



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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November 2023

From the Pastor's Pen

It is here! How in the world has the calendar turned to November? We are now feeling the cold air and leaves are falling and dare I say, we are well on our way to winter. Calendars are filling up with commitments. Clocks will soon be turned back and another hour of sleep will be ours (I love this about fall by the way). Before we know it Christmas will soon be here.

Are you feeling rushed yet? Are you beginning to feel the overwhelm that is trying to accompany us this time of year? Perhaps you have felt the overwhelm that this world seems to push on us as if being busier is better. The good news is that you and I are not called to be busy. Our culture tries to glorify those who pass themselves coming and going. Our culture tries to make us believe that the sooner we get our calendars full the better off we will be.

As Christians, we must be careful to remember that we are called to be faithful to the God who created us! Being faithful does not equate with being busy. The world tells us it does, however! Let us find some rest and confidence in our walk with the Lord even in this changing time of year!

November brings our thoughts to that of giving thanks as well. What have you given thanks for lately? What have you paused in the busyness of life to thank God for recently? Let us testify to the goodness of God. Even in the midst of the

busyness of life, God welcomes and receives our gifts of thanksgiving!

Yes, time seems to be flying and Christmas will soon be here but let's not rush to it so quickly that we forget to give God thanks and praise for all he has done and is doing!

I thank God for each of you!

Pastor Rebecca

Turn back
clocks on
Saturday,
November 4



Join us for Sunday School at Central !

All classes begin at 10:15am, 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 hallway, first room on left.

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

Children's class, meets down the hall on the right.

All are welcome!

Join Us for Worship

Sunday service—9:15 a.m.

Sunday school—10:15 a.m.

Sunday worship on YouTube

www.centralumcmathews.org

Mission Focus for November: Mathews County Christmas Store

The Mission Focus of the month is adopted by the Administrative Council.

The November Mission Focus is the Mathews County Christmas Store. This program started more than 40 years ago to provide support for County residents in need. This year the Store is expected to serve over 650 members of our community. Imagine that, over 650 people who are able to share in the Christmas spirit, in part, because of our generosity!

A primary need this year is monetary contributions. Absolutely no funding for this program is provided by the county or state. "This program relies on the strength of our community's heart," explained Bernadette La Casse, the Christmas Store Coordinator.

In addition to financial help, a broad range of new items are also needed. This includes any kind of new toy to any brand of new toasters. Some of the items that are specifically needed are bicycles, wagons, and any type of ride-on tricycles. In addition, clothing items such as sweat pants and shirts for both children and adults, as well as household and kitchen items such as new blankets, sheets and toasters are also needed. These types of gifts can be dropped off at the Social Services offices any time weekdays between 8 am to 4 pm.

(See page 3 & 4 for more details on filling a shoebox or stocking)

If you would like to make a monetary contribution, please make your check payable to Central UMC and write "Christmas Store" on the memo line. Look into your heart and ask the Lord's blessing on your gift.

Linda Dalgety
Mission and Evangelism



Offering Thanks

I want to share a quote from Max Lucado about saying Thank You. He quoted from Psalm 106:1. "Thank the Lord because he is good. His love continues forever."

Then he said "Worship is the 'Thank you' that cannot be silenced." Sometimes when we are busy, our worship might get pushed to the back of the line of our activities. You are probably thinking "but I am doing as much as I can". I'm just suggesting that you say thank you to the Lord first, then you set your priorities in the correct order. The rest will fall in place. We have so much to be thankful for -- even in our sorrow and grief, our haste and worry, or our joy and goodwill.

"Worship is when you are aware that what you have been given is far greater than what you can give." Thank you Lord. Thank you Max Lucado for the reminder. Thank you Central Church for all you do.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

Blessings,

Dee Bane

Admin. Council Chair

**Paul Townsend Memorial Class
Supper and Meeting
Thursday, November 9th at 12:00 Noon
Joining together in the fellowship hall.**



**Thanksgiving Dinner
at Central UMC
Sunday, November 19
~Following Rise Against Hunger
Packing event~**

***Turkey and ham will be provided.
Please bring a side dish or
dessert.***



Upcoming Mission Opportunities

At our October meeting, a card was shared that we had received from 2 of our Mission Focus recipients. The first was from Hands across Mathews, who received \$350.00 from our congregation's donations. They assured us that every penny of our donation would be used to supply food or other assistance to people in our community who are in need. In fact, the weekly food distribution program helps 85 families each week! Each family is certified by Social Services indicating that they need help.

The second was from Nelda Gibbs (Nelda's Closet). She was so appreciative of our gift of \$520 and assured us that because of our generosity, the closet was now fully stocked!

We decided that our November Mission Focus would be the Social Services Christmas Store. Last year, the Store served over 650 members of our community. Imagine that - 650 people who were able to share in the Christmas Spirit, in part, because of our generosity! We decided that once again we will participate in the Social Services Christmas Shoebox program. More information about this program will be provided next week.

We also voted to adopt the St. Andrews Society Giving Program for our December Mission Focus. This Society works to alleviate hunger through the age old practice of "gleaning", but with a modern approach. Some of you may have previously participated in a "potato dump". That was one of St. Andrew's programs.

Nancy Jagger was congratulated on all her hard work in finding a company that could construct and install a new sign advertising our church. It's on the corner of Church and Glebe and replaces a rather old and worn sign that was barely visible. Stop by and take a look at it. Nancy stated that her new dream is a big sign somewhere near the county line that says "Central United Methodist Church welcomes you!" Perhaps next year!

The idea of participating in the annual Christmas Parade with a float representing our Church was agreed on and will be revisited when the theme of the parade is revealed.

The Rise against Hunger program is coming together. We are still in need of money to fund it as well as volunteers to participate. Come on out on November 19 and be prepared to have fun as we bless others. As it says in Psalms 112:5, "Whosoever gives to others will get richer; those who help others will themselves be helped.." And don't forget to join us for our annual potluck Church Thanksgiving dinner immediately following the Rise against Hunger program. Betty Stewart who is in charge of the dinner promises turkey, ham, and all the trimmings! Yum!

Eric Stewart will again bring us his program about the truth of the *Bethlehem Star* in December on a date to be determined. This will be a fun time for fellowship and be informative as well.



Again, this year we're participating in the Christmas Shoebox program. Only this year, you have a choice of filling and wrapping a traditional box or you may choose a stocking. The decorated stockings are already sorted by age and sex. Both can be filled with age appropriate toys, hair ties, kid's toothpaste and brush, funky bath time soaps, crayons, coloring books, and colored pencils. Small amount gift cards to local fast food restaurants can also be included. But please, NO cash.

These shoeboxes and stockings are for children of Mathews County. (Other Shoebox programs are sent worldwide.)

For some children, our boxes or stockings are the only Christmas gifts they will receive. Imagine the delight on a child's face when they receive YOUR generous gift to them.

For additional information on filling boxes or stocking, see next page.

Linda Dalgety

Mission and Evangelism Chair



Shoe Boxes for Christmas Store

Bring filled boxes or stockings to the fellowship hall by Sunday, December 4th.

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.

Each box or stocking becomes a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. Be a part of God's special miracle in a child's life.

Thank you,

M & E Team



UM Women Recognized for the 4th Year

The CUMW met on October 23rd in the Fellowship Hall. There were 9 members present with Janet Burgess as our guest.

I am extremely proud to announce that for the 4th year in a row our Central United Methodist Women unit has once again been recognized by the Mission River District UMW for achieving Level III – Gold "Living into Our Purpose" Certification. In addition, the Mission River District UMW has awarded us a Six Star Unit Certificate for participating in the Six Channels of Undesignated Giving. Both awards represent the highest levels of achievement that can be awarded to a UMW Unit. It is my honor to be the president of our "Small but Mighty" group. Congratulations, CUMW!

Our new Central United Methodist Women aprons have arrived! We will proudly wear them on November 3rd at our Three Rivers Healthy Families Annual Thanksgiving Celebration. The guest speaker will be Jean Howard of CA & J Farms. Jean will conduct a 30-minute positive drumming session for the children and their families. We are planning a Thanksgiving feast with turkey and all the trimmings. The invitation is open to anyone who would like to help us with this celebration.



Judy Moughon and Jamie Hall model the new UM Women aprons
photo by Bev Childress

In recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month, we will be presenting Rebecca with a gift

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certificate to Southwind Pizza restaurant.

We continue our monthly \$50 donation to the organizations that are chosen by the Mission and Evangelism Team. In addition, we voted to purchase a small cordless vacuum cleaner for the Fellowship Hall. This will aid in the cleanup of the kitchen and the Fellowship Hall after events.

WE CONTINUE WITH THIS URGENT APPEAL! Hands Across Mathews is still having difficulty in obtaining food from the Peninsula food bank. They are appealing to churches and organizations to donate canned vegetables and fruits, soups, proteins such as tuna fish and chicken, cereals, peanut butter, rice, beans, pasta, etc. As well, they continue need Non-Food items such as toilet paper, shampoos, soap, laundry detergent, toothpaste, etc. There are bins for the food in the vestibule between the church and the Fellowship Hall and there is a bin for non-food items in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Your support and generosity to our organization are greatly appreciated.

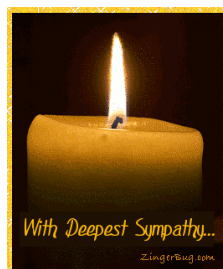
Martha Arnold
UM Women President

All Saints Sunday is November 5th



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

- Jeff Kyte
- Audrey Mason
- Joanne Jones
- George Lee (Dickie) Burroughs
- Bill Simmons



UM Men Discuss Future Projects

The Central United Methodist Men met on Saturday, October 21. There were 14 present, including first timers John Lee Callis, Dan Reno, and Bobby Hall. We all enjoyed a breakfast prepared by Martha Arnold and Pat Moughon who bailed us out once again.

During the meeting we discussed several future projects such as the Brunswick Stew sale, the art/yard sale, and selling the old pews that are stored in the balcony. You will be hearing more on these projects as we move forward. We voted to send Hands Across Mathews \$250 right away to help with their ongoing needs and we will discuss and vote in November how to distribute the rest of our year-end donations.

Our final meeting for 2023 will be on Saturday, November 18, at 8am in the Fellowship Hall. I hope to see as many of the men as possible so that their voices will be heard as we decide how to distribute our funds.

Blessings for a wonderful Thanksgiving,

Chris Moughon
UM Men President



United Methodist Men sing, "The Old Rugged Cross", during Sunday's service on October 29th.



Creation Care: Recycling Glass

Jerry Ligon, 7th grade science teacher at Thomas Hunter Middle School, has requested that Central's Creation Care Team present their Recycle Program to all his classes on February 14,15,16. We will be checking with the committee to see who is available to give a hand. Anyone interested in helping for a few hours, let us know.

GLASS: IS IT REALLY RECYCLED IN MATHEWS?

Only about one-third of the glass in U.S. gets recycled. This is a waste because glass is 100% recyclable with no loss of quality. In our county there is no separate glass collection like in some counties—so how is it done?

At the Mathews Recycle Center, VPPSA accepts glass bottles and jars in our co-mingled recycling. Then it is taken to TFC Recycling in Chester, VA. There it goes through a shaker deck—where the glass sorts out through the bottom.



Once separated, it goes to SMI, a glass processor in Wilson, N.C. SMI processes, cleans and then sorts by color. The glass is then ready to be recycled into glass containers, fiberglass, reflective road beading and many decorative uses.

Throwing glass in the general trash makes it end up in our landfills!



We can make a difference by recycling our glass!

Michael Cannon
Creation Care Team

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



Mark your calendars now!

**Annual Community
Christmas Sing-a-long**

**Sunday, December 10
3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Central**

*Sponsored by the
Central Village Homemakers*

This is our gift to the community.
Please come and bring a friend!
We thank you for your support.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Worship with us! Sunday service—9:15 am Sunday school—10:15 am Sunday worship on YouTube Link for online service: www.centralumcmathews.org</p> 			<p>1 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am— 1:00 pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 UMW 3 Rivers Healthy Families Thanksgiving Celebration 10:00 am</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>Charge Conference 1:00 pm Lower UMC</p> <p>Fall Back One Hour Daylight Savings Ends</p>
<p>5 All Saints Sunday</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Ends</p>	<p>6 Office open</p>	<p>7 Office closed</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	<p>8 Office open</p> <p>SPRC, 10:00 am</p> <p>Bible Study 1:00 pm</p> <p>Trustees, 3:00 pm</p>	<p>9 Office open</p> <p>Paul Townsend Mem. Class Lunch & Meeting 12:00 Noon</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 Veterans Day</p> 
<p>12</p>	<p>13 Finance 8:30 am</p> <p>UM Women 10:00 am</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Bible Study 7:00 pm</p>	<p>15 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am</p> <p>Bible Study 1:00 pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Choir 7:00 pm</p> 	<p>17</p>	<p>18 UM Men 8:00 am</p>
<p>19 Thanksgiving Sunday</p> <p>Rise Against Hunger 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm</p> <p>Thanksgiving Dinner to follow</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23 Office closed</p> 	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27 <i>Central Chimes Submissions Due for Dec.</i></p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<h1>November 2023</h1>	

Birthdays

Kenny Childress	8	Emily Lewis	16
Peggy Leigh	9	Jimmy Stewart	18
Tom Tucker	11	Leeah Taylor	20
Gabrielle Lewis	13	David Goldman	23
Grace Mortimer	14	Leigh Lewis	29

