins
 18 John Payne
 20 David Mineo
 21 Peggy Hewett
 22 Henry Collings
 23 Montgomery Swatts
 24 Pat Rhodes
 27 Minnie Collings
 27 Pastor Enrique Newman
 27 Tonya Smith
 27 Patti Solis
 28 Brandie Gerrish
 29 Ericca Gail
 30 Lenny Ballesteros

NEW ADDRESS

Ray Deptulski
 19418 Tarpon Woods Court
 North Fort Myers, Florida
 33903

Fellowship Hour

Volunteers needed to host this Fall
 There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside of Fellowship Hall.
 Please speak to Judy Lathrop if you have any questions.



1 Mary Schaaf
 3 Ray Deptulski
 4 Sarah Edwards
 5 Giavona DeRota
 5 Rick Mann
 11 Randy Lestinsky

Those in the Military:

Sargent Jordan Payne, Camp Lejeune, NC
 Cpt. Evan Caval, Ft. Campbell, KY
 Lieutenant Colonel Brian Gavitt
 Lance Corporal Christian Smith
 Sargent David Aiello, US Marines

Our Shut in Members at Home

Judy Grady, Marcia Erskine & Ann Mason

Royal Nursing Home

Kay Perrone & Marilyn Main
 79 Beach St, Westerly 02891

The Elms

Joan Cushman
 Peggy Hewett
 Ron Taddy
 22 Elm Street, Westerly, RI 02891



Sick & Shut-in



Happy birthday to you!
 Rejoice in the Lord
 always.
 I will say it again:
 Rejoice!

Philippians 4:4



SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 Communion Sunday 8:00AM Avondale Worship w/Pastor Cal Lord 9:30AM Central Worship	7 10:00AM Coffee w/Pastor 6:30PM Commands/Jesus WE'RE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY	1 6:00PM Mission Board	2 5:30PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM "Journey 365" 7:00PM Leadership Stories 7:00PM Sermon Talkback Weight Watchers	3 10:00AM Ladies "Fortitude" 6:00PM Friendship Circle "Safety First Seminar" 6:30PM Men's Study	4 7:30PM Intro to Worship Band with Scott Gail	5 8:00AM Men's Breakfast
13 Back to Church Sunday Grandparents Day 9:00AM Adult Sun School 10:30AM Worship 11:45PM BBQ	14 CNS 1st Day of School 10:00AM Coffee w/Pastor 5:30PM Christian Ed Board 6:30PM Commands/Jesus	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 5:30PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM "Journey 365" 7:00PM Sermon Talkback Weight Watchers	17 10:00AM Ladies "Fortitude" 6:30PM Men's Study	18 7:30PM Intro to Worship Band with Scott Gail	19
20 9:00AM Adult Sun School 10:30AM Worship 6:00PM Grandparent Seminar	21 10:00AM Coffee w/Pastor 4:30PM Trustee Board 6:30PM Deacon Board 6:30PM Commands/Jesus	22	23 Noon S.A.L.T. Luncheon 5:30PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM "Journey 365" 7:00PM Sermon Talkback Weight Watchers WARM Meal—Church Council	24 10:00AM Ladies "Fortitude" 6:30PM Men's Study	25	26 10:00AM Almost Persuaded
27 9:00AM Adult Sun School 10:30AM Lady Sunday	28 10:00AM Coffee w/Pastor 5:30PM Church Council 6:00PM Men's Ministry 6:00PM Norwood Baptist	29	30 Noon-SALT Luncheon 5:30PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM "Journey 365" 7:00PM Sermon Talkback Weight Watchers			

Central Baptist Church

16 Elm Street
Westerly, RI 02891
Phone [401] 596-4929

centralbaptist@cbcwesterly.org

Return Service Requested

*We join together to nurture
Christ-centered faith, foster
Christ-like maturity, and share
Christ's ministry within our
family, community and world.*

Monthly Newsletter



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