

Today's Events: September 13

8:45 am	Sunday School
9:00 am	Tween Training - <i>Sanctuary</i>
10:00 am	Worship Service – <i>Sanctuary</i>
11:00 am	Newish to Central Coffee Hour - <i>Library</i>
11:15 am	Kids with Purpose – <i>Chapel</i>
	Creation Care Meeting – <i>Room 307</i>
	Godly Play Experience and Training
11:15 & 11:45 am	Children and Youth Choir – <i>Choir Room</i>
	Youth Sunday School – <i>Youth Arena</i>
	Youth Group – <i>Haw Creek Campus</i>
5:00 pm	Inquirer's Class Chat 'N Chew, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>

This Week's Events: Sept. 14 - 20

Mon., 9/14	5:45 pm	Theology Pub – <i>Village Pub</i>
Tues., 9/15	9:45 am	Staff Meeting – <i>Conference Room</i>
	1:00 pm	Wesley Choir
	2:00 pm	Dementia Partners AVL – <i>Library</i>
Wed., 9/16	11:00 am	Centering Prayer – <i>Chapel</i>
	12:30 pm	Haywood St. Worship – <i>Haywood St. Sanctuary</i>
	5:30 pm	Basic Bible Literacy Class – <i>Room 219</i>
	6:30 pm	Handbells – <i>Handbell Room</i>
Thurs., 9/17	8:00 am	Thursday Morning Prayer – <i>Zoom</i>
	10:00 am	Circle of Prayer – <i>Zoom</i>
Sun., 9/20	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	Blood Pressure Checks – <i>Library</i>
	11:15 am	Small Group Study Class – <i>Room 219</i>
		Stewardship Committee Meeting - <i>Parlor</i>
		Kids with Purpose – <i>Chapel</i>
		Youth Sunday School – <i>Youth Arena</i>
	12:00 pm	3 Church Childen's Music Workshop- <i>FPC</i>
	5:00 pm	Youth Group – <i>Youth Arena</i>

Sunday Rhythm for Children & Youth!

Nursery Ages 0 - 4	Elementary Ages 4 - 3 rd grade	Tweens 4 th – 6 th grade	Youth 6 th – 12 th grade	Parents
9:45am- 12:15pm	Worship 10:00-10:30am	Worship 10:00- 11:00am	Worship 10:00-11:00am	Worship 10:00- 11:15am
	Godly Play 10:30-11:00am			
	Kids with Purpose 11:15 – 11:45am		Youth Choir 11:15 – 11:45am	Parent Gathering 11:15am – 12:15pm
	Children’s Choir 11:45am – 12:15 pm		Youth Sunday School 11:15 – 12:15 pm	

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

Sermon Discussion Questions

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

- What about Pastor Brian's sermon resonated with you?
- What about Pastor Brian's sermon challenged you?
- How is God calling you to act in response to Luke 10:25-37 and Pastor Brian's message?

Daily Suggested Scripture Readings

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

- Monday: Exodus 14:19-31
- Tuesday: Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21
- Wednesday: Romans 14:1-12
- Thursday: Matthew 18:21-35
- Friday: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
- Saturday: Psalm 19

Next Week in Worship

We will look at our lives of faith as a gift of grace. Join us as we open God's invitation into relationship and spiritual growth!

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.



Ordinary Time
September 13, 2026
10:00 a.m.

WELCOME Rev. Lisa Rettew

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

PRELUDE "Brother James' Air" arr. Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP Selected verses from Psalm 118 Rev. Lisa Rettew

O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever!
The LORD is our strength and our might;
God has become our salvation.
Save us, we beg you, O LORD!
O LORD, we beg you, give us success!
You are our God, and we will give thanks to you;
You are our God; we will praise you.
O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever!

*HYMN 559 WESTMINSTER ABBEY
"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

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

ANTHEM "To Praise the Lord" Joseph Martin
Chancel Choir

STEWARDSHIP STORY Nathan Rawls

OFFERTORY "The Word Was God" Rosephayne Powell
Chancel Choir

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 Luke 10:25-37 Peter Barrett
The word of God for the people of God
Thanks be to God

CHILDREN’S TIME		Maggie Christy
SERMON	“The Good Samaritan”	Rev. Brian Combs
*AFFIRMATION from 1 Corinthians and Colossians (Hymnal 888)		Rev. Lisa Rettew
*HYMN 560	“Help Us Accept Each Other”	ACCEPTANCE
*BENEDICTION		Rev. Brian Combs

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE	“Monkland”	Albert Travis
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**Please stand, if you are able.*

Today’s Guest Preacher:
On the gritty corners downtown, Brian Martinez de la Combs felt a calling to urban ministry after encountering the living Christ among the most cast aside and dismissed. Not wanting to be Jesus, but rather to welcome him in brothers struggling with substance abuse and sisters surviving with mental illness, he helped found Haywood St., a United Methodist mission congregation located in the homeless corridor of Asheville.

A livestream of the worship service is available in the library for families. Nursery is available in Room 309 for children ages 0-4.

After Children’s Time, Godly Play class is available for children ages 4 – 3rd grade and “Tween” Worship bags are available for kids 4th – 6th grade.

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from the Ushers.

The flowers in the Chancel this morning are given by Rod and Cyndy Douglas honoring the birthdays of Rod and son, Jim.

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.

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

ECO-Tip: Reducing food waste is a climate action accessible to us all. Choosing appropriate portions or planning for leftovers, monitoring and using what’s in the fridge, and composting are each actions that reduce wasted food and therefore methane, which harms the planet.



Whether you are at home not able to get out and about, or limited in your “travels”, or in a care facility, we want to visit with you! Pastor Lisa can make these arrangements through our **Homebound Care Ministry**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Fall: Study about Small Groups - Try out a Small Group!
Join us for an 8-week class on the basic building block of the Methodist movement: John Wesley’s “class meeting.” Over the course of this class, we’ll gradually shift from a study to a small group experience, giving participants an opportunity for those interested to form new small groups that continue meeting. We’ll meet after worship (11:15am) in Room 219 from 9/13 to 11/15, skipping first Sundays of each month (for the Table2Table meal). Participants will need a copy of Kevin Watson’s book, *The Class Meeting*, which are available in the church office for a \$20 suggested donation. Registration is required using the QR code attached or this link: <https://bit.ly/2026fallstudygroup>

Our choirs have started up again! If you enjoy singing at any level, please consider joining one of our choirs:

- The Chancel Choir** – rehearse Wednesdays at 6:30 pm.
- The Wesley Singers:** rehearses Tuesdays at 1:00 pm.
- Youth Choir:** rehearses Sundays at 11:15 a.m. in the choir room. All youth and friends in grades 6-12 are invited.
- Children's Choir:** rehearses Sundays at 11:45 a.m. All children and friends in kindergarten - 5th grade are invited.
- Kona Ice will be here today** at Central for everyone as part of our Fall Kick-Off! Please reach out to Linda Haggard or Corey Powell got more information: lhaggard@centralumc.org or cpowell@centralumc.org

Save the date! The **friendsGIVING** event returns to Highland Brewing, November 19, 2026 (5:30-8:30 pm).

The Church & Society Committee offers five \$100 scholarships to church members for Building Bridges AVL. This 9-week educational workshop series addresses: racial justice, racial dialogue, and anti-racism in our community. Sept. 14 - Nov. 9, Mondays from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. Total cost is \$135 (scholarship participants pay \$35). For more info, contact Sharon LeDuc at skleduc@prodigy.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Cont.)

Learn About Local Efforts to Support Immigrant Neighbors
Please mark your calendars for two events to learn about immigrant justice. **TODAY**, at 3:00 pm the UMC Blue Ridge District will host a one-hour workshop by Zoom with Dr. Philip Wingeier-Rayo. Explore the intersections of faith, Methodist history, and migration with a premier scholar and gifted teacher (also the son of deceased Central member Doug Wingeier). The Zoom link is: <https://wnccumcorg.zoom.us/j/84594453657?pwd=EgGWMqDq8aZrN1UPYy9S7yAJkYkVF1.1>
The second event is by Pisgah Legal Services, a local non-profit law firm supported by Central UMC, and many others. Pisgah Legal serves thousands of low-income residents each year in 18 counties, including immigrants and their families. Our Blue Ridge District is hosting a lunch and learn event at Abernethy UMC at 1418 Patton Avenue at 11:00 am on September 30. To sign up for lunch, email Lori Hicks at lhicks@wnccumc.org. If you prefer to participate by Zoom, the link is: <https://wnccumcorg.zoom.us/j/86009505770?pwd=Kpkukxbfy2YVJLwTfzPrwzRziZTR7h.1>

C4C Reading Buddies 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@centralumc.org.

Please send us your college student’s address! We have 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.



Here is the newest list of needs for ABCCM’s Crisis Ministry:		
Thanks so much!		
Breakfast Cereal	Peanut Butter (10 or 16 oz)	Jelly or Jam
Hearty Soups	Oatmeal	Grits
Boxed Mac & Cheese	Pasta Sauce	Sugar
		Cooking Oil

Queer Bible Study
By popular demand, starting September 20, there will be a study of the book "God, Gospel, and Gender" by Margie Baker during the Sunday School hour. This study is open to all ages and will be held in the 4th Floor Youth Arena, hosted by the young adult’s journey group.