

Happening **today, 10/5:**


8:45 AM	Sunday School – <i>All ages</i>
10:00 AM	Worship Service <i>Sanctuary</i>
11:15 AM	Table to Table: <i>Urban Forester Presentation</i>
11:15 AM	<i>Youth Choir & Kids Club</i>
11:45 AM	<i>Children’s Choir</i>
11:45 AM	Reconciling Ministries Group <i>Rm 219</i>
11:45 AM	Young Parent Gathering <i>Conference Room</i>
5:00 PM	<i>Youth Group</i> <i>Haw Creek</i>

Happening this **week, 10/6–10/12:**

MON, 10/6	8A-3:30P	Preservation Society Conference
	5:45 PM	Theology Pub <i>Village Pub</i>
	6:30 PM	<i>Brass Rehearsal</i>
TUE, 10/7	8A-3:30P	Preservation Society Conference
	10:00 AM	Eve Circle <i>Brooks Howell Chapel</i>
	10:00 AM	Ruth Circle <i>Home of Kim Everett</i>
	2:00 PM	<i>Dementia Partners</i> <i>Library</i>
	5:30 PM	Allies for Equity <i>Zoom</i>
WED, 10/8	11:00 AM	Centering Prayer <i>Chapel</i>
	5:30 PM	Old Testament 101 <i>Rms 219 & 220</i>
	5:30 PM	<i>Handbell Choir</i>
	6:00 PM	Unnamed Women’s Group <i>Local Restaurant</i>
THU, 10/9	6:30 PM	<i>Chancel Choir</i>
	8:00 AM	<i>Thursday Morning Prayer</i> <i>Zoom</i>
	10:00 AM	<i>Circle of Prayer</i> <i>Zoom</i>
FRI, 10/10	8:30 AM	Habitat Work Day
SUN, 10/12	8:45 AM	Sunday School – <i>All ages</i>
	10:00 AM	Worship Service <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:15 AM	New-ish to Central Coffee Hour <i>Library</i>
	11:15 AM	<i>Youth Choir & Kids Club</i>
	11:30 AM	<i>Creation Care Meeting</i> <i>Rm. 307</i>
	11:45 AM	<i>Children’s Choir</i>
	11:45 AM	Young Parent Gathering <i>Conference Room</i>
	4:30 PM	Inquirer’s Class Chat ‘n Chew <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
	5:00 PM	<i>Youth Group</i> <i>Haw Creek</i>

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

📖 **Eco-Tip:** Our church library has a section dedicated to books on Creation Care. Some of the titles include: 📖 *Climate Justice* by Watkins, 📖 *Saving Us* by Katharine Hayhoe, 📖 *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster* by Bill Gates, 📖 *Earth’s Echo* by Hamma, 📖 *All Creation Sings* by Ellsworth Kalas, 📖 *The Gospel According to the Earth* by Matthew Sleeth. Come check them out and be inspired to care for God’s creation! 🙏💚

friendsGIVING | WED, NOV 12 | 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM: Join us for special evening of connection and generosity at Central UMC’s **friendsGIVING** on **Wednesday, November 12 at 6:00 PM.** We’ll gather at the Highland Brewing event center to enjoy music, hearty appetizers, and inspiring stories from some of the mission partners that we support. Come ready to bid on some exciting silent auction items! This will be a meaningful opportunity to make new friends and give to causes that matter.  **Cost is \$25.** Register at [centralumc.org/EVENTS](#) or **scan the QR Code.**

Ministry Staff

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Central.Giving.

Financial Update through **8/30/2025:**

- Year to Date Offering: \$903,015.61
- Total Annual Budget: \$1,550,000.00

Sermon Discussion Questions

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

- Think back to a time when you’ve gotten in trouble. Were there steps leading up to the moment when you got caught? Can you trace your actions all the way back to when they started as a thought?
- Martin Luther said, “You cannot keep birds from flying over your head but you can keep them from building a nest in your hair.” When have you allowed negative thoughts to “nest” in your mind?
- Confession is one way to stop our persistent negative thoughts. Who do you trust with your confidential information? Who can you confess your persistent negative thoughts to? If not – consider attending a Sunday School class or expressing interest in a Journey Group; learn more at www.centralumc.org/adults

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

Today we continue our series on the story of David by looking at the epic story of David and Bathsheba. Get a sense of the place of this moment within the greater story with these daily readings:

- Monday: 2 Samuel 20
- Tuesday: 2 Samuel 21
- Wednesday: 2 Samuel 22
- Thursday: 2 Samuel 23
- Friday: 2 Samuel 24
- Saturday: 1 Kings 1
- Sunday: 1 Kings 2

Next week in worship...Join us as we near the end of our six-week series on the life of David! We’ve looked at David’s relationship with Samuel, Saul, Goliath, Jonathan, and Bathsheba. Now we get to his most important relationship: God, as described in his song of praise in 2 Samuel 22. Come and bring a friend!



Central

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 5, 2025

10:00 am

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY “Veni Sponsa Christi” Christopher Uehlein
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

Based on Psalm 51
Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love
Wash us of our guilt; cleanse us of our sin
We’ve committed evil in your sight
Turn away from our sin!
We’ve been sinful since birth
Wipe away our guilt!
We offer to you our broken hearts
Create in us clean hearts
We offer to you our humble spirits
Renew a right spirit within us

***HYMN 568** “Christ for the World We Sing” ITALIAN HYMN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *Hymnal 33*
Graham Garland, child of Caroline Garland

SCRIPTURE READING 2 Samuel 11:1-15 Ron Payne

SERMON “David and Bathsheba” Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CONFESSION AND PARDON *Hymnal 12*

OFFERTORY “Be Still” Karen Marrolli
Wesley Singers

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

SERVICE OF THE WORD AND TABLE Rev. Lisa Rettew
Hymnal 12 Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

COMMUNION MUSIC

- 548 “In Christ There Is No East or West”
- 620 “One Bread, One Body”
- 624 “Bread of the World”
- 121 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

*HYMN “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” DENNIS
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

*BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY “Toccata Giacosa” Gilbert Martin

*Please stand, if you are able.

There will be no Children’s Church today. 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 by Kristeen and Randy Booker in honor of their 40th wedding anniversary.

If you are interested in providing flowers for the Chancel, please contact Mary Margaret at marymargaretingle@gmail.com.

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

Table 2 Table & Urban Forestry Presentation: by Creation Care Committee TODAY | 11:15 AM | Fellowship Hall

Enjoy a delicious all-church meal prepared by Equal Plates Project (suggested donation: \$10/person; max \$30/family—kids 4 and under eat free). During the meal, we’ll hear from Keith Aitken, Asheville’s Urban Forester, who will speak about how the city is rebuilding its tree canopy after Hurricane Helene and share plans for a more resilient, sustainable urban forest. Sponsored by Central’s Creation Care Committee. RSVP at centralumc.org/EVENTS.

Habitat Work Day | FRI, OCT 10 | 8:30 AM: Join Pastor Mary and other Central UMC friends for a Habitat Work Day! No skills required - just a willingness to come, learn, and work with us from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM on a Habitat work site (location will be emailed out that week). Afterward we'll have lunch together. Feel free to invite a friend who doesn't go to Central!

The Black Cultural Heritage Trail honors and preserves the rich heritage of Asheville's Black community. bcht.exploreasheville.com Sites and stories range from well-known landmarks visible in the community today to the unsung heroes and underrecognized achievements and contributions by the

Black community in the past. The Black Cultural Heritage Trail survived Helene, and Allies for Equity would love for you to join us in the experience! There are 3 sections of trail opportunities. All sections are ¼ mile long and take approximately 10 minutes to walk. We have found that the Downtown Trail does require uphill travel upon return. The total time commitment for each trail group gathering should be around an hour and a half. To sign up go to CentralUMC.org/Events.

- The River Area Trail: facilitators Heather Cree and Riley Peltz, Saturday, October 11, 10 AM, meet at The Grind, 346 Depot St.
- The Downtown Trail: facilitators Peter Barrett, Jim White, and Sarah White, Saturday, October 18, 10 AM, meet at Green Sage Café, 5 Broadway St.
- The Southside Trail: facilitator Sara Sterling, Saturday, October 25, 10 AM, meet at Vortex Donuts, 32 Banks Ave.

Blood Drive at Central UMC | SUN, OCT 19 | 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Central United Methodist Church will host a Community Blood Drive on Church Street. This is an opportunity to give the gift of life by donating blood, and your generosity can make a real difference for patients in need across our community. To participate, please register online at thebloodconnection.org using Sponsor Code 13769. Walk-ins are also welcome as space allows. Join us and help us share life and hope with our neighbors.



Fall Festival 2025! | SUN, OCT 26 | 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM | Haw Creek Autumn is in the air, and that means it’s time for our Annual Fall Festival! Once again, we’re gathering at Haw Creek Commons for an afternoon filled with seasonal fun for all ages. Families, friends, and neighbors are invited to join us for games, activities, delicious food, and plenty of laughter. Costumes are welcome—so feel free to bring your best fall or Halloween spirit to the celebration! This event is completely free and open to everyone in the community.

friendsGIVING Silent Auction & Sponsorships: This year’s friendsGIVING celebration on Wednesday, November 12 promises to be an evening full of energy and community spirit. Alongside live music and a thoughtful panel of speakers—made possible through our missions budget—we’re excited to add a new feature: a silent auction (with the possibility of a live auction, too!).

We’re inviting donations of items or baskets valued at \$100 or more. Gift certificates, sports tickets, themed baskets, or even time at a vacation home are all wonderful ways to contribute. These items not only make for exciting bidding but also help ensure the event’s success. Donations should be received by October 31. If you’d like to participate, please reach out to Jonathan Meadows at jonathanlmeadows@gmail.com or Vicki Leeds at vsueleeds@gmail.com.

In addition to auction items, we’re also seeking event sponsors. If you’re a business owner or part of a group, consider becoming a Silver Level sponsor (\$250) or a Gold Level sponsor (\$500). Sponsorship is a meaningful way to invest in this gathering and in the mission it supports.

Together, your gifts and generosity will make friendsGIVING a night to remember—a time of fellowship, generosity, and gratitude.

Journey to Joy: Blessed Not Stressed | NOV 14–16, 2025

Lambuth Inn at Lake Junaluska

Are you longing for a weekend to relax, recharge, and find renewal? Join us at Lake Junaluska for Journey to Joy: Blessed Not Stressed, a time set apart for worship, laughter, learning, and deep spiritual connection.

This retreat, led by Leigh W. Young, will offer space to rest, grow, and rediscover the joy that God promises us. Together, we’ll share in community, encourage one another, and leave refreshed for the journey ahead.

For more information, visit lakejunaluska.com/joy. Come ready to be blessed—not stressed. See you at the Lake!



Deborah Circle | TUE, OCT 14 | 10:00 AM | Member’s Home Deborah Circle will gather at a member’s home on Tuesday, October 14, at 10:00 AM. Following the United Women in Faith program book, we will explore where our food comes from and how we can share it locally with those in need. We will offer gratitude for God’s blessings by contributing to the World Thank Offering, which improves the lives of women, children, and youth. All are welcome. Please direct questions to Susan Snell at ssnell123@bellsouth.net.

Martha Circle October Meeting | TUE, OCT 14 | 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM Are you looking for a group to connect with this fall? If so, consider joining Central's United Women in Faith Martha Circle. We're a group of women, some working, some retired, who share our faith and friendship together. We meet the second Tuesday of each month. We will meet in Central's Library, for a time of fellowship and a program. Questions? Contact Kathy Leftwich at kathleencleftwich@gmail.com. We'd love to have you join us!

Filling Emma Elementary’s Clothes Closet: Congregations 4 Children (C4C) invites your help in stocking Emma Elementary’s Clothes Closet with essential items for students in need. While our annual drive usually collects coats, Emma Elementary is fully supplied this year. So instead of coats, we’re focusing on stocking their Clothes Closet with other essentials that students need most.

What’s needed:
-NEW Shoes: Sizes 5/6, 7/8, 12, 13, and 1 & 2.
-NEW Pants: Sweatpants or stretchy pants (no jeans). Sizes 5/6, 7/8, 10/12, 14/16.
-NEW Shirts: Boys’ and girls’ sizes Small, Medium, and Large.
-NEW Lunch Boxes: Zippered all the way around, any color.
When to donate: Donations are welcome now through October 31, 2025.
Where to donate: Collection bins for the Emma Clothes Closet are located in the Fellowship Hall.
Thank you for helping meet the needs of children in our community!

Child & Family Care Ministry! Connecting you with other families is the crux of our Child & Family Care Ministry! Embracing your family with support when needed may include having meals delivered during a difficult time, finding a community resource, or providing a “Worship Buddy” during in-person worship. Please contact Maggie Christy to get connected!