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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 8, 2025
Volume 34, No. 40

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!



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.



CUMC is hosting a
diapers and wipes shower
for Casey and Rebekah Young on Sunday,
October 26th right after the service in the
fellowship hall.



"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.



2025 Charge Conference

CUMC will have the 2025 Charge Conference October 19, directly after the service.



Hannah will be on vacation
October 5-12. Office Hours will be as follows, per volunteer availability:

Monday 10/6- 9-12

Tuesday 10/7- 9/12

Wednesday 10/8- 9-2

Thursday 10/9- 10:45-2

Friday 10/10- CLOSED



Hallway Reflections

“Thoughts from the Hallway Class



When Moving Doesn't Fix It

I once heard a sermon about a dog that has stayed with me. The minister described watching his dog scratch, scratch, scratch in one corner of the room. Then, after a while, the dog got up, stretched, moved across the floor, sat down in a different corner—and began to scratch, scratch, scratch all over again. The minister said he realized something: changing corners didn't change the problem. The trouble wasn't the corner. It was the fleas

That simple image speaks volumes. How often do we imagine that our struggles will disappear if only we could find a new corner? A new job, a new house, a new relationship, a new routine—surely that would fix the unrest inside. But sometimes, when we settle into the new space, we discover that the scratching continues. Because the problem isn't always “out there.” More often than not, it's something we carry with us. Old wounds, lingering bitterness, patterns of thinking or behavior that cling to us like fleas.

The gospel reminds us that Jesus doesn't just offer us a change of scenery. He offers transformation at the very source of our struggle. His grace doesn't simply move us into another corner—it heals the restless heart, names the wounds, and makes us whole.

So maybe the question for us isn't *where* we sit, but *what* we bring with us when we sit down. Are we asking God to deal with the fleas, or just to provide a different corner?

Reflective questions:

- What “new corners” in life have I believed would solve everything, only to find the same struggles waiting for me?
- What am I carrying that God may be inviting me to release?
- Am I willing to let Christ address the deeper cause, instead of only rearranging the surface?
- How would my life look different if I trusted God to heal me at the source rather than chasing relief in another place?

Todd Bolin



SAVE THE DATE



Feeding 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



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

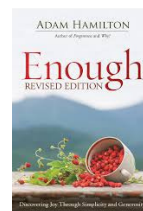
Wednesday Night

Bible Study

5:15-6pm

2nd floor Education Building

Enough by Adam Hamilton



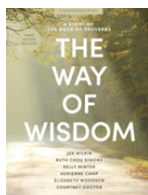
The Finance and Stewardship Committees wanted to offer everyone in the church the opportunity to go through the Enough Bible Study. It will be offered on Sunday mornings in the Hallway Class (E210) and Wednesday nights in the Fellowship Hall beginning Sun, Sept 7 and Wed, Sept 10 for 6 weeks. Please join us whenever you can for this study! The teacher for 10/12 and 10/15 will be John Lattimore.

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 12 - October 18, 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 12, 2025

Nursery Volunteer:

Dorothy Hernandez

Elementary Sunday School Teachers:

Caroline Scism

Middle School Teachers:

Katie Bowers and Rita Chen

Greeters

Elizabeth and Rocky Lutz

Coffee Time Helpers:

Carol and Mike Schenck

Coffee Maker:

Rita Chen Sprinkle

Welcome Table:

Ginny and Alan Hughes

Children's Sermon:

Keeley Benfield

Offering Counters

Barbara McLarty and Jim Morgan

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
Marilyn Jack

Beverly Putnam
In Memory of Claudia Lutz
Marilyn Jack



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Shelby , NC 28150

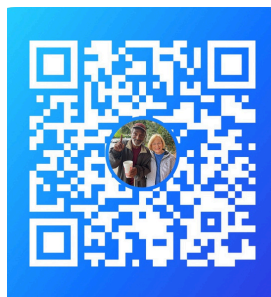
Coffee and Donuts

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 8	Hannah Walker
October 10	Sara Branton
October 11	Drexel Bakker
October 12	Stan Anthony
October 15	Eddie Hamrick

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

