

# The Vital Connection

Bi-Monthly Newsletter For  
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

276 W. First Street, Denton, NC

September/October 2020

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## **NOTE:**

**November / December**  
Deadline for News & Pictures  
October 26, 2020  
email to [cumcdenton@gmail.com](mailto:cumcdenton@gmail.com)

## ***Words from Richard...***

Word from the Pastor "Shaken, not Stirred"

How do you prefer to be woken up? Do you prefer an alarm clock, or a gentle nudge from a loved one? Do you need someone to shout at you and shake the bed? Or are you a light sleeper who when the person next to you stirs in their sleep you suddenly wake up?

Sometimes this describes the Church, both the local church and the Church universal. I have just started reading a book called, "Holding Up Your Corner," by F. Willis Johns. In the preface of Rev. Johns book he mentions a "clarion call." Rev. Johns defines a clarion call as, "that moment, that situation where people realize everything has not been alright" (Kindle location 146 of 1725).

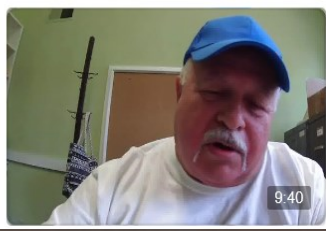
I think sometimes in the life of a local church we become accustomed to certain customs or ways of doing things and it never occurs to us we may be doing harm in some way? Sometimes it takes a wake up call or a shock. Sometimes we need to be shaken out of our comfort zones enough to see the harm we are doing in the life of our church and in the life of our community. Suddenly John Wesley's 1<sup>st</sup> rule for the class meeting comes to mind. "Do no harm." Methodists are supposed to be vigilant, and on the look out for new ways to do no harm to others – both inside our walls and out in the community. I recon this means we are not supposed to miss it when we are accidentally doing harm to others, but the truth is we do. We prefer to hit the snooze bar. We don't really want to deal with it, the same way many of us really do not want to get up in the morning. We are comfortable.

My sisters and brothers, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Black Lives Matter movement, having to worship outside because of the guidelines set forth by the Bishop and the Cabinet of the Western North Carolina Conference, bees in our sanctuary, our playground renovation and the painting of the Fellowship hall I think we have all been shaken and made to feel uncomfortable. If we are going to be this uncomfortable then maybe it's worth taking the time to ask. What has our discomfort awakened us to? What harm can we see that we didn't see before? How can we address this harm that we might do no harm going forward?

In the name of Jesus Christ,  
Amen



STREAMING LIVE



## OUTREACH MINISTRIES



The UMW are collecting clothes for AGAPE. This year it will be for children sizes 2-14. You may drop off your new or almost new clothing at the church. There is a form on the side pew. You may also give a monetary donation to Ann Cook or Vickie Brown. Deadline to drop off is Sept 27, 2020.



### FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY

Please remember to continue to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the Food Pantry for filling bags to be distributed to those in need during office hours at the church office (Monday—Friday, 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon). Volunteers are always welcome to help stock shelves and fill bags. Special Thanks to all who continue to help in this local outreach program.

**WE'RE HERE TO HELP**  
**Central UMC, Denton**  
**COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOOD BAG DISTRIBUTION**

**FREE**



**Thursday, September 24, 2020**  
**4:30—6:00 pm**

*(Time change, no bags will be distributed before 4:30 p.m.)*

**Central UMC Fellowship Hut**  
**276 West First Street, Denton**

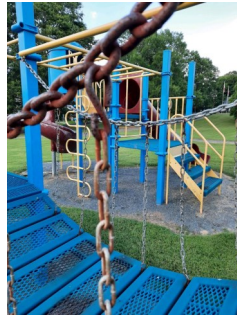
*(diapers and wipes, if available, may be provided upon request)*

Vehicles should enter from Bingham Street and drive to front of church hut, volunteers will be present to help you. All health and safety precautions will be adhered to.





## BEFORE



*As you can see in the before pics, our playground was in need of repair. Thank you to everyone that made it possible to restore our playground. Check out the after pic. Now our children will enjoy many more years of fun!*

## AFTER

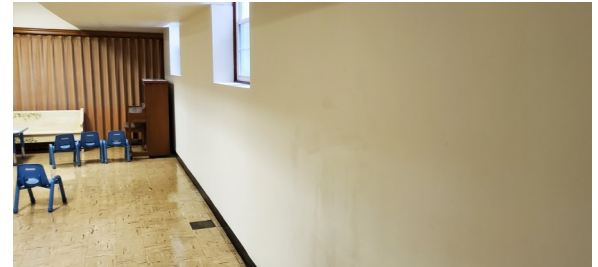


**A special thanks to Terry Fire for repairing the fellowship hall wall in time for preschool to start!**

## BEFORE



## AFTER



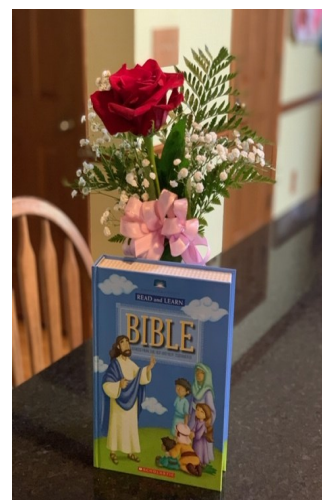




# Holy Baptism



Baptisms were happening throughout the month of August. Sam & Olivia Parker, Karsyn Layne, Rory Morris, Hayden Chapman & Zach Lester accepted Jesus Christ into their heart. Such a special time for them and their families. A rose and Bible was given to the Ligon family in honor of the birth of Remi Marion Ligon.





# HOMEcoming 2020—FELLOWSHIP & REMEMBRANCE

Each year Central UMC gathers for Homecoming when families come “home” together for fellowship, with a wonderful service filled with a special message, uplifting music and hymns, and delicious food. This year it will be a little different with Covid-19. We will not get to worship inside nor will we get to share a wonderful meal, however we will continue to worship under the trees and in our cars and remember those who are no longer with us. Their love will be shining down on us from their eternal “home” on Sunday, August 23, 2020.



Mary Northington



Libby Hall



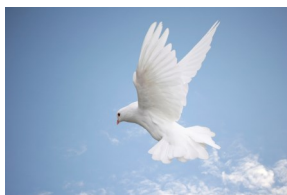
JoAnn Harrold  
Conrad Harrold  
Larry Cook  
LaRue Cook  
Richard Getz  
Jerri Lomax  
Gilbert Futrell  
Nancy Futrell  
Joan Briggs  
Resident's & Staff @ Mt. Vista

Teachers  
Students  
Parents  
Hilda Yates Hedrick  
Dr. Greer & baby Jude  
Betty Morris  
Christine Buie  
Danny Smith  
Aaron & Candice Smith



Admin Council &  
Charge Conference  
Sunday,  
October 4, 2020 1:00  
Via Zoom

Families of: Mary Northington  
Ramona Mitchel Cranford  
Edith Chappell  
Jay Buie  
Libby Hall  
Barbara Decker



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

**CENTRAL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

Rev. Richard Blount  
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Denton, NC 27239 \* 336-859-3502  
[rblount@wnccumc.net](mailto:rblount@wnccumc.net)



Like us on  
**Facebook**



**Don't forget to reset  
your clocks on Sunday  
November 1st!**

*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 Caulder, Tremaine 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, Noah Smith  
14—Debbie Johnson, Laura Futrell, Stacy Crouse  
15—Ed Roberson  
17—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  
26—William Sigmon III, Kelly Whitlock  
27—Margaret Harris, Genie Russell  
29—Taylor Bean  
30—Jay Stone

### **September Anniversaries**

1—Jon and Ginger Johnson  
13—Gabriel and Kelly Whitlock  
15—Robbie and Sherri Lanier  
16—Jason and Carmen Harris  
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, Pastor Richard Blount  
8—Ryan O'Hara, Gabrielle Blount  
9—Gracie Morris Lee  
10—Brandon Killmyer, Evan Blount  
11—Austin Calhoun  
16—Colby Garrison, Sylvia Morris, Megan Caulder  
17—Dale Futrell  
19—Trean Ellis  
20—Russell Davis  
21—Virginia Luther  
23—Sharon Hinesley  
24—Dan Briggs, Nancy Sexton  
25—Laura Gorno, Alex Zeitany  
26—Benji Cook  
29—Caroline Hinesley, Laura Sexton  
31—John Tysinger, Kelly Dockham

### **October Anniversaries**

3—Mike and Genie Russell  
4—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



*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 [cumcdenton@gmail.com](mailto:cumcdenton@gmail.com)*



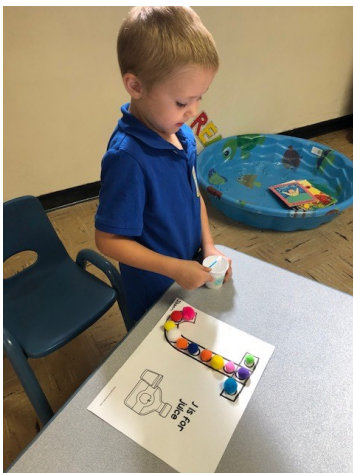


*Central UMC Preschool opened with a staggered entrance on Wednesday, August 19 for the new school year. This year there are 16 eager students excited to be a part of Mrs. Crouse, Mrs. Talbert & Mrs. Watkins class!*

**Welcome to  
Preschool**



*We would like to welcome Mrs. Sue Watkins to our staff. Sue is our newest preschool assistant.*





## Central UMC Welcomes YOU!



For everything there is a season,  
and a time to every purpose  
under the heaven:

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Visit us  
today!

You'll be  
glad you  
did...and  
so will  
GOD!

Street address: 276 W. 1st Street  
Mailing address: PO Box 126  
Denton, NC 27239  
Email: cumcdenton@gmail.com



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

*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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