

Happening today, 10/26:

8:45 AM	Sunday School – All ages
10:00 AM	Worship Service Sanctuary
11:15 AM	Youth Choir & Kids Club
11:45 AM	Children’s Choir
11:45 AM	Young Parent Gathering Conference Room
3:00 PM	Fall Festival Haw Creek

Happening this week, 10/27-10/26:

MON, 10/27	5:45 PM	Theology Pub Village Pub
	6:30 PM	Brass Rehearsal
TUE, 10/28	12:00 PM	Finance Meeting Conference Room
	5:00 PM	Church & Society Zoom
WED, 10/29	11:00 AM	Centering Prayer Chapel
	5:30 PM	Old Testament 101 Rms 219 & 220
	5:30 PM	Handbell Choir
	6:30 PM	Chancel Choir
THU, 10/30	8:00 AM	Thursday Morning Prayer Zoom
	10:00 AM	Circle of Prayer Zoom
SAT, 11/1	1:00 PM	Mary Beth Tanner Reception Fellowship Hall
	2:00 PM	Mary Beth Tanner Memorial Service Sanctuary
SUN, 11/2	8:45 AM	Sunday School – All ages
	10:00 AM	Worship Service Sanctuary
	11:15 AM	Table 2 Table Fellowship Hall
	11:15 AM	Youth Choir & Kids Club
	11:45 AM	Children’s Choir
	11:45 AM	Reconciling Ministries Group Rm 219
	12:00 PM	Young Parent Gathering Conference Room
	4:00 PM	Choir to Givens Highland Farms
	5:00 PM	Youth Group Haw Creek

For more information about these activities, go to CentralUMC.org/Events.

Eco-Tip: Consider the environmental impact of packaging when choosing which candies to distribute for Halloween. 🌱🍬🍫

Eve Circle | Tue, Nov 4 | 10:00 AM: Eve Circle will meet in the parlor at Central. The program will be an update report by **Gaston Warner, CEO of Zoe**. His presentation will begin at **10:45** following the business meeting. Contact **Sharon** at skleduc@prodigy.net if you are interested or have questions. All are welcome!

Deborah Circle | TUE, NOV 11 | 10:00 AM: Deborah Circle meets on the second Tuesday of each month in a member’s home. All are welcome! This month we’ll **honor veterans in our families** and celebrate the freedoms they’ve helped secure. We also give thanks for our participation in the **World Thank Offering** and **Moheto Chicken Project**. Join us again on **Dec. 9** for **Christmas fellowship** and on **Dec. 17** for the annual **United Women in Faith Christmas Brunch**.

Ruth Circle | TUE, NOV 4 | 10:00 AM: Please join UWF’s Ruth Circle friends in the CUMC library! Our guest speaker will be Maggie Christy, Director of Children and Youth Discipleship. In **November** we will collect **bottles of gravy and KRAFT Mac and Cheese** for the ABCCM Thanksgiving Food Boxes. Other food items are also welcomed. We believe love in action can change the world! For more information about Ruth Circle or our meetings, please contact **Kim Everette** at kimeverette525@gmail.com.

Ministry Staff

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

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

Maggie Christy, Director of Children and Youth Discipleship
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Corey Powell, Organist & Director of Music Ministries
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Linda Haggard, Director of Choral Music
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Richard Provine, Director of Central Brass
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Central.Giving.

Financial Update through 9/30/2025:

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

Sermon Discussion Questions

For the next five weeks we’ll be looking at what makes us a “community for Christ.” Our membership vows put our participation in this community into five categories: prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Today we talked about how we participate in a community for Christ by our prayers.

- What does your prayer life look like now? When and how do you pray?
- How could praying for this community for Christ become part of your prayer routine?
- Think of a list of people and/or ministries within this community for Christ. Set aside a time each day to pray over that list this week. Start by thanking God for them – and see what happens!
- **Bonus:** Email Pastor Lisa at lrettew@centralumc.org to join one of our online prayer groups that meet Thursdays at 8am and 10am.

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

Continue to reflect on prayer as an aspect of Christian community by reading the openings of some of Paul’s letters. Notice how he writes about prayer as a part of their relationship. What does that say about the ways we ought to be praying for one another?

- Monday: Colossians 1:3-14
- Tuesday: Romans 1:8-17
- Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 1:3-11
- Thursday: Ephesians 1:15-23
- Friday: Philippians 1:3-11
- Saturday: Philemon 1-7

Next week in worship...

We continue to reflect on what makes us a “community for Christ” with the next of the five categories for participation: presence. How are we called to show up for one another? Join us next Sunday to practice “presence” as we learn about it!



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 26, 2025
10:00 am

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY “Offertory” John Ness Beck
Wesley Singers

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 the United Methodist membership vows:
Leader: We gather together because we are a community.
People: We are “a community for Christ in the center of the city.”
Leader: How do we become a part of this community?
People: By joining in with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.
Leader: Who is welcome in our community for Christ?
People: Everyone – without exception!
All: If you are looking for community, there’s a place for you here.

*HYMN 126 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” MIT FREUDEN ZART

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Lisa Rettew
Ending with the Lord’s Prayer: *Hymnal* 895

MINISTRY MOMENT: Stewardship Stories Kim Sink

OFFERTORY “The Church’s One Foundation” Mark Hayes
Chancel 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 Colossians 1:3-14 Susan Street

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 Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
“Finding Community with our Prayers”

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Hymnal 883
A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

***HYMN 530** “Are Ye Able” BEACON HILL

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

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY “Fugue in G Minor” Dietrich Buxtehude

**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 the Nesbitt and Morgan families in loving memory of Charles E. Nesbitt, Edward Nesbitt, Pearl and Joel Wright, Charles and Ione Morgan, Austa and Milton Nesbitt, and Linda McDuffie Morgan.

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

 **Fall Festival 2025! | TODAY | 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 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.

Filling Emma Elementary’s Clothes Closet | October Collection:
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.

Angel Tree Gift Collection | November Collection:
Central’s C4C committee is once again collecting Christmas gifts for children in foster care through Black Mountain Children’s Home. Sign up to sponsor a child at the Angel Tree in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday in November, or email C4C@centralumc.org for details. Gifts will be delivered in early December—thank you for helping make Christmas bright for these children!

Table 2 Table Lunch | SUN, NOV 2 | 11:15 AM | Fellowship Hall
 Enjoy a delicious meal provided by the Equal Plates Project as we gather around the table for food, fellowship, and learning. A suggested donation of \$10 per person helps support Equal Plates’ important work—kids 4 and under eat free. *Menu will be: Taco bar.*

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**.

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!



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 Co. 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. **Suggested donation is \$25**. Register at centralumc.org/EVENTS or **scan the QR Code**.

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!

