

- The Celebration Choir will present our annual Christmas musical on Sunday, December 10, at 6:00 PM. Our Choir Christmas party will be held following the program at the home of Paulette Eastman. All choir members, sound technicians and significant others are invited to attend!
- Following our Celebration Choir musical, we will continue to sing for 11:00 AM worship services each Sunday morning during the holidays. However, we will take a break from rehearsals. There will be no Celebration Choir rehearsal on December 13, 20, 27 and January 3. We will resume supper and rehearsals on January 10. We will sing songs from our choir musical during these Sundays. Thanks so much for your hard work on the musical and enjoy your well-deserved break!



Children's Choir

What an outstanding job you did on "How the Grouch Found Christmas." Your message was timely for all ages and really helped to get us into the Christmas spirit! Thanks so much for all of your hard work and to your parents and grandparents for helping you with your lines and solos and for having you at rehearsals!

Joy choir (ages K-5th grades) will sing for the Celebration Choir musical, "We Have a Savior" on Sunday, December 10, at 6:00 PM. Children should plan to meet in fellowship hall with Ms. Katy, Jennifer and Pam at 5:30 PM immediately following the Children's Christmas party.

Looking ahead: Children's choirs will take a break from rehearsals on December 13, 20 and 27, and January 3. Choirs and supper will resume again on January 10.



Looking ahead: Next scheduled practice will be held on January 7 at 5:00 PM in the sanctuary.



We will plan to rehearse a couple of times during your holidays from school. Please watch the bulletin and your text messages for further details.

- Handbells will play for the 11:00 AM worship service on December 17. Please plan to meet at 9:15 AM for practice.
- Handbells will take a break from rehearsals during the holidays. There will be no handbell practice on December 20, 27, or January 3. Enjoy your break!



Our children's Christmas musical was absolutely outstanding! The children worked so hard to prepare for the special service. We are so proud of them! Their commitment to children's choir is awesome!

We will have our annual Children's Christmas Party on **December 10 at 4:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. We will make some special Christmas crafts and eat supper together. The children will then go to the sanctuary at **5:30 PM** to prepare for their part in the adult Christmas musical. The adult musical will begin at **6:00 PM**.

What an exciting time of year...Christmas is right around the corner! As you are getting ready for Jesus, show His love to all those around 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

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 Cindy Morris, Admin. Asst. • 424-2283
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 81 (Analog) & 82.17 (HD)

December 10 & 17, 2017

NO. 6

If you are interested in serving as an usher during the 11:00 AM Worship Service, we are having a training session with lunch right after the worship service on January 14 at 12:00 Noon. Please let Susan Hughes know if you are interested so she can reserve a spot for you at the training.



Trustees Committee Meeting

Monday, December 11 • 6:00 PM

Church Library

open hearts... open minds... open doors
Central United Methodist Church
 P.O. Box 428
 Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750
 Return Service Requested

Presorted Standard
 Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Fitzgerald, GA
 Permit No. 46



Our Prayer Concerns . . .

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

December Prayer Team: Annette Braddy, Anne Smith, Tommie Nichols, Margaret Chasteen

Calendar

Sunday, December 10, 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
 4:00 PM Children's Christmas Play (Fellowship Hall)
 6:00 PM "We Have A Savior" Music Program
 7:00 PM Methodist Youth Fellowship (Following Evening Worship Program)

Monday, December 11

4:00 PM Church Staff Meeting
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 875 (Basement)
 6:00 PM Trustees Committee Meeting (Library)
 6:45 PM Youth Bible Study
 7:00 PM Tiger Cub Scouts (Brown Room)

Tuesday, December 12

9:30 AM Preschool Chapel Service

Wednesday, December 13

5:00 PM J.J. Pryor Handbell Choir
 5:45 PM Fellowship Supper (serving line open from 5:45 to 6:15)
 6:15 PM Youth, Children and Adult Programs

Thursday, December 14

12:00 PM Golden Agers Luncheon
 6:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 875 (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, December 15

6:00 PM Youth Christmas Party
 2:00 PM Victorian Christmas (Thomasville, Georgia)

Sunday, December 17, 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
 12:00 PM Senior Adults Christmas Lunch (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, December 18

10:00 AM Senior Women's Yoga
 11:00 AM UMW Group 1 (Home of Annette Braddy)
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 875 (Basement)

Friday, December 22

Church Office Closed

Dear Central Church Family,

Peggy and I enjoyed being with you this past Homecoming. It was a privilege to be the speaker that day. You were all gracious and hospitable to us as you always are. Even though I was weak and sick – your smiles, kind words and warm hugs lifted my spirits. Peggy and I cherish our memories as your parsonage family and we are better people for having been a part of your life.

May the Lord continue to bless you all this Advent/Christmas season and on into the New Year!

Remember: It will soon be 15 more shopping days before Christmas...

Blessings

Keith & Peggy Goodlett



Helpers for December

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

Worship Notes & Helpers the Week of December 10, 2017

Rev. B.J. Funk (9:00 AM & 11:00 AM)
Scripture: Ephesians 5:19-20
Sermon: "There's a Song in the Air"
Prelude: Becky Anderson
Advent Wreath: The Charlie Strahan Family
Offertory: Abby Holt
Postlude: Brian Morris
A/V Assistants: Riley Evans, Raines Evans, Angelica Hennessey, Dakota Elrod
Breakfast Hosts: Action Life (in the Brown Room)
Sunday School Greeter: Anna Brown
Fellowship Supper Teller: Cristina Evans
Church Offering Teller: Charlene Hatcher, Margaret Chasteen

Worship Notes & Helpers the week of December 17, 2017

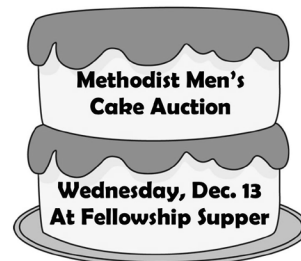
Dr. Rich Wright (9:00 AM & 11:00 AM)
Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4
Sermon: "The Christ Child is the Image of Hope"
Advent Wreath: The Bobby Chasteen Family
Prelude: Becky Anderson
Call to Worship: The J.J. Pryor Handbell Choir
Offertory: The J.J. Pryor Handbell Choir
Postlude: Betty Dyess
A/V Assistants: Ward Burke, Colby Bell, Justin Thompson
Breakfast Hosts: New Beginnings
Sunday School Greeter: Don Woeltjen
Church Offering Tellers: Jimmy Johnson, Patricia Walker

From the Pastor
 General William Booth of the Salvation Army wanted to send greetings to his units scattered across the world on one Christmas season. In those dates (late 1800s to early 1900s), the only way to do this was to send a telegram or what was commonly referred to as a cable. The problem was the cost of each cable, which was figured on the number of words in the message.

The cost dilemma resulted in General Booth figuring out that he could send a one-word telegram. What one word could best express the spirit of Christmas to all of these units? After much prayer, he finally made his choice.

The telegram said, "Others." God thinking of others sent Christ. Because of Christ, we think of others. May you enjoy the Advent season as you think of others!
 Your Servant In Christ, *Pastor Rich*

CAN'T WAIT!! B.J. can't wait to begin a January Women's Bible Study! We will start on Tuesday, January 16 and meet for six weeks in the Brown Activity Room. The name of the study? I thought you'd never ask! "Jewels from 1st, 2nd and 3rd John" will be an enjoyable journey into the treasures found in these three books. Please come! Call the church office and sign up.



Outrageous & Contagious 7 Women's Conference
February 3, 2018
UGA Conference Center
Tifton, Georgia

Tickets available in the church office



Holiday Office Hours The church office will be closed for Christmas on December 22-26. We will reopen on Wednesday, December 27. The office will also close at noon on Friday, December 29 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2 at 9:00 AM. If you would like your gift to appear on your 2017 giving statement (for tax purposes), it must be received in the church office before 10:30 AM on December 29.



Worship Opportunities
Sunday, December 24
11:00 AM Morning Worship

(No 9:00 AM Worship, No Fellowship Breakfast, No Children's Sunday School, Adult Sunday School Classes will meet as determined by each class)

Christmas Eve Communion • 6:00 PM



Reservations for supper should be made by 3:00 PM each Monday. 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 5:45 to 6:15 PM. Cost is \$7 for adults/teens; \$5 children (ages 4-12); children age 3 or younger are free. There is a \$20 limit per family (living in the same home).

Menu – December 13: Tacos & Fixings (Children's Option: Cheese Quesadilla).

Name _____

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

December 13 _____ Permanent _____



It's the most wonderful time of the year! December calendars were **NOT** mailed, so be sure to check your Remind updates closely.



December 10 is the Adult Christmas Musical at 6:00 PM. We will go out to eat after. Please bring \$5. We will return to Central for pick-up at 8:00 PM.

Monday, December 11, is our next girls- and guys-only Bible study! Girls will meet at my house, and guys will be at the Foster's. The time is 6:45-8:00 PM, and dessert will be served. It's not too late to join! We had an awesome time in November, and I know this one will be great, too! Don't forget to bring your book if you have one, but come even if you don't have a book.

We will have our regular Wednesday activities on December 13 (dinner at 5:45 PM and youth at 6:15 PM). Be sure to join us as these are the last Wednesday activities of 2017!

Our Youth Christmas party will be Friday, December 15, at my house from 6:00-7:30 PM. We will have food, games, and a gift exchange! Please bring a gift (appropriate for your gender) between \$5 and \$10 if you would like to participate in the exchange.

Those going on the Callaway trip for Fantasy in Lights (YAY) will leave Sunday, December 17, and return on December 18. Specific details will be sent to those going. No regularly scheduled youth activities on December 17.

In all the busyness of this time of the year, let us not forget the reason for the season! I love you all!

Love you all, *Mary Claire*

Please join us for a congregational meeting following either the 9:00 AM or the 11:00 AM worship services on Sunday, December 10. The meeting will begin immediately following the worship service. We will not take long, but it is necessary to share some important information with you.



Praying for the Body of Christ

Each week we are praying for those in ministry in other churches of the South-Central District. Our upcoming prayer focus includes:

- Week beginning December 10: Bickley United Methodist Church and Pastor Glenn Rainey.
- Week beginning December 17: Blackshear United Methodist Church and Pastor Robert Wood.



✠ 2nd Sunday of Advent Readers: Charlie Strahan Family

✠ 3rd Sunday of Advent Readers: Bobby Chasteen Family

✠ Golden Agers will be on December 14 at 12:00 Noon. Pastor Rich will be sharing "What If Christmas Didn't Happen".

✠ If any of our senior adults are interested in going to Thomasville for the Victorian Christmas, please contact me at the church office or by cell phone. If we get enough, we will leave on Friday, December 15 around 2:00 PM and return that evening. (Just to let you know, there is a good bit of walking.)

✠ December 17 will be our Senior Adult Ministries Christmas lunch immediately following the 11:00 AM worship service. If you are 65 and older, you are invited to come celebrate Christmas with us! Wear your festive Christmas colors! (If you don't mind, please let me know if you will be here.)

✠ Merry Christmas to all our Central family!

Love, *Susan*

