

**Children & Family Ministries**

I am excited to announce that our Easter Extravaganza will be held on **Saturday, April 15th from 10:00-12:00!** We will have a fantastic Easter egg hunt, a devotion from Pastor JF for the children and free hot dogs! This is going to be our best Easter event yet and we want to get our community involved this year!!! Please let me know if you are willing to help with this event; I will need some volunteers ahead of time to prepare Easter eggs, as well as several volunteers to help out during the event. Thank you for prayerfully considering this!



The **9th annual Day School Dinner & Auction** will be held on March 24th @ 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$12 each which includes a catered meal by George's Carryout (lasagna, salad & bread), as well as dessert and beverage. We have some fantastic items coming in for the silent auction and the live auction...you do not want to miss these awesome deals! It's a double bonus; you walk away with an amazing deal and all of the money goes straight to the Day School! You can purchase your tickets now. I am available to sell tickets Monday-Friday in the mornings, and we will have a table set up on the narthex during February after both services to offer you a convenient way to purchase your tickets! Childcare is available if your child is registered prior to the event. Thank you for your support! It's our church family that makes this event so successful each year!

The Day School is needing some folks to help us make our Dinner & Auction a success this year. If you are able to help in any of the following areas, please let me know: childcare (this is our biggest need at this time – we will feed you for free!), donations for our silent or live auction and various desserts to serve with our meal. Thank you so much!!

**YOUTH NEWS**

**MYF:** Join us from 6:00 till 7:45 pm. We kick things off with a light dinner followed by games and more... We're breaking out the 9 Square tonight!!

**TBC (Prayer Breakfast):** There's just something special about a warm breakfast, sharing in an encouraging word, and lifting each other up in prayer to start the day. Would love to see YOU!

**YOUTH BIBLE STUDY:** Join us this Wednesday, March 1st, at Wesley Williams' house from 7:03 till 8:33 pm. This makes for a great time of worship, discussion and fellowship! Bring your Bible!

**BREAK THRU:** Join us this Thursday for some food, fun, fellowship and more from 6:30 till 8:00 pm.

**WEEK OF HOPE:** June 23-30, 2017! Charleston, SC! If you have not registered — get on the "wait list" TODAY, by turning in your \$50 deposit made out to Central UMYF. Team Members! Email me for the registration link!

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** Attention ALL 7th Graders and those that may have missed or have not gone through Confirmation. Our Class will begin soon! Please contact the church office to make sure YOU are on our list and so we have the opportunity to include you!! We will be taking this year's group to the Confirmation Retreat at Lake Junaluska the weekend of April 28-30. More details coming soon...



Men's Coffee Break  
Saturday's at 9:00 am  
The Coffee Exchange  
Downtown Asheboro

Good Fellowship with a good Cup of coffee  
Relax & Enjoy! See ya there!



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**NETworX for HOPE RANDOLPH**

**WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY?**

Our next class will begin **Tuesday, March 7th.** We are searching for individuals (Allies) who have a heart for those in poverty. An Ally is someone who is willing to walk alongside those in poverty, allowing your perspectives to be challenged, and open to change within yourself as well. We are all poor in some aspects of our lives but we all have strengths to share.

Join the adventure to change our community.

Contact Peter Brisley (336) 302 4093 pbrisley@networxforhope.com;

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I'm collecting soap for a Philippines Medical Mission by Worlds Apart One Heart and would appreciate your soap donations. They prefer Ivory soap or something similar. It will be split in half and sent home with the surgical patients to wash their hands with before they change their dressings. There will be a collection box in the church lobby until March 12th. Thank you!

Jessica Atwell  
American Heritage Girls  
Troop NC2014

**CUOC Item for February**  
Instant Potatoes

**YOUR CENTRAL CHURCH STAFF**

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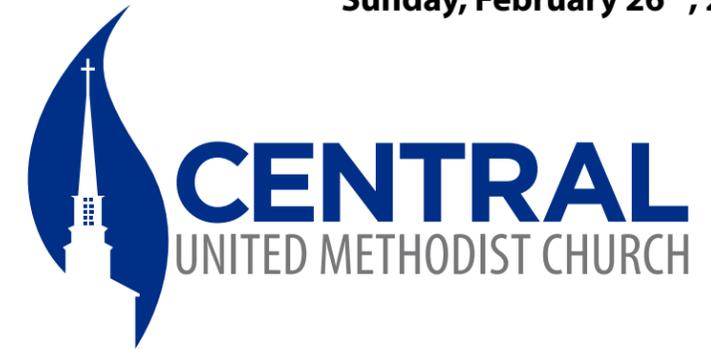
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Our Mission is to follow Jesus, make disciples and transform the world.  
We are about making connections — connecting people to God and to each other.

**Forty Days To Breakthrough**

The church season of "Lent" is right around the corner. "Lent" comes from an old English word that means "Spring." In the Christian Church Lent represents the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. Today we experience Lent as the forty days (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday until Easter. I like to think of Lent as a time of preparation in expectancy that God is going to do a new thing in the midst of my life. **I want you to join me in that same attitude of expectancy and preparation this Lenten season. To begin with, I want to invite you to join me in the sanctuary after the Wednesday fellowship dinner next week (March 1) for an Ash Wednesday Service, starting at 7:00 pm.** While not observed in recent years at Central UMC, it is not unfamiliar to our church family. We will kick off our Lenten season of preparation in worship and teaching, and will conclude the service with the receiving of ashes. We are inviting the folks from West Bend UMC to join us for this service as well. I hope you will be there to give them a warm welcome.

Secondly, we will start a new Sunday message series for the season of Lent called "No Shortcuts." Throughout these forty days leading up to Easter we will examine what it means, and what it takes, to experience God's best in our lives. I hope you will be part of this new series each Sunday!

And finally, people have often used the season of Lent to "give up" something as a way to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at Easter. I recently read an inspiring article by Keith Derouen in which he offered some things we might give up for Lent (that do not include chocolate!). Here are some of his suggestions of things to give up for Lent that particularly spoke to me:  
--**Fear:** God is on my side. In Him I am more than a conqueror. (See Romans 8)  
--**The need to please everyone:** I can't please everyone anyway. There is only one I need to strive to please.

--**Envy:** I am blessed. My value is not found in my possessions, but in my relationship with my Heavenly Father.

--**Impatience:** God's timing is the perfect timing.

--**Bitterness and Resentment:** The only person I am hurting by holding onto these is myself.

--**Blame:** I am not going to pass the buck. I will take responsibility for my actions.

--**Gossip and Negativity:** I will put the best construction on everything when it comes to other people. I will also minimize my contact with people who are negative and toxic and bring other people down.

--**Fear of failure:** You don't succeed without experiencing failure. Just make sure you fall forward.

--**Feelings of unworthiness:** You are fearfully and wonderfully made by your Creator (see Psalm 139).

--**Doubt:** Believe God has a plan for you that is beyond anything you could imagine. The future is brighter than you could ever realize.

--**Excuses:** A wise man once said, if you need an excuse, any excuse will do.

--**Pride:** Blessed are the humble.

--**Worry:** God is in control and worrying will not help.

Join me Ash Wednesday (March 1) and throughout these next forty day and let's believe that God is about to do something profound in us that will take us to the next level!

Pastor J.F.

