



# The Central Issue

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

January 7, 2026  
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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



## January BIRTHDAYS

January 7	Lorene Rogers
January 7	Celia Hensley
January 9	Sara Mac Wood
January 11	Joanie Mabry
January 11	Mike Keeley
January 11	Stack Reeves
January 11	Millie Wood
January 11	Warren Cook
January 12	Nancy Clark
January 13	Craig Goforth
January 13	Rita Chen



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



**Children's choir will  
be returning 1/7!**



### **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 **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 be starting Disciple IV sometime in February. Everyone is welcome! Please contact Rob Laney (704-472-5042) if you are interested in joining!

**New Study  
Alert**

### **"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

## Coffee and Donuts

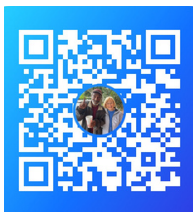


Join us every Sunday OUTSIDE on Washington Street (or in the Fellowship Hall depending on weather) from 9:30-9:55am each Sunday. We hope you'll make plans to join us for food and fellowship.



## 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](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/@centralunitedmethodistchurch6507>

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

