



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

P.O. Box 297 ♦ 121 Church Street ♦ Mathews, VA 23109
Office: (804) 725-2832 ♦ Parsonage: (804) 725-3332
Pastor Suzanne Gibson ♦ Pastor's E-mail: sgibson555@gmail.com

Mathews Community Blood Drive



Tuesday, April 1

2 - 7 pm

Piankatank Ruritan Club

Your donation may save up to three lives! If you have questions, please call 725-5827.

Order Tulips For Easter Sunday



Honor or remember someone with a beautiful pot of tulips on the altar Easter Sunday. Forms are available in your weekly bulletin or in the Narthex. Tulips are **\$15 a pot**.

Orders must be received by the close of the 11:00 am service on Palm Sunday, April 13.

The Spirit Sings

One Accord in Concert

The Adult Ensemble of Richmond's First Baptist Church

Saturday, April 5, 2014 6:30 p.m.



Central United Methodist Church • 121 Church St. • Mathews, Virginia

Special Lenten Opportunities



Palm-Passion Sunday – April 13, 8:30 & 11:00 am.

Holy Week Services (April 14-18). A 30-minute service will be held at Noon each day, Monday through Friday of Holy Week, at Westville Christian Church. Services will be led by the Mathews County Christian Ministers Association. Area clergy will preach each day and local singers and musicians will help lead worship. All are welcome. An offering in the form of non-perishable food items for Hands Across Mathews will be accepted.

Maunder Thursday Service – April 17, 7:00 pm.

Stations of the Cross (see page 3) – April 18, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.

Easter Sunday – April 20, 6:00 am – Sunrise service at Old Field Point in Moon (directions on page 5)

9:00 am – Sunday School

10:00 am – Joint Worship Service to Celebrate our Lord's Resurrection.

Image Source: <http://fcucc.org/worship/lent-2014/>

From the Pastor's Pen...

Remember the Lord Your God

Deuteronomy 8:12-18 –¹² When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, ¹⁶ and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. ¹⁷ Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

Here is the background to this passage. The LORD God had led the children of Israel out of Egypt with a grand display of divine might. The people witnessed the parting of the Red Sea and crossed through it on dry ground. They experienced the cloud of God's presence that shielded them from the desert sun by day and a pillar of fire that kept them warm at night. When they were hungry, Yahweh provided daily bread — manna — from heaven. When they were thirsty, water miraculously poured forth from a rock. When the people wanted meat, God sent them quails to satisfy their appetites.

There were many threats and rebellions along the journey to the Promised Land, but they were almost there. Moses is nearing the end of his ministry and is trying to prepare the people for crossing the Jordan into their new homeland, and he warns the people to "remember the Lord your God." (Hmmm. He knew those folks pretty well, didn't he?!)

In the wilderness, the people were always afraid of scarcity; they were fearful of not having enough, so they were always crying out to Moses and God to provide for them. But in the Promised Land, they will experience prosperity as they have never

known before, and that has risks, too. When times are tough, people at least think about God and look to God for their needs. However, when times are really good, people usually take credit for their success and spend less time thinking about God.

Times have changed, but human nature remains the same. We, too, have trouble with material blessings! We want them, to be sure, but once we receive them, we tend to forget our utter dependence upon the living God. The things we possess make us think we are self-sufficient and independent. Nevertheless, it is the Lord who enables us to prosper in life, and he longs to be remembered and to be in relationship with us, his children.



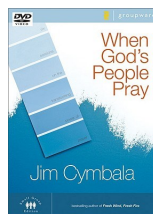
The season of Lent invites us to examine the depth of our relationship with God and to embrace a more simple way of life – one that remembers God fully. May the Lord search our hearts and

transform our lives for God's purposes and glory. Amen.

On the journey together,
Suzanne

Image Source: <http://amyapplebaum.com/blog/apply-the-millionaire-ess-code/>

When God's People Pray: Six Sessions on the Transforming Power of Prayer



Tom and Marilyn Tucker are looking for 6-8 people to join them for a six-session study in their home. The group will meet Tuesday evenings, beginning April 22, at 7:00 pm.

The study is by Jim Cymbala, pastor of the Brooklyn Tabernacle. They will be using his book, *When God's People Pray: Six Sessions on the Transforming Power of Prayer*. The study is a combination of DVD, discussions, bible study and more. Tom & Marilyn have previewed the first lesson and are excited to continue.

Please contact Tom & Marilyn at 725-9532 if you are interested in joining this study group.

Stations of the Cross

This year for Good Friday (April 18), the church will be open from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm for *Stations of the Cross*. You will enter the church through the fellowship hall. Starting in the fellowship hall and going into the sanctuary, there will be 8 *stations* set up - you will begin at Station 1 and walk your way through to Station 8. After you have visited all 8 stations, you are asked to quietly leave the church.

Saint Francis of Assisi is said to have begun this way of devotional time with 14 *stops* or *stations* along the path. Our journey will include 8 *stations* that are specifically identified in Scripture. You will walk with Jesus from when He is condemned to death to when He is laid in the tomb. We invite you to come and spend some time in prayer and to reflect on the Scripture at each *station*. A booklet will be provided that is yours to keep - it has space for you to write down your thoughts as you read and meditate.

United Methodist Women

On March 10, Central UMW hosted JoAnn Wilson-Harfst, Director of Mathews County Department of Social Services. Her topic was *The Face of Poverty in Mathews County*. The number of persons receiving aid in the county is 888 - 18% of those are children. Mrs. Wilson-Harfst explained that the county receives more than \$11 million for aid for these families, of which over \$400,000 are contributed from members of the community. She described the influences of the economy and the rural location of Mathews on residents in the county. It was a very interesting and informative program.

On March 30 after the joint church service, the UMW will offer a potato bar in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to participate in this program as a Lenten observance.

Our April 14 program will be *Prayer and Self Denial* led by Christine Ulrich. It begins at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. All are welcome.

Dee Bane, UMW Secretary

God's Green Earth



Image Source: <http://unorganizedmommyof3.com/messy-closet-makeover-part-1/>

Spring is here. Time to clean out that messy closet. Remember the *Laurel Shelter* when you are sprucing up. Your unwanted items are a great resource for them.

Your Creation Care Team

Children's Ministry

A big thank you to Katherine Small, Janet Gomez, Rev. Suzanne Gibson, our children and their families for the leadership in bringing together the Children's Worship Service presented on March 30.

16 But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 17 Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." (Luke 18:16-17)

The children and leaders wish all a very Happy Easter. Jesus is Risen, He is Light, Truth and Love.

Plans to celebrate the Risen Christ will include an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 at the church (time TBA) and a program to follow.

Pat Gwaltney, Chairman
Children's Ministry



Saturday, April 19
8:00 am
Breakfast & Fellowship

Paul Townsend Memorial Class

The Paul Townsend Memorial Class shared a delicious meal together on Thursday evening, March 13. During the meeting it was noted that \$250 in love gifts had been given to two individuals this month as well as several cards to those with special health issues.

Plans for the special Mother's Day bulletin to pay tribute to all our Mothers were discussed. Each listing in honor of, or in memory of, your Mother or special woman in your life is a \$1 donation. This is our yearly class project and proceeds go toward helping others in our community. Committee members for this class project will be: Chairman, Elizabeth Anderson, 725-5879; Dee Bane, 725-7246, cell# (804)384-8098; Frosty Taylor, 725-3680, cell# (804)586-2995; David Hudgins, 725-3273. You can contact them or any other class member to place a listing. Also for your convenience, forms will be

placed in the church bulletin beginning Sunday, April 6. Just fill them in with a check made out to the Paul Townsend Memorial Class. You can place them in the collection plate to be picked up by the chairman or give the form to any class member. Thank you for your continuing support.

We hold class members Janet Burgess and Eric Stewart in our prayers as they participate in the mission trip to Brooklyn, N. Y.

Our next class meeting will be in the church fellowship hall on Thursday, April 10 at 6 pm. Bring your favorite dish and join us as we fellowship together. Everyone is welcome to join us any Sunday in our Sunday School Classroom as we study God's word.

Blessings to each of you,

Phyllis Hudgins, Class President

NY Mission Trip

Our pastor, Suzanne Gibson and 3 church members, Eric Stewart, Janet Burgess and Nancy Jagger participated in a mission trip to New York state to aid in the repair of homes that were damaged in October 2012 during Super Storm Sandy. At this printing, we have no details. We look forward to hearing about their trip in next month's *Central Chimes*. Until then, enjoy the photos received so far.



BIRTHDAYS

Bobby Hudgins	11	Marcia Fry	18
Jack Stillman	11	Helen Lee	20
Mark Lewis	12	Diana More	21
Kathy Bochau	13	Georgie Preston	21
Christine Ulrich	14		

ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Karen Palmer	8
Richard & Melissa Moughon	9
Chris & Pat Moughon	18
Craig & Katherine Small	21
Dennis & Lynn Gillikin	30

Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers go to the Families and Loved Ones of...

Alice Morgan	Donald Morgan
Joe Morgan	Ellen Wade Leigh
Ann Matvey	Ellen Lawwill
Glen Davis	

Directions to Old Field Point

- Take Buckley Hall Road (beside Hardee's) towards Moon.
- Turn left at Fitchett's Wharf Road (in sharp curve).
- Look for large *Old Field Point* sign on right. (see below)
- Turn right and then make a left. Follow the road straight into the yard of the home.



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Operating Account Status Year To Date
February 2014 Ending

YTD Budget	27,833
YTD Expenses	21,497
YTD Income	27,683

Additional information on the status of the church's Operating Accounts is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway just outside the nursery classroom.

Nate Houser, Finance Chairman

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST MEN'S SEMI ANNUAL

Steamed Shrimp Dinner

Friday, April 25th

4:00-7:00 P.M



Central United Methodist Church
Church Street at Mathews Courthouse

Steamed Shrimp	Hush Puppies
Cole Slaw	Baked Beans
Desserts	Drinks
Hot Dogs and More!!!	

TAKE OUT OR EAT IN

Come out and enjoy great food, fun, and fellowship!!

\$17.00 Donation

Children Age 5 -10 \$6.00 Under 5 FREE

Proceeds Benefit Local Church & Community Outreach

Purchase tickets in advance from any member of the Central United Methodist Men

or call 725-8673, 725-2488 or 725-3751 today!



For Shrimp Dinner tickets call:

725-8673

725-2488

725-3751



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Lenten Study 10:00 am	2 Soup with Love Noon	3 Brownies 3:00-4:30 pm Children's Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	4	5 Worship Committee 9:00 am <i>One Accord Concert 6:30 pm</i>
6 Fifth Sunday in Lent One Great Hour of Sharing	7 Prayer Time 8:00 am Creation Care 9:00 am Queen's Creek Association 7:00 pm	8 Lenten Study 10:00 am	9 Soup with Love Noon Finance 7:00 pm	10 Brownies (upstairs) 3:00-4:30 pm P. Townsend Class Dinner 6:00 pm Children's Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	11	12
13 Palm Sunday <i>Deadline to order Easter Tulips</i> 	14 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 7:00 pm	15 Lenten Study 10:00 am Trustees 7:00 pm	16 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am	17 HAM Meeting 3:00 pm Brownies 3:00-4:30 pm Maunder Thursday Service 7:00 pm	18 Stations of the Cross 9:00 - 3:00 pm 	19 UM Men 8:00 am Easter Egg Hunt (TBA) 
HOLY WEEK Services at Westville Christian Church Daily at Noon						
20 Easter Sunday Sunrise Service 6:00 am Old Point Field Sunday School 9:00 am Joint Service 10:00 am <i>Central Chimes Submissions Due</i> 	21 Prayer Time 8:00 am	22	23 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	24 Brownies 3:00-4:30 pm Children's Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	25 UMM Shrimp Dinner 4-7:00 pm 	26
All meeting times & dates are subject to change.						
27	28 Prayer Time 8:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	29	30			