



The Central Issue

August 2, 2026

Volume 35, No. 21

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

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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



Youth Mission Trip: Serving and Learning in Kansas City

Thank you to everyone who prayed for us during our mission trip and to all who generously supported the youth, making experiences like this possible.

Five youth and four adults set out for a week in Kansas City, where we served in the third-poorest county in the United States—a community that, ironically, borders one of the wealthiest counties in the country. We stayed in a 103-year-old church without air conditioning and with outdated wiring. We slept on cots or air mattresses in what sometimes felt like a wind tunnel and showered in a trailer all week! Although we may have been a little uncomfortable at first, we had an incredible experience—and we think every one of us would do it again.

Central UMC in Kansas City may be an older church in need of repairs, but its ministries make a tremendous impact. Each month, the church provides clothing for **approximately 200 families—more than 600 people**—and serves meals to the community on Saturdays and Sundays. During the week, it opens its doors for several hours so people can enjoy coffee and learn about programs and organizations that offer assistance. The church also provides lockers where unhoused individuals can safely store important belongings and documents, especially because homeless communities are sometimes cleared away without notice.

During our week in Kansas City, we visited several outreach organizations, including **The HUB Argentine, Reconciliation Services, Thelma's Kitchen, Cross-Lines Community Outreach, The Giving Grove, and Healing House**. We also learned about important parts of the area's history, including the **Shawnee Mission and the lasting effects of redlining**.

We cannot wait to share more about what we experienced and learned.

The next time you see one of our youth, ask them about their favorite part of the trip! - Katie Bowers





Kids Place Preschool Prepares for a New School Year

Hello, church family!

Your church preschool ministry is preparing to begin the **2026–2027 school year!** The teachers and I are already preparing our classrooms, lesson plans, and hearts for our **first day on August 31st.**

We are incredibly blessed to have Kids Place Preschool as a ministry at Central. Each week, we have the opportunity to teach children important academic foundations while also **sharing the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

Thank you for supporting Kids Place and for supporting me throughout the years. **This will be my 20th year as Director!** It is hard to believe how quickly the time has passed. **If you have never visited Kids Place, please stop by.** I would love to show you the ministry I have been privileged to lead for all these years.

There are several ways you can support Kids Place this year:

- First and foremost, **please keep our teachers, children, and families in your prayers.** Pray that we may be a shining light in the lives of every family we serve.
- Consider purchasing an item from our **Amazon Wish List.** These items will help us replace well-loved and frequently used supplies, some of which are also shared with the church nursery on Sundays.
- Help support our **Kids Place Scholarship Fund.** We are currently seeking assistance for two families who need help paying their children's tuition. Our goal is to provide each family with half of the tuition cost. Donations of any amount are appreciated and may be sent to the church marked "Kids Place Scholarship."

These scholarships make it possible for children who might not otherwise be able to attend a Christian preschool to become part of Kids Place. **Children are our future, and helping them build a strong foundation is both an important privilege and a wonderful blessing.**

Love to you all, 
Shelley Rempson 


Wish List Information : <https://a.co/08QSTjOe>



Calendar of Events

August 2nd - 8th, 2026

Sunday

Sunday School - 9:00am

Worship Service - 10:00am

Monday

Church Office Hours - 9:00am-3:30pm

Tuesday

Church Office Hours - 9:00am-3:30pm

Wednesday

Church Office Hours - 9:00am-3:30pm

Thursday

Church Office Hours - 9:00am-3:30pm

Friday

Church Office Hours - Closed

Saturday

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

Family Putt-Putt & Picnic - 11am-12:30pm

Youth Cookout and Potluck - 3-6pm

Service Sunday August 2nd, 2026

Nursery Volunteer:

Laura Lombardi

Elementary Sunday School Teachers:

GINNY HUGHES

Greeters:

Evelyn & Mike Ribadeneyra

Coffee Time Helpers:

Elizabeth & Rocky Lutz

Coffee Maker:

Mike Schenck

Children's Sermon:

Elizabeth Lutz

Offering Counters:

Evelyn Ribadeneyra & Rita Chen

2026 Stewardship

2026 Approved Budget

Amount-\$876,810.72

Needed Weekly-\$16,862.00

Received Last Week-\$26,905.00

Total Received to Date-\$483,278.00

*Includes Pre-Paid Pledges

Help Stock Open Table's Toiletry Shelf

Our Open Table guests frequently request basic toiletries, and our supplies are running low. You can help by donating:

- Travel-size shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lotion
- Toothpaste
- Soap
- Feminine hygiene products

Summer travelers are especially encouraged to bring home unused hotel amenities! Donations may be placed on the shelf outside the church office or dropped off in the PAC.

Thank you for helping us love and care for our neighbors!



Central Supper Clubs Return This Fall!

One of Central's newest traditions is back!

Sign-ups open August 2 and continue through August 23.

New groups will be released on August 30th.

"Where friends gather around food and faith."

Elementary Sunday School

Sundays 9-9:45am

Infants- Nursery Room E104

Preschool age- Nursery Room E105

K-5th Grade- Godly Play Room E309

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)**.



Pumpkin Painting at the

Livermush Festival

Saturday, October 17 •

9:00 am-4:00 pm

Volunteers are needed!

Contact Leigh Mabry

(704) 472-1110 to sign up for a

2-hour shift.

Help us make this annual event a success!

Open Table

We are asking for donations of **WATER BOTTLES**. Join our **Open Table volunteer communication** by using the QR code here.

Backpack Ministry

For July we are requesting **cheese/peanut butter crackers**.



Be sure to check out our

website: www.cumcshelby.org

Our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/cumcshelby/

Our YouTube Channel:

[CENTRAL YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#)

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



200 East Marion St.
Shelby, NC 28150

CENTRAL UMC STUDENTS Weekly Update

Youth Back to School Pool Party And Potluck **THIS Sunday, August 2nd - 3:00pm to 6:00pm** with Aldersgate at Shannon King's House

Bring the whole family for a fun morning of mini golf and fellowship next Saturday, August 8th,

from 11:00 am–12:30 pm at Hangtime Golf Shelby, formerly Challenger 3, located at 1650 N. Post Road.

Games are \$10 for adults and \$8 for children.

Please bring your own lunch and drinks to enjoy during our family picnic.

Concessions will also be available for purchase.

We hope you'll join us!



2nd - James Pressley

2nd - Carson Bakker

3rd - Carol Wood

5th - Perry Anthony

6th - Jack Parker

7th - Mark Carter

8th - Elizabeth Mabry (Drew)

