



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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March 2017

From the Pastor's Pen

Recently I heard the same remarks from several people who went through Alpha meetings: The sessions on the topic of the Holy Spirit were quite impactful. I share their thoughts as well. There was nothing truly new or earth-shattering in the lesson, but the thoroughly biblical summary of Spirit-led living was both refreshing and challenging.



In our time there is much confusion about what it means to be a Christian. Is it to "believe in God"? To "love God and to love one's neighbor"? Or, to "believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord"? We say yes to all of them. If we go by the Bible, however, it comes down to having a certain kind of Spirit—which, like the wind, cannot be categorized or captured in a bottle (John 3:5-8). This Spirit is none other than the Spirit of God. This Holy Spirit brings the life of God and the power of God. As Christ said, sitting near a well: "The water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

As much as we invest in our physical life, we need to nurture our spiritual life. Lent, a 40-day period of preparation leading up to Easter, is a great time to make such commitments. Do something each day that feeds the Spirit-life (i.e., puts you in touch with Jesus and his words), either by practice or by abstinence. Having a quiet moment without

distraction alone can help us better welcome the living presence of Christ. Some of you are doing the-Bible-in-a-year. That's great! The goal is not mere knowledge, but Spirit and life.

One mark of a spiritual living, is what we often call spiritual gifts. According to the Scripture, there are certain ways the Holy Spirit manifests God in a believer's life, in teaching, healing, or prophesying, for example; the purpose of such 'gifts' is to build up the community of believers and to witness to the world.

Beginning with Tuesday, March 21, a four-session study will be offered on the topic of spiritual gifts. We will explore the definition and the focus of spiritual gifts, and learn how to distinguish between spiritual gifts, works, talents, and abilities; surveys will be offered to help us see what our gifts might be. We will use Patricia Brown's "Spirit Gifts" as our guide.

I look forward to continuing a Lenten journey with you.



Leigh Lewis, our outstanding Administrative Assistant for the past six and a half years and producer of these *Central Chimes*, has wrapped up her work as of Feb. 7 and is moving to the next chapter in her journey. Thank you for your faithful ministry! I owe her a debt of gratitude in multiple ways.

My thanks also to the SPRC for working on the transition at the office; and the office volunteers, who have found ways to do some

much needed projects while at the church. Watching and working with them has been a learning experience for which I am grateful.

Central's Administrative Council met on Wednesday, Feb. 24. Among the items that were approved:

- * Central Church continues our covenant mission partnership with the Donald and Carol Paige family and commit \$2,500 from the budget, plus the fund raised from 4 S's and M&E designated fund.
- * Hal Hertzler has been appointed as interim member of the Board of Trustees for the remaining calendar year. Helen Lee will serve as chair of Health & Welfare Team for 2017.

Gratefully,
John

Hospitality Team

Our year is off to a good start. The Hodges and Leighs were greeters for January. The Jagers and Phyllis and Bobby Hudgins were February greeters with the assistance of their grandson, Chase Kemp, on the 12th. Phyllis and Bobby also graced us with a beautiful Valentine's Day display of food which was enjoyed immensely.

The Leaps will be greeting in March as will the Richard Moughons. Steve and Emily will set up the coffee table each Sunday in March, and again the snacks must be provided unless we have a sign-up.

Thanks to each one that participates and also for the late worshippers who come and mingle at refreshment time. It is a pleasant social get-together.

Your Hospitality Team
Marcia Fry, Patty Hertzler,
Sherry Hodges, Jean Sutton

From the Grounds Team

Celebrating Spring!

Bring your favorite garden tools and join us on Saturday morning, March 18, from 9 to 12 noon, to prepare the beds around the church for the Easter season. We'll weed and mulch and tidy things up while enjoying spring weather, whatever it is. If you have a truck and can get a load of mulch for the job, please let Christine or the church office know. See you there!



Christine Ulrich, 725 3575
christine.r.ulrich@gmail.com.

United Methodist Women

The Central United Methodist Women hosted a Valentine's Day Volunteer Luncheon on February 14th. Our volunteers included one Rescue Squad Volunteer, Lisa Machen, and many of our wonderful members of Central UMC who give so graciously to our community throughout the year.

The menu consisted of Salad, Chili, Ham Biscuits, Cornbread, and Cake. 25 meals were served to our 16 guests plus our members. We would like to thank all of you who contributed to the preparation and success of this event. And, a special Thank You to Phyllis Hudgins who so generously allowed us to use her beautiful Valentine's Day decorations.

Our next meeting will be on February 20th.

Martha Arnold,
CUMW Recording Secretary



Creation Care

Central Village Homemakers requested a Recycle Presentation for Wed. Feb. 1., 2017. Twenty five women from Homemakers participated. The program was successful because our entire team helped. The homemakers express gratitude that our Church created an entertaining program that taught them specialized info about their County's recycling. They liked that the information could not only help our planet, but also save Mathews County a great deal of money.

After years of requesting that VPPSA (the recycle center) increase plastic items that can be recycled in Mathews, we got an early notice that there is finally a major change. Instead of only #1 & #2 plastics--we will be able to recycle all plastics that have a recycle symbol except Styrofoam. We will be getting the word out to our congregation and the community.

We also got an early notice from the VPPSA that The Household Chemical Collection for Mathews will be on August 19th. at Star Fields, LLC--2905 Buckley Hall Road, Cobbs Creek from 8 AM to 12 noon. We will be promoting this in our church and in the community.

The Mathews Boys and Girls Club would like 2 recycle presentations in April. We will be coordinating with the church calendar.



The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

Michael Cannon, Chair

United Methodist Men

The UMM met on Saturday February 18 and continued to plan for our shrimp dinner to be held on April 28. The clothing project that was started in January was a big success and ended on February 18. Thanks to the church for all the support given to this project.

Ken Palmer, President

Spiritual Formation Classes

Beginning on Tuesday, March 21, a 4-session classed titled "Spirit Gifts" will be offered on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings. Based on Patricia Brown's study of the same name, the class will help participants explore various aspects of serving God's people through the working of the Holy Spirit. I will with Judy Moughon and Jean Hall share facilitating duties.

Sign up in the narthex/fellowship hall, or please don't hesitate to speak to me for questions.

Tuesdays (7 - 8:15 p.m.) OR
Wednesdays (10 - 11:15 a.m.)

Participant's workbook is \$5 per copy.

John Choi

Kingston Episcopal Parish
invites you to



Soup with Love

Five Wednesdays, beginning

March 8 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 area clergy.

Children's Ministry

Souper Bowl "Fighting Hunger" sponsored by our children was a success. We collected in money \$120.10 and over 500 lbs / 30 bags of non perishable food items. Many thanks for this outreach and support from our congregation for Hands Across Mathews.

Between The Heifer International Project and Souper Bowl Sunday we have managed to make a significant stride in feeding the less fortunate both locally and globally. Thanks be to God for the ability to be of help.

Mission and Evangelism

Our 4 S's gathering was, to say the least, a very rewarding gathering. Thank you to all the talents who participated: the amazing Katherine Diggs, Thelma Rice, Rev. Jeongin Kim, Rev. John Choi. Our guest speaker, Carol Paige, gave us an update concerning the progress of the Paiges' ministry. Donations for their ministry collected amounted to \$258.00. The soup meal gave us all time to share and enjoy good food together.

At our meeting on Wednesday the 15, we concentrated on outreach to our congregation, discussing the possibility of a Visitation and Congregation Care Team. For now we have forwarded the matter to Nominations & Leadership Development Committee, at Pastor John's suggestion.

Greeters/Ushers for February

8:30 am service	Steve & Emily Leap
11:00 am service	Richard and Melissa Moughon

Refreshments Providers for February

5	John & Sherry Hodges, Jean Sutton
12	Volunteer Opportunity
19	Volunteer Opportunity
26	Volunteer Opportunity

On the last note, we are near completing a church brochure to be shared with visitors.

Pat Gwaltney
Chair of M/E and Children Ministry

Finance Committee

Thanks to the continued strong stewardship of the members of Central United Methodist Church, we remain in a strong financial position, even though expenses have exceeded revenues the last couple of months. That is due to year end expenses, quarterly expenses, repairs, higher than usual energy bills, and the carpet installation. So, as long as we continue our generous giving, our financial position will remain strong. Thank you so much!

Chris Moughon, Chair

Birthdays

Sally Thompson	1	Brenda Lewis	20
Bill Hutson	3	Michael Cannon	21
Dennis Gillikin	6	Ellie Tolbert	21
Eric Stewart	6	John Hodges	22
Sarah Moughon	13	Gregory Lewis	22
Cloe Griffith	15	Elma Moughon	24
Joice Small	17		

Anniversaries

John Robert & Peggy Pierce	6
Nate & Melba Houser	26
Jack & Frances Ward	30

Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers

Ed Zircle



Heifer International gratefully recognizes

Central United Methodist Church

for your contribution of healthy animals and training
in their care to help struggling families overcome a life of hunger and poverty.

"The Earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1

Pierre A. Fenari

Heifer International

December 2016

Date



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CONCERT

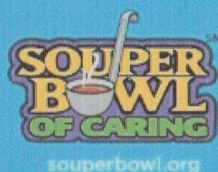
THANK YOU!

Methodist Youth Fellowship

raised:


\$120.10 and 500 lbs. of food

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 5, 2017

Clara B. Cooper
Clara Cooper
President and CEO
Souper Bowl of Caring

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	March 2017		1 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7:00 pm	2 Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	3	4
5 Confirmation Class 1:30 pm Meeting w/ Bishop Lewis 4:15 pm (Warwick Me- morial UMC)	6 Prayer Time 8:00 am	7 Alpha 7:00 pm	8 Alpha 10:00 am Soup with Love 12:00 pm (Kingston Parish) Finance 7:00 pm	9 P. Townsend 6:00 pm Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	10	11
12 Daylight Savings Time begins Visitation volunteers 8:35 a.m. Confirma- tion Class 1:30 pm	13 Prayer Time 8:00 am UMW 10:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	14	15 Mission & Evangelism 9:00 am Soup with Love 12:00 pm (Kingston Parish)	16 Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	17 FINS 6:30 pm Macedonia Baptist Church	18 UM Men 8:00 am Church Grounds Work Day 9:00 am - noon Five Talent Academy 9am-3pm (Williams- burg UMC)
19 <i>Central Chimes Articles Due</i> Confirma- tion Class 1:30 pm	20 Prayer Time 8:00 am Trustees 7:00pm	21 Spirit Gifts 7:00 pm	22 Spirit Gifts 10:00 am Soup with Love 12:00 pm (Kingston Parish) Administrative Council 7:00 pm	23 Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	24	25
26 Confirma- tion Class 1:30 pm	27 Prayer Time 8:00 am	28 Spirit Gifts 7:00 pm	1 Spirit Gifts 12:00 pm Soup with Love 12:00 pm (Kingston Parish)	All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.		