



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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November 2021

From the Pastor's Pen

Yesterday (10/27) the Administrative Council reviewed the 2022 nominees for the church's lay leadership. When elected by the Nov. 3 charge conference, they will serve in the church's committees of Nomination, Finance, Staff-Parish Relations, and Trustees, plus the Administrative Council. I am grateful to God for those who have agreed to serve in these ways.

The charge conference (Central Church is a "charge" for an administrative purpose; conferences—charge, district, annual, jurisdictional, general—are how the Methodist church is organized) serves as the church's yearly meeting that accomplishes a number of things: Set the clergy compensation, elect leadership and recommend Lay Servants, adopt the budget, and receive reports. It is somewhat similar to the yearly business meeting held by many organizations.

The Discipline specifies the charge conference membership as "all members of the church council or other appropriate body, together with retired ordained ministers and retired diaconal ministers who elect to hold their membership in said charge conference."

I recall visiting such a meeting for Rockbridge Hospice a number of years ago. It dealt with those similar business items, but at the same time it was filled with a sense of purpose. They knew they were touching many people's lives. Likewise, we will hold ours against the backdrop of the ministries done by the people of God by the grace of God. As the Administrative Council met in person yesterday to review the budget proposal and nominations, I feel we have already done some of the charge conference's work.

Central UMC 2021 Charge Conference

Time: Nov 3, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81078759489>



Whereas the preacher has the conspicuous part in the life of the church, every week the work of the church is done by the people, committees, and teams. I want to express my special gratitude to those who served in leadership roles, for calling for meetings and setting agenda, for working with the people, and for attending and reporting to Administrative Council meetings, not to mention leading the ministries themselves.

Please commend with me to the grace of God those who serve in our ministries. May we serve God's purpose, and may we remain in Christ in all that we do.

Gratefully,
John

**Turn back
clocks on
Saturday,
November 6**



All Saints Sunday (11/7): A special invitation

On the first Sunday of November we will remember those who have gone before us to join the saints above. For the in-person attendees: You are invited to bring a photo of a loved one or a friend who is now with the Lord and place them along the communion rail. They will signify the "cloud of witnesses" that surround us in our faith journey.



Bible Study Begins in November: Colossians

An informal Bible study will meet weekly on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., beginning on November 10 (We will take off holiday weeks). The topic is the Epistle to the Colossians.

Registration is not required, and there are no textbooks other than the Bible, but participants will be encouraged to commit to daily prayer and regular journaling. Those who are interested or have questions please speak to Pastor John (725-3332, johnchoi@vaumc.org).



Heartfelt Thanks

Can it really be November already? I hardly think so, but that's not what the calendar tells me. Yes, 2021, which started with so much uncertainty, then continued with such high hopes, and now seems to be ending with a good deal of uncertainty once again, is winding down. The church year is winding down as well. The 2022 budget and committee assignments for next year should be finalized at the Charge Conference on November 3. Most committees will wrap up their activities for the year this month or in early December (as is the case with the Admin Council).

As I've written before, November has the two most underappreciated holidays of the year, Veterans Day and Thanksgiving. Veterans Day gets lost in the aftermath of the elections and Thanksgiving has become the unofficial beginning of the Christmas shopping season with a lot of stores not even waiting for Black Friday. This fate is not acceptable for either of these holidays. We should make a point to thank a veteran whenever we can, not just on Veterans Day, and we should be thanking God for all our countless blessings each and every day, not just on Thanksgiving Day.

Speaking of Thanksgiving, I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you for allowing me to serve as your Admin Council Chairperson for the second year. I hope that I didn't disappoint you. I also hope and pray that we all continue to grow in Christ and that He continues to smile down on Central United Methodist Church.

Thanksgiving Blessings to all of you and your families,

Chris Moughon

Admin Council Chair

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

Margie Snow

Edna Sydenstricker

Todd Wilson

Langley Deagle

Jason West

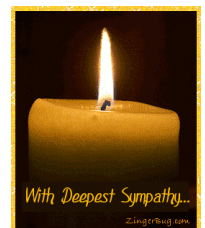




Photo above: On a recent Sunday, a couple of Sundays School classes came together for a joint meeting. The biblical virtue of kindness was the topic of the day.



Photo above: Lt. Sid Foster of the Mathews Sheriff's Department speaks to the United Methodist Men on the county's Triad program.

Upcoming Mission Opportunities

At our October meeting we suggested that the Mission Focus for November would be the Department of Social Services Christmas Store. This program makes it possible for the holidays to be a little brighter for those in need. As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic put many people out of work. Even though most people are working again, they're playing "catch up" with their bills. This year some families will have to choose between paying bills and buying holiday presents. The Christmas Store fills that gap and helps keep the giving spirit feasible. Finding this program relies on the strength of our community. Recipients of this program are truly grateful!

Our Mission Focus for December will be the Gloucester-Mathews Care Clinic. We will provide more information about this program at a later date.

It appears that we may not have our traditional church Thanksgiving dinner this year due to the pandemic. The purpose of the this meal is for our congregation to unite as we praise God for the blessings He had bestowed on us this year. We decided to still have the meal-but to give it and make it possible for others. Members of the congregation can donate items used in a traditional Thanksgiving dinner-turkey, hams, potatoes, yams, pumpkin pies. You get the idea! We would have a day set aside to drop off the items and to pack them up and deliver them. This would be similar to the Rise against Hunger event. We will contact Social Services for the names of 25 families who could use a little assistance this Thanksgiving. Members can also make a monetary donation to this cause.

Eric suggested we resume our Journeys with God program. This is where we have a speaker from the church that would present a short reflection on their own personal journey. The program would also include singing, the lighting of a votive candle to symbolize a prayer request and a time for prayers for healing. The purpose of these meetings would be to build up our congregation's faith journey. We decided to resume the program in February.

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Shoe Boxes for Christmas

The Mission and Evangelism Team continues its sponsorship of the 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 Sunday, December 5th.

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 taking part! *M & E Team*



John will begin a new Bible study on the book of Colossians on Wednesdays beginning in November.

Eric has been reading a book entitled The Star of Bethlehem that he would like to share with all of us. He will do so in January to coincide with Epiphany.

Linda Dalgety

Mission and Evangelism Chair

United Methodist Women

Central United Methodist Women met on October 11th. We collected and donated a grand total of \$384.00 to Mathews County Social Services for their School Supply Closet. This local donation was done in lieu of the UMCOR School Kits which are traditionally sent directly to UMCOR at the Annual Conference. We thank the congregation for their generous support.

At our September meeting we pledged to prepare 24 UMCOR Hygiene Kits to be given to Hands Across Mathews. These kits were assembled at our October meeting and were presented to Vice President, Maurine Frank of Hands Across Mathews on October 21st. We voted to assemble an additional 24 Hygiene Kits to be given either to Hands Across Mathews or to Mathews County Social Services.

Our UMW Annual Reports have been submitted to the York River District and it was announced at the YRD UMW Conference in September that we have once again been recognized as a "Six-Star Organization" and we have achieved the highest-Level III Gold Award for completing the Mission criteria for "Living Into Our Purpose". We remain the "Small but Mighty" and I am so proud of our group.

At our next meeting on November 8th, we will be hosting a special fall luncheon to honor our special volunteers who have often helped us with our Three Rivers Healthy Families events. Invitations will be forthcoming.

As a reminder, we will once again be selling Schermer's Pecans to support Wesley

Community Service Center. We will let you know when the pecans are available. We continue to contribute to the Mission chosen each month by Mission and Evangelism. Also, we continue to collect Non-Food items in the Fellowship Hall for HAM. And "The Good Measure Cookbook" is still available for \$12. It makes a wonderful birthday present or stocking stuffer.



Thank you for your support.

Martha Arnold

UM Women President

Presentation of 24 UMCOR Hygiene Kits to Hands Across Mathews

Pictured: CUMW President, Martha Arnold and HAM Vice President, Maurine Frank



**Paul Townsend Memorial Class
Supper and Meeting
Thursday, November 11th at 5:30 pm
at Central**

Creation Care in Methodism

Sometimes we may ask: Does taking care of the environment really have anything to do with our Methodist Christian faith?



John Wesley was the founder of the United Methodist Church and not only had good wisdom regarding our stewardship of creation, but he was aware of environmental problems in his day as well and believed the church needed to be a part of the solution.

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church has historically upheld a strong commitment to God's creation. Within the Social Principles of the United Methodist Book of Discipline are several statements guiding United Methodists.

160 Preamble: All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life, and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings. God has granted us stewardship of creation.

On Water, Air, Soil, Minerals, and Plants: (¶ 160 A) We support measures designed to maintain and restore natural ecosystems.



On Energy Resources Utilization: (¶ 160 B) We support and encourage social policies that are directed toward rational and restrained transformation of parts of the nonhuman world into energy for human usage and that deemphasize or eliminate energy-producing technologies that endanger the health, the safety, and even the existence of the present and future human and nonhuman creation.

On Global Climate Stewardship: (¶ 160 C) [We] support efforts of all governments to require reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and call on individuals, congregations, businesses, industries, and communities to reduce their emissions.



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The United Methodist Church is a global church, at work in approximately 130 countries around the world with 8 million members. Given the global nature of the environmental problems the earth faces and the strength of our numbers, we have faith that we will make a significant difference in the world. We are given the responsibility to be good stewards and teach our children and grandchildren to do the same.



Michael Cannon
Creation Care Team

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



Poinsettias for the Sanctuary

Honor or remember someone with a poinsettia on the altar this Christmas.

Please email, mail, or use the form in the Sunday bulletin (on Nov. 7) with the following information by Sunday, November 28th:

The name of the person(s) you wish to give in memory / honor of, and the number of flowers being ordered.

Poinsettia's are \$7.00 each.

Mailing address: PO Box 297, Church St.,
Mathews, VA 23109

Email: office@centralumcmathews.org



September Mission Giving

\$220 was received during September for Nelda Gibbs' school lunch fund, and it will be sent with \$100 addition from the church's Mission & Evangelism budget.

Thank you for remembering children and families with your gifts.

THE UPPER ROOM
DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

Nov./ Dec. are available in the Narthex.

Children's Ministry

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT...LET'S BRING BACK SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR OUR CHILDREN...

There is a concern among us about our children not having Sunday school. I have had a lot of suggestions on this. I have felt this concern a lot, myself. The main consideration is the unvaccinated children and a variance of COVID. Pastor John and I have given this a lot of thought and prayer.

I am proposing that we have a Sunday Funday School and have a sort of mini Bible School one Sunday afternoon a month from 4:00-6:00. With such a small enrollment of children at Central, I think this could be a community wide invite; hoping to bring in more children and maybe some that do not have a church. There will be a lesson (maybe including a craft), music, snacks and games, if time permits.

We will have a start-up class in November to help get a feel for what the children would like to have. Ages would be 5 and up to 13. Older ones may be helpers. Let's all move towards getting children back to Sunday School at Central.

I have lots of Bible School resources I can reuse to help with cost. Snack donations will be a big help.

Any help and suggestions are appreciated.

Thank you,
Nancy Jagger,
Children's Ministry chair



United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men met on Saturday, October 16. We enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by Bobby Hudgins and Pastor John once again. Lt. Sid Foster of the Mathews County Sheriff's Department was our guest speaker and talked to us about the Triad Program, which helps protect our senior citizens. (See photo on page 3.)

We voted to keep the same officers for next year: Chris Moughon, President; Greg Lewis, Secretary; Steve Eley, Treasurer; and Joe Arnold will fill the vacant Vice-President slot.

Our next meeting will be on November 20, at 8am. Hope to see all the men of Central there!

Chris Moughon

CUMM President



Join us for Sunday School at Central !

All classes begin at 10:00 am, right after the Sunday service.

Paul Townsend Memorial Class, meets in the classroom behind the Sanctuary.

Faith in the Now & Nancy Wroten classes, meets in the Fellowship Hall

Friendship class, meets in the room across from the church office.

All are welcome!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am— 1:00pm Charge Conference 7:00 pm	4 Tai Chi 9:30 am	5	6  Fall Back One Hour Daylight Savings Ends
	<p>All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.</p>					
7 All Saints Sunday Daylight Savings Time Ends	8 UM Women 10:00 am SPRC 7:00 pm	9	10 Finance 10:00 am Bible Study 1:30 pm	11 Veterans Day  Tai Chi 9:30 am Paul Townsend Mem. Class Supper & Meeting 5:30 pm	12	13
14	15 Trustees 7:00 pm	16	17 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am Bible Study 1:30 pm	18 Tai Chi 9:30 am	19	20 UM Men 8:00 am
21 Thanksgiving Sunday Central Chimes Submissions Due	22 PCRG TBA	25	24	25 Office closed 	26	27
28 First Sunday of Advent Poinsettia Deadline for orders	29	30	<h1>November 2021</h1>			

Birthdays

Peggy Leigh	9	Emily Lewis	16
Tom Tucker	11	Jimmy Stewart	18
Gabrielle Lewis	13	Leeah Taylor	20
Grace Mortimer	14	Leigh Lewis	29
Melba Houser	15	Ken Palmer	30
Ron Bowman	15		

Anniversaries

Ron & Janet Bowman	23
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