

The Window

MAY 2026



Central Christian Church

MAY EVENTS

Sun. 05/03	11:00 am	Sunday Worship (In-person & FB Live)
Sun. 05/03	Noon	Cinco De Mayo Luncheon
Mon. 05/04	8-9:00 am	Open Sanctuary
Mon. 05/04	11:00 am	Church Staff Meeting
Wed. 05/06	8-9:00 am	Open Sanctuary
Wed. 05/06	7:00 pm	Prayer Gathering (Via Zoom)
Sun. 05/10	11:00 am	Sunday Worship (In-person & FB Live)
Mon. 05/11	8-9:00 am	Open Sanctuary
Mon. 05/11	11:00 am	Church Staff Meeting
Tues. 05/12	Noon	Capital Clergy Meeting
Tues. 05/12	2:00 pm	Christian Women's Fellowship (Via Zoom)
Wed. 05/13	8-9:00 am	Open Sanctuary
Wed. 05/13		NO PRAYER GATHERING THIS WEEK
Wed. 05/13		Round Rock Express Baseball Game
Sun. 05/17	11:00 am	Sunday Worship (In-person & FB Live)
Sun. 05/17	Noon	Outreach Project (Community Room)
Mon. 05/18	8-9:00 am	Open Sanctuary
Mon. 05/18	11:00 am	Church Staff Meeting
Tues. 05/19	7:00 pm	Administrative Council Meeting (Via Zoom)
Wed. 05/20	8-9:00 am	Open Sanctuary
Wed. 05/20	7:00 pm	Prayer Gathering (Via Zoom)
Sun. 05/24	11:00 am	Sunday Worship (In-person & FB Live)
Mon. 05/25		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY
Wed. 05/27	8-9:00 am	Open Sanctuary
Wed. 05/27	7:00 pm	Prayer Gathering (Via Zoom)
Sun. 05/31	11:00 am	Sunday Worship (In-person & FB Live)

Dear Sisters and Brothers.....

Thoughts from Pastor Layne

"Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

Romans 15:7

*"We are no longer strangers and aliens,
but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God."*

Ephesians 2:19

*"Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress,
working together is success."*

Henry Ford

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Have you ever looked around our sanctuary on a Sunday morning and noticed the wonderful mix of old and new faces? Some have sat in the same pews for decades, while others are still finding their favorite spot.

There is a fascinating statistic in church health studies: a thriving, growing congregation is often made up of **roughly 50% members who have been part of the church for five years or less.**

At first, that number might seem surprising, but it represents a vital "holy balance." Our long-time members are the roots of this house. You provide the stability, the deep-rooted faith, and the institutional memory that keeps us grounded. You've steered this ship through storms and sunshine alike, and your experience is an invaluable gift to our leadership.

However, for a church to remain a living, breathing movement and not just a monument, we need the "new." Our newer members bring the energy, the fresh perspectives, and the "why not?" attitude that keeps our mission current. New eyes see new needs in our community. New voices bring new songs and new ways of sharing the ancient Gospel in a modern world.

A healthy church isn't just about preserving the past or chasing the future - it's about the beautiful tension between the two. When the wisdom of the seasoned saint meets the enthusiasm of the recent convert, the Holy Spirit truly begins to move.

Whether you've been here fifty years or fifty minutes, you are a necessary part of this body. Let's continue to learn from one another, honoring our heritage while eagerly embracing the new things God is doing in our midst.

"We've all had our first day, and we're here to make yours a great one."

Peace,

Pastor Layne

Bound by Faith

A WORD FROM
PASTOR HEIDI

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end.

This past weekend I had the opportunity to gather with 89 women from the North Texas area at Disciples Crossing Campgrounds in Athens, Texas for their annual spiritual retreat. Over the course of our three days together, we explored the beautiful, challenging, and transformative words of 1 Corinthians 13:4–8. This familiar passage guided us through a deeper understanding of love—not as a feeling alone, but as a way of living. And if there is one truth that has echoed through each message, it is this: What’s love got to do with it? Everything.

We began by grounding ourselves in the simple yet profound declaration: *Love is patient. Love is kind.* These are not passive qualities. Patience requires us to slow down in a world that pushes us to rush. Kindness calls us to act, to see others fully, and to respond with compassion. We were reminded that love shows up in everyday moments—in traffic, in conversations, in the quiet choices no one else sees. Love is not grand only in big gestures; it is faithful in the small ones.

From there, we turned to the harder truths: *Love does not envy or boast.* These words invited us to examine what we carry—comparison, pride, insecurity—and how those burdens shape our relationships. Through the simple yet powerful act of placing stones into a flowing fountain, we named the things we often hold onto without realizing it. In releasing them, we made space for a love that celebrates others rather than competes, a love that reflects humility instead of self-promotion.

Finally, we expanded our understanding of love through the lens of “EVERYTHING.” Each letter became a reminder that love is not limited or occasional—it is expansive and all-encompassing. Love is present in every interaction, every decision, every opportunity to reflect Christ in the world. It calls us to be intentional, to embody grace, to extend forgiveness, and to remain steadfast even when it is difficult.

And at the heart of it all is this promise: *Love never ends.*

In a world that often feels uncertain, divided, and weary, this truth anchors us. Love is what connects us to God and to one another. It is what sustains us when hope feels distant. It is what transforms ordinary moments into sacred ones.

We were challenged to continue to ask ourselves - not just in church, but in every space we enter: What’s love got to do with this moment? And so, I challenge each of us to do the same.

And may our answer always be the same: Everything.

Shalom,

Pastor Heidi



A Note from our Music Minister Mark Kuroski

May the Road Rise to Meet You: A Blessing for the Journey

As we step into the month of May, I couldn't help but smile at a familiar phrase that feels especially fitting this time of year: "*May the road rise to meet you.*" It's a line many of us recognize from what's often called the *Irish Blessing*—a simple, poetic prayer that has found its way into worship services, choir anthems, and even everyday conversations.

Though often attributed to ancient Irish tradition, the exact origins of this blessing are somewhat unclear. What we do know is that it reflects the deep spiritual heart of Celtic Christianity—a faith that saw God's presence woven into the rhythms of daily life, nature, and human relationships. The imagery is gentle yet powerful: the road rising to meet you, the wind at your back, the sun warm upon your face. These are not grand miracles, but quiet assurances that God is near, guiding and sustaining us in each step forward.

Composers have been drawn to the prayers lyrical quality and its message of peace. When set to music, the words seem to settle even deeper into the heart, becoming not just something we hear, but something we carry with us.

And what a perfect message for the month of May. This is a season of transition—spring giving way to early summer, school years wrapping up, plans beginning to take shape for what's ahead. It's a time when many of us are, quite literally, on the move. Graduations, travel, new opportunities, and even small shifts in routine all remind us that life is a journey, not a fixed place.

The beauty of this blessing is that it doesn't promise an easy road. Instead, it offers a quiet confidence: that wherever the road leads, we are not walking it alone. The image of the road "rising to meet you" suggests a kind of grace that meets us where we are—God going before us, preparing the way, even when we cannot see what lies ahead.

In our music ministry, this is something we experience every week. Whether we are learning a new anthem, leading a hymn, or simply lifting our voices together, we are stepping into something that unfolds in real time. We don't always know exactly how it will come together—but we trust the process, we listen to one another, and we move forward in faith.

So as we journey through May, I invite you to carry this blessing with you—not just as beautiful words, but as a way of seeing your own path. Where might God already be at work ahead of you? Where is grace meeting you in unexpected ways?

*May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

May this month be filled with music, movement, and the quiet assurance that wherever your road leads, it is held in God's care.



CINCO DE MAYO LUNCHEON

Sunday, May 3rd

Join us this Sunday for our Cinco de Mayo celebration! The church will provide enchiladas and ground beef for tacos.

Michyl would love your input! Please let her know what you plan to bring to add to the feast at 818-415-7359 talk or text.



Scholarship Applications Now Available

CCC offers both undergraduate and divinity scholarships.

Applications are available from the church office.

Deadline for all applications is June 1st.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME

Join us on Wednesday, May 13th
for Faith and Family Night at Round Rock Express.
We will be ordering tickets on Sunday, May 3rd
to ensure that we can all sit together.
Please let Pastor Layne or Pastor Heidi
know if you'd like them to purchase a ticket for you.
Reserved seating is \$17 and Lawn seating is \$10

Please let either Pastor know if you need assistance in purchasing a ticket.



WEDNESDAY, MAY 13
H-E-B RIGHT FIELD GATE 5:15PM
FIRST PITCH 6:45PM

USE COUPON CODE **FAITH** AT CHECKOUT FOR DISCOUNTED TICKETS

ACTIVITIES

- PREGAME CONCERT BY THE FELLOWSHIP COLLECTIVE AT 5:30PM
- \$1 HOT DOGS



TICKETS

LAWN _____ \$10
RESERVED 2 _____ \$17



SCAN HERE FOR TICKETS!!



CASEY SCHNEIDER | CSCHNEIDER@RREXPRESS.COM | 512-238-2212



Christian Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, May 12th at 2pm

Via Zoom

Lesson: Violating Tradition

Scripture: Mark 5:53-7:37

*Please read scripture prior to meeting
for lesson preparation.*

Contributions to CWF can be made by mail
or Sunday morning offering.

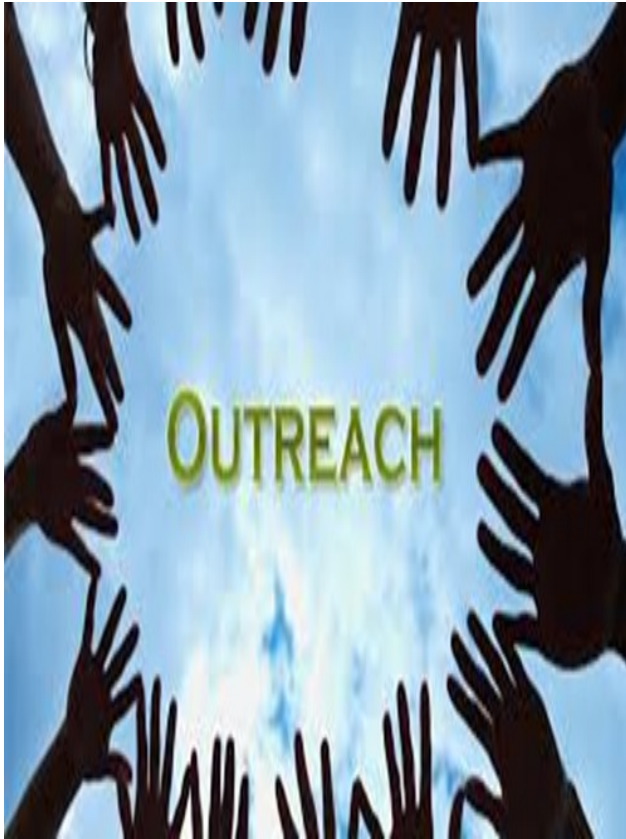


Prayer Gathering

Wednesday evenings

7pm via Zoom

Join us each Wednesday evening
to lift up any prayer concerns
or celebrations.



Outreach Project

Sunday, May 17th

Join us in the community room
following worship
to assemble hygiene kits for
Church World Services



Administrative Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 19th

7 pm via Zoom

Outreach Opportunities



Petite Pantry

Our petite pantry is in need of donations. Please place items directly into the pantry.

You may also donate using your preferred method, please be sure to designate that it is for the Petite Pantry.

See Pastor Heidi for a list of items needed.

Eye Glasses

Donate your old, gently used eye glasses.

Glasses benefit the Lions Club Recycle for Sight Program. A local member of the Lions Club pickups our donations to send onto their recycling center.

Donation bin located near the Church Parlor.

Medicine Bottles

Donate your old pill bottles. Please remove the labels prior to placing in the donation bin located near the Church Parlor.

Pill bottles are then sanitized and boxed up to ship to a mission team who will utilize them to safely dispense medications in areas around the globe.

Elders & Deacons for May

Elders for May

May 3rd

Maxine Jenks—Communion
Larrie Gaylord —Offertory

May 10th

Linda Gaylord —Communion
Nancy Goodman Gill —Offertory

May 17th

Brad Bounds —Communion
Larrie Gaylord — Offertory

May 24th

Nancy Goodman– Gill —Communion
Russell Ward —Offertory

May 31st

Nancy Goodman-Gill—Communion
Maxine Jenks—Offertory

Deacons for May

May 3rd

Phil Conard and Whitney Williams

May 10th

Ashley Monroy and Barbara Sabo

May 17th

David Ward and Julie Fox

May 24th

Will Monroy and Phil Conard

May 31st

Whitney Williams and Preston James

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

2026 Servant Leaders

Executive Officers

One year term

Nancy Goodman Gill, Chair
Brad Bounds, Vice-Chair
Linda Gaylord, Secretary
Judy Moore-Heim, Treasurer

Trustees

Judy Moore-Heim (term ending 2026)
Tom Maser (term ending 2027)
Larrie Gaylord (term ending 2027)
Preston James (term ending 2028)
Whitney Williams (term ending 2028)

At-Large Members

One year term

Miriam Stewart
David Ward
Russell Ward
Whitney Williams

Elders

Term ending 2026

Brad Bounds
Larrie Gaylord
Linda Gaylord
Maxine Jenks
Russell Ward

Term Ending 2027

Nancy Goodman-Gill
Tom Maser

Term Ending 2028

David Fox

Diaconate

Term ending 2026

Phil Conard
Barbara Sabo

Term ending 2027

David Ward
Whitney Williams
Julie Fox

Term ending 2028

Preston James
Ashley Monroy
Will Monroy



Happy Birthday to each of you celebrating a birthday in May! CCC wishes you a safe and blessed day!

**Jolie Johnson—May 1st
Pat Jackson—May 26th
Ashley Monroy—May 26th**

**Cindy Milton—May 28th
James Monroy—May 29th**

About Central Christian Church

IDENTITY STATEMENT

Central Christian Church Austin, Texas, is a Welcoming and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person created in God's image. We welcome and embrace the God-given gifts that each person brings to the life of our congregation. In faithfulness to Jesus and the commandments to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves, we embrace and respect all people—every sexual orientation, gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic condition, all refugees and immigrants, those of all physical and mental abilities, all household compositions, those of diverse political and theological backgrounds and beliefs—and we invite those who desire to participate equally and fully in the life, ministry, fellowship, worship, leadership, responsibilities, and blessings of our church family to join us. Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, as God's beloved, you are worthy and welcome!

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Minister: Layne Beamer

Associate Minister: Heidi Bounds

Music Minister: Mark Kuroski

Administrator: Monica Ross

**Wedding Coordinator: Judy Moore-Heim
weddingcoordinator.ccc@gmail.com**

CONTACT US

Pastor Layne Beamer
pastorlayne@ccaustin.org
or 818-384-5956

Pastor Heidi Bounds
hbounds@ccaustin.org
or 512.940.2322

Mark Kuroski mark@ccaustin.org

Monica Ross staff@ccaustin.org
Office Phone # 512.476.6941