



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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SEPTEMBER 2022

From the Pastor's Pen

For some time I have wanted to study and preach from the Sermon on the Mount. Finally I am jumping into it; Starting on Sep. 25 I will go through with you Matthews 5-7, a beloved and revered collection of Jesus' groundbreaking teachings.

The Sermon on the Mount is best known for its moral and ethical force—the Beatitudes, the Golden Rule, the exhortation to “love your enemies,” to name a few. Some have thought they are too difficult for us to attain. In my view, however, the Sermon on the Mount at its heart is not moral directives but statements of truth.

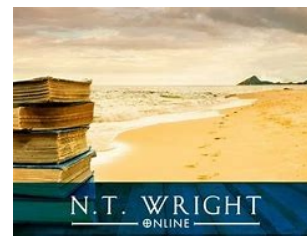
For a simple example, Jesus says, “Do not swear an oath at all.” (Mt. 5:34) It is not a simple prohibition against swearing. Instead it points to the truth that, contrary to the appearance of people swearing by God or other important things to confirm their intentions, they are not in control of their destiny; they “cannot make even one hair white or black.” (v. 36). Therefore: “All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.” (v. 37)

As statements of truths, the Sermon on the Mount at once serves as antidote for, and fulfillment of, the Old Testament and its traditions. We Christians are to cherish the commandments and the prophetic teachings, but we are to live in the newness of life that is in Christ. It is an important distinction for us Christians to understand. “Until John the Baptist, the law of Moses and the messages of the prophets were your guides. But now the Good News of the Kingdom of God is preached, and everyone is eager to get in.” (Lk. 16:16, NLT)

Join us for Worship!
Sunday Worship—9:15 a.m.
Sunday school—10:15 a.m.

For a good measure Jesus adds, “Everyone, then, who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.” (Mt. 7:24) I invite you to read and meditate with me in the coming days this rightly beloved collection of Jesus' teachings in Matthew 5 through 7.

Fall Bible Study



I invite all to a Bible study that will begin in the week of Sep 25. Our guide will be “Fifteen Essential Biblical Texts” by renowned teacher and scholar, N.T. Wright. We have not had a through-the-Bible study for a while, and such study can help us understand ourselves in God's larger plan. It is essential for us Christians to understand who we are in light of God's Word. We are not just individuals but part of the community that is God's own making.

There are no books to be purchased, and you will have the choice of either Tuesday evening or Thursday morning. I hope you will give this study a consideration! Sign up at the church or let me know your interest at johnchoi@vaumc.org or 804.384.3521.

Fifteen Essential Biblical Texts
Tuesday 7 p.m. | Thursday 10 a.m.
Each meeting features 10 minute teaching video by NT Wright.

Gratefully,
John

Church Clean-Up Day (Sep. 28)

Trustees is sponsoring a churchwide clean-up day on Wednesday, Sep. 28. We will clean out and spruce up various parts of the church building. Please look out for sign-up sheets.



Mission and Evangelism News

At the August 10th meeting of Mission and Evangelism, there were several issues addressed.

The first item on the agenda concerned holding another Rise against Hunger event. We had so much fun with the last one, we were anxious to do it again. November 13 from 3:30-5:30 was set as the date and time. Pastor John will contact the officials at RAH to set up the event and get any information on changes. We anticipate coordinating this with other churches in Mathews. Beulah, St. Paul, St Matthew, and Bethel were some of the names mentioned.

Rise Against Hunger (11/2019)



The roadside signs for our church are sadly in need of repair. Linda mentioned that the sign for Kingston Parish Church on Rt. was not a traditional sign, but was certainly eye catching and wondered if Teresa Morgan would be willing to undertake painting one for Central. Nancy Jagger will contact her regarding this and about scheduling another Paint Night as a way to raise funds for the RAH event. Linda will contact the Gazette Journal to submit an article about the Paint Party and about the RAH event.

Mission and Evangelism voted to request \$1500.00 for our budget this year. Of this amount, \$200.00 will be allocated for our website renewal fee, \$600.00 for the mission focus of the month, and \$700.00 for evangelism.

Several names were suggested for speakers at our Journeys with God program. The next program will be on Sunday, October 2nd.

We discussed having a visitation ministry. This would be an opportunity to visit people in our congregation who are shut-in, homebound, or in assisted living. It would also include people we haven't seen in church recently. We will continue this at our next meeting.

Linda Dalgety
Mission & Evangelism Chair



Journey with God

Mark your calendars!
October 2nd, 5:00 pm

All are invited to a gathering where we hear one another's God stories. Join us for a time of music, testimony and prayer. Helen Lee will be sharing her faith journey.

August Mission Giving

During the month of August, \$175 total was received for our Mission Focus of Heart Havens. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank
YOU

Just a Reminder!

Please, indicate on the Disciples Engaged in Mission checklist, if you took part in community service or outreach activities in July, August & September. Thank you!

Budget Requests

Dear Church Members,

Just a brief reminder to all committee heads who have not yet sent in your budget requests for next year to please do so ASAP! With funds this year at a premium, we of the finance committee need to look hard at funds requested from you. There is little or no wiggle room! Please email your requests to me at timandsusan.hill@gmail.com. Thank you.

Tim Hill

Finance Chair

Give the Gift of Life!



Mathews Community Blood Drive
Tuesday, September 13,
1:00 –6:00 pm
Piankatank Ruritan Building
Sponsored by Central UM Women

Must call for an appointment
at 804-725-2485 or go to
redcrossblood.org

Check the website often to see if your time becomes available.

World Communion Sunday is October 2



United Methodist Women

Central United Methodist Women are taking the summer off. We will reconvene on September 12th.

In August we donated \$100 to the Mathews Department of Social Services for their School Supply Project.

On September 13th our CUMW will be helping with the Blood Drive at the Piankatank Ruritan Club.

We continue our monthly \$50 donation to the organizations that are chosen by the Mission and Evangelism Team.

As a reminder, 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.

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

Your support and generosity are greatly appreciated.

Have a wonderful and blessed summer.

Martha Arnold

CUMW President

**Sept/Oct Upper Room
devotionals available
in the Narthex or Fellowship hall**



Church Picnic (8/14)



Choir

Come and bring your voices!

next on Thursday, September 15 at 7:00 pm

Monthly every 3rd Thursday practice,

then sing on the following Sunday.



Remembering Melba Houser,
pictured at a Shrimp dinner in 2010.

(Photo, Louise Witherspoon)

11/15/1942—8/9/2022

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

Melba Houser
Gordon Fincham
Virginia Owens



Update From Henry Fork Service Center

Christian Education News

We have finished a wonderful summer at Henry Fork Center and begun a new school year. We had so much fun over the last few weeks and are looking forward to a fun-filled year ahead.

This summer our theme was "Jesus is Our Anchor." The children looked at stories that show how connected we are to Jesus. Some of the stories included Jesus Walks on Water, Jesus Calms the Storm, Jesus and Zacchaeus, The Woman at the Well, and Mary Washes Jesus's Feet. The children enjoyed the crafts and games that went along with these stories, and more. They also had a good time with the various academic activities. The students made Elephant Toothpaste, Ice Cream in a Bag, and designed their own flags for their imaginary country. We were able to enjoy trips hiking at local parks and swimming, as well as end of summer celebratory trips to Mill Mountain Zoo and Splash Valley Water Park. We are already looking forward to next summer!

The school year has started with a bang! We have many returning to us, as well as a few new faces. Everyone is enjoying being back in the building and are anxious to see what is in store for them this fall. We will be studying the Old Testament prophets. Stories will include Isaiah, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Hosea, and Zephaniah, to name a few. The staff are working on finding activities and games to go along with these stories.

Thank you to everyone who has given their time and talents to make our program the success it is. We could not do this without you! God's blessings to each and every one of you.

(Taken from the August Newsletter of The Henry Fork Service Center Newsletter)





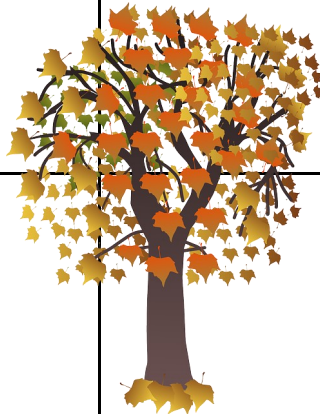
Find out more about the ministries of the Henry Fork Service Center at www.henryforkcenter.org, henryforkcenter@gmail.com, or 540-483-2819.

Our Mission is to share God's love with the children, youth and adults in the Henry Fork community by nurturing and transforming the mind, body, and spirit.



Pictured at top: PreK—1st graders hiking at Waid Park. Middle: 5th—9th graders participate in music during VBS. Bottom: 2nd—4th graders "monkeying" around.



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<h1>September 2022</h1>				1	2	3
				<p>All meeting times & dates are subject to change. If in doubt, contact the committee chair.</p>		
4 Communion Service—9:15 am Sunday school-10:15 am	5 Labor Day	6	7 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	8 Paul Townsend Mem. Class Noon 	9	10
11 Service—9:15 am Sunday school-10:15 am	12 UM Women 10:00 am	13 Blood Drive Piankatank Ruritan Club 1:00 - 6:00pm 	14	15  Choir 7:00 pm	16	17 UM Men 8:00 am
18 Service—9:15 am Sunday school-10:15 am (Choir Sings) Central Chimes & Report Submissions Due	19 NAACP 6:00 pm	20	21 Mission and Evangelism 10:00 am	22 First Day of Fall  Trustees 2:00 pm	23	24 
25 Service—9:15 am Sunday school-10:15 am	26 SPRC 7:00 pm	27 Bible Study 7:00 pm	28 Clean-up Day 9:00 am—Noon Administrative Council 7:00 pm	29 Bible Study 10:00 am	30	

Birthdays

Judy Haynes 1
Cheryl Wheeler 2
June Hudgins 4
Chris Moughon 9
Mildred Stillman 10

Ben Leigh 11
Nancy Goldman 17
Jim Dalgety 24
Randy Miles 30

Anniversaries

Tom & Marilyn Tucker 7
Hal & Patty Hertzler 9
Mark & Brenda Lewis 12
Billy & Shirley Snow 19
John & Sherry Hodges 21
Greg & Leigh Lewis 27