



## Day School Items of the Month: Tissues

### Envelopes for Angels

Please don't miss the chance to bless an "angel" from our dayschool by choosing an envelope from the bulletin board in the Sunday School hall! Directions are posted beside the bulletin board. Thank you to all of those who are participating in our Envelopes for Angels Fundraiser! Please remember to check your envelope for goodies from your Angel, especially on December 10. There are still a few Angels left, so it is not too late to join in the fun!



## Children & Family Ministries

The children are busy preparing for our Christmas presentation on December 10th, during the 11 am service! We hope you will all make plans to come and join us that Sunday! If you have a child participating, our last practice will be Thursday, Dec. 7th, 6:00-7:30. I have extended the time for this evening to give us extra time to make sure we are definitely ready! Thank you for your flexibility!

I am excited to invite all of the children in our church, grades K-5th, to join me for our Christmas Celebration December 20th, 6-8pm, in the FLC. We will have a fun evening of food, games, gifts, door prizes and DIY projects! Please RSVP your child/children for this fun evening by Dec. 13th. You can RSVP by calling the church office, emailing me or calling/texting me. Each child should bring a \$10 gift for a gift exchange game. If you need help with the gift, please don't hesitate to let me know!

## YOUTH NEWS

**YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Join us for Sunday School & Worship this week! Our Middle School students meet in their classroom, and our High School students meet in the Gathering Area.

**MYF:** Dinner, games, worship and more from 6:00 till 7:45 pm!

**CENTRAL BREAKFAST CLUB:** How about a warm meal "out" to start your day?! Meet us Thursday morning at Chick-fil-A, at 6:45! Bring \$3.25 to cover your meal.

**YOUTH WINTER RETREAT:** Register today for our Youth Winter Retreat the weekend of Jan. 19-21 in Blowing Rock, NC! Simply turn in your completed registration form along with a \$75 deposit made out to: Central UMYF! \*Mark your calendar: Our Winter Retreat Orientation will take place Sunday, Jan. 7th!

**WEEK OF HOPE:** This summer's destination = Nashville, TN, July 8-14, 2018 (Sun. through Sat.!) Register today by turning in a \$50 deposit to secure your spot. Team member cost for this exciting week will be \$325.00! Our youth fundraisers will help offset the additional program expense and transportation per team member.



**GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS:** NEW Central UMC ink pen's for purchase!! This pen has a stylus for your phone and/or notepad, twist open blue ink, and a flashlight on the head that you simply depress after taking off the yellow protector. It even has our church's web address on it!! If you'd like one for a friend, family member, or to simply share with a

neighbor - we're asking \$3.00 per pen, or you can get 2 of these awesome pens for just \$5.00! All proceeds go to support our Youth Missions!

PERIODICAL  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Asheboro, NC 27203  
Permit No. 073-440

Volume 23

Number 47

Periodicals published weekly except July 4 and December 25  
Periodicals postage paid at Asheboro, NC 27203. (US 073-440)

## Budget

Needed to Date \$603,423.36 Received to Date \$602,771.57

## Endowment Fund December Challenge Goal:

\$150,000.00

Received : \$30,628.60

## Stephen Ministry Training



Training begins in January. Sign up today for enrollment or to receive more information.  
(SM Table)

## An Opportunity to Serve:

Lindley Park Elementary School is beginning a male mentoring program in the new year. The school is seeking males that are willing to buddy up with one child for 30 minutes a week or bi-weekly. The main role of the mentor will be to build a relationship with the young boy at the school that would benefit. It is scheduled for this to take place during the students lunch or recess time. If any males are interested, there will be a training at Lindley Park Elementary School this Tuesday, December 5 at 12:15 pm and 5:30 pm.

## YOUR CENTRAL CHURCH STAFF

**Dr. J.F. Howard** Senior Pastor  
jhoward@centralunitedmethodist.org

**Joy Menius** Organist  
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**Fred Huffstetler** Youth Pastor  
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**Ralph Davis** Praise Team Director  
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**Jill Akins** Church Office Manager  
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**Bev Lawrence** HandBell Choir Director  
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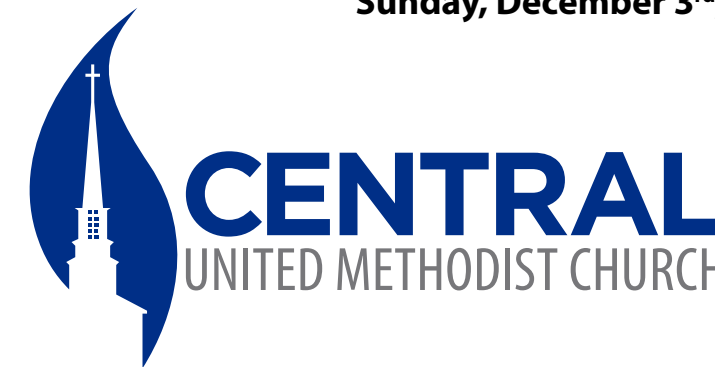
**Heather Cagle** Children & Family  
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Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017



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.

## Jesus Is At Work In Central Church!

By Will Massie

I recently discussed something with Pastor JF, and he asked that I share that with the church. One night, I woke up around 1:00 am and couldn't go back to sleep. I never pray deeply as often as I should, so I used that quiet time to advantage. Eventually I prayed that Central would remain a vital part of God's Kingdom. I immediately received the following: **JESUS IS AT WORK**, in my heart, in my life and in my hands. I have reflected on this over the past few weeks and have interpreted it a couple of ways. This is more than a slogan to put on T-shirts, signs or bumper stickers. It is an acknowledgment that we Christians are not perfect and never will be. No need to be discouraged that we are not perfect. We are always a work in progress; clay in the hands of the Creator. We must be willing to seek His will for us, and to experience joy in any changes that God puts us through.

The message is also a reminder that we are to grow as disciples, living a fruitful life pleasing to God. The first step of discipleship is to recognize that there is a God who loves us. We turn away from the things of this world, repent, and focus on God's salvation through Christ. Ezekiel 36:26 says "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." This transformation in our hearts leads to a renewed life. We study the words of Jesus and the example of his life to continue to grow stronger spiritually. In Matthew 5:13-14, Jesus says we are to be the salt and light of the world. We are to let people see the joy we have in Christ and help them seek that joy for themselves. We are not to exhibit anger, but to show compassion and mercy to everyone. Our lives become fulfilled when we exhibit our faith daily, not just on Sundays. Central offers many programs to advance God's Kingdom on earth, for James wrote that faith without action is dead. Philippians 2:13 says "for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. Jesus told his disciples in John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If each of us are fulfilling the purpose the God has in store for us as individuals, Central will thrive and God will be glorified. It is reassuring to know Jesus is in control, changing not only my life, but many others as well. Join me; let Jesus continuously be at work in your heart, your life, and your hands. Then we will be blessings in our community and in our world.

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday December 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2017	First Sunday of Advent	8:45AM
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Fred Huffstetler		
THE ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE & OPENING PRAYER <i>Anthony, Shea and Tatum Grosch</i>		
WORSHIP SONGS	"Light Of The Stable" "What Child Is This"	Praise Team
TIME OF GREETING		Pastor J.F.
TIME OF THANKSGIVING PRAYER		Fred Huffstetler
STEWARDSHIP MOMENT	2 Corinthians 8:7	Pastor J.F.
<i>7 "But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving."</i>		
GIVING OF GIFTS		
OFFERTORY SPECIAL	"God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"	Praise Team
SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 9:6-7; Hebrews 4:14-16(See insert)	
MESSAGE	Activating Your GPS	Pastor J.F.
SERIES	Prepare Him Room	
CLOSING SONG	"Hymn of Joy"	Praise Team
AN INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP <i>The kneeling rail in the United Methodist Churches has traditionally been a place of prayer. If you have made a decision today that you would like to express publicly; if you would like to join this church on a profession of faith or by transferring your membership, or if you have a need for prayer, you are invited to come forward at this time. Decisions that could change your life are made at the altar.</i>		
Closing Prayer		Fred Huffstetler

## USHERS 8:45 AM

Tammie Walker, Tim Dunn, Ross & Debbie Reaves

## GREETERS 8:45 AM -

Sparky & Beth Johnson

## USHERS 11:00 AM

**CHAIRMAN** – David Allen

**Captain** – Roy Kirkman, Mike Chewning, Dr. Charles Betts, Worth Winslow, Van Rich, Talmadge Baker, Eddie Pugh, Bill Croom, Tal Hardin, Dr. Kelly Harris

## GREETERS 11:00 AM -

Rachel Hargett, Deborah Martin, Gracie Allred, Betty Pugh, Bonnye York



The Endowment Fund will benefit God's Kingdom here on earth, our community, and our church for generations to come. Please, prayerfully consider your gift now as we establish this fund that will be a blessing to others and to us. II Corinthians 4:5 says: "All of this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God." Through God's grace, mercy, and love, he has given us the resources to benefit others. We have one GREAT GOD GIVEN OPPORTUNITY with this fund to create a legacy and bless our church and others, and provide security for generations.

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday December 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2017	First Sunday of Advent	11:00 AM
PRELUDE Joy Menius		
THE CHIMING OF THE HOUR		
CALL TO WORSHIP		
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Fred Huffstetler		
THE ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE & OPENING PRAYER <i>Rob, Keri, Logan, and Chase Sammons</i>		
*HYMN OF PRAISE	"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"	#240 (UMH)
*MISSION STATEMENT (In Unison)		Fred Huffstetler
<i>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.</i>		
*THE APOSTLES' CREED (In Unison)		#881 (UMH)
<i>I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen</i>		
*THE GLORIA PATRI		*(Universal Church)
*A TIME OF GREETING		#70(UMH)
		Pastor J.F.
STEWARDSHIP MOMENT	2 Corinthians 8:7	Pastor J.F.
<i>7 "But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving."</i>		
* OFFERTORY		
*DOXOLOGY	To the tune of "The First Noel"	
Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel		
TIME OF THANKSGIVING		Fred Huffstetler
PRAYER FOR OTHERS		
THE LORD'S PRAYER (IN UNISON)		#895(UMH)
<i>Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven, give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom the power and the glory forever. Amen.</i>		
ANTHEM	"For Us A Child Is Born"	J. S. Bach
Alleluia! Alleluia! O praised be God! All raise your voices sing with thankful voices. Our God today has given us joy. Hold fast to Him and praise His name eternal.		
<b>*Children leave for Children's Church</b>		
SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 9:6-7; Hebrews 4:14-16(See insert)	
MESSAGE	Activating Your GPS	Pastor J.F.
SERIES	Prepare Him Room	
HYMN OF RESPONSE	"Sing We Now of Christmas"	#237 (UMH)
ORDER FOR THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER		Alfred Robinson
AN INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP <i>The kneeling rail in the United Methodist Churches has traditionally been a place of prayer. If you have made a decision today that you would like to express publicly; if you would like to join this church on a profession of faith or by transferring your membership, or if you have a need for prayer, you are invited to come forward at this time. Decisions that could change your life are made at the altar.</i>		
*CLOSING PRAYER		Pastor J.F.
*POSTLUDE		
<i>*Congregation please stand if you are able.</i>		

# Memorials & Gifts

## BUILDING FUND

**In Memory of Harris Sanders**  
By Allan & Patricia Edwards  
By Sidney & Kay Craven  
**In Memory of Barry Warren Hall**  
By Allan & Patricia Edwards  
**In Honor of Heather Cagle**  
By Allan & Patricia Edwards  
**In Honor of Betsy Kozlow**  
**In Honor of Sue Cameron**  
**(Thursday Morning Bible Study)**  
By Leigh Harris

## BUDGET FUND

**In Memory of Harris Sanders**  
**In Memory of Connie McAnulty**  
**In Memory of Ann Horton**  
**In Memory of Bryan McDowell**  
**In Memory of Max Frazier**  
By Allan & Patricia Edwards

## MISSIONS FUND

**In Memory of J. Brady Kinlaw**  
By Allan & Patricia Edwards

## ENDOWMENT FUND

**In Memory of Cassandra Church**  
**In Memory of J. Brady Kinlaw**  
**In Memory of Amy Hartley**  
By Tom & Chris Osteen  
**In Memory of Connie McAnulty**  
By Tom & Chris Osteen  
By John & Emily Matkins  
**In Memory of Harris Sanders**  
By Tom & Chris Osteen  
By John & Emily Matkins  
**In Memory of Thelma Renigar**  
By Dick Renigar

## CHOIR FUND

**In Memory of Cassandra Church**  
By Allan & Patricia Edwards

## PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**In Memory of Harris Sanders**  
By David & Dianne Leonard  
**In Memory Connie McAnulty**  
By David & Dianne Leonard  
By Jim & Wendy Kinlaw  
**In Memory of Bryan McDowell**  
By David & Dianne Leonard  
**In Memory of Giles Setzer**  
By Jim & Wendy Kinlaw



## HAPPENING THIS WEEK...

### CUMC Weekly Schedule

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
8:45 AM – Contemporary Worship  
9:45 AM – Sunday School  
11:00 AM – Traditional Worship  
6:00 PM – MYF  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 4<sup>th</sup>**  
1:00 PM – Chair Chicks  
6:00 PM – Volleyball  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>**  
7:00 AM – "Walk and Worship"  
5:45 PM – Pilates  
6:00 PM – NetworX  
7:00 PM – Open Gym  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>**  
10:00 AM – Wednesday Prayer Group  
1:00 PM – Chair Chicks  
6:30 PM – Handbells  
7:30 PM – Chancel Choir  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>**  
5:30 PM – Trustees  
7:00 PM – Open Gym  
**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>**  
7:30AM – Men's Coffee Break @ The Table



### December

- 03 Heath Craven
- Ryan Murphy
- 04 Delette Self
- Robin Croom
- 05 Francis O'Briant
- Ann Asbill
- Trinity Conville
- 06 Gwyneth Limber
- Mark Trollinger
- Sara Manring
- Sarah Waugh
- 07 Viki Prevo
- John Borger
- 08 Stacey Sondecker Bennett
- Lauren Hughes
- 09 Michael Chewning
- Ronnie Lucas
- Lindsay Bastedo



**SUSANNAH WESLEY--**  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th  
1:30pm - PARLOR  
**FOLLOWERS**  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5  
11:30am  
PINWOOD COUNTRY CLUB



December 6th  
Pick up your card in the narthex