



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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April 2024

Pastor's Pondering

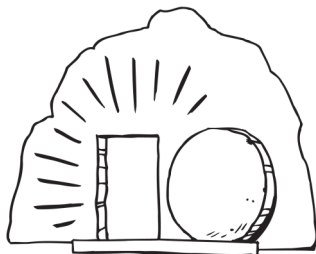
Grace and Peace! What a joyous and beautiful day we experienced on Easter! We gathered at the entrance to the church and worshipped in the brisk morning air. We gathered to remember that as Jesus had promised, the tomb was empty! We remembered that we serve a risen Savior!

We gathered together again at 9:15 for worship with family and friends from near and far to celebrate that we indeed are Easter people! We heard the scriptures read and heard the familiar resurrection story proclaimed! What a joy to celebrate and worship together at Central United Methodist Church.

We are living each day as Easter people! This means that the events of that first Easter morning makes an ongoing difference in our lives today. We live in resurrection power that makes an ongoing difference in the world around us. Jesus Christ, his suffering, death and resurrection continues to make

a difference in our lives and in the world around us. May we continue to live in the resurrection power that we experienced Easter Sunday. May the third Wednesday of the month (as ordinary as it may be) be as exciting as Easter Sunday morning! We serve a risen Savior! May we continue to live each and every day as Easter people!

Pastor Rebecca



Join us for Worship
Sunday service—9:15 a.m.
Sunday school—10:15 a.m.
[Service Live on YouTube](#)

Top photo: Katherine Small
Bottom photo: John Lee Callis



**Maundy Thursday: "The Last Supper"
and Easter service photos**



Top left & middle: Brenda Lewis
Top right: Katherine Small

All Maundy Thursday photos by Jamie Hall.



Reflection Garden in the Works



The Mission and Evangelism team was so gratified with the response we had on showing an episode of *The Chosen*! One member in the audience remarked to Pastor Rebecca that we should show

this weekly in the sanctuary. The show really makes you aware of our Lord as fully divine,, yet fully human at the same time. It's amazing to see Jesus perform a miracle and then turn around and laugh and enjoy himself with his family, friends, and disciples. Beginning sometime in April, we will start showing the first three episodes of *The Chosen* weekly in the sanctuary. We will let you know the exact date.

On April 23, we will begin tidying the area around the bushes in the back parking lot, planting some flowers and installing two benches for our reflection garden. If you would like to help, [please join us at 10 o'clock on April 23.](#)

There are over 35,000 homeless American veterans. This shows an increase of over 7% since 2022. Did you know that there is a thrift store in our town that is dedicated to providing homes for homeless veterans? It will be our mission for the month, the *Rise As One Foundation*. If you would like to make a monetary donation to this worthy cause please make your check payable to Central UMC and write "Rise As One" on the memo line.

Our business focus will be the *Potpourri Shoppe*. We will surprise them with a tasty treat and a thank you card from our church.

Gear up for Christmas in July! On July 17 we will sponsor a turkey dinner with all the trimmings for you, our Church family. in return, and since Christmas is the time for gift giving, we ask that you bring a gift for social services and for their Christmas store.

Linda Dalgety

Mission and Evangelism Chair

From the Administrative Council Chair

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church is the overarching, governing body of the United Methodist Church. This conference is meeting in North Carolina April 23 through May 3, 2024. This is the conference group that was supposed to meet in 2020 but didn't because of Covid.

The United Methodist Church General Conference is the only body that can set official policy and speak for the international denomination. Think of the two-week gathering as a combination of a United Nations General Assembly, a U.S. congressional session and a time of rousing Christian worship. [Read More](#)

Our church has no one designated to attend the General Conference. We will be represented by the people named in the list of delegates from the Virginia conference who were voted on at the 2018 annual conference. These individuals are also found in the link above. The results of the actions of the General Conference will determine the way the United Methodist Church does business , approaches worship, and supports missions in the future. They will pass legislation during the upcoming meeting which outlines this. This information will eventually come to the Virginia Conference (the conference we are part of) to implement.

Rev. Rebecca has given information about some of the issues to be addressed by the General Conference, and the Administrative Council will try to provide additional information about the General Conference progress as it occurs. Check out the link that says, "read more".

We will use the Chimes and the Weekly News to provide more information. Also, on April 14, 2024, at 2:00 pm, at St. Luke's UMC, in Yorktown, Warren Harper, Virginia delegate to the General Conference, will be giving information on the topics being discussed during conference.

Dee Bane

Administrative Council



Mission Focus for April:

The Rise As One Foundation



THE RISE AS ONE
FOUNDATION

The Rise as One Foundation exists to serve the underserved, the world's greatest givers: Our Veterans. With 30+ years of Real-Estate investing experience under our belts, we are revitalizing run-down and abandoned houses into Veteran's dream homes at no financial cost to them.

Their mission is to provide a forever home, home health care and other provisions for all veterans to include mindset, skill set and job placement opportunities. We believe in giving our veterans a hand up, not a handout.

For more information:

www.vetsforvetshomes.com

Monthly mission focus is adopted by the Administrative Council.



Saturday, June 15 | 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Central United Methodist Church
Church Street at Mathews Courthouse

Now accepting donations of art prints, paintings, table art, sculptures or any other "artsy" items

Call Joe Arnold at 973-714-4973 for more information

United Methodist Women will have baked goods for sale!

*Recent fundraisers have supported:
Hands Across Mathews,*

*Heart Havens, Mathews TRIAD,
Avalon Center, Meals on Wheels and
the Mathews High School Key Club*

Sponsored by Central United Methodist Men

UM Men Plan Art Sale

The Central United Methodist Men met on Saturday, March 16. Tim Hill was to have been in charge of breakfast, but when Susan fell from a horse and broke her ankle Friday night, Bobby Hudgins and David Hudgins stepped up and fed us. We all wish Susan a speedy recovery. There were fifteen of us present to enjoy Bobby and David's efforts.

We wrapped up discussion of the Brunswick Stew Event. We realized a profit of \$1520 after the ingredients were donated and the advertising was paid. We'll be discussing how to distribute these profits in the coming months.

We also discussed the upcoming Art Sale, nailing down the date, June 15. This will be an Art Sale only, not a true yard sale. There will be a yard sale on a different date that the ladies will be sponsoring for non "artsy" items. The Art Sale is not limited to paintings and prints, but includes maps, clocks, decorations and the like. You will be seeing and hearing more about the two events as we get closer. In the meantime, Joe Arnold will be project manager once again for the Art Sale and will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Our next meeting will be on April 20, at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall. We hope for a good turnout!

Chris Moughon,
CUMM President

**Central UMC
YouTube Channel
Join us at 9:15 a.m.
for church services online.**

Go to:

www.centralumcmathews.org
and click on the YouTube link.



Vision of United Methodist Women

At our meeting this month, we developed a new Mission Statement and Vision. Our Mission is to allow our Christian beliefs and commitment to God guide our path in our mission to serve others. Our Vision is to work together as a team using our God given strengths and abilities to meet the needs of our church, global and local community. This is us! These statements best describe our group and our hopes as we move forward. Lofty goals but we are strong, devoted and have so much to offer others.

We will make a donation to UMCOR this month. We plan to visit those who are unable to attend church and to reach out to members of the congregation in need.

We looked ahead to our 2024 calendar and planned events and activities that encompass our mission and vision. There is nothing like looking ahead to December that lets you know that time flies. We plan to make the most of that time doing what we do best – serving our God and our Church.

Nancy Goldman

CUMW President



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

John Henry Ramirez

Nora Lee Ponton

Charles Ben Haywood Sr.

Nathan Ochenfeld



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BBQ Dinner to Benefit CHKD

Friday, April 26

BBQ for pickup only

5:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Central UMC

Sponsored by:

Chesapeake Bay Circle of the King's Daughters and Sons

For tickets: Please see Mary Marshall or Marcia Fry.

Donation is \$12.00

Give the Gift of Life!

Mathews Community Blood Drive
Tuesday, April 16, 2:00 -7:00 pm

Piankatank Ruritan Building

Go to redcrossblood.org for appt.

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



Image source: pixabay.com

Community Sharing

Good News Pantry



For non-perishable food gifts and Christian Literature. Take what you need, give what you can storage.

Located in the back left side of Central's parking lot.

From Henry Fork Service Center

Our Vision: To make God's love visible in Franklin County by being a positive Christian presence.

(March 2024) A Few Thoughts from Jessica

He has made everything beautiful in its time.—Ecclesiastes 3:11

Lately, the weather has been warming up. Flowers and trees are starting to bloom. My yard already needs to be mowed. Spring is setting in. But it's early. I can remember snow in March, and even April. I can remember still having to bundle up because it was cold. I can remember a time when the heat ran regularly due to the temperatures and we were not opening windows or turning fans on. But it's different now. The seasons are changing earlier. The cold weather is not hanging around quite so long. My children have not had the chance to experience snow like I did when I was young. Snows where we were out of school for several days and could build snowmen, have snowball fights, go sledding, and make snow angels. Things have changed. And I don't particularly like it.

Don't get me wrong. I love the warm temperatures and the chance to be outside, especially since I am naturally cold natured. For me, the problem is the pollen. I spend a large part of the year fighting seasonal allergies that seem to change from season to season, rather than go away for a while. It's enough to make me want to stay inside...almost. As much as the pollen aggravates my allergies, I can't force myself permanently indoors. I enjoy being in God's creation too much for that. I can't bring myself to give up the warmth, sunshine, and beauty all around. I could complain about the bad, and I admit that I sometimes do, but the good far outweighs it.

The same is true in our daily lives. God really does make everything beautiful in time. It may not be in our vision of the "right" time, but it is not our time that matters. We have to remember that God has the master plan. He knows when to send the flowers and when to send the snow; when to make it rain and when

the sun should shine bright. He knows, even when we don't. I, for one, am glad He takes care of that and I don't have to make those decisions.

I have challenged myself to spend time in God's creation each day to find the beauty that is present. I need to remind myself of the reason we are all here to enjoy this beauty. I challenge you all to find the beauty in each day and remember it is God's time, not ours, that made this beauty.

Program News

It's hard to believe that we are entering Spring. It seems like we just started the school year and now we are in the home stretch to the end. Where did this year go? Programming has been busy. We finished 2023 with a close look at the birth of our Savior. Following Christmas break, we began our study of Jesus. Classes have enjoyed learning about the many miracles that Jesus performed and the parables he told. As Easter approaches, the focus has moved to the ultimate sacrifice. Children are spending time learning about how God loves us so much that His Son died for us. They are excited to come in each day to learn and grow in their spiritual knowledge.

We have been blessed by many supporters. It takes all of us to make Henry Fork Center a success. Thank you to everyone who has given time, money, prayers, resources, and encouragement. We appreciate you all and strive to reach as many children as possible. Blessings to all of you!

Find out more about the ministries of the Henry Fork Service Center at www.henryforkcenter.org, henryforkcenter@gmail.com, or 540-483-2819.



www.henryforkcenter.org

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
April 2024						
	1	2 Central Village Homemakers 50th Anniversary lunch	3	4	5	6
7 Worship—9:15 am Sunday school - 10:15 am	8 Finance 8:30 am Funeral Reception For Marilyn Cotter- Tucker	9	10 SPRC 10:00 am	11 Paul Townsend Class lunch 12:00 Noon Choir 7:00 pm	12	13
14 Worship—9:15 am Sunday Fellowship after the service Sunday school - 10:15 am	15	16 UM Women 10:00 am Blood Drive  Piankatank Ruritan Club 2:00 - 7:00pm	17 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am	18 Choir 7:00 pm	19	20 UM Men 8:00 am
21 Worship—9:15 am Sunday school - 10:15 am	22	23 M & E Work on reflection garden 10:00 am	24 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	25	26 Ches. Bay Circle of CHKD & Sons BBQ 9:00 am - 7:00 pm	27
28 Worship—9:15 am Sunday school - 10:15 am	29	30		All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.		

Birthdays

Chris Merrill	6	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
Janet Bowman	13		

Anniversaries

Chris & Hope Merrill	8
Chris & Pat Moughon	18
Craig & Katherine Small	21