



# 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 5, 2018  
Volume 27, No. 35

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Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries  
Nick Richart, Director of Youth Ministries  
Savanna Craig, Children's Ministry Coordinator  
Libby Alexander, Organist  
Gina Blanton, Director of Communications  
Dianne Whisnant, Financial Secretary  
Shelley Rempson, Kid's Place Preschool Director  
Dan Treharne, Director of Worship Media  
Stacey Watkins Griffith, Pastoral Counselor



## SHIFT 1: From Fellowship to Hospitality

One of the things I loved to do when I was on conference staff was to visit a variety of churches around our conference for Sunday worship. It enabled me to see various approaches to worship and connect with people in the local church. It was interesting to go in unexpected, not knowing anyone, except perhaps the pastor, and experience hospitality as “someone off the street.”

Unfortunately, more times than not, I was welcomed with minimal enthusiasm. Sometimes, I even had to ask for a bulletin. But after the service, after the pastor usually introduced me as a member of the conference staff, folks would pounce on me like fruit flies on an over-ripened peach. It was not unusual to hear someone say, “If I had

known it was you... or if I had known you were from the conference, I would have spoken to you before the service started.”

I know they were trying to be welcoming, but why wouldn't a church member want to greet any newcomer regardless of who they were or status they held in the conference, community or anywhere else for that matter. Sunday we begin the series, “Taking the Next Step,” which highlights themes in the book “Shift: Helping Congregations Back into the Game of Effective Ministry,” by Phil Maynard. Focusing on the theme of Jesus' parable in Matthew 25:31-46, we will focus upon radical hospitality and Jesus' unconditional love and acceptance for all with whom we come in contact. We'll look at the difference between fellowship and hospitality. Hospitality goes beyond fellowship to the point of “opening our hearts to others and building relationships.”

Maynard offers these observations in shifting from fellowship to hospitality (pp. 14):

- Hospitality is bigger than how one is welcomed to the worship event. It is part of the larger system of discipleship that includes friendships, intentional discipleship relationships, witnessing and more.
  - Hospitality is a significant dimension of Christian discipleship and can be developed through intentional discipleship training.
  - Depending upon the study referenced, somewhere between 60-80% of people who visit a congregation come because they were personally invited.
  - Most people who visit a congregation decided within the first 10 minutes or less following arrival on the church campus whether or not they will return. (Long before the pastor preaches and sometimes even before the music starts!)
  - The driving factor in the decision to return is often the personal connections made by members of the congregation—not the greeters or pastor.
  - People are more engaged in the life of the congregation if they have a good friend who is also involved.
- These are things to keep in mind as we focus on building authentic personal relationships with newcomers with intentional hospitality.

May God be praised for the opportunity to better know those in our midst.

Blessings,

Mark

**September 9-15, 2018  
Calendar of Events**

**Sunday** (Sixteenth 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)

**Monday**

9:00am Church Office opens  
 11:00am Prayer Team  
 5:30pm Finance Committee Meeting  
 7:00pm Church Council Meeting

**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)  
 7:00pm Central Ringers

**Wednesday**

9:00am Church Office opens  
 5:00pm Butterfly and Sonshine Choirs  
 6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 7:15pm 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 2).....	152
Sunday School (September 2).....	62
2018 Operating Budget.....	\$776,410.22
2018 Monthly Budget Needs.....	\$64,700.85
Total Receipts for Month of August.....	\$41,046.23
Total Receipts for 8/26/18-8/30/18.....	\$13,682.44



**Children's Choirs**

Calling ALL CHILDREN!  
 Butterfly (4 years old and Kindergartners) and Sonshine (1st-5th graders) choirs are

going to start their rehearsals on Wednesday, September 12 at 5 pm. Meet on the 2nd floor of the Education Building and/or contact Danny Buckner for more information at [danny@cumcshelby.org](mailto:danny@cumcshelby.org).

**Serving Sunday, September 9, 2018**



**The Guppies**

Sunday School and Worship:  
 Amy Lookabill

**Nursery Volunteer**

Sunday School: Rita Chen  
 Worship: Evelyn Ribadeneyra

**The Stars**

Sunday School and Worship:  
 Linda Zachary

**Collection Counters:**

Brad Richardson and Mike Ribadeneyra

**Collection Counters 9/16/2018:**

Mike Ribadeneyra and Mike Schenck

**Sunday School Assistant:**

Page Morgan

**Children's Sermon:**

Caroline Laney



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**—If you're in 3rd grade this fall, get ready! On September 16th, during Sunday School, we'll be starting our annual Bible Class. You'll get your very own bible on September 9th so be sure to bring it with you on the 16th!

**Change to Make a Change**—It's time use all of that change to buy those books for the Little Free Library at Township Three Elementary School. Don't forget to head over to Got Books! at 814 Washington St with your \$10 certificate, pick out your books, check out using the certificate and place the books in the Central UMC bin. It's Easy Peasy! If you didn't get your certificate, Savanna still has some and will gladly give you one. Let's fill that little Library up!

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

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS  
**Weekly Update**

**Sunday**

Tribes at 9 am

**September 11**

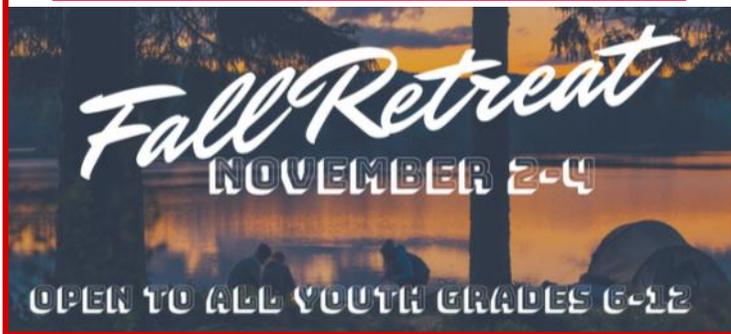
High School Breakfast at Chick-fil-A at 7:15 am

**September 16**

CUMC Youth Starts 5:30-7:30 pm

**September 19**

Youth Bible Study starts at 6 pm



**Supper Club**

It's almost time for Supper Club to resume for the fall. If you are a current participant and do NOT want to join in this time, please let Brenda

Whicker know. If you would like to join as a first timer, more information will be coming in the next couple of weeks or you can contact Brenda Whicker at mangrec@hotmail.com.

**Fall Bible Studies**

Mark your calendar for the many bible studies that will be starting this Fall. Additional information can be found on our website at

<http://cumshelby.org/grow/adults/>

**\*\*Continue the SHIFT Conversation**

**Beginning September 9th, 11 am Fellowship Hall**

**\*\*Discipler**

**Beginning September 12th, 7:15 pm Conference Room**

**Disciple Fast Track: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study**

**TBD**

Rob Laney will be leading participants through an exhilarant and extensive study of the Old and New Testaments. Daily readings and a workbook will assist you in reading a large portion of the Scriptures over a 24 week period.

**Draw the Circle**

**Beginning September 18th Mikel Home**

Do you pray as often and as boldly as you want?

There is a way to experience a deeper, more passionate, persistent and intimate prayer life.

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, this dynamic 5-week prayer challenge will invite you to press into God like never before. Short daily readings and reflections enhance the experience

**SEPTEMBER**



**BIRTHDAYS**

September 9	Lynn Eakins
September 9	Sarah Pruett
September 9	James Atkinson
September 10	Paul Ellison
September 10	Jennifer Mabry
September 10	Mason Wright
September 11	Mary Lattimore
September 13	Emily Carpenter
September 14	Terry Vaughan
September 14	Emily Tapp
September 15	Jonathan Hill



200 East Marion St  
Shelby, NC 28150

### Memorials and Honorariums

#### Operating:

In Memory of Bill Carpenter by Eddie & Jeannie Hamrick

In Memory of Courtney Brown by CC & Jackie Guy

In Memory of Francanna Vaughan by CC & Jackie Guy

In Memory of Cat Dorsey by CC & Jackie Guy

In Memory of Louis Snyder by CC & Jackie Guy



**TLC** – is seeking men and women called to walk with someone diagnosed with cancer. Contact through phone calls, visits, and cards are so appreciated as patients experience surgery, chemotherapy, or radiation treatment. If interested, please contact Laura Lombardi at 631-294-6656 or [savedbyhymn@gmail.com](mailto:savedbyhymn@gmail.com)

### 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.

### THE CHURCH DIRECTORY IS NOW ONLINE!

The church directory is now available online. The link and sign-in information is on our website on our members only page. Please contact the office for the password.



This innovative six-week experience, beginning Sept. 16, will enable participants to explore their spirituality through visual art.

You do not have to possess any artistic ability. This approach is designed for both persons without or with skills. It goes beyond to experiencing God simply by viewing art to experiencing God to creating art to experience God.

Though the schedule TENTATIVELY lists Sunday afternoons as meeting times, these are negotiable. We really would appreciate your participation. This is open to anyone in our community. **There are still openings available, please see Mark ASAP to sign up.**

For a full details see the Aug. 8 and 15 issues of the newsletter or go to <http://cumcshelby.org/grow/adults/> on the website.

### Upcoming Committee Meetings

**Church Council, Board of Trustees and Finance** will have changes to their regular meeting times in September due to Labor Day Holiday:

\*\*Finance will meet September 10th at 5:30 pm

\*\*Church Council will meet September 10th at 7 pm

\*\*Board of Trustees will meet September 17th at 5:30 pm



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

**Cub Scouting** is fun for the whole family. In Scouting, boys and girls start with their best right now selves and grow into their very best future selves. It's fun, hands-on learning and achievement that puts kids in the middle of the action and prepares them for today – and for life. Our Cub Scouts are looking for new members. If you have a child K-5th grades who would like to join, please contact Chris Mabry at [chrismabry23@gmail.com](mailto:chrismabry23@gmail.com).