



THE CENTRAL ISSUE

CENTRAL UMC SHELBY IS A SAFE SANCTUARIES

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

December 30, 2020
Volume 29, No. 50

200 East Marion Street, Shelby, NC 28150-4610
Phone: (704) 487-6336; Fax: (704) 487-4351
Kid's Place Preschool: (704) 487-6357
Counseling Services: (704) 810-4344
Email: central@cumcshelby.org; Website: www.cumcshelby.org

Mark L. Barden, Senior Pastor
Fawn Mikel, Director of Discipleship & Outreach
Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries
Savanna Craig, Director of Youth and Children's Discipleship
Libby Alexander, Organist
Gina Blanton, Director of Communications
Dianne Whisnant, Financial Secretary
Ed Winder, Facility Manager
Shelley Rempson, Kid's Place Preschool Director
Stacey Watkins Griffith, Pastoral Counselor



Words cannot express the gratitude we feel from your overwhelming generosity and kindness. Our Christmas bonuses were beyond charitable; they were sweet affirmations of your support and love for each of us. Thank you for sharing your blessings and thinking of us. But most importantly, we thank God for this incredible congregational family with whom we are blessed to worship, grow and serve, as together we share Christ in our community and world.

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year from
the
Staff at Central UMC!
Thank you for all of
your love and support!

Shelley
Fawn
Gina

Dianne
Ed

Savanna

Libby

Ed

Ed

January Birthdays

January 4	Margaret Ellis
January 4	Evelyn Ribadeneyra
January 5	Tom Wood
January 6	Laura Gray Lefcoski
January 7	Lorene Rogers
January 7	Celia Hensley
January 9	SaraMac Wood

Advent Wreath

For many years, the Jack Family has provided Central's Advent Wreath in celebration of the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ. This year, Marilyn wishes to honor Bill Jack, medically confined for his third Christmas and thank Central's Staff and Congregation for their love and prayers for him.

COVID-19 Updates

As per NC Mandate and for the health and safety of our staff and community, effective immediately, we ask that everyone wear a mask while inside the church buildings. We are also asking everyone that enters our facility to sign in with their contact information in order to aid with contact tracing should it be necessary. Know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers and we hope you stay healthy and well. Thank you for your cooperation.

Taking Care Of Each Other

Jesus used food and sharing meals to build community. We continue delivering meals every Saturday to our community and church family, friends and neighbors. If you would like a meal, know someone who would like a meal or would be interested in delivering meals between 11am and 12 noon, please contact Pastor Fawn at 954-547-2593 or fawn@cumcshelby.org.

Just Because We Love You

Each person of the Central UMC family is desperately missed! In an effort to stay connected, great effort is being made to contact our families by leaders and staff. BUT if you should need ANYTHING, please do not hesitate to call Pastor Mark or Pastor Fawn. We cannot guarantee solutions but we would love to walk with you!

Bible Studies

WORD AND WINE – Mondays, 6:30 pm. Grab your Bible and a glass as we learn, sharing our thoughts and insights on The Epiphany as found in Matthew 2:1-18. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83391585122>
REVELATION – Tuesdays, 7 pm. This is an incredible, in-depth study of one of the most intriguing books of Scriptures. This week we will be reading Chapters 17-18. Join leader, Savanna Craig, at Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86843458934>



OPEN TABLE: a shared community meal

As the pandemic worsens we are seeing many more in need in our community. We are currently serving over **170 people** per week a hot home cooked meal as well as fresh produce and food. This is only possible through donations of food and time – Boy Scouts, Food Bank, and YOU! If you are wondering how you could help consider:

*Donate – non-perishable foods, gift cards, even monetary donations specifically for Open Table enable the ministry to purchase in bulk. *At this time we are filled to the gills with beans – all kinds of beans! Please no more beans!!!* **BUT WE DESPERATELY NEED SMALL BOTTLES OF WATER AND PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS and SANDWICH SIZED ZIPLOCK BAGS!**

***BUT WE REALLY NEED HELP** picking up and unloading all those goodies. Friday afternoons are usually the largest donations, so please consider helping from 4:30-5:30 pm... students can receive volunteer hours as well as the knowledge of making a significant difference in our community.

***ALSO** -- Extra muscles, hands and hearts are always needed on Saturdays. The kitchen is busy with last minute prep, orders are taken, guests are greeted outside, plates are made... Please arrive to help by 10 am with your MASK (because we follow the guidelines!).

For more information or to volunteer contact Evelyn Ribadeneyra at 704-473-9444 or evelyn@carolina.rr.com or Ann Anthony at 704-477-2492 or mrslibrary@gmail.com

Advent/Christmas Services Available For Viewing Anytime

Broadcasts such as the Hanging of the Greens service and Virtual Christmas Caroling, along with the Christmas Eve Services will be posted on our website. You may also view them any time from the Video section of the church's Facebook page. Services are automatically saved on Facebook for later viewing. Feel free to share the links with your friends. <https://www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/> and <http://cumcshelby.org/latest-sermons/>

Share Your Christmas Pictures

During the Sundays in worship during Christmas through Epiphany, we would love to share pictures of you and your favorite Nativity scene, Christmas tree our house decorations. Please email them to mbarden@wnccumc.net. It is a great way to send Christmas greetings to our church family.



Be sure to check out our website: www.cumcshelby.org
And our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Jeff & Bil Keane



"The Bible tells us to study math. It says, 'Go forth and multiply.'"

Building Use Updates

Now that the weather has gotten colder, we are trying to conserve costs by lowering the heat in non essential areas. That being said, we are asking that the interior door at the handicap entrance remain closed to keep the cold air from entering the stairwell.

We are also asking that everyone be sure to turn out the lights as they leave a room/area. Thank you for your cooperation and for all you do to support our ministry and community. We try to be very good stewards of your gifts.

2020 Stewardship

2020 Monthly Budget Needs.....	\$63,576.49
Total Receipts in November.....	\$56,998.49
November Expenses.....	\$59,947.77
Over/—Under Budget for the month.....	-\$2,949.28
Over/—Under Budget for the year.....	-\$51,762.97

[Full Schedule Announced for the Winter Leadership Training Webinar Series!](#)

Like most events during the pandemic, our District Winter Leadership Training Events will look a little different for 2021. Rather than hosting in-person events in each district, we will offer a series of Conference-wide training webinars during the week of January 10-14 to resource and equip all areas of your Church leadership.

Jason Moore of Midnight Oil Productions will lead the keynote webinar to launch the series on "Telling the Old Story in a New Time." Other topics will include: Financial Faithfulness in Uncertain Times, The Ministry of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Evangelism During A Pandemic, Leadership During a Pandemic for Church Councils, Racial Equity and Justice, Courageous Conversations, and much more.

Click the above link (in the headline) for more information and to register.



200 East Marion St
Shelby, NC 28150

Memorials and Honorariums

Operating:

In Memory of her Mom, Dad, and Brother by
Naushaba Samuel

In Honor of Charles and Teralea Moore by Bobby &
Ann McDaniel

Music Ministry:

In Memory of Larry Barden by Margaret Ellis

Open Table:

In Honor of Will and Joanie Mabry by Stan & Ann
Anthony

In Honor of Will and Tine Rucker by Stan & Ann
Anthony

In Honor of Bill and Susan Young by Stan & Ann
Anthony

In Honor of Dr. Patrick Vollmer, Dr. Joseph
Dipasqua, Dr. Troy Tevis, Dr. James Mason, Dr. Nord
Davis, Dr. Ben Poole by Shelby Eye Centers

Piano:

In Memory of Martha Laney by Margaret Ellis

In Honor of Bill and Jo Marsh by Bobby & Ann
McDaniel

Upper Room Devotions

The January/February edition of the Upper Rooms will be available outside of the office starting Monday, December 21st. You may pick one up Mon-Thurs 9-4 or Fri 9-1 but please keep in mind our Holiday hours found on page 1 of the newsletter. Contact Gina if you need to make different arrangements.

Backpack Food Drive

Our schools are back in the swing of things as is our Backpack Ministry! As the schools recognize children who are food insecure, CUMC provides meals for them to take home for the days they are not in school. For the month of December we're asking for **individual packets of oatmeal or grits**. You may drop them off at the office M-Th 9-4 and Fri 9-1. These will be added to weekly bags of food sent home from school with food insecure students for weekend meals.

© Randy Glasbergen
www.glasbergen.com



"I downloaded them from a cloud."



Prescription/Over-The-Counter Bottles

YES, we are still collecting empty prescription, vitamin, over-the-counter medicine bottles for use in 3rd world countries. You may bring them to the church office. (Please remove any labels with your name.)