



THE CENTRAL CHIMES

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SEPTEMBER 2018

From the Pastor's Pen

I'd like to share with you a few things on my mind as we enter into fall.

Life. A simple description of life is a beating heart, but we know life is much more. These days I am convinced more than ever that life is a matter of hearing and obeying God. For example ...

Word. Peter, a waterman of the Sea of Galilee, was washing his net one morning. He had fished all night but caught nothing. Jesus said to him, "Put out to the deeper water and lower the net." Peter did, *just because Jesus said so*; and he was astonished at the catch of fish. This is not a mere miracle story; it is an illustration of how life works: Life works at the word of God.

Faith. Faith may be the underrated key to life, since it is by faith that we follow the word of God. Faith is "the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

Spirit. A person who knows all the right things is still an unplugged appliance. We are alive, because of the breath of God flowing through us (Gen. 2:7). The more we are filled of the Spirit, the fuller our life becomes.

Our life in the Spirit needs nurturing. Are you a gardener? A beautiful garden does not happen by itself. So we cultivate our spiritual life through certain disciplines, such as worship, prayer, and serving. They are not matters of duty; they are matters of life.

Community. Committing to a radical, word-hearing, Spirit-led life of faith, we need one another.

I look forward to pursuing life together as we continue our worship, fellowship, prayer, study, and service.

Gratefully,

John



Support Central Mission Projects

Early Bird Breakfast



During Mathews Market Days

Fri. & Sat.- September 7th & 8th

8:00 am -10:00 am

Central Fellowship Hall

Coffee, Juice, Sweet Roll, Egg & Ham Muffin

Eat-in or Take-out

Changes in Worship

Since August Central has been without a music director, and we have not hurried to find a replacement. One of the reasons is that the adult choir, serving faithfully in 11 o'clock service, could use this time to envision its future ministry. A time of change is also a time for opportunities, and we should be open to new ways of praising and worshipping God as the Spirit leads us. I am aware of the blessing that a spiritually sensitive, musically gifted pianist or organist can be, and I pray that God will send the right person in due time for the sake of his church.

Meanwhile, you may see me at the piano during the service, and you may also see the Holy Communion being served by two



laypersons. You may see someone other than the pastor lead the worship throughout the service, especially for the 11:00 service. This may seem unusual, but nothing will change from the meaning of worship and sacrament itself. One of the main teachings about sacraments is that its efficacy does not depend upon the person who administers it. We do have our licensed or ordained clergy consecrate the elements in our church's polity, but anyone who loves Christ can serve the bread and the cup.

Thank you for your patience, and let us welcome anew Jesus Christ as the reason that we gather as a community.

John Choi

**Upper Room
Daily Devotionals
for September-October
are available in the Narthex.**



Mathews County Blood Drive

Piankatank Ruritan Club

Tuesday, September 18 from 1:30 pm - 7:00 pm

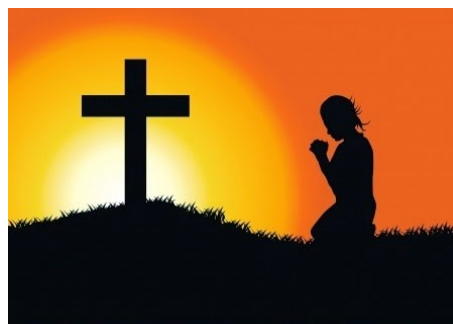
**Please help prevent a summer shortage
and save a life!**

Invitation to Prayer Covenant Group

I once shared the story of a friend/mentor of mine, who was left physically ailing and spiritually dry following the rigors of earning a Ph.D. degree. More troublingly, he kept seeing in himself habits and patterns that he did not like, and he felt less than honest in his preaching and teaching. But when he committed himself to studying prayer and practicing it, he began experiencing genuine changes, changes that brought healing, sense of peace, and discernment.

Would you be interested in learning and growing in the discipline of biblical, Christ-centered, spiritual prayer? We will meet once a month for teaching, discussion, sharing, and accountability. If you feel this is what you need at this time, please get in touch with me, and we will plan our way forward.

John Choi





From Lay Leader

As part of my interest in Disaster Recovery, I joined the *Gloucester Community Emergency Response Team, CERT*, several years ago.

Recently, there has been some interest in organizing a CERT group in Mathews. Last week, Jane Wenner, Gloucester County's public awareness and outreach coordinator, presented an informational program at Mathews Rescue Squad building.

The *Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)* program educated volunteers and disaster preparedness for the hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. This is a volunteer program offered by FEMA. This is good everyday information, in case you have an accident or come upon someone in need; you will know what to do. Just another step in preparing yourself and others in what to do in an emergency. Volunteers can also distribute water or food, work with traffic control, sort clothing and supplies, or be a calming presence in a stressful situation.

Please contemplate this opportunity and see if you are interested either for yourself or for Central Church.

It is always a good thing to be prepared.

Janet Burgess

September 21st, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

at Mathews Chapel UMC

Ages: K-12th Grade

All are Welcome!

Come Join the FUN!!



Mission and Evangelism

The Early Bird Breakfast is on for Market Days. Our donations will be set aside for local outreach. If anyone is so inclined to help with the breakfast Friday and Saturday, 8:00 to 10:00 A.M., we would enjoy your fellowship.

Carol and Donald Paige, Missionaries in Paraguay, are keeping in touch through Facebook and a newsletter. We keep them in our prayers.

Pat Gwaltney, Chairperson



United Methodist Women

The UMW met on Aug 13, 2018. We had a very inspiring presentation on missions given by Janet Burgess. It was very interesting to find out about her experiences in Tangier Island and other places. Thank you, Janet, for your service.

Please mark Sept. 23 on your calendars,. The Bay Bells will be presenting a musical program at the church at 3pm. Come enjoy music and wonderful homemade ice cream.

The annual Birthday lunch will be held after the service on Sept. 30.

Hope everyone will put these dates on the calendar and join us.

Grace Mortimer,
Recording Secretary

Hospitality Committee

To be HOSPITABLE means offering a friendly and generous welcome to guests and strangers. Recently our Church members demonstrated these actions to a grieving family during a reception held in the Church Fellowship Hall following the funeral service for Gene Hudgins. You can't imagine what this means to a family unless you are a part of said family. The generous amount of food sent by church members and friends, the kind words of comfort, sympathy and friendly atmosphere means so much. A special thank-you to Emily Leap for helping with set-up of tables, tablecloths, flowers, dishes etc. as well as serving and clean-up. Thanks also goes to Christine Ulrich for helping to organize and make phone calls for food donations, serve the food and act as hostess for the month of August. Others serving and helping with clean-up were Peggy & Ben Leigh, Dee Bane, Karen Palmer, Steve Leap and David Hudgins. It is wonderful to see our Church come together in such a Christian HOSPITABLE way. Thanks to each of you who contributed in any way. Please continue to pray for all those on our prayer list.

Refreshments were provided between the Early Service and Sunday School in August by the following: Aug. 12th, Dee Bane; Aug. 19, Emily & Steve Leap; Aug. 26, Bob Tabor, Bill Loving and Cindi Hall.



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

Nancy Hudgins
Gene Hudgins
Earl Soles
Dick Phillips
Dannie R. Sutton, Sr.



Refreshment hostess for September will be the Housers and the Cannons on the 9th, Jean Sutton and Dee Bane on the 16th and Grace Mortimer will serve on the 23rd.

Thanks to Christine Ulrich for serving as Hospitality Hostess for the month of August.
Dee Bane will be the Hospitality Host for the month of September.

Please contact Louise Witherspoon by e-mail or myself if anyone needs a special card from the Church.

God Bless Everyone,

Phyllis Hudgins, Chairman
Hospitality/Visitation Committee

Finance Committee

For the last three months our deposits to the general fund have exceeded expenses by about \$2000, but for the year we're still about \$3000 behind. We still have a decent cushion, but we need to make up some ground in the second half of the year. It is not too early to start considering a nice end-of-the-year or annual gift to your church which would be beneficial to both Central and your tax liability!

Of course, any increase in regular giving, no matter how small, would be helpful and greatly appreciated! Thanks for your continued generosity.

Chris Moughon,
Finance Chair

Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday, September 2nd
11:00 am Worship Service
Bring your backpack to be blessed for the new school year.



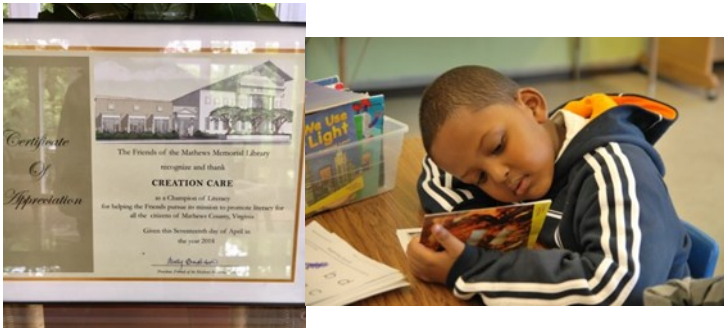
Creation Care

What's New?

1. Ken Lee reminded us that we needed the date for the next Household Chemical and computer recycle collections for Mathews. We found that it was **August 18th**.

Announcements were made and detailed information sheets were created and made available at Central. In addition copies were set out at the library and the book store.

2. Members of Creation care continue to meet and process and repair children's books for youth in Mathews. At our August meeting we succeeded in reaching a total of 710 books that we have processed. Central Church received a certificate for being one of the Champions of Literacy through Creation Care. Latest books were given to Hands Across Mathews and Three Rivers Healthy Families. Dee Bane and Louise Witherspoon have received and distributed the latest books to Mathews' youths.



3. We discussed problems at our Recycle Center having trucks that were totally filled and customers having to leave and then come back. We are researching this problem with our contacts at VPPSA.



4. We discussed China's new *GREEN FENCE* policy. They are rejecting all but the cleanest plastics of only certain varieties. This will result in more plastic ending up in our landfills unless U.S. companies increase their abilities to recycle and reuse our own plastics.

5. We will be presenting Central's Recycle Program to Thomas Hunter Middle School students again this year as well as the Mathews Boys and Girls Club. In September we will coordinate schedules.

Next Meeting Wed. Sept. 19th at 1:30 at the Cannons.

Michael Cannon,
Creation Care Team

*Spaghetti Dinner
to Benefit CHKD
Friday, September 21*

5:00 - 7:30 pm

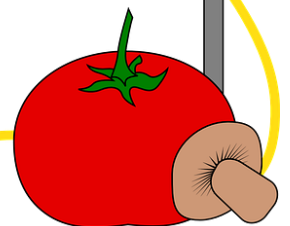
Central UMC

Sponsored by:
Chesapeake Bay Circle of the King's
Daughters and Sons

Donations: \$10 Adult
\$6 Children 8 and under

For tickets:
Betty Stewart
Mary Marshall
Marcia Fry

pixabay.com



Knitting Display for Peninsula Cancer Institute & 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 9th. See the September 9th 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.



Many Thanks,
Anne South

Generous contributions have made possible:

48 crayon boxes	48 coloring books
48 boxes of 24 crayons	108 blankets
7 Taco Bell toy puppies	3 Shawls
227 hats (11 were donated to family & friends)	

Contributors:

Kitty Arnold	Peggy Leigh
Martha Arnold	Mildred Lockwood
Dee Bane	Jane Maney
Janet Bowman	Mary Marshall
Michael Cannon	Mathews Baptist Church
Central UM Men	Elaine Mitchem
Joe Cromwell	Diana More
Cheryl Dale	Grace Mortimer
Louise Owens Diggs	Judy Moughon
Herb Fowler	Karen Palmer
Patty Hertzler	Paul Townsend
	Memorial Class
Debbie Lambert	Anne South
Maymie Lambert	Jean Sutton

September 2018

Central's Annual Church Picnic



Photos by
Louise
Witherspoon

Greeters/Ushers for September

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

**ALL COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS
2019 BUDGET REQUESTS
ARE DUE BY
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15
to Chris Moughon,
Finance Committee Chairman**



**School Supply Drive
for Charterhouse Schools**

UMFS are receiving school supply gifts for its charter schools.

See www.umfs.org/volunteer for the list of supplies needed and how you can shop online.



**Ice Cream Social
and
BayBells Concert**

Sunday, Sept. 23rd

3:00 pm

To benefit the
Mattaponi Healing
Eagle Clinic

Sponsored by
Central UM Women

Image source: cliparthut.com

Administrative Council

Because of no urgent business in August, we didn't have a formal meeting this month. However with September around the corner, we must get ready for our annual Charge Conference in November. Each Committee Chair is to turn in their budget requests by September 15th as well as have their necessary reports ready for said conference.

As we look forward to the new year ahead and with the nominating committee beginning to fill offices for the new year; it is my sincere hope that all of you, if asked to fill a key church position, will keep an open mind and prayerful heart. My thanks to all who took part in making everything run so smoothly this past year.

As always if you have any suggestions that could make our church or worship time better, we would welcome your input. Just contact any member of the Administrative Council.

I feel compelled to again give special thanks to our Lord for sending us our Pastor, Rev. John Choi. Not only does he give us a great message each Sunday, but he sings, plays the Guitar and piano, and if that isn't enough when we had a vacancy and needed a musical director--you guessed it --our Pastor volunteered to do the job. Now he even plays the organ as well.




We are truly blessed and enjoy your many God given talents.

Bobby Hudgins,
Chairman, Administrative Council



**2018 Charge Conference
Thursday, November 29th, 7:00 pm
Hosted by Salem UMC**

1099 Salem Church Rd, Diggs VA

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
September 2018						1
2 Blessing of the Backpacks	3 Labor Day Prayer Time 8:00 am	4 First Day of School 	5 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am - 1:00 pm	6 Adult Choir Practice 7:15 pm	7 UMW Early Bird Breakfast 8:00 - 10:00 am	8 UMW Early Bird Breakfast 8:00 - 10:00 am
9 Knitting Display for CHKD & PCI Cancer Patients	10 Prayer Time 8:00 am UM Women 10:00 am	11	12 Finance 7:00 pm	13 Bay Quilters 9:00 am Nomination 2:30 pm Paul Townsend class 6:00 pm Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	14	15
16 Central Chimes Submissions Due	17 Prayer Time 8:00 am Trustees 7:00 pm	18 Blood Drive Piantatank Ruritan Club 1:30 - 7:00pm 	19 Mission & Evangelism 10:00 am Creation Care at the Cannons 1:30 pm	20 CB Circle of CHKD Dinner Set up 9:00am - 4:00pm Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	21 CB Circle of CHKD Dinner 5:00 - 7:30 pm FINS Mathew Chapel UMC 6:30-9pm	22
23 First Day of Fall  District Conference 3:00 pm Bay Bells at Central 3:00 pm	24 Prayer Time 8:00 am	25	26 Administrative Council 7:00 pm	27 Children's Choir 6:30 pm Youth Choir 6:45 pm Adult Choir 7:15 pm	28	29
30 5th Sunday Joint Service	Sunday School 9:00 am Service of Word 10:00 am <i>Birthday Luncheon following service</i> <i>Song Service at Riverside Conv. Ct., 2:15 pm</i>					

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