



# THE CENTRAL CHIMES

P.O. Box 297 ♦ 121 Church Street ♦ Mathews, VA 23109  
Office: (804) 725-2832 ♦ Parsonage: (804) 725-3332  
Pastor John Choi ♦ Pastor's E-mail: johnchoi@vaumc.org

April 2017

---

---

## From the Pastor's Pen

### The First Easter

April comes with the high days of the church calendar, including the Holy Week and Easter Sunday. We will hold a Good Friday Service on the 14th that includes meditations on Stations of the Cross; an Easter Sunrise Service on the 16th at Old Field Point, Moon; and our Easter service will be at 10 o'clock.

It is a beautiful coincidence that Easter comes in the spring, since every spring is a resurrection of sort. The frozen earth gives way to new life, and the tree branches bud green leaves. It even prompted some to claim that Easter was originated from spring festivals!

During the dead of winter, when everything is frozen, it is difficult to imagine a warm summer day. But even in those chills, we know that those warmer days are coming. We just do, regardless if we know that the earth is hurtling through the space at 67,000 miles per hour. When the spring comes, winter's bleakness becomes a distant memory. It is an amazing tribute to the power and providence of God the Creator.

The first Easter Sunday also witnessed to the power of God's Word. Jesus, who had died on the cross, was raised back to life. Trusting God all the way, he had endured suffering and even death, but he was not destroyed. He was vindicated. Now Jesus has become a source of redemption for all who united themselves to him by faith.

When the spring blooms and the earth changes colors, let it be a reminder for you of God's power and faithfulness. Even though at times things appear bleak, and often it is hard to imagine for things to be any different, nothing can nullify the grace of God in Jesus Christ—certain as the earth's movement. Our month of worship will affirm that marvelous work of God continuing to our own days.

Gratefully,  
*John*



---

## Children's Ministry

Our children at Central are maturing in stature and spirit. The Confirmation Class led by Pastor John and Janet Gomez is a blessing. Enrolled are Emily Lewis, Joice Small, Daniel Moughon and Richie Hogge. The Youth Choir and Children's Choir led by Katherine Small and Janet Gomez have voices of angels. Our Sunday school class are inspirational and enjoyable. Thank you to Nancy Jagger, Brenda Lewis, and Janet Gomez for your dedication in teaching. Parents and the congregation are our village raising these children in the spirit.

The Sunday School Department is always looking for those who wish to share in teaching our children and sharing your experiences with them. In our Church

(cont'd) time we are preparing these little ones to become part of the larger loving congregational worship.

Sharing their busy lives of worship, family time, school, sports, especially with the weather improving, is challenging. Lenten time being here, let us think of "what would Jesus have us do" with and for our children.

The offering taken up at the time of the Children's Message is going to support Kettlie, our young girl in Haiti. Thank you to the congregation that helps with this outreach.

Watch for news involving Vacation Bible School at Central and the FINS program. God bless us with wonderful leadership.

*Pat Gwaltney*  
Chairperson

---

## Creation Care

We are in the process of coordinating the scheduling of the Mathews Boys and Girls Club with the church's calendar for April or May presentations.

Mathews Thomas Hunter Middle School has asked us to book time in our Fall schedule for the new 7th grade Science Classes to participate in Central's Recycle Program.

In Mathews County you can finally recycle all plastics that have a recycle symbol except Styrofoam. Creation Care has been contacting the many groups that participated in our programs and letting them know of this major change. We will be printing up information sheets for our congregation and the community.

Creation Care will be giving out tips on "Earth Friendly Gardens." Louise Witherspoon will be helping us put this together.



*The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.*

*Michael Cannon, Creation Care*

## Hooray for the Mulchers!

Thank you to everyone who came to work on a chilly, cloudy Saturday morning in mid-March! With so many willing hands, the work was done in an hour and a half.

Special thank you's to Mike Witherspoon for bringing the mulch and to David Hudgins for the containers he brought, to Greg Lewis for hauling away the debris, to Pastor John for bravely wading in with sharp blades, and to the other United Methodist Men who stayed after their breakfast to edge and trim and shovel. Finally, we're grateful to Rickie Tomlinson at Mathews Lawn and Garden, for donating the mulch.

If you would like to be part of a small crew that will keep the flower beds weeded, please speak to Christine or Louise.

*Christine Ulrich, Grounds Team*



---

## Hospitality

Scripture tells us in Romans 12:13b to "practice hospitality." Central Church adheres to that lesson faithfully.

The Richard Moughon family served as ushers and greeters for the month of March at the 11:00 worship service and Steve and Emily Leap served three Sundays in March with Ken and Karen Palmer serving one for the 8:30 service. Refreshments were hosted during the month by John and Sherry Hodges, the UMM under leadership of James Martin and Ken Palmer, the hospitality committee with

(cont'd) assistance from Dale Martin and Karen Palmer and the final Sunday by Steve and Emily Leap. The Leaps also set up the coffee table each Sunday during the month.

Louise Witherspoon faithfully writes cards for various occasions. Our thanks from the Hospitality Team.

*Your Hospitality Team*

**Greeters/Ushers for April**

8:30 am service	Ken & Karen Palmer
11:00 am service	Marcia Fry and Betty Stewart

**Refreshments Providers for April**

2	Hospitality Team
9	James and Dale Martin
16	—
23	Volunteer Opportunity
30	Fellowship Luncheon


**Mission and Evangelism**

We have completed a church brochure, which will soon be available to visitors and others who might wish to use them.

Our committee will be the organizers of the Fellowship Luncheon on April 30th, which is a fifth Sunday, immediately after church at 11 o'clock. We would like to recommend that other groups in the church volunteer to host a Fellowship Luncheon on each of the 5th Sundays to follow.

Most of our best plans come from fellowship over a meal. Jesus ate with his followers! Matthew 26:18-30.

*Pat Gwaltney, Chairperson*



**Give the Gift of Life!**  
**Mathews Community Blood Drive**  
**Tuesday, April 5, 2:00 -7:00 pm**  
**Piankatank Ruritan Club**

**Mission Trip Experience to Be Presented**

From Jan. 30 to Feb. 11, Janet Burgess was on Virginia's United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) trip to Israel and the West Bank. On Sunday, April 30, Janet will share stories from her trip during the joint 10 o'clock service.



**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST MEN'S SEMI ANNUAL**

**Steamed Shrimp Dinner**



**Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**4:00-7:00 P.M.**



*Come out and enjoy  
 great food and fellowship*

**DONATION**

**Eat In - \$17.00 or Take Out - \$16.00**

**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!*

## United Methodist Women

During our March meeting on 13th Anne South met with us and gave instructions on making crayon boxes for the CHKD for children with cancer. Hopefully some of our members can help Anne increase the number of boxes she donates.

We will be visiting the Healing Eagle Clinic this summer and furnishing lunch. Recently we have sent out invitations to the 8 local UMW units in Mathews to join us for a roundtable discussion with the UMW district president on the problems we face as in how to increase memberships and how to maintain an interest in the UMW.

*Nancy Jagger,*  
President

---

### Birthdays

Lisa Zerbe	4	Marcia Fry	18
Bobby Hudgins	11	Janet Burgess	20
Mark Lewis	12	Helen Lee	20
Kathy Bochau	13	Diana More	21
Christine Ulrich	14		

---

### Anniversaries

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

---

### Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers go to the Families of...

Jim Baker	Marie Billups
Jesse Christie	Betsy Duff
Katherine Hendricks	Claude White

## Administrative Assistant

Central welcomes Michele Evans as new Administrative Assistance beginning on the week of April 2. She will answer the office email (office@centralumcmathews.org). Stop by the office and say hello!

---

## Paul Townsend Memorial Class

The Paul Townsend class potluck dinner was held on March 9. Plans are being made for Mother's Day by Cheryl Wheeler and her committee. Each woman's name given will either in honor of or in memory of will be \$1. Cards from last year will be distributed next week to be updated and returned to Grace Mortimer, or Cheryl Wheeler.

Please notify the class if you have graduates in your family who we can recognize in June. We would like a brief bio and a picture, if possible. Our next class dinner will be April 20 at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

*Patty Hertzler*  
Class President

Paul Townsend Memorial Class is sponsoring a Mother's Day bulletin. Listings will be in memory or in honor of mothers or other special ladies in our lives. To place your listing (\$1 each), please call Cheryl Wheeler (725.7387) or Grace Mortimer (335-7297). We would like your information by April 23 - no later. All proceeds go to class projects. Your help is greatly appreciated.



Betsy Duff (1937-2017)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>April</i>				All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.		1
2  Confirmation Class 1:30 pm	3 Prayer Time 8:00 am	4 Community Blood Drive 2-7 pm  Spirit Gifts 7 pm	5 Central Village Homemakers 9 am - 1 pm  Spirit Gifts 10 am  <i>Soup with Love</i> Noon  A prayer Service for UMC 6 pm	6  Choirs Children - 6:30 pm Youth - 6:45 pm Adult - 7:15 pm	7	8
9 Palm Sunday  Confirmation Class 1:30 pm	10 Prayer Time 8:00 am  UM Women TBA  SPRC 7 pm	11   Spirit Gifts 7 pm	12 Spirit Gifts 10 am  Holy Week Service Noon (Westville Christian Church)	13  Choirs Children - 6:30 pm Youth - 6:45 pm Adult - 7:15 pm	14  <b>Good Friday Service</b> 7 pm	15 UM Men Breakfast 8 am
16 <b>Easter</b> Sunrise Service 6:30 am (Old Field Point) Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am	17 Prayer Time 8:00 am	18	19 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am	20  P. Townsend Class Dinner & Meeting 6:00 pm  Choirs Children - 6:30 pm Youth - 6:45 pm Adult - 7:15 pm	21	22
23  Confirmation Class 1:30 pm	24 Prayer Time 8:00 am  Trustees 7:00 pm	25	26	27  Choirs Children - 6:30 pm Youth - 6:45 pm Adult - 7:15 pm	28 UM Men Shrimp Dinner 4:30 - 7:00 pm	29
30 Sunday School 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Luncheon	31 Prayer Time 8:00 am					