



# The Central Issue

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

January 21, 2026  
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David Lee, Senior Pastor  
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Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries  
Caroline Scism, Director of Children's Ministries  
Katie Bowers, Director of Youth Ministries  
Libby Alexander, Organist  
Hannah Walker, Administrative Communications  
Doug Smith, Facilities Manager  
Shelley Rempson, Kid's Place Preschool Director  
Doug Lowery, Media Coordinator  
Stacey Watkins Griffith, Pastoral Counselor

## Worship Service on 2/1

Although there will be many of our congregation at Lake Junaluska, there still be a worship service hosted at CUMC on 2/1! There will be no Sunday School or nursery provided that day. Join us for worship locally at 10AM- All are welcome!

## "Everyone Must Eat"

We had a great introduction session to "Everyone Must Eat" taught by Pastor David and Laura Lombardi. About 10 people were present to learn about the food insecurity of Cleveland County and got involved in the discussion. We hope that even more people decide to join in on the conversation.



## Confirmands and Youth Serve at Open Table

On February 7, the confirmands and all youth will participate in serving at Open Table. Please contact Katie Bowers for more information.



## Children Help Lead Worship

This past Sunday our children helped lead us in worship in many ways. All the children took time to look at Marilyn Jack's alter table to notice how her decorations help us concentrate on worship. Then Tammy and Reagan Nestlerode led the congregation in the morning prayer and the Lord's Prayer. (Reagan was still practicing with her Mom in the ladies restroom before church to remember all the words and to speak slowly!) Dorothy Sprinkle helped Caroline lift our offerings to the Lord as a part of our worship. These children with their open hearts and open arms are a great investment of our time, our prayers, and our monetary gifts as through Central UMC we are teaching and training the next generation of worshippers!

# CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS Weekly Update

Youth Sunday School  
Youth Commons Room at 9am  
With Katie Bowers  
Sunday Evening  
5-7pm in Fellowship Hall

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **1/25-** Confirmation 4-5pm; Youth Group 5-7pm
- **2/1-** NO YOUTH- Church Wide Retreat
- **2/7 (Saturday)-** Confirmands and Youth serve Open Table
- **2/8-** Confirmation 4-5; NO YOUTH- Super Bowl
- **2/15-** Confirmation 4-5; Youth 5-7
- **2/22-** Youth Valentine's Fundraiser



Nursery is open to all **Babies-PreK** kids. Nursery is offered **Sundays, 9-11 AM** in **Room E105** (pre-school age) and **Room E104** (infants).

### Elementary Sunday School

**Sundays 9-9:45am**

Infants- Nursery Room E104

Preschool age- Nursery Room E105

K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Godly Play Room E309



## Interested in Feeding Our Youth in 2026?

Sign up to provide a meal Sunday evening at 5pm in the fellowship hall. Please reach out to Katie with questions.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49A4AB23A1FFC70-61391068-meal#/>



January 11 - January 17, 2025

**Calendar of Events**

**Sunday**

8:00am Praise Ensemble  
9:00am Sunday School  
10:00am Worship Service  
5:00pm Youth  
6:30pm Central Ringers

**Monday**

Church Office open 9-2

**Tuesday**

Church Office open 9-2

**Wednesday**

Church Office open 9-2  
5:15pm Butterfly and Sonshine Choir  
6:15pm Chancel Choir

**Thursday**

Church Office open 9-2

**Friday**

Church Office open 9-2

**Saturday**

10:30am Open Table Hot Lunch (PAC)

**Serving Sunday, January 11, 2025**

**Nursery Volunteer:**  
Dorothy Hernandez

**Elementary Sunday School Teachers:**  
Ginny Hughes

**Middle School Teachers:**  
Katie Bowers and Holli Clark

**Greeters**  
Rhonda and Mike Keeley

**Coffee Time Helpers:**  
Leigh and Chris Mabry

**Coffee Maker:**  
Rita Chen Sprinkle

**Welcome Table:**  
Ginny and Alan Hughes

**Children's Sermon:**  
Daniel Sprinkle

**Offering Counters**  
Stan Anthony and Casey Young

**Trustees Lock Up:**  
Casey Young

**2026 Stewardship**

2026 Budget- In Process

Received as of 1/14/26.....\$59,981.35

\*This includes prepaid pledges that have been received.

**Memorials and Honorariums**

**Operating:**

In Memory of Betty Reeves  
June Miller

## Discipleship Opportunities

### Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

#### **The Book of Matthew**

8 am, Saturday mornings before Open Table

CUMC, Room E210

meets the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month**

Have you wondered about the nature of the Kingdom of Heaven?

Taught by Tim Sieges, retired Director of Wycliffe Counseling Ministries

### Disciple Class

Disciple is an in-depth four-year Bible Study that meets every Tuesday afternoon in the conference room from 3-5PM. We will be completing I and II Timothy, as well as Titus, after the Christmas holidays and will then by starting Disciple IV sometime in February. Everyone is welcome! Please contact Rob Laney (704-472-5042) if you are interested in joining!

### **“Everyone Must Eat”:**

### **A New Adult Study on Food, Faith, and Community Action**

We invite you to a new four-week class called “**Everyone Must Eat**”, a spiritually grounded and justice-minded conversation about food insecurity in Cleveland County **beginning 1/14 in the conference room**. Every Saturday, our Open Table Ministry feeds over 200 people with a hot meal and groceries—offering connection, care, and dignity. And yet, 1 in 6 of our neighbors in Cleveland County still struggle to access enough food. What more can we do—not just to feed people, but to build a more just and sustainable food system for all? This class, co-led by Pastor David and Laura Lombardi, invites us to reflect deeply and act boldly over four sessions. This isn't a top-down teaching series. It's not a lecture, but a lab for listening, learning, and leading together. We'll ask hard questions, share personal stories, and begin shaping practical responses to food insecurity right here in Shelby. If you're looking to connect your faith with real-life community impact, this class is for you.





200 East Marion St.  
Shelby , NC 28150

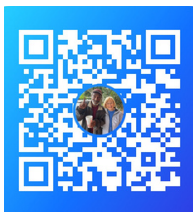
## January BIRTHDAYS

January 23	Ethan Triplett
January 24	Cathy Riviere
January 24	Scott Porter
January 24	Cy Cook
January 25	Nancy Lundquist
January 26	Hunter Plaster
January 26	Hattie Hamrick
January 26	Todd Bolin
January 28	Matt Triplett



### Open Table

We are asking for donations of **Bottled Water (any size)**. We'll always take donations of grocery bags. We invite you every Saturday from 8 am to noon to help us provide a free hot meal to our community. Join our Open Table volunteer communication by using the QR code here.



We are a **Safe Sanctuary** and a **Tobacco-Free Campus**. Please be sure that your children are accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult caregiver. We appreciate your assistance as we strive to ensure the safety of all. *Church policy prohibits the use of tobacco products on our church grounds.*  
**Thank you** for your cooperation!!!



### Coffee and Donuts

Join us every Sunday **OUTSIDE** on Washington Street (or in the Fellowship Hall depending on weather) from 9:30-9:55am each Sunday. We hope you'll make plans to join us for food and fellowship.

### Backpack Ministry

We need your help in filling our closet with food for the backpacks we deliver to North Shelby and Shelby Middle each week during the school year. For January we are requesting **Fruit Cups**. You may drop them off at the office Monday-Friday, 9AM-2 PM. For more info about how to serve, contact Ellen Benfield at [benfield@med.unc.edu](mailto:benfield@med.unc.edu).



Be sure to check out our website: [www.cumcshelby.org](http://www.cumcshelby.org)  
Our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/](http://www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/)  
Our YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@centralunitedmethodistchur6507>

And our App: Central UMC-Shelby on all app stores

