

October 2024
Vol. 48, #6

Stories from Central Joy & Tille

A Publication of
Central United
Methodist Church

Stories from Central } October 2024

This fall we're working our way through the Old Testament. Every Sunday from September 8 to November 24 we'll listen to a key passage between Genesis and Malachi. Our hope is that this will give you an overview that makes the Old Testament easier to understand.

Because God designed us to be better together, it only makes sense that reading Scripture gets better when we help one another. We can experience that help in real time through group study – like the "Old Testament 101" class that's meeting on Wednesday nights. But we can also read Scripture "together" even when we read alone by drawing on

Working Through the Old Testament

the wisdom of Christian tradition.

If you're trying to read the Bible more this fall (and I hope you are!) let these people of faith help you:

Ellen Davis' 4-step pattern. Last month I shared the repeating pattern I learned from this lovely Old Testament professor: (1) God creates; (2) Humans cause a rupture; (3) Divine judgment and suffering ensue; (4) God takes a new initiative toward humans.

(Cont. on pg. 2)

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**Working Through
the Old Testament
(Cont. from pg. 1)**

There is a lot of “divine judgment” in the Old Testament, but don’t let that overshadow how many “new initiatives” God is willing to take.

The Wesleyan quadrilateral.

The founder of our Methodist movement, John Wesley, always started with Scripture, but he didn’t read Scripture in a vacuum. Wesley drew on the tradition of the church, his own reasoning abilities, and his personal experience of God to make decisions of faith. As you read Scripture, be sure to bring those other three components into the conversation.

Adam Hamilton’s “colander.”

Jesus identified two greatest commandments: to love God and love neighbor (Matthew 22:34-40). The founding pastor of the Church of the Resurrection recommends using these as a “colander” when reading Scripture. When we encounter something like slavery in the Old Testament, we can run it through that colander to see if it “sticks.”

Reading the Bible can be challenging, but that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t do it. It just means we shouldn’t read the Bible alone! We read the Bible together – sometimes literally, sometimes figuratively, and always with the Holy Spirit to guide us.

Much love,
Pastor Mary

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT
WORSHIP THIS MONTH!**

Join us at 8:45am or 10:55am,
in person or online

October 6: Exodus 32:1-14
World Communion Sunday;
Table to Table Meal at 12:00pm

Most people have heard the idiom “golden calf” used to talk about an object of unworthy worship. But do you know the source of that expression? What is a “golden calf,” really? We hope you can stay to eat lunch with us at 12:00pm; be sure to register ahead of time so we have food ready for you.

October 13: 1 Samuel 1:9-11, 19-20

The story of King Samuel begins with his mom’s prayer for a child – a prayer that’s initially overheard and misunderstood by a priest. Anyone who has had their own prayers misunderstood might relate!

October 20: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Children’s Sabbath and 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

On this special Sunday our children will lead worship! Our Old Testament story carries an important message for them: when God chose the smallest, youngest child to be king.

October 27: 1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:27-30, 41-43

Consecration Sunday for 2025 Pledges

What does it mean to dedicate something to God? Listening to how Solomon dedicated the Temple can open us up to seeing ourselves, our possessions, and our world in new ways .

November 3: 1 Kings 17:1-16

All Saints Sunday; Communion; Table to Table Meal at 12:00pm

On this Sunday each year we get to remember the “saints” in the New Testament sense of those who have died and made saints by God’s grace in the past year. We’ll read their names and light candles in their honor during worship before celebrating around the communion table.



Children's Choir

ALL children ages four years old thru 5th grade are invited to participate in Children's Choir. We are meeting on Sunday afternoons from 1:30-2:00pm in the church choir room. We will be singing in church on October 20 which is Children's Sabbath! We are very excited to help lead both worship services that morning. Children's choir is also working on our annual Christmas musical which will be on December 15 after church in the fellowship hall. Please reach out to Linda Haggard at lhaggard@centralumc.org with any questions. We look forward to seeing your beautiful faces and hearing your beautiful voices. See you on Sunday!

Youth Choir

ALL youth age students grades 6-12 are invited to sing and fellowship with Central's Youth Choir. We meet on Sunday afternoons from 12:45-1:30pm in the church choir room. You don't have to be a member of Central to join in the singing and fellowship. All youth are welcome without exception. The youth choir will be singing in church on October 20 as part of our annual Children's Sabbath celebration. Please reach out to Linda Haggard at lhaggard@centralumc.org with any questions. Inviting friends is wonderful. We hope to see you on Sunday!

Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir is for any college age and adult age person. Chancel Choir rehearses Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30pm in the choir room and sanctuary. We do a wide variety of music,



participate and lead worship services, socialize and fellowship with one another at regular events, and in general have a lot of fun! If you have thought about singing in the choir and haven't taken the plunge, now is the time. We are preparing many exciting pieces for this fall, and will have special music throughout Advent. Please reach out to Linda Haggard at lhaggard@centralumc.org with any questions.

Corey Powell, Director of Music Ministries directs our **Wesley Singers**. They meet on Tuesday afternoons at 2:00pm in the choir room. Wesley Singers provide

music at our 8:45am service throughout the year. Any adult age person is welcome to join the Wesley Singers. Please contact Corey Powell at cpowell@centralumc.org with any questions.

Central Handbell Choir

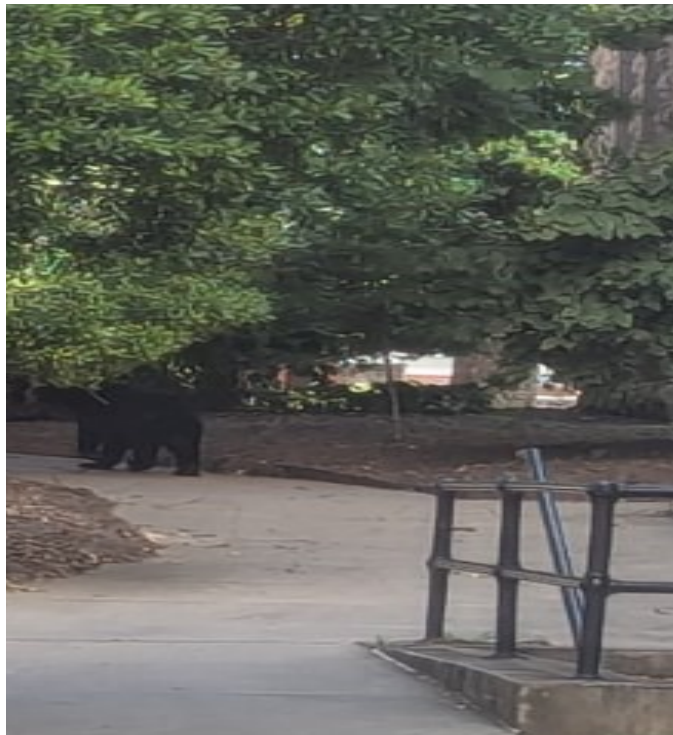
Our Central Handbell choir rehearses on Wednesday afternoons at 5:30pm under the direction of Corey Powell. If you ring bells or want to ring bells please contact Corey at cpowell@centralumc.org for more information. The handbell choir plays at both services several times throughout the year.

Central Brass Ensemble

Under the direction of Richard Provine, the Central Brass ensemble rehearses on Monday evenings and plays on Sunday mornings throughout the year. If you are interested in joining the brass ensemble or learning more about this ministry please contact Richard Provine at rprovine@centralumc.org for more information.



Did anyone get this visitor's name?
It looks like he might have been
trying to join the choir!



Central.Giving.

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21).

We know the truth of these words! Our priorities are revealed by our spending habits. For that reason, a regular practice of giving to God is a key to keeping God our top priority.

This October we want to help you reflect on your own practice of giving. Each week we'll have "Ministry Moments" from members of our congregation and videos that highlight ministries funded by your giving. You'll receive a pledge card designed to help you prayerfully reflect on your personal giving practice; this will go out in the middle of the month by mail, email, and be available during worship. Then, on October 27, you'll have a chance to put a portion of that pledge card on the altar as a commitment between yourself and God through the church.

Our hope is that we might increase our collective giving by 15% next year, from \$1.5 million to \$1.7 million. Imagine what that might do not just for our ministries... but also for lives with Christ! Pray with us as we look toward 2025 together.

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
Senior Pastor, Central United Methodist Church

BLESSED, NOT STRESSED THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

Lake Junaluska, Lambuth Inn | November 1—3

Please join Leigh Young and Cyndy Douglas at the Lambuth Inn at Lake Junaluska November 1- 3 as we prepare for the season of Advent.

Advent is meant to be a time of reflection, anticipation, and spiritual preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth. However, the busy activity of the season, the sorrow of a missing loved one, or the pressure of expectation and responsibility can cause us to miss the joy, peace, and love of our Lord.

Leigh will lead us on a true *Journey to Joy* as we focus on Christ amidst the busyness that can be challenging and distracting. Join us as we search the Scripture and see how intentional actions and a shift of perspective can help us be truly "Blessed, Not Stressed" this Christmas season.

To book, [Click Here](#), to go to the Lake Junaluska website, or call 800-222-4930. For additional info, contact Leigh at leigh@youngandassociates.com or Cyndy at cyndy.douglas1@gmail.com.

See you at the Lake!



Central. Haw Creek.

As the darkness of the morning slowly creeps later and later, and the leaves are set ablaze with colors of fall, we continue to move slowly forward following the wily stirring of the Holy Spirit. We have seen the inbreaking of the kingdom of God through holy conversations with new folks curious about what this new activity is on this familiar and holy ground. Through the garden we have heard people dream about their own futures in feeding folks who are hungry, and we have blessed tomato plants, made bouquets of flowers for our neighbors, and put our hands in the dirt that gives life and reminds us of our own "dirty-ness."

This month I hope you will come by to check out our Sunday afternoon book study at 4:00pm in the library at Central Haw Creek on the Parables as we use Amy Jill Levine's Book *Short Stories by Jesus*. Don't worry if you can't read the chapter ahead of the time to come — the Parables themselves will be our guide. Or if you want a fun time outside, come to our new Garden hours, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:30-10:30am!

-Patrick Neitzey, Minister of Central: Haw Creek



October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

This month we're celebrating our pastors – Mary, Patrick, Lisa, Ann, and Caroline. Help us acknowledge their gifts of leadership, spiritual guidance, love, and dedication – among many others.

- Take time to pray for them and their ministry.
- Send a card or drop one in the offering plate.
- Stop them in the hall to say thanks for a specific way they've influenced you.

Central is blessed to have such a faithful group of pastors to shepherd our congregation and help us spread God's love throughout the world. - Central's Staff Parish Relations Committee



Join us for this last "Selfie Sunday" where you will have an opportunity to have your picture taken for our online directory!

We will have stations set up near the Sanctuary after each service, where you will find friends who will help you make sure your information in Realm is correct, and we will take your individual and family photos.

Bring your bright smiles and join us for a fun time!

Central. Family Life.

Table-to-Table Meal

Join us, on Sunday October 6, at 12:15pm in the Fellowship Hall for our monthly churchwide meal. This is a great opportunity for folks to strengthen relationships with other members of the Central community. Please let us know if you are coming, by clicking this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/xiMP2VxGCT>.

Dietary restrictions can be accommodated, just let us know in the form. We hope to see you there!

Family Life After Church Programs – Meal, Kid’s Club, Youth Small Group, Children/Youth Choirs

It is so great to be back in the swing of After Church programs again for our Family Life Ministries! Each week, after the 10:55am worship, our Family Life meal begins in the Fellowship Hall at 12:15pm. Children will have “Kid’s Club” from 12:45-1:30pm, and Children’s Choir from 1:30-2:00pm. To ensure we do not waste food/resources, we are taking registrations for the meal each week – this must be completed by the Monday before, each week. Families can go ahead

and register for meals, up to the end of 2024. Click here to reserve your spot:

<https://forms.office.com/r/xiMP2VxGCT>.

Suggested donation of \$10/person, children under 5 can eat for free. Payment is collected each week, at the meal. Following the meal, children and youth have activities available until 2 pm.

Fall Festival – Sunday, October 27 3:00-6:00pm | Cost: Free

Join us as we close down Church Street for an evening of Halloween fun! Don’t forget to sign up for our Annual Chili Cook-Off for a chance at winning a prize, sponsored by Equal Plates Project. We will have games, prizes, an inflatable bounce house and obstacle course, caricature drawings, pumpkin decorating, BINGO, hotdogs, popcorn and cotton candy. Come in costume for a chance to win prizes!



Central.Children.

How to Use Your Bible Class October 6 & 13, 9:45-10:45am

This class is designed for 3rd graders or older elementary students who have not received their Bible. Each year, we celebrate the growth of our young members in faith by engaging them in the study of God's Word.

Upon completing this class, students will be gifted a personalized Bible on Sunday, October 21. While receiving the Bible is important, it's even more essential to understand its significance. We'll explore key stories from the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus during the class.

Students are encouraged to attend with an adult. If your child has already received their Bible but missed the class, they are welcome to join.

For questions, email Pastor Ann at aowens@centralumc.org.

Children’s Sabbath - October 20, 2024 Both 8:45am & 10:55am worship services

Children's Sabbath is an annual tradition at Central UMC. It is a time where children 'take over' and lead worship. Both children & youth choirs will be singing, Children will have the opportunity to serve in many ways— sharing in the liturgy, leading the pastoral prayer, reading scripture, handing out bulletins, and collecting offering. We hope everyone will join us for this year’s Children’s Sabbath, as we celebrate the children in our community.

3rd Grade Bible Dedication

October 20 - 10:55 am Worship Service

Don’t miss this beautiful celebration! Each year Central gifts and dedicates personalized Bibles for our 3rd grade students. Additionally, this year we will be blessing Bibles donated to the students at First UMC, Moheto in Kenya, live via Zoom. Questions? Email Pastor Ann, aowens@centralumc.org.

Central. Youth.

Driving around the I-240 loop at the beginning of September, I noticed that the leaves on the trees weren't as green as the month before. Fall is coming! And as summer fades away, the youth return from vacation, traveling, sleepovers, mission trips, and Wilderness Trail. They return to school, homework, college prep, and drama in their social circles. Back in Asheville for the fall and winter, they also return to youth group.

Youth group this year literally kicked off with a ball punted through the air and running the bases in the field behind Central Haw Creek.

The youth pulled up in the parking lot with some trepidation on their faces.

"Pastor Caroline, why are we here?"

"Trust me. I have an idea. It's going to be great."

As the rest of the stragglers and late arrivals meandered into our circle, we passed the hacky sack back and forth learning each other's names and where everyone went to school. We had several of our shy sixth graders join us for the first time while the high school upper-class students confidently flung their arms around one another's shoulders in greeting. As we walked out to the kickball field, I could feel the bashfulness threatening to creep into our conversations. However, as the ball bounced through the dirt and the teenagers started cheering for each other as they rounded the bases, what walls they had put up started to come down. One team may have scored more points but as we returned to the downstairs gathering space of Central Haw Creek, everyone felt like a winner.

In the second hour of youth group, we worked on decorating an inspirational poster and placemats for our friends in the Kairos Prison Ministry. Our discussion centered around consequences and reconciliation. God's grace is for everyone, and nothing can separate us from the love of God – not even a prison sentence. We decorated a poster that highlights our togetherness in Christ. In Christ, there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:23-29).

As we closed our time together on our first Sunday of the year, it felt so good to be back together again after a summer of separation. We had our big special events in June, July, and August, but we're ready to settle into the coziness of fall and the weekly meetings at Central Haw Creek.



Fall Schedule

- October 6 | Fall Break
- October 13 | Joyful Spiritual Practices
- October 20 | Service Project
- October 27 | Fall Festival (downtown)
- November 3 | All Saints
- November 10 | Service Project
- November 17 | Campfire
- November 24 | Thanksgiving Break
- December 1 | Christmas Shopping
- December 8 | Kindness to Self & Others
- December 15 | Christmas Party





United
Women
in Faith

EVE CIRCLE

Invites ALL to attend "Racist Roots" program

Eve Circle will meet Tuesday, October 1 at 10:00am in the church parlor. **All** are welcome to hear Peter Barrett presenting "Racist Roots", a 20-minute documentary that traces the link between slavery, lynching and the mass incarceration of Black men, especially on death row, in America. Post cards will be available to sign and send to Gov. Cooper requesting that he commute all death sentences. Contact skleduc@prodigy.net for additional information.

The September meeting was a discussion of the book *Beautiful Country: A Memoir of an Undocumented Childhood* by Quan Julie Wang. The book was very insightful regarding the experiences of a 7 year old migrant from China in 1994 and how the family was able to survive.

RUTH CIRCLE

You are invited to our upcoming Ruth Circle meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 10:00am in the Library at Central UMC. Our guest speaker will be Katy Estrada from Equal Plates Project.

Ruth Circle members will be discussing our ongoing community service contributions to ABCCM and will spotlight books from the United Women in Faith Reading Program.

To help support those in need, in October we will be collecting dried beans, especially pinto beans. In November we will be collecting stuffing mix and bottles of gravy for Thanksgiving Food Boxes for ABCCM. Your contribution will help make a difference in our community.

On November 5th our program will be on the United Women in Faith World Thank Offering.

Come and Join Us! We would love for you to spend your morning with us! Contact Ruth Circle Chairperson, Kim Everette for more info at kimeverette525@gmail.com.

ANNA CIRCLE

The Anna Circle will be meeting on October 2 at 10:00am in the church parlor. The program will be the World Thank Offering. Our November 6 meeting will be a program on Mary of Bethany. If you are looking for an opportunity to be a part of a caring, interesting group of women, know that you will be welcomed at Anna Circle. For more information, contact Carol at crychly@charter.net.

DEBORAH CIRCLE

The Deborah circle meets the second Tuesday of the month in a member's home at 10:00am. The October 8 program will continue the theme of good accessible nutrition we began in September, discussing access to food, food swamps, food deserts, and food wastes, especially locally.

Our November 12 program will focus on Thanksgiving, and serving others with good nutrition. We will donate non-perishable foods to local charities serving those in need. We will also participate in World Thank Offering. All are welcome. For more information, contact Susan Snell at ssnell123@bellsouth.net.

UNNAMED WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Are you a woman in your 20s, 30s or 40s looking for a small group? If so, we hope you'll join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm for dinner, fellowship, and fun conversation! We meet at Central UMC and walk to a restaurant downtown. There is nursery childcare at the church, for those who need it. We are always welcoming new members to our group, and would love to have you! If interested, email Pastor Ann at aowens@centralumc.org.

Central. Congregational Care.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE COUNCIL NEWS

*Congregational Care = the Family of Central Caring for One Another
~ Imparting Strength, Offering Compassionate Grace ~*

New Stephen Minister Application deadline – November 1st.

*Stephen Ministers provide one to one, confidential,
nonjudgemental support to those experiencing a life challenge.*

A new class of Stephen Ministers starts training in January 2025!

If you feel called to this ministry, **there are still openings** for anyone considering becoming a part of this class. Reach out to Cindy Oak at swoclo@charter.net, Kris Booker at kristinebooker@gmail.com, or Pastor Lisa with your questions.

For more information or to submit your application, go to centralumc.org/stephen-ministry.

Let's be intentional in our caring!

Check out our webpage for other Congregational Care Ministry opportunities and resources:
centralumc.org/congregational-care

Central. Missions.

WINTER COAT DRIVE 2024 IS HERE...

Congregations 4 Children (C4C) and the Growing in Faith Through Service (GIFTS) class are partnering once again on the Winter Coat Drive. The sign-up period is Sunday, September 29 — Thursday, October 24. Donors can sign up to provide a coat, hat and a pair of gloves for an Emma Elementary School student. Drop-off bins are located in the Fellowship Hall. You can

drop off your donations any time the church is open. The final drop-off day is Sunday, October 27. Look for future announcements in the worship bulletins and on e-News. If you have questions, wish to chat with the project lead before signing up, or need someone to sign up for you, email, C4C@centralumc.org. Click the QR Code to go to the Sign-up Genius Site.



JOIN US AS A READING BUDDY AT EMMA ELEMENTARY

We are recruiting Reading Buddy volunteers as part of Central's Congregations for Children (C4C) commitment to Emma Elementary. Reading Buddies is a one on one tutoring program that begins each October. Would you like to make a difference in the life of a child? All that is required is a small amount of your time each week. You will receive training, lesson suggestions and all the support you need to help a fragile learner strengthen his or her reading skills. It is a very rewarding volunteer activity! If you are interested in getting more information or to volunteer, please send an email to C4C@Centralumc.org.

ONCE MONTHLY EMMA COMMUNITY MARKET VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Can you share your time the afternoon of the first Monday of the month? Volunteers are needed for this year-round mission project supporting the Emma Community. The first Monday afternoon of every month we help distribute food and grocery items to the neighbors of the Emma community. The Market is now in a new, covered, climate controlled space at 17

Wayside Drive, Asheville, 28806. For more information contact Mary Beth Tanner at C4C@centralumc.org to volunteer.



FEEDING ASHEVILLE HIGH STUDENT ATHLETES



Central's Congregations for Children (C4C) expanded its support of local public schools by sponsoring pregame meals for the Asheville High School Varsity and Junior Varsity football teams September 19 and 20. These student athletes go straight from school to practice to game time with no break and no school provided dinner. Central UMC is one of several churches to support these students with a nourishing, healthy, and hearty meal. C4C partnered with Equal Plates Project to provide the meal, thus expanding the good work accomplished.

VOTE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



One of the most important ways to combat Climate Change is your vote this November. Which candidates are committed to support policies for environmental sustainability? Which candidates have the "political will" to support policies that reduce global warming; who are committed to seek justice for those who are vulnerable; who will work to roll-back policies that fail to protect our planet and our health? Interfaith Power & Light's (IPL), a **non-partisan** 501(c)3 organization, has created a resource, "2024 Faithful Voter Reflection Guide", that encourages individual and group discussions on faith, conscience and values. Twenty-five copies of IPL's guide are available in the rack opposite the reception desk of the church office. To

reserve copies, contact Karen Crutchfield (kcrutch@aol.com). Support those who care about the planet, and us. Most of all, remember to vote!

GET PLUGGED IN!

Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 5:00pm
Central United Methodist Church

Join us on Wednesday, October 2nd, at 5pm to learn about EVs (Electronic Vehicles). We'll start with a "show and tell" in the rear parking lot where CUMC members will show us their own EVs. You can sit in one, walk around it, look under the hood, try to hear it with the motor running, but no driving!

Following that, Dave Erb will speak to us in the Chapel about "Electronic Vehicles: The Future is Now." He is a retired engineering professor from UNC-A, a noted proponent of EVs and a well known speaker on that subject.



HIKING THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES: SCRIPTURE

Join Central members on October 12 at 10:00am for a stroll through a beautiful autumn landscape while deepening our relationship with God's word. Our hike will be led by Alexandra Holland, a botanist, Blue Ridge Naturalist, and long-time Central member. We'll spend time marveling at the wonders of the trees, flowers, and ferns around us while discussing practical ways we can incorporate Scripture into our daily lives. Be prepared to walk about a mile and a half on a well-maintained trail only 15 minutes from Central; wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Please contact

Alexandra at alexandra@wncnature.com by October 8 to register for the hike and to get all the details. Stay tuned for future hikes incorporating other spiritual disciplines!

- Sponsored by Central's Creation Care Committee





ALLIES FOR EQUITY
Book Club

We are excited to begin a Book Club centered around diversity, equity, and inclusion. EVERYONE without exception is invited to participate!

First Book: *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother* by James McBride

Sundays: October 20, November 17, and December 15 | Time: 12:15-1:15pm
Place: Parlor CUMC

We will discuss the first book in three sessions. Prior to our first session on October 20, please read Chapters 1-10. Prior to our second session, Chapters 11-19. Prior to our third session, Chapters 20-25, Epilogue, and Afterword. We'll discuss the book with the help of some notes, quotes, and questions. The paperback can be ordered on Amazon new or used for between \$5.00 and \$8.00.

We ask that you bring your own beverage of water, tea, coffee etc. We will provide a small lunch of sandwiches, chips, fruit, and cookies! Please RSVP by October 16 to Vicki Leeds at vsueleeds@gmail.com or to Paula Boyles at boylesrp@gmail.com so that we can plan accordingly. Thank you!

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU AND SEE YOU THERE!

Central.Missions.

Current Income and Expenses		Historic Income and Expenses	
Aug 2024 Offering	\$104,620	Avg. Aug Offering 2021 - 2023	\$97,179
Aug 2024 Expenses	(\$169,717)	Avg. Aug Expenses	(\$136,868)
<i>Difference</i>	<i>(\$65,097)</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>(\$39,689)</i>
<hr/>			
YTD 2024 Offering	\$1,022,721	Avg. Jan-Aug Offering 2021 - 2023	\$868,441
YTD 2024 Expenses	(\$1,249,635)	Avg. Jan-Aug Expenses 2021 - 2023	(\$1,128,278)
<i>Difference</i>	<i>(\$226,914)</i>	<i>Difference</i>	<i>(\$259,831)</i>

CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT



The Building Committee has been diligently working on the church renovation plan throughout the summer. Working with our architects, Clark Nexsen, there have been Visioning meetings with groups like the Montessori School, Equal Plates, Music Program, Youth and Young Adult, Worship groups and others to get feedback on what things should be considered in the church renovation plan. There has also been a lot of work on the Pocket Park planning and design, as well as work being done on a Building Assessment of the church. These meetings, the Building assessment, and other activities will provide input into the development of a Master Plan for what can be done at the church, how much it will cost and what types of phasing may be needed for this project.

Also, the Building Committee selected the organization, Partners for Sacred Places, to do a Capital Campaign Feasibility Study so that we can synchronize the results of the Master Plan and phasing with our fundraising feasibility. Partners for Sacred Places has had a strong working relationship with Central, has done several Halo studies about our economic impact, has much experience working with religious institutions including several churches in Asheville, and was reasonable in the cost they proposed for the Feasibility Study.

The work on the Building renovation and the Capital Campaign Feasibility Study will continue this fall so that we can synchronize these two efforts as we build a sound plan for CUMC's renovation. We will have some updates from the pulpit, Zoom calls, and other means of communication to keep you informed of our progress.

We welcome your input on these topics and you will be hearing more about our efforts in the coming weeks and months.

In Memory Of: Norman and Barbara Young
By: Douglas K. Young

In Memory Of: Peg Holmes
By: Chris and Mary K. Reaske
Suzanne Fuller

IN LOVING ♥
Memory

In Memory Of: Pete Parker
By: Charlie and Nancy David
Janet David
Suzanne Davis
Harriett Dillingham
Bunnie and Tom Turnbull

In Memory Of: Virginia Scott
By: Geoffrey and Virginia Challenger

CENTRAL AT-A-GLANCE OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>October</p>	<p>1 Dementia Partners 2-3p</p>	<p>2 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a Creation Care Electric Vehicle Presentation 5p OT 101 Class 5:30p</p>	<p>3 Circle of Prayer 9:30-11a</p>	<p>4 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a</p> <p>Youth Retreat</p>	<p>5</p>	
<p>6 "3rd Grade How to Use Your Bible Class" 9:45a Table to Table Meal 12:15p Youth Group & Sunday Study at Central Haw Creek 4p</p> <p>Selfie Sunday! 9:30a-11a</p>	<p>7 Central Haw Creek Planning Meeting 5:30p</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a OT 101 Class 5:30p</p>	<p>10 Circle of Prayer 9:30-11a</p>	<p>11 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a</p>	<p>12 Black Cultural Heritage Trail: Downtown Area Walk 9a</p>
<p>13 "3rd Grade How to Use Your Bible Class" 9:45a Youth Group & Sunday Study at Central Haw Creek 4p</p> <p>Indigenous People's Day</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Indigenous People's Day</p>	<p>15 Dementia Partners 2-3p</p>	<p>16 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a OT 101 Class 5:30p</p>	<p>17 Circle of Prayer 9:30-11a</p>	<p>18 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a</p>	<p>19 Chancel Choir Rehearsal & Worship 9:30a Chancel Choir Lunch Social 12noon</p>
<p>20 Children's Sabbath & 3rd Grade Bible Presentation 8:45a & 10:55a Youth Group & Sunday Study at Central Haw Creek 4p</p>	<p>21 Central Haw Creek Planning Meeting 5:30p</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a OT 101 Class 5:30p</p>	<p>24 Circle of Prayer 9:30-11a</p>	<p>25 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 Fall Festival 2-6p</p> <p>Fall Festival</p> <p>*No after church or Haw Creek activities</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Fall Family Fun!</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 Central Haw Creek Garden 9a OT 101 Class 5:30p</p>	<p>31</p>		

See reverse for details.

OCTOBER DETAILS!

Central Haw Creek.

Sunday Book Study | SUNDAYS, 4PM
Community Garden | WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS, 9AM
Planning Mtg | 1st & 3rd SUNDAYS, 5:30PM

Creation Care: Electric Vehicle Presentation | WED, OCT 2, 5 PM: GET PLUGGED IN! learn about EVs (Electronic Vehicles). We'll start with a "show and tell" in the rear parking lot where CUMC members will show us their own EVs. You can sit in one, walk around it, look under the hood, try to hear it with the motor running, but no driving! Dave Erb will speak to us in the Chapel about "Electronic Vehicles: The Future is Now." He is a retired engineering professor from UNC-A, a noted proponent of EVs and a well-known speaker on that subject.

Youth Retreat | FRI-SUN, OCT 4-6: Come get away with us and explore Holy Friendships this fall at the Brookside Lodge at Lake Junaluska. We will explore what it means for Abraham to be called a "friend of God" and what that means for us today. We will utilize the game amenities provided by Lake Junaluska and engage in thoughtful prayer practices around the lake.

We will meet at Central at 5p on Friday and return for the 10:55a service on Sunday. Food will be provided. Cost: \$100. Early Bird: \$75 (by September 20). Register on Realm or contact Pastor Caroline at ccamp@CentralUMC.org.

Registration closes: September 30

"3rd Grade How to Use Your Bible" Class | SUN, OCT 6, 13, 9:45 AM: This class is designed for 3rd graders or older elementary students who have not received their Bible. Each year, we celebrate the growth of our young members in faith by engaging them in the study of God's Word. Upon completing this class, students will be gifted a personalized Bible on Sunday, Oct. 21. While receiving the Bible is important, it's even more essential to understand its significance. We'll explore key stories from the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus during the class. Students are encouraged to attend with an adult. If your child has already received their Bible but missed the class, they are welcome to join. For questions, email Pastor Ann at aowens@centralumc.org.

Selfie Sunday! | OCT 6, 9:30-11 AM: We will have stations set up near the Sanctuary between services, 9:30-11a where you will find friends who will help you make sure your information in Realm is correct, and we will take your individual and family photos. Bring your bright smiles and join us! Contact Jan for more info, jgriffin@centralumc.org.

Table to Table | SUN, OCT 6, 12:15 PM: Join us as we move from Communion Table to Fellowship Table for our church-wide meal. The entire meal will be provided by Equal Plates, so you just need to bring yourself. The suggested donation is \$10 per person. **Please register at CentralUMC.org/upcoming-events**. For more info contact Pastor Ann at aowens@CentralUMC.org.

Black Cultural Heritage Trail Walk: Downtown Area Trail | SAT, OCT 12, 9-10:30 AM: Allies for Equity, a branch of Church & Society of Central UMC, is sponsoring monthly walks on the Black Cultural Heritage Trail. The Black Cultural Heritage Trail honors and preserves the rich heritage of Asheville's Black community. Each month features a different facilitator guiding you through one of three trails: 1) *Downtown Trail*: 5 stops-¼ mi-10 min, 2) *Southside Trail*: 3 stops- ¼ mi-10 min, 3) *River Area Trail*: 6 stops-½ mi-20 min. The total experience is less than 1.5 hours. Join Jim & Sarah White for the **Southside Trail** walk. No special equipment needed, and children are welcome. Attendance is capped at 7. Register at CentralUMC.org/upcoming-events or email Michelle at mhausler@CentralUMC.org. For questions, contact Jim & Sarah at jswwhite.1@icloud.com. Meet at Green Sage Café Downtown at 5 Broadway St. More info: bcht.exploreasheville.com.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal & Workshop | SAT, OCT 19, 9:30 AM: Music rehearsal and workshop at Central for all Chancel Choir members. More details to come. Contact Linda at lhaggard@centralumc.org.

Chancel Choir Lunch Social | SAT, OCT 19, 9:30 AM: Lunch social in downtown Asheville, spouses, partners, friends, families invited to lunch! Contact Linda at lhaggard@centralumc.org.

Children's Sabbath | SUN, OCT 21, 8:45 & 10:55 AM: Children's Sabbath is an annual tradition at Central UMC. It is a time where children 'take over' and lead worship. Both children & youth choirs will be singing, Children will have the opportunity to serve in many ways— sharing in the liturgy, leading the pastoral prayer, reading scripture, handing out bulletins, and collecting offering. We hope everyone will join us for this year's Children's Sabbath, as we celebrate the children in our community. Questions? Email Pastor Ann, aowens@centralumc.org.

3rd Grade & First UMC Moheto Bible Dedication | SUN, OCT 21, 10:55 AM: Don't miss this beautiful celebration! Each year Central gifts & dedicates personalized Bibles for our 3rd grade students. Additionally, this year we will be blessing Bibles donated to the students at First UMC, Moheto in Kenya live via Zoom. Questions? Email Pastor Ann, aowens@centralumc.org.

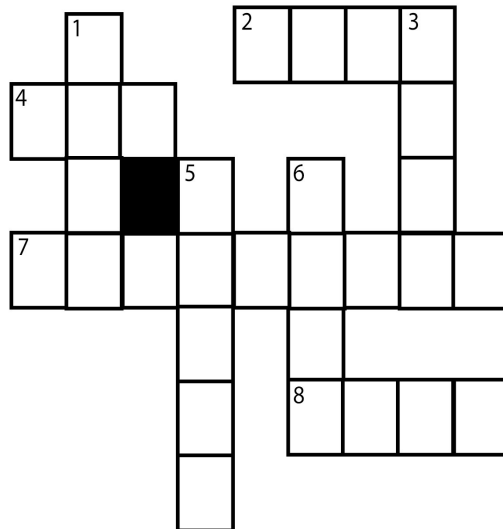
Fall Festival | SUN, OCT 27, 3-6 PM: Join us as we close down Church Street for an evening of Halloween fun! Don't forget to sign up for our Annual Chili Cook-off for a chance at winning a prize, sponsored by Equal Plates Project. We will have games, prizes, an inflatable bounce house & obstacle course, caricature drawings, pumpkin decorating, BINGO, hotdogs, popcorn and cotton candy. *Come in costume for a chance to win prizes! Cost is free!*

Puzzle!

Use the words provided to complete the puzzle. Then write the numbered words in the correct blanks below to complete Psalm 104:24, NIV.

WORDS

EARTH, CREATURES, MADE, THEM, FULL, HOW, LORD, YOUR



ACROSS

- 2. Rhymes with gem.
- 4. Rhymes with cow.
- 7. Rhymes with features.
- 8. Rhymes with cord.

DOWN

- 1. Rhymes with pour.
- 3. Rhymes with fade.
- 5. Rhymes with worth.
- 6. Rhymes with pull.

4 many are 1 works, 8 !

In wisdom you 3 2 all;

the 5 is 6 of your 7 .

Psalm 104:24, NIV



Make this craft as a helpful reminder of Jesus' free gift of grace.



What you need:

- Small cardboard box
- Small stones
- Tape
- Wrapping paper and bow
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Fill the box with small stones to weigh it down. Tape the box securely closed.
2. Wrap the box and add a bow on top.
3. With marker, write a capital letter on each side of the box and the bottom to spell GRACE.
4. Use this as a decoration or paperweight, or give as a gift.
5. Explain GRACE to someone. For help, use Ephesians 2:8-9 and the acrostic God's Riches At Christ's Expense.



Answer: How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24, NIV

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**OUR HELP IS
IN THE NAME
OF THE LORD,
WHO MADE
☀️ HEAVEN ☀️
AND EARTH.**

Psalm 124:8