

Central UMC

Has a



for missions

The Jot & Tittle

The newsletter of Central United Methodist Church

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

(Matthew 5:18)

March 6, 2011

Worship Services at Central Dr. Rob Blackburn, Senior Minister

Sunday Worship Services

at 8:45 and 10:55 am

March 9

6:15 pm Ash Wednesday Service

March 13

1st Sunday of Lent

Saturdays at Six Worship

6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

A nursery is provided during all worship services.

Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 am.

Sunday worship is broadcast on 1310 WISE-AM at 9:00 am.

The Sunday worship service is also available live on the church website: www.centralumc.org (you must have high-speed internet and Real Player).

The prior week's service is telecast on Public TV Channel 20 at 11:00 am on Sunday.

Ash Wednesday service March 9

Ash Wednesday developed as a day of penitence to mark the beginning of Lent—the 40 days of preparation for the Easter celebrations. Historically, a mixture of ashes and oil is placed on the forehead as a symbol of penitence.

The Christian seasons of Lent and Easter help focus us for the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. While Lent is often thought of as a time for “giving up” something, it can better be thought of as a time of taking upon ourselves the intention and receptivity to God’s grace.

The Ash Wednesday service will be held on March 9 at 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary.



Ash Wednesday

Concert 4 Hope is Sunday, March 6

On Sunday, March 6, Central’s Mark Knollman and Tuxedo Junction will present Concert 4 Hope at 4:00 pm at the Diana Wortham Theatre. Special guest is Central’s Christina Maxwell.

Call 828-257-4530 or go to www.dwtheatre.com for tickets—\$50 on main floor and \$25 for upper balcony. Proceeds will benefit the Downtown Welcome Table at the Haywood Street Campus (www.Haywoodstreet.org).

Central has an AED

(Automated External Defibrillator)

The AED is located on the wall near the Reception Desk. Staff have had previous training. Staff and Ushers will have Annual Training. If there are persons who are interested in being trained, contact Maureen Carr Parish Nurse at 253-3316, ext. 320.

Join us March 6, “Something Extra” Sunday

To hear how you can help END homelessness in Asheville

Why aren’t you homeless? Chances are someone’s invested in you along the way. In a new program at Homeward Bound, we have an opportunity to provide that same investment to people who haven’t had it and who’ve ended up homeless as a result. On March 6, we’ll be hearing from Homeward Bound about HOPE to HOME, a program that pairs teams of volunteers from congregations with people who’ve been homeless as they move into housing.

HOPE to HOME is a great opportunity to dig in deeper in loving our homeless neighbors as ourselves! If you’re interested in serving our city through this project, please plan to join us in the Fellowship Hall on March 6 at 10:00 am to learn more about how you can get involved in ending homelessness in Asheville.



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Central Happenings



Congratulations to



Tony and Erin Moreau on the birth of their son, Zachary Hudson Moreau, on February 21. The proud grandparents are Phil and Pat Smith and Nancy Stancil is a very proud great-grandmother!

George Roberts will celebrate his 100th birthday on March 12. If you would like to send a card, his address is 100 Wesley Drive #406, Asheville, NC 28803

March 13 available on Altar Flower calendar

March 13 is available on the Central Flower Calendar if you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion, please call Sherry Glance at sstgglance@gmail.com or call 667-8729. The cost of the flowers is approximately \$65.

Everyone is invited to the Community Lunch on Monday, March 21

There will be a Community Lunch, Monday, March 21, from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm at the Haywood Street Campus. The menu will be : Chili, coleslaw, cornbread, dessert, fruit, and beverages.

Bob Decker from Givens Estate will bring our entertainment. Everyone is invited.

To parents of acolytes:

Please let me know the **dates your child will not be available to be an acolyte during the months of April, May, and June.** Please call me at 253-3316 or at 665-8436 or you can email me at thenry@centralumc.org—by March 15. The new schedule will be sent out the end of March.

— Tammy Henry

Please claim items at Lost and Found by March 21

Central collects lost and found items at the Reception Desk on the third floor. There are a large number of items that have been “found.” Please take a moment and stop by to see if any of the items belong to you.

Any items left on Monday, March 21 will be donated to the Clothes Closet at Haywood Street (or some other charity).



You are invited to join Central's United Methodist Women

Are you new to Central, a long time member, married, unmarried, with or without children, prefer a day or night circle? You do not have to be a member of the United Methodist Church to join us. We also have Associate Members—women who prefer not to be in a circle but want to support us with a monetary donation. Ask you best friend, neighbor or sister to come with you.

We have 10 circles. I will help you find one that is right for you. Our focus is helping women, children and youth in Asheville, the United States, and the world. You will become a member of the largest women's organization in the world. We are 142 years old so you know we're a wonderful way of doing God's work, support each other and make life long friends.

Want more information? Call me 768-8964 or email me at vickiebusby@gmail.com.

—Vickie Busby, Membership Chair.

New Member Class begins Sunday, March 6

The next New Member Class begins Sunday, March 6. The group meets from 10:00 to 10:45 am in the Conference Room (Room 311) near the church office. The classes will be held March 6, 13, 20, and 27. This is a great opportunity to meet the ministers and other newcomers to the church, and to get detailed information on Central's programs, activities, and opportunities for service. We will learn about the history of Methodism, Methodist doctrine, and take a tour of the church building. All are welcome to come learn more about Central. March 27 is New Member Sunday.

2 Contact Suzanne Brown at 253-3316 ext 324 or sbrown@centralumc.org for details.

Would you be interested in a new Singles Sunday School Class?

Central is blessed to have many singles in our church. We are trying to determine if there is an interest in a new Sunday School Class. If you have an interest in attending such a class, please contact Reverend Julie Wilburn Peeler at 989-9659 or complete the form and drop it off at the office or place in the offering plate. Although it is not necessary, it would be helpful if you indicated your age group.

I would be interested in Central's New Singles Class

Name _____

Best contact (address, phone, cell phone) _____

___ under 35 ___ 35-50 ___ 50 and older

Sunday morning shuttle planned at Central Church if there is a need

Have you ever been frustrated because you cannot find a parking spot on Sunday morning? Do you feel uncomfortable walking along the uneven sidewalks to get to church? We have heard your concern and are offering a new opportunity to help you park at church.

How it works: You may park in the Department of Social Services lot (Sears Alley, the lot on the right side of the alley) and the church minivan will pick you up and drop you off at the Sanctuary before the 8:45 worship service, Sunday School, or the 10:55 worship service. At the conclusion of the service, you will be taken back to the lot so you can safely return to your car. We hope this will help with our parking dilemma on Sunday morning.



We hope to start this ministry soon, but we need your help.

- We need 5 people who would be willing to volunteer one Sunday a month to drive the van.
- If you are interested in participating in the shuttle service, please let us know ASAP so we can gauge the need in this new ministry.

If you would like to participate in any way, please call Julie Wilburn Peeler at 989-9659 or Mack Salley at 258-2975 or you may email at jwilburnpeeler@centralumc.org. Thanks for your support and prayers with this new ministry!

2011 budget update

As of February 20, our Central congregation has given \$246,509 to support our ministries and the operating budget. Thank you!

(This is down \$5,433 from the same time last year.)

Foods for ABCCM:

**canned meats, jelly, cooking oil, grits,
hot cereals, pasta and sauce, corn meal**

(ABCCM can break down larger packages if you prefer to buy items in bulk)

Bring food items to large box the Fellowship Hall to help feed the hungry in our area

Jot & Tittle deadlines

March 9 the deadline for the
March 20 issue

March 23 is the deadline for the
April 3 issue

Please mail articles and information to Anne Frick at the church, leave notices in her mail box at the Reception Desk, or email info to her at: africk@centralumc.org. All material is subject to editing.

Music Events at Central

- Saturday, March 5—Asheville Choral Society Spring Concert at 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary. (For tickets, call the Asheville Choral Society at 232-2060 or visit www.ashevillechoralsociety.org)
- Sunday, March 6—Asheville Choral Society Spring Concert at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary. (For tickets, call the Asheville Choral Society at 232-2060 or visit www.ashevillechoralsociety.org)
- Sunday, March 20—The Children’s Choir will present “The Tale of the Three Trees” by Allen Pote and Tom Long. This musical portrays a story of three trees who each dreamed of becoming something great. Come, see, and hear how each of them become God’s instruments, pointing the way to heaven. The performance will be part of both morning worship services.

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wonderful Wednesdays offer a variety of small groups and fellowship

Dinner begins at 5:15 followed programs at 6:00. Please make your dinner reservations no later than Tuesday—or we cannot guarantee enough food. Call 253-3316 to make your dinner reservations. The meal cost is \$7 for an adult and \$4 for children 12 and under, with a \$22 family maximum. A salad bar will be available. Many spiritual growth and fellowship opportunities are available.

Thinking about Sacrifice in the Season of Lent

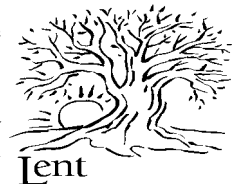
Led by: Margaret Whitt

Ash Wednesday on March 9 is the start of Lent

The season of Lent is a time of preparation for Easter Sunday. For forty days—the length of time that Jesus withdrew into the wilderness—we, too, have the opportunity to embark on a season of soul searching, repentance, and reflection. The story of Easter is, at its heart, a story of sacrifice and new life. Just as Jesus used this time alone to contemplate, to pray, to fast, we can make more meaningful these holy days of the Christian year by conscientiously thinking and talking about the meaning of sacrifice.

We will look at stories of sacrifice from various literary texts and discover what and how sacrifice might mean in our own lives.

March 16 - Shel Silverstein’s 1964 children’s classic *The Giving Tree* is a tale for Lent. It is a love story between a tree (that talks and expresses emotion) and a boy (who is at the center of his own world). The tree gives all that it has to the boy. Is this the kind of sacrifice that God offered for us?



March 23 - We will look at excerpts from two different genres. First, a memoir by Rick Bragg, *All Over but the Shoutin’* and we will look at Carson McCullers’s *Ballad of the Sad Café* (1952). (Handouts will be provided at the first session.)

March 30 – “A Father’s Story,” by Andre Dubus (1936-1999) is a short story that pushes us to think about God’s sacrifice of His son and complicates that action by wondering how it might have been played out if God had a daughter.

Margaret Whitt, University of Denver English Professor Emerita, has a long history of successful teaching of 20th century American literature courses. She has also taught Literary Search for God at Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. This is her third offering for Wonderful Wednesdays at Central.

A Pilgrimage through Scripture

Led by: Susan Griffin

Pilgrimage is a small group Bible study, meeting from 6:00-7:00 pm each Wonderful Wednesday. We read, question, and discuss purposefully each week, moving along as slowly or quickly as the lesson requires. We worked through the first section (chapters 1-8) of the gospel of Mark this fall, and are ready to turn with Jesus towards Jerusalem and the Cross as we continue our study this winter and spring. New members are always welcome!

Congregational Care Concerns

Should you have pastoral care needs or know of someone in the hospital, please contact Rev. Julie Wilburn Peeler at 989-9659 or Maureen Carr, our Parish Nurse, at the church 253-3316.

During Lent, you are invited to participate in a 40 Days Experiment in the Wesleyan Means of Grace

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 9. It is a time of holy reflection and a time when many of us focus our attention on those “disciplines” that will help us to deepen our walk with God. John Wesley called our attention to particular ways we encounter God’s grace and he named them the “Means of Grace.” During the season of Lent, we will intensely explore the “Means of Grace” through daily bible study, prayer, fasting, weekly gathering, and a week-end retreat. Everyone will receive a workbook with a daily devotional and a personal fasting plan.

If you are uncomfortable fasting, please don’t let that stop you from joining the group. There are many ways to fast that don’t include going hungry. Hopefully the group will also take a spiritual retreat during the 40 days of purpose. The group will help design the spiritual retreat to meet their needs.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Julie Wilburn Peeler (989-9659) or Jessica Tripp (253-3316) by Tuesday, March 8, so you can get started with your devotionals and fasting plan.

Join a Central UMC Prayer Group

Mondays at 10:30 in the Central Parlor

Everyone is invited (male and female!) to join our prayer group on Mondays. Your prayer requests are important to us. One of the most fascinating and uplifting things to see is the process of God’s work in response to prayer. Julie receives the prayer requests on Monday and makes a copy for the prayer groups, the ministers, and the staff.

We try to keep in touch with you as God hears the requests through our and your prayers. It is our way to walk with you and God through tough and great times in your life. We invite anyone who is able to attend to come and be with us to see the process of God answering your prayers.

One of the most daunting things about a prayer group is praying in public. Don’t let this keep you away. **You are not required to pray in front of the group.** We just want you to come and be with us and to see how just a few minutes of prayer changes people’s lives.



Thursdays at 10:30 at Givens Estates at the Chapel conference room

We invite the residents of Givens Estates and those in South Asheville to join our prayer group. We begin with a short devotional and share the requests from the worship services and lift the requests in prayer. Again, if you are not comfortable praying in public please don’t let this keep you away. We gather as one body and one voice to lift to God the needs of our congregation

Would you be interested in forming Cancer Support Group at Central?

The diagnosis of Cancer is life changing and overwhelming. Everyone responds to the illness differently and as a church we want to be a place of prayer, support, and encouragement. We would like to begin a Cancer Care group at Central for those individuals and/or families who have been or are affected by Cancer. I would like to form a team of leaders who would be willing to launch this group with me.



Please call Julie Wilburn Peeler at 989-9659 if you are able to help or are interested in participating in a Cancer Care group. We will meet in late March to plan our group.

Let’s Celebrate More Birthdays! Join our Relay for Life Team

We would like to invite members of the church to join us in forming a Central United Methodist Church Relay for Life Team. We will have an organizational meeting on Thursday, March 10, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Cancer fighters, survivors, friends and family of survivors and everyone in between are encouraged to join this group.

We will talk about upcoming Relay for Life events and ways we can support this important group.

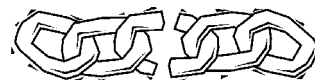
For more information contact Dawn Sanderson at 712-9822. The Asheville Relay for Life website is www.relayforlife.org/asheville.

Prison Ministry

“My Chains Are Gone”

“*My chains are gone, I’ve been set free, My God my Savior has ransomed me,*” is a line in one of the songs we sing on our Kairos weekends and our monthly reunions. Chains and lack of freedom are a reality for those we visit in the Kairos Prison ministry. The prisoners sing it with gusto when Christ’s redeeming love becomes a reality to them. One would think they are hearing an Angelic choir as the natural harmonies blend within those prison walls.

But all too often I find myself thinking about the invisible walls and chains that are still in my own life. There are burdens that I still carry by choice. It is then I am challenged by another song that the prisoners love to sing, “*Lay it down at the feet of Jesus.*”



I find Kairos Prison Ministry to be a liberating experience. What seemed like a chore has become a life fulfilling experience. There are many of you men and women out there who would find real joy in this ministry. Ask John Klees, Alie Klees, Harry Frick or myself about this ministry.

New Life Center Golf Tournament on Thursday, May 12

The 2nd Annual New Life Center golf tournament will be held on Thursday, May 12, at the Municipal Golf Course starting at 8:30 am. The entry fee is \$55 per person which includes lunch. Proceeds will go to building a religious-education building called the New Life Center on the ground of the minimum security prison, Buncombe Correctional Center. Flyers with complete details are available at the Reception Desk. Contact Micki Cabaniss at 277-0998.

Children’s Ministry

Register now for Camp Tekoa June 27- July 1

The Central van will head to Tekoa June 27- July 1 carrying day campers to and from camp. You must register directly with Tekoa at www.camptekoa.org or call (828) 692-6516 if your child is planning to attend camp.

Once you have registered with Tekoa please call Jessica Tripp if you would like your child to ride in the church van. The vans fill up fast and can only carry 20 children. **Call Central to reserve your child’s seat on the van as soon as you register.**

Confirmation Class Retreat is March 25-26

Central’s Confirmation class will join other confirmands from across the southeast for weekend of spiritual growth and fun at Lake Junaluska, March 25-26. Confirmands and mentors are invited to attend the Ash Wednesday service together. This service will be held on March 9 at 6:15 in the Sanctuary.

The Spring Festival is coming and we need CANDY

Join us at Long Meadow Park in The Ramble for another fun-filled event as we celebrate the gift of Easter. This year the Spring Festival will be held on Saturday, April 23 from 11 am – 2:00 pm. We will enjoy a day of Easter egg hunting, outdoor activities, giant inflatables (including a new 21 foot slide!), pictures with the Easter Bunny, and more.

We will sell delicious BBQ plates for \$8 each with the proceeds benefiting our Dominican Mission team’s medical efforts with Haitian refugees and prisoners in the DR. Musical guests include the Sons of Ralph and other musical acts within our congregation.

Invite your friends and neighbors, bring a lawn chair or blanket, and enjoy a day of fun in the sun with great food, music, children’s activities, and more.

We need candy for the Easter Eggs! Please bring your donation by the church office.

Come to “Hometown Nazareth” at Vacation Bible School June 20-24

Our VBS ministry has more than doubled in size over the last two years
and we need LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS for this energized and exciting week!

Join us as we journey to Nazareth and experience a week in the life of Jesus in his childhood home. Visit the Nazareth shops where you’ll make wooden toys, create your own olive oil, build a tzedakah box, make carved ceramic jewelry, design felted-wool soap and more. Visit the childhood home of Jesus and hear Mary tell family stories of Jesus’ birth, miracles and growing ministry.

To volunteer your time to this ministry please contact Jessica Tripp. Volunteers are needed for: craft workshops, drama team, recreation, snacks, tribe leaders and shepherds, supply coordinators and set-up crew (works the week before VBS). Please lend a hand to this growing ministry!

Youth Ministry

UMYF—United Methodist Youth Fellowship for grades 7-12

Contact Stephen Brown, Youth Director, at 253-3316, 421-0340 or email Stephen@centralumc.org

Sunday, March 6: **Benefit Concert for Haywood St. 3:00-6:30**

If you don’t read anything else in this article **READ THIS!!** Mark Knollman, father of our very own Chris Knollman, along with the famous Asheville band Tuxedo Junction and our very own Christina Maxwell will be performing at a benefit concert for the Haywood Street Congregation. All of the proceeds will go to help fund this vital ministry here in downtown Asheville. **Everyone who comes to youth that night will be helping make this event run smoothly.** NOTE THE TIME CHANGE!! We will meet at 3 o’clock here at the church and go over to Diana Wortham Theater to volunteer as ushers/greeters and laborers. We should return at 6:30. I need EVERYONE to HELP. **Please call or email me to RSVP as a volunteer.** stephen@centralumc.org Cell (828) 421-0340

Sunday, March 20: **Program on Bullying**

Please join us for this special evening where we welcome some very special guests to come and share with us and lead a discussion on bullying. We are very interested in not just sharing some things with you about the topic but hearing what you have to say about it. We want to know what’s going on in your Schools!! So I need everyone to come out and help us understand you better. You will leave this evening feeling heard, and equipped to deal with some things you deal with everyday.



Saturdays in Ministry

The Youth Group is starting a new program that will give us an opportunity to give a few hours of our time on Saturdays and participates in ministry with organizations here in Asheville. We are calling it **Saturdays in Ministry**. One Saturday a month we will join forces with a local ministry like, The Irene Wortham Center or Eliada Homes. We hope to do an assortment of projects while we are there. These include everything from painting to doing arts and crafts with the Residents. The great part about Saturdays in Ministry is that we don’t have to go and visit these places just one time. We are hoping to return to them often throughout the year! If you would like more information or would like to volunteer to help youth in ministry on Saturdays email Chad Roope roopechad@yahoo.com or Stephen Brown. stephen@centralumc.org (Keep an eye out for the official Date)

Upcoming 2011 Dates

Senior High Missions to Washington D.C. June 19 - 25

Wilderness Trail July 17 - 24

Middle School Missions to North Georgia July 31 – August 5

Outreach

F.I.S.H. (Families In Service to Him) is open for all ages

A big thanks goes out to all those who came on Saturday, February 5, to make cookies, blankets, Valentine's cards and goodie bags for the women and children at the ABCCM Women and Children's Shelter. They were so excited by their Valentine surprise!

Participating in F.I.S.H. is a great way to model Christian service to Central's children and an excellent opportunity to get to know other folks in the family of Central. Here's what's ahead for F.I.S.H.

- March 5: Caring for our adopted section of the Swannanoa River with River Link (wear gloves and outdoor clothing. Bring a water bottle and sun hat).
- April 2: Working in the community garden at The Lord's Acre. This multi-acre garden supplies fresh, organic vegetables to Food for Fairview (wear gloves and outdoor clothing. Bring a water bottle and sun hat).
- May 7: UMAR bowling party! We are taking the residents of the Asheville UMAR homes bowling. UMAR is a Methodist organization that promotes community inclusion, independence and growth for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through residential, employment and cultural enrichment opportunities. This F.I.S.H. is all about creating new friendships and enjoying a time of fellowship!
- June 4: Building a reflection garden. We will work out at the Haw Creek UMAR home planting flowers, creating outdoor art work, and building and painting benches with the residents in this UMAR home. Following our work we will have a picnic and music. If you have carpentry skills or would like to donate supplies or food for this day please let Jessica know.
- July 2: No F.I.S.H. – 4th of July holiday weekend!



F.I.S.H. meets the first Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Central for a devotion and prayer, and then heads out to the service site for a morning of fellowship and service. All ages are welcome. Please let Jessica Tripp know you are planning to come a week prior to the F.I.S.H. date at jtripp@centalumc.org or 253-3316.

Golf Tournament to support Caring for Children

Please mark your calendars and plan to participate in the 2nd Annual Trinity Place and Caring for Children Golf Tournament at Broadmoor Golf Links, Friday, May 20, 2011. \$75 registration includes breakfast, lunch, beverages, prizes galore and great fellowship. Help support this special program initiated by a Central Sunday school class over 35 years ago. For more info call Ham Fuller 231-8838 or email at hamfuller@aol.com.

More Sponsors needed for Isaac Dickson and Asheville High students

This is the second year Central members are sponsoring 24 kindergarten through fifth children at Isaac Dickson and 20 graduating seniors at Asheville High who are going to college. Here is your opportunity to make a difference in providing a positive and caring action of a child living in poverty here in Asheville.

We still have 10 Asheville High students who need sponsors for their dorm room supplies and 5 elementary students who need a sponsor. Call Karen Ballard to learn more at 665-7501 rkbball@bellsouth.net. This is your opportunity to act on your faith and show we are a caring faith community in the center of Asheville.



Parish Nurse / Older Adult Ministry

Coming in the Fall: The Annual Health Fair, Sunday, September 25

How are your blood pressure readings? Come March 13 and see

There will be a blood pressure screening on Sunday, March 13, from 9:30-10:45 am in the Senior Resource Center which is located behind the Reception Desk.

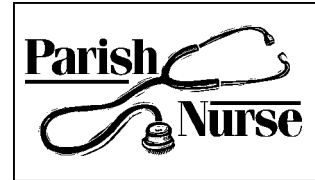
Elevated blood pressure raises your heart disease risk plus can affect your eyes, and kidneys. So Remember:

- Normal blood pressure is less than 120/80
- Pre-Hypertension is 120-139/80-89
- Stage 1 Hypertension is 140-159/90-99
- Stage 2 Hypertension is 160 and higher/100 and higher

There are many ways to Wellness

Here are a few for you to think about and ask yourself—do you:

- Exercise your body, mind, and spirit?
- Laugh often?
- Forgive and forget?
- Appreciate life?
- Give cheerfully?
- Cherish your values?



United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women District Prayer Breakfast is Saturday, March 26

The United Methodist Women District Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, March 26, at Weaverville United Methodist Church with registration beginning at 8:30 am. Debbie Pittman, Deaconess from Brooks Howell, will be our speaker.

The cost is \$8.00 and registration is required for the breakfast. Circle Chairpersons send in the number attending for breakfast and the money to Ginger Haselden by March 8. There is no charge for those wanting to attend only the program.

The **Anna Circle** will meet on Friday, March 4, at 10:00 am at the church. The program will be "Call to Prayer and Self Denial." Please remember your paper goods, canned meat, and cotton fabric for Hospice pillows.

The **Deborah Circle** will meet on Sunday, March 6, at 2:00 pm at the home of Hilda Parker.

The **Ruth Circle** will meet on Monday, March 7, at 10:00 am at the home of Nancy David, 21 Pine Tree Circle. The program will be the last chapter of our workbook.

The **Rebekah Circle** will meet on Tuesday, March 15, at 10:00 am with Annette Clark at Givens Estates. Rev. Brian Combs will be the speaker.

The **Sarah Circle** will meet Tuesday, March 15, at 10:00 am in the Parlor at Central. Come prepared for the Thank Offering and an interesting program by Ethel Raddon and Eunice Sluyter.

The **Lydia Circle** includes young, professional Christian women who are sharing their faith journey through community service, devotion, mission outreach, prayer, and fellowship. We meet once a month for dinner and our meeting, which will have varying content. There are no set meeting dates—we pick the next date at our meeting, so contact Diane Robinson for meeting info if you are interested in becoming acquainted with the Lydia women. You can reach her via email at dianerobinson@gmail.com or by phone 989-8097.

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Contact africk@centralumc.org*

Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers are with Suzanne Carter and her family on the death of her mother, Mabel Nell Latham, on February 10 in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Our sympathy and prayers are with the family and friends of Betty Clowers who died February 20.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Lottie Sapp and her family on the death of her husband, Jeff Sapp, on February 21.

Memorial Gifts

In memory of Elizabeth Johnson for the Foundation Fund by:

K. Lee Wright

In memory of Bill Harpe for the Memorial Garden by:

Nathan and Anne Burkhardt
Gayle Childress

In memory of Kerri O'Rourke by:
Spencer and Patti Elrod

In memory of Kerri O'Rourke for the Building Fund by:

Don and Joan Hodges
Richard Young
Fred and Marcia Ayers

In memory of Lee Sechler by:

Carl Hyatt Bible Class
Bruce and Martha Weaver

How to contact our Central Staff

Church phone (828) 253-3316

Dr. Rob Blackburn, Senior Pastor
[ext.311, send email to: lhollowell@centralumc.org]
Dr. Tony Bell, Executive Pastor (Evangelism and Journey Groups)
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