



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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Pastor John Choi ♦ Pastor's E-mail: johnchoi@vaumc.org

April 2021

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear Church Family,

The past year has been an uncharted territory for me. As our routines came to a stop, I was at a loss as to what needed to be done. Thankfully, the Healthy Church Team and other volunteers helped forge the way, and your support remained strong; but I always knew I as pastor could have done more things, and also could have done things better.

One thing I did know to do, was to preach; I have sought to preach the best messages I could, if not always succeeding. It was not merely because it was one thing I knew to do. In these wilderness days, we all needed the Word of God. We all needed Jesus, who once said, "Only one thing is necessary." He did not intend to dismiss other gifts of God; he was only pointing us to where it was all coming from. I knew that at least I would lift up God's Word by preaching. I could point ourselves to Jesus, and he is one thing that we all need at all times.

Continued on page 2



April 4th at Central UMC
In person Worship Service
& Online 9:15 am
Sunday School -10:15 am

Maundy Thursday

Service

HOLY



COMMUNION

April 1st, 7:00 pm



Easter Sunrise Service

with singing

6:30 am

Old Field Point, Moon

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 a large Old Field Point sign on right.
- Turn right and then make a left.
- Follow the road straight into the yard of the home.

More decisions lie ahead as to what activities and meetings will resume. It won't be a switch that we flip on; it will be incremental changes. We are all watching various signposts. As you make your plans whether to try in-person service or to attend Sunday School, I ask you to stick to the one reason that is our bottom line, the reason of Jesus Christ. There is freedom in being led by the Spirit of God. As Jesus said:

Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:7-8)

I pray that the Spirit of God will continue to lead Central United Methodist Church, and the United Methodist Church. I pray above all that I may listen to the Spirit.

Gratefully,
John



Grounds Work Day

Saturday, April 3, 9:00 am

It's finally spring (I think--I'm looking at a "wintry mix" outside my window this morning!) and time for Central's annual grounds clean-up. On Saturday, April 3 at 9 am, please bring a rake or a spading fork or a shovel, maybe a wheelbarrow or a trash can, and your gloves, and join us. With everyone's help, we will get the job done before lunch.

Of course we'll wear masks and work six feet apart. And be sure to mark your tools so that you can go home with the ones you brought.

There will be coffee and donuts--BYOM (bring your own mug).

See you there!

Christine Ulrich,
725 3575



Mission Focus for April: Hands Across Mathews



When I first moved to Mathews, I noticed a donation jar in the library. Funds were being collected for an organization called Hands Across Mathews (HAM). I asked the librarian just what HAM was, if it did any good and if this was a charity I should support. The librarians looked at each other and then burst out laughing. When they (finally) settled down, they gave me a short discourse on how neighbors in Mathews take care of each other.

Hands Across Mathews is a non-denominational, non-judgmental organization established by Mathews residents and several churches in 1986. It's purpose is to help local families who have suffered a crisis such as low income, illness, job loss or an unexpected accident. The crisis puts the family in need for basic amenities such as food, clothing, shelter, prescription medication or fuel.

After all other avenues of support have been exhausted, HAM helps the family get back on their feet. Each family is evaluated and approved by the Mathews County Social Services Department.

All the programs are staffed entirely by volunteers. The approximately 70 volunteers provide over 9,000 hours of service each year.

Programs provided by HAM include:

- Food program: Approximately 95-100 families receive food each week
- Clothing & Furniture program: This program provides clothing, household items and furniture to residents who have not been able to purchase them or obtain them from other charities.
- Fresh Start program: This program provides 25 students with new clothing for school.
- Fuel & Utility Bills program: After clients have worked with their suppliers and the church community, they can apply to HAM for assistance in meeting their fuel and utility bills.

Continued on page 3

- Rent and Mortgage Assistance program: This program provides assistance to clients in meeting their rent or mortgage payments. Again, clients are expected to work with their bank or landlord before asking for help from HAM.
- Home Repairs: This program reviews requests for minor home repairs or ramp additions. Each request is evaluated, the cost of labor and materials is estimated, and volunteers or a local contractor to complete the work is located.

All clients are expected, but not required to be on food stamps (SNAP) which must be confirmed by the Mathews County Social Services Department. The Department is located at 536 Church St. and their phone number is 804-725-7192.

To contact Hands Across Mathews call 804-725-0934. Cash contributions can be mailed to:

Hands Across Mathews
PO Box 1303
Mathews, VA 23109

Linda Dalgety



2021 Graduates

The Paul Townsend Memorial Class will again be honoring this year's high school and college graduates with Bibles and books of worship.

Please mail or email the following to the church office by **Sunday, May 23rd:**

- Full Name & type of diploma/degree and institution attended
- Share your plans for the future
- Add names of parents and/or grandparents that are members of Central
- Include a Photo if you like, for the Chimes Newsletter (if photo is mailed, note if you need it returned).

Finance Note to Congregation

Hello Church Members!

Once again, the Finance Committee met virtually due to Covid 19. We are getting pretty used to it. I miss the social interaction as you all do!

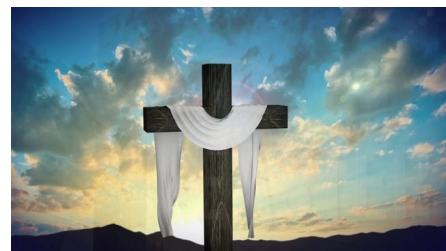
Last month was tough for our expenses, but things should level out. Some of our expenses were reduced or eliminated due to us not meeting in person. Keeping our commitments to our church, both locally and through our district, remain the same. Most other expenses never change. Some discretionary dollars were increased to help our community.

Please make sure your commitment to our church is current so we can continue our service to God and community.

Please remit your normal, monthly anticipated contributions. Our mailing address: Central Methodist Church, P.O. Box 297, Mathews, VA 23109

Tim Hill

Chairman, Finance Committee



[Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers go to the Families of...](#)

Lois White

Alan Strigle

George West

Nancy Reno

Timmy Sutton

Raymond Forrest



Administrative Council Chair

Happy Spring and Happy Easter! The Spring and Easter seasons always bring about a time of change and renewal in our lives. The days are slowly but surely getting longer and warmer, the daffodils are blooming, and the grass is starting to inch taller and green up. We're getting anxious to get outside and work in our yards and gardens. We also experience a renewal of our faith and commitment to God as we recall the events of Christ's last week which ultimately ended with His resurrection.

Another renewal that is starting to take place is here at Central as we are able to relax some of the restrictions that we have been under for the past year. The CDC, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church are all sending out new guidelines almost weekly. Your Healthy Church Team, Admin Council, and of course, Pastor John, are trying to keep up with things. However, just like Spring doesn't just happen overnight, these relaxations of protocols won't happen all at once, either. They will be phased in slowly but surely, just like Spring. For example, now we can have three sets of people instead of just two sitting on the pews during in-person worship. Also, the next time we celebrate communion, we can take the pre-packaged elements to our seats, lower our masks, and partake the elements all together. I know these are "baby steps," but like I said, "slowly but surely." We just need to be patient as other new protocols are rolled out and are implemented.

So, just as the Earth emerges from Winter, and with God's help, Central UMC will emerge from this pandemic and hopefully be even stronger.

Chris Moughon,

Administrative Council Chair

Greeters/Ushers for April

4/4 Easter	Michael Cannon
4/11	Dee Bane
4/18	Hal & Patty Hertzler
4/25	Michael Cannon

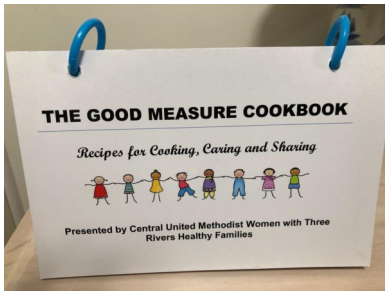
Hymns & Gospels (3/14)



Photos by Michael Cannon

United Methodist Women

The Central United Methodist Women met in person on March 8th in the Fellowship Hall. We assigned our roles for our participation in the March 14th Church Service. At that Service, Nancy Goldman served as Greeter, Patty Hertzler led the congregation in the Liturgy, Christine Ulrich read the Scripture, Grace Mortimer and Dee Bane entertained us with a beautiful rendition of "What A Day That Will Be", and Judy Moughon presented a history of United Methodist Women. It was our pleasure to be a part of this service.



We have partnered with Three Rivers Healthy Families to publish and distribute our **"The Good Measure Cookbook"** which is for sale for \$12.00 in the Fellowship Hall. A portion of these cookbooks will be distributed to the new clients at Three Rivers as a welcoming gift as well as copies will be given to the existing clients. We voted that the proceeds from the sale of the cookbooks be given to Three Rivers to support their programs.

We have tabled the collection of our UMCOR Cleaning Kits until we have a clearer direction of how to get the proceeds to UMCOR. We have received word that all of the depots in the USA are closed due to lack of personnel to process the kits because of Covid-19. We will revisit this problem at our next meeting.

Just as a reminder, we are still collecting Non-Food items in a bin in the Fellowship Hall.

At the end of our meeting we assembled another few boxes of the cookbooks.

Martha Arnold
CUMW President

Give the Gift of Life!

Mathews Community Blood Drive
Tuesday, April 20, 1:30 -7:00 pm

Piankatank Ruritan Building

Must call for an appointment!

Individual appointments only

Go to redcrossblood.org for appt.

or Call [804-725-2485](tel:804-725-2485) for appt.
and for questions.



Image source: pixabay.com

AARP TaxAide information for 2021

AARP Tax-Aide Foundation sponsors a program that provided FREE tax counseling, preparation, and electronic filing for all taxpayers with middle and low income, with special attention to those 60 and older. No AARP membership or age requirements. Volunteers are trained and tested each year to provide basic tax preparation services for 1040 federal forms, plus some schedules and Virginia 760 forms from February 1 – April 15.

Because of COVID 19 restrictions, taxpayers will need to pick up an information package at one of the sites listed below. They will then need to complete the package and return to have it scanned into a secure cloud based system. Taxes will be completed remotely by TaxAide trained volunteers. Appointments will then be made for the taxpayer to review and sign the authorization for TaxAide to e-file the return. The taxpayer will receive a hard copy of the return at that time.

Gloucester Point – Gloucester Point Baptist Church

Gloucester Main Library –Main Street Center

Mathews Memorial Library

Deltaville – Deltaville Library

Urbanna – Urbanna Public Library

Locust Hill – Cryer Center

Thank you for your assistance. For more information, please call:

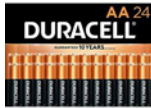
Mary Warren, Tax-Aide Volunteer at 804-725-5921

Creation Care



Recycling is extremely important, but it can be a confusing process, this is particularly true when it comes to disposing of batteries. Here are some simple tips for the different types of batteries.

1. Single-Use Alkaline batteries, such as your AA, AAA, C, D and 9-volt batteries can go in your household trash.



Before the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act ("Battery Act") was passed in 1996, alkaline batteries were manufactured containing mercury. Mercury is a chemical that is considered toxic because it is harmful to the environment; therefore, any batteries that contain mercury are classified as hazardous waste by the EPA. Modern-day alkaline batteries no longer contain mercury and are classified as non-toxic or non-hazardous by the EPA. (Note: old batteries that you may find in closets or attics that were made before 1997—when Congress mandated a widespread mercury phase-out in batteries of all types—should most surely be recycled and not discarded with the trash. These batteries may contain as much as 10 times the mercury of newer versions.)

Before tossing an alkaline battery out, check to make sure it's actually alkaline. It'll say so right on the battery.

2. Rechargeable Batteries: Perhaps of greater concern nowadays is what's happening to spent rechargeable batteries from cell phones, laptops, and other portable electronic equipment. Such items contain potentially toxic heavy metals

sealed up inside, and if thrown out with the regular garbage can jeopardize the environmental integrity of both landfills and incinerator emissions.

Options:



Rechargeable household batteries (nickel cadmium, nickel metal hydride, and lithium ion) and cell phones can be dropped off with the site attendant at the MATHEWS Convenience Center. They can also be dropped off at Lowes or Home Depot. These companies have partnered with *Call2Recycle*, a non-profit battery recycling program. Drop you batteries in their free rechargeable batteries bin.

3. Button Cell Batteries can still have small amounts of mercury, so these small, round devices are hazardous waste and **should be recycled** through your hazard waste resources.



Button batteries tend to be single-use and are found in items like watches, hearing aids, cameras and even toys. Because button batteries are often quite small, young children and toddlers have been known to accidentally swallow them, which require immediate medical attention.

Michael Cannon

Creation Care Team



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
			<h1>April 2021</h1>			1 Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7:00 pm	2 Good Friday	3 Church Grounds Work Day 9:00 am
4  Sunrise Service 6:30 am at Old Field Pt. Easter Sunday 9:15 am 	5	6	7 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	8	9	10		
11	12 UM Women 10:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	13	14 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am Finance 7:00 pm	15	16	17		
18	19 Trustees 7:00 pm	20  Blood Drive Piankatank Ruritan Club 1:30 - 7:00pm	21	22	23	24		
				<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"> All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair. </div>				
25	26	27	28 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	29	30			

Birthdays

Lisa Zerbe	4	Christine Ulrich	14
Dale Robinson	9	Marcia Fry	18
Bobby Hudgins	11	Janet Burgess	20
Mark Lewis	12	Helen Lee	20
Kathy Bochau	13	Diana More	21

Anniversaries

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