

- Please remember our choir practices on Wednesday, May 3 & 10 at 7:00 PM.
- Looking ahead: Celebration Choir presents "Homeland" on Sunday, May 21 for 11:00 AM worship. Please invite your friends/family to attend our special worship service that day.
- I have heard so many wonderful comments about your beautiful music for Palm Sunday and Easter. Thanks for your extra hard work in making this such a special day at Central.



- Children's choir rehearsals will be held on Wednesday, May 3 & 10 at 5:00 PM. On May 3, we will sing for some of our homebound members followed by a trip to McDonald's for supper. Please bring \$5 for supper and plan to pick up your child from McDonald's at 7:00 PM.
- April 30 is Children's Sunday at Central. Meet at 10:00 AM for sound checks (Angel choir at 10:30 AM). Dress in Central t-shirts with either jeans or jean shorts/skirt.
- Please see Allison Merritt to pay for your child's t-shirt for the April 30 program.
- Looking ahead: Celebration Choir will present "Homeland" on Sunday, May 21. The children will have a part in this service – please have them here at 10:30 AM on that day dressed in something red, white or blue.



Mark your calendar today for these important dates! I especially need to know if you will be attending the Summer Church trip to Laguna Beach at Panama City. Please let me know if you have any questions. I will send more info out closer. We will have a fundraiser for this trip and we are hoping there will be no out of pocket expense.

- Thanks and God Bless, Roger Merritt
- May 6:** Great Day of Service. Youth will have a project to work on from 8:00 AM-12:00 Noon
 - May 7:** Senior Sunday (Alli Pelham, Dawson Pelham, and Dustin Armstrong)
 - May 10:** Last Wednesday Night Supper and WOW
 - May 13:** Wild Adventures (All Youth)
 - May 14:** Mother's Day (No UMYF)
 - July 14-July 17:** Summer Youth Trip (Laguna Beach, Panama City)

*We will have more events taking place throughout the summer. If you have any questions please call 425-2674 or email: merritr31@gmail.com



Today is Children's Sunday at Central! What fun it will be to watch them as they lead us in worship! We are so proud of each one of our children! We will celebrate with a luncheon following the service, and everyone is invited to eat!

Our children will be visiting our shut-ins on May 3. We will also eat supper together at McDonalds! Bible Camp dates are June 4-6. Please see me if you would like to volunteer . . . we would love to have you!!

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

April 30 & May 7, 2017

NO. 16



- Handbells will rehearse on Wednesday, May 3 & 10 at 5:00 PM.
- Thank you for the wonderful music for the service on April 23!

open hearts... open minds... open doors
Central United Methodist Church
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 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

May Prayer Team: June Morris, Nancy Kimball, Anne O'Connor, Jackie Pryor

Calendar

Sunday, April 30, 2017

9:00 AM Early Morning Worship
 9:15 AM Fellowship Breakfast
 9:45 AM Sunday School For All Ages
 10:00 AM Children's Choirs Meet
 11:00 AM Morning Worship
 12:00 PM Fellowship Lunch
 2:00 PM UMW General Meeting
 5:00 PM Methodist Youth Fellowship
 6:00 PM Praise & Worship

Monday

10:00 AM Senior Ladies Yoga Class
 6:00 PM Webelos Scouts (Brown Room)
 6:30 PM Emmaus Gathering

Tuesday

5:00 PM Wolf 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
 6:00 PM Tiger Cub Scouts (Brown Rm.)
 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

10:00 AM Senior Ladies' Yoga Class

Saturday

Great Day of Service

Sunday, May 7, 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

3:00 PM Church Staff Meeting
 5:00 PM Wolf 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
 6:00 PM Tiger Cub Scouts (Brown Rm.)
 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

10:00 AM Senior Adult Ladies' Yoga
 12:00 PM Golden Agers Luncheon
 7:00 PM United Methodist Men

Saturday

10:30 AM Preschool Graduation

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.

Helpers for May

USHERS: Tim McDonald, Ros Nash, Harold Kimball, Art Anderson, Mike Burke, Brian Braddy, Troy Vaughn .
WORSHIP TECHNICIANS: David Evans, Dwain Smith, Tony Moncus, Jim Owens, Parker Wiley.

Worship Notes for Sunday, April 30, 2017

Rev. B.J. Funk (9:00 AM)
Scripture: Mark 3:1-6
Sermon: "Stretch Out Your Hand"

Children's Sunday (11:00 AM)
Prelude: Children's Choirs
Call to Worship: Children's Choirs
Offertory: Children's Choirs
A/V Assistants: Riley Evans, Raines Evans, Angelica Hennessey, Dakota Elrod
Sunday School Greeter: Harold & Nancy Kimball
Breakfast: Friends
Tellers: Rob Hughes, Wyndi Damato, Heath Parrish

Worship Notes for Sunday, May 7, 2017

Rev. B.J. Funk (9:00 AM)
Scripture: Isaiah 30:18
Sermon: "God, the Gracious One"

Senior Sunday Celebration (11:00 AM)
Prelude: Brian Morris
Call to Worship: Senior Processional
Offertory: Brian Morris
Postlude: Brian Morris
A/V Assistants: Ward Burke, Colby Bell, Justin Thompson, Janne Benke
Sunday School Greeter: Annette Braddy
Breakfast: Covenant Class
Tellers: Mike Smith, Chris Calhoun, Lisa Young



Please extend a warm Central welcome to our new pastor, Rev. Dr. Rich Wright. Bro. Rich and his wife, Ruth, will be moving to Fitzgerald on June 14. His first Sunday in Central's pulpit will be June 18. We are planning a welcome cookout on the evening of June 18. We are planning a fun time for the whole family, so please mark your calendar and plan to be present. If you would like to send the Wrights a welcome card, their current address is 3406 Pontiac Dr., Columbus, GA 31907.



Join us for Praise & Worship on Sunday evening, April 30 at 6:00 PM. We are delighted to welcome back our friend, Rev. Steve O'Neal. Steve is the pastor of Fitzgerald's Presbyterian Congregation. He is a great friend to Central and we are looking forward to his message and music!

Congratulations to the 2017 High School Senior Class! Central will be celebrating the accomplishments of our high school seniors on Sunday, May 7 at the 11:00 AM worship service. Join us as we wish Alli Pelham, Dawson Pelham and Dustin Armstrong well as they move through this wonderful time and prepare for their future.



Golden Agers Luncheon
Thursday, May 11
12:00 Noon

Covered dish luncheon and program.
 Everyone age 50+ is invited!



Saturday, May 13
10:30 AM

United Methodist Women General Meeting
Sunday, April 30
2:00 PM
 All women of the church are invited to attend.



Attention All Men of Central! Join us for a steak supper on Thursday, May 11 at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased from Mel Buckley, Harold Kimball and Don Woeltjen. Jimmy Johnson and his able assistants will be doing the grilling on Central's new cooker. Get your ticket early before they sell 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 – May 3: BBQ, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Green Beans, Salad, Dessert. (Children's Choice – Corn Dogs).

Menu – May 10: Hamburger & Hot Dog Cook Out, Salad Bar, Dessert.

Name _____

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

May 3 _____ May 10 _____ Permanent Reservation _____

If you haven't yet seen the movie "Hidden Figures", I highly recommend it. What genius this world would have missed had someone at NASA not looked beyond race and gender to see the incredible intelligence and ability of those women. It made me wonder how many times I have discounted someone's ability based on their appearance and reminded me that "man looks at the outward appearance, but God judges the heart". The movie reminded me of a poem which hangs in my office. The poem written by Myra 'Brooks' Welch tells the story of a battered and scarred violin being presented for auction. The auctioneer examined its appearance and deemed it not to be worth much. He began the bidding at \$1. An old man stepped forward and after dusting and tuning the old violin began to play a beautiful melody. When the bidding resumed the price was in the thousands. The crowd wondered what changed the violin's worth. The auctioneer's reply was simple, "The touch of a master's hand". The last stanza of the poem is beautifully written...



"And many a man with life out of tune, and battered and scarred with sin,
 Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd, much like the old violin.
 A 'mess of pottage', a glass of wine; a game and he travels on.
 'He is going' once, and 'going twice, he's going and almost gone.'
 But the master comes, and the foolish crowd can never quite understand
 The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought by the touch of the Master's hand."

Praying for the touch of the Master's hand in all of our lives this week.
 Cindy

We have an opening for a part time youth director here at Central starting August 1. If you are interested, please call the SPR chairperson, Linda Brantley, by May 15 at 229-831-2425



You are invited to lunch! On April 30, immediately following the 11:00 AM worship service, lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall. As usual, no reservation is required. There is no cost for the meal, but donations are always gratefully received!

We will have our senior adult ladies YOGA class every Monday and Thursday for the month of May with the exception of May 29. The church will be closed that day in honor of Memorial Day.



Golden Agers on May 11 at 12:00 Noon. BJ will be sharing with us.
 Communion Servers for 11:00 AM worship service on May 14 will be Kristie Thompson, Cody Thompson, Rose Thompson, and Marley Thompson.

Susan