



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.

November 28, 2018
Volume 27, No. 47

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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

We hope that you and your family will spend

Christmas at Central

Uptown Shelby Holiday Celebration

**In the Fellowship Hall*

November 30th, 6-8 pm – decorate

*Gingerbread Houses**

*December 7th, 6-8 pm – Christmas caroling
on the church steps with Crossfire, Central
Ringers, and Praise Ensemble*

*December 14th, 7-9 pm—Handel's Messiah
performance in the Sanctuary*

Special Events

*December 7th, noon - Kid's Place Christmas
Program*

*December 9th, 5 pm—Biblical Story of
Christmas, Christmas Children's Program*

*December 16th, 5:30 –7:30pm – One Starry
Night at Aldersgate UMC*

*January 9th, noon -- Kid's Place Epiphany
Service*

Advent Is A Time of Preparation

“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas!” However, it is not Christmas just yet. We still have a journey through Advent that is a time of preparation for the celebration of Jesus’ birth.

Increasingly, American culture has defined the Christmas season as the time between “Black Friday” and Christmas Day. Some are even pushing the start to right after Halloween. The Church has a different view of the Christmas season. It is the 12 days beginning with Christmas Day extending to Epiphany (Jan. 6). The four weeks preceding (Advent) comprise a penitential season of preparation much like Lent. This year, our worship planning team, has worked to emphasize Advent as a time of preparation. Each Sunday in Advent will build upon the previous Sunday in anticipation of the lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas Eve. Visually, you will notice that the Sanctuary will not be fully adorned until Christmas Eve. Each week, we will add elements to heighten anticipation and highlight Advent as a time of preparation. Figures will be added to the Nativity on the altar table each week until finally the Christ child figure is added on Christmas Eve. The hymns we sing will become more Christmas-oriented.

(Continued on page 3)

Gathering Stories of Faith

Sunday was a wonderful celebration of some of the ministries of Central UMC that have impacted the lives of those around us. There are many stories to tell and we would like to share them. We will begin video taping short interviews to share periodically in worship with responses to the question, “How has the ministry of Central UMC helped you grow in your Christian faith?” A sign-up sheet is on the table in the hallway outside the choir room. You may contact Pastor Mark (mbarden@wnccumc.net, 704-300-8326) for more information or to arrange a time.

**December 2-8, 2018
Calendar of Events**

Sunday (First Sunday in Advent)
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 Worship Band Practice
4:30pm UMYF
5:30pm Crossfire/UMYF supper
6:00pm Crossfire Rehearsal

Monday
9:00am Church Office opens
11:00am Prayer Team
6:00pm Cub Scouts (in the PAC)
6:30pm Word and Wine (at Dragonfly)
7:00pm Boy Scouts (in the PAC)

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 Disciple Bible Study (Conference Room)
7:00pm Central Ringers

Wednesday
9:00am Church Office opens
9:30am Gospel of John Bible Study (Conference Room)
5:00pm Butterfly and Sonshine Choirs
6:00pm Youth Bible Study
6:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
6:45pm Messiah Rehearsal
7:50pm Praise Ensemble Rehearsal

Thursday
Counseling Center closed
9:00am Church Office opens

Friday
9:00am Church Office opens
6:00pm Christmas Caroling

Saturday
11:30am Hot Lunch Program (PAC)

Serving Sunday, December 2, 2018



The Guppies
Sunday School and Worship:
Amy Lookabill

Nursery Volunteer
Sunday School: Leigh Mabry
Worship: Evelyn Ribadeneyra

The Stars
Sunday School and Worship:
Linda Zachary

Collection Counters:
Allison Mauney and Jim Morgan

Collection Counters 12/9/2018:
Brad Richardson and Jim Morgan

Sunday School Assistant:
Brenda Whicker

Children's Sermon:
Nick Richart

2018 Stewardship

10:00 am Worship (November 25).....	131
Sunday School (November 25).....	64
2018 Operating Budget.....	\$776,410.22
2018 Monthly Budget Needs.....	\$64,700.85
Total Receipts for Month of November.....	\$25,564.23
Total Receipts for 11/18/18-11/20/18.....	\$4,338.20

Central's Holy Chow Cookbook

The WINGS circle has many cookbooks still for sale. They are \$15 each and available in the office. They make great Christmas presents! If you don't have one come by and pick one up today!



Poinsettias and Wreath Order

Forms are now available. Poinsettias are \$15 and wreaths are \$20. Deadline will be December 16th. Please place completed forms with your check in the offering plate. The special bulletin

insert will be December 23rd and you may take your poinsettias home after the Christmas Eve 11 pm service but you are welcome to keep them in the sanctuary until Epiphany.

Birthdays

December 3	Elizabeth Lutz
December 4	Cooper Shope
December 5	Linda McGrath
December 6	Dave Rupprecht
December 6	Mike Epley
December 6	Emily Parker
December 7	Harriet Miller
December 7	Jackson Beam

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS
Weekly Update

Sunday

Tribes at 9 am

UMYF at 4:30 pm—NOTE THE CHANGE IN TIME!

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Youth Bible Study at 6 pm

December 16th

UMYF Christmas Party

Meet once a month. Do life together.

Student Parent
Small Ministry
Groups Seminars

Launching the weekend of January 25!
Meeting every last Sunday, monthly during UMYF!



Central
Youth
Ministries



Keep an eye out for new things starting this Fall!
Contact Savanna at 704-487-6336 or

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

Godly Play—All K-2nd graders will meet in the Godly Play rooms for Sunday School.

Upcoming Events:

Mark your calendar for the following events, you don't want to miss them!

Children's Christmas Program and Reception, December 9th 5-6 pm in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

Children's Christmas Party, December 19th 6-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Christmas Worship Workshop and Lunch, December 23rd 11 am in the Fellowship Hall

(Continued from page 1)

Christmas Eve will begin the great celebration of the Christmas season rather than simply serving as a climax to the holiday season. The First Sunday of Christmas (Dec. 30) will celebrate the full Christmas story with A Service of Lessons and Carols. The Christmas season will end on Jan. 6 (Epiphany) as the final figures (the magi) are added to the Nativity. Hopefully, some of our poinsettias will last through Epiphany so we can be fully decorated until Epiphany. Of course, if you wish to take your poinsettia home after Christmas Eve, you may do so. Otherwise, it will continue to remind us of Christmas as we worship throughout the season.

As you journey through Advent, take time to reflect upon the presence in your life of God's greatest gift: Jesus Christ. And, honor Jesus in the way you live your life throughout the year!



Aldersgate UMC (Shelby) has invited us to join them for a family fun Christmas event called One Starry Night. It is sure to be a special family night in which you will walk from station to station witnessing a live retelling of the story of Jesus' birth. Make plans now to join them from 5:30-7:30 pm on Sunday, December 16th. Registration will happen in the sanctuary and groups will leave every 10 minutes starting at 5:30.



200 East Marion St
Shelby, NC 28150

Memorials and Honorariums

Pastor's Discretionary:

- In Honor of Becky Cook by the Wesley Class
- In Honor of Cecil Jenkins by the Wesley Class
- In Honor of Barbara Schafer by the Wesley Class

Piano:

- In Honor of Bill Jack by Bill & Jo Marsh
- In Honor of Paul & Pat Ellison by Scott & Sheila Ellison

Kid's Place Scholarship:

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

School Ministries:

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



Church Office Hours for the Holidays

Please make note of the following changes in office hours during the upcoming

Holiday season.

Christmas and New Years:

December 25-26—Office Closed-no newsletter this week.

January 1—Office Closed



SPONSOR A MUSICIAN

Each year around Christmas time, we are blessed to have various musicians join us for our special Christmas program offerings. This year we will be joining forces with

Aldersgate Methodist to offer Handel's Messiah. There will be two offerings of this program: a community concert on Friday December 14 at 7pm here at Central and again at Aldersgate on Sunday December 16 at 10am. If you would like to help fund these musicians, we invite you to "Sponsor a Musician" by writing a check made payable to Central Methodist Church. Please include "Sponsor a Musician" on the memo line. If you would like to give this gift in honor or memory of someone, please include his/her name(s) with your check. Acknowledgements will be made in our program bulletin for the Friday evening community concert.



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.

Habitat Report for November

Hoey Bible Class	\$13.90
Wesley Class	<u>20.44</u>
	\$34.34

Rain is so necessary for our livelihood, but it sure does not help the contractor. We hope to have S. Hampton "in the dry" soon which will allow us to work through the winter. Getting the footings poured at Virginia Village is possible now at last! We are blessed with financial support from so many different sources which includes many of you.

Thank you!
Dick Schafer

Bible Study Update

**Word and Wine will meet December 3rd at 6:30 pm at Dragonfly Wine Market.

**Pastor Fawn will be starting a new study that will begin Sunday, December 2nd at 9 am in the Conference Room. This 5 week study will examine Joseph the earthly father of Jesus Christ. We hope to see you there.