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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.

September 2, 2025
Volume 34, No. 35

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



WELCOME BACK WinGs!

“Women in God’s service” will resume this year on Wednesday September 17th @ 10:00 am in the church Fellowship Hall. WE NEED YOU THERE! You will be blessed by the fellowship, energy, love, service, devotion to each other and the opportunities we encounter to be “the hands and feet” sharing God’s love.

If you have never been a member or it has been a while since you have attended, this is a great time to join us!

Jump in! Come back!

Coffee, snacks and connection to so many friends, activities and missions await you!



Blood Drive

September 16th: 2 -6:30, same place, same time...always in the fellowship hall. Donors will receive a t-shirt. There is always a shortage, so your blood is greatly needed.

Make your appointment at
redcrossblood.org.



Children 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, September 13 and then have lunch together at Chick-fil-a at the mall. This is recommended for ages 3 and older. Please meet in the PAC at 10:00am on September 13.



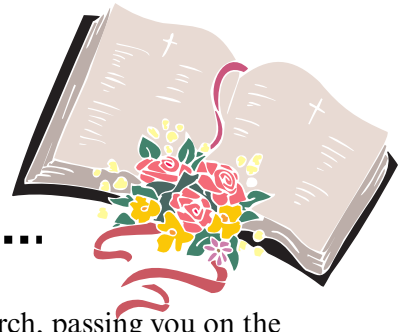
MEET THE PASTOR

If you have been visiting Central and would like an opportunity to meet Pastor David or ask questions about the church, come to the Fellowship Hall for Lemonade and Cookies after the service on September 7th.



Hallway Reflections

“Thoughts from the Hallway Class



Who Am I

I am everywhere, and my age can vary. I might be sitting beside you on the pew at church, passing you on the sidewalk, or showing up at work, at school, or at church events.

I move errands, work, and daily rhythms around, quietly canceling lunches, trips, and moments of rest, not because I want to, but because someone depends on me.

I have cried in the bathroom, whispering, “Just hold on,” then wiped my face and stepped back in with grace.

I have seen how this role reshapes the lives of my loved ones, weaving both strain and strength into the fabric of our days.

I have wrestled with guilt for being tired, for wanting a break, and for carrying a heart divided with anger and tenderness, resentment and love, bitterness and compassion.

There are many reasons why people step into this role.

Sometimes it is out of love, a care that runs deep.

Sometimes it feels like a calling, a choice.

Sometimes it is out of obligation because no one else is available.

But whatever the reason, the weight is real, and the presence is constant.

I might be raising children while holding someone else’s world together.

Or I may move more slowly these days, yet I still rise to meet every need for the one who depends on me.

From the outside, it may look like I am managing.

But every day stretches me in ways no one sees.

Who am I?

I am a caregiver.



There are caregivers all around us, neighbors, friends, even family, whose daily sacrifices often go unnoticed. Others have walked that road before us, giving more than most will ever know. Caregiving is woven into the story of life itself. How might God be inviting you to notice them, to pray for them, to encourage them, or to recognize their presence with gratitude? A phone call, a text, a card, a letter, or a meal can remind them they are seen.



Connect with us! Use this QR Code for a direct link to all things CUMC. Get easy access to online giving options, connect cards letting us know you were in worship (in person or online), updated bulletins, newsletters and more!

LOOKING FOR A SEASONAL JOB WITH AN ETERNAL PURPOSE?

Help process Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes for children around the world in Jesus' Name!

Scan this QR code to apply or go to samaritanspurse.org/occseasonaljobs



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Fall Studies Are Starting Up!

Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study

8 am, Saturday mornings before Open Table
CUMC, Room E210

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

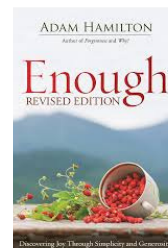
Wednesday Night Bible Study

5:15-6pm

Conference Room

2nd floor Education Building

Enough by Adam Hamilton



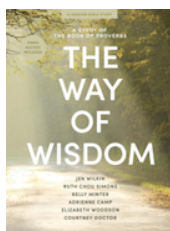
The Finance and Stewardship Committees wanted to offer everyone in the church the opportunity to go through the Enough Bible Study. It will be offered on Sunday mornings in the Hallway Class (E210) and Wednesday nights in the Fellowship Hall beginning Sun, Sept 7 and Wed, Sept 10 for 6 weeks. Please drop in either time for this study.

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 text Jillian at 870-688-9692.



Daytime Ladies' Bible Study

The first meeting will be Thursday, September 4th at 9:30 in the Conference Room to decide on the study.

Come with your ideas and input! This group will likely do a 6-8 week study and then an Advent study. Feel free to join for one or both.

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS Weekly Update

Youth Sunday School

Youth Commons Room at 9am

With Katie Bowers

Sunday Evenings

5:00pm in Fellowship

Hall

YOUTH

NEWS

*As we begin our fall calendar, there are some changes to the Youth Group. Starting Sunday, September 7th, the youth will now meet from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday evenings and will incorporate Crossfire.

*Starting September 14, the high school youth will all go out for lunch after church the second Sunday of every month. Bring money for your food and come talk about the ups and downs of high school life.



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>



Nursery is open to all **Babies-PreK** kids. Nursery is offered **Sundays, 9-11 AM in Room E105.**

Elementary Sunday School

Sundays 9-9:45am

4 & Under- Nursery Room E105

K-5th Grade- Godly Play Room E309



Our Nursery is Hiring!

We are beginning the hiring process for nursery workers! If interested, please visit cumcshelby.org/job-openings for more information.

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.

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH



We had a blast at the Back to School Bash on the Court Square. We made so many new friends! Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make it a great evening!



Congratulations to Jim Wilson and family on the birth of his granddaughter, Ellie Ruth, daughter of Morgan and Laura Armstrong. Ellie was born August 26 on Jim's birthday!

2025 Stewardship

2025 Monthly Budget Needs.....\$66,750.33
Total Receipts in July.....\$63,978.11
July Expenses.....\$70,315.21
Over/-- Under for the month.....-\$6,337.10

September 7 - September 13, 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

Thursday

Church Office open 9-2

Friday

Church Office open 9-2

Saturday

10:30am Open Table Hot Lunch (PAC)

Operating: Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Claudia Lutz by
Brian and Ellen Benfield

In Memory of Terry Brown
John and Stuart Schweppe
Robert Yelton
Brian and Ellen Benfield
June Miller

In Memory of Ron Clendening
Jo Marsh

Legacy:

In Memory of Terry Brown
Jim and Page Morgan

Columbarium/Prayer Garden:

In Memory of Claudia Lutz by
Lynn and Leanne Carpenter
In Memory of Claudia and Jim Lutz
Bill and Marilyn Henshaw

Serving Sunday, September 7, 2025

Nursery Volunteer:

Elementary Sunday School Teachers:
Ginny Hughes

Middle School Teachers:
Carrie Richardson and Monica Noble

Greeters
Ellen and Brian Benfield

Coffee Time Helpers:
Allison and Rod Mauney

Coffee Maker:
Leigh Mabry

Welcome Table:
Ginny and Alan Hughes

Children's Sermon:
Caroline Scism

Offering Counters
Devereaux Hunter and John Lattimore

Trustees Lock Up:
Casey Young

September

BIRTHDAYS

September 3	Beth Hill
September 4	Tammy Bass
September 5	Tripp Schenck
September 6	Rebekah Young
September 6	Brownie Plaster
September 7	Jack Arey
September 7	Beth Norman
September 10	Jennifer Mabry
September 10	Mason Wright



Daily Devotions and 2025 Sermon Series

You will find "A Yearlong Journey through Luke and Acts Devotions" on our website, <https://cumcshelby.org/devotions> as well as on the "Devotions" section on our app. Pastor David will be preaching from this devotion for the 2025 church year.

June 1st Pastor David will begin the book of Acts.



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!



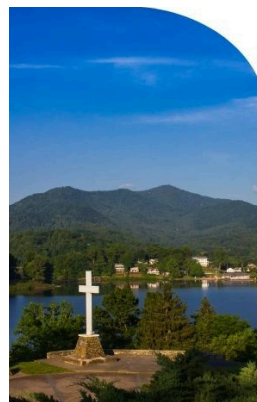
Prayer Requests

If you have a need or praise that you would like included on our church prayer list, please call or email the church office at central@cumcshelby.org.



*Prayer Shawl
Ministry*

If you have interest in donating a Prayer Shawl or being a part of a Prayer Shawl Group, please let Tammy Bass or Holly Mabry know.



SAVE THE DATE

CENTRAL FAMILY
CHURCH - WIDE RETREAT
JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 1, 2026

LAKE JUNALUSKA
MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW



200 East Marion St.
Shelby , NC 28150

Coffee and Donuts

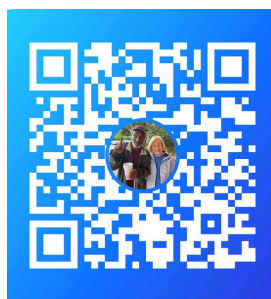
Join us every Sunday OUTSIDE on Washington Street (or in the Fellowship Hall depending on weather) from 9:30-9:55am each Sunday. We hope you'll make plans to join us for food and fellowship.



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 September, we are requesting Cheese/PB Crackers. 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

