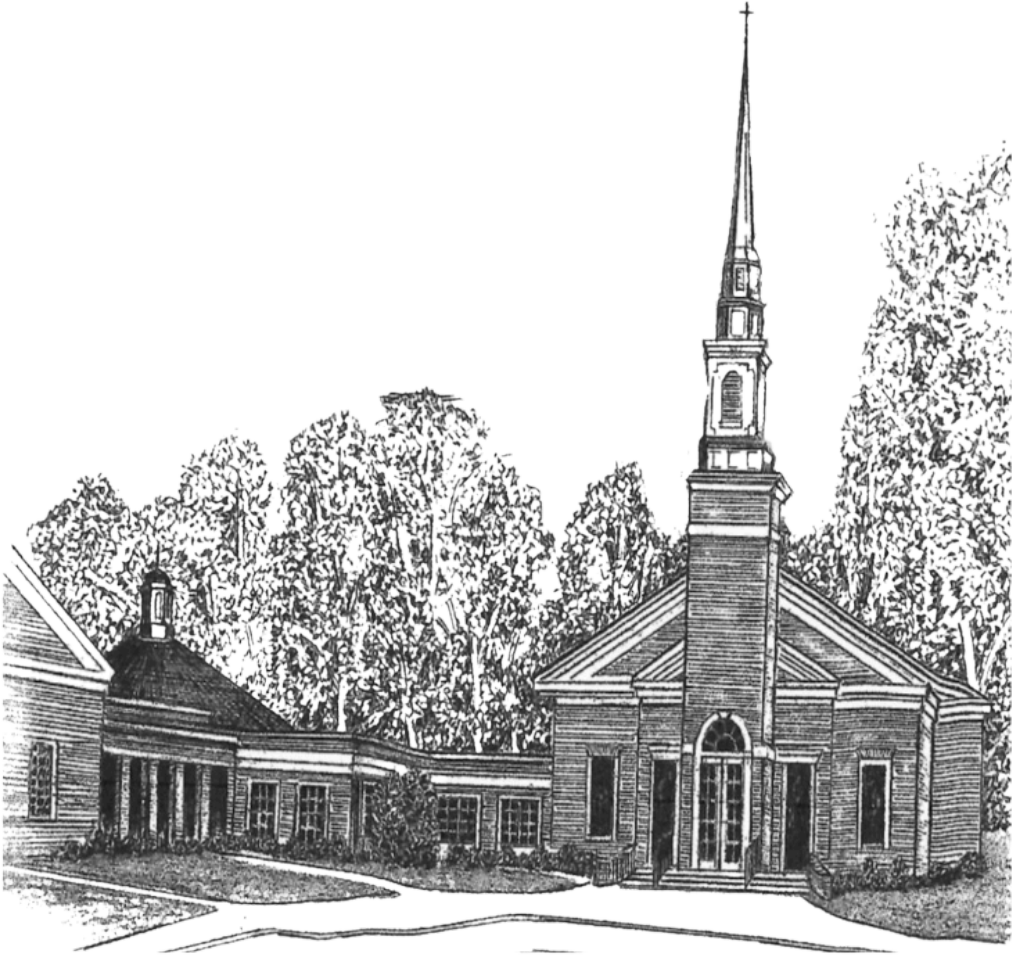


# central

united methodist church monroe



**MAY 17, 2026**  
ASCENSION SUNDAY

# MAY 17, 2026

## ASCENSION SUNDAY

10:00 A.M. Blended Modern and Traditional Worship | Sanctuary

† *Please rise in body or spirit* | Congregational responses are in **bold**.

### PRELUDE

*Lead On, O King Eternal*

Henry T. Smart,  
arr. Harold DeCou

### GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you!**

### † CALL TO WORSHIP

### † CHORAL RESPONSE

*He Lives*

UMH 310, v. 3

### † HYMN OF PRAISE

*My Hope is Built*

UMH 368

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### AN ORDER FOR THE INSTALLATION OF PERSONS IN MUSIC MINISTRIES

### PRAYER SONG

*God Will Make a Way*  
(see insert)

Don Moen

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**ANTHEM**

*Hymn of Promise*

Natalie Sleeth

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

*The Commission*

Neesmith, Frodge,  
Cain, Schwarz

**† DOXOLOGY**

*Praise, God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95

**† PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SONG OF PREPARATION**

*Vision of Hope*

Nathan Jones

**SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 43:12-21 (NRSVUE)

**SERMON**

“I Am About to Do a New Thing”

**† HYMN OF DEDICATION**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

UMH 526

**† BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

# SERVING IN WORSHIP

Dr. Bill White, Jr. | *Senior Pastor*

Rev. JD Moffett | *Associate Pastor*

Nathan Jones | *Director of Music Ministries*

Erica Kirby | *Director of Children's Ministries*

Chancel Choir

801 Praise!

Ushers: David and Amy Paschal   Greeters: Matt and Nancy Gustafson

## OUR STAFF

Dr. Bill White, Jr. | *Senior Pastor*

Rev. JD Moffett | *Associate Pastor*

Nathan Jones | *Director of Music Ministries*

Julie Miles | *Director of Youth Ministries*

Erica Kirby | *Director of Children's & Weekday Ministries*

Debbie Eggleston | *Business Administrator*

Jessica Parker | *Administrative Assistant*

Sylvia Jenkins | *Custodian*



## WELCOME TO **central**

Welcome to our Blended Modern and Traditional Worship Service at Central! We're so glad you've joined us today as we come together in reverence, community, and praise. While we embrace the timeless traditions of our faith, we also seek to create a welcoming space where modern hearts can connect with the rich history and deep meaning of our worship. Whether you're here for the first time or have been with us for years, you belong!

We hope you find a sense of peace, inspiration, and connection as we lift our voices and prayers together. Welcome home!

*Children are always welcome to remain in the worship service. Toddlers and Children through 2nd grade are invited to Kid's Worship following the Children's Message.*

**ONE BODY IN CHRIST**  
**CONNECTING WITH**



**GOD**  
**EACH OTHER**  
**COMMUNITY**

# *God Will Make a Way*

Don Moen

*Chorus* God will make a way  
Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me  
He will be my guide  
Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength  
For each new day  
He will make a way  
He will make a way  
*[Repeat]*

*Bridge* By a roadway in the wilderness, He'll lead me  
And rivers in the desert will I see  
Heaven and earth will fade  
But His Word will still remain  
He will do something new today  
*[Return to Chorus]*

*Tag* He will make a way  
He will make a way

# AN ORDER FOR THE INSTALLATION OF PERSONS IN MUSIC MINISTRIES

Dear friends, let us recognize those who have responded to the call of God to the ministry of music in the church. To direct, to sing, and to play instruments are ministries of Christ among us. Those called to these ministries need our loyal support and our prayers.

Making music to the praise of God in the congregation is a ministry that requires devotion and discipline. Do you accept responsibility for this ministry?

*Nathan Jones: I do.*

Will you be faithful to the disciplines of music?

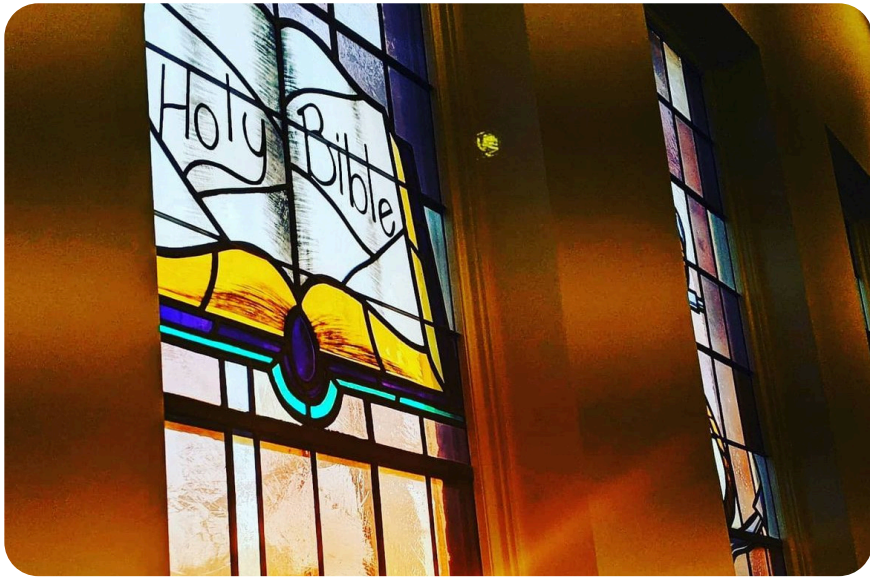
*Nathan Jones: I will.*

May the faith expressed by your music live in your heart, and what you believe in your heart, practice in your life. And may God give you grace to offer your music and your life in faithfulness and consecration, now, and in the world to come.

Dear friends, I commend to you Nathan Jones. To him has been given the ministry of music in the church. Will you sustain him with your encouragement and your prayers, as together we seek to offer praise to God?

*Congregation: We will.*

**O Lord, our God, bless these ministries of music and those who offer them in your service. Give to these persons love for you and your people, fullness of heart as they praise you, and diligence that their music may be a worthy offering to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## Sunday Mornings

9:00 A.M. • Sunday School

10:00 A.M. • Blended Modern and Traditional Worship Service | Sanctuary  
Stream online at [centralumcmonroe.org/media](https://centralumcmonroe.org/media)

## Tuesday Evenings

6:00 P.M. • Dinner Church | FLC

**First time visitor?**  
Visit [centralumcmonroe.org/iamnew!](https://centralumcmonroe.org/iamnew!)

Welcome to Central United Methodist Church in Monroe, NC, where we believe in a holistic approach to ministry. We address the needs of the whole person: body, mind, and spirit. We have numerous ministries and programs that enable us to effectively serve God, our community, and each other.

Come and experience our vibrant and meaningful worship, where faith is formed and reformed and connections are strengthened through fellowship.

We hope that you will live out your call to Christian Discipleship by uniting with Central UMC, share your spiritual gifts and talents, and be a witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Yours In Christ,  
**Dr. Bill White, Jr.**  
"Dr. Bill"  
Senior Pastor



### Our Staff

- Dr. Bill White, Jr. - *Senior Pastor*
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- Nathan Jones - *Director of Music Ministries*
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- Debbie Eggleston - *Business Administrator*
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Scan the QR CODE to download **THE CENTRAL APP** to Register your attendance, **Find** a ministry, **Give** your offering, and more.

Central uses visual and audio images of participants in our worship services and events for broadcast, event promotion, publicity, and other related communications endeavors.

 801 S. Hayne St. | Monroe, NC | 28112  704.289.3186

## Upcoming Opportunities

- May 17** Mobile Blood Drive, 9:30 A.M.  
Welcome Reception for Nathan Jones, 11:30 A.M.  
Youth End of Year Party, 3 P.M.
- May 18** New Beginnings Circle, 6:00 P.M.
- May 20** 801 Praise!, 6:00 P.M.  
Chancel Choir, 6:30 P.M.
- May 21** Men's Breakfast Group, 8 A.M.  
Soul Food Bible Study, 10 A.M.  
Birthday Club, 11:30 A.M.
- May 24** Heritage Sunday
- May 25** Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day
- May 26-28** Dr. Bill - Out of Office, Attending his Father-In-Law's Funeral in Pennsylvania
- May 27** 801 Praise!, 6:00 P.M.  
Chancel Choir, 6:30 P.M.
- May 28** Men's Breakfast Group, 8 A.M.  
Soul Food Bible Study, 10 A.M.

**For more details about Central's Upcoming Opportunities and to view the full Central Link, visit [centralumcmonroe.org/news](https://centralumcmonroe.org/news) OR visit the NEWS icon on the Central App home page!**