



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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May 2022

From the Pastor's Pen

Just before Palm Sunday, I was bracing myself hard for the weekend. The all-important Palm Sunday message aside, I was to officiate a memorial service on Saturday and also teach a Sunday school class. They were each a deeply meaningful ministry, and it only added to the growing pressure. I could see myself going with less sleep for a few days.

Not only did I land in the ER on Friday for appendicitis, but I was transported that evening to Newport News because of minor OR issues at Walter Reed. I said to myself, "I'll be discharged in the morning, and I can still be there at the memorial service in the afternoon." Then more urgent cases kept getting in front of mine. The operation was not a go until the next morning, and by that time things were well and truly out of my hands. Thankfully, Judy Moughon led the memorial service beautifully that afternoon. David Hudgins stepped ably in for the Sunday school lesson.

By the grace of God I had the privilege of preaching the Palm Sunday message, but not before realizing that only by God's grace we go—and maybe I should lean on it more. I was more at peace during the Holy Week and the Easter weekend, unlike how I used to be amped up with thoughts for all the details.



I hope not to forget the lesson soon. Even with my "year of surgeries," many of you have had the chance to prove it much more than I have. I do pray that God will sustain and strengthen each of you through life's challenges. We live by the grace of God, whether we realize it or not.

Gratefully,
John



Journey with God at Central Sunday, May 1, 5:00 pm

Sometimes it is uplifting to hear from a fellow believer his or her faith story. Two years ago, the Mission & Evangelism team first sponsored "Journey with God," a Sunday afternoon gathering for music, testimony and prayer. Eric Stewart was the first speaker.



Journey with God has been revived this year, with Nancy Jagger sharing her story in March, and Judy Moughon is set to speak on Sunday, May 1. Pastor John will offer music for the first fifteen minutes of the gathering. The evening will conclude with a time of prayer.

All are invited.

Easter

Photos by:
Louise Witherspoon



Beautiful
Easter Cross
created by Mark Lewis

From Administrative Council Chair

Are you as sick and tired as I am of all the bad news in the media these days? You can't pick up the newspaper or turn on the TV news without constantly hearing of another shooting or stabbing, deadly weather event, the war in Ukraine, or the pandemic. I hate to miss the news and not be informed, but some days I've just had enough and can't watch. I know that some news programs try to end with a "feel good" story or some positive news, but after 28 minutes of bad news and commercials, giving us 2 minutes of good news is the least that they can do. I know that good news doesn't sell papers or drive TV ratings, but we can only take so much! (I must say at this point I'm referring to daily newspapers, not our weekly local paper which does find a lot of good in our community).

We can't change what is printed in the newspaper or what is shown on TV, but we can create our own "good news." Whether it's helping a neighbor, volunteering in the schools or a community group, serving on a committee at church, or just treating others as you would want to be treated, you're doing what Jesus would want you to do. Oh, that's probably not going to get you on TV or in the newspaper, but the Lord will know that, even

in some small way, you're doing His work. That's all the recognition you need.

Blessings,

Chris Moughon,

Administrative Council Chair

Mission and Evangelism News

Emily Lewis, Daniel Moughon, Joice Small, and Richie Hogge are all graduating seniors from our congregation this year. All of them will receive a graduation card from us as well as periodic "messages from home" throughout the year.

We all know that food prices continue to increase and that sometimes we can all use a reminder that God loves us and cares for us. Our Good News Food Pantry is intended to help in both those areas! This is a congregational volunteer giving opportunity that is a big help to some of our friends and neighbors. If you have non-perishable food or devotional materials you'd like to contribute, they would be most welcome and would be put to good use. Just place them in the Good News pantry box.

Linda attended the monthly meeting of the Middle school Bible club and left extremely impressed! Under the guidance of teacher, Jennifer Clark, the meeting was opened with a student led prayer followed by a Bible verse by another student. Linda then presented a short lesson and then led the students in making Bunny Rabbit cards that would be taken to the two Riverside Convalescent Home residents here in Mathews.

Our next Journey with God will be held May 1 at 5:00 p.m. with set-up at 4:30. Featured speaker will be Judy Moughon. There will be 15 minutes of music led by John Choi, followed by Judy's testimony. Tea candles will be lit by participants as a visible sign of a prayer request or in memory of a loved one and the opportunity to pray at the chancel rail.

Linda Dalgety

Mission and Evangelism Chair

Mission Focus for May is:



By Linda Dalgety

Many people think abusers are crazy, unpredictable, or out of control, however, that isn't necessarily true. Anyone, man or woman, can be an abuser. It results from a batterer's need to exert power and control over their victim. Domestic violence occurs when one partner in an intimate relationship control the other through force, intimidation or the threat of violence. This can also be in the form of financial abuse.

Children and teens often see and hear more than we may be aware of. They don't however always understand what is happening or why it is happening. Domestic violence hurts a child's self-esteem. They may not participate in school activities, have fewer friends, get in trouble more often.

While the United States is a very diverse country filled with different ideas about domestic violence, it is important to realize that culture cannot be used as an excuse for domestic violence.

Avalon center works to end domestic and sexual violence by breaking the cycle of abuse through prevention, education, shelter and support services in the Middle Peninsula and Williamsburg areas. By offering avenues for safety, self-sufficiency, and empowerment Avalon seeks to break the cycle of abuse. This can help build a stronger, healthier community for all of us.

Avalon Center provides free and confidential shelter and support services to all survivors of abuse including adult and youth counseling, case management, legal advocacy, supervised visitation and custody exchange. It collaborates closely with law enforcement, local and state agencies, and schools.

All Avalon services are provided in confidence and without charge. The recent pandemic has heightened the need for Avalon services as families are spending more time together in confined spaces.

If someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, let your friend know that you care and are willing to listen. Don't try to force the issue, but allow your friend to come you to talk when they're ready to confide in you. Try to keep an open mind as you lend a sympathetic ear. Don't blame or criticize you friend for what's been happening. Don't underestimate the risk for potential danger. Remember that you friend must make their own decision about their life.

Realize that a battered person's ties to their abuser are complex. Finances, economic hardship, the belief that children need both parents, hope that the situation will change, fear that if he/she leaves, if He/she could lose custody of the children will all factor into the decision to stay or go.

When your friend asks for advice on what to do, guide them to community resources like the Avalon Center.

You may give by making your check out to Central UMC will "Avalon" in the memo. and placing in an envelope in the pews on Sunday or mail to the office. Thank you for the support!

Here in Mathews the phone number for the Avalon Center is (804) 725-0400.

A 24 hour helpline is also available at 757-258-5051 or Toll-free: 833-537-0970

Help is confidential.

www.Avaloncenter.org

Our Sympathy and Prayers to the Families of...

Allison Vannoy

Jamie Callis

Jimmy Phillips



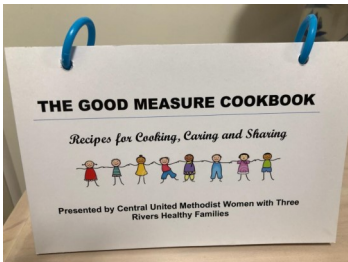
UWIF Assembles Hygiene Kits

Members of CUWIF assisted the Central United Methodist Men with their Art Sale on March 26th and April 2nd. We assisted with the set up and sale of items on the days of the sale. The baked goods that we prepared brought in about \$120 which was included in the net proceeds of the sale. The remainder of the baked goods were taken to the Mathews Volunteer Rescue Squad.

At our April meeting we assembled 48 UMCOR Hygiene Kits which will be taken to the Annual Conference. We collected \$262.00 for the Kits. We would like to thank the members of the congregation for their generous support. Without your support, we would not be able to do the things that we do.

We continue our monthly \$50 donation to the organizations that are chosen by the Mission and Evangelism Team. We will be participating in the York River District UWIF "Hands on Mission" Day on May 7th. This is a "Drop-by Baby Shower" in support of Bellamy UMC's Loaves and Britches Mission. We will be sending them a monetary donation of \$70.00.

We have sold the last bag of Schermer's Pecans. The proceeds from the sale of the pecans will be sent directly to the Wesley Community Service Center. If you missed out on this year's sale, you would have to wait until next year.



As a reminder, "The Good Measure Cookbook" is still available for \$12. The cookbook makes a great gift.

We continue to collect Non-Food items for HAM in a bin in the Fellowship Hall. There is also a need at HAM for canned vegetables and canned fruits as well as soup, cereal, pasta, and pasta sauce. These food items can be left in the vestibule between the sanctuary and the fellowship hall.

Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Martha Arnold
UWIF President

May 2022



Pictured left to right: Judy Moughon, Nancy Goldman, Martha Arnold, Nancy Jagger, Grace Mortimer, Christine Ulrich, and taking the photo but not pictured is Frosty Taylor



Unassembled UWIF Hygiene Bags



Non-Food items collection bin in the Fellowship hall or in the vestibule.

Creation Care Presents Recycling Classes

Central Church is presenting exciting recycle classes for the 6th graders in Mathews Public schools on Friday, May 20th, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you can help for a few hours, let us know.



We have 5 volunteers thus far: Dee Bane, Martha Arnold, David Hudgins, Cindy Kloke and Nancy Goldman. We could use more.



Last month we saw how paper that was tossed in the trash costs Mathews money and creates Methane

gas at the dump. When it is recycled, it earns Mathews \$350 to \$450 per truck. Even better is when **cardboard** is recycled. Instead of costing Mathews money to be hauled to the dump, each truck load earns Mathews **between \$520 and \$620.**

Important: Cereal and cracker boxes recycle in the paper section.



Cardboard is only the corrugated paper:

Please break those boxes down and recycle for Mathews and your planet!



Michael Cannon
Creation Care Team

"The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it"



UMM Makes Initial Gift

The Central United Methodist Men met on Saturday, April 16. Tom Robinson prepared breakfast for the 11 members present.

The recent Art Sale was discussed and was deemed a success. We took in \$1055 with less than \$100 of advertising expenses. This includes over \$100 of revenue from the baked goods that the ladies of United Women in Faith donated. Everything that was left unsold was donated to the Rise As One Thrift Store which supports finding housing for veterans (they actually paid us \$50 for a couple of pieces before they hauled everything away). Many thanks to Joe Arnold, our project manager, Martha Arnold, who worked as hard as Joe, to all of you that donated art or baked goods, and to all who made purchases. We couldn't have done it without you! *(Photo above, Art Work sale)*

We decided to donate \$500 of our proceeds to Hands Across Mathews immediately and to consider other donations in the coming months. We also decided to not participate in the official VDOT roadside pick up program, but we may hold an informal pick up this fall since the community pick up was just held.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday, May 21, at 8am in the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see a good showing!

Chris Moughon
CUMM President

From Our Mission Partners

The Longest Story Ever

Last Wednesday we had a special Easter chapel service at LIFE International School. The message of Jesus' death and resurrection was shared through song, prayer, and scripture readings by students and staff. Many parents participated as well. Due to COVID regulations, it was the first time all the students have been together in one assembly since Christmas!

One of the teachers shared about The Longest Story Ever as told in the Bible starting with Creation and continuing through today. She invited the students to become a part of the story by giving their lives to Christ.



As we approach Holy Week here in Spain we anticipate the processions that will fill the streets emphasizing the days leading to Jesus' death. However, we give thanks that our hope is in a Savior who conquered death and lives within us. We also give thanks for the opportunity to share that hope with families at our school and community.

It is a privilege to serve at a school that seeks excellence in all areas and has a heart for reaching Spaniards with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are encouraged to see LIFE growing in numbers as well as a good reputation in the surrounding community. We

already have 64 students registered for the next school year from PK to 8th grade!

The Paige Family

If able, click on the following link for a video about LIFE International school.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RDm98KLYx0>

To give, go to:

www.tms-global.org/give



Our ID # is: 0480

Thank you for joining us during this exciting time. We are grateful, for your prayers and financial support!



2022 Graduates

The Paul Townsend Memorial Class will again be honoring this year's high school and college graduates with Bibles and books of worship.

Please mail or email all info to the church office by **Sunday, May 22rd.**

You may also call David Hudgins
at 804-725-3273



**Vacation Bible school
Coming to Central UMC this Summer!**

**The week of June 20 - June 24
from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Volunteers are Needed!
Contact Nancy Jagger
for more information
at 804-694-7017.**

Blessing of Hats, Blankets, and Crayon Boxes Given to Three Rivers Healthy Families

Knitting items will be on display in the sanctuary on Sunday, May 8th.

Please take the time to view the display and, as you do, say a prayer for the baby, child or cancer patient who will receive them.

Three Rivers Healthy Families is an affiliate of Healthy Families America and a program of the Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Community Services Board. Its mission is to ensure that every child in the region is born healthy, grows in a safe and nurturing environment, enters school ready to learn, and can develop into a healthy and productive adult.

Services are based on each family's strengths and needs, and include:

- * Activities to promote positive parent-child relationships and healthy childhood growth and development
- * Case management services for high risk children from birth to six years old
- * In-home mentoring and training to develop problem solving skills
- * Information about and referral to community resources.

Central Church and Three Rivers Healthy Families have partnered in shared activities since 2009.



Some "special gifts" for 3 Rivers children.

Photo by:
Debbie Lancucki,
from Three Rivers Healthy Families Staff

Generous contributions have made possible:

48 crayon boxes	140 hats
48 coloring books	54 blankets
48 boxes of 24 crayons	

2 hats and 1 blanket
were delivered to family or friends.

2021-2022 Contributors:

Martha Arnold	Donated yarn
Janet Bowman	Donated yarn
Jamie Callis	Donated yarn
Central UWIF	Donated \$50
Pastor John Choi	Donated \$10
Louise Owens Diggs	Crocheted 4 blankets
Nancy Jagger	Donated yarn
Lois Faye Jenkins	Donated yarn
Leigh Lewis	Donated 6 baby hats
Ron & Tee Mallon	Donated 32 skeins yarn
Mathews Baptist Ch.	Donated yarn
Judy Moughon	Writes beautiful thank you notes to non-Central members
Karen Palmer	Donated \$91
Anne South	50 knit blankets, 134 hats and made 48 crayon boxes
Mary Wade Smith	Donated \$50

Anyone wishing to help with this worthy ongoing project by knitting, crocheting, making crayon boxes, or contributing to the purchase of material, please call Dee Bane at 804-384-8098.

Thanks so much for your support!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<h1>May 2022</h1>						
1 Journey with God 5:00 pm	2 PCRG 4:00 pm	3 Spiritual Formation Class 7:00 pm	4 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 - 1:00 pm Spiritual Formation Class, 10:00 am	5	6	7 Memorial Service For Charles Edmonds At Kloke Home 2:00 pm
8 Mother's Day Blessing of Knitting Display 	9 UWIF 10:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	10	11 Finance TBD	12	13	14 UM Men 8:00 am
15	16 NAACP 6:00 pm	17	18 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am	19 Trustees 2:30 pm	20 Central Chimes Submissions and Administrative Reports	
22 Deadline for Grads Info	23	24	25 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	26	27	28 All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.
29	30 Memorial Day	31				

Birthdays

Elaine Campbell	2	Phyllis Hudgins	13
Miriam Cromwell	2	John Robert Pierce	15
Bri'onna Taylor	2	Daniel Moughon	20
Ed Cannon	3	Karen Palmer	22
Sherrard Pugh	4	Cindy Kloke	24
Katherine Small	4	Richard Moughon	30
Dee Bane	12		

Anniversaries

Ed & Michael Cannon 4

