


Happening **today, 8/10:**

8:45 AM Sunday School – *All ages*
10:00 AM Worship | *Sanctuary*
11:15 AM New-ish to Central Coffee Hour | *Library*

Happening this **week, 8/11–8/17:**

MON, 8/11		Last day to register for Tourists Game!
	5:45 PM	Theology Pub <i>Village Pub</i>
TUE, 8/12	12:00 PM	Building Committee Mtg. <i>Conference Room</i>
	1:30 PM	Trustees <i>Conference Room</i>
WED, 8/13	11:00 AM	Volunteer Day <i>Haywood St. Congregation</i>
THU, 8/14	8:00 AM	Thursday Morning Prayer <i>Zoom</i>
	10:00 AM	Circle of Prayer <i>Zoom</i>
FRI, 8/15	5:00 PM	Downtown After 5 <i>Pack Square Park</i>
SUN, 8/17	8:45 AM	Sunday School – <i>All ages</i>
	9:30 AM	Blood Pressure Checks <i>Library</i>
	10:00 AM	Membership Sunday <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 AM	Blood Pressure Checks <i>Library</i>
	11:15 AM	Chalk The Block

For more information about these activities, go to [CentralUMC.org/Events](#).

 **Eco-Tip:** Reduce your consumption of disposable paper products like paper towels, napkins, and cups 🗑️ to avoid adding methane to our air. Substitute reusable cloths, washable cups, and refillable bottles instead! Every small switch makes a big difference 🌱♻️.

- SAVE THE DATE!** Here are some upcoming events to mark on your calendar!
- **A Service of Remembrance for Helene | FRI, SEP 26 | 4:00 PM**
A joint offering from First Presbyterian Church, Trinity Episcopal Church, and Central United Methodist Church, for us to remember together.
 -  **Pride Interfaith Worship | SUN, SEP 27**
An interfaith worship service prior to Blue Ridge Pride 2025
 - **Native Plants: Beauty and Blessing | OCT 2025**
A project to remove invasive species and plant native flora on the south end of our campus by CUMC’s Creation Care.
 - **Three Church Concert & Service, Habitat Fundraiser | FRI, NOV 7**
A joint concert of First Presbyterian Church, Trinity Episcopal Church, and Central United Methodist Church fundraiser for Asheville Area Habitat.
 - **friendsGIVING | WED, NOV 12**
An evening at **Highland Brewing event center** to enjoy music, hearty appetizers, and inspiring stories from some of our mission partners.

Deborah Circle Gathering | TUE, SEP 9 | 10:00 AM
Deborah Circle will meet at the home of a member on **Monday, September 9 at 10:00 AM**. We’ll enjoy fellowship after our summer break and plan our programs and service projects for the year, with a special focus on addressing food swamps and food deserts in our area—especially in the aftermath of the hurricane. **All are welcome!** For more information, contact **Susan Snell** at ssnell123@bellsouth.net.

Ministry Staff

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown, Senior Pastor
MBrown@CentralUMC.org

Rev. Lisa Rettew, Minister of Congregational Care
LRettew@CentralUMC.org

Regan Duke, Children and Youth Summer Intern
ChildrensMinistry1@CentralUMC.org

Corey Powell, Organist & Director of Music Ministries
CPowell@CentralUMC.org

Linda Haggard, Director of Choral Music
LHaggard@CentralUMC.org

Richard Provine, Director of Central Brass
RProvine@CentralUMC.org

Central.Giving.

- Financial Update through 7/31/25:**
- Year to Date Offering: \$802,284.46
 - Total Annual Budget: \$1,500,000.00

Sermon Discussion Questions

Continue to reflect on today's message by journaling or discussing the following questions:

- Faith is impossible without God’s grace working within us. How have you seen grace in your own faith?
- Where is fear cropping up and sending you off on the wrong path? Think about how hope can be your ally.
- God calls imperfect people and continues to stay by our side in spite of the ways we miss the mark. How can God help you let go of your flaws and lean into the grace offered by God's Holy Spirit?


Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

It’s been a Summer of Psalms! Although that sermon series has ended, the Psalms still have something to speak to us. As you read a Psalm each day, try reading them out loud. Listen for a line or phrase that feels especially meaningful. Consider re-reading that line out loud and then sitting in silence with it for 5 to 10 minutes.

- Monday: Psalm 46
- Tuesday: Psalm 47
- Wednesday: Psalm 48
- Thursday: Psalm 49
- Friday: Psalm 50
- Saturday: Psalm 51
- Sunday: Psalm 52

Next week in worship...

Join us as we welcome new members into our congregation and reflect on Jesus’ message in Luke 12:32-40! *Steve McClure – Guest Organist*



Central
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 10, 2025 | 10:00 am

- WELCOME** Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY “Procession” Charles Callahan

Prayer cards and name tags are available in the attendance pad at the end of each pew. You can also find prayer cards in the pew rack in front of you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Lisa Rettew

It is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—
if, in fact, we suffer with him
so that we may also be glorified with him.
Creator, Son and Holy Spirit:
Thanks be to God!

***HYMN 98** “To God Be the Glory” TO GOD BE THE GLORY

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
Ending with the Lord’s Prayer: *Hymnal 895*

PSALTER Psalm 50 Melisse Latini
Hymnal 783

MINISTRY MOMENT Kathy Leftwich
United Women in Faith Scholarship Presentation – Bella Strupp

OFFERTORY “There’s A Wideness in God’s Mercy” Karen Marrolli
Summer Choir

While the choir makes their musical offering, the ushers will pass plates for those who wish to offer a financial gift or prayer request. You may also use this QR code to make a financial gift. As you pass the plate—whether or not you give—we invite you to pause and reflect on what you hope to offer God this week.

***DOXOLOGY** “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”
Hymnal 94

SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-12 Brian Bost

CHILDREN’S SERMON Regan Duke
Following Children’s Time, children in kindergarten – 5th grade are invited to be part of Children’s Church in the Chapel. Children 5 years old and under may leave at this time to go to the nursery with our childcare staff.
Children Must have name tags on them.
The name tag table is located outside the Sanctuary by the Library.

SERMON	“The Grace of Faith”	Rev. Lisa Rettew
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH		<i>Hymnal 881</i>
A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church		
*HYMN 140	“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”	FAITHFULNESS
*BENEDICTION		Rev. Lisa Rettew
CHIMES OF THE TRINITY		
VOLUNTARY	“Praise”	Gilbert Martin
<i>*Please stand, if you are able.</i>		

A livestream of the worship service is available in the library for families. Nursery care is available in Room 104 for children ages 0–5.

The flowers in the Chancel this morning are given in loving memory of Jackson Ty Caviness by his grandmother, Brenda McGuire, his mother, Sally M. Myers, and his great uncle and aunt, Joe and Jean McGuire.

If you are interested in providing flowers for the Chancel, please contact Mary Margaret at marymargaretingle@gmail.com, especially for the weeks of November 9 and November 16

Plainclothes law enforcement officers are present during our services so that all may feel welcome, secure, and free to worship, fellowship, and experience God’s grace freely. Our staff members are in direct communication with the officers should you feel the need to ask for assistance or voice a concern.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New-ish to Central? Join Us for Coffee! | TODAY | 11:15 AM
If you’re new—or still feel new—at Central, we’d love to get to know you! Join us for our “New(ish) to Central” Coffee Hour in the library. Pastor Mary will be there to answer questions and help you connect with others. Our next Membership Sunday is next Sunday, August 17.

Serve at Haywood St. Congregation | WED, AUG 13 | 11:00 AM
Haywood St. hosts a free Welcome Table meal every Wednesday. On Aug. 13, Central will provide volunteers to help serve. Contact Pastor Mary to sign-up or for more info.

Summer Sunday Singing Is Here!
Ever wanted to sing in the choir—or just love to sing? Join Linda and Corey in the sanctuary at 9:15 AM on Sundays this summer for fun, no-pressure singing. No robes, no procession—just music, fellowship, and joy. All are welcome!

Asheville Tourists Game | TUE, AUG 19 | 6:30 PM
Let’s go out to the ballgame! Join your Central friends at the Asheville Tourists game. Our group tickets are \$13/person. Game starts at 6:30pm; gates open at 5:30pm. Register & pay online by TOMORROW, Monday 8/11. Let’s see how many people we can get to fill the stands, wear our Central t-shirts (if you have one). Register at CentralUMC.org/Events or scan the QR code.



Old Testament 101 | WEDNESDAYS, SEP 3-DEC 17 | 5:30 PM
Ever wished you knew the Bible better? This fall, Rev. Mary Brown and Rick Kuenning will co-lead a 12-week in-person group study titled Old Testament 101. Whether you’re new to the Bible or simply looking to deepen your understanding, this accessible overview will help you become more confident in reading and interpreting the Old Testament. Each week, participants will explore key themes, historical context, and how these ancient scriptures continue to speak into our lives today. Participants should plan to spend approximately 30 minutes per day reading and preparing for discussion. Choir members are welcome to participate and may step out after the first hour if needed. Space is limited to 35 participants. Cost: \$15 (scholarships available). To register, please contact Jan Griffin at JGriffin@CentralUMC.org.

Downtown After 5 | FRI, AUG 15 | 5:00 PM
Wear your Central UMC t-shirt and join us as we take our fellowship to the streets at Downtown After 5, Asheville’s free live music festival series Pack Square Park. Connect with our community, enjoy good music, and spend time with your Central family. Keep an eye out for Regan while you’re there—she’d love to see you! Questions? Contact Regan at ChildrensMinistry1@CentralUMC.org.

Membership Sunday | SUN, AUG 17
If you’d like to officially join the church, please fill out the “Intent to Unite” form on our website at CentralUMC.org/MEMBERSHIP-REQUEST. Pastor Mary or Pastor Lisa will follow up with you to set up a time to talk. Joining the church is more than a formality—it’s a public profession of your faith in Christ and a meaningful commitment to live out that faith in community with Central UMC. Have questions? Pastor Mary would love to talk with you!

Blood Pressure Checks | SUN, AUG 17 | 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM
Take a moment to care for your health! Free blood pressure checks will be offered in the Library at two convenient times: 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM. Registered Nurses (RNs) will be on hand to provide quick, confidential screenings. Whether you’re managing a health condition or staying proactive, this is an easy way to check in on your wellness. All are welcome—no appointment necessary!

Chalk The Block | SUN, AUG 17 | 11:15 AM
The young—and the young at heart—are invited to join the Children’s Ministry outside the Fellowship Hall and along the Church Street sidewalks to create positive, encouraging, and affirming sidewalk art. Help us bring beauty and color to our sidewalks as we cheer on our friends at Mountain City Public Montessori, who head back to school that week!

Mt. City Montessori Back to School Night | MON, AUG 18 | 4:00–6:00 PM
We’ll have a table with refreshments and flyers about upcoming children and youth events. Want to help? Contact Cameron Smith at clg7498@gmail.com.

Welcome Back Mt. City Montessori School | WED, AUG 20
Over 180 students will return to campus, bringing energy and life to our shared space! Traffic Alert: Please note that afternoon carline will resume on August 20, which may cause traffic delays on Church St.; M–Th: 2:50–3:10 PM, and F: 12:50–1:10 PM. To avoid congestion, consider parking at the Buncombe Street Parking Garage during these times. Thanks for helping us support our neighbors and share our space with grace!

Chancel Choir Fall Kickoff | SAT, AUG 23 | 5:00 PM
Join us for dinner and fellowship at the home of Lauralee and Mike Bailey as we kick off the fall season! All Chancel Choir members, along with their families and friends, are invited. Questions? Contact Linda Haggard.

A Big Day at Central! | SUN, AUG 24
Join us for a special day of welcome, celebration, and preparation:

- **Welcome Breakfast for Maggie Christy** | 8:45 AM
Come meet and greet Maggie Christy, our new Director of Children and Youth Discipleship, during a breakfast in her honor during the Sunday School hour.
- **Promotion Sunday** | During Worship
We’ll celebrate all children and youth moving into new age groups and classes. Families are encouraged to attend as we bless our young people and the adults who guide them.
- **Leadership Central** | 11:15 AM – 3:30 PM
All committee and ministry leaders are invited to this important mini-retreat to connect, plan, and set direction for the coming year. Lunch provided!


Children & Youth Fall Kickoff | SUN, SEP 7
Celebrate the start of Fall Programming! After Worship, join us for our Table 2 Table all-church meal provided by Equal Plates Project. Suggested donation: \$10 per person. Kids 4 and under eat free. Max family cost: \$30. Everyone is welcome—whether you can cover the meal or not. Plus, Kona Ice will be on site for a sweet treat! Program Kickoff Times; Youth Choir & Kids Club | 11:15 AM, Children’s Choir | 11:45 AM

Youth Group and Cookout with Maggie Christy | SUN, SEP 7 | 5:00 PM
All middle and high school students—and their families—are invited to Haw Creek for an evening of youth group fun, food, and fellowship as we kick off the year and welcome our new Director of Children & Youth Discipleship, Maggie!

PUSHOUT Documentary | SAT, SEP 13 | 10:00 AM: Join us for a special screening of Pushout. This film challenges stereotypes and sheds light on the barriers Black girls face in our education system. All are welcome to attend and participate in a post-screening discussion.

Equal Plates Project Fundraiser | THU, SEP 18 | 5:00 PM: Join Equal Plates Project (EPP) for a seasonal dinner & creative mocktails featuring local ingredients by James Beard – nominate chef, John Fleer along with EPP chefs. For tickets and pricing scan the QR Code:





Central.Congregational Care.

Recovering from a medical event? Maybe Recovery Care Resources can be of help!

Recovery Care Resources (RCR) is a unique care ministry offered by Central to support both our church members and the wider community. RCR is designed for individuals returning home after a hospital or rehab stay, or recovering from a medical event, who may not have easy access to help from family, friends, or neighbors. RCR provides assistance in connecting with appropriate community resources to help ensure a smooth recovery. If this sounds like a service that could benefit you or someone you know, please contact Pastor Lisa for more information.