

March 2024

Issue #9

Under
THE DOME



LETTER FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

The Season of Lent started in February with Ash Wednesday and continues through March as we draw closer to Easter.

I think of Lent as a spiritual boot camp. Whether we are considering military boot camps or the self-styled boot camps offered by gyms, the premise is the same. A participant enters a period of extreme physical and mental conditioning intending to emerge changed. After weeks of intense training, people can emerge stronger and healthier.

Lent is a period of six weeks that invites us to seek God's grace by intensifying our spiritual practices. In so doing, we open ourselves to God's presence and action in our lives. If we apply ourselves, we can emerge from Lent spiritually stronger and healthier. This concept is found in Hebrews 12:1-2 which reads, "Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith." The author of Hebrews encourages us to look to Jesus as an example of enduring a season of hardship for the glory of God and for our betterment. Jesus endured the cross to experience resurrection. Likewise, our lives will bring trials, but if we continue to seek God, God will be glorified, and we will receive the benefit of growth in God's grace.

Like a long footrace, Lent intensifies as its end approaches. Holy Week offers new opportunities to seek God's grace with special worship services. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday as we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. On Thursday of Holy Week, also called Maundy Thursday, we have a special worship service remembering that on this night Jesus instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion, after which he was arrested and imprisoned. We have a special service on Good Friday to remember Jesus' torture and death on the cross. These Holy Week worship opportunities allow us to remember Jesus' saving work on our behalf in a way that is more than simple mental recollection. We remember what Jesus did for us in the past and anticipate what Jesus will do for us in the future, collapsing both into our present experience of God's presence. It requires extra work on our part, but if we open ourselves to God's presence, we find ourselves enriched by grace.

I invite you to lean into Lent. Take advantage of the extra opportunities for worship and allow God to change you from the inside out.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial letter.

Messages FROM OUR CLERGY

Rev. Ann Kovan

Associate Pastor

Among nature's springtime bounty, I most cherish the new green of budding deciduous tree leaves; and the scattered-cloud-like white bloom of dogwood trees. Bright white splattered across a canvas of dark pine, blazing azaleas, wispy red bud and rioting yellow forsythia, they are an odd marriage of deep peace and frolicking hilarity. Every year I catch the beauty of the full portrait of spring in others' yards, and I envy them for their balance of green and color and the white shock of dogwood. I find myself feeling discontent, as though my own yard's spring palette is inferior. And isn't that just how we are? Not seeing our own blessings because we get so caught up in what others have? When we have the very thing we covet but are blind to?

Easter beauty doesn't reside in our neighbor's yard, across the fence or down the road. The full glory of Easter isn't some shiny lure fishing for perfection or a chance to outdo another. No, the full glory of Easter resides within us. Inside followers of Jesus Christ, the cross is in full bloom, sprouting petals proof of nail piercings and the white of purity. Our worth and beauty are based on what grows from the inside-out, not external things. I pray you will nurture and water that internal cross through prayer, worship, digging into your Bible, Christian conversation, and sacrificing for others, and behold love overflowing more beautiful than a springtime firework-like burst of blossoms.

"The one who is in me is greater than the one who is in the world." 1 John 4:4.

Ann Kovan

Rev. Meg Bryce Jiunnies

Pastor of Faith Formation & Discipleship

Dear Church Family,

This is the time of year when God calls nature to begin to wake up and start to unfold around us. Life seems to pick up speed as we anticipate and plan for summer life. But before those warm summer days bring the joys of summer, this season still means short days, cool and windy, with just glimpses of the summer to come. Before those graduations, vacations, and Confirmation celebrations, there are things that must be done.

As we enter the Lenten Season and anticipate rejoicing in the celebration of the Resurrection, we also need to prepare. In order to do this, spending time in contemplation of the journey to the cross by praying, worshiping, and reading scripture are all important. Central provides different types of opportunities to help us and those we invite. These spiritual practices are designed to help you prepare to comprehend the love expressed for us by the actions of Jesus.

Our Lenten Spirituality Center offered by the Educational and Spiritual Growth Team is one of these opportunities. Join us for each Lenten weekday service and invite someone. The entirety of Holy Week worship is designed for us to remember why Easter is such a celebration. Bring your children and your friends to Maundy Thursday, one of the most powerful services of the year. Gather together on Good Friday to face the reason Christians call it that. Holy Week helps us join Jesus on that journey to the cross, even the most heartbreaking moments.

Through intentional practices and worship, we prepare our hearts to accept what a miracle and a gift the Resurrection is to us. I look forward to being on this journey with you!

Blessings,

Rev. Meg

SUNDAYS @ 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

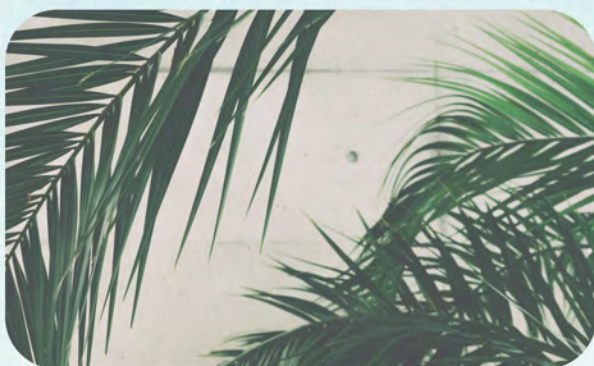
Wesley Fellowship – Room 170



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: RECREATION SUNDAY, MARCH 3

Central's Recreation Ministry provides our members and visitors with opportunities to enjoy recreational activities and maintain their physical fitness in a Christian environment.

HOLY WEEK



Palm Sunday

Sunday, March 24
10:30 AM • Sanctuary
10:30 AM • The Well

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 28
7:00 PM • Sanctuary

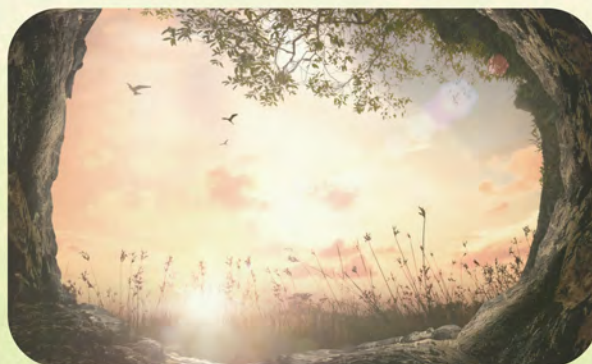


Good Friday

Friday, March 29
12:00 PM • Sanctuary

Easter Sunday

Sunday, March 31
7:30 AM • Sanctuary Steps
10:30 AM • Sanctuary
10:30 AM • The Well



LAY LEADERSHIP

The Body of Christ in Action

March is a wonderful time to join a new ministry area! If you have seen some ministries that you are interested in learning more about, you can always explore their work before you join in. If you are unsure about the variety of opportunities we offer for you to use your spiritual gifts, a conversation with Rev. Meg is a good place to start. And, if you are unsure of your spiritual gifts, a starting point to explore those can begin with a Spiritual Gifts Assessment.

One to try: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/exploring-your-spiritual-gifts>. They may surprise you!

Ministry Opportunity

One area we would like to add to our ministries is that of organizing or taking a meal to families with a new baby. If you are interested in organizing, preparing, or taking a meal, please let Rev. Meg know and we'll start to put together our team! Because, praise God, we are so blessed to have lots of new babies!

Please prayerfully consider participating in a ministry area. If you have not yet joined a ministry area, if you have questions about a ministry, or if you are feeling called to begin something new, please contact Rev. Meg Jiunnies.

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Education and Spiritual Growth Meeting

Sunday, March 3 • 9:00 - 9:30 AM
Moody Parlor Rm#166

Preschool Board Meeting

Monday, March 4 • 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Moody Parlor Rm#166

Adult & Family Ministries Team Meeting

Monday, March 11 • 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Moody Parlor Rm#166

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, March 12 • 5:15 PM - 6:15 PM
Christian Family Conference Rm#173

Faith Sharing Meeting

Monday, March 18 • 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Moody Parlor Rm#166

SPRC Meeting

Tuesday, March 19 • 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Christian Family Conference Rm#173

Outreach Meeting

Wednesday, March 20 • 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Christian Family Conference Rm#173

UMW Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 20 • 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Moody Parlor Rm#166

Church Council

Tuesday, March 26 • 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Davis Christian Life Center Rm#151



2024 BEDS BUILD DAY

Saturday, March 16

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

BEDS Building

across from the church

268 W. Cheves St.

WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY



ELIZABETH HOLMES, SOPRANO

ACCOMPANIED BY DON GRICE, PIANO
IN A PROGRAM OF SACRED VOCAL MUSIC

MARCH 6, 2024

12:00 PM

A part of the Lenten Midweek Series

CENTRAL UMC
FLORENCE, SC

WORSHIP IN THE WELL

Children in The Well

An amazing transformation takes place every Sunday in Davis. Every space in our church building is holy and blessed by God, but the labor of transforming a gym into a sacred sanctuary of worship each week is a testament to both the vitality of and the need for such a service. One thing we strive for is to do a better job connecting children to what is happening in worship. Round tables with paper tablecloths give parents and children a less stressful experience so they can worship with their full attention. We provide children's bulletins that sync with the sermon scripture as well as activity bags and crayons for restless hands. Because we put all lyrics and liturgy on the screen instead of using printed resources, it frees up parents' hands for when they might be needed to assist with a child. If children want to move with the music, they are free to do so. Current music styles, instruments, and lyrics heighten relevancy. We present the traditional elements of Methodist worship in fresh ways, but children are still learning the creeds of our faith, hymns, and participating in the sacraments. All these things, along with amazing hospitality, are especially effective for young families who didn't grow up with traditional worship. If you know of a family who doesn't have a church home, invite them to experience The Well. Central strives for excellence in worship and music to the glory of God, and The Well is no exception.

Palm Sunday in The Well

On Palm Sunday, March 24, The Well congregation will gather outside the exterior entrance to Davis (in the Cheves St. parking lot) prior to worship and begin the service outside followed by processing in with palms. Anyone with mobility issues or seating concerns is welcome to participate in that first part of the service seated in Davis. In the case of inclement weather, the congregation will gather in Spears for the procession.



Dear Members of the Church Community,

We are in need of volunteers to assist with the weekly tear-down and clean-up after our church service. Keeping our sacred church items safely put away will ensure that we will have them again and again in order for us to create a warm and welcoming Godly space for all members and visitors. As a volunteer, you would be responsible for moving our sacred items by cart from the worship space to the closet behind the stage, placing all living plants on the stage, and emptying waste baskets. I pray that God will speak to you and compel you to assist us in this ministry of love. Remember, every small act of service contributes to the greater well-being of our church community. Let us unite for this common cause and create a positive impact together. Thank you for your generosity and willingness to dedicate your time to the upkeep of our beloved ministry, The Well.

Volunteers
needed

Blessings,

Warren Coker
The Well Design Team
Clean Up Committee Chair
Central United Methodist Church

CENTRAL UMC PRESCHOOL

WE ARE BLOOMING AND GROWING TOGETHER!

PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

THE PRESCHOOL RE-ENROLLMENT PROCESS WAS A HUGE SUCCESS! WE HAVE OVER A 95% AND CLIMBING RETENTION RATE, AND MOST NEW BABY PLACEMENTS FOR THE COMING YEAR HAVE BEEN EXISTING FAMILIES AND CENTRAL UMC FAMILIES. THIS IS EVIDENCE THAT OUR AMAZING TEACHERS CREATE A LOVING ENVIRONMENT FOR EDUCATION, AND FAMILIES ARE CHOOSING US AGAIN AND AGAIN.

EVERY CHILD REPRESENTS A HOME WE CAN REACH WITH THE LOVE OF JESUS CHRIST! FOR FAMILIES WHO ALREADY HAVE A CHURCH HOME, WE ARE REINFORCING THEIR FAMILY'S CHRISTIAN VALUES HERE AT CENTRAL UMC PRESCHOOL.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLIANCE

EVERY YEAR, THE PRESCHOOL IS REVIEWED BY MULTIPLE AGENCIES TO MAKE SURE WE ARE MEASURING UP. RECENTLY, THE PRESCHOOL PASSED THE FOLLOWING REVIEWS WITH TOTAL COMPLIANCE:

- DSS RENEWAL INSPECTION OF ALL CLASSROOMS
- DSS INSPECTION OF FILES RELATED TO EMPLOYEES' QUALIFICATIONS, HEALTH, CONTINUED EDUCATION, AND STAFF TO STUDENT RATIO WITH NO DEFICIENCIES
- DSS INSPECTION OF ALL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WITH NO DEFICIENCIES
- DHEC ANNUAL REVIEW OF IMMUNIZATION RECORDS WITH NO DEFICIENCIES

UPGRADES AND IMPROVEMENTS

WE ARE ALWAYS WORKING TO IMPROVE OUR PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS, OUR EMPLOYEES, AND THE BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS OF CENTRAL UMC. OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, THE PRESCHOOL HAS FUNDED, THROUGH GRANTS OR TUITION, THE FOLLOWING UPDATES:

- NEW PAINT IN ALL CLASSROOMS ON THE PRESCHOOL HALL
- NEW CARPET IN ALL CLASSROOMS ON THE PRESCHOOL HALL
- REPLACED FURNISHINGS INCLUDING TABLES, CHAIRS, AND SHELVING
- REGRADING AND REPLACING ALL MULCH ON BOTH PLAYGROUNDS
- ADDITIONAL PLAYGROUND TOYS AND EDUCATIONAL TOOLS
- NEW TOYS AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS IN ALL CLASSES
- UPDATES TO THE PRESCHOOL OFFICE

EMPLOYER PROGRESS

THE PRESCHOOL BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION HAVE MADE EMPLOYMENT AT CENTRAL UMC PRESCHOOL BETTER THAN EVER:

- TWO MAJOR PAY INCREASES IN THE PAST THREE YEARS
- PART-TIME OPTION
- FULL-TIME OPTION WITH OPTIONAL BENEFITS
- MULTIPLE BREAKS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WITH A PARTIAL-PAY STIPEND
- SUBSTANTIAL EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT
- OPTIONAL SUMMER DAY CAMP EMPLOYMENT
- EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION TREATS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR
- CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT THAT FOSTERS A COMMUNITY OF LOVING SUPPORT



NURSERY & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Moments with the Ministers

If you missed BibleBlast in February, then you missed lots of laughs and getting to know Pastor Thomas and Pastor Meg! During our time with Pastor Meg, the children learned why we say the Apostles Creed and what the words really mean.

Pastor Thomas taught the children about Holy Communion and what Communion Sunday means. The child who said Communion Sunday is also Doughnut Sunday was correct as well!

The Children at Central are very bright and love God. We look forward to learning from Pastor Ann in March!



Blessing Bags - Children's Mission Focus

Throughout March, Central's Children's Sunday school classes will collect items to create Blessing Bags, a means of reaching out to the homeless community. These bags are stocked with simple necessities to assist individuals in navigating their day. Classes are asked to bring the following items:

5K: socks, antibacterial wipes, hand sanitizer

1st grade: Chapstick, comb, small nail file

2nd & 3rd grades: protein bars, bottled water

4th & 5th grades: tuna packets, beef jerky, small tissue packs

Any and all of these items are appreciated! Please collect items in your Sunday school classrooms. Collection baskets will also be located in The Commons and The Well.

Sunday Funday

Join us for an afternoon of Bingo, prizes, and ice cream on Sunday, March 10, from 3:00-4:30 PM in Spears Fellowship Hall. All families are invited. Bring your friends, too! Registration is required. Due to budget constraints, if you can pay \$2 per person to underwrite the cost of prizes, please do so when you register on Realm.

Easter Egg Hunt

We are excited to hold our annual Easter Egg Hunt as we prepare our hearts and minds for Easter. Families with children ages infant through 5th grade are invited to join us on Sunday, March 24, at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Stella and Annabelle Slice (1063 Gray Kat Lane) for an Easter Egg Hunt, crafts, and Bible story.

Don't forget to bring your Easter basket with you!

Note: The Egg Hunt will begin promptly at 3:00 PM. Please plan accordingly as it takes a while to get to the Slices' home.

Happy Birthday!

Noah Learn - March 19

Madison Williams - March 20

Frances Catherine Granger - March 21

Nora Martin - March 28

Smith Johnson - March 30

Porter Love - March 31

CHILDREN'S SABBATH IN THE WELL



Children's Sabbath in The Well

Children's Sabbath was held in The Well on January 28, 2024. The Children helped with all aspects of worship, from greeting to praise and worship and leading the congregation in prayers and scripture readings. Special thanks to Mrs. Kristen and Dr. Jaime who taught the children the beautiful songs they sang.

YOUTH SUNDAY IN THE SANCTUARY



YOUTH MINISTRY



Youth Sunday in the Sanctuary

Youth Sunday was a special day at Central! We had a combined service and had the privilege of listening to our youth lead us in worship. Thank you to our youth for your faithful dedication to Central and thank you to the Youth Ministry Team and everyone else who worked with our youth to make this day so meaningful.

Happy Birthday!

Katherine Crosson – March 1
Morgan Coker – March 4
Hannah Marie McKay – March 5
Daniel Thompson – March 8
Ella Skeen – March 15
Ava Paola – March 28

May the God of hope fill you with all joy
and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

Upcoming Events

March 1 - March 3 – Confirmation Retreat at Epworth by the Sea

March 3 – UMYF Led by our Youth Council

They have a fun night planned! Bring your friends and come support the Youth Council.
Jr. Highs @ 5:30 PM • Dinner @ 6:30 PM • Sr. Highs @ 7:00 PM

March 10 – Dodgeball in the Davis Center

March 14 – Jr. High (6th-8th grade) Breakfast at 7:00 AM in the Youth Lounge
School transportation will be provided.

March 17 – Guest Speaker – 5:30 PM for All Youth

Our guest speaker will be Kevin O'Shea. Born with several birth defects, Kevin was told his quality of life would be poor. He is now a graduate of West Florence High School (94) and Francis Marion University (98) and ran track and cross country at both schools. He has such an amazing faith story to share! Please join us to hear Kevin's message and have dinner afterward. Friends are always welcome!

March 24 – Palm Sunday and Children's Easter Egg Hunt at 3:00 PM! Our help is needed with the egg hunt. Please contact Julie if you can help.

March 31 – No UMYF – Easter Sunday – Spring break! Enjoy time with your family & friends!

ADULT & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Lenten Lunches

Join us for lunch each Wednesday immediately following our Lenten Worship Services. Weekly menus are as follows:
3/6 - Turkey & Provolone, Vegetable Soup
3/13 - Reuben, Potato Salad
3/20 - Chicken Club, Creamy Potato Soup

Happy Travelers Magical Mystery Tour

Our Happy Travelers are taking a break in March but will once again set off on a Magical Mystery Tour in April. Be on the lookout for more details!

Weekly Movie Matinee

Popcorn, laughter, and movie magic await every Tuesday at 2:00 PM in Room 232 (upstairs on the Children's Hall)! Come on over and be part of the fun! Check out the blockbuster lineup for March:

March 5 - *The Boys from Brazil*

March 12 - *Pelican Brief*

March 19 - *Field of Dreams*

March 26 - *Argo*



Wednesday Night Dinner & Programming

Our Wednesday Night Dinners will wrap up in March! Come join your friends each week for a delicious meal and delightful fellowship. Please register by Sunday of each week so that we can plan accordingly. You may register in Realm or by calling the church office. Cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children.

March 6 - Art Justice - Faithful Lenten Practice (Spears)

March 13 - South Florence High School Chamber Choir (Sanctuary)

March 20 - Final WND Until Fall!

Youth Basketball

Congratulations to all our basketball teams on a fantastic season, and special congrats to our 12U and 14U Teams who won their championship games!



FAITH FORMATION

NEW OPPORTUNITY

Books and Bites

Thursday, March 7 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Church is a gift of support and nurture, learning about what we believe, and putting it into action. The wonderful thing about Christian community is that it is not just what happens in church, or on a particular day, but that we can incorporate it into all parts of our lives. Small groups are important for accountability and growth, and as we look forward to eventually starting affinity small groups we want to start small with an event to celebrate March Reading Month. So, borrowing an idea from our local Lutheran at Large, Rev. Mary Finklea, Central is going to host a reading evening in the Schofield library.

Enjoy a little Christian community time in a calm space. Invite a friend and join us for reading night at Central. All you need is your current book! Meet in the Schofield library for some snacks and a comfy place to read alongside others. If you enjoy audio books and doodling while you listen, mandalas will be provided. Explore the offerings in the Library while you're there and you might find your next book!

ONGOING BIBLE STUDIES

Courtney Graham Women's Bible Study

God of Freedom – A Study of Exodus 19-40 by Jen Wilkins

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

Led by Ginny Hill and Beth Ann Owen

Journey through the story of how God shepherds His newly-liberated children into an understanding of what their freedom means: lives consecrated for service to God and to one another. Revisit familiar stories and, with a fresh perspective, ask what these stories teach God's children today about how to live as those set free.

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!

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

Be Invitational for Lent

Your Faith Sharing team is once again providing you with an easy way to share your faith through the simple act of invitation. This Lent, we will provide cards listing the dates and times of our many Lenten services and events for you to invite friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. You'll be sharing Good News with those who need to hear it the most.

Love a Greeter

Our greeters work hard to greet visitors and Central family every Sunday with a smile and readiness to help. They make sacrifices to be in position at the right times and many of them miss Sunday School to greet. When you see a greeter, return the smile and thank them for their important service. Want to serve as a greeter? Contact Pastor Ann.

Connecting with Our Guests

If you worship in the sanctuary, you may have noticed new cards have appeared in the pockets of the blue friendship pads, behind the attendance pads. We are inviting our first-time guests to fill out these "Connect Cards" and return them to the Welcome Center where they will receive a gift from Central. The Connect Cards can also be found on the Greeters' tables in The Well. We want to connect our guests to the wonderful life of this church, and we can only stay in touch with them if we collect their information. If you meet someone who is visiting for the first time, please encourage them to fill out a card and point them in the right direction for The Welcome Center, located in The Commons in front of the parking lot entrance.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Serve on Congregational Care!

The team is looking for an organizer for Meals for Families with New Babies! Contact Missy Brown (chair) or Rev. Meg Jiunnies to find out more information!

Pray for Central's 2024 Stephen Minister Training Group!

The following people are completing a course of 50 hours of intensive training to become our newest Stephen Ministers. Pray for them as they study and commit to this ministry of Christian support! Susan Breeden, Elizabeth Campbell, Elvie Eaddy, Ron Garner, Emily Griffin, Allana Hilley, John Jacobs, Anne McNair, Mincy Peterson, Amy Sansbury, and Kaye Williamson. Special thanks to Rev. Tom Pietila for organizing the training and our Stephen Leaders and Ministers for leading courses.

OUTREACH

Manna House in Need of Volunteers

The Manna House needs four volunteers to assist in the kitchen from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Mondays and Thursdays. You can contact Melinda Waddell (Director) at 843-327-0663 for more information. Youth volunteer needs have been fulfilled until summer break.



**Please join Aldersgate Special Needs Ministry for a
Dedication Ceremony of
Sunshine House,
a home for four men with special needs.**

**Thursday, March 7, 2024, 1:00 PM
3650 Hamer Circle
Florence, SC 29501**

Rev. Katherine Crimm Officiating

Reception will follow

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Carter Ruth Rodel

February 6, 2024

Proud Parents
Brittany and Hans

Big Sisters
Amanda and Chandler

Maternal Grandparents
Pam and Doug Maloy

Paternal Grandparents
Linda and Rudolf Rodel

EASTER GREENERY

2 Green Plants for Lent

Palms for Children to Wave on Palm Sunday

2 Palm Arrangements for Palm Sunday

2 Easter Lily Arrangements

Easter Garland for Cross

*Contact Shay Justice (sjustice@centralmethodist.net)
if you would like to purchase Easter Greenery
in honor or in memory of someone.*



MARCH 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Confirmation Retreat	2 Confirmation Retreat
3 Confirmation Retreat First Sunday Fellowship Ministry Spotlight Pickleball 12:45 PM Masterworks Concert 4:00PM UMYF	4 Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Men's Basketball 6:45 PM	5 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM	6 Holy Communion 11:30 AM Midweek Lenten Service 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch 12:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30 PM Art Justice 6:15 PM	7 Pickleball 12:30 PM Stephen Ministry Training 6:30 PM The Book & Bite Bunch 7:00 PM	8 Scouts Night Owl Adventure at Riverbanks Zoo	9 Scouts Night Owl Adventure at Riverbanks Zoo
10 Pickleball 12:45 PM Sunday Funday 3:00 PM UMYF	11 Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Help4Kids Packing 2:00 PM Steph. Min. Cont. Ed. 6:00 PM Men's Basketball 6:45 PM	12 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM	13 Holy Communion 11:30 AM Midweek Lenten Service 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch 12:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30 PM SF Chamber Choir 6:15 PM	14 Jr. High Breakfast 7:00 AM Red Cross Blood Drive 11:00 AM	15	16 BEDS Building Day 8:30 AM
17 Scrapbooking 12:30 PM Stephen Ministry Training 12:30 PM Pickleball 12:45 PM UMYF	18 Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Men's Basketball 6:45 PM	19 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM	20 Holy Communion 11:30 AM Midweek Lenten Service 12:00 PM Lenten Lunch 12:30 PM UMW Board Meeting 3:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30 PM	21 Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM Moms Coffee/Convo 8:45 AM Pickleball 12:30 PM	22 Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM	23
24 Palm Sunday Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM Pickleball 12:45 PM Easter Egg Hunt 3:00 PM CUMC Book Club 4:00 PM	25 Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM Courtney Graham 9:15 AM MBK Meal Packing 12:15 PM Help4Kids Packing 2:00 PM Men's Basketball 6:45 PM	26 Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM 27:17 Bible Study 7:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:30 AM Movie Matinee 2:00 PM Church Council 7:00 PM BSA Troop 475 7:00 PM	27 Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM Service of Prayer & Holy Communion 12:00 PM	28 Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM Pickleball 12:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM	29 Lenten Spirituality Center 8:00 AM Good Friday Service 12:00 PM	30

31
Easter Sunday
7:30 AM - Sunrise Service (Sanctuary Steps)
10:30 AM - The Well
10:30 AM - Sanctuary

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

Wednesday Nights
Preschool Choir Rehearsal - 6:00 PM
Elementary Choir Rehearsal & Jr. BibleBlast - 6:00 PM
Disciple I Bible Study - 6:00 PM
Financial Peace University - 6:00 PM
Handbell Choir Rehearsal - 6:15 PM
Junior Choir Rehearsal & Elem. BibleBlast - 6:30 PM
Chancel Choir Rehearsal - 7:15 PM

Circle Meetings
Monday, March 4
Christian Women Circle, 4:00 PM
Tuesday, March 5
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

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

Director of Adult & Family Ministries

Adriane Reynolds, areynolds@centralmethodist.net

Facilities Manager

Dan Rogers, drogers@centralmethodist.net

Business Manager

Tara Ballenger, tballenger@centralmethodist.net

Director of Media

Philip Maenza, pmaenza@centralmethodist.net

Office Manager

Shay Justice, sjjustice@centralmethodist.net

Receptionist

Dianna Wilson, dwilson@centralmethodist.net

Media Associate

Kathryn Velicky, kvelicky@centralmethodist.net

Director of Central UMC Preschool

Jennifer Walters, jwalters@centralmethodist.net

Kitchen Manager

George Hicks

Caretakers

Jason Taylor, Charles Beaufort, Ben Nettles

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:

167 South Irby Street

Florence, SC 29501

Mailing Address:

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Florence, SC 29501

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