

The Central Issue

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

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January 7, 2026

Volume 34, No. 54

David Lee, Senior Pastor

Tammy Bass, Director of Discipleship

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



Blood Drive

January 20, 2026

2:00- 6:30pm

Fellowship Hall

Let's start the year off right and start giving blood, if you've never given. And if you are a donor, keep up the good work. You are saving lives. Your blood is greatly needed.

Local Service on 2/1

There will still be a service hosted at CUMC campus in Shelby on 2/1, while those who signed up will be at the retreat! Join us for worship locally- you are welcome!



Thank You

We would like to give a special thank you to Marilyn Jack for all of her hard work on our altar design during our Advent season this year! She works hard to provide visuals for our services that gives glory to God!

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

- **1/11**- Confirmation Kick Off- 4-5pm
- **1/18**- Confirmation 4-5pm; Youth Group 5-7pm
- **1/25**- Confirmation 4-5pm; Youth Group 5-7pm
- **2/1**- NO YOUTH- Church Wide Retreat



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#/>



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-5th Grade- Godly Play Room E309



Kids Serve at Open Table

As a Children's Ministry service initiative, children and parents are invited to help distribute food at Open Table on **Saturday, Jan 17**. Please enter through the Kids Place doors and meet in the PAC at 10:00am and we will start serving at 10:30. This is recommended for ages 3+ with a parent. We will go out to eat afterwards at Chick-fil-a at the mall.

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:
Caroline Scism and

Middle School Teachers:
Katie Bowers and Holli Clark

Greeters
Jessica and Daniel Talbert

Coffee Time Helpers:
Carrie and Brad Richardson

Coffee Maker:
Leigh Mabry

Welcome Table:
Ginny and Alan Hughes

Children's Sermon:
Monica Noble

Offering Counters
Pat Tiernan and Rocky Lutz

Trustees Lock Up:
Casey Young

2026 Stewardship

2026 Budget- In Process

Received as of 1/7/26.....\$18,154.73

Memorials and Honorariums

Operating:

In Honor of Mike Keeley's Retirement
Lori and Erin Wilson

Discipleship Opportunities

Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

The Book of Matthew

8 am, Saturday mornings before Open

Table CUMC, Room E210

meets the 1st and 3rd 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 be 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.

New Study Alert



200 East Marion St.
Shelby, NC 28150

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.



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!!!

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.



Be sure to check out our website: www.cumcshelby.org

Our Facebook page www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/

Our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com@centralunitedmet hodistchur6507>

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

