

THE CENTRAL ISSUE

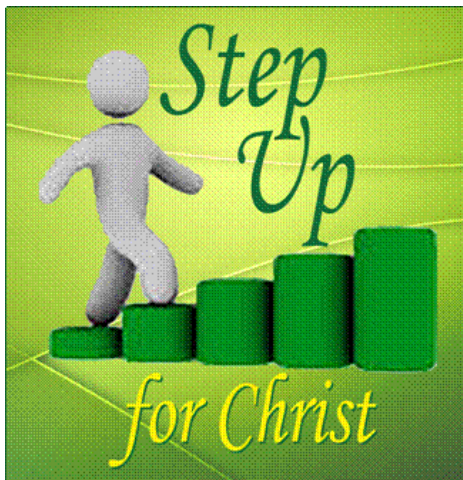
CENTRAL UMC SHELBY IS A SAFE SANCTUARIES CHURCH

Our MISSION: To make disciples of Christ who WORSHIP God,
GROW in their faith, and SERVE in the church and world.

October 11, 2017
Volume 26, No. 41

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Mark L. Barden, Senior Pastor
Fawn Mikel, Director of Discipleship & Outreach
Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries
Nick Richard, Director of Youth Ministries
Libby Alexander, Organist
Gina Blanton, Director of Communications
Dianne Whisnant, Financial Secretary
Shelley Rempson, Kid's Place Preschool Director
Alan Hughes, Facilities Manager
Dan Treharne, Director of Worship Media
Stacy Watkins Griffith, Pastoral Counselor



From the Pastor's Desk

I have a confession to make!

The annual stewardship campaign is typically **not** one of my favorite things to do. I've never been a good salesperson and I've never been good at "begging for money." So, I try to avoid that approach.

Instead, I prefer to echo the words of Paul in II Corinthians 9:7 focusing on that which makes me a "cheerful giver." Here are a few things I have discovered that can inspire us to find joy in giving:

1. We are blessed abundantly in so many ways. True, we may have our financial hardships, but in comparison to the rest of the world, we are blessed far more than we ever deserve. Out of our abundance, we have an opportunity to bless others by giving generously.
2. Through sacrificial giving, we are reminded that ultimately God is the true source of our blessings. We were created to depend not upon our own labors, but upon the efforts of Someone greater than ourselves. Making conscious decisions to sacrifice and "give til it hurts" helps foster humility paving the way to truly put God first in our lives.
3. It is a tangible way to say "thank you" to God. God has gifted us not only with the wondrous resources of this earth, but with an eternal life of peace, love and joy as well. Freely giving back to God through our "thank offerings" is a way we can bless God and actively participate in sharing this Good News with others.
4. Giving as the Holy Spirit directs, enables us to experience "joyful obedience." Indeed, there is a gift of joy knowing we are doing what God call us to do as generous givers.

I've come to realize that there is nothing that I can do or say with any sort of integrity to compel someone to give. I've also learned "budget needs" provides very little inspiration for giving. Fortunately, I learned a long time ago that is the work of the Holy Spirit. Each person's faith commitment for the coming year is the result of a deeply spiritual relationship with God. It begins and ends with the heart. I truly believe that if we all prayerfully ask God to lay upon our hearts that which we are to give, the ministry of Central UMC will be blessed in 2018 for the glory of God. Pray about it. Be at peace with your decision. And act on it!

To God be **all** the glory!

Mark

Sunday, Oct. 29 - 10 a.m. Worship at Central UMC



**Commemoration
Of the 500 Anniversary
Of the Protestant
Reformation**

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Sunday, Nov. 5—11:15 a.m.

In the Fellowship Hall

Members of the Church Council comprise the membership of the Charge Conference. Please make plans now to attend.

**October 15-21, 2017
Calendar of Events**

Sunday (Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost)
8:30am Praise Ensemble
9:00am TRIBES
9:00am Sunday School for all Ages
10:00am Worship Service
11:00am Wesley Class (All Adults Welcome)
4:30pm Crossfire Rehearsal
5:30pm UMYF

Monday
9:00am Church Office opens
11:00am Prayer Team
6:00pm NO Word and Wine Bible Study (at Dragonfly Wine Market)

Tuesday
Counseling Center open (by appointment)
9:00am Church Office opens
11:30am Hot Lunch Program (PAC)
6:00pm Middle School Bible Study
6:00pm Butterfly and Sonshine Choir Practices
6:00pm Christianity and World Religions Study
7:15pm Central Ringers Practice

Wednesday
8:45am Naked Fruit Bible Study
9:00am Church Office opens
10:30am Staff Meeting
6:00pm High School Bible Study
6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
7:15pm Praise Ensemble Rehearsal

Thursday
Counseling Center open (by appointment)
9:00am Church Office opens
9:00am Discipleship Bible Study
6:30pm Discipleship Bible Study

Friday
9:00am Church Office opens
5:00pm Youth leave for Fall Retreat

Saturday
11:30am Hot Lunch Program (PAC)



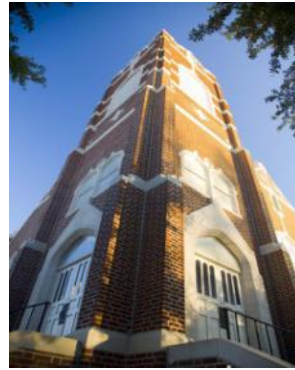
Attention Seniors!

OWLS will have it's first meeting of the fall season Monday, October 16th at 12 noon at Toscano's Bistro

located on Marion Street in the former Smoke on the Square site. All seniors are invited for good food and fellowship.

Word and Wine Bible Study will resume on Monday, October 23rd with a study on the book of James. Same place, same time

Serving Sunday, October 15, 2017



The Guppies
Sunday School and Worship:
Amy Lookabill

Nursery Volunteer
Anne Wray

The Stars
Sunday School and Worship:
Linda Zachary

Collection Counters:
Chris Jones and Matt Triplett

Collection Counters for 10/15/2017:
Rex Whicker and Matt Triplett

Sunday School Assistant:
Brenda Whicker

Children's Sermon:
Julianne McDowell

2017 Stewardship

10:00am Worship (October 8).....	188
Sunday School (October 8).....	118
2017 Operating Budget.....	\$762,448.60
2017 Monthly Budget Needs.....	\$63,537.38
Total Receipts for Month of October.....	\$9,263.86
Total Receipts for 10/1/17-10/5/17.....	\$9,263.86

Sermon: October 15

Mark 1:16-20



**“Recovering the Mission
of Disciple Making”**



Cold weather is coming and many in our community will feel its effects. COATS and BLANKETS are a great and very real way for us to share God's love with those in need. Please bring clean, gently used and new coats and blankets to the church office that we may be the hands, feet and heart of Christ in Cleveland County.

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS
Weekly Update

Sunday

Sunday Morning Tribes 9-10 am
UMYF— 5:30 pm

UMYF
Sleeping mats pt. 2!

October 15
5:30-7pm

Bring plastic grocery bags!

Tuesday

High School Breakfast 7:15 am @ Chick-fil-A
CONNECT @ Middle School Bible Study 6-7 pm

Wednesday

Supper & Study—High School Bible Study 6-7 pm

Youth Fall Retreat
October 20-22, 2017

HAUNTED TRAIL

October 28, 2017
6-8pm

Bring \$6!

you - you - youth



Needs You!

*****Hey, Parents and all other adults!**

How many of you remember what you vowed the last time we had a baptism? It went something like this: "with God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround them with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life." Well, now that these little infants have grown up a bit (ok, maybe a lot), they still need you to surround them with a community of love, to show them what being faithful in service looks like, to help them grow in their trust of God. Now, here's how you can fulfill your vow--sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084ea9ad2fa4f85-umyf> to help during UMYF meetings on Sunday evenings. You won't regret it for your reward will be great!



October 15	Eddie Hamrick
October 16	Amanda Eckenrode
October 16	Isabella Yodice
October 17	Margo Greene
October 19	Lewis Telle
October 19	Karter Davis
October 20	Pat Faggart
October 20	Carol Schenck
October 21	Marywinn Amaya
October 21	Mark Ausborn



200 East Marion St
Shelby, NC 28150

Save the Date!



On Monday, October 23rd, all adults are invited to join us on a trip to Hendersonville. The highlight of our trip will be lunch at the Dandelion Restaurant. We'll also do some shopping, sightseeing, and checking out the changing leaves.

HOT LUNCH

We have had so many hands at work that we will NOT need a cleaning day in the PAC kitchen this Sunday. Thanks to those who have been a wonderful help!



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017 LIGHT THE FIRE OF DISCIPLESHIP

Spiritual Renewal Gathering

Join us as we begin lighting and fanning the fire of discipleship throughout our Catawba Valley District. Our vision is to empower each local church to live into the disciple-making model, creating churches filled with disciples making disciples, churches that foster transformation through small-group ministry, and churches that model a community which loves, learns, and leads together.

Teaching provided by Rev. Dr. James Harnish.

Music provided by NC A&T State University Gospel Choir.

All are welcome! Come hear, learn, and be renewed!

We will be taking up a monetary collection as well as flood buckets and hygiene kits for Hurricane Relief.

Sponsored by:



Launching an
Emphasis on
Spiritual Renewal

First UMC
190 E. Franklin Blvd.
Gastonia, NC

Saturday, October 21
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Doors will open at 2 p.m.
A time of fellowship and
refreshments will follow.

Resources available for
purchase through Cokesbury



Rev. Dr. James Harnish,
Guest Speaker
Author of *A Disciple's Path*



NC A&T State University
Gospel Choir