

The Vital Connection

Bi-Monthly Newsletter For
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

276 W. First Street, Denton, NC

September/October 2015

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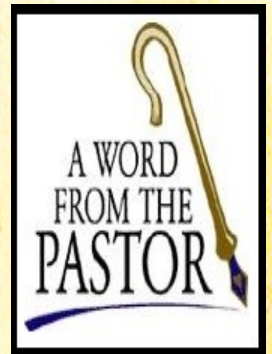
Words from Warren...

Aaahh, cooler days and nights with leaves beginning to change from summer green to an array of bright fall colors — the season of fall is my favorite time of year! High school football games will soon begin as many local teams will hit the gridiron field. Area school bells have started ringing and soon our Preschool doors will open welcoming new little learners. Summer vacations will be fond memories, and children will once again be awakening in the early morning hours to eat a healthy breakfast and catch the local school bus. Other parents may be hustling to drop off their young ones, and at the end of the day, picking up and helping with homework. Teachers will stand in front of new students. Students will enter new phases of learning. Administrators will be skillfully insuring that all things are safe and running smoothly. And, above all else, God will be with each, supporting and guiding throughout the school year.

Christians have a long history of valuing and advancing education. The Apostle Paul spent two years teaching in the lecture hall of Tyrannus (Acts 19:8-10). Some of the greatest Christians throughout history were strong educators, such as Saint Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, John Calvin, John Wesley, and Jonathan Edwards. More importantly, Jesus Himself was a rabbi, a teacher, and his followers were learners called "disciples".

I encourage you to keep in mind a few watchwords for those Christians involved in education: 1) *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge."* (Proverbs 1:7); 2) *"Test everything, and hold on to the good."* (1 Thess. 5:21); 3) *"Whenever we taste the truth, God is there."* (St. Augustine); and 4) *"True Education is an act of loving God with our mind."* (Matt. 22:37-39).

We want to remember our children, teachers and administrators during this school year. Lift them up daily in prayer — prayers for a successful year and for daily protection from all harm. *Rev. Warren Miller*



Reminder:
Next Bi-Monthly Church
Council Meeting
Thursday, September 24
6:30pm in the Hut

Open to anyone!

Dear Church Members and Friends,

As we wind down from the summer events and gear up for fall and the Advent/Christmas Season, let us keep our Church obligations in focus. As we have promised to give our time, our gifts/talents, our treasures and our witness, let us not forget the Church. The Church operates 12 months of the year, 7 days a week, and many times more than 8 hours a day...there is no vacation for Godly work.

Please be receptive when asked to serve on a committee, help with our children's ministry or help with a town ministry project. Let us remember our financial obligations from the Church to our community, neighbors, district and conference. May we remain consistent with giving throughout the year.

There are so many opportunities coming our way in the last part of 2015 and many new and exciting ministries are being planned for 2016. Engage today!

With Christian Love and Care,

Andy Morris, Chairperson, Church Council

OUTREACH MINISTRIES



FOOD PANTRY HAS A NEW LOCATION

To be more accessible to those who prepare the Food Pantry bags and those who distribute the bags during church office hours, the Pantry has been moved to the former youth Sunday School room located behind the choir loft. Non-perishable food donations are always welcomed especially canned meat products. Items may be left at the door or in the grocery cart located in the narthex. Volunteers are always welcome to help stock shelves. Special Thanks to all you help continue this local outreach program.

2015-2016 BACK PACK PROGRAM

As a result of new and innovative administration at Denton Elementary School substantial funding has been set aside for this year's Back Pack Program. Thus, Central UMC and other local churches will not be preparing the backpacks each week. However, if any funds or supply needs become necessary, Central UMC has indicated that this mission outreach will continue if the school administration deems necessary.



UNITED METHODIST MEN TO SERVE LOCAL FOOTBALL TEAM

Again this year, the South Davidson High School Football Team will receive a hearty meal at the school to help prepare the team and coaches for their home games. Special Thanks to Central UMM for hosting this rewarding and blessed outreach program. Meals are prepared in the Hut and are transported to the school for serving at 3:00 p.m. Come join this powerful experience with the youth in our community.

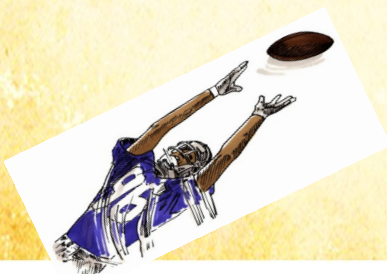


UNITED METHODIST WOMEN PREPARE DESSERTS FOR OPEN HANDS MINISTRY OUTREACH PROGRAM

On the third weekend of each month, UMW Circle members are generously preparing delicious desserts for the Open Hands Ministry to be shared with those in need.



Volunteers are still being recruited for one Friday night a month to collect food from The Classic Restaurant and transported to First UMC for the Open Hands Ministry program. Contact First UMC if you would like join others in this important local mission. It only takes a few minutes to make a huge difference for a worthy cause.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 11 - NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE
AND REMEMBRANCE

Special Service in Harrison Park – 9:00 a.m.

Movie in the Park – 6:00 p.m.

Superhero Contest and Martial Arts Demonstration

SEPTEMBER 12 - DENTON STREET FESTIVAL

Central's **VITALITY TEAM** will host a
WATER WAGON

during the festival...providing free water and
offering a special invitation to
visit Central UMC and experience God's love.

Health
& Wellness

Luncheon

"Medication Safety"

Wed., September 16

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Local Guest Pharmacist

Kendall Williams



**CHICKEN 'N
DUMPLINGS LUNCH**

October 25 - 12 P.M.

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Chicken 'n Dumplings can be labeled as one of the perfect "comfort" foods. Come and savor this classic lunch at Central's Hut to support missions, families in need and Central's Food Pantry. Lunch begins immediately following worship. All are invited to worship with us and join us for fellowship over this great home cooked meal.

**SPONSORED BY United Methodist Women's Circle #4
(The Mary Frances Stubbs Circle)**



QUILT CLASS

Central Bazaar Ladies are making plans to hold a Quilt Class this year in place of the Annual Bazaar. If you're interested in learning how to quilt or have experience in quilting, please attend.

PLANNING MEETING

Thursday, September 5, 2015

10:00 a.m. ~ Church Hut

HALLOWEEN

Street Treat Festival

When: **October 31***

Time: **5:30-7:00 p.m.**

Place: **Farmer's Market**

Activities: **Cake Walk and Candy Give-Away**

Needs: **Candy for Give-Away Bags and
Cakes, Pies, Cookies for Cake Walk
(already packaged)**

And **VOLUNTEERS (SIGN-UP SHEETS IN NARTHEX)**



Updated Church Website
www.centralumcdenton.com



"like" us on
facebook

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Warren Miller

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Believers Learning and Sharing Together

B.L.A.S.T. Youth attended First UMC on Sun., August 30 to hear the story of Jeff Moose and his

MOOSE TRACK MISSION

walking for homeless youth from Manteo to Murphy. Jeff's story was enriching and inspirational to our youth. A Love Offering was collected for his mission.

BLAST meets every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth room.

Bring a friend and join us for a Blast as we learn about Christ!



Miss Judy invites all children between the ages of Kindergarten to 5th Grade to join her Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. for a new curriculum called **DEEP BLUE!**

There's always snacks, crafts, and a bible lesson with take home material.

"Don't forget to bring your new bible to class — this will help you learn more about God's Holy Word!"

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



New Nursery is Taking shape!

Take a moment to drop in and see how the Nursery has changed. In addition to a fresh coat of paint and new carpet, plans are being made to expand the nursery into the former Church Pantry room. There is a need to keep the "walkers" and the "crawlers" separate. When all is done our new children's area will be very appealing to both our church family and visitors.



Open House held on August 27!



Central UMC Preschool opens on Tuesday, September 8, for the new school year. Preschool is excited to begin the new year with freshly painted rooms. Be sure to peek in and see our beautiful class. We have 11 students enrolled. Preschool welcomes 3 new students with 8 returning students.



PURPOSE

OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Central UMW Circles will Unite as One in 2016!

The UMW—Lib Callis Circle will host the final UMW General Meeting on Monday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Historically, General Meetings have been held quarterly throughout the year with all three circles to keep everyone apprised of projects, missions and involvement in the community.

A major discussion focus at this UMW General Meeting will be the upcoming union of the circles, selection of officers, hosting of the meetings, etc. UMW urges all ladies of the church to join us at this General Meeting as well as our first meeting in January when we will become the new **Central UMW**.

Visit us...learn what our PURPOSE is all about!

Sunday Worship Leaders — September and October

USHERS & GREETERS

SEPTEMBER

Buddy and Nancy Sexton
Don and Janice Esposito

OCTOBER

Mike and Kathy Baum
James and Lynda Kearns

CHILDREN'S TIME

Sept. 6: Ann Crouse
Sept. 13: Rev. Miller
Sept. 20: Judy Bowman
Sept. 27: Donna Morris
Oct. 4: Rev. Miller
Oct. 11: Beth Ligon
Oct. 18: Tina Lanier
Oct. 25: Cathy Ward

LAY READERS

Sept. 6: Cathy Ward
Sept. 13: Miranda Morris
Sept. 20: Andy Morris
Sept. 27: Chase Cross
Oct. 4: Debbie Sigmon
Oct. 11: Jocelyn Kearns
Oct. 18: Chase Cross
Oct. 25: Stewart Sexton

ACOLYTES

Sept. 6: Ellie Baldwin
Sept. 13: Olivia Parker
Sept. 20: Emma Walton
Sept. 27: Logan Beanblossom
Oct. 4: Chase Cross
Oct. 11: Haven Riochii and Karsyn Lane
Oct. 18: Sam Parker
Oct. 25: Casey Calhoun

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sept. 6: Wilson Carter
Sept. 13: M/M Ed Roberson
Sept. 20: Andy Morris
Sept. 27: Friends of
Ozzie & Grace Freund
Oct. 4: M/M Lawrence Ridge
Oct. 11: Scotty Morris
Oct. 18: M/M Ed Richey
Oct. 25: Jerrie Lomax

To place flowers on the altar for a special occasion or remembrance, please call Billie Allison at 859-0485.

OFFERINGS RECEIVED

July 5	\$3,729.80
July 12	\$3,598.75
July 19	\$2,361.00
July 26	\$2,938.00
Aug. 2	\$5,855.25
Aug. 9	\$4,328.10
Aug. 16	\$3,358.96
Aug. 23	\$3,624.40

NON BUDGET RECEIPTS

Preschool	\$ 6
Emergency	\$ 25
VBS	\$ 75
Door Fund	\$300
Bazaar	\$ 50
Choir	\$ 25
Emergency	\$150
Preschool	\$ 25

ATTENDANCE

	<u>Worship</u>	<u>SS</u>
July 5	94	41
July 12	92	34
July 19	106	32
July 26	102	32
Aug. 2	146	41
Aug. 9	90	33
Aug. 16	112	41
Aug. 23	159	30



CHURCH MEMBERS

Donna Davis, Janice Esposito, DeLisa Garner, Dick Getz, Pam Harrison, Lillie Hill, Danny Hill, Betty Hinesley, Leroy Hinesley, Barbara Hogan, Linda Kearns, Jerrie Lomax, Addie Phillips, Craig Sigmon, Johnnie Sigmon, Othell & Ava Lee Surratt, and Peggy Wilkins

MOUNTAIN VISTA

Catherine Leonard	Rm #53
Edith Sigmon	Rm #59
George Tillotson	Rm #89
Vae C. Davis	Rm #92
Hervey Yates	Rm #112
Margaret Hunt	Rm #108
Odessa Gallimore	Rm #52
Mack Cranford	Rm #94

May the Glory of God Bless Each of You on the Celebration of Your Special Day!

Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

September Birthdays

- 1—Debbie Sigmon
- 2—Scott Davis, Louise Calder, Tre Skeen
- 4—Marianne Bowman
- 7—Mason Reece Crouse
- 9—John Parker
- 11—Samuel Parker
- 12—Lisa H. Merritt, Logan Lester
- 13—Sam Whitlock, Patrick O'Hara
- 14—Debbie Johnson, Laura Futrell, Stacey Crouse
- 15—Ed Roberson
- 17—Ronnie McRae, Robbie Lanier
- 18—Jocelyn Beyeler, Sarah Skeen, David Garrison
- 20—Dan Sexton
- 21—Courtney Howard, Don Esposito
- 22—Buddy Sexton, Sandra Davis
- 25—Wilson Carter, Jimmy Futrell, Michelle Fritts
- 26—William Sigmon III, Kelly Whitlock
- 27—Margaret Harris, Genie Russell
- 29—Taylor Bean

September Anniversaries

- 1—Jon and Ginger Johnson
- 13—Gabriel and Kelly Whitlock
- 15—Robbie and Sherri Lanier
- 16—Jason and Carmen Harris
- 20—Jason and Laura Walton
- 21—Andy and Sarah Morris
- 25—Tremaine and Yuliya Skeen
- 26—David and Marsha Gaither

October Birthdays

- 2—Denese M. O'Hara
- 3—Tremaine Skeen, Gladys Decker, Miranda Morris
- 6—Lanette Tysinger
- 7—Danny Burton
- 8—Ryan O'Hara
- 9—Gracie Morris
- 10—Bethany Rudisill, Brandon Killmyer
- 11—Austin Calhoun, Maddie Brookbank
- 16—Colby Garrison, Sylvia Morris
- 17—Dale Futrell, John Richardson
- 18—Wilson Joseph Critcher
- 19—Trean Ellis
- 20—Russell Davis
- 21—Virginia Luther, Jeannine Morris
- 24—Dan Briggs, Nancy Sexton
- 25—Laura Gorno, Alex Zeitany
- 26—Benji Cook
- 27—Linda Sturdivant
- 29—Caroline Hinesley, Laura Sexton
- 31—John Tysinger, Kim Kirkman, Kelly Dockham

October Anniversaries

- 3—Mike and Genie Russell
- 4—David and Blair Luther
Don and Lori Jones
- 8—Chuck and Debbie Crouch
- 10—Roger and Beth Ligon
- 11—Billy and Kelly Weaver
- 18—Eddie and Betty Richey
Ronnie and Libby Hall
- 20—Matthew and Kelly Dockham

CELEBRATIONS AND PRAISES

Congratulations to the Hinesley Family! GLENN THOMAS LUTHER, son of David and Blair Hinesley Luther, recently completed Phase I of his Eagle Project. Glenn is a member of Boy Scout Troop #65 at Philadelphia Presbyterian Church in Mint Hill, NC. For his Eagle Project, Glenn helped renovate the Weekday School Playground at his home church, University City United Methodist Church in Charlotte. Information on Glenn's project can be found at www.glennseagleproject.com. Congratulations, Glenn!

If you have a Celebration or Praise you'd like to share with your church family, whether it is an engagement, wedding, birth announcement or special event, let us hear from you! Simply email church secretary at lindadaviscumc@windstream.net OR newsletter editor at mlanier@windstream.net

July & August Highlights

VBS 2015 – Camp Discovery



Homecoming 2015

WITH GRATITUDE & THANKFULNESS

I am deeply grateful to each person who contributed to our joyful 2015 Homecoming Celebration. What a wonderful experience to have Rev. Erik Grayson return as our Guest Minister. To all members and volunteers who assisted in the naming of the saints, lighting the candles, projection slides, special music, organizing for the luncheon — sincere gratitude to you all!
Margaret Harris
Choir Director
(Co-Leader Worship)

Having held another awesome Vacation Bible School, I want to acknowledge the Central UMC volunteers who gave their time and talents to this year's VBS success. You know who you are, and I want you to know how much you are appreciated. This is a major event requiring many hours of planning and preparation. It could not have been a success without your help! Thanks again! Tina Lanier
VBS Coordinator









Central UMC Troop 101 Boy Scout
Christopher Parrish
recently completed his Eagle project, a veterans' memorial at his family's home church Clear Springs UMC. Next time you visit Clear Springs, be sure to stop by and see this amazing accomplishment!

Christopher is the son of Chance and Julianna Fine Parrish, and is a junior at Gray Stone Academy.

Central UMC proudly congratulate Christopher on reaching his goal successfully! Godspeed ahead.

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While surfing the world wide web, be sure to visit Central's updated website at
www.centralumcdenton.com

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