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INSPIRE

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Coffee @ Welcome Center

We are looking for volunteers to host our hospitality table in the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings. It's easy- you just brew coffee, set it and 2 dozen provided prepackaged snacks out by 9:25, and clean up after worship. There will be instructions provided for brewing the coffee. May our welcomes be wide and warm!



Central Lights

The September Central Lights program will feature guest speaker, Eva Pierce with A Hand Up for Women. A Hand Up for Women, an affiliate of the national Christian Women's Job Corps, is a ministry that strives to be a source of hope to ladies with the desire and motivation to pursue a more self-sufficient lifestyle. They provide long-term relationships and classes that teach women to realize their full potential in every area of life and introduce them to the person that God created them to be!

Central Lights will meet

Tuesday, September 6th, at 10:30 am.

Lunch will follow the program (\$6).

All senior and retired members and friends are invited to attend. Visitors are always welcome.



Also, at the September meeting Central Lights will have a collection of **school supplies for Holston Homes**.

Knoxville Writers Guild Spelling Bee

The Knoxville Writer's Guild would like to invite Central UMC to their **Adult Spelling Bee** to be held September 16, 2016 at 7:00pm, here in the Fellowship Hall of CUMC.

Registration is open to all over the age of 18 and membership is not required. Registration is \$10. Please visit knoxvillewritersguild.org for more information.

They expect for this event to be highly publicized with a good crowd and media coverage. Please consider coming out to support this community organization.



Emory Place Block Party

The Second Annual Emory Place Block Party is being held on Saturday, August 20th from 2:00-9:00 pm. The event has been organized to help bring attention to the historic Emory Place area and create an opportunity for residents to get out and meet one another while experiencing what the area has to offer. The event will also showcase both the long-time businesses and organizations, as well as many new-comers, who call Emory Place home. Central UMC is a sponsor of the event, so please think about stopping by to check it out!

BETA Heifer Project

The Beta Sunday School Class has chosen to support Heifer International, as a class mission project. Our initial goal was to provide one water buffalo to a family in Nepal. Then we remembered that we are a part of a much greater community who can help us provide so much more. We are asking you to

partner up with us as a church group to provide animals to needy families around the world. Please consider helping with a small pledge. Contact any one of our Beta class members and ask how you can be involved in this cause.



THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

Central has been involved in several mission related community activities recently. Thank You to EVERYONE who has donated items, money, and volunteered their time for all these events! Youth Mission Trip, Election Day Café, Fulton Frenzy, UT Band Pool Party & Water Distribution, & Family Promise Meal! Our church family has been busy!



Central UMC – 201 3rd Ave. Knoxville, TN. 37917 – 865-524-1659

Pastoral and Administrative Staff

Rev. Jimmy Sherrod, Pastor	805-5373	jimmy@knoxcentralumc.org	Ashley Garren, Administrative Assistant	ashley@knoxcentralumc.org
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What's up with the peace? (And why are we passing it around?)

"Peace be with you," I said as the young man walked away. He mumbled something that sounded like a thank you. I lamented to a friend that a lot of folks I say that to in the church leave me hanging! It's one of the most meaningful rituals for me when the community of saints gather to worship God. It's called the passing of the peace.

It's a communal practice just like bowing our heads for prayer, singing a song, and standing for scripture. It's a powerful way to acknowledge one another and our need to be peace makers and our need to be at peace.

In Luke 24, Jesus appears to his disciples and the first thing he says is, "peace be with you." Offering these words is an ancient practice and ritual in the church. Yes, it can be awkward. Yes, we sometimes fumble for the words. Yes, those who are introverts want to hide during this part. Yet, it's not necessarily a time to greet your neighbor with a how are you doing (although that would be ok). What we are doing is practicing what Jesus taught us. You never know who is sitting around you who needs to hear these words, "The peace of Christ be with you."

The Hebrew word for peace is shalom, and means much more than our understanding of peace. It means well-being, health, flourishing or wholeness..of body, mind and spirit.

So, when we are passing the peace in the context of worship, we are saying to folks — I pray that the peace of God, which passes all understanding, that wholeness and well-being in the name of Jesus will be with you.

Those are powerful words. When we use them in worship, we are remembering our call to be peacemakers in a world that can be full of hurt and despair. When we engage in this ritual in worship each week, we are shaping our hearts. Much in the same way we teach our kids to say please and thank you, when we share the peace of Christ each week, God is shaping us to live into this peace, and we are reminding others of the peace that dwells within each of us.

While it can be uncomfortable for some of us, let us remember that reaching across a pew or an aisle to pass the peace can be a healing balm for the wandering and weary soul.

Until we meet again, remember, "The peace of Christ be with you."

Pastor Jimmy



Covenant Bible Study

Rev. John Slater will be leading Covenant: Bible Study: Trusting

This eight week study will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm starting on September 20th and continue thru November 8. Please contact the church office or Rev. John Slater, revjmslater@gmail.com, if you are interested in attending.

2016 Concerts & Lunch Series

Concerts at 12:05 pm followed by lunch for \$6/person in the Fellowship Hall.

Monday, September 19, 12:05 p.m.

Violin and Piano Recital by Mary Ann Fennell and Danny Brian

Monday, October 10, 12:05 p.m.

Trumpet Recital by Stephen Collins and Pianist Richard Sidey

Monday, October 17, 12:05 p.m.

Vocal and Piano Recital by Brian Varner and Mike Benjamin

Monday, November 21, 12:05 p.m.

Organ Recital by Candace Armstrong

Monday, December 19, 12:05 p.m.

Handbell Concert



We have been fortunate to have Ashton to lead our children and youth ministries over the past 18 months. We wish her the best in her next job. We love and value our children and youth, and we want you to know we will continue to make sure they have a positive environment in which to learn about God during this time of transition. There will be a few tweaks to the routine until a new person is hired.

First, we will look to have a youth gathering every other week. Please check your texts and e-mails.

Second, beginning August 28, we will not have Children's Church (where the kids go upstairs after the children's sermon) until a new director has been hired. Children five and under will continue to go to the nursery (if they so choose). Older elementary kids will stay in the sanctuary the remainder of the service.

We invite you to be in prayer as we prepare to interview candidates to help us with this most important work.

A Note from Ashton.....

"And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns. So it is right that I should feel as I do about all of you, for you have a special place in my heart." Phillipians 1:6-7 NLT

Central United Methodist Church, you will always have a special place in my heart. I am so thankful for the time that I have spent here growing and learning with you all, for the relationships we have built together, and for the ministries that are continuing to bloom. I have seen our children and youth continue to live into a distinctly different life, characterized by the love and hospitality of this Church, but more importantly, of Christ. I have seen our youth this year excited for mission and each others' fellowship. I have heard our kids volunteer to pray in Children's Church for one another. I have seen adults step outside their usual responsibilities to serve our youth and children's programs. I have heard those same adults laugh, enjoying the company of our young people. I know that God is here.

I also know that God is a good father. When we ask for good things, we receive. My time at Central was a good thing. As I am called now to return home, and to teach, I carry with me your love, support, and prayers. I will miss you, dearly. However I know that God has big plans for you, and I hope to see you continue to make Christ known by extending hospitality, serving the community, and embracing all.

-Ashton, Director of Children and Youth