

THE CENTRAL SENTRY



September
2011

September 11 – Rally Day

September 18 – UMW Sunday

September 18 - Contemporary Worship Service

September 21 – Men’s Appreciation Dinner

September 23 – Family Movie Night

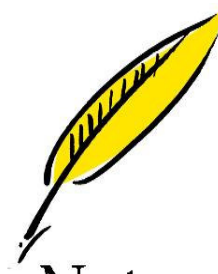
Note: On September 11, we return to our normal worship schedule.

8:30 and 11:00 Worship Services

9:30 Sunday School

9:00 – 10:30 Café Central

The August 3 issue of *Christian Century* included this brief piece:



Notes

From the Pastor

“In the 1970s Kenneth J. Douglas was CEO of Dean Foods, a leading U.S. dairy company. He earned what would be \$1 million a year in today’s economy and lived well but not ostentatiously. Numerous times he turned down pay raises because he thought they were bad for the morale of the company’s workers. Today his successor earns ten times as much in compensation and lives an opulent life. Meanwhile, workers’ wages at the company have been sliding. Some analysts observe that the social norms that discouraged big executive wages in the 1970s have changed. Now greed is considered good, and the people at the top believe they deserve what they make. When it comes to wage inequality, the U.S. ranks alongside developing countries—ahead of Uganda and Jamaica but behind Cameroon and the Ivory Coast (Washington Post, June 18).”

I have subscribed to *Christian Century* for a number of years. Its tag line “Thinking Critically, Living Faithfully” nudges me to look for ways to connect the faith that sustains me and the Scriptures that nourish me to the community and world that surround me.

Of late, conversations at all levels in nearly all places in our community, our state, our nation, our world, and even our denomination have revolved around economics and the economy. The conversations generally are framed in terms of “entitlements;” benefits to which the particular speakers feel they are entitled. Interestingly, entitlements and benefits which they feel are owed to them are most often described in positive ways; as if they had earned them or they were due to them. Entitlements and benefits for which they do not qualify are most often described in negative terms, as if the recipients were taking something away and diminishing others’ store.

For example, recently a female commentator for a major television network returned to the air after several weeks of maternity leave. She was effusive about her paid leave and its importance in helping her bond with her baby. Yet this same commentator had been quick and adamant to criticize plans to extend unemployment benefits for those who could not find work. Her “entitlement” was good. Others’ were not so.

Sadly, this is an all-too-familiar frame in public discourse. Those “with” cling tightly to what they have and, despite others’ pain and anguish, seek to amass more and more, framing it as something due to them, which they have earned.

Contributions from the Christian witness are rarely welcome in these discussions. The Christian witness suggests that all we have is from God; given to us not to keep for ourselves, but to see that they are employed in ways that reflect God's mercy, love, and justice.

As we return from our summer breaks, vacations and changes in routines; as we return to our cycles of worship, Christian education, Bible study, missions, ministries, and fellowship times, may we return with a greater appreciation for who we are and what we have. May we be inspired and seek the Spirit's guidance in how we can best employ these gifts and graces for the greater good of God's world and all who dwell in it. I am looking forward to this next part of our faith journey together and the joys it holds for us!
-Mark



Lukens/Jackson Sky Lake Committee

Chair: Barbara Jones

Our nation was immersing from a time fraught with racial bias, civil unrest and assassinations in the late sixties and early seventies. Two men from Central Church mused about what would happen if children from various backgrounds were placed in a non-threatening environment to live, learn and have fun together. The men were Reverend Bob Lukens and Everet Jackson. The Lukens/Jackson camping experience began at Sky Lake in August of 1972 and has continued to meet the needs of many.

The two originators have passed on, but the Lukens/Jackson Sky Lake Committee continues to support the camp's efforts. Originally the committee ran the Lukens/Jackson experience. Currently this camp is integrated into Sky Lake's program. The committee recruits campers, raises money for camperships and plans coming events. Attempts are made to include children of different races, neighborhoods and backgrounds in each camp setting.

Children are also recruited from church for the camp and also to be assistant counselors. Each family can apply for a discount provided by the Allocations Committee.

A continuing effort is made to sponsor children whose families cannot afford to send them. Much of the money comes from individual Central UMC members. Funds for camp also come from the Shalom Fund, Allocations committee, Central Methodist groups, and organizations outside the church. Thirty-two campers received financial aid in 2010.

September Worship

	SERMON	THEME	SCRIPTURES
Sept 4	Here We Are	Communion One Service at 9:30	Exodus 12;1-14 Romans 13:8-14 Matt 18:15-20
Sept 11	Fire, Clouds, and Going Forward	Rally Day! Return to 2 services Sunday School begins	Exodus 14:19-31 Romans 14:1-12 Matt 18:21-35
Sept 18	Dr. Blenda Smith preaching	UMW Sunday	Exodus 16:2-15 Philippian 1:21-30 Matt 20:1-16
Sept 25	Ahead and Behind		Exodus 17:1-7 Philippians 2:1-13 Matt 21:28-32

WORSHIP TIMES
Sunday – 8:30 & 11:00

TV WORSHIP (Ch 4)
Sunday – 8 a.m. and Monday – 5:30 p.m.

The 8:30 service is less formal and seldom includes special music

Did You Know?

This newsletter and weekly bulletins are available on our website. A link to the newsletter can be emailed to you when the newsletter is available online. Please notify the church office if you would be willing to receive the newsletter online.

CHURCH NEWS



September 11 at 9:30
Dining Room

Children, Youth and Adults of all ages are welcome to join together on Sunday mornings for an hour of learning and fellowship. We offer Sunday School classes for all ages on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:35. Children have the opportunity to sing with the children's choirs from 10:15-10:35 and may be picked up from choir rehearsal.

On Sunday, September 11, ALL Sunday School classes will meet in the Dining Room for introductions, filling out registrations, and a general time of celebration as we kick-off a new Sunday School year.

We do hope you'll bring your families and join us for Sunday School this year! (*Parents*- no need to drop your kid and wonder what to do for an hour- we've got opportunities for you, too!!)



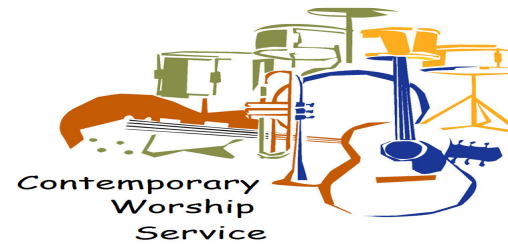
Sacred Art Class

September 11– October 16

Kathye E. Arrington will conduct a sacred art class during the Sunday school hour. The class will be called "Painting in Poems in Praise". The class will concentrate on painting works of art based on poetry from the book "Painting 'n' Poem In Praise!" by Myra Eaves Bumgardner. This is an opportunity to be creative and explore your spirituality through painting. The class is open to adults. You need no experience, only "an open mine and an open heart. God will provide the imagination." Also an Advent sacred art class will be offered November 20 to December 18. For more information, contact Kathye at KathyeEA@stny.rr.com or 687-4457.

Invitation to John September - November

This 11 week study will begin with an overview on September 11 at 9:30. We will meet in the dining room with the other classes that day. You need not attend the entire class but can drop in any week in the Lounge. We will be watching a video of the Gospel of John and well as discussion each week. As Jesus invited his disciples and us as well "Come and See" (John 1:39)



New Beginnings

September 18 at 7 pm

We are excited to begin a new season of contemporary worship filled with praise, joyful song, and spirited fellowship! We will gather at 7pm in fellowship hall... why don't you bring a friend and join us! This month's service will feature music by Living Water and a message from Jeff Heald. A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow the service.



Family Movie Night

Friday Sept 23 - 6:30 pm
"Yogi Bear"

Everyone is welcome to come out and enjoy this movie night- complete with popcorn and lemonade! Whether you have kids or not, this family friendly event is a fun time for all! Once again, no cost makes this an affordable night out for the whole family!



Men's Night Out
September 21 at 6pm

All Central men are invited to an evening out on Wednesday, September 21 at 6 pm in the Dining Room. UMW (Deborah Circle) will provide a delicious tail gate menu followed by entertainment by Rawn Spearman and his friend, Bill Gorman. This will be a casual enjoyable evening. Reservations are requested.

Greeters

Fall will be here before we know it and it's time to think about being on the greeter rotation for the 11 o'clock service. As a greeter, you will be scheduled 3 - 4 times in the 10 month period and need to be at the assigned door by 10:30. Beyond that, just smile and have fun greeting folks! I can work around usher, van driver, cafe central and vacation schedules. If you were on the last rotation, I will schedule you again unless I hear differently but I would love to have some new volunteers, too. Contact Cherie Heald at CherLH@stny.rr.com or 754-2335 with questions or to join.



Do you like to sing? Have you always wanted to join Chancel Choir but haven't because of conflicts? Well, now is the time to join. As the new director, I would love to invite *anyone* that is interested to sing with us to join the choir this year! I understand that everyone is very busy so I am willing to work with you. Even if you can't make every rehearsal or every Sunday, I would still love to have you sing when you are available. Our first rehearsal is September 1st. We will be having a picnic at Round Top for members and family on September 11th (Rally Day). If you have any questions, feel free to contact me heather.worden@gmail.com or 759-5677. Heather Worden

You're Invited to a 90th Birthday Party

Sat, October 8 10:30-12:30

The family of Alta Hawley invites the congregation to attend an Open House for Alta's 90th Birthday Party on Saturday, October 8 from 10:30 to 12:30. Come celebrate with Alta!

Central Youth and Parents Sunday Sept 25 12:00-2:00

Please put Sunday, September 25; Noon to 2p.m. on your calendars! Leaders of the Confirmation Class and Youth Fellowship (UMYF) program want to meet with you to outline and discuss Central's 2011-2012 youth ministries.

A pizza lunch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall as soon as the 11a.m. service concludes.

More details will come later, but please get the date on your calendar now so you will have it set aside! Dates for some special events and trips are already being put into place, so bring your calendars or planners!



UMW Mum's Fundraiser at M&Z Flowers

Tues, Sept 6 to Thur, Sept 8

9:00 am – 4:00 pm

M&Z Flowers will generously donate 20% of sales, on Tues, September 6, Wed, September 7 & Thur, September 8, to our United Methodist Women for anyone mentioning Central Church. Proceeds will be used for our mission projects. There are 8 colors of mums that can be purchased separately or in decorative containers. Perennials and herbs will also be for sale. Printed directions to M&Z are in the Welcome Center. For questions call Shirleann O'Brien (754-2546)

Shepherd Supper Drive

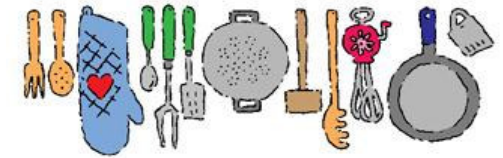
Our pantry is getting low, we are in need of the following items: canned spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, crushed tomatoes, peaches & green beans; jarred applesauce, Uncle Ben's Original rice, Jello(4 boxes of same flavor), instant mashed potatoes, ziti, elbow macaroni, brownie mixes (no nuts), cake mixes, paper napkins, 7-oz. paper cups, garlic powder, black pepper, cinnamon, parsley, Italian seasoning, onion salt, grated parmesan cheese, sugar packets, Sweet 'n Low packets, regular & decaf coffee, hot chocolate, teabags, Pam spray, and vegetable oil. Please drop off your items in the plastic container in front of the church office.

Of course, monetary offerings will be greatly appreciated and can be put in the offering plate marked "For Shepherd's Supper". *For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Matthew 25:35*

Shepherd Supper is served each Thursday at 5pm. We are currently serving an average of 50 children, women and men each week. A special "Thank You" is extended to the dedicated volunteers that help cook, set-up, serve and clean-up each week. I thank each and everyone of you for supporting this mission that is very dear to my heart! Bless You! Contact Ron Briggs @ 786.9040 with questions or concerns.

Kitchen Cleaning

As recommended by the SAG and approved by the Trustees, our kitchen was professionally cleaned in August. A group of volunteers, lead by a Kitchen Manager, will oversee the kitchen to ensure it remains clean and organized. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the church office (754-6060) or Tom Hall (725-8775).



Kitchen Manager

In response to our recent request for a volunteer to act as the Kitchen Manager at CUMC, Maggie Hungerford and Bill Gifford stepped forward. Following discussions with both, Maggie has agreed to serve as the Kitchen Manager and Bill gladly offered to assist her. As volunteers committed to CUMC, we offer our sincere **Thanks** and ask for your unwavering commitment to help them as they perform this important mission. Additional details regarding management of our kitchen and related dining facilities will be forthcoming in September. If you have questions about this effort, please contact the Maggie, Bill, or the church office.

Display Cabinet

The September display focuses on the early women's groups of our church. We have a TextBook, "The Light of the World" from 1911. It is booklet for the Women's Missionary Society. It belonged to Julia LeBaron who also trained as a missionary in 1898. Another early group was the Ladies Aid with Mrs. Charles A. Smith as President in 1916. In 1940, Mrs. Smith became a charter member of the new WSCS. Also on display are the 1940 magazine, "The Methodist Women", a large group of Methodist women at Sky Lake and our own women planning for a bazaar.



Join the 'A' Team!!

What is the 'A' Team? Its boys and girls, in grades 3 through 6, just like you, that serve as acolytes ('A' is for Acolyte!) once every 4 or 5 weeks during the school year.

The duties are simple, either carrying the cross or lighting the altar candles and helping Pastor Mark during special ceremonies such as baptisms.

It really is very simple.

Our acolyte training session will be held at the end of September following our 11:00 church service for about 20 minutes. It will take place at the front of the sanctuary. If you can't make the training, other arrangements can be made. If you have further questions please contact Tom Hall (725-8775), thall11@stny.rr.com.

A NOTE OF



Many heartfelt thanks and praise for our wonderful church family who have supported us with prayers and cards during the long illness and death of our father, grandfather & great-grandfather, Edward A. Hogan. We are proud to call you family. MaryAnn & Dale Sacharov, Mandi & Mike Shelp & family

Thank you to those who staffed and baked for Café Central this summer and a special thank you to those who helped on the holiday weekends. Phyllis Beech

Our Church Family



Lukas Kresge	9-2
Austin Darling	9-8
Amelia Jenson	9-9
Nick Johnson	9-9
Christopher Gardner	9-10
Lindsay Carey	9-18
Hannah Barnum	9-21
Sarah Barnum	9-21
Ethan Schaffer	9-22

Hospitalized Last Month:

Betty Boettger
Ruth Kocher
Earl Tripp

In Sympathy:

Bob Garrison on the death of his sister,
Elizabeth Rockel
Family & friends of Bill Kindig
Paula Russell on the death of her
brother, Joe Keough
MaryAnn Sacharov on the death of her
father, Ed Hogan

Ladies Luncheon

We will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 6th at 12 noon at Nirchi's on the Avenue in Endicott for lunch. Please call Millie Jones 754-2869 for reservations by Monday, September 5th.

Tri M's Luncheon

Tri M's will meet for lunch at Noon on Wednesday, September 21 at the Blue Dolphin, Apalachin. Please call Millie Jones 754-2869 for reservations. Please note the change of date to the 3rd Wed.

Church Women United

Will meet on Friday, October 7 at 12 noon at the First Presbyterian Church (29 Grant Ave.). The program will be "Living Our Joy" by the Harmony Club. Reservations to Millie Jones 754-2869, by Sun, Oct 2.

Sky Lake Fall Festival

Sunday, October 2nd
1:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Save the date for a fun filled afternoon at beautiful Sky Lake with the annual Youth Group Scavenger Hunt, Pie Sale, and Silent Basket Auction. Proceeds benefit the Campership Fund for Special Needs camp.

United Methodist Women

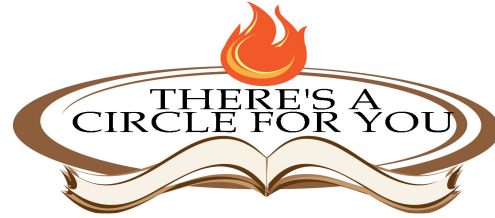
Autumn Festival Bazaar & Luncheon

The UMW's bazaar and luncheon will be held on Saturday, November 5. The women invite you to attend, participate or contribute to this annual event. The proceeds will help the women meet their goal of \$5,000 towards their pledge to missions. There will be a Bake Sale, handmade items on the Craft and Gift Tables as well as a Children's Corner. A delicious luncheon will be served.

UMW Sunday-September 18

On September 18, UMW will be taking leadership at both worship services. Dr. Blenda Smith, former lay leader of the Wyoming conference, will deliver the message. Libby Shelp will do the Children's Time and Debbie Henderson will be the liturgist.

UMW Executive meeting will be held on Monday, August 29 at 7pm in the Library.



Circle Meetings

All women are invited to attend any of the circle meetings.

Elizabeth Circle – Mon, Sept 12 7pm in the Lounge at Church. Contact Kelly Devine (754-9240) for more information.

Sarah Circle – Tuesday September 20 at 1pm at Good Shepherd Village. We will meet at the church parking lot at 12:30 pm to car pool. Dessert will be served and Joyce Winchell will lead a hymn sing. Call Carole James (757-2629) if you plan to attend or for more information.

Deborah Circle – Tuesday, Sept. 20 7pm at Marion Wegener's house (2615 Columbia Dr.). Nancy Jones will be leading a new book study. Contact Deb Fisher for more information (754-0360).

Grace Circle – Wed, Sept. 21 1 pm at Libby Shelp's house (1513 Riverview Dr.) 754-8487.

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

By Pat Breneman

Imagine you lived in a hotel room with just a microwave for a kitchen. What would you need and/or want?

That is the reality for a number of people in our town. Our sister church at First UMC listened and responded. They have a large mostly empty building so they reached out with a warm smile and a cup of coffee, and opened their doors. They needed volunteers for this venture so they teamed up with the local unemployment office and now have up to six volunteers who are on assistance that work along with the many volunteers. They provide a safe place in which people can relax and socialize, a nursery for the youngest clients, a business center for job seekers, a kind ear to listen and help with navigating the various agencies in our area. (Note: they are always looking for additional help to manage the business center, Chow Pantry and daily lunch. If you wish to volunteer call First UMC at 748-7434). They dared to dream. So what is your dream for Central?

One dream expressed during our field trip to First was the idea of expanding the community garden began by Grace Adventure UMC. The hope is to get our three churches: Central, First and Grace Adventure to work together to expand the garden started this summer. Our own Shepherd Supper has been a beneficiary of the garden already.

Amy- Jill Levine at Sky Lake
Understanding Jesus

By Understanding First Century Judaism
September 16 and 17

Amy –Jill Levine is a University Professor of New Testament & Jewish Studies. Professor Levine will explore Jesus and Judaism, How Jews and Christians read the same Scriptures with Different Understandings, and Hearing the parables as they were first heard. A registration form can be found at www.skylakecenter.org or on the bulletin board at Central. Both commuter (\$53) and overnight (\$87) packages are available.

Begins at 1:00 pm on Friday and concludes at 1:30 pm on Saturday.

International Day of Peace – September 21

Submitted by MaryBelle Mitten

---Extend yourself in a special way on that day---

Make Your Voice Heard is this year's United Nations 30th anniversary theme

God of Hope, you continue to call us to work for Peace in our world, broken and wounded by injustice, violence and indifference. Alone, we are overwhelmed by challenges but together, and inspired by your Spirit, we can prevail beyond dreams and imagination. In fear we lose hope, and feel the futility of our efforts. Instill in our hearts and minds the image of your compassionate love as a source of courage and strength. (International Day of Peace Prayer)

Bridging the Gap Between People To become neighbors is to bridge the gap between people. As long as there is distance between us and we cannot look in each other's eyes, all sorts of false ideas and images arise. We give them names, make jokes about them, cover them with our prejudices, and avoid direct contact. We think of them as enemies. We forget that they love as we love, care for their children as we care for ours, become sick and die as we do. We forget that they are our brothers and sisters and treat them as objects that can be destroyed at will. Only when we have the courage to cross the street and look in one another's eyes can we see there that we are children of the same God and members of the same human family. **Henri Nouwen**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OSr2gBsg9dl> 3 minute promo for IDP---worth watching
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sDX8hyZS7IA&NR=1> clever 1 minute animation---"When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know PEACE "

HORN OF AFRICA: UMCOR RESPONDS TO FAMINE IN THE REGION The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is working with partners already in the region to respond to the escalating famine in the Horn of Africa. This complex emergency is the culmination of crop failure, one of the worst droughts in 50 years, escalating food prices, and political unrest in the region. UMCOR is sending grants to support the work of ACT Alliance, Church World Service, and Global Medic in Somalia, Kenya, and Ethiopia. **Funds will provide food, clean water, and shelter for those who are displaced and living in camps.**

International Disaster Response, UMCOR Advance #982450, supports these and future efforts to alleviate suffering for so many. Check can be made out to Central UMC with the above advance # in memo area. 100 % goes for this cause.

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. Mark B Marino
Education Director.....Erica Heier
Administrative Secretary Pat Breneman
Chancel Choir Director.... Heather Worden
Bell Choir DirectorDenise Johnson
Living Water Director Jeff Heald
Music Coordinator/Organist Tat Baine
Treasurer..... Larry Jackson
Custodian..... Vito Longo
Parish Visitors Nancy Jones, Carole James
Web Master Jeff Heald

OFFICE HOURS:

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