



**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

We will be taking a break from Eat, Pray, Serve during the month of December. We will resume our Wednesday night program on January 10th. Please remember you can pick up monthly calendars in the Day School hallway, just outside of the choir room.

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!

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR: It's A Wonderful Life" A Live Radio Drama! Pick up your tickets today for this amazing and exciting production!
Showtimes: Thursday, Dec. 28th at 7:00 pm, Friday, Dec. 29th at 7:00 pm, Saturday, Dec. 30th at 2:00 pm & Saturday, Dec. 30th at 7:00pm. A percentage from ticket sales will go toward our Youth Missions! Thanks for your support!!



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Budget

Needed to Date \$615,994.68 Received to Date \$617,694.17

Endowment Fund December Challenge Goal:

\$150,000.00

Received : \$33,853.60 Pledges: \$32,500.00



A pictorial directory is a powerful tool in our church to help each of us know each other better. Our last directory is out-dated and it is time for a new one. Please make an appointment today at the table located in the education wing. Your participation will help the church and yourself. Every family photographed for the directory will receive a copy of the directory at no cost and a free 8 X 10 portrait. You will also have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits at the time of photography. For questions, please contact Heather Cagle at the office. 336-629-1425

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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.

The Gospel According To Isaiah

The older I get the more I realize that we never outgrow the gospel. We only grow deeper into it. It took me a number of years to come to this place in my faith. As we move into our December series "Prepare Him Room" based on Isaiah 9:6-7, I have had the words of Isaiah the prophet on my mind. The New Testament declares that there are four gospel writers: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. I believe we can add a fifth gospel writer; this one from the Old Testament...Isaiah himself. Here is a brief understanding of "The Gospel According To Isaiah:"

1) All have sinned.

Isaiah 53:6

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

2) Sin separates us from God.

Isaiah 59:2

2 ...Your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.

3) God takes a grace initiative to shine the light of salvation into the darkness of sin.

Isaiah 9:2

2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

4) The promised Messiah must bear the full weight of human sin.

Isaiah 53:5

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

5) When we turn from sin and turn to God in repentance and faith we receive the gift of salvation.

Isaiah 45:22

22 Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.

6) God's grace and mercy provides a full pardon for all our sin.

Isaiah 55:6-7

6 "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;" 7 let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

In Jesus Christ we find the fulfillment of the gospel according to Isaiah. When we celebrate the good news of Jesus' birth this Christmas it will serve us well to remember that Jesus was the embodiment of the long awaited and promised Messiah who came to provide us with salvation from our sin and eternal life with our God. I think that is the best news ever reported! It certainly has been in my life! How about you?

Isaiah caught the vision of the gospel many years ago. You and I can catch the vision of this good news message today!

Pastor J.F.

