



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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November 2015

Serving and Giving - UMM Shrimp Dinner



United Methodist Men

The UM Men served 390 people at the October 23 Shrimp Dinner. Proceeds were approximately \$3,600. Central's UMW received \$700 of it. The remaining will be distributed at the next UM Men breakfast meeting on Saturday, November 14 at 8:00 am instead of November 21. I hope to see everyone there.

James Martin,
President



Fall Back 1 Hour
Saturday, Oct. 31
for daylight savings time!

From the Pastor's Pen

As with many other churches, here at Central there are largely two categories of giving. One is the general offering that supports the church's budget expenses. In addition, people have also given extra gifts by designating them towards certain specific projects. Examples include Pew Bibles, Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Gifts and Hospitality, Brandon Burroughs Carpet Fund, Bailey Hudgins Fund, and Duff's Doors Memorial Fund (These and their balances are listed on the monthly finance report posted on the church's hallway). They are restricted gifts and can only be spent according to their designations. I should also mention the third significant way we give, and that is through Sunday schools, United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men.

Taken together, these paint the picture of a faithful and generous congregation. At the same time—as it has been spelled out here in *The Central Chimes* (see page 3)—our general budget receipts this year are expected to finish well below the expenses (please refer to the October issue of *The Central Chimes*). This is still the case even though special projects are being planned or carried out, even some large-scale ones, through the gifts that have been designated for them.

I along with the Finance Committee, thought it was right to give the congregation a chance to redress this issue. Here I write to ask that in November we give a *one-time* special offering towards the purpose of reducing the gap. We will not designate a particular Sunday, but such offering may be given on any one of the Sundays in the month. If you so wish, you may designate it as "*Special Budget Support*." I only ask for one thing, that we give cheerfully, no matter what the amount.

What will be different in 2016 so that this does not become an annual event? For a starter, I am voluntarily reducing my salary; together with the change in pension contribution it should result in the saving of roughly \$4,000. In
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the long run, however, the way forward lies in our growth in mission and stewardship as a congregation. The leadership continues to look for ways we can be wise stewards of God's gifts. I will also have to grow in clarifying our mission. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33)

Thank you for your witnesses of faith and love. What we have as God's people is truly priceless.



Gratefully, *John*

Image Source: <http://christthekinglakeland.com/>

Hospitality



Image Source: webweaver.nu

Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the church will be held on Sunday, November 8, following the 11:00 am worship service. The Friendship Sunday School class will provide ham and the Paul Townsend, Nancy Wroten, and Faith In the Now classes will provide turkey, dressing and gravy. Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share. Food can be dropped off in the fellowship hall on your way to services. If you have attended in the past, you know we have delicious food and enjoy wonderful fellowship. We welcome and encourage everyone to join us!

Thank you to everyone who provides food, serves as ushers/greeters and help with the clean up!

Blessings,
Emily Leap and Jean Sutton

November 2015

Creation Care

Central's Creation Care Team tries to be aware of what new innovations different industries are doing to help take care of the environment. David Hudgins gives us the latest shipping news:

This year, one ship builder, TOTE, introduced the world's first ship using LNG: liquefied natural gas.



LNG is the cleanest fossil fuel available and significantly reduces carbon dioxide. These American built containerships are 720 feet long and 106 feet wide. They are the most advanced environmentally responsible vessels of their kind – **reducing vessel sulfur emissions by 97 percent**. The first ship, will enter service this year, the second ship is due in early 2016.

The Creation Care Team is excited about working on a *Recycle Program* to present to the children and Youth of Central. It will be given during their Sunday School Hour.

The Creation Care Team

UNITED METHODIST
MEN

**Saturday,
November 14
8:00 am**

**Breakfast &
Fellowship**

**Rescheduled
for November**

Finance

As of September YTD, General Operating Expenses were \$119,885. General Offerings were \$114,460 which is about 3% higher than the 3 year average for 2012-2014, but still well short of covering our expenses. We trying to control expenses as tightly as we feel prudent and have put together an austere budget for next year. This is posted on the bulletin board for all to study and we encourage you to give us any suggestions you might have.

The problem is *routine* expenses continue to run in the neighborhood of \$5,000 versus General Offerings. This is unsustainable, as it will deplete our unrestricted savings reserve in a few years. The Finance Committee has been weighing our options to balance the budget. Short term, we are proposing that during the month of November, we would encourage special offerings targeted to help pay down this year's operations deficit. Central Church supports numerous benevolent causes both near and far through our various organizations, functions, events and apportionment. To enable this outreach to continue, it is essential that we have a strong, solid financial position for the general operation and well-being of the church.

Nate Houser,
Finance Chair



Christmas Angel Tree

Sponsored by the
Nancy Wroten Memorial Class

Help Mathews Families with their
holiday wishes and needs.

More information will be in your
Sunday bulletins and December
issue of *The Central Chimes*.

*Our Central Church Family
helping Mathews Families in need.*

Paul Townsend Memorial Class

The class met on October 8 for a delicious potluck supper with 17 members present. We reviewed our plans for Christmas and for next year.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 pm. We'll have coffee and dessert and a short meeting.

We meet every Sunday at 10:00 am for Sunday School. Please, join us.

David Hudgins,
Class President

Central United Methodist Women

We are approaching a very busy time of the year with preparations for Thanksgiving and Christmas and entertaining family and friends. The United Methodist Women are again preparing to host the Three Rivers Healthy Families for our annual Thanksgiving meal. Please join us on Friday, October 20 at 10:30 am for turkey and fun with the families. If you wish, bring your favorite side dish to go along with the turkey.



Image Source: pixabay.com

Also, mark your calendars for Monday, December 14 at 4:00 pm. We will be visiting our shut-ins to spread some holiday cheer and to sing Christmas carols. Plan to stay for dinner

following the caroling. Husbands are invited to join us for dinner.

Grace Mortimer,
CUMW Recording Secretary

Shoe Boxes for Christmas

The Mission and Evangelism Team is sponsoring a shoebox ministry for needy children in the Mathews Community. The boxes will be distributed through the Mathews Social Services Christmas Store.

Bring filled boxes to the fellowship hall by Thursday, December 3 or deliver donations to Mathews Social Services no later than December, 6 so they can be marked and sorted.



Shoe Box: Use any empty, clean box. Attach a separate piece of paper to the box and label it for a boy or girl and age category: 2-4, 5-6, 7-9 or 10-14 years. Fill with a variety of all **new** items. Wrap in Christmas paper. Pray for the child who will receive the box.

Toy Suggestions: Small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, playing cards, stickers, puzzles, games, etc.

School Supplies: Pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, colored markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, blunt pointed scissors, or regular ones for older children, glue, colored craft paper.

Hygiene Items: Tooth brushes, tooth paste, mild bar soap in wrapper, combs, washcloths, hand towels, and small shampoo.

Other items: Candy appropriate for age of child, T-shirts, socks, gloves, adjustable ball caps, hair clips, jewelry, flash light (extra batteries), Christmas mugs, hot chocolate packets, gift certificates to Hardee's, McDonald's, etc.

Thank you for your support.

The M & E Team

November 2015

Conference exceeds Imagine No Malaria goal, saves 100,536+ lives!



UPDATE NOTE: As of Oct. 23, Virginia Conference churches had raised **\$1,016,581.17** for *Imagine No Malaria*, **saving more than 101,658 lives!**

As of Sept. 30, Virginia Conference churches had raised **\$1,005,364.30** for *Imagine No Malaria*, **saving more than 100,536 lives** and exceeding the conference goal of raising \$1 million to save 100,000+ lives from malaria, a preventable and treatable disease.

"This is a great day," said Bishop Young Jin Cho when he received the news from Maria Maxwell, *Imagine No Malaria* field coordinator for the Virginia Conference. "Thank God for all the churches," Cho said, "from the little children to all the others who joined this effort."

"First, I want to express my thanks to every church, faith community, campus ministry, Sunday school class, youth group, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, retreat and conference group," Bishop Cho wrote in a letter sent to all United Methodists in the Virginia Conference, "and last but not least every individual who accepted the challenge and made a contribution to truly

allow EVERY LIFE TO SAVE A LIFE!"

He also thanked members of the *Imagine No Malaria* Committee as well as "lay and clergy leaders, district superintendents, pastors, and teachers who accepted this challenge and inspired others to give so that together we could do more than any of us can do alone. "Finally, I want to express my personal thanks as your bishop in allowing me to walk with you in this effort," he wrote. "I have been inspired and encouraged by your selfless expression as disciples of Jesus Christ to truly transform the world!"

Pastors and laity at the 2014 Virginia Annual Conference voted to support The United Methodist Church's *Imagine No Malaria* initiative and set a goal to raise \$1 million in the next year to save at least 100,000 lives from the deadly disease. Every church and every United Methodist in the Virginia Conference were urged to take part. Theme of the initiative was "Every Life Save a Life."

Information Source: <http://www.vaumc.org>



Fridays IN the Spirit

Macedonia Baptist
Friday, November 20
6:30 - 9:00 pm

Ages: K-12th Grade

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

Greeters/Ushers for November

8:30 am service	Susan & Tim Hill
1, 8, & 22	
15	Patti & Hal Hertzler
11:00 am service	Betty Stewart, Marcia Fry & Mary Marshall

Birthdays

Phyllis Lewis	2	Melba Houser	15
Richard Love	3	Emily Lewis	16
Peggy Leigh	9	Jimmy Stewart	18
Tom Tucker	11	Leigh Lewis	29
Gabrielle Lewis	13	Ken Palmer	30
Grace Mortimer	14		

Refreshments Providers for November

1	Martha Arnold & Janet Burgess
8	Carl & Kathy Bochau
15	Sandi Morgan & Sherry Hodges
22	Dale Smith & James Martin
29	5th Sunday, no refreshments

Our Deepest Sympathy and Prayers go to the...

Family of Eugene Callis
Family of Reggie Deagle
Family of Dan Folzenlogen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow...



Central Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 8

Following the
11:00 Worship Service

Meat will be provided.

Please bring a side or
dessert to share.

Image Source: webweaver.nu



Community Thanksgiving Dinner & Service

Westville Baptist Church



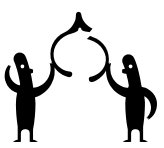

Tuesday, November 24,

6:00 pm

The speaker will be
Pastor Van Loomis from
Redeeming Grace Baptist

Please bring a side dish to share with the Antioch,
Westville and Mathews Baptist congregations.

Image Source: www.webweaver.nu

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 All Saints Day Daylight Savings Time Ends FALL BACK one hour 	2 Prayer Time 8:00 am	3 Covenant Bible Study B 7:00 pm	4 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm Covenant Bible Study A 10:00 am	5 Children's Choir Practice 6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice 6:45 pm Adult Choir Practice 7:15 pm	6 IOKDS Convention 9 - 5 pm Friday & Saturday	7
8 Central Family Thanksgiving Dinner Following the 11:00 am worship service 	9 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 7:00 pm	10 Covenant Bible Study B 7:00 pm	11 Veterans Day Covenant Bible Study A 10:00 am Finance 7:00 pm	12 YMCA - Lunch With a Purpose 9:00 am - 1:30 pm P. Townsend Class Dinner & Meeting 6:00 pm Children's Choir Practice 6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice 6:45 pm Adult Choir Practice 7:15 pm	13 <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair. </div>	14 UM Men Breakfast 8:00 am
15 Chimes Submissions Due	16 Prayer Time 8:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm Trustees 7:30 pm	17 Covenant Bible Study B 7:00 pm	18 Mission & Evangelism 9:00 am Covenant Bible Study A 10:00 am Administrative Council 7:00 pm	19 Children's Choir Practice 6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice 6:45 pm Adult Choir Practice 7:15 pm	20 Three Rivers Healthy Families 9:00 am - 2:00 pm FINS Macedonia Baptist 6:30 - 9:00 pm	21
22	23 Prayer Time 8:00 am	24 Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Westville Baptist 6:00 pm	25 	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 November 29 First Sunday of Advent 5th Sunday Joint Service	30	<div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px;"> 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship Service 2:15 pm Song Service at Riverside Convalescent Ctr. </div>		 <h1 style="font-family: cursive;">November</h1>		