

Happening **today, 6/29:**

8:45 AM	Sunday School – <i>All ages</i>
10:00 AM	Worship <i>Sanctuary</i>
11:15 AM	Building Committee Meeting <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
12:00 PM	VBS Volunteer Meeting <i>Library</i>

Happening this **week, 6/23–6/29:**

MON, 6/23	11:00 AM	Delivery of Gift Cards for Hospitality Workers
	5:45 PM	Theology Pub <i>Village Pub</i>
TUE, 6/24	2:00 PM	Dementia Partners AVL <i>Library</i>
	5:00 PM	Allies for Equity <i>Zoom</i>
WED, 6/25	11:00 AM	Centering Prayer <i>Parlor</i>
	11:00 AM	Youth Serve at Haywood St.
	6:00 PM	Dementia Partners AVL <i>Haw Creek</i>
	6:30 PM	Safe Sanctuaries Meeting <i>Conference Room</i>
THU, 6/26	8:00 AM	Thursday Morning Prayer <i>Zoom</i>
	10:00 AM	Circle of Prayer <i>Zoom</i>
SUN, 6/29	8:45 AM	Sunday School – <i>All ages</i>
	10:00 AM	Worship <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:15 AM	Table 2 Table <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Independence Day Picnic: hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, and chips provided. <i>You're invited to bring a dessert, side or appetizer to share.</i> Register at CentralUMC.org/Events




For more information about these activities, go to [centralumc.org/EVENTS](#).

Volunteers to Deliver Gift Cards Needed!!

MON, JUN 30 | 11:00 AM: Help Central youth, families, and friends deliver hospitality gift cards to our downtown Asheville businesses. We will meet in the choir room at 11:00 AM. *Lunch and The Hop ice cream will be provided for all youth volunteers. Please contact Linda Haggard or Regan Duke* with any questions. We are excited to spread joy and love to our downtown community! We need your help—please join us on Monday!

Cancel Choir Party at Highland Brewery | TODAY | 5:00 PM

Central Chancel Choir members, families, and friends summer party and fellowship at Highland Brewery, 12 Old Charlotte Highway, Asheville. Come celebrate and kick-off the summer with your choir friends and family. Everyone is invited.

 **Eco Tip:**  National Ocean Day was celebrated early in June. Not only is the ocean fun to play in, it is essential to life on Earth. Our oceans are harmed by trash, pollution, fertilizer runoff, and overheating from climate change. Coral is dying worldwide, threatening essential fish habitat . We can help by, buying locally, fertilizing carefully, protecting waters near us.

Central.Giving.

Financial Update through 5/31/25:

- Year to Date Offering: \$569,950.12
- Total Annual Budget: \$1,500,000.00

Ministry Staff

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown, Senior Pastor
mbrown@CentralUMC.org
Rev. Lisa Rettew, Minister of Congregational Care
lrettew@CentralUMC.org
Regan Duke, Children and Youth Summer Intern
ChildrensMinistry@CentralUMC.org
Corey Powell, Organist & Director of Music Ministries
cpowell@CentralUMC.org
Linda Haggard, Director of Choral Music
lhaggard@CentralUMC.org
Richard Provine, Director of Central Brass
rprovine@CentralUMC.org

Sermon Discussion Questions

Continue to reflect on today's message by journaling or discussing the following questions:

- When have you experienced something bad or challenging that felt like it would go on forever?
- If that experience is in the past – what did it feel like when it ended? How can you look back and see God at work?
- How can your past experience of God reassure you the next time you're in a "forever" kind of challenge?

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

It's a Summer of Psalms! As you read a Psalm each day, try reading them out loud. Listen for a line or phrase that feels especially meaningful. Consider re-reading that line out loud and then sitting in silence with it for 5 to 10 minutes.

- Monday: Psalm 7
- Tuesday: Psalm 8
- Wednesday: Psalm 9
- Thursday: Psalm 10
- Friday: Psalm 11
- Saturday: Psalm 12

Next week in worship...

Celebrate the 4th of July with us! Come for 10:00 AM worship and a reflection on Psalm 23; then stay for grilled hot dogs, potato salad, and cole slaw! Bring a dessert, side, or appetizer to share.

Recommended Summer Reading:

- C.S. Lewis, *Reflections on the Psalms*
- N.T. Wright, *The Case for the Psalms*
- Timothy Keller, *The Songs of Jesus*
- Walter Brueggemann, *Praying the Psalms*
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Prayerbook of the Bible*



Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 29, 2025
10:00 am

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

VOLUNTARY "Trio No. 6 in E-flat Major" Josef Rheinberger

Prayer cards and name tags are available in the attendance pad at the end of each pew. You can also find prayer cards in the pew rack in front of you.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Lisa Rettew

With the Psalms as our examples, we are bold to pray:

How long, O Lord?

Don't forget us. Don't leave us in pain.

How long will our enemies have the upper hand?

People are dying. We are afraid.

Consider and answer us, O God!

But –

But –

We trust in your steadfast love.

We trust in your steadfast love.

We sing to you, O God, because you have been so good to us.

***HYMN 117** "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" ST. ANNE

MINISTRY MOMENT John Pierce
Building Committee Update

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Lisa Rettew
Ending with the Lord's Prayer: *Hymnal 895*

OFFERTORY "Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing!" Kenneth Kosche
Chancel Choir

While the choir makes their musical offering, the ushers will pass plates for those who wish to offer a financial gift or prayer request. You may also use this QR code to make a financial gift. As you pass the plate—whether or not you give—we invite you to pause and reflect on what you hope to offer God this week.



***DOXOLOGY** "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"
Hymnal 94

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 13 Marvin Thomas

CHILDREN’S SERMON Regan Duke
Following Children’s Time, children in kindergarten – 5th grade are invited to be part of Children’s Church in the Chapel. Children 5 years old and under may leave at this time to go to the nursery with our childcare staff.
Children Must have name tags on them.
The name tag table is located outside the Sanctuary by the Library.

SERMON “How Long?” Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
PSALTER 746 “Psalm 13”
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *Hymnal 33*
Breezy and Canyon Bowman, Children of Caley and Bret Bowman
HYMN 480 “O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go” ST. MARGARET
***BENEDICTION** Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
***CHIMES OF THE TRINITY**
***VOLUNTARY** “Fanfare” William Matthias
**Please stand, if you are able.*

A livestream of the worship service is available in the library for families. Nursery care is available in Room 104 for children ages 0–5.

The flowers in the Chancel this morning are given by Mike and Emma Durr in honor of the smiling faces of the Greeter Team Ministry. These people make everyone feel welcome without exception.

If you are interested in providing flowers for the Chancel, please contact Mary Margaret at marymargaretingle@gmail.com, especially for the weeks of July 20, September 28 and October 19.

Plainclothes law enforcement officers are present during our services so that all may feel welcome, secure and free to worship, fellowship and experience God’s grace freely. Our staff members are in direct communication with the officers should you feel the need to ask for assistance or voice a concern.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Centering Prayer | WEDNESDAYS, JUN 4-JUL 30 | 11:00 AM
Find Your Center. Join Pastor Mary for an hour of “Centering Prayer,” a quiet way of praying that is similar to meditation. New to this kind of prayer? We’ll provide guidance to help you, as well as a chance to reflect and ask questions afterward. Expect a Scripture reading to begin, 15 minutes of silent Centering Prayer, and a time to discuss at the end.

Building Committee Presentation | TODAY | 11:15 AM
The Building Committee was formed by Charge Conference in November of 2023 and tasked with exploring the next phase of physical development for Central. Join John Pierce (Building Committee Chair) and Chris Smith (Trustees Chair) for a detailed presentation explaining their 1.5 process and the resulting "phase 1" of work, approved by your Administrative Board on June 8.

Table 2 Table: Independence Day Picnic | SUN, JUL 6 | 11:15 AM
Join us for a relaxed and festive Table 2 Table meal as we celebrate Independence Day together! We'll enjoy classic picnic favorites—including hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, and chips. **You're invited to bring a dessert, side or appetizer to share, but no pressure—just come as you are!** There’s no cost to attend, and donations are welcome. Let’s gather in gratitude with good food, and great company. We hope to see you there! Register at CentralUMC.org/Events or scan the QR code.



Wilderness Trail | JUL 7-12
Let's go get away to our favorite place - Trail! Must be a rising 7th grader. Scholarships available. Sign up ASAP! For more info contact Pastor Mary. To register go to CentralUMC.org/Events or scan the QR Code!



Vacation Bible School | MON-FRI, JUL 14-18 | 9 AM to 12 NOON
 Join us for another year of Bible adventures as we go back to ancient Egypt! Each day, your child will step into Bible times—and learn the story of Joseph and watch God's word come to life through music, crafts, games and storytelling. For 3 years old up to 5th grade. Students 6th-12th grade are invited to volunteer! To register your kids, email ChildrensMinistry@CentralUMC.org, go to CentralUMC.org/Events, or scan the QR Code.
No fee. Snacks provided.



VBS Volunteers Needed: We are still looking for volunteers as this year's VBS will be entirely run by volunteers. Eleanor Campbell is the VBS Director this year. To volunteer or if you have questions, please contact her at eivey@mindspring.com.

Habitat Build | FRI, JUL 25 | 8:30 AM
Join Pastor Mary and Robin Smith for another Friday morning Habitat build! We’ll meet at 8:30 AM and finish around noon. Stay for lunch if you can! No skill needed - just come ready to pitch in however you can. Register at CentralUMC.org/Events or scan the QR code.



Youth Ushers Needed This Summer! 🙏
We’re looking for middle and high school youth to serve as ushers during Sunday worship services this summer. This is a great opportunity to get involved, and serve the church. If your youth is interested or would like more information, please contact Perry Fisher at perry@fisherstark.com.

Be At Sunday School This Summer | SUNDAYS | 8:45 AM
Youth and Children (anyone under 21) will meet together in the **Youth Arena (4th Floor)** this summer for a study of the Beatitudes. Beginning June 8, a team of volunteers will offer engaging discussions, refreshments, crafts, and games for all ages, beginning at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday. Parents are invited to join in!

Donations for Homeward Bound! | NOW! | Fellowship Hall

Looking for a way to make a real difference in someone’s life? You can help individuals and families transition out of homelessness by donating gently used household goods. Items are being collected now in the Fellowship Hall.
Requested Donations Include:

- Kitchen Items:* Dishes, pots, pans, toasters, coffee makers, microwaves
- Furniture:* Love seats, chairs, small dining tables, side tables, coffee tables, lamps
- Linens & Toiletries:* Towels, wash cloths, hand towels, sheets, blankets, shampoo, body wash, deodorant
- Cleaning Supplies & Paper Goods:* Cleaning supplies, dish detergent, paper towels, bathroom tissue

These essential items help furnish new homes for those moving forward from homelessness. Can’t bring your items in? Homeward Bound will even pick them up! Contact Terry, Donation Center Coordinator, (828) 412-5322, terry@homewardboundwnc.org.
Thank you for being a part of this life-changing mission! ❤️

Central.Congregational Care.

You are needed!

- Nursery Volunteers during Sunday School and Worship hours to care for our sweet little ones! For details, contact Pastor Mary, mbrown@centralumc.org
- Homebound Volunteers to visit our folks who can no longer get out and about!** For details, contact Kim Everette, Kimeverette525@gmail.com
- Supplies for our Prayer Shawl Care Ministry. For details, contact Pat Page, page.patricia@gmail.com or Paula Boyles, boylesrp@gmail.com

Braver Angels - "A Red & Blue Workshop" | SAT, AUG 16 | 9:00 AM
The purpose of this workshop is to learn about the experiences, feelings, and beliefs of people on both sides of the political divide. Participants will explore areas of commonality as well as difference. The goal is to gain insights that may help participants—and others—contribute to the depolarization of our communities and nation. This is not a time to challenge values or attempt to change someone’s opinion. Instead, listening and seeking understanding are key to the success of Braver Angels workshops. The workshop will be facilitated by two trained volunteers experienced in the *Braver Angels Way*. If you’re interested or have questions, please contact Peter Barrett at peterbarrett@comcast.net.
To register go to CentralUMC.org/Events or scan the QR Code:



Asheville Tourists Game | TUE, AUG 19 | 6:30 PM
Let’s go out to the ballgame! Join your Central UMC friends at the Tuesday 8/19 Asheville Tourists game. Our group tickets are \$13/person. Game starts at 6:30pm; gates open at 5:30pm. Register and pay online by Monday 8/11/25. Let’s see how many people we can get to fill the stands, wear our Central UMC t-shirts (if you have one), and root, root, root for the home team!!! Register at CentralUMC.org/Events or scan the QR code.

