



The Central Issue

Mission: To make disciples of Christ who **WORSHIP** God, **GROW** in their faith, and **SERVE** in the church and world.

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May 27, 2026

Volume 35, No. 11

David Lee, Senior Pastor

Tammy Bass, Director of Discipleship

Danny Buckner, Director of Music Ministries

Caroline Scism, Director of Children's Ministries

Katie Bowers, Director of Youth Ministries

Libby Alexander, Organist

Ila McInnis, Director of Communications

Doug Smith, Facilities Manager

Shelley Rempson, Kid's Place Preschool Director

Doug Lowery, Media Coordinator

Stacey Watkins Griffith, Pastoral Counselor

CUMC Outdoor Worship Service

Join us this **Sunday, May 31st**, for a special outdoor worship service at **10:00 AM on the Court Square**.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to gather together in the heart of our community for worship and fellowship.

Following the service, we'll enjoy a picnic meal together. The church will provide chicken tenders, and **we invite each family to bring a side dish and/or dessert to share. Please bring your own chair!**

Please note that there will be no Sunday School that morning. We hope you'll make plans to join us for this meaningful and joy-filled day!

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We are excited to **welcome Janet and Bill Murray, Elaine Mann, Mitzi Hammer, and Meaghan Burton as new members of Central United Methodist Church!** Joining a church family is a meaningful step in one's faith journey, and we are grateful they have chosen to become part of our congregation. We look forward to walking alongside them as we grow together in faith, fellowship, service, and discipleship. Please join us in extending a **warm Central welcome** as we continue building a Christ-centered community rooted in love, encouragement, and spiritual growth.

Ministry Highlight



Open Table

At Central United Methodist Church, one of the ways we strive to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community is through our Open Table ministry. Every Saturday, volunteers come together to provide curbside hot meals and groceries to individuals and families in need throughout our community. While many may see the ministry in action each week, the impact reaches farther than most realize.

From January through April of 2026, Open Table served an incredible 3,103 meals, averaging 775 meals each month and more than 190 meals every Saturday. In addition to meals, the ministry also supported an average of 346 individuals each month through grocery assistance and outreach efforts. Among those served were an average of 79 children under the age of 18, 193 adults ages 18–64, and 74 seniors ages 65 and older. These numbers represent more than statistics, they represent neighbors, families, and individuals experiencing the care, compassion, and support of a loving community.

Open Table continues to be a powerful example of how small acts of service can make a meaningful difference. In the coming weeks, we will continue highlighting this ministry by sharing more about the volunteers who make it possible and ways the congregation can help support its ongoing needs.

Special note:

I want to send a special thank you to Evelyn Ribedenry, Ann Anthony, and Diana Synder for helping consolidate and put together all the stats and details!! Thank you ladies for all your hard work and the difference you make on a weekly basis!! - ila :)



**Calendar of Events
May 31 - June 6, 2026**

Sunday

Sunday School - 9:00am
Outdoor Worship Service
on the Court Square - 10:00am

Monday

Church Office Hours - 9am-3pm

Tuesday

Church Office Hours - 9am-3pm

Wednesday

Church Office Hours - 9am -3pm

Thursday

Church Office Hours - 9am -3pm

Friday

Church Office Hours - Closed

Saturday

Open Table Hot Lunch (PAC) - 10:30am

Service Sunday May 31, 2026

Nursery Volunteer:
Outdoor Service

**Elementary Sunday School
Teachers:**
Outdoor Service

Greeters:
Rhonda & Mike Keeley

Coffee Time Helpers:
Carol & Ray Maxwell

Coffee Maker:
Mike Schenck

Children's Sermon:
Outdoor Service

Offering Counters:
Jim Pressley & Patrick Budzinski

Memorials and Honorariums

Sallie Craig

Special: Music Ministry

In memory of Chuck Hamilton,
Betty Reeves, and David Swaim

Operating-

In memory of Bob Conlon and
Shirley Groll

James and Carol Rose

Operating

In memory of Prentice Johnson

Sandy Allen

Special: Music Ministry

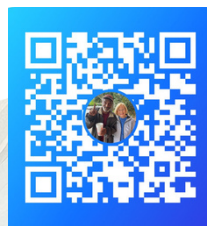
In memory of: David Swaim,
Margaret Ellis, and Shirley Groll

2026 Stewardship

2026 Approved Budget
Amount-\$876,810.72
Needed Weekly-\$16,862.00
Received Last Week-\$9,871.00
Total Received to Date-*\$349,708.00
*Includes Pre-Paid Pledges

Open Table

We are asking for donations of **PAPER TOWELS**. We'll always take donations of grocery bags. We invite you every Saturday from 8am-noon to help us provide a free hot meal to our community. Join our **Open Table volunteer communication** by using the QR code here.



Coffee and Donuts

Join us every Sunday **OUTSIDE** on Washington Street (or in the Fellowship Hall depending on weather) from 9:30-9:55am each Sunday. We hope you'll make plans to join us for food and fellowship.

Backpack Ministry

We need your help in filling our closet with food for the backpacks we deliver to North Shelby and Shelby Middle each week during the school year. For May we are requesting **granola bars**. You may drop them off at the office Monday-Friday, 9AM-2 PM. For more info about how to serve, contact Ellen Benfield at benfield@med.unc.edu.

Be sure to check out our website: www.cumcshelby.org

Our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/

Our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@centralunitedmethodistchur6507>

And our App: Central UMC-Shelby on all app stores





200 East Marion St.
Shelby , NC 28150

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS **Weekly Update**

Youth Sunday School
Pioneer Coffee Shop - 9am
Sunday Evening
Youth 5-6:30pm

Nursery is open to all Babies-PreK kids.
Nursery is offered **Sundays, 9-11 AM** in
Room E105 (pre-school age) and Room
E104 (infants).

Elementary Sunday School
Sundays 9-9:45am

Infants- Nursery Room E104
Preschool age- Nursery Room E105
K-5th Grade- Godly Play Room E309



VBS "Operation Restoration"

Ages 3-11

Sunday June 7- Wednesday June 10,

5:15-7:30pm

Family meal every night 5:15-5:45pm, followed by family worship (for all parents/guardians & siblings) Please register in advance (preferably by May 26) at www.cumcshelby.org.

Thanks to the CUMC Legacy Grant, the family meal is free for VBS attendees, their families, and volunteers. Our theme this year is "Operation Restoration." This VBS invites us to share in the dream of restoration through exploring all the ways we can help mend God's world.

We will explore the themes of Feeding, Healing, Forgiving, Praying.