

- Please remember our choir practices on Wednesday, April 5 & 12, at 7:00 PM.
- We will have an extra rehearsal for our upcoming musical, "Homeland" to be presented in May. Rehearsal will be April 2 at 1:30 PM in the choir room. Please plan to be here. We will finish promptly at 2:30 PM.
- Remember that during Holy Week we will have as our guests our friends from Holsey Chapel. They will be here to lead music and their minister will be preaching for us. The service begins at 7:00 PM – I hope that you will all plan to attend. Also on Friday, April 14, we will have a Tenebrae service in the sanctuary at 6:00 PM. Although the choir won't have any particular responsibilities for that service, please consider being a part of this meaningful worship service on Good Friday.
- Looking ahead: Celebration Choir presents "Homeland" on Sunday, May 21, for 11:00 AM service. We will have a state flag presentation during this service. If any of you lived in other states for a time or have a special connection to a state (and would be willing to participate in the program), please let me know. Thanks to those of you who have already volunteered to help – I will need several more people to assist on that day.



- Children's choir rehearsal will be held on Wednesday, April 5, in the choir room. We meet at 5:00 PM and are finished at 5:55 PM. Please pick up your children each week from either the choir room or the playground.
- We will not have rehearsal on Wednesday, April 12, due to Ben Hill County Schools' spring break. We will plan to meet as usual on April 19.
- Looking ahead: Children's Sunday is April 30 at 11:00 AM. Be sure to invite your families to participate in this wonderful service that will feature our children.



- We all enjoyed your music so very much on March 26 – thanks for all of your hard work! Handbells are scheduled to play again for the April 23 service.
- Rehearsal for the handbell choir will take place on Wednesday, April 5, at 5:00 PM in the handbell room. There will be no handbell practice on April 12 due to BHCS spring break.



Kid's Korner

Our "Kids Own Worship" services have been so much fun! We plan to have them monthly beginning in August. I want to give a big shout out to our Youth Praise Band . . .the children LOVE the praise music during KOW! I also want to give a special thank you to the KOW worship team . . .Ellen Burke, Abby Holt, Will Reaves, Raines Evans and Madelyn Massey. It is a blessing watching our children as they are growing closer to God! I see it happening right before my eyes!

Mark your calendars:

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is April 15 at 10:00 AM.
 Children's Sunday and a fellowship luncheon is on April 30.
 Praise and Worship is on April 30.
 Vacation Bible School is June 4-6 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

With much love, Miss Suzanne

Catch the Spirit

CENTRAL

United Methodist Church

Fitzgerald, Georgia

Church Office and 24 Hour Voice Mail 229-423-9381

Staff Directory

B.J. Funk, Pastor • 848-1081	Susan Hughes, Adult Ministries Coordinator • 425-3068
Cindy Morris, Secretary • 424-2283	Karla Foster, Music Ministries • 424-2106
Roger Merritt, Youth Ministries • 425-2674	Suzanne Reaves, Children's Ministries • 424-5345

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 201 West Central Avenue • P.O. Box 428

Mediacom Cable Channels:
 81 (Analog) & 82.17 (HD)

April 2 & 9, 2017

NO. 14

Youth Choir

Thanks for the great job that you did at Kids Own Worship last Sunday and also for our evening Praise and Worship service. We will plan to play for some upcoming worship services so watch your text messages for practice/program dates and times.

open hearts... open minds... open doors

Central United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 428
 Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750

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Our Prayer Concerns . . .

For immediate prayer needs contact our Prayer Chain at 423-3769 (Judy Hunter-Hill).

April Prayer Team: Karla Foster, Judy Hobby, Lynne Smith, Beth Bryant, Susan Hughes

Calendar

Sunday, April 2, 2017

- 9:00 AM..... Early Morning Worship
- 9:15 AM..... Fellowship Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:45 AM..... Sunday School For All Ages
- 11:00 AM..... Morning Worship
- 1:30 PM..... Celebration Choir Rehearsal
- 5:00 PM..... Methodist Youth Fellowship

Monday

- 10:00 AM..... Senior Adult Ladies Yoga
- 6:00 PM..... Webelos Scouts (Brown Room.)

Tuesday

- 5:00 PM..... Wolf Cub Scouts (Brown Rm.)
- 6:00 PM..... Tiger Cub Scouts (Brown Rm.)

Wednesday

- 5:00 PM..... Children's Choirs
- 5:00 PM..... J.J. Pryor Handbell Choir
- 5:45 PM..... Youth Worship on Wednesday
- 6:00 PM..... Fellowship Supper
- 7:00 PM..... Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

- 7:00 PM..... United Methodist Men's Fish Fry

Friday

- 11:00 AM..... UMW Salad Fair begins

Sunday, April 9, 2017

- 9:00 AM..... Early Morning Worship
- 9:15 AM..... Fellowship Breakfast
- 9:45 AM..... Sunday School For All Ages
- 11:00 AM..... Morning Worship
- 5:00 PM..... UMYF

Monday

- 10:00 AM..... Senior Adult Ladies' Yoga
- 6:00 PM..... Webelos Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday

- 5:00 PM..... Wolf Cub Scouts (Brown Rm.)
- 6:00 PM..... Tiger Cub Scouts (Brown Rm.)

Wednesday

- 7:00 PM..... Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

- 10:00 AM..... Senior Adult Ladies' Yoga
- 7:00 PM..... Maundy Thursday Communion

Friday

- 6:00 PM..... Tenebrae/Good Friday Worship

Saturday

- 10:00 AM..... Children's Dept. Egg Hunt

Helpers for April

USHERS: Gill Braddy, Shaw Braddy, Todd Damato, Jeremy Martin, Lawson Owens, Michelle Strickland, Darrell Weeks.
WORSHIP TECHNICIANS: David Evans, Dwain Smith, Tony Moncus, Jim Owens, Parker Wiley.

Worship Notes for Sunday, April 2, 2017

Rev. B.J. Funk (9:00 & 11:00 AM)
Scripture: Luke 8:5-8
Sermon: "Integrating God's Word Into My Life"
Prelude: Becky Anderson
Call to Worship: Celebration Choir
Offertory: Ken Williams, Pat Ashley, Donna Owens, Sherry Massee
Postlude: Brian Morris
A/V Assistants: Riley Evans, Raines Evans, Angelica Hennessey, Dakota Elrod
Sunday School Greeter: Annette Braddy
Breakfast: Action Life
Tellers: Mike Smith, Chris Calhoun, Lisa Young

Worship Notes for Sunday, April 9, 2017

Rev. B.J. Funk (9:00 & 11:00 AM)
Scripture: Luke 19: 28-38
Sermon: "The Sword That Pierced Mary's Heart"
Prelude: Becky Anderson
Call to Worship: Children's Processional
Offertory: Becky Anderson
Postlude: Brian Morris
A/V Assistants: Ward Burke, Colby Bell, Justin Thompson, Janne Behnke
Sunday School Greeter: Anna Brown
Breakfast: New Beginnings
Tellers: Jimmy Johnson, Dianne Engelmann, Barbara Cagle

You're Invited!
**The Methodist Home for
 Children & Youth Invites You to**

CELEBRATION DAY

**Saturday, April 22, 2017
 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM
 304 Pierce Ave., Macon**

Tour Times: 11:00 AM, 11:30 AM, 12:00 PM, 12:30 PM, 1:00 PM

Featuring: "Crusin' for Kids" a Car, Truck & Motorcycle Show, presented by the Middle Georgia Mustang Club. Don't miss out on our delicious BBQ plates for \$8! All plates include freshly pulled BBQ pork, baked beans, coleslaw, potato chips and a drink. Grab some goodies at our baked goods table. Tour our Home, meet our kids, and plant flower seeds of hope! We want you to see why goodness grows here. All proceeds benefit our boys and girls who reside at the home.



Maundy Thursday is observed on the Thursday of Holy Week. It is the day on which the institution of the Lord's Supper is commemorated. (Read more about this in Luke 22 and John 13.) Join us for this year's Maundy Thursday observance on Thursday, April 13. Worship will begin at 7:00 PM. We will be welcoming our friends from Holsey Chapel CME to Central this year.

The word "tenebrae" is Latin for shadows. The purpose of the Tenebrae service is to recreate the emotional aspects of the passion story. It recreates the betrayal, abandonment and agony of the events that lead up to Easter. Plan to attend this special service on Good Friday, April 14, in Central's sanctuary. We will begin worship at 6:00 PM. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this special service.



United Methodist Women's Spring Salad Fair April 7

Dine-in: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 Carry Out: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 Tickets: \$9 per plate
 Tickets available
 from circle members
 or contact Karla Foster



United Methodist Men will host a fish fry at the home of Mike & Karla Foster on Thursday, April 6, at 7:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased from Harold Kimball, Gene Dorminey, Don Woeltjen or Mel Buckley. Get yours before they are sold out!

Fellowship Supper Reservations

Reservations for supper should be made by 3:00 PM each Monday. Permanent reservations may be made. Reservations can be made via phone, email, text, or you may fill in the form printed below and place it in the offering plate. The serving line is open from 6:00 to 6:30 PM. Cost is \$7 for adults/teens; \$5 for children age 4-12; children age 3 or younger are free. There is a \$20 limit per family (living in the same home). Make a reservation and join us, you will be glad you did!

Menu – April 5: BBQ, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Slaw, Salad Bar, Dessert. (Children's Choice – Corn Dog).

Menu – April 12: No Supper

Name _____

Adults/Teens _____ # age 4-12 yrs. _____ # age 0-3 _____

April 5 _____ Permanent Reservation _____

EASTER EGG HUNT!



**Saturday, April 15
 10:00 AM**
 Children and grandchildren of Central are invited!



**Easter Sunday
 Morning
 7:00 AM**
 First Baptist Church Breezeway
 Rev. Lloyd Stemberge (Arbor Baptist Church) will be the speaker for the morning



9:45 AM
 Sunday School
 10:30 AM
 Worship
 No Fellowship
 Breakfast
 No 9:00 AM
 Worship Service

Abide. That word has been rolling around in my mind a lot lately. Jesus' words in John 15:4 say "Abide in me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me." So what does it mean to abide in God? Webster's Dictionary defines abide as the act of staying with something or someone. I believe abiding with God goes much deeper than simply staying with God. It is living in and through him. It is breathing him in until he is a part of you. Ideally the goal is to become so close that it is hard to tell where God ends and you begin. His nature becomes your nature. A total integration. Are you there yet? Don't feel bad, neither am I. A story is told of a cemetery in the Alps where many mountain climbers are buried. The archway over the cemetery entrance simply says, "They died climbing". Don't worry that you are imperfect – God's grace is there to cover our imperfections. The important part is that we die climbing.



Cindy



Congratulations to **Charlie & Neysa Strahan** on the birth of their new granddaughter. Elyssa Rose Strahan was born on March 11, 2017. Elyssa's proud great grandparents are Tim & Phyllis Strahan.

Congratulations to **Susan & Jerrold Hogan** upon the birth of their granddaughter, Georgiana Leigh Hogan. Georgiana was born to Cliff & Gwendolyn Hogan on March 21.

Congratulations to **Bob & Beth Bryant** on the birth of their grandson. Julian Joseph Bryant was born to Paulk & Kristin Bryant of Roswell, Georgia on March 18.

Congratulations to all of you upon these wonderful additions to your families.

- Senior adult ladies yoga classes for April will meet every Monday and Thursday morning except we will NOT meet on April 6 as we will be in full swing with the salad fair, and we will NOT meet the third Monday, April 17 which is **Adult Ministries** UMW day. Mark your calendars for the two off days.
- Communion Servers for April - Chris & Katy Calhoun, and Jay & Amy Dailey
- The first week of April is our last week for our 40 Days In The Word Bible study. Just to give everyone a report, we had eight active home groups totaling about 85+ participants. I want to thank all our group leaders for opening your homes and facilitating your group. Good job Central!



Susan