



# THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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## From the Pastor's Pen

### Who Are Your Friends?

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another." (John 13:34)



When I lived in Northern Virginia, I used to visit a nursing home in Annandale once a month in order to serve communion. I vividly remember the nearly terrifying sense of awe I had when first meeting with the residents. It was not because I was in the presence of luminaries and celebrities. I was meeting the most vulnerable and the weakest, and I felt humbled to represent Christ among them.

Whenever I was with them, I became a somewhat different person. I was like a clown; I was like a child. I spoke simply and loudly, danced willingly, and praised God readily. I was certainly not who I was among friends of my own age. After a couple of years, however, it dawned on me: I was not being a different person. Instead, in subjecting myself to Christ I was becoming my truer self. I was being taught to relate to people through Christ.

Friends are hard to find, and they mean much to us. But there is something special about people who share Christ with us. We might

not sit and drink beer together, but we receive the Bread and the Cup from the same table. In life we need God most of all, and it is a special friend who is willing to pray for you.

One of the great blessings of being in a church is finding those who share the bond of Christ. It is something to give thanks for, and something to commend to others. Out of the strength of that fellowship also rises a compassion and service for the world as well.

May God give us grace to be friends in Christ to one another and to the world.

Gratefully,  
*John*

## Annual Church Picnic

Another successful Annual Church Picnic is under our belts! The weather was wonderful as we gathered in, on and around the Mathews Yacht Club porch and pool. Our tummies were treated to a wide and delicious variety of foods that complimented the fried chicken.

Many thanks go to the homemade ice cream makers – Christine Ulrich, Peggy Leigh, Judy Moughon and Nancy Jagger. We feasted on vanilla, peach and Heath Bar ice cream.

Thank you to all who helped set-up, refill trays and beverages and clean-up after the event.

*Nancy Wroten Memorial Class*

## Trustees

The Carillon equipment has been installed. We owe special thanks to the church members that were involved in some or most phases of the acquisition and installation. They were James Martin, Joe Arnold, Nate Houser, Pastor John Choi, Ken Lee and Hal Hertzler. Brenda Rice was also involved early on before she moved out of state. The Carillons were dedicated on August 28 and recognition was given to those who funded the project.

We are still looking for a couple of individuals interested in learning the Carillon system capabilities so we can wow the community with our welcoming Carillon and Chime repertoire! Please contact any Trustee if interested - it'll be much more fun than work!

While our sanctuary floor is not level (still some peaks and valleys), we have taken actions to *shore-up* the foundation piers and joists and we should have no further floor issues for several decades. This effort was a prerequisite to the electrical work for the audio electrical repositioning and also new carpet on the floor. We will establish time lines for the electrical work and carpet installation within the next month or two.

*Steve Leap*, Chair

## United Methodist Men

The Central UM Men will hold their first fall meeting on Saturday, September 17 at 8:00 am. Everyone in the church is invited to attend the breakfast. The Rescue Squad will provide a refresher on the proper use of the automated external defibrillator (AED) device. Please, join us for this important training.

Blessings to all.  
*James Martin*,  
CUMM President

## Hospitality

Many provided delicious refreshments during *Fellowship Time* in August and all the recipients thank you! There are several Sundays currently open in September for refreshment providers. Feel free to sign-up for future months.

The Hospitality committee sent small baskets of flowers to several of our homebound members and friends.

*Patty Hertzler*,  
Co-Chair

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### Greeters/Ushers for September

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8:30 am service	Ken & Helen Lee
11:00 am service	Ben & Peggy Leigh

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### Refreshments Providers for September

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4	volunteer opportunity
11	volunteer opportunity
18	volunteer opportunity
25	volunteer opportunity

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## Central United Methodist Men Breakfast & AED Training



The next meeting of the Central United Methodist Men will be at **8:00**

**am on Saturday, September 17. Everyone is invited to join us for breakfast.** The Rescue Squad will provide a refresher on the proper use of the automated external defibrillator (AED) device.



## United Methodist Women

UMW will meet on Monday, September 12 at 10:00 am. Nancy Yarbrough will speak to us about the women of Cambodia. She is very involved with these women in their spiritual life as well as everyday life. Join us to learn more about them.

This month, we will take lunch to the *Mattaponi Healing Eagle Clinic* staff to show our appreciation for their service to the community.

Put Sunday, October 30 on your calendar to join us for the *Annual Birthday Luncheon* and *Candle Burning Service*. Make a donation to honor our youth. Look for details in upcoming Sunday bulletins.

*Grace Mortimer,*  
CUMW Recording Secretary

## Finance

As of the end of July, we continue to have a positive balance in our general account. Offerings are ahead of last year by about 11% and routine expenses are lower by about 6%. We have had two large, non-forecasted expenses for new heat pumps and carillon chimes, but these will be paid from other fund sources.

We are working on the budget for 2017. Input so far suggests a small, if any, rise in expenses in 2017 as lower apportionments will offset a small proposed increase in staff and pastor salaries.

*Nate Houser,* Chair

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

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Burley Ball, Jr.	Libby Hudgins
Virginia Majette	Nancy Gibbs

## Children and Youth Ministries

I hope all have enjoyed their summer, vacationing, reunions, sports and family recreation. During the summer, the younger children have been learning about the *Fruits of the Spirit* as stated in Galatians 5:22: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. When the Holy Spirit controls our lives he will produce this kind of fruit in us.

Janet Gomez and Brenda Lewis have led inspirational topics for the youth.

At the 11:00 am service on Sunday, September 25, we will celebrate *Christian Education Sunday* by having Class Promotion, Recognition of Teachers, and Blessing of the Backpacks.

The number of children in our church family is increasing and this is a welcome joy. Our responsibility to our children is to create a meaningful Christian education. We have progressed beyond our *One Room Sunday School Class*. Starting in September, we will have Preschool/Kindergarten, taught by Nancy Jagger; 1<sup>st</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup> grade, taught by Pat Gwaltney; and 5<sup>th</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade, taught by Janet Gomez and Brenda Lewis. Please support your teacher volunteers with your prayers and thanks in these endeavors.

*Children's Church* for children first grade and younger will continue following *Children's Time* during the 11:00 am service. We welcome Grace Mortimer to our team of teachers.

*FINS* (Fridays In the Spirit) for 2016-2017 is planning spiritually fun filled programs. Central UMC will host the November gathering with *Advent* as the theme. More to come in our church bulletin and on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/mathewsFINS](http://www.facebook.com/mathewsFINS)).

*Pat Gwaltney,* Chair

## Disaster Response Committee

*Dare to Prepare* was the theme of a Disaster Preparedness program held at Central on Sunday, July 31. The event featured representative Stephanie Hunt, VA Methodist Conference Case Manager and Volunteer Coordinator for the affected areas of Appomattox, Waverly, and Tappahannock, Virginia.



Stephanie Hunt, VA UM Conference Case Manager and Volunteer Coordinator

Ms. Hunt and Janet Burgess, York River District Disaster Response Coordinator, recapped the destruction and recovery activities of the February 2016 tornado's path. Slides and videos of the recent storm, as well as Hurricane Isabel, were shown and narrated.

Ben Leigh of Central UMC spoke of his undertakings after Hurricane Isabel, carrying flood buckets and checking on neighbors who were touched by the rising waters. Bob Tabor shared his pictures and videos of Hurricane Isabel's wrath.

While the adults were in session, the children, guided by Pat Gwaltney made soda bottle tornadoes, conducted a Hurricane Scavenger Hunt, and colored pages illustrating how to prepare for a storm.

Door prizes from local merchants were given out. Contributing to the prizes were Food Lion, Dollar General, Best Value, Moughon's Hardware, Gloucester Gazette Journal, Faulkner & Sons, Hudgins Pharmacy, and Coastwise Design. Handouts regarding what to pack in a Hurricane Kit and how to get ready for the storm were available. Agencies assisting with literature and bags were Chesapeake Bank, FEMA, Mathews Triad, Mathews Volunteer Rescue Squad, and WAVY TV 10. The event ended with a simple

lunch prepared and served by Central's United Methodist Women.

The more you know the more you can *Dare to Prepare*.

## Hurricane History of Mathews

Technically we are in the middle of Hurricane Season. We have not had a warning, but June 1 was the kick-off. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, *A study of tracks of all tropical storms for which there is a record indicates that, on an average of once a year, a tropical storm of hurricane force passes within 250 miles of the area and poses a threat to Mathews County. While hurricanes may affect the area from May through November, nearly 80 percent occur in the months of August, September, and October with approximately 40 percent occurring in September. The most severe hurricanes on record to strike the study area occurred in August 1933 and in September 2003 (Isabel). Other notable hurricanes which caused significant flooding in Mathews County occurred in September 1936, October 1954 (Hazel), and August 1955 (Connie).*



Information source: Flood Insurance Study, Mathews County, VA, Study #51115CV000B, FEMA.

## Code Red - Keeping Citizens Informed

Please take a moment to visit [Mathews County's website](#) to sign-up to be notified by your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts. Examples include: evacuation notices, bio-terrorism alerts, boil water notices, and missing child reports.

*Janet Burgess,*  
Disaster Response Coordinator



**Blessing of the Backpacks**  
Sunday, September 25  
11:00 am Worship Service  
Bring your backpack to be  
blessed for the new school year.

## Knitting Display for Cancer Patients

### & CHKD



Items for the Children's Hospital of the Kings' Daughters and Sons and the Peninsula Cancer Institute will be on display in the sanctuary

Sunday, September 11. See the September 11 church bulletin insert for more details.

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.

Generous contributions have made possible:

36 crayon boxes	41 coloring books
1 baby layette	138 blankets
5 youth dresses	2 youth sweaters
22 pair socks (misc. sizes)	16 book marks
12 Shawls	4 infant dresses
36 boxes of 24 crayons	6 tissue boxes
2 knit clowns (one is a bank)	12 note pads and pencils
188 hats (9 were donated to family & friends)	

Contributors:

Kitty Arnold	Janette Hogge
Martha Arnold	Phyllis Hudgins
Polly Barnes	Peggy Leigh
Janet Bowman	Mildred Lockwood
Pastor John Choi	Christy Love
Doris Clements	Mary Marshall
Miriam Cromwell	Diana More
Louise Owens Diggs	Judy Moughon
Betsy Duff	Dorothy Pagano
Herb Fowler, Jr.	Karen Palmer
Esther Gauthier	Mary Wade Smith
Jean Hall	Louise Witherspoon

September 2016

## Mission and Evangelism

During this year's *Mathews Market Days*, the M&E Team has decided to reach out to the community by providing a table with water on the church lawn. The table will also have literature about Central and our mission projects. Inside the Fellowship Hall will be coffee and fruit.

\$200 was donated to the Mathews Social Services School Supply Program. In 2015, they were able to help over 265 children with school supplies.





In the *Advance Magazine 2015-2016*, there are many opportunities for our faith community to grow through being engaged in hands-on mission and giving. Copies of the magazine are available for the congregation. In this issue, there is an explanation concerning our apportionments (13 in number). The *World Service Fund* provides the basic support for most of the worldwide mission and ministry of the United Methodist Church. This fund supports the work of missionaries around the world and funds evangelistic outreach, establishment of new churches, anti-hunger projects, social justice advocacy and resources for local church work with children, youth, singles, students, disabled persons and adults of all ages. It provides basic support for the programs and administration of most of the general agencies of the United Methodist Church.

The *World Service* apportionment represents the minimum needs of the general agencies of the Church. Payment in full of these apportionments by local churches and annual conferences is the first benevolent responsibility of the Church (*2012 Book of Discipline*).

As United Methodist, our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. One way is by 100% support of the *World Service Fund*.

*Pat Gwaltney*, Chair

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>September 2016</b>				1	2	3
4	5 <b>Labor Day</b> Prayer Time 8:00 am 	6 <b>First Day of School</b>	7 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	8 Nominations & Leadership 2:00 pm	9	10
11 <b>Knitting Display for Cancer Patients &amp; CHKD</b>  <b>District Conference &amp; Spiritual Training at Bethany UMC Hampton</b> 2:30 pm- 4:30 pm	12 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 10:00 am	13 	14 Finance 7:00 pm	15 P. Townsend Class Picnic (at Grace Mortimer's home) 5:30 pm Children's Choir 6:30 pm   Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	16	17 <b>UM Men Breakfast and AED Training</b> All are invited! 8:00 am
18 <b>Central Chimes Submissions Due</b>	19 Prayer Time 8:00 am Creation Care (at the Cannon's) 9:00 am Disaster Response Team 2:00 pm SPRC 7:00 pm	20	21 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am	22 <b>First Day of Fall</b> Children's Choir 6:30 pm   Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	23	24
25 <b>Christian Education Sunday</b>  • Blessing of the Backpacks • Promotions • Teacher Recognition	26 Prayer Time 8:00 am Trustees 7:00 pm	27	28 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	29 Children's Choir 6:30 pm   Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	30	

### Birthdays

Judy Haynes	1	Chris Moughon	9
Carey Hogge	2	Mildred Stillman	10
Cheryl Wheeler	2	Ben Leigh	11
Joe Cromwell	3		

### Anniversaries

Tom & Marilyn Tucker	7
Hal & Patty Hertzler	9
Mark & Brenda Lewis	12
John & Sherry Hodges	21
Greg & Leigh Lewis	27

All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.