

# The Vital Connection

*Bi-Monthly Newsletter*

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

276 W. First Street, Denton, NC

January / February 2016

Let us Welcome the New Year  
with New Beginnings in Christ!

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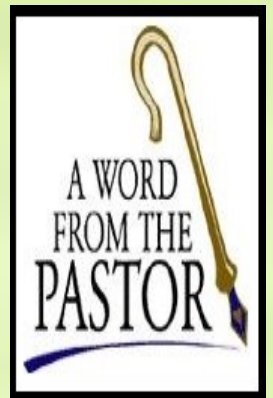
Calendars

## *Words from Warren...*

Can you believe that 2016 is already here? Another New Year. Another New Beginning. 365 Golden Opportunities in 2016. What will it bring? What will it mean? How will we use that most precious of all commodities, time? These questions, perhaps accompanied by others, may flood our minds.

Amid all our wonderings there is one certainty, however and that is the faithfulness of God. His presence and promises are unfailing. This is the steady beacon that can keep us on course in life. This is the solid rock upon which we may stand when all other ground is sinking sand. This is the firm anchor that holds in every devastating storm. God is true, His word is everlasting. God never changes.

The old, old hymn writer asks, "What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms?" Trusting in God who cannot fail us, we can face the New Year with great optimism. We can hope for faith brings vision to see beyond the chaotic moment of the world we actually live in. We can rejoice for Christ banishes despair. We can love for we ourselves have experienced the power and victory of love over hate. We can serve for in the losing of self we find life abundantly. We too can be faithful to all that God is and to all He has called us to be. Affirm in your own life daily throughout 2016 the fullness of God and you will see the working of his mighty hands. Happy New Year! *Rev. Warren Miller*



# First Missional Network Meeting Set for 2016

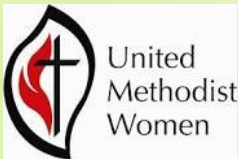
## Thursday, January 14, 2016—6:30 p.m.—The Classic Restaurant

The South Davidson Missional Network will be holding its first Missional Network meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. at The Classic Restaurant. The invitation is open to anyone especially pastors from each participating church, lay servants, leaders of UMM, UMW and Youth, and any outreach workers and volunteers. This is an important meeting designed for the purpose of strengthening the efforts of the Missional Network and to successfully accomplish to goals and projects planned for 2016. Spread the word!

South Davidson Missional Network—Participating Churches:

|                 |                 |   |                   |                      |
|-----------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| Alleghany UMC   | Canaan UMC      | Center UMC                                  | Central UMC       | Chandler's Grove UMC |
| Chapel Hill UMC | Cid UMC         | Clarksbury UMC                              | Clear Springs UMC | Fairview UMC         |
| Farmer UMC      | First UMC       | Lineberry UMC                               | Macedonia UMC     | New Hope UMC         |
| Oak Grove UMC   | Piney Grove UMC | Pleasant Grove UMC (Loflin Road, Denton)    |                   |                      |
| Siloam UMC      | Tabernacle UMC  | Pleasant Grove UMC (Old Hwy. 64, Lexington) |                   |                      |

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES



**OPEN INVITATION**  
**TO ALL WOMEN**  
**IN THE CHURCH AND**  
**COMMUNITY!**

The UMW of Central United is eagerly excited about all that the new year has in store for this mission group. Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. will begin the first unified meeting for the UMW. All women of the church, friends and relatives from within the community are invited to attend at least one night to see what our mission is all about. All meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the new UMW Room located downstairs. (Meetings may be held at a member's home if they choose to host, but not required.) New officers will be installed on February 2, 2016. Come join us, bring a friend, we know you will be blessed by the power of these women as we walk closer with God.



*UMW Christmas Social  
hosted by  
Cathy and Larry Ward.*

*UMW collected over 25 toys  
for donation to  
Toys for the Town!*



*Women with a  
Purpose...  
faith, hope, and  
love in action!*



**Food  
Pantry  
Needs**

As a result of the holidays, many bags of food were provided to many less fortunate people in the community. Let us remember to continue to provide non-perishable food

items as much as possible to continue to keep our Food Pantry fully stocked. Please remember that many people that we serve do not even have a can opener, so when possible, please try to purchase can foods with pull-away lids. Volunteers are needed to fill pantry bags when you have a few hours to stop in during office hours to help fill the bags. Items may be left at the door or in the grocery cart located in the narthex.



Members of the **Margaret Harris Sunday School Class** contributed to its **"Bees and Trees"** mission project directed toward Guatemala and Zambia through Heifer International.

They collected \$590 to send a message of Christian hope and love. Special thanks to all who donated to this mission outreach program.

### **UNITED METHODIST MEN**

All Men are invited to attend UMM Meetings held on the Second Sunday of each month at 8:00 a.m. in the hut.



**January 10th and February 14th**  
**Great fellowship with one another!**

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

### UNITED METHODIST MEN



Mark Your Calendars  
for the next  
UMM Barbecue on  
April 16, 2016!



**Spread the Word....  
Join us for this event!**  
*(Tickets will go on sale in February)*



Girl Scouts®

Girl Scouts Meet Every Other Saturday  
at 3:00 p.m. in Downstairs Fellowship Hall.  
Contact Church Office for exact dates.

# Health & Wellness

and  
VITALITY

Watch for upcoming  
meetings and events in  
Church Bulletins

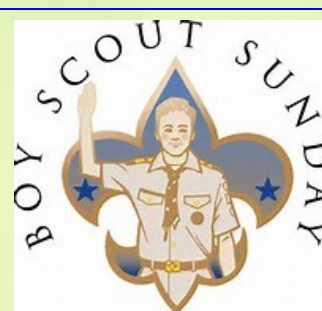


Next Meeting  
Thursday  
January 28  
6:00 p.m.  
Fellowship

## Member DIRECTORY

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Volunteers are needed to help design the new Church Membership Directory. The first meeting will be held **Sunday, January 10th at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall.** The more input we have, the better the directory will be! Join Us, Rev. Miller



**Join us for  
SCOUT  
SUNDAY**

**Sunday, February 7  
11:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship**

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day

**Treat Your Sweetheart To Lunch After Church!**

**VALENTINE'S DAY  
SPAGETTI LUNCHEON**

**Sunday, February 14, 2016  
12:00 Noon—2:00 p.m.  
Take Outs Available**

**Proceeds towards BLAST Youth Class**



[www.centralumcdenton.com](http://www.centralumcdenton.com)



**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Rev. Warren Miller  
276 West First Street \* P.O. Box 126  
Denton, NC 27239 \* 336-859-3502



## Believers Learning and Sharing Together

**B.L.A.S.T.** Youth exhibited their artwork to the church in December in celebration of learning about their Hidden Treasures and Talents. If you have a talent you would like to share with the youth, please notify Tina Lanier or Kathy Baum. Special thanks to Sylvia Morris for teaching Art lessons and Kitty King for teaching Chrismon crafts. Also, BLAST would like to thank Mary Skeen for making a donation to the class for projects planned in 2016.



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

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

## K- 5TH NEWS

**Special Thanks to Miss Judy**  
for teaching our children for nearly 30 years.  
**We Love You Miss Judy!**



Volunteers are desperately needed to teach this class as Miss Judy is moving to be closer to her own grandchildren. The class ages are from Kindergarten to 5th Grade. Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. There's always snacks, crafts, and a bible lesson.  
**"Don't forget to bring your new bible to class — this will help you learn more about God's Holy Word!"**



## Children's Choir Sings Joyful Sounds for us all

Special Thanks to Nathan and Shawna Kinley for teaching the Children's Choir to make joyful sounds for the Lord!

Children's Choir meets every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Hut. Join today!



**Central Preschool had a visit from their favorite Red Suited Guy ... "Santa" just before dismissal for the Christmas holidays.**

**Special thanks to our very own 'Ole St. Nick..... (aka Rev. Miller)!**

# Sunday Worship Leaders — January and February, 2016

## USHERS

### JANUARY

Richard & Brenda Wilson

### FEBRUARY

Tom and Jeannette  
Beanblossom

## GREETERS

### JANUARY

Ed & Dottie Roberson

### FEBRUARY

Gladys Decker and  
Patty James

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Jan. 3: Rev. Miller  
Jan. 10: Sarah Morris  
Jan. 17: Debbie Sigmon  
Jan. 24: Tina Lanier  
Jan. 31: Beth Ligon  
Feb. 7: Rev. Miller  
Feb. 14: Andy Morris  
Feb. 21: Ann Crouse  
Feb. 28: Donna Morris

## LAY READERS

Jan. 3: Kathy Baum  
Jan. 10: Chase Cross  
Jan. 17: Stewart Sexton  
Jan. 24: Andy Morris  
Jan. 31: Margaret Harris  
Feb. 7: Miranda Morris  
Feb. 14: Rick Phillips  
Feb. 21: Cathy Ward  
Feb. 28: Addie Nopanen

## ACOLYTES

Jan. 3: Ellie Baldwin  
Jan. 10: Chase Cross  
Jan. 17: Haven Rocchi  
Jan. 24: Logan Lester  
Jan. 31: Karsyn Lane  
Feb. 7: Summer Cook  
Feb. 14: Chase Cross  
Feb. 21: Sam Parker and  
Zach Lester  
Feb. 28: Emma Walton

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Jan. 3: Open  
Jan. 10: Larry & LaRue Cook  
Jan. 17: Gilda & Larry Morris  
Jan. 24: Davis Family, Steve,  
Janice and David  
Jan. 31: Open  
Feb. 7: Wilson Carter/Family  
Feb. 14: Ed & Dottie Roberson  
Feb. 21: Open  
Feb. 28: Jocelyn Beyeler

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

## OFFERINGS RECEIVED

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| Nov 1   | \$4,464.00 |
| Nov. 8  | \$4,169.30 |
| Nov. 15 | \$4,758.00 |
| Nov. 22 | \$3,529.00 |
| Nov. 29 | \$4,004.37 |
| Dec. 6  | \$5,387.00 |
| Dec. 13 | \$4,433.00 |
| Dec. 20 | \$6,143.00 |
| Dec. 27 | \$5,266.00 |

## NON BUDGET RECEIPTS

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| BBQ            | \$730.00 |
| SC Flood       | \$150.00 |
| Poinsettias    | \$175.50 |
| Emergency      | \$275.00 |
| Backpack       | \$ 50.00 |
| Choir Fund     | \$200.00 |
| Move Piano     | \$350.00 |
| Bees & Trees   | \$590.00 |
| Mission Wreath | \$952.00 |
| Gift to Pastor | \$220.00 |
| Htg.&AC Fund   | \$650.00 |

## ATTENDANCE

### Worship SS

|         |     |    |
|---------|-----|----|
| Nov. 1  | 86  | 30 |
| Nov. 8  | 94  | 32 |
| Nov. 15 | 136 | 40 |
| Nov. 22 | 104 | 35 |
| Nov. 29 | 110 | 39 |
| Dec. 6  | 102 | 33 |
| Dec. 13 | 118 | 43 |
| Dec. 20 | 157 | 33 |
| Dec. 27 | 146 | 31 |



## CHURCH MEMBERS

Lexi Baum, Janice Esposito,  
Dick Getz, Pam Harrison, Lillie  
Hill, Danny Hill, Linda Kearns,  
Jerrie Lomax, Addie Phillips,  
Craig Sigmon, Johnnie Sigmon,  
Othell & Ava Lee Surratt, and  
Peggy Wilkins

## MOUNTAIN VISTA

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Mack Cranford     | Rm #94  |
| 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  |

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

## **Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations**

### January Birthdays

- 1—Dottie Roberson
- 2—Dick Johnson, Sharon McRae
- 4—Barbara Hogan  
Crissie Cabrera
- 5—Cathy Calhoun
- 7—Lisa Smith
- 10—Chuck Crouch
- 11—Kevin Ingold, Marleigh Morris
- 12—Fletcher Gallimore
- 13—Gavin Walton, Deborah Behrens
- 15—Joan Briggs
- 19—Betty Hinesley, James Kearns
- 22—Steve Harris
- 24—Vickie Mitchell
- 26—Harper Ligon, Norman Hubbard
- 31—Cameron Ligon



### February Birthdays

- 1—Louise Dockham
- 2—Blair Luther, Paul Mitchell
- 3—Ben Futrell
- 4—Sandi Johnson
- 6—Scotty Morris
- 7—Natalie Smith
- 8—Barbara Judy, Michelle Whitlock
- 10—David Skeen
- 11—Kathy Baum, Jacob Ellis
- 12—Levi Morris, Will Mitchell
- 13—Joanna Stone
- 14—Isabella Ellis, Jessa & Joey  
Caberera
- 15—Roger Calhoun
- 16—Curt Richey
- 17—Abbey Bowman
- 19—Carol Beck
- 21—Haven Rocchi, Jerrie Lomax,  
Landon Lester
- 22—Carter Burns, Courtney Behrens
- 23—Carrie Crouse, Tom Beanblossom
- 24—Teresa Brewer, Ginger Morris
- 26—Addie Futrell
- 28—Chip Futrell, Jodie Briggs

### January Anniversaries

- 19—Nathan & Amanda Crouch



## **PRAISES AND CELEBRATIONS**

Congratulations to Brandon and Candace Shore on the birth of their first child!

**BANKS PHILLIP SHORE**  
Born November 20, 2015  
7 lbs. 9 oz. / 20 1/2" long

Grandson of Scott Morris  
Great-Grandson of  
Betty Morris.



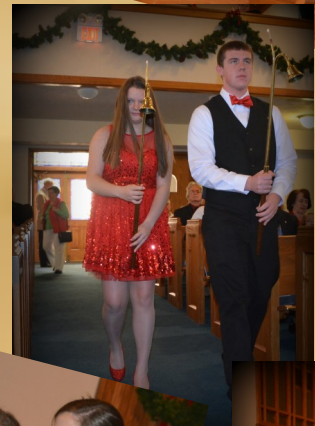
Welcome, Banks, to your Central UMC Family!

### February Anniversaries

- 16—Ed & Dottie Roberson
- 20—Nathan & Shawna Kinley
- 25—Lawrence & Bobbie Ridge
- 26—Earl & Louise Caulder

*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](mailto:lindadaviscumc@windstream.net) OR newsletter editor at [milanier@windstream.net](mailto:milanier@windstream.net)*

## Christmas 2015 Highlights









Start your year  
off on the  
right  
TRACK . . .  
*in church!*  
Stop in for a  
visit at  
Central UMC  
in 2016!

**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST**

Street Address: 276 West First Street

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 126

Denton, NC 27239

Phone: 336-859-3502

Email: [wwmtequis@gmail.com](mailto:wwmtequis@gmail.com)

[lindadaviscumc@windstream.net](mailto:lindadaviscumc@windstream.net)

Website: [www.centralumcdenton.com](http://www.centralumcdenton.com)



*While surfing the world wide web, be sure to visit Central's updated website at  
[www.centralumcdenton.com](http://www.centralumcdenton.com)*

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