

April 2024

Issue #10

Under
THE DOME



LETTER FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

Dear Friends,

Conversation is important. Often we think of communication as simply sharing information, but the health of our relationships relies on much more than simply delivering data points.

I was talking about this idea once with a marriage counselor I know. I wanted her to help me help couples who come to me for pastoral counseling. According to this counselor (and many others I have read and spoken with through the years), couples are in trouble if their communication is solely logistical. In fact, the same principle applies to most of our relationships. When our conversation is limited to coordinating logistics for the times when one person's life intersects with another, we are not truly sharing ourselves with each other. The heart of relationships is knowing another person and being known by that person. Talking about our feelings, our hopes, and our struggles with someone we love and value keeps us bonded to one another.

The same principle applies to our life together as a church. As I wrote at the top of this page, conversation is important. With that in mind, I am beginning a sort of listening tour. I shared this idea with you a couple of weeks ago in a *Tidings from Thomas* about a series of in-home gatherings we will conduct throughout the spring. Many of you have volunteered to host groups of church folks in your homes – THANK YOU!

These meetings will offer me an opportunity to hear about your dreams and concerns for Central as we move forward together in mission and ministry. We'll enjoy a time of fellowship over light refreshments, after which I will guide us through a time of intentional conversation. Please be on the lookout for details about signing up to attend a home gathering.

I cannot say it enough – I am blessed to be in ministry with you. Please do not hesitate to be in touch if I can ever be of service.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas".

Messages FROM OUR CLERGY

Rev. Ann Kovan

Associate Pastor

Spring is for Outreach!

I'd only been serving at Central for a few months, so I was excited to meet all the people involved in our outreach ministry. It was a workday at Lighthouse Ministries and we were meeting at the church. Six amazing, faithful individuals showed up, but I was surprised that a church this size only had six people turn out for a Saturday outreach ministry. We are all called to Christian discipleship, and that includes feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, caring for the sick, sheltering the homeless and rooting out injustice in all its forms.

Central provides an amazing array of opportunities to activate this vital part of your faith journey. You have each been called and equipped to serve in some aspect of outreach ministry. It's not all hammer and nails. There is something for everyone, whether it's packing bags for Help4Kids, dishing up or delivering spaghetti dinner for My Brother's Keeper, answering phones at Lighthouse Ministries, routing boards for BEDS, replacing floors or painting walls at Salkehatchie Summer Service (June 15-22), preparing casseroles for Parking Lot Ministry, or serving lunch at our 4/27 workday. Mark Tidsworth reminds us in the book, *Shift*, that outreach is essential for a church to thrive. But it's not about us, it is about God and God's mission of healing and reconciliation in the world.

I challenge Central to step up; come alone, as a couple, with a friend, or as an entire family. To discover your gifts for outreach or to join Christ at work in our community, please contact me.

Rev. Ann Kovan

Rev. Meg Bryce Jiunnies

Pastor of Faith Formation & Discipleship

Dear Church Family,

The seasons bring more than rain and flowers, they also remind us of the seasons of life. Here at Central we have experienced so much sorrow and joy already in 2024. We have celebrated the lives of loved ones who have passed, and celebrated milestones: weddings, births, and now the newest Confirmation class.

Our church family has been energetically involved in our 7th and 8th graders who are going through this process. The mentors, chaperones, and Miss Julie have spent countless hours providing this experience. It has been a privilege as a pastor to have had some conversations with parents and the youth. The church has sent our young people to a big retreat at Epworth by the Sea, and now we prepare on April 21st to confirm those who are choosing this next step for themselves.

The most important thing to remember in addition to our vows to support their decision, is that this is the **beginning**, not the end, of their faith journey. Our young people are entering a different stage of faith that includes questioning, spiritual practices, and personal responsibility as church members. Confirmation is a commitment on their part, and we must model what we want them to embrace about Christian community: involvement, nurturing others, and outreach. Prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness are the commitments which lead to the fruit of their faith experiences.

Please continue to pray for them all. And be sure to thank God for this gift of holy community!

Rev. Meg Jiunnies

SUNDAYS AT CENTRAL

All Sunday School classes meet from 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM on Sunday mornings. If you need help finding a classroom, please visit our Welcome Center in The Commons or ask a greeter at any entrance and they will be more than happy to show you the way.

CHILDREN

PRESCHOOL

3K – Malambri Rm 147

4K – Malambri Rm 145

ELEMENTARY

5K – Malambri Rm 231

1st Grade – Malambri Rm 227

2nd Grade – Malambri Rm 225

3rd Grade – Malambri Rm 221

4th & 5th Grades – Malambri Rm 219

YOUTH

6th-12th Grades – Youth Rm 206

ADULT

Sunshine Class – Room 164/165

Spiritual Journeys – Room 276

Christian Discussion – Room 277

New Horizons – Room 279

New Beginnings – Room 272

Searching Disciples – Room 275

Sarah Blanton-Philathea – Room 174

Wesley Fellowship – Room 170

WORSHIP

Combined Service on Confirmation Sunday

April 21, 2024

The service of Confirmation and Holy Baptism during which young people pledge their commitment to Christ and this congregation is a gift to the church. It's not only encouraging and inspiring to see so many youth embarking on their walk with Christ and joining the church, but the covenant involves the congregation's pledge and remembrance of the vows taken at their baptism and commitment to join this congregation. It is a sacrament, and the Holy Spirit uses it to transform all individuals present. Therefore, we didn't want to deprive anyone of the experience of this service. To allow the whole congregation to enjoy this service, we are combining The Well and Sanctuary services into one service in the Sanctuary at 10:30 AM on April 21. We hope that, no matter where you are used to worshipping on Sunday mornings, you will join us for this momentous occasion.



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: CONGREGATIONAL CARE

“Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.” ~ Romans 12:13

Central’s Congregational Care Program consists of two teams: Visitation and Ministries.

The Visitation Team is made up of volunteers who regularly visit our members who are homebound. Many of these members reside in retirement or assisted living facilities. Visitors check in with these members, make Easter and Christmas deliveries to them, and assist our pastors by updating their care and pastoral needs. We are so grateful for a team of at least fifteen visitors who are faithful in this important calling.

The Ministries Team includes individuals who represent specific care programs, including the following: Stephen Ministry, Grief Care, Card Ministry, Caregivers Support, Prayer and Holy Communion Service, Funeral Hospitality, and Meals for Families with New Babies. These ongoing ministries aim to ensure that all members feel a connection to Central.

As part of Central’s prayer and worship offerings, we invite all to join in the Wednesday midday service. It is a wonderful opportunity to hear and share prayer concerns about our congregation and community, and to receive Holy Communion in the middle of a busy week.

Congregational Care is especially excited to be commissioning a new team of Stephen Ministers on April 14. Under the direction of Rev. Tom Pietila and Central’s Stephen Leaders, this group has spent 50 hours in training, learning the skills for one-on-one, confidential care to our members who have a specific need and/or are going through one of life’s many transitions. We congratulate this new group and know they will be a blessing to their care receivers as they visit, listen, and pray with them. And, if you or someone you know may be interested in receiving a Stephen Minister, please reach out to one of our pastors, to Susan Williams, who is the program’s Referrals Coordinator, or to a member of the Congregational Care Team. We would love to tell you more about this amazing ministry.

Finally, we are in the beginning stages of planning a program on dementia and end-of-life care. More information on this will be forthcoming. In the meantime, if you have a question or concern about any of the ministries mentioned, feel free to reach out to chairpersons Missy Brown or Bobbie Collins, or any of our pastors. This area of ministry is key to our congregation’s vitality and each one of us plays a role in it!

LAY LEADERSHIP

**South Carolina Annual Conference
June 9-12, 2024 in Greenville, SC**

This year, Central will send nine delegates and three clergy persons to the 2024 Annual Conference. Over several days, our representatives from Central will hear reports on ministries, hold holy conversations, vote on legislation, participate in meaningful worship, and attend the Ordination and Commissioning Service, as well as the Memorial Service. This is important work in the body of Christ of the South Carolina UMC. Please pray for our representatives during this time. If this is a ministry you would like to learn more about, please contact Rev. Meg Jiunnies for more information.

What are the duties of the lay delegates to Annual Conference?

The lay members, along with the pastors, serve as interpreters of the actions of the Annual Conference session. Lay members play a key role in linking the mission and vision of the local congregation with the mission and vision of the Annual Conference. During the Conference session, leaders will participate in discussions, debates, voting, and all other activities of annual conference. Central's Nominating Committee strives to nominate people with diverse spiritual gifts, ministry interests, and age groups in order to represent Central well.

Central's Lay Member Delegates to the South Carolina Annual Conference

Lay Delegates to Annual Conference serve for three years, in classes. Each year we also elect alternates in case some of the delegates cannot attend. Below is a list of our delegates who have been elected to serve Central. Each delegate will receive a pre-packet and video reports before the Conference so that they might prepare. Central is blessed to have three lay leaders who are all included as lay delegates. All delegates attend and participate in Church Council.

Delegates: Eileen Blackwell (Lay Leader), Jeanette Jackson, Tyner Jiunnies, Laurence McIntosh, Frank O'Shea (Lay Leader), Beth Ann Owen (Lay Leader), Clary Rawl, Nancy Rawl, and Robby Sisco

Alternates: Missy Brown, Ernie Chavis, Harper Smith, Debby Stephens, David Wansley

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Congregational Care Visitation Team

Tuesday, April 2
3:00-4:00 pm
Room 173

Congregational Care Ministries Team

Tuesday, April 2
4:00-5:00 pm
Room 173

Education and Spiritual Growth

Sunday, April 7
9:00-9:30 am
Moody Parlor

Adult & Family Ministries

Monday, April 8
5:30-6:30 pm
Moody Parlor

Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed & Supervision

Monday, April 8
6:00-7:00 pm
Room 173

The Well Design Team

Monday, April 8
6:00-7:00 pm
Room 164

Board of Trustees

Tuesday, April 9
5:15-6:15 pm
Room 173

Faith Sharing Team

Monday, April 15
6:00-7:00 pm
Moody Parlor

Worship Committee

Tuesday, April 16
5:00-6:00 pm
Room 173

Outreach Committee

Wednesday, April 17
8:30-9:30 am
Room 173



Confirmation Sunday

April 21, 2024

Confirmands

Luke Arthur
Libby Ballenger
Laura Belk
Stewart Brown
Henry Campbell
Hewitt Dawkins
Anna Dawson
Anna Frances Falcone
Brett Granger
Andrew Grantham
James Hanna
Caroline Lee
Wells Morgan
Sophia Norris
Caroline Peebles
Locke Sonfield
Tate Sonfield
Carson Timms
Rebekah York

Mentors

Todd Campbell
Cayce Granger
Molly Lee
John Jacobs
Curt Derrick
Robbie Timms
Rebecca Campbell
Missy Brown
John Frank
Art Justice
John Chase
Julie White
Chris Peebles
Martina Love
Susan Hiller
Ron Garner
Ron Garner
Hank Leeke
Teresa Brunson

CENTRAL UMC'S VETERANS BREAKFAST



Guest Speaker:

**Senator
Mike
Reichenbach**

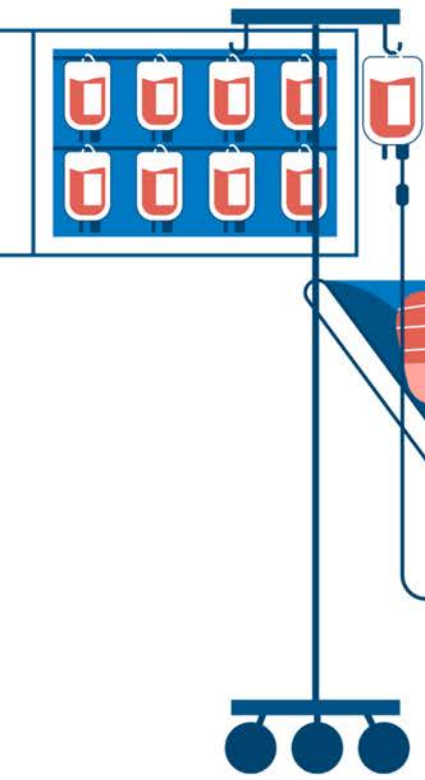
 Monday, April 8, 2024

 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

 Spears Fellowship Hall

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW TO REGISTER!





RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Thursday, May 16th

1:30-6:30 PM in the Davis CLC

The Red Cross is facing the worst blood shortage in 20 years! Please join us to help resolve this crisis.

Sign up in The Commons or by calling the Church Office at 843-662-3218, or register on the Red Cross website with our donor code CENTRALUNITED



Salkehatchie Summer Service

**FAITH IN
ACTION**

Penn Center (Beaufort)

June 15-22, 2024

*Scan the QR code for
more information!*



SCAN ME



CUMC Preschool



NURSERY & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Eggcellent Egg Hunt

Thank you to the Slice Family - Adam, Allison, Stella, and Annabelle - for hosting Central's Egg Hunt at their home! Thanks also to the youth for filling and hiding LOTS of eggs. It was a joyous afternoon filled with overflowing Easter baskets and time spent cuddling baby chicks, bunnies and lambs.



Sunday Funday Family Bingo

Sunday Funday was an absolute blast! Laughter filled the air during our first Family Bingo event. The kids had a great time winning prizes and sharing their luck with friends. And in between all the fun, we took a moment to remember the ultimate gift from Jesus - eternal life through his sacrifice on the cross.



Ministerial Moments

In March, we wrapped up our "Moments with the Ministers" series at BibleBlast with Pastor Ann. It was a wonderful experience that allowed us to delve into the significance of Holy Week. The children enjoyed the chance to interact with our Ministers in a more personal setting. This initiative will now become a yearly tradition for Bible Blast.



Happy Birthday!

Ben Davis - April 13th
Rory Poston - April 13th
Aylett Moore - April 16th
John Anderson - April 16th
Margaret O'Shea - April 20th
Wallace Moore - April 22nd

CENTRAL UMC'S 2ND ANNUAL MOTHER SON DANCE

FUN IN THE SUN

FRIDAY, APRIL 12 | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
SPEARS FELLOWSHIP HALL

GET READY FOR A BLAST WITH YOUR LITTLE DUDES! MOMS, ROCK THAT SUMMER DRESS, AND BOYS, GET YOUR BEACH VIBES ON! IT'S ALL ABOUT FUN AT THIS SHINDIG! GROOVE TO MUSIC, DIG INTO DELICIOUS EATS, HIT UP THE CANDY BAR, DIVE INTO GAMES, AND STRIKE A POSE IN THE PHOTO BOOTH!

SNAG YOUR TICKETS AT JUST \$40 PER FAMILY BY SCANNING THE QR CODE!





Join us for Vacation Bible School 2024!

June 3-6 | 5:15-8:15 PM

At Camp Firelight, your children will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time on their summer camp adventure with God. They will become Campers and discover how to put their trust in God in every situation. Bible learning experiences, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few standout activities that help faith flow into real life.



SCAN ME

VBS is for children who have completed 4K through 5th grade. Space is limited, so go ahead and register today! *If you are a volunteer with a child under the age of 5, you must also register the child for the days you will need childcare.*

Vacation Bible School Has a Place for Everyone!

We need adult and youth (6th grade & up) "Camp Counselors" during the week to help with art, music, games, snacks, and childcare. Helping with Vacation Bible School, however, is not limited to hands-on volunteering during the week. Preparing crafts, decorating beforehand, and cleaning up afterward are other ways to be involved. If you are interested in helping make this week an AWESOME experience for our children, please contact Brandie (blove@centralmethodist.net) or Vickie Greenan (v_greenan@hotmail.com) to find the best fit for you!

YOUTH MINISTRY



Central's 2024 Confirmation Retreat at Epworth by the Sea



Jr. High Breakfast Outing



2024 Youth Ski Trip

Happy Birthday!

Luke Arthur – April 1
Morgan Emanuelli, Elizabeth Sawyer,
David Smith, Lucas Turner – April 2
Kirksey Smith – April 3
John Roland Dawkins – April 9
Allie Clyde Higgs – April 10
Kate Coker – April 13
Weston Powers – April 17
Henry Love – April 18
Grant Love, Lily Merzлак – April 19
Locke and Tate Sonfield – April 26
Laura Belk, Danny Page – April 27

Mother's Day Flower Fundraiser

The youth are selling roses in honor or memory of all the special moms in our lives. Roses are \$5.00 each, and will be available on Mother's Day, May 12, in The Commons before and after the worship services. Use the QR code to order yours today! You can also pay with check or cash and drop your payment off in the church office or place it in an envelope in the offering plate. All proceeds will go to youth travels and special events. Thank you so much for your support!



Upcoming Events

April 7 @ 5:30 pm – Dodgeball Practice in the Davis CLC

April 14 @ 5:00 pm – Secret Destination! Wear comfy clothes and bring a towel and a bathing suit. Cost is \$25 per person, and 50 people is the max for this event. Don't miss out!

April 21 – Confirmation Sunday

April 21 @ 6:00 pm – Dodgeball Tournament with First Presbyterian and Palmetto Street Church of God in the Davis CLC. Wear your Central shirt! Come support Central, even if you do not play.

April 28th – No UMYF

ADULT & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Veterans Breakfast with Senator Reichenbach

Veterans, mark your calendars for our monthly breakfast which will be held Monday, April 8, at 8:00 a.m. in Spears Fellowship Hall. Our special guest speaker will be Senator Mike Reichenbach. There is no charge for breakfast, and guests are welcome! Please register in advance on Realm, by calling the church office (843-662-3218), or by emailing Adriane (areynolds@centralmethodist.net).



Happy Travelers

Are you ready for an adventure? Our Happy Travelers will once again be on the road in April! Join us as we travel to Columbia to visit the SC State House and the SC State Museum on Thursday, April 25. Cost is \$15 plus the cost of lunch. Contact Adriane to sign up.

In May, we'll be setting off on another Magical Mystery Tour. Stay tuned for further details!

Weekly Movie Matinee

Join your friends every Tuesday at 2:00 PM in Room 232 (upstairs on the Children's Hall) for an afternoon filled with popcorn, laughter, and movie magic! Here's a look at the blockbuster lineup for April:



April 2 – *Absence of Malice*

April 9 – *To Sir with Love*

April 16 – *Where the Heart Is*

April 23 – *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*

April 30 – *News of the World*

Scouting News

Congratulations to longtime Scout Leader Tim Fisher, who received the Duty to God Award at the Indian Waters Council Awards Ceremony on February 25, 2024. The Duty to God Award was created to recognize registered Scouters who have demonstrated an exemplary history of transformational leadership in supporting and promoting the spiritual foundation of Scouting at the local Council level. It acknowledges the unwavering dedication to faith, fellowship, and service of those whose character embodies the moral principles and shared ideals of the Boy Scouts of America. Thank you for your faithful service, Tim!

In other scouting news, Central's scouts collected over 350 pounds of food for the Manna House food pantry in February as part of the annual "Scouting for Food" service project, and 60+ scouts and adults headed to Riverbanks Zoo for the Night Owl Overnight Adventure in March. We are extremely proud of our scouts and their leaders!



Book Club

Come join the conversation at Central UMC's Book Club on Sunday, April 28 from 4:00 to 5:30 pm at the home of Katherine Jones. Our book for April is *The Clinic* by Cate Quinn. For more info, contact Ellen Smith.

FAITH FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP

A RECOGNITION, A COMMISSIONING, AND A CELEBRATION!

Disciple I Old Testament Bible Study Participants

The following people have completed the first part of Disciple I: John Frank, Elizabeth Harris, Frank O'Shea, Joy Poole, Ravi Joshua Pulukuri, Aruna Sagar-Pulukuri, Julia Sisco, Bobbie Stricklin, and Rick Thomas. Congratulations! The second part will begin in September! Mark your calendars if you would like to start this wonderful study of the Bible.

Sunday, April 14 ~ Stephen Ministry Commissioning

Central celebrates the faithful and diligent work of our newest Stephen Ministers who have studied for a total of fifty hours over these past few months to serve our congregation. Using the materials, they have developed their spiritual gifts, studied the example of Jesus Christ, and prayed together, and they will be commissioned at both services on April 14. Please attend and celebrate the hard work and faithful intentions of those who have been called to this ministry: Susan Breeden, Elizabeth Campbell, Elvie Eaddy, Ron Garner, Emily Griffin, Allana Hilley, John Jacobs, Anne McNair, Mincy Peterson, and Amy Sansbury. Special thanks to Rev. Tom Pietila for organizing this training.

April 21 ~ Confirmation Celebration

We are very proud of these youth! Please take a look at the list of 2024 Confirmands and their Mentors in this edition of Under the Dome!

UPCOMING STUDIES

Methodism 101 with the Pastors

Whether you are new to Methodism, new to Central, or just have questions, come and join the pastors for a crash course in the distinctiveness of United Methodism. We will talk about basic Christian doctrine and why Methodist distinctions are relevant for Christians in the 21st Century. Join us on Sunday, April 28 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM in the Christian Family Conference Room (173).

ONGOING BIBLE STUDIES

Courtney Graham Women's Bible Study

When Christians Get it Wrong by Adam Hamilton

Mondays, from 9:15 to 11:00 am in Spears Fellowship Hall

Led by Ginny Hill and Beth Ann Owen

Gain a different way of understanding the issues that keep people away from Christianity and keep Christians from living a more compelling faith. Because, honestly, if we don't start getting it right, we may lose an entire generation.

27:17 Central Men's Study

Tuesdays, from 7:00 to 8:00 am in Spears Fellowship Hall

Led by Johnny Crouch, Hank Leeke, and Art Justice

Join the men of Central and friends in this ongoing Bible Study named after the Proverbs 27:17 passage, "Iron sharpens iron, and one person sharpens the wits of another."

Mothers' Coffee & Conversation

First and Third Thursdays, from 8:45 to 9:30 am at F.E. Pops

Led by Rev. Ann Kovan

Moms, join us every first and third Thursday at F.E. Pops (1811 Cherokee Road) for a casual discussion on the devotional Bible Study, *Walking with God in the Season of Motherhood*. Friends are welcome to join at any time!



The Courtney Graham Women's Bible Study

SCHOFIELD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Did you know that you can search the library catalog from home?

There is a wealth of information on the shelves! Find the newest titles in our library on the website (centralumc.library.site) or search for your desired topic – reference materials on the Bible, devotions, parenting books, books on Christian life, hymns, the Methodist church, Christian women, prayer, adult, youth, and juvenile fiction, and much more. Just check out what you want to read using the card in the back of the book and leave it in the designated area. Please return the book when you are finished. The library also places a display of books in The Commons where checkout and return can be done easily. For more info, contact Margaret Cox, Librarian.

FAITH-SHARING

Greeters Needed

Central's Faith Sharing Committee is working hard to elevate our Welcome and Hospitality. To do this, we need Sunday Morning Greeters. The welcome and assistance that people receive from the moment they hit our parking lot can determine their connection to God and people here. Please consider serving and sharing your smile, your love of Christ and Central, and a helping hand when needed. You won't be asked to serve more than once per month if enough people serve, and can request which shift (before Sunday School, before worship) and week (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th) or substitution only list. For more information or to commit, contact Pastor Ann (843-421-2966, akovan@centralmethodist.net).

Daily Scripture Readings

Our DSRs are a great way to start your day and know you are connecting with God and your faith community at the same time. Sign up to receive via email on our website. DSRs are also posted on our FaceBook and Instagram accounts. Sign up today!

You can write DSRs! If you are a regular Bible reader and enjoy reflecting on Scripture, you can serve in this ministry. We are looking for individuals, couples, and Sunday School classes to sign up and share reflections you are learning about. You can write once or twice per year using the provided lectionary texts or choosing your own passages. For questions or to volunteer contact Beth Jones (beth29501@gmail.com).

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Congregational Care Update

We are grateful that Becky Crawford has stepped forward to organize the Meals for Families with New Babies! Kay Williamson has joined her on this team, and they could use some more help. And wow, do we have a lot of babies expected for 2024! If you would like to be on this team, contact Becky Crawford, Missy Brown (chair), or Rev. Meg Jiunnies to find out more information!

Pray for Central's 2024 Stephen Minister Training Group!

They're trained, they'll be commissioned on April 14, and they're ready to go! Need a Stephen Minister in your life, or want to learn more? Contact Rev. Meg Jiunnies for more information.



OUTREACH MINISTRIES



BEDS Build Day

On Saturday, March 16, church members of all ages gathered at our BEDS (Better Education Demands Sleep) building to craft and assemble 28 beds. Our BEDS ministry works with area school districts who identify for us children who currently have nowhere to sleep but the floor, a sofa, or a bed shared with others. When a child has their own bed, they get better sleep, which leads to increased attentiveness in school, which leads to a better education, which leads to a better future. The beds built in March will be distributed to the families in May. Be on the lookout for information on how you can participate!

Ramping It Up

Last month, Central's Home Repair new volunteers Bert Bausmith, Tim Fisher, and longtime home repair ministry member Jim Harris helped build a wheelchair ramp in coordination with Helping Florence Flourish and the Dupont Retiree Ramp Team. The ramp allowed a middle school student to attend school again after recent medical issues had confined her to a wheelchair. If you are interested in joining future ramp or home repair projects, please contact Jim Harris at (843) 229-9004.



Church Outreach and Picnic - April 27

Get your toolbelt and work gloves, or come as you are, to share in Christian discipleship through outreach ministry on April 27, 2024. We'll meet in the Irby St. parking lot at 8:30 AM. We'll be working at House of Hope's Addiction Recovery Center (formerly Camp Sexton) doing painting and light carpentry followed by a picnic lunch. This is a project for all ages, individuals, couples, friends, and families. If you can assist with painting, do some carpentry, or help prepare and serve lunch, contact Jim Harris at (843) 229-9004.

Costa Rica Mission Project Book Bag Drive

Central's Costa Rica Mission team is collecting child-size book bags (no rolling bags, please) that they will give away to children at the CRMP center daycare and to the village children where a new church is being constructed. Collection baskets are in The Commons.

Circle of Welcome for New Americans

If you feel called to help a newly settled refugee family with transportation, guidance, and mentoring, please contact Pastor Ann. These families are starting from scratch – even learning how to shop in our grocery stores is a new frontier and they need some assistance. You will work in a group of 8-10 people. This is a ministry of Lutheran Services.

LENTEN & EASTER GREENERY

The greenery in the sanctuary during Lent was given to the glory of God in memory of Dr. Tommy Lanier by Nancy and Carroll Player.

The palms in the chancel on Palm Sunday were given to the glory of God in memory of Helen and Gene Benton by Lane, Corey, Lizzie, and Ben Davis, and in memory of Elizabeth "Betty" Searcy by Rita Phillips.

The palms waved by the children on Palm Sunday were given by Katri and Gilliam Skinner. Praise God from whom all blessings flow! We give thanks to you, Father, for Mason, Lucas, Evans, and Brooks!

One arrangement of Easter Lilies was given to the glory of God in loving memory of E.D. (Woody) Jones by his wife, Quinnie, and his son, Woody.

One arrangement of Easter Lilies was given to the glory of God in loving memory of Laurie H. Barefoot, Jr. by his family.

The Easter garland for the cross was given to the glory of God in memory of Cathy Sandlin by Mr. and Mrs. Roland W. Dority.

APRIL 2024

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>1 Church Office Closed Easter Holiday Observance</p>	<p>2 Movie Matinee 2:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM</p>	<p>3 Service of Prayer & Holy Communion 12:15 PM Disciple I Study 6:00 PM</p>	<p>4 Pickleball 12:30 PM Stephen Ministry Training 6:00 PM</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7 First Sunday Fellowship Ministry Spotlight Stephen Ministry Training 12:00 PM Pickleball 12:45 PM UMYF Dodgeball Practice 5:30 PM</p>	<p>8 Veterans Breakfast 8:00 AM Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Help4Kids Packing 2:00 PM Stephen Min. Cont. Ed. 6:00 PM Men's Basketball 6:00 PM</p>	<p>9 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM</p>	<p>10 Service of Prayer & Holy Communion 12:15 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM</p>	<p>11 Pickleball 12:30 PM</p>	<p>12 Mother Son Dance 6:00 PM</p>
<p>13 Stephen Ministry Training 12:00 PM Pickleball 12:45 PM UMYF Secret Destination 5:00 PM</p>	<p>14 Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Men's Basketball 6:00 PM</p>	<p>15 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM</p>	<p>16 Service of Prayer & Holy Communion 12:15 PM UMW Board Meeting 3:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM</p>	<p>17 Pickleball 12:30 PM</p>	<p>18 Parking Lot Ministry Prep 3:00 PM</p>
<p>19 Confirmation Sunday Combined Service in Sanctuary Confirmation Breakfast 9:00 AM Scrapbooking 12:30 PM Pickleball 12:45 PM UMYF Dodgeball 6:00 PM</p>	<p>20 Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Help4Kids Packing 2:00 PM Men's Basketball 6:00 PM</p>	<p>21 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM</p>	<p>22 Service of Prayer & Holy Communion 12:15 PM BibleBlast Party 5:30 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal 6:15 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM</p>	<p>23 Happy Travelers Trip 8:30 AM Pickleball 12:30 PM</p>	<p>24 Outreach Workday & Picnic 8:30 AM</p>
<p>25 Pickleball 12:45 PM Methodism 101 3:00 PM</p>	<p>26 Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Men's Basketball 6:00 PM</p>	<p>27 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM</p>	<p>28 Service of Prayer & Holy Communion 12:15 PM</p>	<p>29 Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:15 PM</p>	<p>30</p>

Sundays

Sunshine Class - 9:30 AM
Sunday School - 9:30 AM
Worship (Sanctuary & The Well) - 10:30 AM
Cub Scout Den Meetings - 2:30 PM & 4:00 PM

Circle Meetings

Tuesday, April 2
Erin Glenn/Mary Motte Circle, 10:00 AM
Pearl Jones Circle, 10:00 AM
Glenn/Epps/Moody Circle, 10:00 AM
Joy Anderson/Sarah Blanton Circle, 2:00 PM
Monday, April 8
Christian Women Circle, 4:00 PM

CLERGY & STAFF

Senior Pastor

Thomas Smith, tsmith@centralmethodist.net

Associate Pastor

Ann Kovan, akovan@centralmethodist.net

Pastor of Faith Formation & Discipleship

Meg Bryce Jiunnies, mjiunnies@centralmethodist.net

Pastor Emeritus

Tom Pietila

Retired Pastors

Dannye Bragdon, Mel Flail, Alice Hocking, Julian Lazar, Leon Wagnon, DeVere Williams

Director of Music/Organist

Don Grice, dgrice@centralmethodist.net

Worship Director of The Well

Lance Hatchell, lhatchell@centralmethodist.net

Music Associate/Director of Handbells

Beverly Hazelwood, bhazelwood@centralmethodist.net

Director of Children's Choirs

Jaime Martinez

Director of Preschool Choir

Kristen Hardaway

Director of Nurseries

Catherine Lucius, clucius@centralmethodist.net

Director of Children's Ministries

Brandie Love, blove@centralmethodist.net

Director of Youth Discipleship

Julie Knight, jknight@centralmethodist.net

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Jennifer Walters, jwalters@centralmethodist.net

Kitchen Manager

George Hicks

Caretakers

Jason Taylor, Charles Beaufort, Ben Nettles, Jeffery Sabb

Housekeeper

Nicole Shaw

Safety Officers

Marilyn James, Johnny Spears, Billy Brown, Chris Benjamin, Freddie Williams, Terry Singletary

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone:

843-662-3218

Pastoral Emergency Care:

843-662-3206

Hours:

Monday - Thursday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Friday, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Physical Address:

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Florence, SC 29501

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