



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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February 2017

From the Pastor's Pen

"Diversity and Maturity"

I grew up in one of the world's most homogenous countries. Ninety-nine percent of the people in my country were Koreans; they had the same dark hair, the same brown eyes; we all spoke the same language. Naturally, there was a strong sense of ethnic identity, and we were quite proud to be who we were. When I came to America, however, I saw the racial and cultural diversity that exist here. It was part of people's daily life. It was part of the fabric of the society. People looked different to begin with—something I used to take for granted to be largely the same.

At first I thought, "What confusion this must be!" But over time I came to see the maturity that results from diversity. Thanks to our differences, we have learned to recognize the value of our common humanity. We have learned, for example, that beauty goes deeper than looks. Fair skin and blonde hair are often cited as attractive traits, but we know nonetheless that true beauty is found elsewhere, having lived with people of different looks. We cheer for team USA hard, but not as if the nation might rise and fall by the scores; we know that we have come from different places. We prize our heritages, but we insist on the greater things that establish our shared life: the rule of law, justice, fairness, compassion, and the Word of God.

Central has two worship services on most Sundays, and there is a degree of difference between the 8:30 service and the 11:00

service. The early service has a 'breakfast crowd at Hardee's' feel. The atmosphere is somewhat relaxed, but it being at early morning, and with the older crowd, there is a touch of calm and serenity, too. Coffee naturally follows the service. At the later service the choir sings, the organ plays, and often there is a bunch of children and youths. The preacher often wears a robe, as do the choir. It is a mixture of casually dressed youngsters and refined-looking adults.



Some have said that the two services can look like two different communities. More than anything it perhaps speaks to the strength of a worshipping community: You are bound to feel closer to people with whom you worship regularly. Plus, if you look closely, there are places where the people come together—Sundays schools, Bible studies, UMM and UMW, and even committee meetings.

I thought about how Central has been blessed with two services, and it occurs to me that such diversity may well be a gift. You may enjoy the early morning calm of the 8:30 service, but in the same church, there are children and youths who worship with you; and you have an opportunity to serve them. You may have deep roots to the community, but in the same church you also get to be with those from up North or big cities who recently begun a new life here in Mathews. We may value quiet serenity of Mathews life above all, but you may be challenged by those who have a heart for Christ's mission in the wider world.

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United Methodist Women

The Central United Methodist Women met early before their meeting on December 12 to prepare and wrap Amaryllis bulbs for our homebound friends and members.



In our December meeting, we worked on our annual calendar of events for the upcoming year. After much discussion, some of the activities we have planned for 2017 are as follows: a volunteer luncheon, a presentation by Janet Burgess about her mission trip to Israel, another Three Rivers Healthy Families Luncheon, a *BayBells* concert, and a birthday luncheon.

After the meeting was adjourned, Pastor John joined us for our annual Caroling Party. We all enjoyed delivering the Amaryllis plants and singing Christmas Carols with our homebound friends. We then gathered at Grace Mortimer's home for a delicious potluck dinner. It was a wonderful way to begin the holiday season.

The snow delayed our January meeting until January 20. We were treated to a delicious luncheon prepared by Judy Moughon. Judy presented our Call to Prayer and Self Denial program entitled *Women at Work*. We shared favorite recipes and our personal blessings.

Our next event is our *Valentine Luncheon for Volunteers* on Tuesday, February 14 and our next meeting will be on Monday, February 20.

Martha Arnold,
CUMW Recording Secretary

United Methodist Men

The Methodist Men met for the first time this year on January 21. Ben Leigh reminded everyone that this is the 20th year for the organization at Central. We hope to carry on for another 20 years.

Please put a reminder on your calendars for the first Shrimp Dinner of the year to be held on Friday, April 28.

The UMM is starting a project now and concluding with our Saturday, February 18 meeting, to collect slightly used, clean clothes for *Hands Across Mathews*. We are asking the church to join us in this project.

One of our members will come by the church a couple times a week to collect what has been left in the Fellowship Hall and deliver them to *Hands Across Mathews*. So ladies and gentlemen, start spring cleaning now and clean out your closets!



Ken Palmer, President

Disaster Response

Since last March, the Disaster Response Team has been working on your preparation and safety before, during, and after a disaster. We have considered your needs with *Dare to Prepare* presentations, surveyed the church facilities and are currently updating the congregational information. Please view the poster listing members' contact information. Place a check next to your name so we know that you have seen the current data, and if necessary make corrections or additions at the bottom of the board. This will assist the office, pastor, and members in connecting with each other.

Thank you for your assistance.

Janet Burgess,
Disaster Response Team Leader

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If we keep in mind the grace of God given to all, and if we remain open to the Spirit of God, then our differences can challenge one another and help us grow in maturity. I say we receive our diversity as a gift, even as we "make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." (Eph. 4:3)

Gratefully,
John

Creation Care

Last year Creation Care presented an original, in-depth *Recycle Presentation* to 122 people that applied specifically to Mathews. We created two different presentations, one for young people and one for adults. We have many new requests for 2017.



We promoted Household Chemical Collection in our church and County In 2016. Virginia Peninsulas Public Service Authority (VPPSA) had one of their best turnouts for this recycle program.

Our original laminated recycle cards were requested by additional Mathews groups including Kingston Parish and the Inn at Tabbs Creek.

Michael Cannon, Chair

Paul Townsend Memorial Class

In December, our class donated and arranged enough gift items to fill 22 baskets for local homebound members and friends. Individual class members delivered them to grateful recipients.



Donations were made to The Ruritan Blessing Fund, to Mathews Social Services for the Christmas Store and to the mission trip to Israel, among others.

Janet Burgess, a member of our class, will be traveling to Israel on January 30 for two weeks. Please pray for her safe journey and mission work.

The men of the class are planning a Valentine's Day dinner for the ladies of the class.

Planning ahead, we request the church family think about Mother's Day remembrances. Also, please notify the class of the students who will graduate in June in order that we may honor them.

Patty Hertzler, President



The Nancy Wroten Class sends many thanks to all those that helped make Christmas special for the Angel Tree families.

Hospitality

2016 is past. Thank you UMM for setting-up coffee. Thank you to all who pitched in to help with the refreshments, set-up and clean-up.

2017 is a time for recruiting, again. We now need volunteers to sign-up for refreshments following the early service. Add your name to the calendar in the Fellowship Hall (located under the thermostat) to volunteer.

We still have opportunities for Greeters at the early service. Patty Hertzler will be happy to add names to unoccupied spaces. Marcia has filled the calendar year for the late service. *Way to go Marcia!*

We look forward to your assistance. Those committing to refreshments are responsible for the coffee, snacks, set-up and clean-up. Your service is greatly appreciated.

Your Hospitality Committee

Greeters/Ushers for February

8:30 am service	Phyllis & Bobby Hudgins
11:00 am service	Nancy & Jerry Jagger

Refreshments Providers for February

5	Volunteer Opportunity
12	Phyllis & Bobby Hudgins
19	Volunteer Opportunity
26	Volunteer Opportunity

UMM CLOTHING DONATIONS

Deadline is Saturday,
February 18, 8:00 am

Collecting gently used,
clean clothes for
Hands Across Mathews.

Leave donations in the
Fellowship Hall.

Administrative Council

We are beginning a New Year, hoping to do what our Lord wants us to do. Any suggestions or concerns are welcome anytime. Just contact me, our Pastor, or any member of the board so that we can address it. We are all working together to help Central grow and to quote Pastor John, "To make our church a Community of Jesus Christ."

Our first meeting was on Wednesday, January 25. We welcomed new council members: Chris Moughon, Grace Mortimer, Ken Lee, Ken Palmer, and Dee Bane.

Blessings,
Bobby Hudgins,
Administrative Council Chair

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

Paul Kava	Ruth Jackson
June Lea Davis	Mary Joann Williams
James Diggs	Donald Ericksen
Georgia A. Morgan	Jeannie Tatterson
Robert Martin	Pat Reardon
Kenneth Williams	Jeanette Hurst
John Dayton, Jr.	Frank Phillips
Rudy Morgan	Eleanor Orrell
Betty Clark	

YOU'RE INVITED TO A CELEBRATION!

We Celebrate Our Volunteers

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE LUNCHEON
Tuesday, February 14, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Central United Methodist Church
RSVP to Nancy Jagger 725-5193 by 2/10

2017 Central UMC Administrative Committees

Administrative Council

Chair	Bobby Hudgins
Altar Team	Miriam Cromwell
Children and Youth Ministry	Pat Gwaltney
Church Historian	Judy Moughon
Creation Care, Chair	Michael Cannon
Delegate to Annual Conference	Nancy Jagger
Alt. Delegate	Marilyn Tucker
Disaster Relief Coordinator	Janet Burgess
District Steward	Carl Bochau
Evangelism and Mission, Chair	Pat Gwaltney
Finance, Chair	Chris Moughon
Financial Secretary	Marcia Fry
Asst. Financial Secretary	Diana More Eric Stewart
Health and Welfare Team, Chair	TBD
Hospitality and Visitation, Chairs	Jean Sutton Patty Hertzler
Lay Leader	Nancy Jagger
Membership Secretary	Jean Hall
Recording Secretary (Church Council)	Grace Mortimer
Recording Secretary (Charge Conf.)	Grace Mortimer
Staff Parish Relations, Chair	Dee Bane
Sunday School Superintendent	Richard Moughon
Treasurer	Walt Matthews
Trustees, Chair	Ken Lee
UMM President	Ken Palmer
UMW President	Nancy Jagger

Finance Committee

Chris Moughon (Chair)
Walt Matthews (Treasurer) (non-voting)
Carl Bochau (Trustees Representative)
Marcia Fry (Financial Secretary)
Bobby Hudgins (Admin. Council Chair)
Tim Hill (SPRC Representative)
Nancy Jagger (Lay Leader)
John Choi (Pastor)

Committee on Nominations and Leadership




Class of 2017: Ben Leigh, Pat Gwaltney
Class of 2018: Karen Palmer, Betty Stewart
Class of 2019: Tom Tucker, Shirley Snow
Nancy Jagger (Lay Leader)
John Choi (Pastor)

Trustees

Class of 2017: Pat Moughon, Christine Ulrich,
Frosty Taylor
Class of 2018: Ken Lee (Chair)
Class of 2019: Carl Bochau, Mark Lewis
Nancy Jagger (Lay Leader)
John Choi (Pastor)

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Class of 2017: Marcia Fry, Jean Hall
Class of 2018: Dee Bane (Chair), Steve Eley, Dick Flegenheimer, Tim Hill
Class of 2019: Michael Cannon, Karen Palmer
Nancy Jagger (Lay Leader)
John Choi (Pastor)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
 <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-size: 24px;">February 2017</p>			1 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	2 Children's Youth Choir Choir 6:30 pm 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	3	4
	5 Souper Bowl Sunday (Non- perishable food items and monetary donations for Hands Across Mathews)	6 Prayer Time 8:00 am	7 Alpha 7:00 pm	8 Alpha 10:00 am Finance 7:00 pm	9 P. Townsend 6:00 pm Children's Youth Choir Choir 6:30 pm 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	10
12	13 Prayer Time 8:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	14 Valentine's Day  UMW Valentine Volunteer Luncheon 11:30 am - 2:00 pm Alpha 7:00 pm	15 Mission & Evangelism 9:00 am Alpha 10:00 am	16 Nominations 2:00 pm Children's Youth Choir Choir 6:30 pm 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	17	18 UM Men 8:00 am Deadline for Clothes Donation
19 Central Chimes Articles Due	20 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 10:00 am Trustees 7:00pm	21 Alpha 7:00 pm	22 Alpha 10:00 am Administrative Council 7:00 pm	23 Children's Youth Choir Choir 6:30 pm 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	24	25 District Workshop: Conflict Transformation 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
26	27 Prayer Time 8:00 am Queen's Creek Assoc. 7:00 pm	28 Alpha 7:00 pm <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <i>All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.</i> </div>				

Birthdays

Peggy Kava	1	Ruth Ann Hutson	12
Susan Hill	3	Kenneth Marshall	13
Bob Tabor	8	Elizabeth Anderson	16
Sherry Hodges	9	Bill Loving	23

Anniversaries

Mary Wade Smith	25	Jean & Donnie Hall	14
Frosty Taylor	29	Richard & Carey Hogge	24