



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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May 2019



Church Grounds Work Day

Willing workers, please help weed and mulch the landscaped beds around the church so Central will look its best for summer!

Saturday, May 11, 8 am to 11 am

Bring gloves, rakes, weeding tools, a shovel, and a wheel barrow if you have one
Lemonade, cookies, and extra tools will be here for you!

Call Christine to volunteer: 725 3575

From the Pastor's Pen

A Season of Learning

I attended a number of seminars in March and April. Dinner Church Encounter (3/26) explored a new form of church as a weekly dinner. At Boyd Institute lectures at Virginia Wesleyan University (4/8-9), we retraced our denomination's history. Most recently I attended a clergy ethics seminar presented by Professor Sondra Wheeler of Wesley Theological Seminary, where attendees explored moral leadership of the clergy and the church.

A common thread running through these themes is a struggle to recover the authentic church. Who are we, and what are we called to do? 'Dinner Church' presenters, for example, asserted that the church was called to be a rescue mission. Jesus said, "I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." So they invited people to suppers in the city, where people you would not ordinarily see in church came in great numbers. They even voluntarily stayed for Jesus stories and worship songs; it turned out that people who were averse to churches were not averse to Jesus.

I also learned at Boyd that early Methodist churches *required* their members to be part of class meetings. In class meetings people inquired into one another's spiritual state ("How is it with your soul?"). Smaller number of people joined bands, which were not required, and there each answered the following questions:

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST MEN'S Steamed Shrimp Dinner



**Friday, May 17th
4:00-7:00 P.M.**



*Come out and enjoy
great food and fellowship*

DONATION

Eat In - \$17.00 or Take Out - \$16.00

Children Age 5 -10 \$6.00 Under 5 FREE

Proceeds Benefit Local Church & Community Outreach

*Purchase tickets in advance from any member of the
Central United Methodist Men
or call 725-8673, 725-3751 or 794-4601 today!*

1. What known sins have you committed since our last meeting?
2. What temptations have you met with?
3. How were you delivered?
4. What have you thought, said, or done, of which you doubt whether it be sin or not?
5. Have you nothing you desire to keep secret?



In other words, mutual encouragement and accountability marked the early Methodist churches. Class meetings however became Sunday Schools, and bands became prayer meetings.

Dr. Wheeler also highlighted the church as moral and ethical community. Church should not be, she said, indistinguishable from the world. People ought to be church not just to find encouragement and support, but to follow the teachings of Christ. Jesus' words are often greatly challenging—for example, "Love your enemies,"—but there are ways to honestly and responsibly face them.

I enjoyed attending these meetings, and it will take me some time to reflect on their implications for Central Church. As you know, many churches, including our own, are faced with a challenge to remain faithful and fruitful in changing times. But it seems tantamount for us to remember who we are, even as we look for ways to reach out.

I once heard a church member and Director of Women's Bureau at the Department of Labor reflecting on her career in public service. Like many she had relied on determination and hard work, but the most important thing in public service, she found, was "to know who I am." Her answer makes more sense to me as the years go by.

There is no better time to remember who we are than these wonderful seasons of Easter leading up to Pentecost! May God's Spirit bring to our mind all that Jesus said and did, grounding us in history and forming and shaping us towards the future.

Gratefully,

John

Central United Methodist Women

At our April meeting, Leslie Jingluski was our guest speaker from the Avalon Center. The Avalon Center is a local and area-wide organization that is working to end domestic and sexual violence in our community. The center has an office here in Mathews and Leslie provided us with information about the center and their mission and philosophy as well as phone numbers available to help victims of abuse. In addition to our group, several guests from our church as well as some guests from other UMW organizations attended this very informative meeting.

In May, we will be preparing Health Kits for Conference. We are requesting monetary donations as well as donations of supplies. The lists of items that make up a health kit are being announced in the weekly bulletin and in the Chimes. There is a bin in the Fellowship Hall where items can be donated. The deadline will be May 12th. Thank you for your generosity.

The CUMW cookbook is nearing completion. We are delighted to share our recipes along with some Three Rivers Healthy Families Recipes. We hope to have the cookbook ready for sale in the next couple of months.

Martha Arnold
CUMW President



Hospitality and Visitation

Our thanks to Frosty Taylor for serving as Hospitality Host during the month of April. Those hosting refreshments in April, after the 8:30 AM worship service are as follows: Cookie and Snack Sunday was on the 7th. Thanks to all for your wonderful contributions. John and Sherry Hodges were refreshment hosts on the 14th, which was Palm Sunday. The following Sunday being Easter, we had one joint service at 10:00 AM. On April 28th. we will have Chef Jonathan Lewis host refreshment time. Thanks again to all for taking part in this special Church activity.

Our May Hospitality Host is Karen Palmer (725-3945). Please phone her if someone needs a note or phone call. May's schedule is as following: May 5, bring your cookies or snacks. Mothers Day is on May 12th and since the Paul Townsend S.S. Class uses the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 AM, we will only have coffee, juice, and donuts for our fellowship time; thus less clean-up time. On the 19th Jean Sutton will host refreshment time and Bobby and Phyllis will finish out the month on the 26th.

Please look at the calendar in the Fellowship Hall to see which day you could help and sign up. We could use your help.

Thanks and may God Bless,

Phyllis Hudgins, Chairman
Hospitality and Visitation Committee



Hospitality Host for May

Karen Palmer - 725-3945

Greeters/Ushers for May

| | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 8:30 am service | Hal & Patty Hertzler |
| 11:00 am service | Ben & Peggy Leigh |

Central Church sent \$230 to the United Methodist Committee on Relief from its UMCOR Sunday offering in March.

Formerly known as One Great Hour of Sharing, UMCOR Sunday supports the administrative cost of the United Methodist Committee on Relief so that the special gifts given throughout the year may directly apply to a disaster situation. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School is coming to Central UMC this Summer!

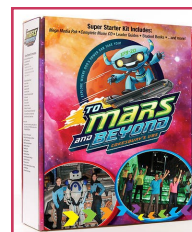
VBS will meet weekly for 5 weeks beginning the middle of June. Tentatively planned for Tuesday nights.

Volunteers are Needed!

Contact Nancy Jagger

for more information

at 804-694-7017.



Birthdays

| | | | |
|-----------------|----|--------------------|----|
| Miriam Cromwell | 2 | Phyllis Hudgins | 13 |
| Bri'onna Taylor | 2 | Jean Hall | 15 |
| Ed Cannon | 3 | John Robert Pierce | 15 |
| Melissa Moughon | 3 | Daniel Moughon | 20 |
| Sherrard Pugh | 4 | Karen Palmer | 22 |
| Katherine Small | 4 | Donnie Hall | 24 |
| Dee Bane | 12 | Richard Moughon | 30 |

Anniversaries

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Ed & Michael Cannon | 4 |
|---------------------|---|

UMVIM Trip to St. Croix - Janet Burgess

*"Where have you been?" and
"Where are you going?"*

"Where have you been?" and "Where are you going?" These are phrases that greet me after someone says "Hi". They are interested in what disaster recoveries I have been a part of recently. I don't mind the questions and I am eager to share what UMVIM and other religious organizations are doing throughout the world to help those affected by natural disasters.



Site of Beach Church

Recently I returned from St. Croix, Virgin Islands, which were hit by Hurricanes Irma and Maria within two weeks of each other in 2017. Hurricane Maria was the worst natural disaster on record to affect the Leeward Islands since 2004. This hurricane achieved its peak intensity over the eastern Caribbean with maximum

sustained winds of 175 mph. When crossing St Croix, Maria's outer eye wall was at Category 5 intensity. Recognizing the date of 2017, my trip was in 2019, two years after the disasters.

What was unique for this particular trip was the Lutheran Disaster Services were involved in casework, United Methodist Volunteers in Mission were sending crews, and we were housed in a Baptist school, which was once an Episcopal School. And, the US Federal Emergency Management Agency subsidized the trip through airfare and per diems. These are the organizations in the United States working together for one goal, no one trying to out do the other, no one crying foul, just Christ-centered ordinary folks, some with

special skills in construction or emotional and spiritual care, looking after those less fortunate.

Our team on this trip was made up of members of St Luke's UMC. I had received the invitation in October to participate and I extended it to the team as I often join them on recovery missions. We numbered 10 and met with others from PA, MD, and NY to create several teams.

The team on which I joined was assigned to replace a tin roof on a house. Now I used to do roofs, yes I did not mind climbing up ladders and

walking on slippery slopes, and hammering down shingles in the hot sun. Yes you caught the past tense in the previous sentence. (My cardiologist has banned me from roofs, but I still can help rebuild houses at ground level and help rebuild people at heart level.)

Our homeowner's name was Juanita. Her house had been leaking since the 2017 hurricanes. Her handicapped son had to be moved to Miami, FL because of the leaks. We wanted the family to be together again. Each nail in the felt and in the tin brought him closer to home. We worked from 7AM 'til 4 PM each day. Evenings and weekends were free. For

two weeks the roofers clambered up and down the ladders and across the hot tin. I worked ground crew with the chop saw, gathered and handed-off supplies, and painted, as needed.

Lunches were delightful as a Mango tree, of which I



Re-felting of roof



Homeowner with
Empanadas

Continued on page 5

was allergic, shaded us and we enjoyed Empanadas that Juanita made from scratch.

We were able to tour the island on our time off, attending the Mardi Croix (Gras) Parade, visiting historic sites, snorkeling, shopping, beachcombing, attending the Sunday Beach Church, and enjoying the company of new friends.

The travel to St Croix entailed three plane changes and 14 hours each way, but the experience is rewarding to help others with Christ at our center. Responding to disasters are no longer just work trips for me, it is a lifestyle in helping others along the road of life. "Where have you been?" and "Where are you going?" I am listening for the call!

Janet Burgess

Photos by: Janet Burgess



Janet cutting purlins with chop saw



Beach Church on Caribbean sea



**Tribute Bulletin
for Mother's Day and Father's Day**



The *Nancy Wroten Memorial class* will sponsor a tribute bulletin this year for both Mother's Day and Father's Day to be published on Father's Day, June 16. To place your listing, please use the forms in the Sunday bulletin. Forms may be placed in the offering plate (with \$1 donation per listing) or given to any member of the Nancy Wroten class.

The deadline is Sunday, June 2

For questions contact Greg Lewis at 725-8673.
Thanks in advance for your support!

Our Sympathy and Prayers to the Families of

Ann Cherryman
Bernice Dunston
Annie Ruth Collier
Mary Wilson



Administrative Council

What a wonderful time we had at Central this Easter Sunday. The sun rise service was well attended and the weather was mild. The message was inspiring while thanking Jesus for what He did and still does for all of us. Our 10:00 AM joint service was almost a full house with lots of family members attending. How nice it would be if we could have this many attending each Sunday. Are we trying to keep more people coming? Do we invite them to hear His word so they will come to know Christ? I pray the answers to these questions will be a resounding, "Yes I Will."

I'd like to thank all the Committees that work so faithfully for our Church and Central's members. The Administrative Council meets the fourth Wednesday at 7:00 PM each month. If any of you have any helpful suggestions or comments to be brought before the Council that will improve Central or increase its membership, please let me or any Council member know, before said scheduled meeting. Thanks and May God Bless.

Bobby Hudgins,
Administrative Council Chair



Paul Townsend Class April meeting





Easter Lilies
adorn the
altar on
Easter

Easter Sunrise service



**Easter
Sunrise Service**
Photos by:
Michael Cannon

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|---|-----|--|--|---|---|
| <h1>May 2019</h1> | | | | | | |
|  <small>shutterstock · 143921503</small> | | | 1 Central Village Homemakers 9 am - 1 pm | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 Song Service at Riverside Conv. Ct. 2:15 pm  | 6 | 7 | 8 Finance 7:00 pm | 9 Bay Quilters 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Nomination 2:30 pm Paul Townsend Class - 6:00 pm Choir - 7:15 pm | 10 | 11 Church Grounds Work 8:00 am - 11:00 am |
| 12 <i>Mother's Day</i> | 13 UM Women 10:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm | 14 | 15 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am | 16 Choir- 7:15 pm | 17 Shrimp Dinner 4:00 - 7:00 pm | 18 |
| 19 <i>Central Chimes Submissions and Administrative Reports</i> | 20 Trustees 7:00 pm | 21 | 22 Administrative Council 7:00 pm | 23 Choir- 7:15 pm | 24 | 25 UM Men 8:00 am |
| 26 | 27 <i>Memorial Day</i> | 28 | 29 Creation Care Program 1:00 pm - 5:30 pm | 30 Creation Care Program 2:00 pm - 5:30 pm Choir- 7:15 pm | 31 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p>All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.</p> </div> |