



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

February 2018

From the Pastor's Pen

"While physical training is of some value, godliness is valuable in every way, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." (1 Tim. 4:8)

On Christmas evening I drove myself to the emergency room with a severe pain in my side for what eventually turned out to be a case of kidney stone. In retrospect there are worse troubles to be had, but the pain, the morphine, and the prospect of more to come all loomed large in my mind as I lay on the hospital bed. For the first time I felt as if my body had let me down, and the anxiety and (surprisingly) loneliness that came with it were unsettling, albeit soothed by a gratitude for the care I received.

It occurred to me that many people I knew dealt with much, much more grave circumstances. The unfairness of sickness was an ordinary human experience. I also did think about Christ. Other things aside, how did he endure the stress of knowing all that was ahead? More to the point, why did he have to? Unexpectedly, however, I found it easier to pray during that week than ever before. My personal sense of security had taken a blow, but my prayers took on a flight. I did pray for healing, but I found myself mostly seeking God himself.

Oddly enough, we seem to grow closer to God in our weakness. I wish that was not the case, and I wish Christ had not had to suffer. But as riddled as we humans are with pride and self-centeredness, we often see God's face when we are humbled. Jesus said, "Do not worry about tomorrow ... Your Heavenly Father knows what you need before you ask

him"; but he also said, "Whoever would come after me, let them deny themselves, take up their own cross daily and follow me." (Lk. 9:23) That may be why many have cherished disciplines such as fasting and silence; they found themselves nearer to God.



Committing to spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, self-examination (journaling), acts of kindness, group study, etc. is a form of self-denial. The same goes with listening to the Holy Spirit for everyday obedience. But we do it for love's sake. We choose them not to make God hear and meet us, but for us to hear and meet him better.

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Spiritual Formation Class: Gospel of John

DISCIPLE guides participants through daily Scripture readings and reflections, and weekly meetings feature teaching and further discussion.

WHEN: Feb. 20 – May 15, (2-week break on the weeks of 3/18 & 3/25); Tuesdays at 7:00 pm & Wednesdays at 10:00 am

Participant's Guide: "Invitation to John" by Robert D. Kysar (\$15). Reserve by signing-up or calling the church office.

For questions please speak to Pastor John (johnchoi@vaumc.org).

If you make it your goal during this year's Lent to grow in your relationship with God, you are invited to a service on Ash Wednesday on Feb. 14, where you may hear these earnest words: "Thou art dust, and to dust Thou shalt return." Those words awaken us to the truth that we are meant for a life that truly lasts. When we come in touch with our own mortality, we earnestly hope for the eternal God—who is always there to meet us.

May God's unfailing love continue to be your guide in your journey towards Easter and beyond.

Gratefully,

John

Creation Care Team

Creation Care met at the Cannons for their January meeting. We spent half of it repairing slightly damaged youth books. Martha Arnold took some of the books to **Hands Across Mathews** for parents and grandparents to share with their children.



Another organization that was interested in these excess children's books was **The Continental Society**. It is a national organization that has a chapter in Mathews. Their mission is to create environments within our communities that empower children to reach their optimal potential. Our contact is Gaylen Davis. I was able to deliver to her 95 books that the Creation Care Team had

checked and repaired. Gaylen said that the children will love having their own books!



Creation Care is also looking into presenting our recycle programs in

2018 to Mathews' Scout groups.

"The earth is the Lords and everything in it."

Michael Cannon
Creation Care

Kingston Episcopal Parish invites you to



Soup with Love

Five Wednesdays, beginning

February 21 at Noon

370 Main Street, Mathews

Sponsored by the Kingston Parish Women

There will be a short service beginning at Noon led by Fr. Gary of Kingston Parish with homilies given by the following area clergy:

February 21:

Rev. Dede Parrish, St.Paul's/Beulah UMC

February 28:

Rev. Kevin E. English, Salem UMC

March 7:

Rev. Thomas J. Bunting, New Point Friends Church

March 14:

Rev. Gary Barker, Kingston Episcopal Parish

March 21: Rev. John Choi, Central UMC

ASH WEDNESDAY
SERVICE
FEB. 14, 6 P.M.

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

John Bell

Cloe Griffith

Eugene Callis

Kenny Brown

Cathy Drummond

Thomas Connaughton

Barbara Kemp

Pete White

Countess Turpin

Elizabeth Milby

Ellen Crutchley

Adeleine

Barbara Lewis

June Clarke Shipley

Hospitality and Visitation

We are blessed at Central to have a team of 12 volunteers who have agreed to serve one month each as Host of the Hospitality and Visitation Committee. As such they will co-chair with the Chairman special events, such as funeral receptions and any other event necessary that month. The team members will be on call to assist whenever needed. They will also be on call to visit if requested by the Pastor.

The following will serve Central as Hospitality Hosts in 2018:

- January--Peggy Leigh-725-3883
- February--Phyllis Hudgins-725-3751
- March--Emily Leap--384-7811
- April--Frosty Taylor-804-586-2995
- May--Karen Palmer-725-3945
- June--Ruth Ann Hutson-694-7445
- July--Mary Marshall-725-4181
- August--Christine Ulrich-725-3575
- September--Dee Bane-384-8098
- October--Jean Hall-725-7692
- November--Betty Stewart-725-3322
- December--Dale Robinson-725-3168

Louise Witherspoon has graciously agreed to send cards of sympathy or sick cards to church members who are ill (continue on right)

Hospitality Host for February

Phyllis Hudgins (725-3751)

Greeters/Ushers for February

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 8:30 am service | Bobby & Phyllis Hudgins |
| 11:00 am service | Victor & Jane Vega |

Refreshments Providers for February

- | | |
|----|---------------------------------------|
| 4 | Cookie Sunday (Bring snacks to share) |
| 11 | Phyllis & Bobby Hudgins |
| 18 | James & Dale Martin |
| 25 | Grace Mortimer & Kathy Bochau |

this year. Please keep her informed by e-mail when the need arises. This is an important job and we thank her for her faithful service.

Many thanks to our January refreshment servers; Steve & Emily Leap, Dee Bane and Bobby & Phyllis Hudgins. Refreshments are for attendees of both services. The first Sunday of each month will be cookies or light snack Sunday. Please bring something to share. Coffee will be provided by Hospitality.

Thank each of you in advance for your "Gift of Service". I look forward to working with you in 2018. The warmth, fellowship and hospitality that we show others is a big part of our overall outreach program at Central. With God's help, this will be a good year.

Phyllis Hudgins,

Chairman, Hospitality and Visitation Team

Mission & Evangelism

In preparation for the Soup, Salad, Sweets and Songs on January 28th, Pastor John suggested and the Mission and Evangelism Committee sponsored Jill Gaynor from United Methodist Family Services to speak in our Sunday services on the 21st. Her presentation was exceptional, proved by the generous donations at the 4-S service! The 4-S event was a great success! Music was provided by Katherine Diggs, Pastor Yosub Namgung & his wife, Minjung Kim; Pastor John Choi, Pastor Jeongin Kim; Janet Bowman, Helen Lee and Grace Mortimer.

A large variety of soups, salads & sweets followed the song service, along with an enjoyable time of fellowship!



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Donations, delegated for United Methodist Family Services, were impressive, totaling \$400.00.

I would like to personally thank everyone who brought food for the evening. It was greatly appreciated and enjoyed! Also, I would like to thank the M&E Committee for their hard work setting up before the dinner, and cleaning up afterwards. I would also like to thank everyone else who pitched in to help with cleanup. As usual Pastor John gave us a helping hand and closed up for us!

The committee is busy working on our vision for this coming year following much prayer. Individually we spent time seeking God for a vision for 2018 and when we met on January 10, we were all in agreement on the direction that God was leading us. We are looking to sponsor one or more local families in need, get to know them and not only help them in various material ways but also to help them in spiritual growth!

We are making some tentative plans for other events throughout the year. We will continue to support our missionaries, the Paige's who are now in Paraguay completing their studies before moving to Spain.

As an incoming chairman and being new to the M&E board, I have relied on Pastor John and Pat Gwaltney for guidance and I really appreciate their wisdom!

Yours in Christ,
Jean Hall, Chairman



FINS nights include dinner, Bible activities, games, and FUN!!

Ages: K-12th Grade

Time: 6:30-9:00pm

February 17th :

**Macedonia Baptist Church
524, E River Rd, Foster**

Financial Secretary

Thanks to all those who volunteered to count money throughout 2017. I am now scheduling counters for 2018 and would appreciate folks volunteering.

Marcia Fry

United Methodist Women

Services on Feb. 25th will be led by members of the United Methodist Women. We look forward to serving as worship leaders and dedicating ourselves anew to our mission in Christ. Also Mark your calendar: On Monday, March 12th, UMW plans to host a community volunteers luncheon at 11:30 a.m. It will be an opportunity for fellowship and for the exchanging of ideas. Details to come! We look forward to seeing you there!

Mathews County Blood Drive

Piankatank Ruritan Club

Sponsored by

Mathews High School BETA Club &
Mathews Chapel UMC

Tuesday, February 6

2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

For Questions call:

Nan Cross, 725-2485



Scholarship Offerings



Give the gift of education!

Scholarship offerings will be received until *Sunday, February 11.*

We are set to award two scholarships this year, and Administrative Council is asking for the congregation to give an additional \$500 for a total of \$1,500. The scholarship offerings will be received until Sunday, Feb. 11. Thank you.

United Methodist Men

The group approved a motion to have only one shrimp dinner in 2018. We will have that dinner on April 27th as past history indicates our Spring dinner is usually better attended than the fall dinner.

In order to help minimize the lost revenue because of eliminating the fall shrimp dinner, we also have decided to sponsor a yard sale to coincide with the county-wide yard sale on June 2nd. More details as we firm up execution plans in our February meeting.

We gave a \$500 gift to Nelda Gibbs to support the school lunch needs for children unable to pay. Our community is so lucky to have Nelda Gibbs to administer the gifts we and other organizations provide!

Lastly, the UMM have begun developing a list of members within our group that are willing to provide support to individuals (Central UMC members only) who need assistance during unfortunate events (mostly weather related). Examples would be snow that the homeowner cannot shovel themselves and need a four wheel drive vehicle to clear a path, power outage during extreme cold or heat, and other such events that the homeowner is incapable of dealing with. We envision one "Need Help" phone number to reach a help chain coordinator. The coordinator will quickly determine if our help chain can provide adequate support and, if so, will contact appropriate support individuals.

More to come as we further define the processes to make this work effectively.

Steve Leap
UMM President



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

Christmas at Central UMC

Photos by Louise Witherspoon



Central Village Homemakers Sing-a-long



2018 Central UMC Administrative Committees

Administrative Council

Chair	Bobby Hudgins
Altar Team	TBD
Children and Youth Ministry	Janet Gomez
Church Historian	Judy Moughon
Creation Care, Chair	Michael Cannon
Delegate to Annual Conference	Nancy Jagger
Alt. Delegate	Marilyn Tucker
District Steward	TBD
Evangelism and Mission, Chairs	Jean Hall Pat Gwaltney
Finance, Chair	Chris Moughon
Financial Secretary	Marcia Fry
Asst. Financial Secretary	Diana More Eric Stewart
Health and Welfare Team, Chair	Helen Lee
Hospitality and Visitation, Chair	Phyllis Hudgins
Lay Leader	Janet Burgess
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	Steve Leap
UMW President	Pat Gwaltney
Worship, Chair	Judy Moughon

Finance Committee

Chris Moughon (Chair)
Walt Matthews (Treasurer) (non-voting)
Hal Hertzler (Trustees Representative)
Marcia Fry (Financial Secretary)
Bobby Hudgins (Admin. Council Chair)
Tim Hill (SPRC Representative)
Janet Burgess (Lay Leader)
John Choi (Pastor)

Nominations and Leadership Development



Class of 2018: Karen Palmer, Betty Stewart
Class of 2019: Tom Tucker, Shirley Snow
Class of 2020: David Hudgins, Jean Sutton
Janet Burgess (Lay Leader)
John Choi (Pastor)

Trustees

Class of 2018: Ken Lee (Chair)
Class of 2019: Hal Hertzler, Mark Lewis
Class of 2010: James Martin, Pat Moughon (Secretary), Dale Robinson
John Choi (non-voting)

Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Class of 2018: Dee Bane (Chair), Steve Eley (Secretary), Tim Hill
Class of 2019: Michael Cannon, Karen Palmer
Class of 2020: Marcia Fry, Ben Leigh, Greg Lewis
Nancy Jagger (Lay Member of Annual Conference)
John Choi (Pastor)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
<p>February 2018</p>					1 Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	2	3
4 Souper Bowl Sunday (Food items and monetary donations for Hands Across Mathews) Song Service 2:30 pm	5 Prayer Time 8:00 am Women's Choir 7:00 pm	6 Blood Drive Piantatank Ruritan Club 2:00 - 7:00 pm	7 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Finance 7:00 pm	8 Bay Quilters 9:00 am Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	9	10	
11	12 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 10:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	13	14 Ash Wednesday Service 6:00 pm Valentine's Day 	15 P. Townsend Valentine Dinner 5:30 pm Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	16	17 UM Men 8:00 am FINS 6:30 pm Macedonia Baptist Church	
18 Central Chimes Articles Due	19 Prayer Time 8:00 am Trustees 7:00 pm	20 Creation Care at Cannons 1:00 pm Disciple Bible Study 7:00 pm	21 Mission & Evangelism 9:00 am Disciple Bible Study 10:00 am Soup with Love (Kingston Parish) 12:00 pm	22 Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	23	24	
25 UM Women Sunday	26 Prayer Time 8:00 am Worship Team 7:00 pm	27 Disciple Bible Study 7:00 pm	28 Disciple Bible Study 10:00 am Administrative Council 7:00pm Soup with Love (Kingston Parish) 12:00 pm	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"> <p><i>All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.</i></p> </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