

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)

May 1, 2011

Worship Services at Central
Dr. Rob Blackburn, Senior Minister

Sunday Worship Services

at 8:45 and 10:55 am

May 8

Confirmation Sunday

May 15

High School Senior Sunday

May 22

New Member Sunday

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 live on 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.

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American Red Cross Blood Drive at Central on Sunday, May 1



The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held Sunday, May 1, from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come and give a gift of life. Refreshments will be available for everyone giving blood. All types of blood are needed.

To schedule your donation time, call Maureen Carr at 253-3316 ext. 320.

Teaching English Around the World from Asheville "Something Extra Sunday" on May 1 meets in Room 205

Join us on Sunday, May 1, at 10:00 am in Room 205 to hear how you can help educate children around the world from your home computer. We will hear from Justin Purnell, CEO and Field Director for "Teach the World Online" (TWOL), a non-profit that directs, teaches, and organizes classrooms around the world.

Justin has traveled to Haiti several times in the last year where the organization teaches over 300 students. TWOL also teaches in Cambodia, Nepal, and Colombia. Justin interviews volunteer teachers from all over the USA, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Chuck Davis, a Central member, is a volunteer teacher for TWOL and teaches a class on Thursdays.

TWOL was started by Justin's father and the two work together to provide quality education to students around the world via video conferencing technology with the support of volunteer teachers. Every volunteer teacher is asked to give 2-3 hours a week to a group of 10-15 students per class. TWOL has created a lesson plan that is emailed to every teacher. Asheville has several volunteer teachers who work with a class in Haiti.



"The experience is amazing," said Justin "to be able to connect to people and children all around the world from your home or office." One time a student from Haiti asked Justin: "How do you say 'my father was killed in the earthquake' in English?" It's this kind of message that reminds you we are not alone.

For more information, visit his website www.teachtheworldonline.org or contact Justin by email: justin@teachtheworldonline.org.



Central Happenings



Congratulations to



Colby Grant-Peele and Allen Peele on the birth of their daughter, Marin Josie Peele, on April 3.

The four generations represented at the baptism of Abigail Israel on April 24. Abigail, her mother (Stacy Brown Israel), her grandmother (Linda Brown Adams), and her great-grandmother (Helen Brown) were all present.

Library announces new hours are 9:45 to 11:00 am on Sunday and requests help

The library needs some new (or formers able to return) volunteers. **The dwindling numbers of volunteers have forced us to make a change in the library schedule.** Beginning the first Sunday in June, the library will only be open from 9:45-11:00 am on Sunday. If you are scheduled to work in June, please note the time change.

If you are interested in serving in the library, please contact Martha Hayes (299-0427) or Trudi Peters (628-1683). Watch the Jot & Tittle and weekly bulletin for summer work days. If you are already serving, please plan on joining us for a couple of hours during these days. We welcome everyone.

Can't find your way around a computer keyboard? There are many opportunities that do not require technology knowledge. Please consider joining us in the library soon.



AARP Driver Safety Course offered on Wednesday, May 4

The AARP Driver Safety Course is a classroom-based refresher course for drivers 50 years old and older. Its purpose is to keep older drivers on the road longer and safer. The nominal fee, \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members, covers the cost of delivering the program, including a very popular 120-page Participant Workbook, which is yours to keep. Clint Smoke will be the instructor.

The new version of the course is just four hours and will be presented at the church on Wednesday, May 4, starting at 10:00 am. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. The course is open to the public.

This course will help you tune-up your driving skills and update your knowledge of the rules of the road; learn about normal age-related physical changes, and how to adjust your driving to allow for these changes; reduce your traffic violations, crashes, and chances for injuries; and drive safer.

After completing the course, you will have a greater appreciation of driving challenges and how you can avoid potential collisions and injuries to yourself and others. Contact Maureen Carr at 253-3316 ext 320 for more information. There is a sign-up sheet at the Reception Desk.



Jot & Tittle deadlines

May 4 the deadline for the
May 15 issue

May 18 is the deadline for the
June 5 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.

Foods for ABCCM:

**Vegetable oil, powdered milk, sugar
Canned meats, pasta sauce, self-rising flour
Cornmeal, grits**

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

Bring food items to large box the Fellowship Hall

2011 budget update

As of April 10 our Central congregation has given \$462,559 to support our ministries and the operating budget. Thank you!

(This is up \$4,183 from the same time last year.)

Saturday SONday School Class will resume in September

The Saturday Sunday School Class that meets at 4:45 pm before the Saturdays at Six service will take a break beginning in May and resume classes after Labor Day.

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 jlwilburnpeeler@centralumc.org. Thanks for your support and prayers with this new ministry!

New Member Class begins Sunday, May 1

The next New Member Class begins Sunday, May 1. 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 May 1, 8, 15, and 22. This is a great opportunity to meet 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.

May 22 will be New Member Sunday.

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

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.

Lenten Group members advance their studies by retreating

Rev. Julie Wilburn Peeler lead a group of worshipers in a 40-day Lenten experiment that included reading the scriptures, discussion, prayer, meditation, and fasting. The class usually met on Wednesday evenings, but recently advanced their studies and understanding by retreating to the beautiful resort home of a generous church member, where they spent time in isolation (no television, no cell phones).

During this weekend session, the teaching continued with group readings and discussion, but equal time was spent alone with God. During half the time together, the group honored a challenge to remain silent, thus allowing all to focus on the real purpose of the weekend gathering and the beauty and solitude of the locale. Members of the group were also committed to a 40-day fasting plan that involved withdrawal from unneeded foods and beverages and abstinence from time-wasting activities, e.g., computer games and television.

The study program is based on a sermon entitled "Means of Grace" by John Wesley wherein he articulated activities by which we may better encounter and understand God. It was a delightful and meaningful journey: All gained much understanding and several lost a little weight.



When you are unable to attend worship....

We want to keep you connected to the worship life of Central United Methodist Church! Bulletins have been sent to those individuals who are unable to attend worship. My hope is that when they are able to view the worship service on T.V. on a week delay, folks will have the bulletin with them so they can follow along. If you would like to receive a bulletin in the mail or email, please call the church at 253-3316.

Would you help with the distribution of Holy Communion?

The pastor, or layperson at the direction of the pastor, may distribute the consecrated bread and cup to sick or homebound persons as soon as feasible following a particular service. I have been distributing communion to the homebound and to anyone who desires to receive the sacrament at their home. **I invite anyone who is willing and able to assist in the distribution of the leftover communion elements.** There is a particular order and the materials available to take the elements to our members. If you are interested, please see Julie.



**** Note **** The elements must be consecrated by an ordained person to be efficacious. Please contact Julie for more information and orientation for this special ministry for our church.

Notice for meeting of Cancer Care team leaders

The leaders for the Cancer Care Ministry will meet at noon on Monday, May 9, at Books and Breadboard in Biltmore Village. Please call Julie Wilburn Peeler if you did not come to the first meeting and want to be part of our leadership team. Thanks for all your support!

Singles and Singles Once Again Sunday School Class begins May 1

The new Singles and Singles Once Again class will begin meeting on Sunday, May 1, during the 10:00 am Sunday School hour in Room 401 (Fourth Floor, next to Branches and Cornerstone Sunday School Classrooms).

The curriculum will be biblically based and the leader will facilitate discussion for the whole class to participate. All singles are invited.

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

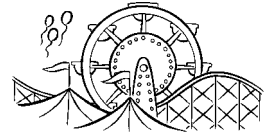
Youth Ministry

UMYF—United Methodist Youth Fellowship for grades 7-12

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

May 7 Carowinds 7:30-5:00 Saturday

There is nothing better to do on a Saturday morning than to drop hundreds of feet from the sky into an inverted twist. Matt Davis and I would like to invite you to join us on this adventure. **RSVP By May 1. Cost to be determined \$25-30 (by the number we get) Scholarships are available.**



May 8 Confirmation Party!! Super Hero Theme 5:00-7:00 Sunday

We would like to welcome all the 6th graders who are joining our Youth group this year. What better way to honor them, than to throw a huge party!! We invite all the new inductees of the youth group to come out and join us for a night of good food, great fun, Super Hero attire and t-shirts. This takes place Sunday, May 8, from 5-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. **Wear your best Super Hero outfit;** there will be a best dressed contest. If all that does not excite you, then guess who is catering our event... MOE'S Burritos!!! We will have lots of group games, awesome music. Hey if you haven't been to youth in a while, come on out and enjoy the feast and festivities.

May 15 Senior Sunday 5:00-7:00 Sunday

This is another special day for our Graduates here at Central. We invite all the graduating seniors not only to join us Sunday morning for the brunch and late service, but we ask that they join us for a special ceremony at Youth on Sunday night. We hope to honor their time spent in service towards the community, the church and the Youth Group.

May 21 Saturdays in Mission (S.I.M.) 9:30-12:30 Saturday

It is finally here. After scheduling conflicts galore, we are finally getting over to Eliada Homes to help in their pasture. Come join us as we volunteer our time on a Saturday to do some good work and help out a local ministry. Meet in the back parking lot at 9:30.

May 29 No Youth In observance of Memorial Day

June 5 Photo Scavenger Hunt Extravaganza 5:00-7:00 Sunday

Outreach

F.I.S.H. (Families in Service to Him) meets Saturday, May 7

- Saturday May 7: We will meet at the church at 9:00 am for a devotional and prayer and then head out to the UMAR house in Haw Creek to partner with the residents to build a reflection garden and have a picnic lunch. We will be making and painting benches as well as other garden art, planting plants and more.
- Saturday, June 4: We will meet at Central at 9:00 am for a devotional and prayer and then head out to The Lord's Acre to work in this organic community garden that benefits Food for Fairview. Bring your gardening gloves, a sun hat and a bottle of water.
- July 2: No F.I.S.H. – 4th of July holiday weekend!

F.I.S.H. meets the first Saturday of each month for a devotion, prayer, fellowship and service. This mission opportunity is open to all ages and is a great way for families to be in missions! Call Jessica Tripp a week prior to each F.I.S.H. day to sign-up.



Prison Ministry

You can help make Kairos Marion Correctional Institution # 6 a success

Fifty-four volunteers from many different denominations in WNC all share the desire to follow Christ's admonition of Matthew 25:36 "I was in prison and you visited me." Eight Central UMC members, including the Kairos advisory leader, are among them. These volunteers have been and are meeting regularly for spiritual and logistical training in order to lead the sixth Kairos weekend at Marion (NC) Correctional Institution (MCI—a close custody institution for 806 adult males). Out of the many applications received from the inmates, 42 participants will be selected for the Kairos MCI #6 weekend, to be held May 19 through May 22.

In order to make this weekend the same success as Kairos #1 thru #5, we need your help again.



- **Pray for the inmates.** Prayer is the foundation of the Christian ministry and therefore the foundation of the Kairos ministry. It is the tradition of the Kairos method to wrap the Weekend Event with prayer, all day and all night long. Visit: <http://3dayol.org/Vigil/GetVigil.phtml?pvid=5120&commid=1474> and select a time slot when you will be praying for these men. The prayer partner names will be shown on "prayer wheels" and the inmate participants stand in awe looking at all those names, knowing that they are lifted up in prayer 24 hours per day during their entire weekend.
- **We need the "Cookie bake" again.** Last year we were over 1,000 dozen cookies short of our goal of 3,400 dozen. Every day during the weekend, the Kairos team plans to hand out—with the love of Christ—a dozen homemade, prayed over, cookies to each of the 764 inmates in their cells and the 42 participants can indulge themselves on a pile of cookies on their table. Central, we really need your help with the cookie bake! For the cookie bake instructions and recipes, visit: <http://mykairos.org/templates/System/details.asp?id=23761&PID=151434> or pick up a copy from Jessica Tripp. Again, the key ingredient to the cookies is prayer.
- **Make a poster of any size,** from 8½ X 11 up to poster board size showing Christ's love. The men will see, perhaps for the first time ever, the Body of Christ through the tangible display of posters. Would your Sunday school class (adult or children) be willing to participate?
- **Buy a participant a meal.** A meal ticket, showing the first name of the sponsor is placed on the placemat (decorated by children from Central and other churches) with their meal. A team of volunteers prepares lunches and dinners in Glenwood Baptist Church's kitchen, our base camp nearby MCI. The average cost of a meal is \$5.00 and a check can be made out to N.C. Kairos and given to Jessica Tripp.
- **Would you like to visit the prison?** Central members (18 years and over) are encouraged to attend the weekend closing and witness how the Holy Spirit works in prison. You would have to be at MCI's gate, Sunday, May 22, at 2:00 pm. Contact John Klees at 56john44@charter.net or call 828-667-0580 for needed security information. Consider this to be your personal invitation to Matthew 25:36 "I was in prison and you came to visit me."

Cookies, posters, placemats, and meal donations should be at Central, by Wednesday, May 18, before 7:00 pm.

Thank you Central for showing Christ's love to those who are physically and spiritually incarcerated. For more information on Kairos visit <http://kairosprisonministry.org>; go to www.centralumc.org website, click on Missions, and scroll down to the link for Kairos cookies; or contact Jessica Tripp jtripp@centralumc.org or John Klees 56john44@charter.net.

Correction for Kairos cookie information

An article in the last issue stated we were baking cooking cookies for 182 inmates, but the correct number is 806 inmates! Please help us reach our goal of 3,400 dozen cookies.



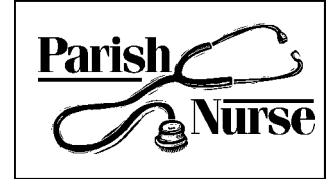
Parish Nurse / Older Adult Ministry

How are your blood pressure readings? Come May 8 and see

There will be a blood pressure screening on Sunday, May 8, 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



United Methodist Women

The **Deborah Circle** will meet on Sunday, May 1, at 2:00 pm at the Snow Hill UMC BEAR (Baby Equipment and Resource) Closet for a program and tour.

The **Ruth Circle** will meet on Monday, May 2, at 11:00 am at the home of Pat Jennings, 21 Robinhood Road for a covered dish luncheon.

The **Martha Circle** will meet on Thursday, May 12, at 6:30 pm. at the home of Ann Jennings. This will be a pot-luck meal and will be our final meeting before our summer break. Please contact Alexandra Holland (280-1470 or alexandra@wncnature.com) for more information.

The **Sarah Circle** will meet on Tuesday, May 17, at 10:00 am in the home of Charlotte Derrough. The program, "The Mystery of Isaiah," will be presented by Denise Lewis, a teaching leader of Bible Study Fellowship.

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.

Upcoming events for United Methodist Women:

- Western North Carolina Conference Spiritual Growth Retreat, June 17-18, at Lake Junaluska with the theme "Peace, Popcorn and Pansies."
- Western North Carolina Conference School of Christian Missions, July 14-17, at Pheiffer University, Misenheimer, NC. The Theme is "All Things Made New."

Persons wanting more information contact Maureen Carr at 253-3316, ext. 320



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Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers are with the family and friends of Margaret Johannsen who died April 1.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Sallie Salley and her family on the death of her step-father, Robert Whiteside, on April 10.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Dick LeDuc and his family on the death of his mother, Ruth LeDuc, on April 13 in Tower Hill, Illinois.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Mark Halstead and his family on the death of his mother, Jean Halstead, on April 14 in Chicago.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Mimi Cole and her family on the death of her sister, Norine Moore, on April 16.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Agnes Roberts and her family on the death of her husband, George Roberts, on April 21.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Robyn M^cNeal and her family on the death of her father, Richard Frankel, on April 22.

Memorial Gifts

In memory of William Collin by:

William and Alice Griffin

In memory of Bill Harpe by:

William and Alice Griffin

Chandler and Sally Warner



PERIODICAL
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
Postmaster: Send address changes to
JOT & TITTLE, 27 Church Street,
Asheville, NC 28801-3303.

*Are you receiving this Jot & Tittle in error? Please let us know.
Contact africk@centralumc.org*

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)

[ext. 308, email: tbell@centralumc.org]

Rev. Julie Wilburn Peeler, Minister of Pastoral Care

[ext. 304, email: jwilburnpeeler@centralumc.org, 989-9659]

Jessica Tripp, Director of Christian Education (Missions)

[ext. 306, email: jtripp@centralumc.org]

Stephen Brown, Director of Youth Ministries

[ext. 305, email: stephen@centralumc.org]

Russell Nelson, Director of Music Ministries (Worship)

[ext. 302, email: rnelson@centralumc.org]

Burt Anderson, Haywood Street Campus Coordinator

Corey Powell, Music Associate/Organist, Director of Handbells

[ext. 303, email: cpowell@centralumc.org]

Suzanne Brown, Director of Brass; Evangelism Assistant

[ext. 324, email: sbrown@centralumc.org]

Clint Weninegar, Worship Leader for Saturdays @ Six service

Tammy Henry, Director, Weekday School

[ext. 318, email: thenry@centralumc.org]

Alan Gibson, Church Administrator

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Hayes Brown, Building Care [email: smoothappeal@gmail.com]

Haywood Street Congregation

Rev. Brian Combs, 246-4250 [email rev.briancombs@gmail.com]

Volunteer Coordinator, Shannon Spencer, 231-4169

[email: sspencer@uccasheville.org]