








Happening **today, 7/6:**

8:45 AM	Sunday School – <i>All ages</i>
10:00 AM	Worship   <i>Sanctuary</i>
11:15 AM	Table 2 Table: Independence Day Picnic   <i>Fellowship Hall</i>

Happening this **week, 7/7-7/13:**

MON, 7/7	10:00 AM	Depart for Wilderness Trail
	5:45 PM	Theology Pub   <i>Village Pub</i>
WED, 7/9	11:00 AM	Centering Prayer   <i>Parlor</i>
THU, 7/10	8:00 AM	<a href="#">Thursday Morning Prayer</a>   <i>Zoom</i>
	10:00 AM	<a href="#">Circle of Prayer</a>   <i>Zoom</i>
SUN, 7/13	8:45 AM	Sunday School – <i>All ages</i>
	10:00 AM	Worship   <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:15 AM	New-ish to Central Coffee Hour   <i>Library</i>
	11:15 AM	VBS Training & Final Set-up
	3:00 PM	Inquirer’s Class Chat ‘n Chew

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

 **Eco-Tip:** Now is the perfect time to buy local produce!    Our western NC area is blessed with farms, gardens, and orchards. Express your gratitude to God  for the abundance of our home  .

**pray for our vbs**

Dear God, thank you for going before us as we prepare for VBS. Help us meet any need of supplies, decorations, and volunteers we may have. Provide the opportunity for families far and wide to attend VBS. Thank you for the opportunity to pour into the lives of these kids in deep and meaningful ways. We pray that above all else you are glorified in our VBS.



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](mailto:mbrown@CentralUMC.org)  
Rev. Lisa Rettew, Minister of Congregational Care  
[lrettew@CentralUMC.org](mailto:lrettew@CentralUMC.org)  
Regan Duke, Children and Youth Summer Intern  
[ChildrensMinistry@CentralUMC.org](mailto:ChildrensMinistry@CentralUMC.org)  
Corey Powell, Organist & Director of Music Ministries  
[cpowell@CentralUMC.org](mailto:cpowell@CentralUMC.org)  
Linda Haggard, Director of Choral Music  
[lhaggard@CentralUMC.org](mailto:lhaggard@CentralUMC.org)  
Richard Provine, Director of Central Brass  
[rprovine@CentralUMC.org](mailto:rprovine@CentralUMC.org)

**Sermon Discussion Questions**

Continue to reflect on Psalm 23 by journaling or discussing the following questions:

- When was the last time you got lost? What did it feel like? How did you get “reoriented”?
- Have you ever gotten lost and found yourself in an even better, unexpected place?
- What better, unexpected places might God be leading you toward?

**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 13
- Tuesday: Psalm 14
- Wednesday: Psalm 15
- Thursday: Psalm 16
- Friday: Psalm 17
- Saturday: Psalm 18
- Sunday: Psalm 19

**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*



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 6, 2025  
10:00 am

**WELCOME** Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

**CHIMES OF THE TRINITY**

**VOLUNTARY** “...beside the still waters” Dan Locklair  
Psalm 23

*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

We gather today to worship the Lord our Shepherd  
**Who makes us lie down in green pastures**  
Who leads us beside still waters  
**Who restores our soul**  
God, lead us in right paths  
**Lead us through our dark valleys**  
Lead us to dwell in your house forever.

**\*HYMN 181** “Ye Servants of God” HANOVER

**SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 23 Ed Broadwell

**SERMON** Rev. Dr. Mary Brown  
“Oriented, Disoriented, Re Oriented”

**OFFERTORY** “For the Beauty of the Earth” arr. Kathryn K. Davis  
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

**SERVICE OF THE WORD AND TABLE** Rev. Lisa Rettew  
Hymnal 12 Rev. Dr. Mary Brown



COMMUNION MUSIC

- 138 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”
- 521 “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”
- 128 “He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”
- 141 “Children of the Heavenly Father”

- \*HYMN “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” DENNIS  
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
- \*BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
- \*CHIMES OF THE TRINITY
- \*VOLUNTARY “Toccata in Seven” John Rutter

\*Please stand, if you are able.

There will be no Children’s Church today. 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 in loving memory of Ronnie Stewart Williams and Tracey Graham by Cecilia Williams and family.

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.


Table 2 Table: Independence Day Picnic | TODAY | 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. 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!

Wilderness Trail | JUL 7-12  
Our group leaves tomorrow! Be in prayer for them as they set out on a week in the wilderness to discover what God has for them!

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](mailto:ChildrensMinistry@CentralUMC.org), go to [CentralUMC.org/EVENTS](http://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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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!

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](mailto:peterbarrett@comcast.net).



To register go to [CentralUMC.org/Events](http://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](http://CentralUMC.org/Events) or scan the QR code.



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](mailto:terry@homewardboundwnc.org).  
Thank you for being a part of this life-changing mission! ❤️

Central.Congregational Care.

Do you have these thoughts?

- I just don’t have the energy to reach out for help.
- I don’t know who I could ask for help.
- I’m not sure who I could trust with my private struggles.
- I know others have it worse than me.
- I don’t want to get my hopes up only to get hurt again.
- Who really cares about me and my “troubles”?



stephen MINISTRY. We understand. Let us be your safe place.

Contact Pastor Lisa for more information.

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](mailto: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](mailto:Kimeverette525@gmail.com)
- Supplies for our Prayer Shawl Care Ministry. For details, contact Pat Page, [page.patricia@gmail.com](mailto:page.patricia@gmail.com) or Paula Boyles, [boylesrp@gmail.com](mailto:boylesrp@gmail.com)