

THE
CENTRAL
SENTRY

July

2009



June 28 – July 2
Vacation Bible School

July 5-11 - Youth Mission Trip

July 11 - Game Night

Tuesdays – Prayer Circles

Fridays – Youth Center



CROSS
TRAINING

Special Note:
Summer Schedule in July and August
8:30 – Café Central Lite
9:30 – Worship Service

In a never ending effort to be hip (and if you use the word “hip” you know you are hot) here is an electronic entry from the world of text messages, tweets and other 21st century means of grace.

Original	SMS Version	English
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.	dad@hvn, urspschl.	Dad at heaven, you're special.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven.	we want wot u want &urth2b like hvn.	We want what you want and Earth to be like heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.	giv us food &4giv r sins lyk we 4giv uvaz.	Give us food and forgive our sins like we forgive others.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.	don't test us! save us!	Don't test us! Save us!
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.	bcos we kno ur boss ur tuf &ur cool 4 eva!	because we know you're boss, you're tough, and you're cool forever!
Amen.	ok?	OK?

(The SMS – “Short Message Service” -- translation by Matthew Campbell, a history student at York University. Its translation back to English by Randy Cassingham.)

To some it might seem a heresy to take the noble, King-James-like words of the traditional prayer and put them in such common forms as “tough” and “cool.” It’s not my favorite way to say the prayer.

More and more people communicate every day in this (relatively) new dialect of English. Now I’m not suggesting we turn *Central sentry* into some blog only format or use emoticons to add to the text :) lol.

More important than the written language of any group of people is the heart language of any group of people. How does any group talk about the most powerful, meaningful and moving moments of their lives? What images, metaphors, or stories help them express their deepest hopes, goals and fears? What language do we use to reach out to a particular group? What means of communication will be seen as a means of grace to this group?

This is the challenge of the church in the 21st century, though it has been the challenge to the church in every century. The Zoot Suit and Flapper generation was followed by the Fox Trotting Big Band/Swing Era, the church reached different generations in different ways. Imagine the changes from the “Peace of Rome” generation to the “Barbarian Hordes” generation in early centuries of the church!

This ongoing opportunity is and will become the growing edge of Central. Let’s get behind it to reach more people with the experience of our fellowship, our service to the world and our Lord.

Grace and peace to you all,
Pastor Doug

If you are reading the online *Central Sentry* you can go to the website where I found this little tidbit: <http://www.thisistrue.com/lordpray.html>

July Worship

	SERMON	THEME	SCRIPTURES
July 5	Jesus at Home	Holy Communion	2 Cor 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13
July 12	It ain't easy!		Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29
July 19	Disability Awareness	Nancy Hale preaches	
July 26	The Deepest Hunger		Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21

WORSHIP TIME

Sunday – 9:30 for the summer

TV WORSHIP (Ch 4)

Sunday – 8 a.m. and Monday – 5:30 p.m.

Summer Schedule in July and August

8:30 – Café Central Lite

9:30 – Worship Service

CHURCH NEWS



New Beginnings Contemporary Worship

The next Contemporary Worship service will be held August 16th at 7p.m. There will be no Contemporary Worship service in July.

Intergenerational Game Night!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 11th at 7PM for an intergenerational Game Night and an Ice Cream Social.

Bring your own games (we'll also have some on hand) and relax, laugh, and eat.

If you have any questions, call Lynn Weston (785-1184) or email at: davidweston2@mac.com. Hope to see you on the 7th!

Chicken BBQ Thank You

Thank you to Chef Jim Baker and all the volunteers who made the Chicken Barbeque Dinner such a success! And thank you to all who supported the event through purchasing the tickets or buying meals on the day of the event. Sharing a fine BBQ meal was an enjoyable way to close by \$950 the gap between Central's 2009 pledged income and Central's anticipated expenses.

Celebrate Central Brunch

Save the date! There will be a "Celebrate Central" brunch immediately following the August 30th combined service.

July and August Single Worship Schedule

Please take special note that for the months of July and August, Central will hold 1 worship service starting at 9:30am. Expect a hybrid of the more informal 8:30 service and the more formal 11am service. A "Cafe Central Lite" will be available before the service starting at 8:30 a.m. Central will go back to its "normal" 2 services beginning on September 6th.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

We are planning our annual 'Picnic and a Ballgame' on Sat August 8. **Everyone is welcome!!** The picnic is at Otsiningo Park from 3 - 6:30, then we drive to NYSEG stadium for the ballgame at 7:05. Picnic details - Bring your own meat, drinks and a dish to pass, as well as plates, cups, etc. Grill will be provided. Bring any outdoor games. There's always a game of bocce !! "Where is the challenge?" B Mets tickets are \$7. If you can't make both, feel free to come to just the picnic, or just to the game. Sign up sheets are in the Welcome Center or you can make reservations through the Church office or Knud Hansen at khansen3@yahoo.com.

Retreat at Sky Lake

will be October 16-18. Janet Kuhns, who is a teacher in the church, will do the program on "Living the Questions." Don and Nancy Schoeps will be leading the meaningful and joyful music.

Have you ever struggled with the relevance of Christianity in the 21st century? Do you intuitively know that there is more to it than the rigid rules and theological constructs of the past? You are not alone. There is a revolutionary re-visioning of Christianity already in the world. "Living the Questions" is a study that respects your integrity and your spiritual journey, and is a resource that encourages questions and dialogue. Some of the scholars being interviewed on the DVDs that will be shown are: Nancy Ammerman, John Bell, Marcus Borg, Minerva Carcano, John Cobb, John Dominic Crossan, and Tex Sample. Topics include: Relationships, Evil and Suffering, Creativity, Intimacy with God, and Social Justice..

Come join us at Sky Lake for a weekend of spiritual growth, good times, great songs, a walk in the colorful fall woods, and to grow closer together. This retreat, sponsored by the Wesley Class, is open to everyone in the church. People begin arriving on Friday at 3:30pm and supper is at 5:30pm. The cost is \$109.00 per person for two nights lodging, six meals, and a meaningful program. Please send your reservation by September 16 to Barbara and Alan Jones.

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A BIG Thank You & Farewell From Annette

Most of you have probably heard that as of July 11 I will no longer be the Director of Christian Education at Central. I resigned because I feel God is calling me to experience Christian ministry in other ways and places. I want to take this opportunity to thank you, Central UMC, for allowing me to minister to the children and youth among you! Thank you for trusting me and believing in me and all those crazy ideas I have had along the way! These past three years have been filled with so many spirit-filled moments! I have laughed with you. I have cried with you. I have prayed with you. I have grown with you. Together, we have served Christ, one another, and many around us. You have heard me talk a lot about one's own "spiritual center". I encourage you, even as I depart, to find your spiritual center – that place in your heart where it's you and Christ. Breathe it in, live it out, and stay true to who Christ calls you to be. My love and God's grace to each of you.

Love,
Annette



Youth Mission Trip! Sunday, July 5-Saturday, July 11 The youth and adults attending the mission trip to Salem, Maine would like to extend a BIG thank you to Central! They were able to raise several thousand dollars through your support of the fundraisers. We had a sweatshirt sale, spaghetti dinner, spud lunch, Valentine cookie bake, lollipop sale, bottle drive, babysitting night, carnation sale, & a Sarah Lee pie sale! Wow! Our youth worked hard for this mission trip too! Please keep us in your prayers as we get to know the folks of Salem Maine, serve others, and also grow in friendship with one another.

Tuesdays 7pm – Youth Prayer Circle – All youth are invited to come to the prayer room for a time of reflection and devotion. The youth have begun leading these circles and are doing an excellent job! Every prayer circle leads to amazing conversations and meaningful connection with God.

Tuesdays 8:30 pm – Young Adult Prayer Circle – All young adults (and young at heart!) are invited to this time of reflection and prayer. We have a meaningful time sharing with one

another and growing in our spirituality. I can truly say Christ is present at every one of these circles. If you are searching for something deeper in your life, we invite you to come to the prayer circle.

Ladies' Luncheon

Ladies Luncheon - We will meet on Tuesday, July 7th at 12:00 noon at Our Country Hearts, Route 26. for lunch. Please call Millie Jones 754-2869 for reservations by Monday, July 6th.

Tri M's Luncheon

Tri M's will meet on Wednesday, July 22nd at 12:00 noon at the Blue Dolphin for lunch. Please call Mae Albeck 797-0373 by Tuesday for reservations.

UMW News

Grace Circle

The Grace Circle will be meeting on Wednesday, July 15 for lunch at The Rose Garden, 111 W. Main Street, Endicott, NY. Please contact Gail Scott (754-1275 or scottjdgf@stny.rr.com) for reservations by Monday, July 13th.

Elizabeth, Deborah, Martha-Ruth, Dorcas and Priscilla Circles Will resume in September.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized Last Month:

Jane Ebert
James Malloy
Harriet Alapeck
Betty Carmon
Alta Hawley
Robert Dorman

In Sympathy:

Family of Mike Vavra
Family of Ralph Kouterick

Address Change:

John and Bernice Vanderburg have moved to Ideal Living Center. Their address is 600 High Ave. Apt 512, Endicott, NY 13760.

Thanks:

A big thank you to my caring Central family for all the good wishes during my recovery from knee surgery. Your kind thoughts have meant a lot to Bill and me. Sincerely, Jane Ebert

To my wonderful friends at Central, thank you for your prayers, cards and visits while I was in the hospital. Sincerely, Betty Boettger

Church Picnic Thanks:

Thank you to the Westons and the Nurture committee for organizing the

picnic, and thank you to Pastor Doug and the Praise Band for a beautiful service by the lake. The picnic at Sky Lake was a wonderful event and attended by 80 people. Pictures of the picnic can be seen on the church web site at www.centralumcendicott.org.

Recognizing Our Confirmands:

The following people were confirmed on May 17th.

Brent Cole
Corinne Devine
KJ Griswold

Welcome New Members:

Please welcome the following new members who joined May 24th:

Jeanne Guley
Amanda and Jeff Miller

Recognizing Our Graduates:

High School:

Chelsea Bishop – Vestal
Elliot Brodfuehrer – UE
Bryant Clark – UE
Lindsey Hall – UE
Tony Heckathorn – Vestal
Katie Motsko – Maine Endwell
Donald Schaffer Jr. – UE
Kelcie Schatz – Vestal

College:

Chris Breneman - UMBC
Karissa Hansen – UCONN
Cara Johnson – Bryant University
Katy Northrup – Cayuga College

Just Faith

How do you know your faith?

Submitted by Ron Briggs

I was one of 22 people completing a Just Faith program at First United Methodist Church this May. Participants representing six different Christian churches in this area have taken part in this adult social justice program over the past 12 months.

Just Faith is an opportunity for Christians to experience a spiritual journey into compassion. It is an intensive formation program designed for people who have a desire to encounter the “Good News” that Jesus brought to the poor and marginalized of society.

The primary focus of Just Faith is on domestic and global poverty. The intention of the program is to help the participants see the world with eyes open and recognize God’s call for their lives in fresh and creative ways. The fundamental insights of the Bible are incorporated throughout the program.

Biblical tradition invites us to become agents of God’s compassion, of healing in a wounded world. Participants are asked to see what God’s compassion looks like in the modern world. The program was initiated in 1995 by Jack Jezreel, a philosopher who holds a Master’s degree from the University of Notre Dame. He has spent most of his life focusing on how to encourage Christians to be engaged in Outreach and Social Ministry. Since its inception, the Just Faith program has graduated over 20,000 people nationally.

Themes of this program include: the intersection of justice and spirituality,

human dignity, root causes of poverty domestically and internationally, effects of the global economy, relationships between violence and poverty, dignity and rights of workers, consumerism, care of the environment, non-violence, solidarity, simple life-style, community organizing, racism, immigration, and opportunities for involvement in social ministry.

The program partners with the Bread for the World program. It asks for considerable commitment from those who experience it. The process involves 33 weekly sessions of 2-2½ hours per session, retreats, and immersions (border crossing experiences). In addition, participants are expected to do 2-4 hours of reading each week. Participants have the privilege of being nurtured by a small faith community of diverse Christian denominations.

Through out the whole process, we were hit with the basic question, “Can an individual make a difference in society?” Upon completion of the program we all came away with the same answer – an individual who wants to dedicate his/her self to God’s work can.

My experience in Just Faith over the past year has been very rewarding; it will stay with me forever. I was able to learn and understand how the teachings of God/Jesus will better help me in working with others. But most of all I now have a better and more rewarding understanding of me.

Do you really know yourself? If you participate in the Just Faith program, you will find the answer to that question. You will not be alone in discovering yourself, for by your side 24/7 will be the most important person – GOD.

The mission of Central Church is to make real the love of God through Jesus Christ and to empower people to share that love with others.

CENTRAL STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Douglas A. Clark
Education Director Annette Snedaker
Administrative Secretary Pat Breneman
Chancel Choir Director..... Connie Lamando
Bell Choir Director.....Denise Johnson
Music Coordinator/OrganistTat Baine
Treasurer..... Larry Jackson
Custodian..... Vito Longo
Parish Visitors..... Nancy Jones and Jennifer Erickson

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Phone: 754-6060 Fax: 785-4676
Email: centralumc@stny.rr.com Web Page: www.centralumcendicott.org

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