

DID YOU KNOW?

A portion of every dollar given to CUMC goes toward apportionments. One of those apportionments is for the Africa University Fund. It was established in Zimbabwe in 1988 to raise up Christian leaders for the transformation of Africa for Christ. It is the only United Methodist supported degree-granting institution in Africa. Students from 27 African nations attend its seven colleges (theology, education, agriculture & natural resources, management & administration, humanities & social sciences, health sciences, and the Institute of Peace, Leadership and Governance.). Thank for your giving to our church and beyond!

The Board of Trustees will meet on Sunday, May 6, at 4 PM in the church library. All members of this board are asked to be present.



- Celebration Choir**
- Celebration choir will have rehearsal on Wednesday, May 2 and 9, at 7:00 PM. We are learning many new songs for the remainder of spring and going into summer, so please plan to be at rehearsal if possible. Thank you!
 - We will not be in the choir loft this Sunday, April 29, as it is Children's Sunday. You are invited to sit in the congregation and support our wonderful Central children!

- Children's Sunday will be held on Sunday, April 29, at 11:00 AM. Joy Choir should plan to arrive at 10:00 AM and Angel Choir at 10:30 AM. Dress is new T-shirt with either jeans or jean shorts. Lunch will follow this service – please invite family and friends to attend this special day!
- Children's choirs will meet on both May 2 and 9. Choirs will break for the summer after the May 9 rehearsal. We will resume rehearsals in August.
- On May 2, the children will sing for some of our homebound members and then head to McDonald's for supper. Please send \$5 with your child to help cover the cost of the meal. Pick children up from McDonald's at 7:00 PM. If your child is age 4 or under, please plan to accompany them as we do not have proper car seats for them.
- Looking ahead: Children's choirs will sing the call to worship for the 11:00 AM service on May 13.

Youth Praise Team

KOW date has been changed to June 10. Watch your bulletin and text messages for details on practice. Some of our youth will be attending the Son Power trip this June (18-22) in Orlando, Florida. The third payment (\$100) is now due – please turn in to either Karla or to church office. A couple of practices will be scheduled so that the students can be familiar with the Son Power songs. Rehearsal dates and times will be announced soon.

Handbells will rehearse on May 2 and 9 at 5:00 PM in the handbell room.

Kid's Korner

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 2. We will also eat supper together at McDonalds! Vacation Bible School dates are June 10-12 from 6:00-8:00 PM. 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

Rich Wright, Sr., Pastor • 706-392-0433
 B.J. Funk, Assoc. Pastor • 848-1081
 Cindy Morris, Admin. Asst. • 424-2283
 Mary Claire Giddens, Youth Ministries • 425-4451
 Susan Hughes, Adult Ministries Coordinator • 425-3068
 Karla Foster, Music Ministries • 425-2106
 Suzanne Reaves, Children's Ministries • 424-5345
 Website: www.centralumc.net
 Email: centralumc01@windstream.net
 201 West Central Avenue • P.O. Box 428

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

April 29 & May 6, 2018

NO. 16

We will celebrate Children's Day on Sunday, April 29, at the 11:00 AM worship service. Our children will be leading us in worship and we are looking forward to this special day. The worship schedule will not change. 9:00 AM worship, breakfast and Sunday school will be held as usual. There will be a Forks 'n Fellowship meal following 11:00 AM worship. No reservations are required. There is no cost for the meal. However, donations will be happily accepted.



UNITED METHODIST MEN The United Methodist Men will meet on Tuesday, May 8, at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All men of Central are encouraged to attend. Join us as we welcome special guests Fitzgerald Police Chief, Bill Smallwood and Ben Hill County Sheriff, Lee Cone. If you haven't yet donated to our collection of stuffed animals, be sure to bring your donation with you!

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).
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

April 29, 2018

9:00 AM Early Morning Worship
 9:15 AM Fellowship Breakfast (Brown Room)
 9:45 AM Sunday School For All Ages
 11:00 AM Morning Worship
 12:00 PM Forks 'n Fellowship Luncheon
 1:30 PM Methodist Women General Meeting (Chapel)
 4:00 PM Youth Parent Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
 5:00 PM South-Central District Conference (1st UMC, Tifton)
 5:00 PM Methodist Youth Fellowship

Monday, April 30 – Worship Bulletin Information Due

10:00 AM Adult Women's Yoga (Brown Room)
 5:00 PM Scholarship Committee (Library)
 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (Basement)

Tuesday, May 1

9:30 AM Preschool Chapel
 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study with B.J.
 6:30 PM "Men on Target" Men's Bible Study

Wednesday, May 2

5:00 PM Children's Choirs Rehearse
 5:00 PM J.J. Pryor Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 5:45 PM Fellowship Supper
 6:00 PM Children's Supper @ McDonald's
 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 3

10:00 AM Adult Women's Yoga (Brown Room)

Saturday, May 5

Fitzgerald Great Day of Service

Sunday, May 6

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 Trustees Meeting (Library)
 5:00 PM Methodist Youth Fellowship

Monday, May 7 – Newsletter & Bulletin Information Due

10:00 AM Adult Women's Yoga (Brown Room)
 6:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 875 (Basement)
 6:30 PM Emmaus Gathering

Tuesday, May 8

9:30 AM Preschool Chapel
 10:00 AM Women's Bible Study with B.J.
 6:30 PM United Methodist Men (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, May 9

5:00 PM Children's Choirs Rehearse
 5:00 PM J.J. Pryor Handbell Choir Rehearsal
 5:45 PM Fellowship Supper
 7:00 PM Celebration Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, May 10

10:00 AM Adult Women's Yoga
 12:00 PM Golden Agers Luncheon



Joins us for "Forks 'n Fellowship" following 11:00 AM worship on April 29. No reservations required. There is no cost for the meal. However, donations will be happily accepted.

Praying for the Body of Christ

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

- Week beginning April 29: Hebardville UMC and pastor, Dwayne Smith .
- Week beginning May 6: Helena & Mt. Olivet UMCs and pastor, Glenn Hancock .



Helpers for April

USHERS: Gill Braddy, Captain; Jeremy Martin, Lawson Owens, Mike Smith, Todd Damato, Sikes McCord, Garrett McCord.

WORSHIP TECHNICIANS: David Evans, Dwain Smith, Tony Moncus, Jim Owens.

A/V ASSISTANTS: Ward Burke, Raines Evans, Riley Evans, Angelica Hennessey, Blaine Layfield, Haley Braddy.

Helpers for May

USHERS: Harold Kimball, Captain; Tim McDonald, Ros Nash, Art Anderson, Mike Burke, Brian Braddy, Charlie Strahan.

WORSHIP TECHNICIANS: David Evans, Dwain Smith, Tony Moncus, Jim Owens.

A/V ASSISTANTS: Ward Burke, Raines Evans, Riley Evans, Angelica Hennessey, Blaine Layfield, Haley Braddy.

Worship Notes & Helpers the week of April 29, 2018

Dr. Rich Wright (9:00 AM)

Scripture: Matthew 19:13-15

Sermon: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Children's Day Celebration (11:00 AM)

Prelude: Davis Holt

Call to Worship: Angel & Joy Choirs

Offertory: Thomas Holt

Postlude: Brian Morris

Breakfast Hosts: New Beginnings (Brown Room)

Sunday School Greeter: Harold & Nancy Kimball

Fellowship Supper Tellers: Jessica Sulatycki

Worship Notes & Helpers the week of May 6, 2018

Rev. B.J. Funk (9:00 AM & 11:00 AM)

Scripture: Romans 3:23-24

Sermon: "A Rainbow of Grace"

Prelude: Becky Anderson

Call to Worship: Celebration Choir and Congregation

Offertory: Becky Anderson

Postlude: Brian Morris

Breakfast Hosts: Women of Faith/Barnabas Classes

Sunday School Greeter: Annette Braddy

Fellowship Supper Teller: Anna Oliver

Church Offering Tellers: Linda Brantley, Lisa Young

We are creating a new photo directory and we need your help! Our directory will showcase our families, provided contact information and become a useful resource to keep us connected. Participating families will receive a printed and electronic version of the new directory. Soon you will be given the opportunity to sign up for your free professional photography session. Watch the bulletin for ways you can sign up via on-line or in-person at church. Call Susan Hughes for more information.



Men on Target! "Men on Target" Men's Bible study meet the 1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays (unless otherwise announced) at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited to participate. This study is facilitated by Pastor Rich. Mark your calendar and plan to participate in this Bible study.

We extend love and sympathy to Mr. & Mrs. Tim Pust and family upon the death of Mr. Pust's mother, Mrs. Eleanor Pust. Funeral services were held recently in Monongahela, PA. Please keep the Pust family in your prayers.



May 5 is Fitzgerald's Great Day of Service! To serve on a team, contact Susan Hughes (423-9381). Let's work together and make it a GREAT Day of Service!



Clergy Appointments



Every year in every United Methodist (UM) church for the first few months of the new year, churches, clergy, and clergy families become anxious. What about? "Will there be a clergy change for the next appointment year" is why.

The process of ensuring that every church has pastoral coverage and every qualified UM clergy has a church is engaged from January to May. Late in April or early in May, the Bishop and the cabinet release the projected appointments so that coordination about moving can occur.

On April 22, the Bishop released a list of projections. There are more to come in the following weeks. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, BJ and I will return for another year here at Central! We have begun some real growth in worship attendance, giving, and evangelistic ministries. I am extremely pleased to be coming back to continue this wonderful growth in the name of Christ!

If you haven't been to Central in a while, I invite you to come back and join us for this wonderful time with the Lord. If you have been here, I invite you to get involved in at least one hands-on ministry so that you can use the spiritual gifts that God has given to you. For all of us, let's get busy about our Father's work of building up His Kingdom for Christ's sake. It will be fun. I look forward to seeing you in worship and in ministry! God's richest blessings to you!

Your Servant In Christ, *Pastor Rich*



Senior Sunday is May 20! Parents, if you have a student who is graduating from high school or college this spring, please contact the church office with their full name and the name of the institution they have been attending. We want to be sure that our list of high school and college seniors is complete and that we know the correct spelling of their names. We look forward to hearing from all of you proud parents and graduates.

Join with others as B.J. continues to lead us through a study on Revelation. The group will meet on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. The study began on Tuesday, April 17, and go through May 29.



Central will observe Memorial Day on Sunday, May 27. As part of that observance this year, we will publish a small booklet containing the names of our deceased veterans. If you have a loved one who served in any branch of the US military, who was a member of Central, and is now deceased, please contact the church office so that we can include them in our Memorial Day program.

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 \$25 limit per family (living in the same home).



Menu – May 2: Chicken Pot Pie, Steamed Vegetables, Salad Bar, Dessert (Children: Chicken Nuggets)

Menu – May 9: Tacos, Rice, Black Beans, Salad Bar, Dessert; (Children: Cheese Quesadillas)

Name _____

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

May 2 _____ May 9 _____ Permanent _____

Happy almost-end of the school year! Wow! I keep thinking about what Paul said in 1 Corinthians about a "race" we are running and how we shouldn't give up. At this point in the year, it's very tempting to begin slacking off in school, work, and even church! I want to challenge you to intentionally make time to read the Bible, pray, and come to church/youth! You are ALWAYS welcome!



Please be sure to support Luminous Few this Saturday, April 28! Several of our own youth have been working hard on this "by youth, for youth" event. We will meet at CUMC at 5:45 PM on Saturday. Parents, I will keep you posted on the pick-up time.

Parents, I hope to see you this Sunday, April 29, at 4:00 PM in the social hall for our spring parent meeting!

This Sunday, April 29, meet at the field in front of the field house at 5:30 PM for pizza and kickball with Arbor again! We beat them last time, so Coach Smith tells me they are coming ready to win! So we'll need all the help we can get! You can be picked up from the field at 7:00 PM.

Remember to sign up for the Great Day of Service! This event will take place Saturday, May 5. Mrs. Susan Hughes is leading our team, so you can let either of us know if you are planning to participate. Thanks for all the responses so far! This is a chance to really make a difference!

Sunday, May 6, meet at the home of Mike and Karla Foster from 5:00-6:30 PM for fishing and kayaking! If you have a kayak you'd like to bring, please do.

Remember to meet upstairs on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:00 PM, join the Remind app (text @mgidde to 81010), and follow us on Instagram @centralfitzyouth!

Much love, *Mary Claire*



Called to Care was formed in 2014 for the purpose of ministering to children who are orphaned or in foster care. Called to Care provides care and support to local foster families and biological families who are in danger of having children removed from their care. Locally they are expanding their ministry to include a mentor program for teens and a support model for foster families. There are ways you can help! Items needed include: shoes (all sizes), underwear (children and adult), diapers, diaper cream, beds (twin, bunk, full or toddler), car seats (infant & convertible), water bottles, juice boxes, Walmart gift cards (\$10) and food gift cards (\$10). Donated items can be placed in "Called to Care" box outside of Susan Hughes' office.

All adult ages who are interested, can sign up for an upcoming mission trip to the UMCOR Depot, Sager-Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana, September 3-7, 2018. Call Susan Hughes for details by May 1 if interested. The cost is \$250/person which includes lodging, meals, transportation, and t-shirt. You will be responsible for meals en route. Background checks are needed. We will be working with some of their outreach ministries that include, organizing relief supplies for disasters, and working at a homeless shelter, etc.



**United Methodist Women
General Meeting**
Sunday, April 29 • 1:30 PM
Chapel

All women of Central are invited

South Central District Conference
April 29, 2018
5:00 PM
Tifton First United Methodist Church
107 12th Street West • Tifton, GA

† Scholarship Committee meeting in the church library on April 30 at 5:00 PM.

† Communion Servers for May 6 are Tim & Denise McDonald and David & Judy Hobby.

† Senior adults will be going to Daphne's Lodge in Cordele on May 24. Call the church office if you plan to go so I can make reservations. Call by May 16.

† Young couples and single adults, mark your calendars for a retreat led by BJ and located at the beautiful Epworth By the Sea for July 20-22. Watch bulletin for more information to come!



Adult Ministries

Susan