

Today's Events: April 12

8:45 am	Sunday School
10:00 am	Worship Service - <i>Sanctuary</i>
10:15 am	Children's Church/Children's Sunday School - <i>Chapel</i>
11:00 am	New-ish to Central Coffee Hour – <i>Library</i>
11:15 am	Young Parent Gathering – <i>Conference Room</i>
11:15 am	Youth Sunday School – <i>Youth Arena</i>
11:15 am	Youth Choir – <i>Choir Room</i>
11:30 am	Creation Care Committee Meeting – <i>Room 307</i>
11:45 am	Reconciling Ministries Meeting – <i>Room 219</i>
11:45 am	Children's Choir – <i>Choir Room</i>
3:30 pm	Conversations with Rev. Phillipa – <i>Room 219</i>
5:00 pm	Youth Group – <i>Youth Arena</i>

This Week's Events: April 13-19

Mon., 4/13	5:45 pm	Theology Pub – <i>Village Pub</i>
	6:30 pm	Brass Rehearsal – <i>Sanctuary</i>
Tues., 4/14	9:45 am	Staff Meeting – <i>Conference Room</i>
	10:00 am	Deborah Circle – <i>Member's Home</i>
	2:00 pm	Wesley Singers Rehearsal – <i>Choir Room</i>
	6:30 pm	Martha Circle – <i>Member home</i>
Wed., 4/15	10:00 am	UWF Executive Comm. Meeting - <i>Library</i>
	11:00 am	Centering Prayer- <i>Chapel</i>
	12:00 pm	Church St. Collaborative – <i>Conf. Room</i>
	5:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting – <i>Conference Room</i>
	6:00 pm	Unnamed Women's Circle
	6:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal – <i>Choir Room</i>
Thurs., 4/16	8:00 am	Thursday Morning Prayer – <i>Zoom</i>
	10:00 AM	Circle of Prayer - <i>Zoom</i>
Sun., 4/19	8:45 am	Sunday School
	9:30 am	Blood Pressure Checks – <i>Library</i>
	10:00 am	Worship Service - <i>Sanctuary</i>
	10:30 am	Children's Church/Children's Sunday School – <i>Chapel</i>
	11:00 am	Blood Pressure Checks – <i>Library</i>
	11:15 am	Young Parent Gathering – <i>Conf. Room</i>
	11:15 am	Youth Sunday School – <i>Youth Arena</i>
	11:15 am	Youth Choir – <i>Choir Room</i>
	11:45 am	Children's Choir – <i>Choir Room</i>
	5:00 pm	Youth Group – <i>Youth Arena</i>

*For more information about these activities, go to centralumc.org/EVENTS.

RESOURCES FOR YOU!

Our website has so much to offer—have you explored these pages yet? Here are a few highlights we encourage you to check out:

- Resources Page: Access helpful tools and support at centralumc.org/RESOURCES.
- Announcements: Please send all announcement requests to announcements@centralumc.org.

Ministry Staff:

Rev. Dr. Mary Brown, Senior Pastor
mbrown@centralumc.org
 Rev. Lisa Rettew, Minister of Congregational Care
lrettew@centralumc.org
 Maggie Christy, Director of Children and Youth Discipleship
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 Corey Powell, Organist & Director of Music Ministries
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 Linda Haggard, Director of Choral Music
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Second Sunday of Easter
 April 12, 2026
 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Mary Brown

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" arr. George Shearing

CALL TO WORSHIP Mary Brown

In fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. **When this perishable body put on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory?" "Where, O death, is your sting?"**

*HYMN 304 "Easter People, Raise Your Voices" REGENT SQUARE

MISSION MOMENT Eve Circle Necklace Sale Sue Mather

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
 Ending with The Lord's Prayer (895)

OFFERTORY "Beautiful Savior" arr. Robert Vandervliet, Jr.
Wesley Singers

While the choir makes their musical offering, the ushers will pass plates for those who wish to offer a financial gift or a prayer request. You may also use this QR code to make a financial gift. Whether you place something in the plate or not, you are invited to pause as you pass it and reflect on what you hope to offer God this week.



*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 94

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Peter 1:3-9 Gary Abernathy

Sermon Discussion Questions

Easter's hope remains, even as we experience the hardship and suffering that comes with life in this world. Continue to reflect by re-reading 1 Peter 1:3-9, and by journaling or discussing the following:

- So many people will say, when faced with difficult circumstances, "I don't know where I'd be without my faith." How does your faith make a difference for you when times get tough?
- The first-century churches who received this letter from 1 Peter needed encouragement to keep the faith in spite of what was going on in their community. How does this passage encourage you today? What fuels your hope? How have you felt God's sanctifying grace encouraging you?

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

The six weeks of Easter are a great time to read the suggested passages from the Lectionary. As you read these, ask yourself: What does this tell us about living as resurrection people?

- Monday: Acts 2:14a, 22-32
- Tuesday: Psalm 16
- Wednesday: 1 Peter 1:3-9
- Thursday: Psalm 133
- Friday: John 20:19-31
- Saturday: 1 John 1:1 – 2:2

Next week in worship...

We walk through the short book of 1 Peter with a look at 1 Peter 1:17-23. Come and experience the joy of being rescued with us!

CHILDREN'S TIME

After Children's Time, children in kindergarten – 5th grade are invited to continue worship in Children's Church in the Chapel. Children ages 5 and under may go to the nursery (Room 309, across from the church offices) with our childcare staff. For safety, all children must wear a name tag. Name tags are available near the Library.

ANTHEM	"Sing the Lord a New Song" Wesley Singers	Robert Lau
SERMON	"There Is Always Hope"	Rev. Lisa Rettew
THE APOSTLES' CREED	Hymnal 881	Rev. Dr. Mary Brown
*HYMN 327	"Crown Him with Many Crowns"	DIADEMATA
*BENEDICTION		Rev. Lisa Rettew
CHIMES OF THE TRINITY		
POSTLUDE	"Alleluias"	arr. Robert Lau

***Please stand, if you are able.**

A livestream of the worship service is available in the library for families. Nursery is available in Room 309 for children ages 0-5.

The flowers in the Chancel this morning were given by Bill and Kitty Hunt in honor of their 58th wedding anniversary this year.

If you are interested in providing flowers for the Chancel, please contact Mary Margaret at marymargaretingle@gmail.com, especially for the weeks of April 26 and May 3.

Plainclothes law enforcement officers are present during our services so that all may feel welcome, secure and free to worship, fellowship and experience God's grace freely. Our staff members are in direct communication with the officers should you feel the need to ask for assistance or voice a concern.

Central.Giving.

Financial Update through March 2026:
2026 Year to Date Tites & Offerings: \$290,553
Total Annual Budget: \$1,550,000

ECO-Tip: As we enjoy Spring and warmer weather, gardeners are making plans for raising vegetables and ornamental plants. Photographers are looking for early "ephemerals" to photograph. Trees are budding out, bulbs are blooming, perennials are returning. These, and other native plants, are beneficial for all living creatures. God's plan of faithful seasons is in play. Praise be to God!



It is hard to admit out loud that we are having trouble handling our life issues by ourselves. But... "asking for help is the bravest thing you can do." C. Mackesy
Consider a confidential care relationship with a **Stephen Minister**. Contact Pastor Lisa today for more information.



The **Prayer Shawl Care Ministry** wants to help lift your spirits when life challenges bring you down. A handmade shawl created with prayers over every stitch can comfort you and be a reminder of God's never-ending love for you. Contact Pastor Lisa if you would like to receive a shawl or have one delivered to someone going through a difficult time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us today for the New-ish to Central Coffee Hour!

Are you new—or new-ish—to Central? We'd love to get to know you! Join the pastors for a casual time of conversation, coffee, and connection after worship in the Library. This is a great opportunity to meet the pastors, connect with others who are newer to Central, and learn more about our church community. Whether you've been visiting for a while or this is your first Sunday, you're warmly invited to join us! Can't make it this month? No worries! "New-ish to Central Coffee Hour" will take place on the **second Sunday of each month**. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Mary.

Reconciling Ministry Group meets today in Room 219 at 11:45 am. All are welcome to join the conversation as we continue our work of advocacy, inclusion, and support for LGBTQ+ persons in our church and community. We will also share updates about the group's ongoing support of the Moheto Kenya Scholarship Project. Come learn more, connect with others, and find ways to get involved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Cont.)

Join us today in Room 219 at 3:30 pm for A Conversation on Transsexuality. Central UMC's Reconciling Ministries and Church and Society groups invite you to a conversation with Rev. Dr. Phillippa Faye Phanuef, a transsexual clergy person in the UMC. Phillippa is an ordained elder in the New York Annual Conference, currently serving North Chili UMC in Rochester, NY. During a visit to the area, she generously offered this time to share from her own experience, answer questions, and even apply the Wesley Quadrilateral to transsexuality.

Deborah Circle meets on Tuesday, April 14, 10 a.m. in a member's home. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Using the United Women in Faith program guide, *Mapping Our Way Forward in Times of Change and Uncertainty*, the group explores topics of faith, service, and hope. At the April 14 meeting, Deborah Circle will focus on "Seeds of Hope," exploring climate justice and our efforts to care for creation. The discussion will include insights from Jane Goodall's *The Book of Hope*. All are welcome. Questions may be directed to Susan Snell at ssnell123@bellsouth.net.

Shop for a Cause after worship on April 19 and 26. The **Eve Circle** will be selling handcrafted paper bead jewelry made by women in Uganda just outside the Parlor. Proceeds support the Zoe Program for orphan empowerment and scholarships for girls in Moheto, Kenya. Cash or check accepted. Shop, find something beautiful, and help change a life!

ABCCM Donations – Thank you!!

Thank you to everyone who donated toilet paper and cat food for ABCCM! Your generosity is deeply appreciated. The latest needs from the clothing closet include:

- Gently used backpacks
- Men's athletic shoes and boots (especially size 10)
- Men's jeans, especially waist sizes 32, 34, and 36 with inseams of 32–36
- Men's T-shirts, especially long-sleeved shirts in sizes L, XL, and 2XL

Please do not donate shirts with alcohol or tobacco logos. Donations may be placed in the wooden tub in the Fellowship Hall. Items are picked up each Sunday and delivered to ABCCM Crisis downtown.

Sundays in APRIL - Youth Money Wall Fundraiser for Wilderness Trail

Support our youth as they prepare for their summer trip with Wilderness Trail! Each Sunday in April, you can participate in our Money Wall fundraiser. Choose a numbered envelope from the display, place that amount in cash or a check inside, and return it. For example, choose envelope #10 and give \$10, or envelope #50 and give \$50. Every gift helps make this faith-filled backpacking experience possible for our youth. Thank you for your generosity!