



# 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.

April 5, 2017  
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Dianne Whisnant, Financial Secretary  
Shelley Rempson, Kid's Place Preschool Director  
Alan Hughes, Facilities Manager

## Country Music and God

I joined 15 million of my closest friends on Sunday evening as I watched the Academy of Country Music Awards show. While I enjoy some of the music, I really tuned in for the laughs that would be generated by hosts Luke Bryan and Dierks Bentley. I was not disappointed.

During the show I was amazed at the numerous references to faith. While the mention of God in the acceptance speeches is expected, there were a significant number of songs that mentioned God, the Bible, church, or some other reference to religion. These were not 'sappy' overtures inserted just to evoke an emotion or to make a verse rhyme.

I'm well aware of the 'standard' themes that have made country music great through the years. It has been said that a 'true' country song must at least give a nod to 'momma,' a pick-up truck, prison, God and love.

Here are a few selected verses from songs that were highlighted.

The duo Florida Georgia Line included this line in one of their songs:

"That Sunday morning choir calling, church doors open wide  
That hallelujah shoot right through ya, make you feel alive."

One of Miranda Lambert's hits includes this:

"Cause I heard Jesus he drank wine  
And I bet we'd get along just fine  
He could calm a storm and heal the blind  
And I bet he'd understand a heart like mine."

I realize that the intent of these songs may be to sell records and are for entertainment purposes.

Country musicians, like any group, have those with questionable reputations. I also realize that sometimes God is able to use the most unlikely people and most unlikely circumstances to get His message to those who need to hear it.

Jesus was known for being a bit unorthodox in his teaching and preaching. He had the tendency to choose people for important tasks that were on the fringes of society with less than stellar reputations. The disciples were a motley crew.

We are quickly approaching an event that changed the world. On Easter morning God released a power into this world that will never be contained. We have been given the privilege of telling that story. How will we share this story of God's infinite love?

Let the church help you to proclaim the Good News by inviting a friend or a family member to worship during this Easter Season. We are pleased to present a variety of opportunities for worship. You can find a list in this newsletter.

I hope you will make worship a priority during this Easter Season.



## Legacy Grants

Centrals Legacy Committee would like to announce the schedule and timeline for the 2017 Legacy Grant process.

Friday, March 31	Applications available in church office and on website
Sunday, April 9	Legacy workshop 9am in Fellowship Hall
Monday, April 10	Legacy workshop for CUMC staff
Wednesday, April 12	Legacy workshop 6pm in PAC
Friday, April 28	Deadline for applications to be turned into church office
Sunday, May 21	Grants announced

Please remember:

- grants are for non-budgeted CUMC items
- grants are not for an individual
- grant applicants MUST attend a workshop
- no extensions to deadline

**April 9-15, 2017  
Calendar of Events**

**Sunday** (Palm Sunday)  
8:30am Praise Ensemble  
9:00am TRIBES  
9:00am Sunday School for all Ages  
9:45am Chancel Choir  
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 Staff Meeting  
11:00am Prayer Team (Prayer Room)

**Tuesday**  
Counseling Center opened (by appointment)  
9:00am Church Office opens  
11:30am Hot Lunch Program (PAC)  
1:00pm Lenten Study "Forgiveness"

**Wednesday**  
9:00am Church Office opens  
12:00pm Lenten Service & Lunch @ Aldersgate UMC  
5:30pm Community-wide Easter Egg Hunt and Cookout on the Court Square  
6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
7:15pm Praise Ensemble Rehearsal

**Thursday**  
Counseling Center opened (by appointment)  
9:00am Church Office opens  
6:30pm Maundy Thursday Service

**Friday**  
9:00am Church Office opens

**Saturday**  
11:30am Hot Lunch Program (PAC)



**Easter Lilies**  
April 9th is the deadline for purchasing **Easter lilies** in memory or honor of a loved one. Forms will be available at the back of the Church for your convenience. Cost per lily is \$15.

**2017 Stewardship**

10:00am Worship (April 2).....	262
Sunday School (April 2).....	115
2017 Operating Budget.....	\$762,448.60
2017 Monthly Budget Needs.....	\$63,537.38
Total Receipts for Month of March.....	\$66,470.87
Total Receipts for 3/26/17-3/30/17.....	\$20,142.62

**Serving Sunday, April 9, 2017**



**The Lambs**  
Sunday School:  
Alyssia Pagan  
Worship:  
Rhonda Keeley

**The Guppies**  
Sunday School and Worship:  
Cassandra Clark

**The Stars**  
Sunday School:  
Linda Zachary  
Worship:  
Linda Zachary, Alyssia Pagan

**Collection Counters:**  
Millie Wood and Stan Anthony

**Collection Counters for 4/16/2017:**  
Stan Anthony and Kent Bridges

**Sunday School Assistant:**  
Brenda Whicker

**Children's Sermon:**  
Lynn Carter

**Memorials and Honorariums**

**Operating:**

In Memory of Elsie Peeler by Earl Hubert and Bea Lutz  
In Memory of Elsie Peeler by Julian and Anne Wray

**Piano:**

In Memory of Elsie Peeler by Gene and Beth Clark

**Music Ministry:**

In Memory of Elsie Peeler by Sallie Craig  
In Honor of Anne Wray by Pat Faggart

**Back Pack Ministry:**

In Honor of Anne Wray by Pat Faggart

**Soup Kitchen:**

In Honor of Anne Wray by Pat Faggart

**Holy Week Events**

April 9 Palm Sunday Service 10:00 am  
April 12 Easter Egg Hunt 5:30 pm on the Court Square  
April 13 Maundy Thursday Service 6:30 pm  
April 16 Sunrise Service 7:00 am at Sunset Cemetery  
Sunday School 9:00 am  
Worship Service 10:00 am



April 9 Shelley Rempson  
 April 10 Michele Gassman  
 April 10 Aubrey Franklin  
 April 11 Brian Mills  
 April 12 Alice Southern  
 April 12 Sandy Allen  
 April 12 Susan Snyder



April 12 Rob Laney  
 April 13 Kim Telle  
 April 13 Karen Plyler  
 April 13 Steven Hill  
 April 14 Chloe Reeves  
 April 15 Jim Putnam

### Special Seasonal Arrangements Available



If anyone would like to purchase the pre-ordered arrangements in honor or in memory of someone, please contact the office. They will be available on a first come basis.

- Palm Sunday Palm altar arrangement
- Easter Lily altar arrangement



### Kid's Place Art Show

Did you know Central's preschool is home to some budding artists? Their art was on full display last Wednesday and it was Impressive! A big shout out goes to Kid's Place staff for all the work they put into this amazing show! There are more pictures on our website at <http://cumcshelby.org/grow/kids-place/>. Go check them out!



# YARD SALE

**HOSTED BY KIDS PLACE PRESCHOOL**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 13**  
**8 AM TO NOON**  
**DONATIONS NEEDED!**

Will accept anything but NO adult clothes  
 Please send items that are in good condition

Donations will be stored in classroom # E104 on nursery hall way. You can bring your items during preschool hours or contact Shelley to arrange @ 704-487-6357

Please price and tag any large items

**Donations accepted until May 5th**



### Lydia's Circle

Lydia's Circle will meet Monday, April 10th. If you would like to eat out meet at the Shelby Café at noon, others may meet in the Church Parlor at 1 pm. Be sure to read Chapter 4 and be prepared to discuss. Hope to see you there!



### Central UMC has a Basketball Team!

They play at Dover YMCA and would love to have some fans come out and cheer them on. Check out their schedule below, we'll see you there!

April 6	6:30pm	Court 3	vs. Cleveland County 1
April 11	6:30pm	Court 3	vs. First Baptist
April 13	6:30pm	Court 3	vs. Zion Baptist
April 20	8:30pm	Court 3	vs. Cleveland County 2
April 25	7:30pm	Court 3	vs. Eagle Transport Ministry



Sunday, April 30  
5:30-7:30

Sponsored by Family Life  
Proceeds Benefit Youth  
More Details to  
Follow!!!

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS  
**Weekly Update**

**Sunday**

Sunday Morning Tribes 9-10am

**Tuesday**

Senior High Breakfast @ Chick-fil-A 7:15am

**Wednesday**

No bible study or confirmation due to the Easter  
Egg Hunt on the Court Square 5:30-7:00pm

Club Miracle at Shelby High School is presenting a Military Dedication Concert on April 9th from 6-9 pm at the Malcolm Brown Auditorium at Shelby High School. Tickets are needed for admission and will be available in the church vestibules before and after service on April 9.

***Annual Cookout and Easter Egg Hunt***



***On the Court Square  
April 12th  
5:30-7 pm***

Donations of candy to fill the eggs will be collected until April 9th.  
Contact Suzanne Hensley if you can donate a dessert.



**Easter Food Bags**

Once again the United Methodist Churches in our area will be providing Easter dinner for families in our community. This year Central UMC is responsible for **Instant Potatoes. We need 31 more boxes!** Please bring them before **Thursday, April 6th at 4pm.** Volunteers are needed to deliver 15 meals on Saturday, April 8th. Contact Tina and Will Rucker to sign up at 704-472-1196. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**Homebound Visitation Ministry**



Many times family, friends, and church staff simply cannot be there as much as they would like for seniors and others who are no longer able to leave their homes, nursing centers, or assisted-living facilities. Central's **Home-Bound**

**Visitation Ministry** is a way to keep these persons in touch with the church community through personal visits from volunteers who share a warm smile, a caring hug, a holiday or birthday card through the mail or a phone call just to say, "How are you today," "I hope you're feeling better," "Our congregation has been praying for you," or "I've been thinking about you." Many home-bound members have expressed how much it means to not be forgotten by our church. Our volunteers continually say what a gift it is to meet new friends of a completely different generation and develop unexpected relationships in venues outside the traditional brick-and-mortar walls of our building. Bringing our church and The Church to persons of limited or no mobility is a practical and healing way to put our faith into action as the hands and feet of Christ on this earth. If you are interested in participating, or if you know of someone who needs this outreach ministry, please email Claudia Lutz at [calutz@carolina.rr.com](mailto:calutz@carolina.rr.com) or call Gloria Newman at 704-487-8186.

**LENTEN WEDNESDAY WORSHIP & LUNCH**  
**ALDRSGATE UMC**  
**1207 West Dixon Boulevard, Shelby**  
**704.487.8491**  
**12 NOON**



**April 12-** Rev. Colston Morris, Pastor,  
Durham/Philadelphia UMC  
(Cowboy soup, pimento cheese sandwiches,  
& cookie sampler)

LUNCH COSTS \$5.00 PER PERSON  
(Limited amounts of vegetarian soup  
available each week)



For the month of April we will be collecting the following items:

Pine-Sol, bleach, Comet, Ajax, Lysol spray & wipes, room deodorizers, dish detergent, laundry detergent, antibacterial hand soap (8 - 12 oz.), and hand sanitizer (8 - 12 oz.). There is a donation bin outside of the Elevator on the 2nd floor Sanctuary.