



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

June 2016



The 2016 General Conference of the United Methodist Church concluded on May 20 in Portland,

Oregon. The nearly 900 delegates worshipped, amended *The Discipline* by working on hundreds of petitions (during plenary sessions alone), adopted resolutions, passed a budget, elected the Judicial Council members, remembered and repented, and celebrated. The following is a few notable samples of their work, in no particular order. For a comprehensive report, see the news section of www.umc.org. (A summary article - <http://www.umc.org/news-and-media/gc2016-wraps-up-with-budget-divestment>)

-New hymnal project was approved. This will be the church's first new hymnal since 1989 and will be internet-based and print-on-demand. A 15-member Hymnal Revision Committee will be created for the project.

-Delegates approved a general church budget of \$604 million for 2017-2020, a slight increase over the \$603.1 million approved at the 2012 General Conference. In particular, delegates voted to add \$5 million to the denomination's Central Conference Theological Education Fund, which supports United Methodist schools, pastors and pastors-in-training in Africa, Asia and Europe.

-A petition was approved to create new provisional central conferences* in Rwanda and Southeast Asia/Mongolia. (*In the United Methodist language, a 'central conference'

means a regional conference outside of the U.S.) In addition, there will be five more United Methodist bishops in Africa after 2020. Overall, a continued strong growth was noted in Africa and Asia.

-Late afternoon on May 18, the delegates adopted the (Council of) bishops' proposal to postpone all debates regarding issues having to do with homosexuality. The proposal calls for a special commission to be appointed by the bishops, who are to craft proposals for a special General Conference possibly in 2018 or 2019.

-A petition to withdraw denominational general agency membership from the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice was passed, as was a second petition to remove language supporting the coalition from the Book of Resolutions.

-The term limits for U.S. United Methodist bishops received a strong support, but the votes fell short of the two-thirds majority needed to change the church constitution, 482 in favor of term limits to 332 opposed.

-On May 19, The United Methodist Church sent new missionaries from 11 countries to serve in 16 lands.



Father's Day Tribute Bulletin

Nancy Wroten Memorial Class

Deadline: June 12

To place your listing, contact a member of the Nancy Wroten Class. Forms are available in the Sunday bulletin.

Image Source: sinhasat302.blogspot.com

From the Pastor's Pen

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven." (Mt. 5:3)

Eleven years ago, I watched a respected longtime pastor leave his church in order to serve as district superintendent. In his place, a relatively inexperienced pastor was appointed to the 1300-member church. Needless to say, more people were concerned about him than they were excited.

This past Sunday, he bid farewell to the congregation following a decade of fruitful ministry. He shared a prayer he had written in his journal on July 1, 2005.

Lord,
This ship is now leaving the dock.
And you, Lord, are the captain of this voyage.
Until this journey is over
I mean to follow you alone;
You alone I hold on to.
It is not the storms or waves that I fear.
It is rather that my eyes should wander from you,
That my thoughts go away from you,
That I do fear.
Lord,
While this passage lasts
Please take hold of me
So that I may take hold of you.



Not in so many words, but it sounds very similar to my prayers last July. Hopefully I will not forget mine, either.

Thankful for God's Reminders,
John



David Mortimer
1944 - 2016

Creation Care

Good News: the next Household Chemical Collection and Electronic Recycling is August 20. Central's Creation Care Team gets an early notice of this event. Our goal is to give a heads-up to our congregation as well as the rest of the Mathews community so they can start setting aside items for this event. It is free to citizens of the Middle Peninsula--but our county pays for it whether we take advantage of it or not. More information to follow. Mark your calendars for this event!

In the last 10 months Central's Creation Care Team has transformed their basic recycle presentation into two handsome PowerPoint presentations: one for youth and one for adults. We have had more than 70 people participate in this Recycle Seminar. We already have requests for the beginning of the next school year!



Taking care of the environment is a part of the United Methodist Church and Community Ministry.

Michael Cannon, Chair

4 Cans 4 Conference

VA Annual Conference - Roanoke



Our annual conference makes a positive impact on the community by contributing to the local Roanoke food bank. *Please help us by bringing non-perishable food items by June 12.* Thank you for helping those who do not have enough to eat.

SURF SHACK

*Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love!
Vacation Bible School*

When: Monday - Friday
June 20-24

Where: Salem UMC

Ages: 3 years to 6th grade



2016 Graduates Honored at Central UMC

In honor of their graduation, the following graduates will be presented a gift Bible or a book of daily scripture by the Paul Townsend Sunday School Class.

Tyler Joseph Degrandcourt is the son of Tandrae Cromwell and Robert Degrandcourt. He is the grandson of Miriam and Joe Cromwell and Judy and Bob Degrandcourt. Tyler will graduate from Courtland High School in Spotsylvania, VA. He plans to attend Germanna Community College majoring in Computer Science.



Madeline Elizabeth Duncan will graduate from Warhill High School, Williamsburg, VA. She is the daughter of Sarah and Ryan Lewis. Her grandparents are Roger and Brenda Pogge, Diane Brideson and Mark and Brenda Lewis. Maddie will attend Thomas Nelson Community College seeking an Associate of Arts in Music. She will then transfer to a 4-year college for Bachelor of Arts in Music with a minor in American Sign Language.



Olivia Grace Gwyn will graduate with an Advanced Diploma from Mathews High School on June 18. Olivia has earned 29 college credits from Rappahannock Community College through the Dual Enrollment Program. She is currently enrolled at RCC for the summer session where she will complete the required studies to qualify for the Bachelor program at Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science. Olivia plans to earn her Bachelor of Mortuary Science Degree (B.M.S.) with a targeted completion date of December 2018. Her goal is to obtain professional licenses encompassing all aspects of the funeral service profession and plans to serve her hometown community. Olivia is a member of Central UMC. She is the daughter of Mark and Kathy Gwyn and the granddaughter of Jimmy and Betty Stewart.



Curtis Lamar Hughes graduated May 14 from Bridgewater College in Bridgewater VA with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree with an Emphasis in Marketing and Organizational Management. Curtis hasn't made a definite decision about his future career plans. He is open to all options! His parents are Robert and Emily Hughes. Curtis is a member of Central UMC.



Brendan Andrew Martin is the son of Farica and Andy Martin. Brenda Bailey, Janet Martin and James Martin are his grandparents. Brendan will graduate from Colonial Heights High School this month. Brendan plans to attend community college for a year and then transferring to Longwood College. He aspires to be a teacher.

Jason Todd Moughon will graduate from Mathews High School on June 18. While at MHS, Jason has been a member of the Beta Club and the National Honor Society. He played JV and Varsity football. He was selected 2nd Team All-Conference for defense. Jason, also, ran Varsity track and was selected and attended Boys State of Virginia. He will be majoring in Physics at Bridgewater College. Jason's parents are Bernard and Christy Moughon. His grandparents are Judy Moughon and the late Clayton Moughon and Dicky Clements and the late Brenda Clements.



"I will reach for the stars no matter how hard it seems, and fly like a bird with the knowledge this journey brings."

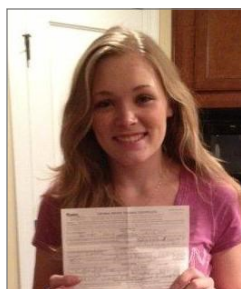
Semetra C. Vanison

2016 Graduates Honored at Central UMC

Alex Michael Putt graduated from Raven Correspondence School. Alex is currently working at Tanana Valley Television in Fairbanks, AK as an assistant floor director. He will attend the University of Alaska. His parents are Gerry and Karilyn Putt. Terry and Neena Putt and Doc and Carol Propst are his grandparents.



Emily Suzanne Thornton is graduating with honors from Midlothian High School, Midlothian, VA. She will be attending James Madison University majoring in psychology. Emily is the daughter of Suzanne Duff Thornton and Keith Thornton and the grandson of Betsy Duff and the late Ron Duff.



2016 VA Annual Conference Special Offering



Bishop Young Jin Cho announced that the 2016 Annual Conference offering goal will be \$150,000 and again focus on both international and Virginia-based mission needs. The offering goal includes:

- Methodist Mission in Cambodia - \$50,000
- Methodist Church in Brazil - \$25,000
- Methodist Churches in Mozambique: \$25,000
- Disaster Relief in Virginia - \$50,000

For more information: www.vaumc.org/pages/resources/2016-ac/ac2016specialoffering

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

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Ann Edwards | Forrest Morgan |
| Mary Kay Brent | Leila Baum Hooper |
| Dave Mortimer | Penelope Thompson |
| Jane Grubb | |

Paul Townsend Memorial Class

On Mother's Day, our class presented a carnation to each lady at both services. The flowers left were delivered to Riverside Convalescent Center to be given to residents and staff. Thank you to all who donated to the Mother's Day Tribute Bulletin. The proceeds from the listings will be used in our community.

Graduates will be recognized at both services on Sunday, June 12 and be presented with a gift Bible or a daily devotional book.

Please join us each Sunday at 10:00 am.

David Lee Hudgins, Class President

Hospitality

The new Fellowship Time arrangement with cookies and occasional light refreshments is being well received. Contributions of cookies, etc. are welcome.

The committee extends much appreciation to Peggy and Ben Leigh for assuming the responsibilities of the reception after Dave Mortimer's memorial service. They were the May greeters for the late service. Many church members brought refreshments to the church for transport to the Mortimer home and it was greatly appreciated. Thank you all.

Hospitality Team

Farewell – To Everything There Is A Season

Brenda Rice and Becky Pittman are moving back to Springfield, Missouri—their old stomping ground—at the end of the month. There will be a farewell luncheon on Sunday, June 12 at noon in the Fellowship Hall for whoever would like to join and bless their next passage (bring a covered dish).



Mission & Evangelism

We received a thank you note from Donald and Carol Paige, our mission partners:

Dear Members of Central United Methodist Church:

Thank you for your gift of \$3,500. Thank you for being the outreached arms that allow us to touch and influence lives for Christ. Thank you for being our partners in ministry.

Love,
Donald and Carol

Pat Gwaltney, Chair

United Methodist Women

Many thanks to the congregation for your generous donations for the UMCOR School Kits for this year's Annual Conference. 60 bags are our goal.

This Spring we have designed and distributed cards with Human Trafficking Hotline number (we still have more available). This is a serious and rapidly growing crime close to home, and one of our mission projects is to educate the public and make them aware it is right here.



Our UMW is not an exclusive group of church women. We welcome all women to join us in our mission work at home and around the world. Our regular meeting is on the second Monday of the month at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for your continued support.

Nancy Jagger,
CUMW President

June 2016

Children & Youth Ministry

Fall, winter and spring have been busy times for our children learning, praising and worshiping God at Central. Summer is upon us with Vacation Bible School, vacations, ball games and so many ways to enjoy God's creation.

The final *FINS* (Fridays in the Spirit) celebration at Williams Warf was an exciting time for all who attended. There was a band with singing, two bounce houses, games and plentiful food. We are glad to have been a part of these church community events.

A grateful thank you to those who supported the bake sale for Kettlie Jean during the *Tour de Chesapeake*, May 21. The proceeds from this effort were \$201.10. Kettlie Jean is a child living in Haiti that we sponsor.

During the summer sessions in Sunday School for the 4-10 year olds and toddler group, they will be studying about Noah and the Fruits of the Spirit.

Paul's message to the church - God has given each one of us gifts to use. Each one of us is important and together we do God's work. Together we make up the body of Christ. If any one of us were missing, it would not be the same (First Corinthians).

Brianna Taylor and Gabrielle Lewis will attend the Mathews Junior 4-H Camp, August 15-19, in Williamsburg through scholarships by our congregation.

Pat Gwaltney, Chair



Members and friends of the Friendship Class met on May 18 for their annual luncheon at The Seabreeze.

Page 5

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Adult Choir 7:15 pm	3	4
  	6 Prayer Time 8:00 am	7	8 Finance 7:00 pm	9 Nominations & Leadership 2:00 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	10	11
12 <i>Graduate Recognition Day</i> <i>Farewell to Brenda & Becky Luncheon Noon</i> <i>Deadline for Father's Day Listings</i> <i>Deadline for Annual Conference Offering</i> <i>Baccalaureate Gwynn's Island Baptist 2:00 pm</i>	13 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 10:00 am	14	15 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am	16 Adult Choir 7:15 pm	17 <i>Annual Conference Begins</i>	18 UM Men Breakfast 8:00 am <i>Mathews High School Graduation 2:00 pm</i>
19 Father's Day  <i>Central Chimes Submissions Due</i> Annual Conference Ends <small>sinhasar302.blogspot.com</small>	20 Prayer Time 8:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm Trustees 7:30 pm	21	22 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	23 Adult Choir 7:15 pm	24	25
	 Vacation Bible School at Salem UMC 20 - 24 9:00 am - Noon				 <small>cliparthut.com</small>	
26	27 Prayer Time 8:00 am	28	29	30 Adult Choir 7:15 pm		

Greeters/Ushers for June

8:30 am service	Karen & Ken Palmer
11:00 am service	Mark & Brenda Lewis

Refreshments Providers for June

5, 12, 19	cookies
26	Elizabeth Anderson & Frosty Taylor

All meeting times & dates are subject to change.
If in doubt, contact the committee chair.

Birthdays

Mary Keen	4
Nancy Jagger	15
Becky Pittman	16
Ken Lee	25
John Choi	27
Danny Hogge	27
Janet Gomez	29

Anniversaries

Judy & Jennings Haynes	2
Elma & Allen Moughon	5
Sandi & Glen Morgan	8
Phyllis & Bobby Hudgins	13
Janet & Gene Gomez	17