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THE CENTRAL ISSUE

CENTRAL UMC SHELBY IS A SAFE SANCTUARIES CHURCH.

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

October 1, 2025
 Volume 34, No. 39

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



Time for WinGs!

Wednesday, October 15th at 10am

What better way to spend an hour or so than surrounded by amazing, dedicated women of Faith, with great conversation, inspiring ideas, and information galore?!?

Join us for a great program this month that will be delivered ON WHEELS! Curious? You don't want to miss it.

Questions or items for the agenda, contact Caroline Laney or Beverly Putnam. Bring a friend. Bring your offering. Last month we welcomed 2 new members! YOU could be next!



Volunteer

SIGN-UP

If you would like to help feed our youth, please use the link below to sign up for a meal. We would love to have you stay to eat with us and get to know the youth better.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B49A4AB23A1FFC70-58244224-2025>

Pride

Volunteers

Shelby Pride Fest, October 11, 12-5pm

Central UMC will have a table at the Shelby Pride Fest! Thanks to the Legacy Grant, we will be giving out free stickers and pens. If you would like to volunteer your time to greet people and operate the table for any amount of time, please let Caroline Scism know.

SAVE THE DATE



Feeding Kids Cleveland County is having their annual Thanksgiving meal at the Bobby Bell pavilion on **Saturday,**

November 22nd at 4:00 p.m. CUMC is invited to participate by volunteering to help with the event (table decorations, serving food, or making a dessert) or by eating the meal with our neighbors. If you are interested please contact Denise Sieges at (704)609-6184 or denisesieges@gmail.com



"Everyone Must Eat" is the title of the new Wednesday Night Study with Pastor David and Laura Lombardi (10/29-11/19). We will talk about current realities around food and health in Cleveland County. More importantly, this will be an opportunity to faithfully and creatively engage and serve our neighbors. More details to follow later.



Save The Date: Pumpkin Painting

It's that time of year again. Are you thinking of cooler fall days and pumpkins, like me? Please join me in providing another successful pumpkin painting event at the Livermush Festival on **October 18, 2025.** We sign up for 2 hour shifts for that day and help kids have a blast decorating mini pumpkins. We need about 25 volunteers from 6:30 am until 5:30 pm. Please call or text Leigh Mabry at (704) 472-1110 if you can help out. Cool breezes and pumpkin painting will be here soon!



Hannah will be on vacation October 5-12. Office hours will depend on volunteer availability. Regular office hours will resume Monday, October 13.



Hallway Reflections

“Thoughts from the Hallway Class



Longing for Connection

There is a certain loneliness that comes with loving something very few others love. Some people can walk into a room and find a dozen who share their hobby. Others, with more peculiar passions—like studying and reading ancient languages or tracing the roots of words across time—may watch eyes glaze over faster than you can say “Semitic philology.”

Community is not always easy to find. And when it is absent, we feel it as an emptiness where connection should be. To not have people with whom we can share what is most meaningful to us can make us feel invisible—our passions unrecognized, our joys unseen, our burdens unnoticed, our lives fading into silence. “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: if either of them falls down, one can help the other up.” (Ecclesiastes 4:9–10).

These words remind us that community is not only about companionship—it is about the grace of being lifted when we fall, and the deep meaningfulness found in lifting others when they stumble. The beauty of Christian community is not that everyone has the same interests, but that the Spirit binds together people who would otherwise never gather. What unites us is not preference, but presence.

Maybe the greatest gift of the Church is that it offers us a home where even the most specialized, the most unusual, the most overlooked parts of us can be held by love.

Questions for Reflection

- Where in your life do you most feel the ache of being unseen or unheard?
- What part of yourself—your passions, gifts, or struggles—do you most long for others to recognize?
- How might our church embody the beauty of community for those who feel invisible?
- How can we learn to welcome not only what is familiar in one another, but also what is unusual or overlooked?

Todd Bolin



Hurricane Helene Remembrance Service

Sunday, September 28th, we gathered for a service of remembrance marking one year since Hurricane Helene. We reflected on where our community and region were a year ago and how God has carried us through both loss and resilience. A special offering was collected to continue supporting recovery efforts in Western North Carolina, as an act of hope and compassion. In prayer, worship, and generosity, we honored the past while trusting God’s grace to guide us in caring for those still rebuilding.



Nursery Volunteers Needed

We have an ongoing need of Nursery Volunteers each Sunday. Please visit our QR code to access the online signup form or sign up at the Welcome Table. If you have not served in the Nursery in a while, please consider volunteering twice a year.

We are still looking to hire a paid nursery workers! If you know anyone interested, please visit cumcshelby.org/job-openings for more information.



Fall Discipleship Opportunities

Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

8 am, Saturday mornings before Open Table

CUMC, Room E210

Start Sept. 20th and meets the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month!

The Book of Matthew

Have you wondered about the nature of the Kingdom of Heaven?
Good thing to wonder! Matthew's gospel pulls back the curtain and says, "Thanks for asking, here it is."

Taught by Tim Sieges, retired Director of Wycliffe Counseling Ministries

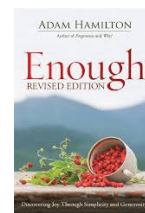
Wednesday Night

Bible Study

5:15-6pm

2nd floor Education Building

Enough by Adam Hamilton



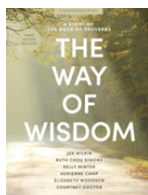
The Finance and Stewardship Committees wanted to offer everyone in the church the opportunity to go through the Enough Bible Study. It will be offered on Sunday mornings in the Hallway Class (E210) and Wednesday nights in the Fellowship Hall beginning Sun, Sept 7 and Wed, Sept 10 for 6 weeks. Please join us whenever you can for this study! The teachers for 10/5 and 10/8 will be John and Gale Green.

Evening Ladies Bible Study

Mondays at 6:30 pm, rotates locations.

Way of Wisdom

This is an 8 week study through Proverbs, written by 6 amazing authors. The study covers themes like our words, relationships, family, work and living with a wise heart. For more information and the meeting location, text Jillian at 870-688-9692.



Daytime Ladies' Bible Study

Thursdays starting Sept. 18th at 9:30

Conference room

Thrive by Jen Cowart is a 6 week study of the Book of James, a letter written about enduring hardships, lifting up six characteristics of mature Christians. From endurance and humility to controlling our words, Jen helps participants find the divine and the practical in living faithfully.



DISCIPLE

Disciple Class

The Disciple class will be starting back with the study of Colossians on Tuesdays from 3-5:30pm in the conference room. If you are interested, please contact Rob Laney.

October 5 - October 11, 2025

Calendar of Events

Sunday

9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship Service
5:00pm Youth Group

Monday

Church Office open 9-2

Tuesday

Church Office open 9-2
5:30pm Church Council

Wednesday

Church Office open 9-2
5:15pm Butterfly and Sonshine Choirs
6:15pm Chancel Choir
7:30pm Praise Ensemble

Thursday

Church Office open 9-2

Friday

Church Office open 9-2

Saturday

10:30am Open Table Hot Lunch (PAC)

Serving Sunday, October 5, 2025

Nursery Volunteer:

TBD

Elementary Sunday School Teachers:

Caroline Scism

Middle School Teachers:

Carrie Richardson and Monica Noble

Greeters

Holli and Matt Clark

Coffee Time Helpers:

Ann and Stan Anthony

Coffee Maker:

Rita Chen Sprinkle

Welcome Table:

Ginny and Alan Hughes

Children's Sermon:

Elizabeth Lutz

Offering Counters

Pat Tiernan and Barbara McLarty

Trustees Lock Up:

David Dillings

2025 Stewardship

2025 Operating Budget Amount.....	\$801,004.00
2025 Weekly Budget Needs.....	\$15,403.92
Total Receipts in August.....	\$41,474.05
August Expenses.....	\$52,873.10
Over/-- Under for the month.....	-\$11,399.05
Weekly Offering Collection.....	\$4,120.59
Weekly Needs as of 9/27.....	\$600,783.06
Budget amount received to date (This number includes pre-paid pledges).....	\$609,539.91

Operating: Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Eleanor Cloyd
Ernestine Bishop

Garry Washburn

Margaret Ellis

In Memory of Terry Brown

Sandra Allen

In Memory of Jim and Claudia Lutz

Sandra Allen



200 East Marion St.
Shelby , NC 28150

Coffee and Donuts

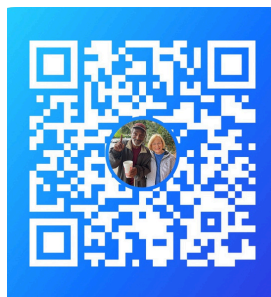


Join us every Sunday OUTSIDE on Washington Street (or in the Fellowship Hall depending on weather) from 9:30-9:55am each Sunday. We hope you'll make plans to join us for food and fellowship.



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!!!

October BIRTHDAYS

October 2	Eddie Wellmon
October 2	Avery Klamfoth
October 3	Cecil Burton
October 3	Allison Mauney
October 3	Becky Hughes
October 4	Peyton Simpson
October 4	Ann Morgan
October 7	Steve Gammons
October 7	Don Telle
October 7	Michael Johnson

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 October we are requesting Canned Ravioli Pasta. 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/@centralunitedmethodistchur6507>
And our App: Central UMC-Shelby on all app stores

