

Today’s Events: August 23

8:45 am	Sunday School
9:30 am	Blood Pressure Checks - <i>Library</i>
10:00 am	Worship Service – <i>Sanctuary</i>
11:00 am	Usher Training - <i>Sanctuary</i>
11:15 am	Children’s Playtime - <i>Chapel</i>
	Parent Gathering – <i>Conference Room</i>
	Youth Sunday School – <i>Youth Arena</i>

This Week’s Events: August 24-30

Mon., 8/17	12:00 pm	Building Committee – <i>Conference Room</i>
	5:45 pm	Theology Pub – <i>Village Pub</i>
Tues., 8/18	9:45 am	Staff Meeting – <i>Conference Room</i>
Wed., 8/19	11:00 am	Centering Prayer – <i>Chapel</i>
	12:00 pm	Haywood St. Worship – <i>Haywood St. Sanctuary</i>
	7:00 pm	Congregational Care Council
Thurs., 8/20	8:00 am	Thursday Morning Prayer – <i>Zoom</i>
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer – <i>Zoom</i>
Sun., 8/23	8:45 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Worship Service – <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:15 am	Meet the Author – <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
		Children’s Playtime – <i>Chapel</i>
		Young Parent Gathering – <i>Conf Room</i>
		Youth Sunday School – <i>Youth Arena</i>

Sunday Rhythm for Children & Youth!

Nursery	Elementary	Youth	Parents
9:30am-12:30pm	Worship	Worship	Worship
	10:00-10:30 am	10:00-11:15 am	10:00-11:15 am
	Children’s Church		
	10:30-11:45 am		
Children’s Play Time		Youth Sunday School	Young Parent Gathering
11:15-11:45 am		11:15-11:45 am	11:15-11:45 am

For Pastoral Emergencies Contact:
Rev. Lisa Rettew at 828-575-1257

ALL ANNOUNCEMENTS for bulletins, social media, and newsletters are to be sent 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
mchristy@centralumc.org
Corey Powell, Organist & Director of Music Ministries
cpowell@centralumc.org
Linda Haggard, Director of Choral Music
lhaggard@centralumc.org

Thank you to Sharon Boone, our guest organist, who is filling in for Corey Powell while he is enjoying his vacation.

Sermon Discussion Questions

Continue to reflect on today’s message by journalling or discussing the following questions:

- What from today’s message resonated with you?
- What surprised you? What did you disagree with?
- How is God calling you to act as a result of today’s message?

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

Let this week’s Lectionary readings guide your daily quiet time with God:

- Monday: Exodus 1:8 – 2:10
- Tuesday: Psalm 124
- Wednesday: Isaiah 51:1-6
- Thursday: Psalm 138
- Friday: Romans 12:1-8
- Saturday: Matthew 16:13-20

Next Week in Worship...

Rev. Kelli Mullinix joins us as guest preacher! Kelli grew up at Central UMC and has a Vocal Performance Degree from Mars Hill College, a Masters in Sacred Music from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX, and a Masters of Divinity from Hood Theological Seminary. She has directed contemporary worship at FUMC Hendersonville, Director choirs for the Hendersonville Symphony Chorus, and is very involved in the local theatre scene. Kelli was ordained an elder in the United Methodist Church in 2025 and currently serves as Spiritual Care Associate at Givens Estates. Join us for a message on “Making Disciples” from Matthew 28:16-20!



Ordinary Time
August 23, 2026
10:00 a.m.

WELCOME Rev. Lisa Rettew

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE “How Fair and How Pleasant Art Though” Marcel DuPré
Sharon Boone, guest organist

CALL TO WORSHIP: Rev. Lisa Rettew
Blessed are you, O Lord, who rejoice sin our worship.
Blessed are you, who attends t the cries of the poor.
Blessed are you, who offers hope in the midst of hard times.
Blessed are you, O God;
Whose name is Love,
Whose presence is Light,
Whose heart is Justice,
Whose gift is Grace,
Whose life is Hope.
Praise be to you, our God, for ever and ever!

*HYMN 368 “My Hope Is Built” THE SOLID ROCK

MINISTRY MOMENT: Children/Youth Ministries Maggie Christy

PASTORAL PRAYER ending with the Lord’s Prayer Rev. Lisa Rettew

OFFERTORY “In the Garden Medley”
Joanna Beck, soprano; Sharon Boone, guest organist
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 Hymnal 94
“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 16:13-20 Rev. Lisa Rettew
The word of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God

SERMON “A Church for the Sake of the World” Derrick Scott, III

*AFFIRMATION The Apostles Creed (Hymnal 881) Rev. Lisa Rettew

*HYMN 188 “Christ is the World’s Light” CHRISTE SANCTORUM

*BENEDICTION Derrick Scott, III

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE “March from Symphony No. 3” Camille Saint-Saëns
Sharon Boone, guest organist

*Please stand, if you are able.

Today’s Guest Preacher:
Today’s guest preacher comes to us all the way from the Sunshine State! Derrick has been leading ministry in the collegiate and young adult context for over 20 years. He is currently working as the Founding Executive Director and Digital Campus Minister of Studio Wesley, Associate Director of Learning and Innovation for the Texas Methodist Foundation and Wesleyan Impact Partners, and Program Director for faith250. Derrick’s many volunteer leadership roles include serving as co-lay leader of the Florida Conference of the UMC from 2022-2026 and as Vice Chair of the Reconciling Ministries Network board.

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

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from the Ushers.

The flowers in the Chancel this morning are given by Steve and Cindy Oak: “As we celebrate 50 years together with our family and friends, we are also grateful for the ways God has directed our lives through the loving support of all the congregations we have been a part of over the years.”

For name tags: <https://centralumc.org/adults#name-tag>.
The cost is \$15 payable to Central UMC.

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.

Financial Update through July 2026:
2026 Year to Date Tithes & Offerings: \$883,502
Total Annual Budget: \$1,550,000

ECO-Tip: Homegrown National Park: an idea proposed by environmentalist Doug Tallamy, to reduce turf/grass lawns and promote insect biodiversity. Every American homeowner could remove grass (a biological desert) and introduce hyper-local native plants to support local insect life. Oak trees are known to support 1000 different species of insect and animal life! Plant an oak tree to help creation.



CENTRAL’S MINISTRY
Under the coordination of April Messer, PhD, PMHNP-BC, CCRN, our Congregational Care Council will be launching a Health Care Ministry in 2027. In the meantime, stop by the Library for a Blood Pressure Check on third Sunday of each month!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meet the Author: Our Own David Ourisman!
Sunday, August 30th at 11:15am in the Fellowship Hall
In addition to being a part of our Central UMC family, Rev. Dr. David Ourisman is also an ordained United Methodist minister, teacher and author. Come hear David’s review of his newest book, "One Life, Four Stories: Invitations to Faith & Wonder" after worship on Sunday, August 30th. Malaprops will be on hand with copies to purchase. The Faith Discernment Class will provide refreshments.

Eve Circle will meet in the church parlor on Tuesday, September 1 at 10:00 am. Sue Mather will present a program on UWF Mission Institutions with emphasis on those in North Carolina, including the Alliance Center for Education (formerly Bethlehem Center) in Charlotte which Eve Circle visited years ago. "Have Hope" jewelry sale will be held pm the first two Sundays in December (just in time for Christmas gifts). Come share the fellowship and joy. Everyone is welcome. Contact dlballandy45@gmail.com or sandracwells@gmail.com.

Please join members of the **Ruth Circle** on Tuesday, September 1, at 10:00 am in the library at Central. We will collect regular/wheat pasta and pasta sauce for ABCCM. Come join us as we kick off our fall programming for United Women in Faith. Let’s Do This, Let’s be Bold, Let’s be UNSTOPPABLE! Together! We look forward to sharing the morning with you! For more information about Ruth Circle, please contact Kim Everette at kimeverette525@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Cont.)

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Anna Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the parlor. Our summer book, *Good Enough* by Kate Bower and Jessica Richie, will be discussed and our mission plans continued. Contact Glenda Fuhrmann at glendafuhrmann@yahoo.com for more info.

Deborah Circle meets on the second Tuesday of the month in a member’s home. For our September 8 meeting we will be following the United Women in Faith program guide, Mapping Our Way Forward in Times of Change and Uncertainty, our program centering on caring for others while practicing self care. All are welcome. Questions? Susan Snell at ssnell123@bellsouth.net.



Basic Biblical Literacy:
Wednesdays at 5:30 pm starting 9/9

Have you wanted to read the Bible but struggled to make sense of it? Or maybe you've avoided reading the Bible altogether! With a little help, the Bible can become a regular way for you to connect with God. Join Rick Kuenning and Pastor Mary for an 11-session class designed to introduce you to major themes of the Old and New Testament. We will meet on Wednesdays from 5:30 – 7:00 pm in Room 219 starting 9/9 and ending 11/18. Participants will need a Bible; Central has plenty to share as needed. Register online using the QR code or this link: <https://onrealm.org/centralumc/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZDgyMjkWNEtNmViNi00ZjE0LWE4ODQtYjQ4YzAwZDJKNzY0>.



Creation Care Committee invites you to take a tour of the Landfill on Thursday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m. The Landfill is a very interesting place to visit. It's relevant to the Committee's focus on conservation and recycling, among other things. If you're interested in this informative one-hour tour, please send your name, email and cell phone # to Ellen Furney at efurney08@gmail.com. There is a limited number of seats available

We would like to remind you of a Central Ministry that focuses on our **College Students**. Four times a year your college student will receive a note from the church, letting them know we are thinking of them, including a devotional and a gift card for a treat. If you would like your student to be a recipient of this, please send their current college address to Jan Griffin at jgriffin@centralumc.org.

Bring a group from your Sunday School Class/Journey Group/or other small group to a fun night to help out the **Asheville Wesley Foundation**. All are invited to Tacos and Trivia on Wednesday, September 12 at 6:30 pm at Groce UMC on Tunnel Road! The students and members of the AWF board will be serving up tacos for dinner followed by trivia where you can win prizes AND bragging rights amongst the other congregations in our district! Sign your group up for a table and come for a great time! Here is the link to [RSVP](#). See the flyer on the insert for more info.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Cont.)



Here is the newest list of needs for ABCCM's Crisis Ministry:
Thanks so much!

Breakfast Cereal	Peanut Butter (10 o416 oz)	Jelly or Jam
Hearty Soups	Grits	Oatmeal
Boxed Mac & Cheese	Pasta Sauce	Sugar
Cooking Oil		

Asheville Wesley
Foundation invites
you to

Tacos & Trivia

Win PRIZES!

SEPTEMBER 12
6:30 PM
AT GROCE UMC

Teams of up to 7
people \$20/pp
or \$140 per table



Sign up here!

Congregations 4 Children (C4C)



C4C – FILLING EMMA ELEMENTARY'S CLOTHES CLOSET
Congregations for Children (C4C) and the Growing in Faith Through Service (GIFTS) Sunday School class request your help with donations of these essentials for the children at Emma.

Items Needed:

NEW: **Pants** – Sweatpants, black – unisex, all sizes, 5/6, 7/8, & 10/12
NEW: **Underwear** – Boys and girls, all sizes – small, medium, & large
NEW: **Shirts** – Boys and girls, all sizes – small, medium & large
NEW: **Shoes** – Tennis (athletic) shoes, youth sizes – 1,2,3,4,5,6, & 7
(No “child sizes”) – All Students

Donations can be made August 2 – 30, 2026. The bin is located in the hallway outside the offices on the same floor as the Sanctuary.

The Annual School Supply Drive for Emma Elementary begins on August 16th and will end September 6th. The following items are needed: Facial Tissues; Baby Wipes, Colored Cardstock/Colored Paper/Construction Paper; Sharpies Big/Small, Black/Multicolored; Index cards (lined and unlined, different sizes); Pencil top erasers; Colored Pencils; Crayons; Pencil Boxes; Playdough; Gallon Ziploc Bags (press to close type); Markers; Highlighters (Big and Small/multicolored). Donations may be placed in the bin marked Emma School Supplies outside of the Church Office. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity.



Do you have a couple of hours per week to volunteer as a **Reading Buddy**? C4C is sponsoring a Reading Buddy program at Emma Elementary, beginning in late September. Reading Buddies meet one on one with a child once a week to listen, encourage and help strengthen reading skills. Training and materials are provided. If you are interested or have questions, please reach out to C4C@centralcmc.org.