



# 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.

September 26, 2018  
Volume 27, No. 38

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## Being the Church Beyond the Corner of Washington and Marion

Back in the mid-90s, I participated in a leadership training program at Duke Divinity School led by Paul and Inagrace Dietterich of the Center for Parish Development. One thing that stuck with me and impacted my approach to ministry was something Paul said regarding being faithful to the church's mission. He said, "If the church is going to be the church, it cannot be a purveyor of religious goods and services. The church was established by Jesus Christ to be a sign and foretaste of the kingdom of God."

As I reflected upon my own experience as a pastor and the churches that I had served, I realized we all basically served as a "purveyor of religious goods and services." We had fallen prey to the consumerist approach to religion by responding to "market demands." From a business perspective, perhaps this was a good approach, but from a faith perspective, it detracted from focusing on who we are called to be as the church: "To be a sign and foretaste of the kingdom of God."

Admittedly, I continue to struggle in my attempt to be less about being a "purveyor of religious goods and service" and more about living out my life to be a "sign and foretaste of the kingdom of God." Once again, I was challenged by Phil Maynard's discussion of shifting from "serve us" to service in his book, *Shift: Helping Congregations Back into the Game of Effective Ministry*.

"To be a disciple is to be a servant. To be a church is to serve. The church cannot be the church without being missional in nature," said Maynard. "Service is about Jesus in ministry to the world, using our gifts and graces to engage others in ways that bring hope, healing, and wholeness to life."

This chapter, once again, reminds me that our purpose is to equip disciples to serve in the world. What we do within the walls of our building is a means, not an end. The end is found out in the world as we live as a "sign and foretaste of the kingdom of God." What an exciting opportunity we have. To God be the glory!

Blessings,  
Pastor Mark

**HURRICANE FLORENCE RELIEF** – We have prayerfully watched the devastation North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia have experienced from Hurricane Florence. And many have asked the question, "What can we do?" Currently, Early Response Teams are working in affected areas. Once the first responders have completed their work, we will have an opportunity to pull teams together to help rebuild communities experiencing damage. The United Methodist Church will be the last to leave through the ministry of UM Committee on Relief! I(n the meantime the conference has asked that we participate by:

**PRAYING** – Pray for all who have experienced loss. Pray for first responders as they enter difficult and painful situations. And pray for volunteers as they bring hope to a community.

**DONATING MONEY** -- Please be careful in choosing to whom you donate. We suggest you donate to 1) the Western North Carolina Conference UMC to support disaster response teams. Make checks payable to WNCUMC, PO Box 2757, Huntersville, NC 28070, for "Disaster Response", or 2) United Methodist Committee on Relief. Make checks payable Advance GCFA, PO Box 9068 GPO, New York, NY 10087-9068, for "Advance #901670".

**GATHERING SUPPLIES** -- The Conference is asking each church to create 12 relief cleaning kits. Sunday School classes, small groups, Bible studies, etc. are encouraged to create one bucket. The church will transport buckets to the conference center. Kit assembly instructions are located at [www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies](http://www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies)

**PARTICIPATING IN A MISSION TEAM** to assist flooded and damaged areas. It will take years to repair all of the damage Florence created. Mission teams will travel to areas to provide help and hope to the community.

**September 30-October 6, 2018  
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)  
 4:00pm Crossfire Rehearsal  
 5:30pm CUMC Youth

**Monday**  
 9:00am Church Office opens  
 11:00am Prayer Team  
 6:30pm Word and Wine (at Dragonfly)

**Tuesday**  
 Counseling Center open (by appointment)  
 7:15am High School Breakfast at Chick-fil-A  
 9:00am Church Office opens  
 11:30am Hot Lunch Program (PAC)  
 6:30pm Draw the Circle (Pastor Fawn's house)  
 7:00pm Central Ringers

**Wednesday**  
 9:00am Church Office opens  
 5:00pm Butterfly and Sonshine Choirs  
 6:00pm Youth Bible Study  
 6:15pm Messiah Rehearsal (at Aldersgate UMC)  
 7:15pm NO Praise Ensemble Rehearsal

**Thursday**  
 Counseling Center open (by appointment)  
 9:00am Church Office opens

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

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

**2018 Stewardship**

10:00 am Worship (September 23).....	104
Sunday School (September 23).....	91
2018 Operating Budget.....	\$776,410.22
2018 Monthly Budget Needs.....	\$64,700.85
Total Receipts for Month of September.....	\$27,923.96
Total Receipts for 9/16/18-9/20/18.....	\$7,725.00

**Office Closing**

Due to the installation of the new cooling tower and the power being off for the day, the office will be closed on Monday, October 8th. Normal hours should resume on Tuesday, October 9th.



**Serving Sunday, September 30, 2018**



**The Guppies**  
 Sunday School and Worship:  
 Diana Mullinax

**Nursery Volunteer**  
 Sunday School: Evelyn Ribadeneyra  
 Worship: Jessica Talbert

**The Stars**  
 Sunday School and Worship:  
 Linda Zachary

**Collection Counters:**  
 Matt Triplett and Jessica Talbert

**Collection Counters 10/7/2018:**  
 Jessica Talbert and Will Rucker

**Sunday School Assistant:**  
 Lynn Carter

**Children's Sermon:**  
 David Mitchell

**Godly Play** needs volunteers! If you would like to help, please contact Savanna as soon as possible.



**BIRTHDAYS**

September 30	Robert Bullock
September 30	Banks Denney
October 1	Branson Reid
October 1	Spencer Triplett
October 2	Linda McKnight
October 2	Russell Forrest
October 2	Garth Dedmon
October 2	Tia Mills
October 2	Avery Klamfoth
October 3	Cecil Burton
October 3	Allison Mauney
October 3	Becky Hughes
October 4	Ann Morgan
October 4	Scott Smith
October 4	Allison Chriscoe

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS  
**Weekly Update**

**Sunday**

Tribes at 9 am  
CUMC Youth 5:30-7:30 pm

**Tuesday**

High School Breakfast at Chick-fil-A at 7:15 am

**Wednesday**

Youth Bible Study at 6 pm

**A Note from Nick**

We are partnering with the Abuse Prevention Council to provide service work to benefit their current residents! The youth of CUMC have had this on their hearts since we first worked with the APC in the Spring of 2018.

We are asking for your help, whether through service work or donation! We are looking for able and willing people to help clear brush, plant flowers, and provide a welcoming environment to those who have been through so much. We are also looking for those who can help provide, monetarily or materials, to make this happen - either way, you can make a difference!

We are looking at 3 different Saturdays to serve the Abuse Prevention Council. If you can help on any or all of these days, we would LOVE to work with you!

These days are:

October 20 & 27  
November 17th

**Attention 3rd Grade Parents!**

Don't forget that Bible Class has started! Be sure to bring your third grader to E312 during Sunday School. If they haven't gotten their bibles, Savanna has them and will be sure they get them during class.

**Haywood Street Welcome Table** – Haywood UMC in Asheville, serves the community every Wednesday and Sunday with a family-style lunch and worship service. Volunteers of our Hot Lunch Ministry are going to share lunch, worship and see how God is moving through this valuable ministry meeting the needs of all people on Wednesday, October 10th. Maybe you would like to join us. If so, contact Fawn at the church office no later than Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.



Keep an eye out for new things starting this Fall! Contact Savanna at 704-487-6336 or [childrensministry@cumcshelby.org](mailto:childrensministry@cumcshelby.org) if you have any questions or need more information.

**Sunday School**—9-9:45 am every Sunday  
**3rd Grade Bible Class**—During Sunday School in E312

**Change to Make a Change** –Our children have loved collecting loose change from parishioners during worship the last Sunday. They have chosen to use the offerings collected to purchase children books and food for children in our community. So look under the sofa cushions, dig through the bottom of your purse and empty the car ashtray to help our children collect change on **Sunday, September 30th**, to be the change this world needs!

**CUMC Family Pumpkin Carving Contest and Fall Celebration**



**Sunday, October 28th, 5-7 pm**  
**RSVP by October 21 by email to**  
**[childrensministry@cumcshelby.org](mailto:childrensministry@cumcshelby.org) or**  
**contact the church office**

**WHO:** Any and all are welcome. Please invite a family or two that are not a part of CUMC to come

**WHAT:** Food, Fun, Fellowship, Friendly Competition, and Prizes

**WHERE:** CUMC PAC and Back Parking Lot

**WHY:** God's love is seen best in the context of loving community....Come be a part of giving and receiving that love!

**WEAR:** Your best, funnest, most creative Halloween Costume.



**METHODIST WORKSHOPS**—Dr. LeMaster-Smith is offering to lead three classes in Polity and Methodism. These classes will be structured as 3-day workshops. Classes will be held at St. Luke's UMC (52 16th Ave. NW, Hickory, NC 28601). (A third class, Polity in the Methodist Church, will be offered in the spring. More details to come.)

**1. United Methodist History** classes will be Thursday, Oct. 11th, 6:00P.M.-8:00P.M.; Friday, Oct. 12th, 9:00A.M.-4:00P.M.; and Saturday, Oct. 13th, 9:00A.M. –2:00P.M. Required books: *Wesley and the People Called Methodists*, Richard Heitzenrater (2nd Edition, 2013, Abingdon) and *American Methodism: A Compact History*, Russel Richey, Kenneth E. Rowe, Jean Miller Schmidt, (2012, Abingdon)

**2. United Methodist Doctrine** classes will be Thursday, Nov. 8th, 6:00P.M.-8:00P.M.; Friday, Nov. 9th, 9:00A.M.-4:00P.M. and Saturday, Nov. 10th, 9:00A.M.–2:00P.M. Required books: *Responsible Grace: John Wesley's Practical Theology*, Randy Maddox (1994 Kingswood Series) and *Partakers of the Life Divine: Participation in the Divine Nature in the Writings of Charles Wesley*, S.T. Kimbrough (2016, Cascade)

The cost of the workshops will be \$25 each, which covers the cost of refreshments and lunches. You may pay online through the registration website at <https://wnc-reg.brapp.com/MethodismClasses>, or you may mail a check to the Catawba Valley District Office. All payments must be received 1 week prior to the class you are taking (payment due October 4 and/or November 1.)

The books that are required are available at amazon.com and/or cokesbury.com. Please purchase these books before class and bring them with you.

### Organ Concert

Shelby Presbyterian Church has invited us to attend a John Alexander Organ Concert on October 7th, 2018 at 5:00P.M. in their sanctuary. There will be a reception to follow in Ellis Hall (their fellowship hall). John is the nephew of Libby & Mike Alexander. There are brochures outside of the church office if you are interested and would like to know more about this wonderful event!

## Calling all adult Sunday School Classes!

### Elizabeth Program Information Session

9:00 am Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 30

**Join** Marty McCarty, retired Episcopal minister from Charlotte and Larry Newton, mental health counselor in Tryon as they explain the Elizabeth Program which seeks volunteers to train as mentors for medical students.

**Why?** Mentoring support is needed to overcome the expected roadblocks that the students will experience as they navigate medical school. The roadblocks can, and do, stop a student from fulfilling their desire to become a doctor and serve their local community. This is amply demonstrated in current medical school data that shows the shift that happens in the perspective of students from their first year to their last year: At the start of school, the students say their goal is to help the sick and injured; in their last year, their goal has shifted to becoming a specialist in a large city. A whopping 84% of the students elect a specialty, while the nation endures a family care shortage that is costly to our health and our community.

**What will mentors do?** Trained to mentor students on their virtues; mentors help keep students on track with what is most important to them, service, and specifically, service in their own rural community. Seven hours of training, then only an hour per month to mentor is all that is needed.

**Has this program started elsewhere?** Yes, active groups in Newton and Wadesboro, NC and Gaffney, SC have been started.

**How can I help?** Just come and listen to the presentation. A few of us might want to be a mentor and lots of us can help pass the word about this important program and invite our friends from all churches in the community to come to Central on September 30.

Thanks,

Stan Anthony, Rotarian and mayor

Brownie Plaster, community volunteer



## ERT Training

The next United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) Early Response Team (ERT) basic training will take place at Weddington UMC ([Bonds Grove Campus](#)) on Saturday, October 13, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you do not have a background check, or if your background check was more than 3 years ago, click [here](#) (<https://www.smart-trak.com/WesternNCconfUMC/>) to complete one. You will not be admitted to the class without a current background check. You must be at least 18 years old. This is a three-step process.

- Step One: Complete the [registration form](https://wnc-reg.brtapp.com/ERTBasicTrainingWeddington10_13_18) ([https://wnc-reg.brtapp.com/ERTBasicTrainingWeddington10\\_13\\_18](https://wnc-reg.brtapp.com/ERTBasicTrainingWeddington10_13_18)) and submit \$30 for the training.
- Step Two: Upon submission you will receive an email confirmation. This confirmation will have a link for a required background check. Within 48 hours, click the link and follow the instructions provided. Your background check will cost \$12 payable to PeopleFacts (formerlyTrak-1).
- Step Three: Upon completion of a successful background check, you will receive confirmation that you have successfully registered for ERT training.

The class promptly begins at 9am. Doors open at 8:00 am. UMCOR’s participants learn the basics of disaster response, including how to stabilize and secure homes safely, and how to work effectively with survivors and others on the response team. This standardized class is required for the basic ERT UMCOR identification badge.

Click [here](#) to register for this training.

## Information on the United Methodist Church’s Future

The Commission on a Way Forward was proposed by the Council of Bishops and approved by the 2016 General Conference to do a complete examination and possible revision of every paragraph of the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church concerning human sexuality and explore options that help to maintain and strengthen the unity of the church. This spring, they completed their work and the Council of Bishops has submitted a proposal for our church’s future to a called session of the General Conference to be held in February, 2019.

Catawba Valley District Superintendent Angela Pleasants is providing three opportunities to learn more about the proposal, ask questions and be in prayer for the future direction of our denomination. You are invited to attend.

**October 7,** 3- 5 pm at Center UMC, 4945 Sherrills Ford Rd, Catawba

**October 28,** 3- 5 pm at First UMC, 311 3rd Ave NE, Hickory

**November 4,** 3- 5 pm at Park Street UMC, 120 Park Street, Belmont

## Is God Calling You to Serve in 2019?

Please be in prayer for our Lay Leadership Team as they prepare the nominations for 2019. If you feel a call or desire to serve or know of someone who would be great on a particular committee or in a position, feel free to contact a member of the Lay Leadership Team. Members are Mark Barden (chair), Susan Mabry, Susan Tapp, Rex Whicker, Page Morgan, Rhonda Keeley, Julianne McDowell, Suzanne Hunter, and Wren Westbrook.

Areas to consider are Church Council, Trustees, Finance, Parsonage, Staff-Parish, Lay Leadership (Nominations), Legacy, Kids’ Place, Evangelism, Outreach/Missions, Stewardship, Worship, and Discipleship.



## Hot Lunch Ministry –

It is getting to be that time of year when the air gets colder and we are getting out our sweaters and jackets. However, some in our community do not have warmer clothes for the Fall and coming Winter. The Hot Lunch ministry is accepting donations of new or gently used coats, jackets, sweaters, gloves, hats, and blankets. Please bring your items to the church office.



Be sure to check out our website:  
[www.cumcshelby.org](http://www.cumcshelby.org)  
And our Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/](https://www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/)



200 East Marion St  
Shelby, NC 28150

# OWLS

Older, Wiser, Livelier Seniors



**October 15th**

**A tavola non si invecchia!**

**“At the table, you don’t get old!”**

Join us for a lunch of great Italian food and ageless conversation as we gather at Toscanos at noon.

Fantastico!!!

(reservation deadline: 10/14/18)

**November 8th**

**“The Hound of the Baskervilles”**

Hendersonville Flat Rock Playhouse  
Performance and Lunch

(reservation deadline: 10/20/18)

## Memorials and Honorariums

### Piano:

In Honor of Paul & Pat Ellison by Scott & Sheila Ellison

### Literature:

To help with cost of literature by the Wesley Class

### Operating:

In Honor of Paul & Pat Ellison by Scott & Sheila Ellison

**I Want to Be a DISCIPLE!** – Several have asked how they could get involved in a strong study to develop as a disciple of Jesus Christ. 2 GREAT Studies are available right now:

**\*DISCIPLE:** Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study – using Scripture as its foundation participants will discover the principles of following Christ. This is a great opportunity to read the Bible, discovering who God is and who we are created to be as Christian. Rob Laney will be teaching this class on Tuesday Evenings (start date to be determined).

**\*DISCIPLER:** And Interactive Guide to Intentional, Relational, Accountable Discipleship – Actively understanding and participating in worship, hospitality, opening to Jesus, obedience, service, and generosity ushers a deeper knowledge of being a disciple of Jesus entails. Pastor Fawn will be leading. Day and time to be determined by participants.

**Contact the church office NOW to get involved!**

## Word and Wine

Join us October 1<sup>st</sup> as we meet every Monday evening at 6:30 pm at Dragonfly Wine Market, 101 West Warren Street, Shelby. We will be discussing where God is moving in the world today as we look at current events and the news.



**More information coming soon** ★