

Happening today, 1/25:

CHURCH CLOSED DUE TO WEATHER

10:00 AM Worship Service | **ONLINE**

Sunday Rhythm for Children & Youth

Happening this week, 1/26-2/1:

MON, 1/26 **CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED DUE TO WEATHER**

WED, 1/28 11:00 AM Centering Prayer | *Chapel*

5:30 PM *NT 101 | Room 219*

5:30 PM **Handbell Choir**

6:30 PM **Chancel Choir**

THU, 1/29 8:00 AM **Thursday Morning Prayer | Zoom**
10:00 AM **Circle of Prayer | Zoom**

FRI, 1/30 8:30 AM Habitat Work Day

SAT, 1/31 6:30 PM Candlelight Concert: The Best of Hans Zimmer
8:45 PM Candlelight Concert: Queen vs. ABBA

SUN, 2/1 8:45 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship Service | *Sanctuary*
11:15 AM Table 2 Table Potluck | Fellowship Hall
11:15 AM **Youth Choir**
11:45 AM **Children's Choir**
11:45 AM Reconciling Ministries Group | *Room 219*
4:00 PM Confirmation | *Youth Arena*
5:00 PM Youth Group | *Youth Arena*

For more information about these activities, go to CentralUMC.org/Events.

Eco Tip: Stop Junk Mail!

Junk mail invades our lives to the tune of 41 pounds per person per year. Eighty to 100 million trees lose their lives each year to print junk mail, and much of it ends up in the landfill. Stop junk mail! To stop junk mail from the USPS, use the DMAchoice.org service for general marketing mail, optoutprescreen.com for credit/insurance offers, and Catalog Choice for catalogs, plus write "Refused" on mail and return it, or contact senders directly to get off their lists for a major reduction in unsolicited offers.

Ministry Staff

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown, Senior Pastor

MBrown@CentralUMC.org

Rev. Lisa Rettew, Minister of Congregational Care

LReettew@CentralUMC.org

Maggie Christy, Director of Children and Youth Discipleship

MChristy@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

College Mailing | SUN, FEB 8

Our next mailing to our college students will take place on **Sunday, February 8**. If your college student had a change of address over the winter break, please let us know so we can update our mailing list. Send any changes to **Jan at jgriffin@CentralUMC.org**. Thanks!

Sermon Discussion Questions

John Wesley's General Rules provide a framework for Christian living – a guide to the actions that result when we are following Christ. This is the 3rd of 3 weeks looking at them together. Today we finished with "attending upon all the ordinances of God." To reflect on how this applies for you, review Wesley's list below. Which examples convict you the most? Which need to be adapted? What spiritual disciplines are essential to your relationship with God and others?

- The public worship of God.
- The ministry of the Word, either read or expounded.
- The Supper of the Lord.
- Family and private prayer.
- Searching the Scriptures.
- Fasting or abstinence.

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

Continue to reflect on the first general rule of "doing good" with these daily Scripture readings:

- Monday: Psalm 105:1-11
- Tuesday: Colossians 2:6-15
- Wednesday: John 21:15-25
- Thursday: Luke 5:12-16
- Friday: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28
- Saturday: Acts 2:42-47

Next week in worship...

It's a special Sunday planned and led by our United Women in Faith! UWF is made up of small groups of women ("circles") who gather monthly to grow spiritually and work for justice – especially around issues effecting women, children, and youth. Members of Central's six UWF circles will provide all the leadership next Sunday – including a special all-women's choir! Join us and bring a friend.



Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 25, 2026

10:00 AM

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

Rev. Lisa Rettew

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from the Wesley Covenant Prayer

God, we are no longer ours, but thine.

Put us to what thou wilt; rank us with whom thou wilt.

Put us to doing, put us to suffering.

Let us be employed for thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Let us be full, let us be empty.

Let us have all things, let us have nothing.

We freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

Thou art ours and we are thine.

Thou art ours and we are thine.

So be it.

HYMN 173 "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies" RATISBON

PASTORAL PRAYER

Ending with the Lord's Prayer: *Hymnal 895*

Rev. Lisa Rettew

OFFERTORY "God of Grace and God of Glory" arr. Claude Bass
Chancel Choir

SERMON

"3 Simple Rules: Attend to God"

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

HYMN 408 "The Gift of Love" GIFT OF LOVE

A livestream of the worship service is available in the library for families. Nursery is available for children ages 0-5.

If you are interested in providing flowers for the Chancel, please contact Mary Margaret at marymargaretingle@gmail.com, especially for the weeks of March 29, April 12, and April 26.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Central.Giving.

Financial Update through 12/31/2025, including “year-end” gifts:

- Year to Date Tithes & Offerings: \$ 1,721,596.87
- Total Annual Budget: \$1,550,000

A Year-End Celebration of Generosity 🎉

Thanks be to God for the incredible generosity of this community! As we close out 2025, our year-to-date giving is projected at **\$1,721,596.87**, exceeding our **\$1.55 million budget** by a remarkable margin. Even more amazing, **\$393,424.32** was given in **December alone!** This is truly something to celebrate. **Thank you for giving so generously and joyfully!**

Adult Sunday School OPEN HOUSE! | JANUARY: Why not make trying out a Sunday School class one of your New Year's resolutions? A small group experience helps our faith grow deeper and our connections grow stronger.

We have **9 great options**, each with its own vibe—and during January, all are ready to welcome visitors!



Expect to be greeted with smiles and name tags—and maybe even some special treats. You might even try a different class each week to explore all the options available. **To see a full list of our Adult Sunday School classes, go to CentralUMC.org/Adults, or simply scan the QR code.**

✖ Habitat Work Day | FRI, JAN 30 | 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Join us for a meaningful morning of service with **Habitat for Humanity** on Friday, January 30, from 8:30 AM to noon. This Habitat Work Day is a wonderful opportunity to put faith into action by helping build safe, affordable housing right here in our community. No construction experience is necessary—volunteers of all skill levels are welcome, and tasks will be provided for everyone who is willing to serve. Come ready to work alongside others, build community, and be part of a project that offers hope and stability to families. To sign up or to learn more, please contact **Pastor Mary** or scan the **QR Code to register**. We would love to have you join us for this impactful morning of service.



Candlelight Concerts | SAT, JAN 31 | 6:30 PM & 8:45 PM

Central is hosting two Candlelight concerts, transforming our sanctuary into a warm, glowing space filled with live music and candlelight.

6:30 PM – The Best of Hans Zimmer

8:45 PM – Queen vs. ABBA (Queen & ABBA)

Experience live music in the warm glow of candlelight ✨

Tickets required | Ages 8+ | Tickets and additional details are available through the Candlelight concert series at feverup.com.

Children's Ministry Winter Care Bags Mission Project | thru January 31

Our children are leading a mission project to care for neighbors who may be unhoused or in need this winter. They will assemble Winter Care Bags, which families will take home to share with those they encounter.

Items Needed: Foldable blankets, gloves, scarves, beanies, hand warmers, instant coffee, granola bars, dried fruit, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tissues, and travel-size lotion. **Drop-off bins located outside the Chapel.** Thank you for helping our children put faith into action!

🏈 Youth Group Super Bowl Party | SUN, FEB 8 | 6:00 PM – Halftime

Join us for a fun night of football, food, and friends! We will meet in the Youth Arena on the 4th floor. Bring a friend and a snack to share as we cheer, laugh, and hang out together.

Valentine's Parents' Evening Out | FRI, FEB 13 | 4:30-7:30PM: Parents, enjoy a night out while we take care of the kids! Children **3rd grade and below** are invited to join us for a fun, safe, and love-filled evening of activities while parents enjoy a Valentine's break. Students in **4th and 5th grade** are invited to **assist**, and **youth and adults** are welcome to help make the evening special! This is a great opportunity for families to enjoy some time together—or parents enjoy a date night! ❤️ More details and sign-ups coming soon. Contact **Maggie** for questions.

Youth Lock-In | FRI-SAT, FEB 13-14 | 1:00 PM-9:00 AM

The winter lock-in is back! Come for games and dinner, stay for sleep deprivation and candy. It will be a night of fun for all! Contact **Maggie** for more details or to sign up.



UWF Corner

Ruth Circle | TUE, FEB 3 | 10:00 AM: Please join members of the Ruth Circle on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 10:00am in the Library at Central UMC. At our meeting we will use the United Women in Faith program book, *Mapping Our Way Forward*, to help us set our Circle goals for 2026! Ruth Circle members will be collecting cans of hearty soup for ABCCM. We look forward to sharing the morning with you! Let's do this, let's be bold, let's be unstoppable. Together! For more information about Ruth Circle, please contact **Kim Everette** at kimeverette525@gmail.com

Eve Circle | TUE, FEB 3 | 10 AM: Eve Circle will meet in the Parlor for the program **“Who Is Our Neighbor?”**, presented by **Sue Mather**. The program will focus on United Women in Faith mission institutes in North Carolina and how caring for our “neighbors” puts faith into action. All are welcome! For more information, contact **Donna Anderson** at danderson45@charter.net or **Sandra Wells** at sandracwells@gmail.com.

Anna Circle | WED, FEB 4 | 10:00 AM: Inspired by Anna the prophet (Luke 2:36–38), Anna Circle is a supportive fellowship of United Women in Faith women focused on mission, service, spiritual growth, and study. We meet on the **first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM**. Our first meeting of the year is **Wednesday, January 7, at 10:00 AM in the Church Parlor**. All are welcome! **Info:** Glenda Fuhrmann | fuhrmannglenda@yahoo.com

United Women in Faith Worship Service Choir | SUN, FEB 1: All women are warmly invited to participate in a **special combined choir** for the United Women in Faith worship service on Sunday, February 1! Women interested in singing are welcome to join the **Women of the Chancel Choir and the Wesley Singers** for this meaningful service. **Rehearsals:** You may attend either of the remaining rehearsals: **TUE, JAN 27 at 1:30 PM or WED, JAN 28 at 7:15 PM**

Please note: choir participants will not wear robes for this service.

Questions? Contact **Linda Haggard** for more information.

Central.Congregational Care. News

January 2026 marks the **5th anniversary** of Central's Congregational Care Council (CCC).

What has this meant for Central? The leaders of our church's 10 care ministries gather monthly to share updates and plan ways to support our church family. This coordination has resulted in more comprehensive responses to the needs that arise.

How have these ministries impacted you? Our prayer is that you have experienced CCC's impact by seeing Central become a more caring congregation—one where no one has to walk through life's challenges alone. *Your CCC has been intentional in its work.* We strive to be compassionate and respectful, and we are committed to connecting with you through unconditional love. Thank you, Central, for allowing us the privilege of walking alongside you.

If you would like more information about our different ministries, check out our bulletin board by the Library and pick up a flyer!!!



Central's **Circle of Prayer** meets Thursday mornings, both in person and on Zoom. This caring ministry holds prayer concerns and joys in confidence and offers ongoing follow-up and support. If you feel called to care for others through prayer, please contact

Pastor Lisa to join this dedicated group. If you are in need of prayer, you may submit a request through the Prayer Request link on Central's website or by filling out a pew card. You are important to us.



Well-Being Community Resource List: Looking for a trusted, well-vetted community resource? Visit Central's website and explore our Well-Being Community Resource List at CentralUMC.org/Well-Being. You'll find brief descriptions and contact information for community agencies organized into 12 categories, making it easy to find the support you need.