

# The Vital Connection

Join us as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

*Bi-Monthly  
Newsletter*

March / April 2018

**CENTRAL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

276 W. First Street, Denton, NC

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## NOTE:

May & June Newsletter  
Deadline for News & Pictures  
April 28, 2018

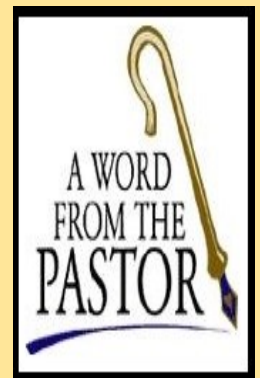
## ***Blessings from Pastor Richard:***

### ***What time is it in your faith walk!***

*"In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19 RSV).*

The season of Lent begins with the imparting of ashes in the sign of the cross on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday. The ashes serve as a reminder that our time in this world is a precious gift. We are born, we die, and in the middle we run the race with endurance. However, sometimes we become complacent. We lose sight of the finish line, and sometimes forget there is a finish line at all. Our walk with God becomes dull and unfulfilling until we fill our hearts and our time with the stuff of this world. This unrealized decline in our faith walk can go on for years until at the end we are sad, angry, bitter and fully in the devil's hands.

The same is true of churches. We begin all gun-ho in the Holy Spirit around six o'clock. We work hard for God's Kingdom until around 10 o'clock. By then the structures and positions are in place and everybody is still eager and excited about what they are doing. Then churches tend to set the cruise control, and before long they are fully asleep at the wheel and only realize (continued to Page 2)

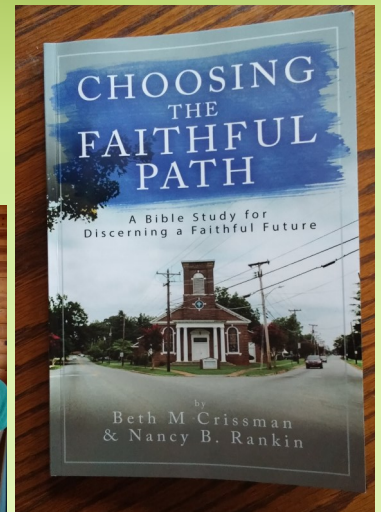






## Central RETREAT Choosing the Faithful Path

Let us continue the journey together!



## OUTREACH MINISTRIES



our church and community.

The United Methodist Women of Central Church meet the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the UMW Room downstairs. ALL Women are invited to fellowship as women with a purpose in

In March, UMW will be holding its White Elephant Fundraiser. Previously held in November of each year, March has been deemed as the new month. All women are invited to attend this fun event. This fundraiser will substitute for the program. We look forward to seeing new faces in 2018. Join us!

**WHITE  
ELEPHANT  
AUCTION**

**MISSIONS IN MARCH** - School supplies for local schools needed. Paper, pencils, tissue, composition books, hand sanitizer, pens, rulers, scissors, etc. Rev. Sandy Young will be collecting these items to donate to our local schools in the Denton area. UMW members are asked to bring items to the March 6th UMW meeting and others are invited to drop off items in UMW room or church office prior to March 6th.



**Next Meetings: March 6 and April 3 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Mark your calendars for UMW Sunday—May 6**

## Health & Wellness

**Vitality Committee** is in need of a Chairperson to head up Vitality Events and Health and Wellness. Prayers are needed for someone to step up and continue this outreach ministry! See Pastor Richard for more information.



**Food  
Pantry  
Needs**

Let us remember to continue to bring in non-perishable food items when possible to maintain a stocked Food Pantry. Canned foods with pull-away lids preferred. Items may be dropped off at Pantry Door or office.

**Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Dinner**



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner held on February 13 resulted in \$600 raised to help local missions. Special thanks to all the cooks and decorating volunteers who assisted in this traditional fun event shared by all. (See pictures from the event on page 7.)

### UNITED METHODIST MEN

UMM Meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of each month at 8:00 a.m. Join In...March 11th and April 8th.



### Words from Pastor....continued from page 1

they are in serious decline just before the church closes for lack of funds, lack of members, and what is ultimately a lack of connection to the Holy Spirit by the congregation as a whole.

What time is it in your faith walk? What time is it in the life of our church? As you think about these questions I encourage you to use the image of a clock I have provided. Use a black pen to mark where you think Central UMC is right now. Then use a blue or red pen to mark where you are in your faith walk. What do you think needs to change?

By God's Good Grace, *Richard*



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

### UNITED METHODIST MEN and WOMEN

Mark Your Calendars for the next  
UMM and UMW Barbecue Fundraiser  
March 24, 2018!

Spread the Word,,,,Join us for this event!

Volunteers and desserts will be needed!



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

**SUNDAY, MARCH 11**



Next Meeting  
12:030 p.m.  
Sunday, March 4



March 29 at 7:00 p.m.



March \_\_\_\_ at 11:00 a.m.  
April \_\_\_\_ at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 25—11:00 Palm Sunday and Palming of the Cross  
Friday, March 30—12:00 Noon Good Friday Cross Walk  
Sunday, April 1—7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service at Denton Town Cemetery  
Sunday, April 1—10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Service and  
Flowering of the Cross—Bring flowers  
or choose from those provided.



### **EASTER LILIES**

Easter Lilies will be placed in the Sanctuary  
on Easter Sunday, April 1. Price is \$15.00  
each. Order deadline—Monday, March 26.

Qty. \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Bring your little ones to the  
**ANNUAL EASTER EGG  
HUNT—APRIL 1**  
9:45—10:30  
**CHURCH GROUNDS**



### **Easter Egg-stravaganza**

**When: Saturday, March 24**

**Time: 12:00—2:00 p.m.**

**Place: Harrison Park**

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

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

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







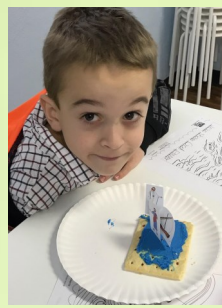
***Believers Learning and Sharing Together***  
***B.L.A.S.T.***

**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 CLASS**

Join Sarah Morris and Kitty King's Class as they teach our children ages from K-5 grades—"Miracles of Jesus".

Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.  
There's always snacks, crafts,  
and a bible lesson.



Central UMC Preschool Class attended the Charity League Play "Hansel and Gretel" in Lexington on March 1. THANK YOU to Ira Matney for use of his Wildcat bus and to Sue Watkins for driving. It was a great time enjoyed by all!  
Children were excited to meet "Hansel"  
(played by Laurie Briggs)



**Upcoming Easter Activities**

**Church Cake Walk at Harrison Park**

Sat., March 24 at 12:00 until 2:00 pm

**Need wrapped cupcakes, cookies, brownies, etc. or prizes (books, etc.)**

Drop off items Saturday morning at 11:00 at hut or bring to Harrison Park by Noon.  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Church Easter Egg Hunt**  
Sun., April 1 at 9:45 am on church grounds.

**Need Prize or Candy-Filled Eggs!**



Drop off downstairs or at church office prior to Easter Sunday.



# Sunday Worship Leaders — March and April, 2018

## USHERS

### MARCH

Roger and Beth Ligon

### APRIL

Dale & Glenda Futrell

## GREETERS

### MARCH

Lawrence and Bobbie Ridge

### APRIL

Wilson Carter

Billy Allison

## CHILDREN'S TIME

March 4: Rev. Blount

March 11: Andy Morris

March 18: Bill Sigmon

March 25: Beth Ligon

April 1: Rev. Blount

April 8: Larry Ward

April 15: Laura Walton

April 22: Addie Nopanen

April 29: Rick Phillips

## LAY READERS

March 4: Margaret Harris

March 11: Glenda Futrell

March 18: Debbie Crouch

March 25: Andy Morris

April 1: Richard Wilson

April 8: Randall King

April 15: Billy Allison

April 22: Rick Phillips

April 29: Tina Lanier

## ACOLYTES

March 4: Joseph Smith

March 11: Ellie Baldwin

March 18: Haven Rocchi

March 25: Sam Parker

April 1: Ellie Baldwin

Karsyn Layne

April 8: Emma Walton

April 15: Zach Lester

April 22: Joseph Smith

April 29: Olivia Parker

## ALTAR FLOWERS

March 4: Earl and Louise Caulder

March 11: Chuck Crouch

March 18: Margaret Harris

March 25: Palms

April 1: Easter Lilies

April 8: JoAnne Harrold

April 15: Larry and LaRue Cook

April 22: OPEN

April 29: Marie Penry

*To place flowers on the altar for a special occasion or remembrance, please call Brenda Wilson at 336-250-9234*

## OFFERINGS RECEIVED

Jan. 7 \$10,150.00

Jan. 14 \$4,054.00

Jan. 21 \$3,103.00

Jan. 28 \$5,024.00

Feb. 4 \$7,600.00

Feb. 11 \$4,267.75

Feb. 18 \$4,032.00

Feb. 25 \$2,760.00

## NON BUDGET RECEIPTS

Harris Class Child \$65.00

Local Missions \$200.00

Choir Fund \$225.00

Emergency Fund \$600.00

Food Pantry \$225.00

Rise Against Hunger \$100.00

BBQ Fundraiser \$200.00

## CROSS BEARER

March 4: Bill Sigmon

March 11: Carter Burns

March 18: Richard Wilson

March 25: Randall King

April 1: Carter Burns

April 8: Gavin Walton

April 15:

April 22:

## ATTENDANCE

### Worship

### SS

Jan. 7 65 25

Jan. 14 71 25

Jan. 21 68 23

Jan. 28 68 28

Feb. 4 55 17

Feb. 11 120 25

Feb. 18 108 31

Feb. 25 64 25



## CHURCH MEMBERS

Billy Allison, Joan Briggs, Linda Carroll, Ann Crouse, Don Esposito, DeLisa Garner, Dick Getz, Conrad & JoAnne Harrold, Tina Lanier, Ginger Martin, Sarah Morris, Addie Phillips, Ed & Dottie Roberson, Bill & Debbie Sigmon, Johnnie & Craig Sigmon, Ava Lee Surratt

## MOUNTAIN VISTA

Bob Craven Rm #75-2  
Margaret Hunt Rm #108  
Diza Morris Rm #101-2  
George Tillotson Rm #89  
Hervey Yates Rm #112

## Taylor Glen, Concord

Jerrie Lomax

## Lexington Healthcare

Peggy Wilkins

## MILITARY

Matt Beanblossom,  
Brian Sexton, Ryan Smithling,



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

**March Birthdays**

1-Mike Russell  
2-Terri Johnson Nolasco, Jacob Cabrera,  
Julie Carroll  
3-Kurt Beyeler, Erin Bean, Kay Taylor  
4-Lee Bowden, Gaye Markham,  
Dustin Graham  
5-Cylie Cabrera, Tony Vazquez,  
Gabriel Crouch, Adeline Calhoun,  
Ann Morris Luck  
6-Lori Jones, Madalyn Willet, JP Hamilton, Jr.  
7-Cathy Morris, Shawna Kinley  
8-Piper Vazquez, Alyssa Futrell, Mary Skeen,  
Bowman Carroll, Callan Loflin  
9-Scott Hinesley, Roxie Rayburn  
10-Piper Linthicum, Hunter Smith, Laura Ann Harrison  
11-Rachel Davis, David Lanier  
12-Sean Kennedy, Mya Lynn Simpson  
13-Janet Moses  
14-Kallie Gentile, Charlotte Dockham  
15-Stewart Sexton, Lynda Kearns, Jerry Lanier,  
Jason Morris, Asher Crouse  
17-Leah Hulin  
18-Meagan Young, May Bisher, Emily Harrison  
19-Matthew Dockham  
20-John Lomax III, Susan May Bland, Nickolas Morris  
21-Glenda Futrell, Stella Beth Sizemore  
22-Edith Sigmon, Jerry Dockham, Robert Rieger, Jr.,  
Bo Carroll, Matthew Kiser, Lisa Grubb,  
Carolyn Lovell  
23-Linda Markham  
24-Ryleigh Howard, Johnnie Sigmon  
25-Laura Walton, Steven Clark  
26-Judy Covil, Brock Blount  
27-Katherine Morris, Dennis Cadle, Grace Garner  
28-Irving Surratt, Johnathan Crouse, Annabelle Jones,  
Jody Jackson, Emily Smith Earle  
29-Holly Berg  
30-Eddie Richey, Suzanne Surratt, Bo Chitwood, River  
Trent, Jay Lanier, Johnathan Loftin  
31-Debbie Crouch

**March Anniversaries**

11-Esko & Addie Nopanen  
13-David & Colbey Garrison  
16-Sam & Michelle Whitlock, James & Elizabeth Loftin  
18-Richard & Brenda Wilson, Buddy & Nancy Sexton  
19-Dale & Glenda Futrell,  
Brandon & Dianna Killmyer  
20-Harvey & Doris Crenshaw  
27-Eddie & Melissa Gallimore  
31-Donald & Diane Hill



**April Birthdays**

1-David Davis,  
2-Donna Dalton, Annabelle McIntyre  
3-Dianna Kilmyer, John Mitchell  
4-Matt Howard, Nicholas Glover, Dean Bulakowski  
5-Kaci Markham, Elliott Chitwood  
6-Joe Mitchell, Conner Earle  
7-JoAnne Harrold, Colton Kennedy, Judy Boggs  
8-Imelda Morris, Esko Nopanen, Joey Layne,  
Chrissy Hedrick  
9-Kerry Gallimore, Drew Skeen, Ava Sexton  
10-Lona Everhart, Samantha Sexton  
11-Devon Smith, Bella Sexton, Briana Smith  
12-Amy Rowell, Jim Boggs, Marsha Surratt  
13-Jacob Clodfelter, Larry Fritts, Lee Ann Smith  
14-Praxton Crouse, Penelope Crouse  
15-Hailey Calhoun  
16-Larry Cook, Marcia Everhart  
17-Zachary Ligon, Tony Frank, Andy Flowers  
19-Gretchen Crouse  
20-Wright Wege  
21-Ronnie Hall, Susan Allen, Ellie Hege  
Sydney Morris, Bonnie Shuler  
22-Dustin Marshall  
23-Reedling Harris, Steve Davis  
24-Peggy Marshall, Denver Moses, April Parker  
25-Gina Grubb  
28-Michael Baum, Baysden Harris, Sarah Parker,  
29-Judith Bowman, Vickie Clark, Jeff Hulin  
30-Lawrence Ridge, Savannah Surratt



**April Anniversaries**

5-Aaron & Candice Smith  
7-Scott & Sharon Hinesley  
10-Brantly & Jamie Surratt  
14-Larry & LaRue Cook  
17-Baxter & Marsha Surratt  
21-Keith & Cathy Morris  
Rob & Devona Dunn  
26-Rick & Angie Nelson  
27-Rickie & Rhonda Workman  
28-Neil & Suzanne Bulakowski  
Heath & Lisa Cranford  
Wayne & Linda Markham  
29-Roy & Pat King  
30-Reid & Ann Crouse



# Central UMC illustrating God's Good Grace

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 2018

**Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Dinner**



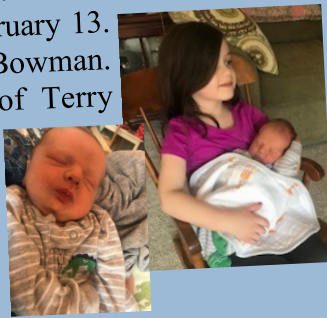
Celebration of  
Central UMC  
Scouting Program  
with all Scouts  
in 2018



## PRAISES AND CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to the Bowman family on their new addition —

**Austin James Bowman** born February 13.  
Parents of James and Marianne Bowman.  
Sister is Ashley and grandparents of Terry  
and Judy Bowman and Tom and  
Nancy Bowling. Great Grandmother  
is Anne Bowling.



Congratulations to Payne and Meagan  
Caulder on the birth of their first born  
**Austin Cole Caulder** born February 19.  
Grandparents Earl and Louise Caulder.



## Congratulations...

Ed and Betty Roberson on  
their 65th Wedding Anniversary!!!

Congratulations to Blount Family  
on the baptism of Baby Gabrielle  
Sunday, February 18th





**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST**

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Phone: 336-859-3502

Email: [cumc@triad.twcbc.com](mailto:cumc@triad.twcbc.com)

[rblount@wnccumc.net](mailto:rblount@wnccumc.net)

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



*For information on church calendar events, visit  
Central's website at [www.centralumcdenton.com](http://www.centralumcdenton.com)*

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
P.O. Box 126, 276 West First Street  
Denton, NC 27239

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