



# THE CENTRAL CHIMES

P.O. Box 297 ♦ 121 Church Street ♦ Mathews, VA 23109  
Office: (804) 725-2832 ♦ Parsonage: (804) 725-3332  
Pastor Rebecca Rumburg ♦ Pastor's E-mail: rebeccarumburg@vaumc.org

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## Pastor's Ponderings

Recently, I found myself sitting on a dock waiting for a fish to take a bite on the line. There is so much to look at and take in while waiting. In this instance, I saw an entire school of fish traveling together. They were looking purposeful in their travels just beneath the water's surface.

That got me thinking about how we as believers in Christ are traveling this Christian journey together. I wondered if we are clear about our ultimate purpose? Our ultimate purpose is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world! It's a huge world we live and move and find our being in as Christians. We can wonder aimlessly, grasping onto what seems to be the popular trend at any given moment or we can travel with purpose. Yes, even in those times when waiting seems to be all we are seemingly doing.

Another thing I noticed was that those fish quickly scattered when a splash was heard in the water! Their journey was temporarily interrupted and fear took over! Do we act in similar fashion when we are startled or do we keep on this journey together, trusting in the faithfulness and provisions of God, our Heavenly Father? It's worth pondering!

Praying For You,  
*Pastor Rebecca*



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

Find us on:  
**facebook**

[www.facebook.com/CentralUMCMathews](http://www.facebook.com/CentralUMCMathews)

### Hospitality Fellowship after the service on September 8

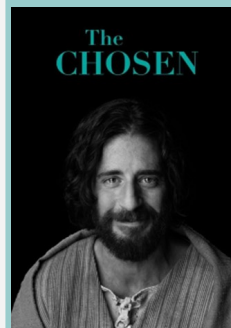
Visit with one another  
in the fellowship hall with light snacks  
immediately following the service.

All are invited!

Many thanks to the Hospitality  
Committee  
for this special time!



### Dinner and A Show September 15, 5:00 pm at Central



Come and watch episodes  
of *The Chosen*,  
preceded by a Hotdog dinner

-sponsored by the  
Mission & Evangelism Team  
All are welcome!

## UM Women Plan Birthday Lunch

It seems like the summer has just flown by and here we are entering September. Our focus will change from sun, beaches, vacations and cook-outs to school, leaf changes, cool air, jeans and sweaters. Just when we are weary of the heat and humidity, God brings us the refreshing gift of fall with all it's amazing beauty. One thing we can be sure of in life, it will be full of changes, just as the seasons change. Thank goodness God is there to lead us and help us find gifts through change.

August was another busy month for us. We gave out old fashioned hand fans to the congregation to help with the heat of August.

We made donations to the Central UMC Scholarship fund as well as the YMCA Bright Beginnings Backpack Program. We also gave donations to Mathews Elementary and Thomas Hunter Middle School for school supplies.

Several members brought lunch and had a wonderful visit with Jean Sutton on her birthday. Since she can no longer come to church, it was so nice to bring a little church to her. She is an amazing woman.

The collection of knitted blankets, hats and crayon boxes knitted by Anne South was displayed on Sunday. What a special contribution to the children who are at the Children's Hospital of King's Daughters. We are exploring several options to ensure her legacy continues for many years to come.



We will be hosting our Annual Birthday Luncheon on October 13th at 11:30 right after Sunday School. Put it on your calendars! There will be food!

As we enter the next season, there is so much to be thankful for. Our Church continues to stand tall and strong full of members who are kind, warm, welcoming and giving. What a joy to spend Sunday surrounded by the Holy Spirit that is alive and well within Central United Methodist Church.

*Nancy Goldman*  
CUMW President

## Love Like Jesus



Each Monday morning the Virginia United Methodist Foundation (VAUMF) sends an uplifting message to followers of the VAUMC. It is called the "Monday Morning Start-Up". This one is entitled Treat Others with Compassion, Love and Dignity. I wanted to share it with you.

". . . Jesus showed us how to love the marginalized. The synagogue leaders respected the Sabbath law and never thought about the needs of the less fortunate. Luke 13:14 tells us that when Jesus saw an ill woman at the Temple, He was moved with compassion. Jesus looked beyond the law and saw this woman as one of God's creative creatures in need of help. Jesus then "put His hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God." (v. 13)

The leader of the synagogue was upset by this because it was the Sabbath. Jesus, who is the Lord of the Sabbath (Luke 6:5), chose to heal this woman who struggled with pain and humiliation for nearly two decades. Now she was pain-free.

Have you ever experienced rejection or were made to feel inadequate because you didn't measure up to someone's expectations? May you never be like the synagogue leader who thought more about rules than the people placed in front of him. May we treat others with dignity and respect whether they look like us or not. Let us follow Jesus' example and treat others with compassion, love and dignity.

Prayer – Jesus thank you for the love you have for each of us. Thank you for your infinite love and incredible compassion for all humans, including those who may have a disease or other difficulties. Amen.

Luke 13:13 – "He put His hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God."

*By the Rev. Tommy Herndon*

Rev. Herndon is retiring from the Virginia United Methodist Foundation. His wisdom and insightful articles will be missed by all who have followed him including me.

*Dee Bane*

Administrative Council Chair

## Special Thanks

I was planning to write an article around the end of the year to thank our Financial Secretary, Marcia Fry, for her service to our church. She was planning to retire from the position that she has held for over eight years at that time, but due to her recent health scare, she thought it best to step down now. Therefore, I want to take the opportunity to thank her now.

Marcia has been the most faithful servant to Central that I can imagine. You can count on one hand the number of Sundays that she's missed in that period. She has been responsible for lining up counters and making sure that the offering is counted and deposited accurately every week. She makes sure that thank-you notes are sent out whenever a donation is made in memory of someone. She sends out the year-end donation report to each member for our taxes. These aren't all of her duties, but they are the biggest. I think it's safe to say that Marcia puts in more time in service to Central than anybody outside the paid staff.

I know that all of you join me in wishing Marcia a speedy and full recovery. And the next time you see her, take a moment to thank her for all she has done for us and for Central United Methodist.

Blessings,

*Chris Moughon*  
Finance Chair



### ATTENTION!!!

**ALL COMMITTEE CHAIR PERSONS  
should have their  
2024 BUDGET REQUESTS  
to Chris Moughon,  
Finance Committee Chairman,  
no later than SEPTEMBER 30.  
THANK YOU!**

## Christmas in July Success

At our August meeting, we were pleased to welcome John Lee Callis as a new member to our committee. We are so happy you've joined us! If you would also like to join our committee, please let one of us know.

We would like to thank everyone who helped to make our Christmas in July program such a huge success. In addition to all the physical gifts, you also donated \$275.00 for the Social Services Christmas Fund. A check for that amount will be presented on September 4 to Bernie LaCasse who heads the program. The other gifts will be sent to Social Services once they have acquired the new location to house the gifts.



We have been granted Trustee approval for our long-awaited Serenity Garden. After the tilling has been completed we will begin working on it in earnest. We will let you know of that date if you would like to help in the garden's creation.

The committee voted to make September's Mission Focus Meals on Wheels. We will send our choice to the Administrative Council for their approval. Our business focus will be the Sentara Physical Therapy group.



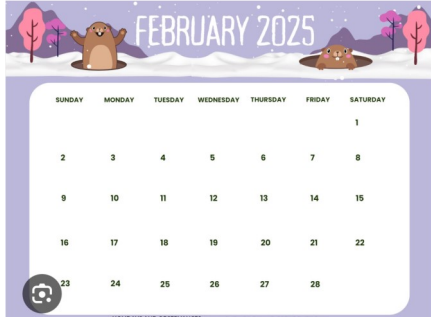
After a summer hiatus, we are pleased to announce that our showing of The Chosen episodes will commence on September 15th, preceded by a free hot dog dinner! What could be better-free dinner and a

movie! We hope to see you on the 15th at 5:00.

We recently implemented our Second Mile project. Do you remember when Jesus said, "If anyone forces you to go one mile with them, go with them two"? We see this program as our opportunity to go that second mile and spread His love for people in extenuating circumstances. If a meal, or a gift card for gas could help ease the situation, or if a ride to a doctor's appointment is needed, please let us know. We'd love to help.

Continued on page 4

We're excited to begin planning another new project. What do a mason jar, a February 2025 calendar, hunger, and our church have in common? We'll let you know soon!



We are going to ask Carolyn Rowe, the church treasurer, for a monthly total of the amount given toward each Mission Focus for 2024. We will publish the information in the Chimes in January so that you can know how your goodness benefitted others.

*Linda Dalgety*  
Mission & Evangelism Chair

### Ladies Birthday Lunch Group

The ladies birthday group meets the 3rd Thursday of each month to celebrate those of us having a birthday that month. If you would like to join us (even just occasionally), let me know and I will add you to our email list.



Everyone is welcome for this very casual event.

*Susan Hill*

timandsusan.hill@gmail.com

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

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Joyce Downs        | Mary Jean Johnson     |
| David Baker        | Michelle Morgan       |
| Douglas Hudgins    | Steve Harlow          |
| Steve Higginbotham | Shirley Hudgins Pauls |
| Jess Lockabee      | Brenda Baker          |



## September Mission Focus: Meals on Wheels

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



Bay Aging's Meals on Wheels program accomplishes much more than providing sustenance to homebound seniors. Meals on Wheels volunteers are a lifeline for seniors, provide friendship and safety checks for the people they serve.

Mathews County Meals on Wheels program serves about 135 eligible persons at no cost to them. Volunteers deliver a hot nutritional meal Monday – Friday to the Homebound frail and seniors here in the county.

Laura Matthews, Mathews Meals on Wheels Coordinator and Mathews Active Lifestyle Center Mgr. in Mathews, said, "We are thankful to Mathews County Public Schools for the incredible, home-cooked meals they prepare for our seniors every week. Unfortunately, without more volunteers it is difficult to reach as many of our neighbors as we need to."

For more information about becoming a Meals on Wheels volunteer, please call or email Laura at (804) 725-7850 or lmatthews@bayaging.org.

If you would like to make a monetary contribution, please make your check payable to Central UMC and write, "Meals on Wheels" on the memo line. *Thank you!*

# Choir

*Come and bring your voices!*

**Join us for choir practices on Thursday, September 5th & 12th at 7:00 pm.**

For questions, please see Grace Mortimer.



## Let's Recycle!

Having a gathering at your home, church or work this summer? Please take the time to make available recycle containers for the most important recycle items:



The following are the only materials that can be 100 percent recycled:

Aluminum cans., #1 & #2 Plastic items,  
Unbroken glass.

### What Is Recycled Aluminum Used For?



Aluminum is a product that can be recycled indefinitely without any reduction in the quality of the materials. There is a high demand for aluminum, so most cans you throw into the recycling are turned into new products in weeks. In fact, 50,000 aluminum cans are produced every minute.

The separated aluminum is taken to a processing plant, and the cans are shredded. These pieces are melted into sheets and made into new cans and aluminum foil. Aluminum is also made into car parts, airplane parts and the bodies of tractor-trailer trucks. Using recycled aluminum to make new cans saves 95% of the energy from mining the resources and producing the cans from ore.

## Recycling Glass:



Glass is another material that can be reused and recycled indefinitely to make new glass products. It is far more energy-efficient and easier to make glass products from recycled glass than raw materials. Glass is 100% recyclable and can be recycled endlessly without losing quality or purity.

## Recycled Plastics:

Plastic can be a little more complicated to recycle than other materials. This complexity is because different plastics are made from different types of resin. Take a look at the bottom of a plastic container, and you will see an identifying number. This number tells you what kind of plastic makes up the container. The different types of plastic cannot be mixed because they melt at different temperatures. (In Mathews, must be #1 or #2 bottle or jug with narrow neck or pouring spout.)

The plastic is sorted by type, and then each type is sent off to a processing facility. At the processing facility, the plastic is fed into a grinder and chopped into plastic flakes. These flakes are melted down into a polymer that manufacturers can use to make new plastic products.



*Michael Cannon,*

Creation Care Team



### ***Give the Gift of Life!***



**Mathews Community Blood Drive**  
**Tuesday, September 10,**  
**12:30 –6:00 pm**  
**Piankatank Ruritan Building**  
Must call for an appointment  
at 804-725-2485 or go to  
[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

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

# Blessings of Hats, Blankets, and Crayon Boxes

All items this year will be donated to children who are cancer patients at Children's Hospital of the Kings Daughters (CHKD) and families associated with Three Rivers Health Families.



## Generous contributions have made possible:

24 crayon boxes with a box of crayons in each one,  
59 hats and 38 blankets



### 2023-2024 Contributors:

Martha Arnold—donated yarn

Nita Carter—donated yarn

Mathews Baptist church—donated yarn, delivered by Janet Bowman

Herb Fowler—\$100 check for yarn

Hal & Patty Hertzler—donated yarn

~Many Thanks, *Anne South*

*"The things you do for yourself, they are gone when you are gone;  
but the things you do for others, become your legacy."*



(photos by Dee Bane)

Special thanks go to Nancy Goldman and Phyllis Hudgins for their artful display of these beautiful handmade items.

As always, Many thanks go to Anne South for her many years of service in this remarkable ministry that blesses countless people.

~Dee Bane

***This special effort needs to be bolstered!  
Anyone wishing to help with this worthy ongoing project by knitting, crocheting,  
making crayon boxes, or contributing to the purchase of material,  
please call Dee Bane at 757-788-9713***

# August Events

## Annual Church Picnic (8/11)

Good food and fellowship!

Photos by Rev. Rebecca



**Michele Thacker sings (8/18)** -below  
(Daughter of David Hudgins)  
photo by Michael Cannon







**Choir (8/18)** photo by Michael Cannon



**Blessing of Hats, Blankets,  
Crayon boxes Display (8/18)**

photo by Michael Cannon



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <b>Communion Service—9:15 am</b> <b>Sunday school- 10:15 am</b>	2 <b>Labor Day</b>	3	4 Central Village Homemakers 9:00 am- 1:00pm	5  Choir 7:00 pm	6	7
8 <b>Service—9:15 am</b> <b>Sunday school- 10:15 am</b>  Hospitality Fellowship after service	9  Finance 8:30 am	10  Blood Drive Piankatank Ruritan Club 12:30 - 6:00pm	11  SPRC 10:00 am	12 Paul Townsend Mem. class Lunch -Noon   Choir 7:00 pm	13	14 LIFT Volunteer Training 9:00 am to 12:00 noon
15 <b>Service—9:15 am</b> <b>Sunday school- 10:15 am</b>  M & E Dinner and a show- <i>The Chosen</i> 5:00 pm	16	17	18 Mission and Evangelism 10:00 am  Administrative Council 7:00 pm	19 Trustees 9:00 am	20	21 UM Men 8:00 am
22 <b>Service—9:15 am</b> <b>Sunday school- 10:15 am</b>  First Day of Fall 	23	24	25	26	27 Chesapeake Circle of CHKD & Sons BBQ dinner 9:00 am—8:00 pm	28
29 <b>Service—9:15 am</b> <b>Sunday school- 10:15 am</b>	30	<h1>September</h1> 				

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

### Birthdays

Judy Haynes	1	Mildred Stillman	10
Cheryl Wheeler	2	Nancy Goldman	17
June Hudgins	4	Jim Dalgety	24
Chris Moughon	9	Randy Miles	30

### Anniversaries

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

**World Communion Sunday is October 6**

