



The Central Issue

August 12, 2026

Volume 35, No. 22

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

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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



"Blessing of the Backpacks"

Sunday, August 16, 10:00am Worship

School children, teachers, and school staff are invited to bring their bookbags, briefcases and themselves for a special "Blessing of the Backpacks" for the new school year during 10:00am worship.

Central Supper Club Registration Ends on Sunday the 23rd!

Central Supper Clubs are returning for another year of delicious meals, meaningful conversation, and growing friendships!

Participants will be placed in small groups that gather approximately once a month for dinner. Groups may take turns hosting in their homes or choose to meet at local restaurants. Registration is open now through Sunday, August 23, and new

Supper Club groups will be announced on Sunday, August 30.

Scan the QR code included here or click the

link below to register:

[Register for Central Supper Clubs](#)

There is always room at the table!!





Beautiful Things, One Brushstroke at a Time! 🎨🌿

Our first Sunday of mural painting was wonderful!

We had a fantastic turnout and loved seeing so many members of our church family come together to participate in this unique and creative project. Each brushstroke is helping create something truly beautiful and reflects what we can accomplish when we work together. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped bring the mural to life!

Help Bring Our Beautiful Things Mural to Life!

Mural painting began last Sunday, and there is still room to participate in the two remaining color sessions:

- August 16 – Red Tones
- August 23 – Blue Tones

This will be a fun and immersive experience where everyone gets to leave their own mark on the mural. No painting experience is needed! All supplies will be provided, along with protective coverings for your clothing and shoes and gloves for your hands.

I'll be there with you each Sunday to offer guidance, answer questions, and help us work together to create something truly special. This mural will be a beautiful reminder of what can take shape when our church family comes together with a shared intention.

All you need to bring is an open heart and a willingness to participate! Scan the QR code or [sign up online here](#).





Behind the Table: What It Takes to Serve Our Community

In an earlier issue, we shared that Open Table serves more than 190 meals each Saturday. From January through April alone, the ministry provided 3,103 hot meals to children, adults, seniors, and veterans throughout our community. But serving each meal requires far more than what guests see on Saturday morning; it is truly a weeklong ministry.

Planning begins Sunday through Thursday with checking inventory, developing menus, thawing meat, purchasing supplies, and communicating with volunteers.

On Fridays, teams pick up rescued food from local retailers, weigh and document every donation, organize groceries, manage limited refrigerator space, and begin cooking. Saturdays start at 8:00 a.m., with approximately 16–18 volunteer roles needed to cook, serve, package meals, assist guests with grocery shopping, manage parking, wash dishes, count meals, and clean up afterward.

There is also important work happening behind the scenes. Open Table maintains food-safety certifications, temperature logs, pest-control records, monthly reports, and annual requirements through Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. Beverly Putnam records refrigerator and freezer temperatures and submits monthly reports, while Diana Snyder compiles information about the meals served. Bob Snyder and John Greene coordinate weekly Retail Rescue food pickups. Every rescued item must be thoughtfully evaluated, stored, frozen, prepared, distributed, or redirected so that as little as possible goes to waste.

Through creativity, careful stewardship, and many willing hands, donated ingredients become nourishing meals—sometimes even an “Open Table’s Greatest Hits” menu made from favorite dishes saved for another week! Most

importantly, each meal is offered freely, with no donation or church participation expected. Open Table is about feeding our neighbors, welcoming them with dignity, and creating opportunities for fellowship and meaningful relationships. We are deeply grateful for every volunteer who helps make this ministry possible each week.

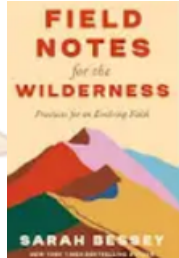
Supporting Shelley Rempson During Her Recovery

Shelley Rempson underwent major surgery on July 31st and is expected to return home this week. **A Meal Train has been organized to support Shelley and her family during her recovery. If you would like to provide a meal, please visit [Shelley’s Meal Train](#).** Please continue to keep Shelley and her family in your prayers during this time.

Fall Discipleship Opportunities

This fall, grow in faith and community through one of these discipleship opportunities at Central. All are welcome!

Wednesday Night Book Study: Field Notes for the Wilderness



Wednesdays | 5:15–6:00 PM

Conference Room

Facilitated by Tammy Hollifield

Field Notes for the Wilderness: Practices for an Evolving Faith by Sarah Bessey is a nurturing and hopeful book that helps Christians reconnect with their faith, pursue inner healing, and build spiritual community.

Join us for an inclusive conversation where everyone is encouraged to bring their questions and doubts to the table. Together, we will explore practices for an evolving faith, including:

- Practicing wonder and curiosity as spiritual disciplines
- Learning to mother yourself with empathy
- Making space for lament and righteous rage
- Finding good spiritual teachers

This class is open to everyone.

For questions, contact Tammy Hollifield at thollifield65@gmail.com.

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study

Thursdays | 9:30 AM

Conference Room

Facilitated by Jessica Talbert

The Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study will gather on Thursday, August 20, for a time of fellowship and to choose its study for the fall. All ladies are welcome to join!

For more information, contact Jessica Talbert at 704-692-344.

Men's Saturday Bible Study: The Sermon on the Mount

First and Third Saturdays | 8:00 AM

Room E210, Education Building

Taught by Tim Sieges

C.S. Lewis described the Sermon on the Mount as a blueprint for Christian living—one that challenges us to live counter-culturally in a world often driven by power, fame, and self-interest.

All men are invited to join this in-depth study of Matthew 5–7. The group meets on the first and third Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM, before Open Table.

For questions, contact Tim Sieges at tim_sieges@wycliffe.org.

Putt-Putt, Picnic, and Plenty of Fun!

Our children and families had a wonderful time together at our Putt-Putt and Picnic! The kids enjoyed a fun round of miniature golf, time with friends, and some delicious ice cream to cool off. Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make it such a fun day of fellowship!



A New PrayGround in the Sanctuary



This Sunday, we introduced a new **PrayGround** in the sanctuary; a welcoming space designed to help children participate meaningfully in worship alongside their families and church friends. The area features child-sized seating and age-appropriate worship materials that **encourage learning, creativity, and engagement** throughout the service. Our children were excited to worship in this newly created space, and we are thrilled to offer another way for them to know that **they are an important part of our worshipping community.**

Kid's at Central



If you would like to volunteer to help with the event or prepare food, please let Caroline Scism know.

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)**.

Calendar of Events

August 16th - 22nd, 2026

Sunday

Sunday School - 9:00am

Worship Service - 10:00am

Mural Painting - After Sermon - 12:00pm

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

Service Sunday August 16th, 2026

Nursery Volunteer:

Dorothy Hernandez

Elementary Sunday School Teacher

Rocky Lutz

Greeters:

Ann & Stan Anthony

Coffee Time Helpers:

Ann & Stan Anthony

Coffee Maker:

Mike Schenck

Children's Sermon:

Rod Mauney

Offering Counters:

Jim Pressley & Patrick Budzinski

Memorials and Honorariums

In memory of Randy Cook

(Clint Cook's Father) -

Robert Laney - Operating

In memory of Bob Yelton

Walter & Lucille Dalton - Operating

2026 Stewardship

2026 Approved Budget

Amount-\$876,810.72

Needed Weekly-\$16,862.00

Received Last Week-\$17,144.00

Total Received to Date-*\$500,423.00

*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!

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**.

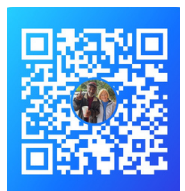
 **Pumpkin Painting at the
Livermush Festival
Saturday, October 17 •
9:00 am-4:00 pm**

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!

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

Sunday 8/16 -

Sunday School - Pioneer Coffee - 9am
Youth Group - 5-6pm

Sunday 8/23 -

Sunday School - Pioneer Coffee - 9am
Youth Group - 5-6pm

Sunday 8/30 -

Sunday School - Pioneer Coffee - 9am
Youth Group - Youth Pool Party with
Aldersgate at Shannon King's - Time TBA



Youth Group
enjoying the YMCA
pool last Sunday!!



Kids Place Preschool is preparing for another wonderful school year! You can support this special ministry by purchasing classroom supplies from our **Amazon Wish List** or contributing toward **scholarships for two families in need**. Every gift—large or small—helps create a welcoming place where **children can learn, grow, and experience God's love**. Scan the QR code or link to visit the wishlist!

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



18th - Sergio Noble
19th - Eleanor Morgan
19th - Che Tiernan
21st - Oliver Anthony (Ollie)
21st - Matthew Grenier
23rd - James Pressley (Jim)
23rd - Zane Rempson
23rd - Laura Mitchell