

# 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)

April 4, 2010

**Worship Services at Central  
Dr. Rob Blackburn, Senior Minister**

### Sunday Worship Services

at 8:45 and 10:55 am

**April 4**

Easter Sunday

**April 25**

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 also available live on the church website: [www.centralumc.org](http://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.

## Bring flowers for the cross on Easter

One of the traditions at Central is to cover the cross in the Sanctuary with flowers on Easter morning. What better way to express the joy of the resurrection and new life in Christ than to see the barren cross now covered with brightly colored fresh flowers!



Members of all ages take their flowers down to the front and put them on the cross before being seated for the service.

## Spring Festival Sunday, April 25 from 4:00—7:00 pm Egg hunt, music, food—an event for ALL ages

Join your Central family Sunday, April 25, at Longmeadow Park in The Ramble for an afternoon of festival fun! The excitement begins at 4:00 with games, huge inflatables, and music by Allen Hayes and The Sons of Ralph.

A Post-Easter Egg Hunt will start at 4:30 with over 3,000 eggs, along with other prizes, hidden in three different hunting areas—one for toddlers – 3 year olds; another for 4-6 year olds; and another for 7 years old and up.

Dinner is served at 5:00 with BBQ and hot-dog plates for \$8 each. Lemonade and tea provided.

All proceeds benefit our summer medical work and other relief work for Haiti with Crossroads in the Dominican. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy some great music and fellowship as you dine and take in the beautiful spring evening.



## Easter candy and plastic eggs are needed

We are currently collecting small, individually wrapped candies and plastic eggs for our Spring Festival and Easter Egg Hunt at Longmeadow Park in the Ramble. Please bring your donation by the church office as soon as possible so we will have time to do the stuffing. We will be stuffing over 3,000 eggs and need lots of goodies!

## Easter offering to benefit Haywood Street Congregation (formerly Asheville Mission Church)

Each Easter we collect a special offering to benefit local mission efforts here in Asheville. Your generosity brings new life and the opportunity for change to so many in our community. This year your offering will benefit the Haywood Street Congregation which provides worship services, lunch, and a clothing ministry on Wednesdays, and more planned for the future.



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**The Church Offices will be closed on Monday, April 5**

## Central Happenings



**Congratulations to**



David and Amelia Hodges on the birth of their son, David Stewart Hodges, Jr., on March 18.

### Sympathy

Our sympathy and prayers are with Leigh Conaway on the death of her grandfather, Tom Conaway, on March 8 in St. Marys, West Virginia

Our sympathy and prayers are with Julie Shelby on the death of her father, Roy Shelby, on March 20 in Charlotte.

### Thank you from the Martha Circle

Martha Circle would like to say a big "Thank You!" to everyone who helped support our Valentine's missions activities. We raised \$1,400 for Eliada Homes through the bake sale and almost \$300 for the Downtown Welcome Table through the soup cookbook sale.

## Widening the Circle



The first snow of the 2009 - 2010 season was an unexpected blanket of whiteness. The snow-covered firs and pines were as beautiful as a scene from a movie.

The second snow did not catch us off guard to the same degree. And again, the beauty of all the white against the subdued colors of winter was scenic. Do you remember the third, fourth, and fifth times? Cars got dirty, there was salt all over the roads, and you could not leave home without bundling up from head to toe. Just how many times did it snow? The last snowfall we had was totally unexpected. In fact, it was predicted to be a non-event for us, reeking havoc on our more southern neighbors instead. WRONG! The city of Asheville was again blanketed in white and inches and inches of huge wet snowflakes. It seemed as if winter had us in its grip where it would forever hold us.

Something special happened as the snow melted—the green tips of bulbs began to poke out in flower beds, Lenten Roses prepared for their yearly blooming, a robin appeared in the once snow-covered bush. Although the cover of snow seemed to stop any signs of growth, all along, Mother Nature was doing her preparations, making sure Spring does come, just as it always does.

The many snows of the previous months have melted away as the beauty of Spring slowly takes center stage. Under that blanket of unrelenting snow, a wonderful Spring was revving up!

Our "Widening the Circle" campaign is not unlike our snow filled winter months. The idea of building renovations and the addition of a Family Life Center has been laid out like a blanket. It is time to pull up the blanket and see all the work that has been occurring.

As you will remember, our plans have been refined to minimize costs and maximize the "user friendliness" of our campus. The ministries available for our congregation are numerous. Look at the church calendar to see all the ways Central members are making an impact on the community. Somebody recently commented how proud they were of Central United Methodist Church for NOT abandoning the downtown area, for knowing that we, as a church, can impact the lives of all those living in and passing through our downtown location. The bulbs have been planted, and by the grace of God and the faith of this congregation, they are going to bloom!

It has been a long winter this year. We all look forward to this year's Spring and the growth that will come as we branch out and work as "the community for Christ in the center of the city."

— Amy Gaston

IT IS CENTRAL FOR US ALL!

*A Community for Christ in the Center of the City*

## **Growing In Faith class will host Easter reception on April 4**

The Growing In Faith Sunday School class will host an Easter reception for our church family and guests from 9:30 to 11:00 am on Easter Sunday in the church parlor.

Everyone at Central is invited to come for special treats, coffee, tea, juice, and fellowship.

## **Mark your calendar for pancake breakfast April 18**

Our Central UMC Scouting program—Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Venture Crew—will be preparing pancakes and sausages, with juice and coffee, from 8:00 to 11:00 am on Sunday, April 18, in the Fellowship Hall.

All proceeds will be used to purchase urgently needed equipment for our Scouting programs and to support our local Red Cross as part of the 2010 Hero's Campaign. Any donations will be appreciated.



## **Next Library Workday is Wednesday, April 14**

Thanks to all who are helping in the library. Due to Easter celebrations and school breaks, there will not be a Saturday Workday in the library during April. The Wednesday afternoon Workday will be on April 14 from 2:00-5:00. All interested persons are invited to come and help.

## **Attention: Women 60+ A new Journey Group is forming for you**

Bi-monthly meetings (during school year) will be held in member homes the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 2:00 to 3:30 pm. This is a grand way to enrich our lives and others through friendship, study, and service. Please call Kitty McKeithen (828-257-4018) to sign on or to ask questions. Hope to see you April 13 as we begin our "Journey"!

### **Jot & Tittle deadlines**

**April 7** is the deadline for the  
April 18 issue

**April 21** is the deadline for the  
May 2 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: [africk@centralumc.org](mailto:africk@centralumc.org). All material is subject to editing.

### **Foods for ABCCM:**

**sugar, dry milk, grits  
spaghetti and sauce, hot and cold cereal**

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

### **2010 budget update**

As of March 21, our Central congregation has given \$359,410 toward the 2010 financial goal of \$1,727,158 needed to support our ministries and the operating budget. Thank you!

## **Learning and Growing**

### **Visit the New Morning Sunday School Class to experience John 3:16**

"John 3:16"—we smile when we see it on signs at football games. We cherish it as one of the most well-known verses in the Bible. The apostle who penned those now familiar words called himself "the one whom Jesus loved."

Have you ever thought of yourself as "the one whom Jesus loves"? Do you long to have that tender close relationship with your Lord and Savior? Examining God from the loving viewpoint of Jesus' beloved disciple may open your eyes to the intimate relationship you desire. Come with us back to the first century. Answer the door to find Nicodemus outside. Sit awhile with a shamed woman by a well. Gasp in amazement as you see Jesus transfigured into a figure whiter than white.

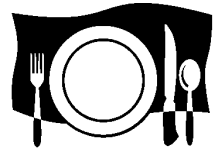
Explore the Gospel of John through May 2 with the New Morning Class and Leigh Young on Sunday morning at 9:45 am in Room 223 (the room inside the Boy Scout Room under the Sanctuary). Call Leigh Young with questions, 691-0586.

# Haywood Street Happenings

## All are invited to the Welcome Table on Wednesdays

Our numbers are growing at the Downtown Welcome Table, but we still have room for you to join us. We now serve lunch every Wednesday from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at Haywood Street Congregation. At 12:30 you can attend the Worship Service upstairs or stay in Haynes Hall and enjoy the company. We guarantee that you will meet new friends while eating very good food.

Reverend Combs often says that “good things happen when you rub elbows with another person while you are eating.” He is right! The older African American man found himself sitting with two of the Downtown Welcome Table volunteers. The older man was intent on eating his meal. Although the women were keeping the conversation going (no surprise here!), the man was not eagerly participating. UNTIL one of the women asked the older man how long he had been in Asheville. The man started talking, became engaged in the conversation, smiled and laughed as the woman drew him out just by her friendly personality. Soon the two were discussing mutual friends in the area. What seemed like two very different lives with no common ground, changed as the two focused on the common threads of life—those threads that join us together as the children of God.



## You or your group can help make the Welcome Table happen

Lunch is served every Wednesday at Haywood Street from 11:30 - 1:00. A group of volunteers comes on Tuesday nights to do food prep work and to set the tables. On Wednesday mornings, volunteers begin at 9:00 am putting final touches on the day's meal. We are done with clean up by 1:30.

There are many ways you or your group can volunteer. You can be a regular volunteer or you can help out with special requests. For example, we have needs for table decor and personal hygiene bags. We also have a “wish list” that we would be happy to share with your group. Please contact Shelly Arnold (299-8528, shellyarnold99@gmail.com) Amy Gaston (253-5188, amy@jggaston.com) and we will give you further information.

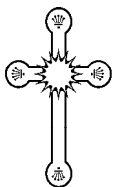
Please come for lunch one Wednesday. The best way to experience what is happening at the Haywood Street Congregation is to come see for yourself!

## We still want your crosses!

The Haywood Street Congregation is decorating a wall in Haynes Hall with crosses. Our initial collection contains a wooden UMC flame cross, a made from Palm Sunday palms cross, and the jewel—a hanging cross that lights up (previously used at Haywood Street). It's worth the trip to Haywood Street just to come see that one!

We look forward to receiving a cross from the Bolivia Mission team soon. Bring us your cross and we will hang it up! We want crosses of every description—wooden, metal, large, small, perfectly made, imperfectly made, and even those that light up!

Contact Reverend Combs, Shelly Arnold (shellyarnold99@gmail.com or 299-8528), or Amy Gaston (amy@jggaston.com or 253-5188) if you have a donation or want to become involved in the ministry.



## Sunday night dinner and worship in the works for Haywood Street

A Sunday night dinner and worship service is on the drawing table with a summer kick-off planned. Our dream is to have various youth groups from the district preparing and serving the Sunday meal. We will still need help in the kitchen from adults to make sure things run smoothly. The worship service will be an hour version of the Wednesday service already in place. We have many ways you can volunteer. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Brian Combs at rev.briancombs@gmail.com.

# Congregational Care Concerns

*Rev. Julie Wilburn Peeler is Central's Minister of Pastoral Care.*

*She is interested in getting to know the members of Central. The best way to get to know you is to visit. Please give her a call at 989-9659 or 253-3316 if you would like to schedule a time to talk.*

## Stephen Ministry News

*"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2*

Stephen Ministers are ready to provide the emotional and spiritual care we need when faced with a crisis or difficulty. If you have experienced any of the following (other difficulties), please contact Rev. Julie Wilburn Peeler. A Stephen Minister could be a blessing in your situation and provide a caring friend to be with you in your troubles.

- Loss of loved one • Hospitalization • Divorce or separation • Loneliness or discouragement
- Aging • Birth, adoption, miscarriage, or infertility • A terminal illness
- Unemployment or a job crisis
- Incarceration A chronic illness • Relocation • Recovery after an accident or disaster

We all experience challenges in life—times when we could benefit from the support of a caring Christian friend. **If you would like to be that caring friend for another, consider becoming a Stephen Minister.** A Stephen Minister is ...



- A child of God who walks beside a person who is hurting
- A congregation member with gifts for care giving who was carefully selected to serve in this role
- A lay person who has received 50 hours of training in providing emotional and spiritual care
- A caring, Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports, and encourages
- Someone who will “be there” for his or her care receiver; meeting faithfully for about an hour a week, for as long as there is a need

**Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry: The identity of those receiving care and what takes place in each caring relationship remain private.**

Every person in our congregation plays an important role in this ministry. We ask that you pray for this ministry and for God to bring hope and healing to hurting people through Stephen Ministry. You are important to this ministry when you accept care from a Stephen Minister during your time of need. God doesn't expect you to bear your burdens alone. You can tell a friend, neighbor, coworker, or relative who is hurting about our Stephen Ministry. If you are a really good listener and a compassionate person, prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister.

**If you are interested in any facet of Stephen Ministry, please contact Rev. Julie Wilburn Peeler at 253-3316 ext. 304 or [jwilburnpeeler@centralumc.org](mailto:jwilburnpeeler@centralumc.org)**

## Extended Family (a.k.a. “homebound”) News

### When you are Unable to Attend Worship....

Thank you to all our volunteers who visit those who are unable to attend worship. Thank you also to our new members who have offered to visit and help the church stay connected to our homebound members. You help Central live out our mission to be community for Christ. Help us widen the circle of Central. You may know more members who are unable to come to church and would like to be seen by a visitor and Julie Wilburn Peeler. Please call the church office and speak with Julie. We care about our faith family and we do not want anyone to feel forgotten.



### Other Ways to Feel Connected....

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 let Julie know at 828-253-3316 or [jwilburnpeeler@centralumc.org](mailto:jwilburnpeeler@centralumc.org).

## Worship Opportunities

### Lenten Sermon Series

Throughout the season of Lent and into Easter the sermons preached at all the worship services will be focused around themes appropriate for the season aiding us in our preparation and worship of God.

Sundays in Lent/Easter	Theme
Easter Sunday—April 4	God's Answer: The Resurrection of Christ
Easter Season Sunday—April 11	Living a Different Way
Easter Season Sunday—April 18	Church: Why Bother?

## Children's Ministry

### Children meet together for Sunday School Outreach project on Easter morning

On Easter Sunday, April 4, our children's Sunday school classes (Kindergarten – 5th grade) will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:45 for a special Easter celebration and outreach project. We will have some fun, Easter refreshments, an Easter message, and will then create Easter baskets for the women and children at ABCCM's women and children's shelter.

Please bring chocolate bunnies, candy, card and board games, jump ropes, Frisbees, and other outdoor play items and toiletry items for the baskets.



### Vacation Bible School Staff Meeting on Wednesday, April 14, at 6:00 pm

All VBS volunteers and anyone interested in helping with VBS are asked to attend. We will meet in room 410 for an overview of the curriculum, schedule and all of the fun activities associated with our summer Egypt experience!



### Register for VBS in "Egypt" this summer

We're looking forward to another exciting VBS this summer on June 21-25! Registration will begin on April 1 and will run until June 1. The registration table will be located at the top of the stairs leading to the church offices.

You can also access a form at [centralumc.org](http://centralumc.org). Registration will be open to children age 2 (must be age 3 by August 31, 2010) through 5th grade. Registration for 2's and 3's is limited to 32 children.

### Confirmation Class "Day of Service" is April 17

Confirmands and Mentors will meet at Central at 9:30 a.m. and travel out to the Presbyterian Home for Children in Black Mountain to participate in a community wide day of "Worship, Work & Play." We will serve from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Lunch will be served. Parents can pick up at Central at 2:30.

### Camp Tekoa June 28-July 2 — You must register online at [Camptekoa.org](http://Camptekoa.org)

Once you have registered you may call the church to sign your child up to ride in the church van to and from camp. Parents who sign their children up for transportation must assist with the transportation by driving the van on a morning or afternoon that week. Pick up and drop off for those riding in the church van will be at the church and at the South Asheville Long Shoals road location.

# Youth Ministry

## UMYF—United Methodist Youth Fellowship for grades 7-12

For more info, contact Stephen Brown, Youth Director, at 253-3316 or email Stephen@centralumc.org

**There will be no Youth on Sunday April 4. Have a Happy Easter!**

### Pizza and a Movie Night

**Sunday April the 11th, 5:00-7:00 Youth Arena.**

Come join us for Pizza and a Movie here in the Youth Arena. I'll have loads of popcorn, pizza and soda for everyone to enjoy. Bring a friend, and enjoy the last day of your spring break with a relaxing evening at the movies!!



### Take a Hike

**Saturday April the 24th , 9:30-3:30. Meet at the Church.**

It's here, and this is the month, I know everyone has been working real hard to raise money for this wonderful ministry and the day has finally come, where we get to dust off our hiking boots and stretch our legs for some good ole fashion hiking. Lunch will be provided. Anyone and everyone is welcome to participate in this event, make sure you wear your favorite Wilderness Trail shirt.

### Spring Festival

**Sunday April the 25th, 4:00-7:00. Longfellow Park at the Ramble**

There will be no youth on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> because Central United Methodist Church is having a Party!! Come and Join us at Longmeadow Park in the Ramble for a day of games, food and great music. My favorite bluegrass band of all time is playing the spring festival, The Sons of Ralph, and the picking will be awesome. We will feast on BBQ and just enjoy the day. I hope to see you all out there.

### Calling all 6<sup>th</sup> Graders!!

**Sunday May the 9th , 5:00-7:00. In the Fellowship Hall**

Calling all 6<sup>th</sup> graders, you are invited to a special evening event filled with food, games and T-shirts. It is our gift to you on this special day. We would like to welcome you to our UMYF family by throwing you all a party.

## Senior Sunday is May 16

### High School Mission Trip

**June 20 – 26: Inner City Cincinnati, OH Cost \$269**

### Middle School Mission Trip

(Rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders are still considered Middle School Participants for the summer.  
Confirmants are welcome to join us on the Middle School Mission Trip.)

**August 1-7 Cleveland, Georgia Cost \$269**

### Wilderness Trail

(All Youth and Confirmants—rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders—are welcome to join us on the Wilderness Trail.)

**July 17- 24 Troutdale, Virginia Cost \$260**

Sign-ups begin now. Permission Forms for all of these trips can be picked up at the Central Reception Desk in a folder labeled "Summer Trips." Please call or email Stephen Brown at 828-421-0340 or stephen@centralumc.org with your reservations and questions.

# Prison Ministry

## Here are some ways you can support Kairos Prison Ministry

Kairos is a ministry of the church—a ministry of the apostles whom Jesus called into community and sent forth into the environment of the correctional institutions. A 50-member inter-denominational team from many Christian churches in Western North Carolina will visit the Marion Correctional Institution (MCI) May 20,21,22 and 23 for Kairos MCI # 4.

MCI is a closed security facility, residence to 806 male inmates under supervision of 400 staff members. 42 inmates will be selected out of the many applications to participate in the Kairos weekend. Kairos is similar to the Upper Room's "Walk to Emmaus" only geared to the prison population.

*"I was in prison, and ye came to me" (Matthew 25:36)*



Five members from Central UMC are on in extensive training program to participate on the team and will need to take Central's Agape's (unconditional love gifts) along with them, so *ye can come to them!*

### Bake Cookies

Each team member is asked to bring 100 dozen "home made cookies", meaning... Central members, can you bake 4,800 cookies? During the Kairos weekend, each day all 806 inmates and staff members will be presented with a dozen of "home made, prayed over, cookies", showing Christ's unconditional love and the 42 Kairos participants will have unlimited access to a heap of cookies on their table. This is for you an opportunity to be part of the "pipeline" that will carry Christ's living waters directly to the hearts of the residents! Your loving sacrifice will provide "bread" that shines the Light of God's Grace into the darkest corners of a prison unit. May God bless you for the gift of baking!

### Important Cookie Specifications:

1. Bake ONLY sturdy Chocolate Chip, Peanut Butter, Oatmeal, or Sugar Cookies.
2. DO NOT add fruit, nuts, or coating of ANY KIND to the cookies. Make only plain cookies.
3. Size: two to two and-a-half (2 - 2 1/2) inches in diameter. Thin, crisp cookies break easily and cannot be used.
4. Allow cookies to COOL COMPLETELY before bagging. Warm cookies will stick together and cannot be used.
5. Place cookies in sturdy boxes such as shoebox or copy paper box so they will survive the trip to the team cookie site. Separate layers of cookies in boxes with wax paper or bag cookies in zip-lock freezer bags, a dozen per bag. One-quart bags are the best size to use.

### Sponsor a meal

Kairos prepares and delivers to the prison 6 meals for 42 participants. Each meal cost about \$5.00. You simply make a dollar donation for as many meals as you wish. A meal card is prepared with your first name and is presented to the participant at each meal. Most of these residents have never had anyone ever buy them a meal, especially someone that they have never met. Make checks payable to Kairos NC.

### Posters

Perhaps for the first time ever, men will see the Body of Christ through the tangible display of posters. Be part of stepping into the prison thru your expression of Christ love by making a poster. Posters can be of any size, from 8½ X 11 up to poster board size. Are there any Sunday school classes (adult and children) who are willing to participate?

Posters, donations and cookies should be delivered to the office of Jessica Tripp on or before Wednesday, May 19, at 7:00 pm. For any additional information, please contact John and Alie Klees (alieklees@charter.net) or (828) 667-0580.



## Wonderful Wednesdays

There is no Wonderful Wednesday on April 7. Please join us on April 14, 21, and 28  
April 28 is the final Wonderful Wednesday for this year.

### Activities for all ages

Nursery from 5:30 to 8:30 pm for children two and under

Sunshine Arts from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for 2 and 3 year olds

Cherub Choir from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for 4-K — Children's Choir for grades 1-6

Cub Scouts from 6:00 to 7:00 pm for boys grades 1-5

Youth Bible Study from 6:00 to 7:00 pm

Adult programs begin at 6:00 (or you can choose to enjoy fellowship and conversation during this time)

Dinner starts at 5:00 pm. Prices are: Adults \$7.00 Children \$4.00. RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST! So that we can be good stewards of our resources call the Church at 253-3316 no later than 4:00 pm Tuesday for dinner reservations on Wednesday. Or ask to be on the Permanent List to attend every Wednesday.

For the safety of the children and people carrying food trays, children should remain with their parents at all times. The Stage area is a dangerous place for children. Please do not allow children to run and/or play on the stage and risers.

### Schedule for "Caring For Others" led by Julie Wilburn Peeler

This group is geared toward those who are caring for others. We will have different topics each week that will feed those who give so much to others whose health is failing. You can attend for all of the topics or just the ones that fit your situation.

- April 7 No Wonderful Wednesday
- April 14 from 6:15-7:15 pm Rev. Jane Curran: "Share Your Care: Grief before Death"
- April 21 from 6:15-7:15 pm Rev. Jane Curran: "Share Your Care: Grief after Death"
- April 28 from 6:15-7:15 pm Sharon Jacques, RN, PhD: "Intimacy after 60"

## Outreach

### Spring Festival on Sunday, April 25, kicks off church-wide Haiti fundraiser

Spring is just around the corner and with it the joy of sunshine, green grass and yes, Easter eggs! Join us on Sunday, April 25, at Longmeadow Park in The Ramble for a church-wide celebration. This is more than your typical family fun fest. **This will be a day of celebration for all ages as we kick off a church-wide fund raiser to benefit Haiti.**

That morning in worship, Haitian Pastor Tamara Isidore will deliver a message in a Mission Moment about the situation in Haiti as well as present a "Something Extra" Sunday at 10:00 am. Tamara traveled with Central's mission team to Crossroads last year and continues her work in Haiti throughout the year. In worship that morning, Central's mission committee will hand out water bottles to everyone in the service. Your challenge: fill the bottles with money and bring them back to worship on May 16. Bottles will be brought forward during the offertory and a special prayer said for those in Haiti these gifts will benefit.

That afternoon we will gather at Longmeadow Park from 4:00 to 7:00 for a celebration with a post-Easter egg hunt, festival games, huge inflatables, BBQ and hot dog dinners, and performances by the Sons of Ralph and Allen Hayes. This will be a great event for the whole Central family. Invite your friends and neighbors for the fun! BBQ and hot dog plates will sell for \$8.00.

**All money that is raised from food sales and the water bottle collection will go to Crossroads in the Dominican who will put our gifts into action as they provide food, water, shelter and medical care to Haitians suffering following the earthquake.** Central's intergenerational mission team will be on the ground working with them in July and will return with a first hand report of the blessings your gifts are providing.



## F. I. S. H. (Families In Service to Him)

F.I.S.H. is a family/intergenerational mission group that is open to all ages and meets the first Saturday of each month from 9:00 to 12:00 for a devotion, prayer, and service. If you are planning to participate, please contact Jessica Tripp at 253-3316 or [jtripp@centralumc.org](mailto:jtripp@centralumc.org).

- **Saturday, April 3:** Join us for a day of service as we help with grounds keeping and other upkeep of the property at the Presbyterian Home for Children in Black Mountain. If you have any carpentry or electrician skills, please let Jessica know.
- **Saturday, May 1:** We will partner with River Link to continue the clean up of our adopted section of the Swannanoa River.
- **Saturday, June 5:** This is a special day of service throughout our district on the Methodist Community Impact Day. Many opportunities for service will be available this day.



## F. I. S. H. and Friends “Great Day of Service” June 5

Join us on Saturday, June 5, for F.I.S.H.’s (Families in Service to Him) first “Great Day of Service.” Opportunities are available to serve at a variety of locations throughout Asheville beginning at 9:00 am and going through the afternoon.

This is an **all-ages service opportunity** great for families, journey groups, Sunday school classes, and anyone else desiring to put their faith into action. Invite your friends and neighbors to attend and introduce them to the missions minded faith community that is Central Church.

In a few weeks a sign-up table will be in the Fellowship Hall listing the different locations for service. Find the clipboard that lists the place you want to serve and sign-up. Sites include MANNA, Kids Against Hunger, Riverlink, ABCCM Veterans Center, The Lord’s Acre, and more. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall that morning for a devotion and refreshments and then head out into the community. Our goal is to have over 200 Central members and friends in service to the community June 5!

## Needs at the Vanderbilt

Over the years, the members of Central have helped our friends and neighbors living at the Vanderbilt Apartments in downtown Asheville. The following items are currently needed:

- paper towels and toilet paper • Kleenex • small bottles of dishwashing soap
- small cans of juice and fruit • low-sodium soup

If you can help, place your items in the WE CARE boxes at the Second Floor entrance (near the Fellowship Hall) and near the Reception Desk. The Vanderbilt residents are most appreciative of the gift. Thank you for your continued support. [Note: **Magazines are not needed** at the present time.]

## Parish Nurse / Older Adult Ministry

### How are your Blood Pressure numbers? Come and find out Sunday, April 11

There will be blood pressure screening on Sunday, April 11, from 9:30-10:45 am in the Senior Resource Center, located behind the Reception Desk. High blood pressure raises your heart disease risk, so remember:

- Normal blood pressure is less than 120/80.
- Pre-Hypertension is 120-139/80-89. If you have this reading, one should lose weight, reduce salt, eat diet high in fruit and vegetables, low in fat and exercise at least 30 minutes five or more days each week.
- Stage 1 Hypertension is 140-159/90-99. One should consult a physician/health care provider as you could be a candidate for drug treatment.
- Stage 2 Hypertension is 160 and higher/100 and higher. One should consult a physician right away.



## AARP Driver Safety Course at Central on Wednesday, May 26

The AARP Driver Safety Course will be presented at Central on Wednesday, May 26, starting at 10:00 am. The AARP Driver Safety Course is a classroom-based refresher course for drivers 50 years old and older and is designed to keep older drivers on the road longer and safer. The new version of the course is just four hours. The fee, \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non members, covers the cost of delivering the program, including a Participant Workbook.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is designed to 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'll develop a greater appreciation of driving challenges and how you can avoid potential collisions and injuries to yourself and others.



To assure an adequate supply of materials and comfortable classroom accommodations, the AARP requests that you preregister for the course at least one week in advance of the delivery date. You may register and get more information by calling Maureen Carr at 253-3316 ext 320 or email: [mcarr@centralumc.org](mailto:mcarr@centralumc.org).

## Important health care forms are available from our Parish Nurse

The Parish Nurse office has information and the following forms. They are available at no charge and are extremely useful.

- Five Wishes—This is the living will that talks about your personal, emotional and spiritual needs as well your medical wishes
- Advance Directives
- Health Care Power of Attorney
- General Power of Attorney
- Lifeline Medical Alert

## United Methodist Women

### UMW Mission Study on Saturday, April 24

The Asheville District United Methodist Women Mission Study will be held Saturday, April 24, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm at Higgins Memorial United Methodist Church in Burnsville. If you are interested in attending contact Maureen Carr at 277-7065.

### The United Methodist Women Executive Committee will meet Sunday, April 25, from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Ruth Circle** will meet on Monday, April 5, at 10:00 am at the home of Pat Jennings, 21 Robinhood Road.

The **Grace Circle** will meet on Monday, April 5, at 10:00 am at Givens Estates.

The **Mary Circle** will meet on Wednesday, April 7, at 9:30 am at the church. We are a circle whose focus is Motherhood. Childcare for the little ones is always available at our meetings. This is a great opportunity for moms to fellowship and do service work with other moms. For more information about the Mary Circle, contact Heather Nesbitt at [hawes-sel@yahoo.com](mailto:hawes-sel@yahoo.com).

The **Deborah Circle** will meet Sunday, April 11, at 2:00 pm at the home of Nancy Hill.

The **Rebekah Circle** will meet Tuesday, April 20, at 10:00 am at the home of Mary Smith. We will learn more about the ministry of UMCOR and Steadfast Home for Women.

The **Sarah Circle** will meet Tuesday, April 20, at 10:00 am at the home of Nancy Greene. Naomi Ray, a missionary, will present the program "A Window on India."

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 [dianetrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:dianetrobinson@gmail.com) or by phone 989-8097.

April 4, 2010  
Vol. 34 No. 7

*Jot & Tittle* (USPS 005-511) Published twice monthly by Central United Methodist Church  
Periodical postage paid at Asheville, NC • ISSN 1052-7966 • Postmaster: Send address changes to *Jot & Tittle*,  
Central United Methodist Church,  
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• Fax 828-254-8796

## Memorial Gifts

In memory of Sam Dixon for UMCOR  
by:

Ed and Donna Broadwell

In memory of Pete Wilson for the Music  
Ministry by:

Elizabeth Gilstrap

In memory of Pete Wilson for the Music  
Intern Program by:

Serendipity Sunday School Class

In memory of Irene Scarborough by:

Elizabeth Gilstrap

David, Leigh, and Mary Victoria  
Young

In memory of Barbara Eddins by:

Tom, Kay, Kate, Kipper, and  
TJ Finger

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Ingle

In memory of Barbara Eddins for the  
Stephen Ministry by:

David and Mary Dilling

James and Lynn Jenkins

The Sue D. Harmon Family

Dicky Davis

Donna D. Hurst

Lee Davis

Tom and Diane Shores

W.W. and Patsy Watson

In memory of Barbara Eddins for Room  
in the Inn by:

Dr. Kubitschek and Donna

In memory of Joe Frick for the Founda-  
tion Fund by:

Stan and Sandi Holt

In memory of Joe Frick for the New Life  
Center by:

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Ingle

David, Leigh, and Mary Victoria  
Young

PERIODICAL  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
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JOT & TITTLE, 27 Church Street,  
Asheville, NC 28801-3303.

Please include Central in your will. Let the Business Office know when you do.

## How to contact our Central Staff

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Dr. Tony Bell, Executive Pastor (Evangelism and Journey Groups)

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

Rev. Julie Wilburn Peeler, Minister of Pastoral Care

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

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Corey Powell, Music Associate/Organist, Director of Handbells

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Suzanne Brown, Director of Brass; Evangelism Assistant

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

Clint Weninegar, Worship Leader for Saturdays @ Six service

Tammy Henry, Director, Weekday School

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Gary Edwards, Building Care

Joe Edmonds, Building Care

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Katy Kear, Volunteer Coordinator, [kkear@charter.net](mailto:kkear@charter.net) or 242-8472