






Happening today, 10/12:


8:45 AM	Sunday School – All ages
10:00 AM	Worship Service Sanctuary
11:15 AM	New-ish to Central Coffee Hour Library
11:15 AM	Youth Choir & Kids Club
11:30 AM	Creation Care Meeting Rm. 307
11:45 AM	Children’s Choir
11:45 AM	Young Parent Gathering Conference Room
4:30 PM	Inquirer’s Class Chat ‘n Chew Fellowship Hall
5:00 PM	Youth Group Haw Creek

Happening this week, 10/13-10/19:

MON, 10/13	5:45 PM	Theology Pub Village Pub
	6:30 PM	Brass Rehearsal
TUE, 10/14	10:00 AM	Deborah Circle Member’s Home
	12:00 PM	Trustees Meeting Conference Room
	1:00 PM	Wesley Singers
	6:30 PM	Martha Circle Library
WED, 10/15	10:00 AM	UWF Executive Committee Meeting Library
	11:00 AM	Centering Prayer Chapel
	1:00 PM	Creation Care: Native Plants Work Day
	5:30 PM	Old Testament 101 Rms 219 & 220
	5:30 PM	Handbell Choir
	6:00 PM	Dementia Partners Haw Creek
THU, 10/16	6:30 PM	Chancel Choir
	8:00 AM	Thursday Morning Prayer Zoom
SAT, 10/18	10:00 AM	Circle of Prayer Zoom
		Chancel Choir Workshop Sanctuary
SUN, 10/19	8A-2P	Blood Drive & Heath Fair Fellowship Hall
	8:45 AM	Sunday School – All ages
	9:00 AM	College Mailing Group Conference Room
	10:00 AM	Worship Service- Children’s Sunday Sanctuary
	11:15 AM	Expedition: Connect - Youth Outing
	11:45 AM	Young Parent Gathering Conference Room

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

 **Eco-Tip:** The dying/dead plants in your home garden provide a home for many insects over the winter.  Hollow stems shelter bees, wasps, moths, and some butterflies.  Leaf litter protects beetles, fireflies, butterflies and moths, bee queens, and woolly bear caterpillars. Delay your garden clean-up until the spring to give these tiny creatures a safe winter haven!  

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

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown, Senior Pastor
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Rev. Lisa Rettew, Minister of Congregational Care
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Financial Update through 9/30/2025:

- Year to Date Offering: \$1,101,129.51
- Total Annual Budget: \$1,550,000.00

Sermon Discussion Questions

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

- David uses words like rock, fortress, shield, stronghold, and refuge to describe God (2 Samuel 22:1-7). What does this say about David’s relationship with God?
- What words would you use to describe God? What might those words suggest about your relationship with God?
- David describes himself as righteous, clean, blameless, and free from guilt (2 Samuel 22:21-27). What does that suggest about how a relationship with God changes us?


What words would you like to use to describe yourself at the end of your life? What spiritual disciplines might allow God to work in you?

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

As we finish our series on David, take some time to read some of the Psalms attributed to him. How do these strike differently now that you know a little more about David’s life?

- Monday: Psalm 3 (see 2 Samuel 15-17)
- Tuesday: Psalm 18 (see 2 Samuel 22)
- Wednesday: Psalm 34 (see 1 Samuel 21:12 – 22:1)
- Thursday: Psalm 51 (see 2 Samuel 11-12)
- Friday: Psalm 52 (see 1 Samuel 22:9-19)
- Saturday: Psalm 54 (see 1 Samuel 23:19)

Next week in worship... It’s Children’s Sunday! We’re excited to welcome our children (ages 10 and under) to lead us with music, prayer, and messages. You won’t want to miss this chance to let the kids teach us to celebrate God so much we become “undignified.” 😊



Central
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 12, 2025
10:00 am

WELCOME

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me” arr. Diane Bish

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 Based on Psalm 18
We love you, God.
We love you!
You are our rock, our fortress, our deliverer.
You are our shield; you are our refuge.
When we need help, we cry out to you
And you hear our cries
You rescue us; you save us
You are making us new
We love you, God
We love you!

***HYMN 73** “O Worship the King” LYONS
Stanzas 1,2,4,5

PASTORAL PRAYER Ending with the Lord’s Prayer: *Hymnal 895*

ANTHEM “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word” Manz/Culli
Brass Quintet


MINISTRY MOMENT: Stewardship Stories

OFFERTORY “Fantasie on A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”
Brass Quintet arr. Kevin Kaisershot

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 2 Samuel 22:1-7, 21-25 David Ourisman



CHILDREN’S SERMON Maggie Christy
Following Children’s Time, children in K – 5th grade are invited to be part of Children’s Church in the Chapel. Children ages 5 and under may leave at this time to go to the nursery (3rd floor across from church offices) with our childcare staff. Children Must have name tags on them.
The name tag table is located outside the Sanctuary by the Library.

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

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed
Hymnal 880

***HYMN 451** “Be Thou My Vision” SLANE

***BENEDICTION** Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer” arr. Paul Manz

**Please stand, if you are able.*

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 Luke, Andrea, Laine, Annabel, Oliver, and Celian Lingle in loving memory of their daughter and sister, Gwyneth Elise Lingle.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Betty Lail, sister of Pat Page, who died September 26, 2025.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Maria Esther Campos, mother of Maria Campos, who died October 1, 2025.

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

Deborah Circle | TUE, OCT 14 | 10:00 AM | Member’s Home
We will gather at a member’s home on Tue., Oct. 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!


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 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 & Health Fair | 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, chili & hot dogs, 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. **Please park at Haw Creek Elementary School.*





friendsGIVING Silent Auction & Sponsorships: This year’s **friendsGIVING** celebration on Wed., Nov. 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 jonathanmeadows@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.

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.

Three Church Concert, Habitat Fundraiser | FRI, NOV 7 | 7:00 PM | Sanctuary
Join us for a special evening of music, worship, and community partnership as First Presbyterian Church, Trinity Episcopal Church, and Central United Methodist Church come together for a joint concert and worship service benefiting **Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity**.

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!



Lighting the Way Forward — Volunteers Needed!
Our Building Committee is beginning a much-needed **lighting refresh project** this fall, and we’d love your help to make it happen! Starting around **November 3**, volunteers will work in 4-hour daytime shifts alongside two electricians to **remove old fluorescent bulbs, clean fixtures and lens covers, and move furniture** to give access to lighting fixtures. The electricians will handle the rewiring and installation of new, energy-efficient bulbs. The work will continue for several months. *(The Sanctuary will be a separate project.)*

This project is an important step toward better energy stewardship. By replacing our old **38-watt fluorescent bulbs with 12-watt LED lighting**, we’ll achieve an estimated **82% savings in lighting costs**—potentially up to **\$40,000 a year** for full- time use of the building.

We’ve budgeted **\$10,000** for this project, but with volunteer help, we can complete the work within that budget and maximize our savings for years to come.

If you’re available during the day and would like to lend a hand, please contact **Tom Gibbs at tgibbs47@gmail.com** or **Jeff Seymore at jeffseymore140@gmail.com**.

Together, we can brighten our church—both literally and financially!