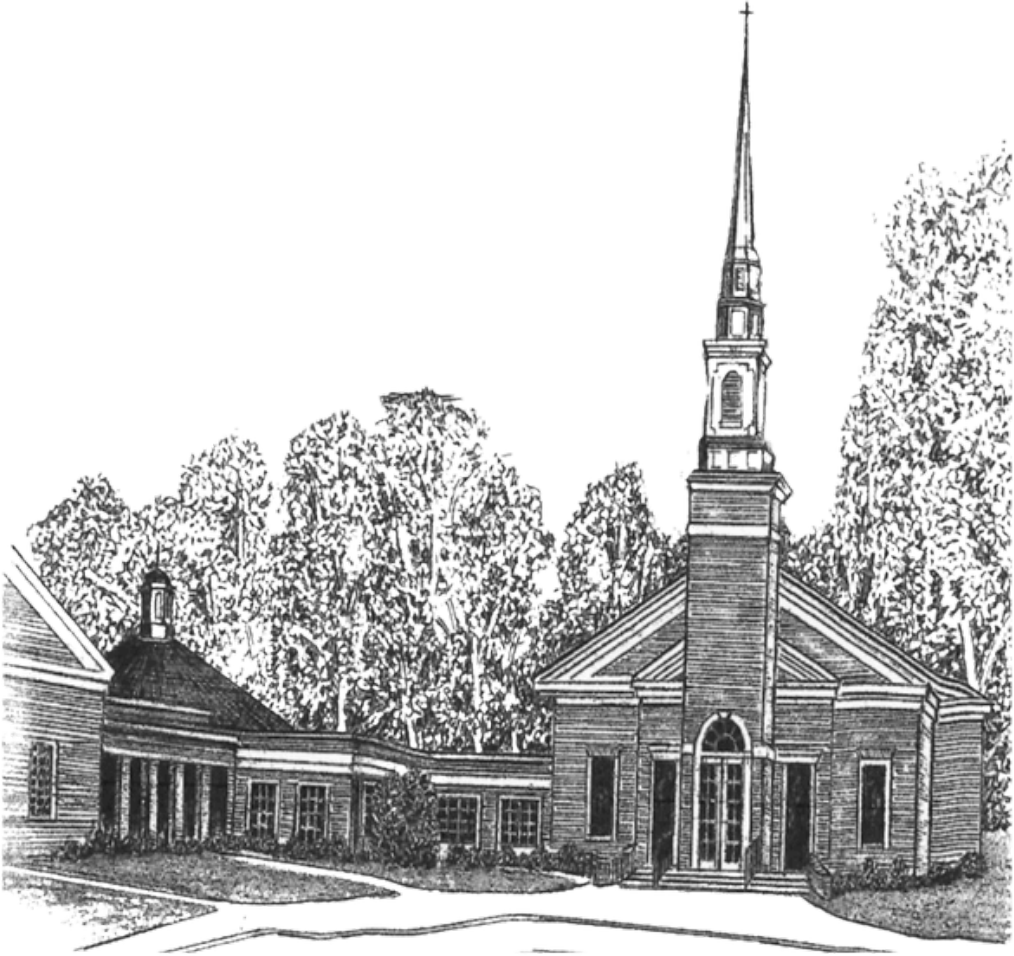


central

united methodist church monroe



SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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10:00 A.M. Blended Modern and Traditional Worship | Sanctuary

✠ *Please rise in body or spirit* | Congregational responses are in **bold**.

PRELUDE *Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne in C Major, BuxWV 137* Nathan Jones
Dieterich Buxtehude

GREETING

The Lord be with you
And also with you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

✠ **CHORAL RESPONSE** *Surely the Presence* UMH 328

✠ **HYMN OF PRAISE** *We Gather Together* UMH 131

PASSING OF THE PEACE

✠ **SERVICE OF MEMBERSHIP** UMH 38

Candidates for Membership & Reception into the United Methodist Church:
Annette Nicole “Nicky” Jones, Nathan Jones, and Gerri Kessel

PRAYER SONG *Graves Into Gardens* Congregation,
Lake/Brown/Futrick/Hammer led by 801Praise!
Please sing throughout!
please see insert for words

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Whispering Hope
Septimus Winner, Mrs. J.I. McClelland

Chancel Choir

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Vision of Hope
Nathan Jones

Nathan Jones

✠ DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

✠ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✠ SONG OF PREPARATION

Shout to the Lord
Darlene Zschesch

Congregation,
led by 801Praise!
Please sing throughout!!

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 17:1-17 (NIV)

SERMON

“Moaning and Groaning”

✠ HYMN OF DEDICATION

My Hope Is Built

UMH 368

✠ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Nobody Knows the Trouble I’ve Seen
African-American Spiritual, arr. Simon Clark

Nathan Jones

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Rev. JD Moffett | *Associate Pastor*

Nathan Jones | *Director of Music Ministries*

Chancel Choir

801Praise!

Ushers: Bill and Bonnie Parker

Greeters: Bill and Suzette Sullivan

OUR STAFF

Dr. Bill White, Jr. | *Senior Pastor*

Rev. JD Moffett | *Associate Pastor*

Nathan Jones | *Director of Music Ministries*

Julie Miles | *Director of Youth Ministries*

Erica Kirby | *Director of Children's & Weekday Ministries*

Sylvia Jenkins | *Custodian*



WELCOME TO **central**

Welcome to our Blended Modern and Traditional Worship Service at Central! We're so glad you've joined us today as we come together in reverence, community, and praise. While we embrace the timeless traditions of our faith, we also seek to create a welcoming space where modern hearts can connect with the rich history and deep meaning of our worship. Whether you're here for the first time or have been with us for years, you belong!

We hope you find a sense of peace, inspiration, and connection as we lift our voices and prayers together. Welcome home!

Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service. Toddlers and Children through 2nd grade are invited to Kid's Worship following the Children's Message.

ONE BODY IN CHRIST
CONNECTING WITH



GOD
EACH OTHER
COMMUNITY

central

united methodist church monroe

Sunday Mornings

9:00 A.M. • Sunday School

10:00 A.M. • Blended Modern and Traditional Worship Service | Sanctuary
Stream online at centralumcmonroe.org/media
First time visitor?

Visit centralumcmonroe.org/iamnew

Welcome to Central United Methodist Church in Monroe, NC, where we believe in a holistic approach to ministry. We address the needs of the whole person: body, mind, and spirit. We have numerous ministries and programs that enable us to effectively serve God, our community, and each other.

Come and experience our vibrant and meaningful worship, where faith is formed and reformed and connections are strengthened through fellowship.

We hope that you will live out your call to Christian Discipleship by uniting with Central UMC, share your spiritual gifts and talents, and be a witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Yours In Christ,
Dr. Bill White, Jr.
"Dr. Bill"
Senior Pastor



Our Staff

Dr. Bill White, Jr. - Senior Pastor

Rev. JD Moffett - Associate Pastor

Nathan Jones - Director of Music Ministries

Julie Miles - Director of Youth Ministries

Erica Kirby - Director of Children's & Weekday Ministries

Sylvia Jenkins - Custodian



Scan the QR CODE to download **THE CENTRAL APP** to Register your attendance, Find a ministry, Give your offering, and more.

Central uses visual and audio images of participants in our worship services and events for broadcast, event promotion, publicity, and other related communications endeavors.

Upcoming Opportunities

Sept. 20 New Members Sunday
Mobile Blood Drive, 9:30am-1:30pm

Sept. 21 New Beginnings Circle, 6 P.M.

Sept. 23 Central Ringers Rehearsal, 5:30 P.M.
801Praise! Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 P.M.

Sept. 24 Soul Food Bible Study, 10 A.M.
Memory Care Ministry, 5:30 P.M.

Sept. 27 Celebration Singers (children's choir), 8:30am
UWF Churchwide Luncheon, 11am
Jr. Youth, 3pm-5pm
Youth Group, 3pm-5pm

Sept. 30 Central Ringers Rehearsal, 5:30 P.M.
801Praise! Rehearsal, 6:30 P.M.
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 P.M.

Dr. Bill's Weekly Schedule

(Subject to Change and Appointments Available)

Monday	10:00 A.M. - Noon 1:00 P.M.-4:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M.- 7:30 P.M.	Home Office Church Office Days of Board Meetings
Tuesday	10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Church Office
Wednesday	Sermon & Sunday Preparation 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. 6:00 P.M. - 7:30 P.M.	Home Office Board & Committee Meetings
Thursday	10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.	Church Office
Friday	Pastor's Sabbath Observance	

PRAYER SONG

Graves Into Gardens

Lake, Brown, Furtick, and Hammer

Verse 1 I searched the world but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade
Are never enough
Then You came along and put me back
together
And every desire is now satisfied here in
Your love

Chorus Oh there's nothing better than You
There's nothing better than You
Lord there's nothing
Nothing is better than You

Verse 2 I'm not afraid to show You my weakness
My failures and flaws
Lord You've seen them all
And You still call me friend
'Cause the God of the mountain
Is the God of the valley
There's not a place
Your mercy and grace won't find me again

[Repeat Chorus Twice]

Bridge 1 You turn mourning to dancing
You give beauty for ashes You
turn shame into glory You're
the only one who can

[Repeat Bridge 1]

Bridge 2 You turn graves into gardens
You turn bones into armies
You turn seas into highways
You're the only one who can

[Repeat Chorus Twice]

SONG OF PREPARATION

Shout to the Lord

Robin Mark

Verse My Jesus my Saviour
Lord there is none like You
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love
My comfort my shelter
Tower of refuge and strength
Let every breath all that I am
Never cease to worship You

Chorus Shout to the Lord
All the earth let us sing
Power and majesty
Praise to the King
Mountains bow down
And the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy
At the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You
Forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise
I have in You

[Repeat Verse]

[Repeat Chorus]

Ending Nothing compares to the promise
I have
Nothing compares to the promise
I have in You