

THE CENTRAL SENTRY



2011

November 6 – UMW Mini Bazaar

November 8 – Election Day Bazaar

November 13 – ERW Celebration Lunch

November 20 – Harvest Home Sunday

November 20 - Contemporary Worship Service

November 22 – UMW Thank Offering Lunch

November 24 – Thanksgiving Dinner

November 28 – Charge Conference

8:30 and 11:00 Worship Services

9:30 Sunday School

9:00 – 10:30 Café Central (lounge)

In this month's newsletter there is information about Central's 2012 Stewardship Campaign: *Extravagant Generosity*. The theme comes from Bishop Robert Schnase's book *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations*. Some at Central have recently studied these principles.

Similar to last year, the Finance Committee has asked four persons to offer their thoughts about our faith and life in light of "extravagant generosity." They will share their reflections during worship on October 30, November 6, 13, and 20. We will be invited to present our pledge cards on November 27, the first Sunday in Advent. The Finance Committee will soon send a letter with a copy of the 2012 budget and more details about the campaign.

Central, with its many faithful members and friends, is blessed. So far this year we have paid all of our conference Ministry Shares and benevolences and met all of our local financial obligations without the use of endowment or other invested funds! In addition, gifts in response to the September floods have enabled us to send \$1000 to the annual conference to support its efforts with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) and distribute \$6300 in grants to families in our community whose homes were damaged or destroyed. This already gives us a sense of what "extravagant generosity" is! We will learn more during the Stewardship Campaign.

Advent and a new cycle of re-living the birth, life, death, resurrection, and on-going gift of the Holy Spirit begins in November. I am excited about the mission and ministry opportunities that lie ahead for us and I look forward to us being on "the journey" together.

-Mark

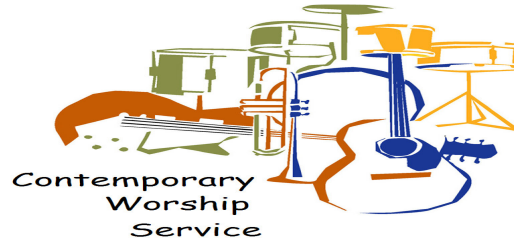
November 27 – United Methodist Student Day Offering

"You ought to serve the world with your gifts," said Josh Union, United Methodist Student Day scholarship recipient and student at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. He plans to use his degree in business management and computer science to make the world a better place.

"No matter what I do, I want to die having done something to better the planet," added Josh, who envisions ways that he can use his business acumen to invest in development projects overseas. His goal is "to serve God as faithfully, as obediently as I can."

Every year hundreds of students like Josh receive scholarships and loans funded by United Methodist Student Day. When you give to United Methodist Student Day, you support students who are finding new ways to serve God in the world. Your contributions are needed more than ever.

CHURCH NEWS



Contemporary Worship November 20 at 7 pm

Experience an evening filled with praise, joyful song, and spirited fellowship as we worship together at our next contemporary service. Join us on November 20th at 7pm in Fellowship Hall. We will feature new music by Living Water and a message from Jeff Heald: "A Word of Thanks". A time of fellowship and refreshments will follow the service.

Active Duty Armed Forces

In addition to recognizing our veterans on Sunday, November 13, we would also like to pray for our active duty personnel who are currently serving in the armed forces. If you have a loved one on active duty, please contact the church office with their name, branch of service and current post.

Harvest Home Sunday November 20th

This is the 27th consecutive year that Central has used the Sunday before Thanksgiving to highlight hunger in our own community and to be a part of solution to help alleviate this problem. Following the services on November 13, your family will be offered a "reminder bag" which will contain a suggested list of food needs. Use the bag in the week that follows to hold non-perishable, non-home-made, non-glass-container food items and then return that filled bag to the sanctuary prior to the November 20th services. Before Thanksgiving, the food donated will be in the hands of Broome County CHOW and our own Shepherd's Supper program. There will also be the opportunity to donate monies to these causes on the November 20th by making a check out to "Central UMC" and write in the memo section CHOW and/ or Shepherd's Supper and place it in the offering plate. Your help is needed even more this year as state funding for CHOW has been severely reduced and the needs are even greater this year following the floods, which have depleted the CHOW food stock. Thank you, in advance for your participation.

Blue Christmas
Sun, December 11 at 7 pm
Save the date for this meaningful service in December. Invite someone affected by the floods to attend with you.

ERW Celebration Luncheon Sunday, Nov 13 12:15pm

Last November, members of the congregation gathered in an Envisioning-Renewing Week-end (ERW) to discuss "pinches," hopes, and dreams for our church. As a result of this weekend event, Study Action Groups (SAGs) were formed to address those concerns and dreams. The ERW and SAG members agreed to serve for one year.

The SAGs have met throughout the year and helped to implement a number of changes. Sunday, November 13 this year will be exactly one year since they began their service. To bring the ERW to a formal close, directly following 11am worship, you will have the opportunity to learn about the changes that have been made and how they address the concerns and dreams expressed last November.

Lunch will be provided, and childcare available. You do not need to have attended last year's event to participate in this celebration. Plan to come and learn about what's happening here at Central! Please contact the office by **November 10** if you are planning to attend so we can have head counts for food and childcare.

See you there!
Envisioning-Renewing Task Force



Finance Committee 3rd Quarter Update

2011 has been a challenging year especially with the flooding in September, but we have come through the summer and completed the 3rd quarter in good shape, thanks to the stewardship of all of you. Central is on target to meet all Central's planned financial obligations for our budget such as funding for ministry shares, worship, education, and missions among many other important functions in our service to Christ. We are blessed at Central to have such spiritual giving from Central's entire congregation! Without your faithful stewardship we could not do all we do in service to our community and to advance the will of God through the church. It is important for us all to continue our giving in 2011 and beyond. In November we will be kicking off our Stewardship campaign for 2012. The theme is "Extravagant Generosity". You will be receiving a letter in the mail soon explaining further what we mean by this and how we can relate it to giving at Central. So thank you to all!

Doug Beach, Finance Chair

Norton Bequest

Last month the Board of Trustees and Church Council finalized receipt of a bequest from the estate of former Central member Walter Norton. In accordance with the bequest, 1/3 was sent directly to the Children's Home of Wyoming Conference in Hillcrest. 1/3 has been invested, the interest earned to be sent annually to the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). The other 1/3 has been invested in Central's Scholarship Fund. The annual interest from it will enable the church to better assist young people furthering their education.

We are grateful for this gift from Walter and his family that will minister to people at home and abroad for years to come. Contact the church office if you would like information on how to leave bequests to the church in ways that can provide similar support and witness.

Advent Journey

Advent begins on Sunday, Nov. 27. We will hand in our 2012 commitment cards and participate in sacrament of baptism. And so will begin our journey towards Christmas Day and celebrating the birth of Christ.

Also, we will have the opportunity to join in a meal, Christmas carols, and a program each Wednesday in Advent: November 30, December 7, 14, and 21. The evenings begin at 6pm. Our Program Councils will provide the meals and the programs will follow. All we

need to do is show up ready to fellowship and enjoy this fun time together.

The programs will include a light-hearted video and look at "What is Christmas, Anyway," the children's Christmas musical, wrapping gifts for the Clothing Center's December 18 Christmas Party, and going out to sing Christmas carols to shut-ins and members in nursing homes.

Please note the dates on your calendar. Then plan to come and put special meaning into your Advent journey!

Relief Centers

Items available at local relief centers include: food and water, personal care products, diapers, baby formula, wipes, cleaning supplies, rubber gloves and paper products. Donations of these items can be delivered to any of the relief centers. Monetary donations to aid in relief efforts can be made through catholiccharitiesbc.org

Johnson City - Oakdale Mall

Reynolds Rd, Johnson City
3p.m.-7p.m. Monday – Friday
12-3 p.m. Saturday

Endicott - St. Ambrose Gym

202 Garfield Ave., Endicott
12-3p.m. Monday –Friday

Vestal - Our Lady of Sorrows –

801 Main St., Vestal
12-3p.m. Monday-Friday –
Mon/Wed. 5 to 7 pm

(Continued)

Please note: we cannot accept clothing or bedding at our relief

centers. Please feel free to call Marsha Maroney at Catholic Charities - 729-9166 X349 for additional information or with questions. For more resources and/or information call 211



Thanksgiving Dinner Volunteers Needed!

Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to serve our Church family and Community neighbors a delicious Thanksgiving meal.

Wednesday, November 23

1 pm Folks to help prep the meal (peel potatoes, clean turkeys, make stuffing)

Thursday, November 24

- 10:30 am—Food preparation and dining room set up
- 12:45 pm—Serving the meal (1 pm)
- 1 pm—Cleanup

Please contact John & Suzanne Obusek if you are interested in volunteering; 754-3304 or jsobusek@stny.rr.com. Thank you!

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Thanksgiving Dinner Food Donations Needed!

Please consider making a food donation for the upcoming Thanksgiving Dinner at Central Church, the following items are needed:

- Turkeys—6 (20 – 24 lbs) thawed please!
- Potatoes—6 - 10 lb bags
- Squash—10 acorn/butternut/other
- Milk—4 gallons
- Margarine/Butter—8 lbs
- Eggs—2 dozen
- Half and Half—1 quart
- Brown Sugar—2 lbs
- Carrots—2 lbs
- Onions—3lbs
- Celery—2 bunches
- Cool Whip—3 large containers
- Juice—8 bottles/cans grape, cranberry, tomato or donor's choice
- Green/black olives—12 jars/cans
- Jellied Cranberry sauce—12 cans
- Chicken Broth—4 large cans
- Quick Breads—8 loaves
- Pies—12 apple, pumpkin or donor's choice

Donations can be dropped off at the Church kitchen by Tuesday, November 22.

Thank you for your support!



Your kindness and caring meant so much to my family and me. Thank you so much for all the expressions of sympathy on the passing of my mother, Mary Lizzie. Your friend in Christ,
Arthur Felton & family

We want to thank everyone for the check that was sent to us for flood relief. We did indeed have a lot of damage and appreciate the concern from our church family. Dirk & Cathy Sorber

I would like to thank all those who helped to make my birthday extra special. From the cards to the party well-wishers – I was overwhelmed with love. Thanks again, Alta Hawley

Ladies Luncheon

We will meet on Tuesday, Nov 1 at 12 noon at The Apple Dumpling Café (Green Brothers) for lunch. We will meet at the church at 11:30 to carpool. Please call Millie Jones 754-2869 for reservations by Monday, October 31.

Tri M's Luncheon

Tri M's will meet on Wed., Nov 16 at noon at the Blue Dolphin. Please call Millie Jones 754-2869 for reservations.

Our Church Family



Eric Johnson	11-4
Danielle Hammersley	11-12
Joey Griffin	11-13
Jonathan Gardner	11-23
Faith Schaffer	11-28

Hospitalized Last Month:

- Chris Breneman
- Glenn Newberry
- Bob Ritter
- Virginia Steenburg
- Randy Tewksbury
- Earle Tripp

In Sympathy:

Mel Livingston on the loss of his sister
Family & Friends of Vivian Vanwinkle
Sherri Welker on the loss of her mother

Church Women United

Will meet on Friday, November 4 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. Note this event was postponed from October.

United Methodist Women

UMW Mini Bazaar

Sunday, November 6 9:30 to 12:30

If you have craft items please bring them to the church beginning November 1. Sharon Carmine (239-4454) will be heading up this special one day bazaar. She will need help with set-up on Nov 5th and volunteers to work the bazaar on the 6th after each service.

Election Day Bazaar

Tuesday, November 8 6am to 6pm

Crafts from the UMW Bazaar and a bake sale will be held in the dining room on Election Day. Bakers and volunteers to work the bazaar are needed. Call Carole James (757-2629) or Gail Scott (754-1275) to volunteer.

World Thank Offering Luncheon

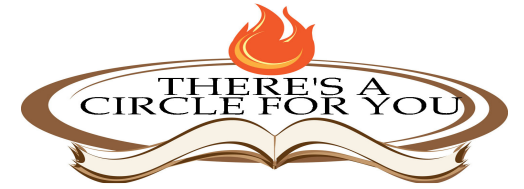
Tuesday, November 22 12:00

On Tuesday, November 22 at noon, the UMW will meet for lunch and a business meeting. Diane Alexander will present a program on her latest VIM trip to Haiti. We will elect the 2012 slate of Officers, vote on the budget and receive the World Thank offering. Grace Circle is in charge of the luncheon.

Christmas Tea

Sunday, December 4 2:30pm

Save the date for this annual event.



Circle Meetings

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

Elizabeth Circle – Mon, Nov. 14 at 7pm in the Lounge at Church. Contact Kelly Devine (754-9240) for more information.

Sarah Circle – Tues, Nov. 15 at noon in the dining room. Bring a bag lunch and your Thank Banks. Carole James (757-2629)

Deborah Circle – Tues. Nov. 15 at 7pm at Claire Labbe's house (2713 Manhattan Dr. Endwell). Nancy Jones will be leading a study on Mary. Contact Deb Fisher (754-0360).

Grace Circle – Wed, Nov. 30 at 1 pm at Bonnie Harvey's (313 S. Liberty Ave) Please note the change in the date.

Café Central Bakers Needed
Café Central is in need of additional bakers for Sunday mornings. If you can bake occasionally please contact the church office (754-6060) or Phyllis Beech (687-4493)

Social Justice

Submitted by MaryBelle Mitten

Below is an excerpt from a 2010 speech by Rev. James Winkler, General Sec. of the United Methodist Board of Church and Society ---Rev. Mark's Oct. newsletter article also contained excerpts of a speech by Rev. Winkler. It should make each of us look more closely at our lives and attitudes.

"Our denomination's Social Creed, first written in 1908, grew out of concern over the miserable lives many people experienced in tenements and company towns while working in factories and mills. The Social Creed called for an end to child labor, the principle of arbitration in industrial disputes, a livable wage, an end to sweatshops, and protection from dangerous working conditions. Our denomination believed then, as we do now, in the example of Christ as the supreme law of society and the sure remedy for all social ills.

The third important stream of social concerns the General Board of Church & Society embodies today is world peace. Following World War I, many Christians were horrified by the carnage and the failure to avoid it. More than 15 million people died in that war, the greatest death toll in human history up to that point.

Our denomination established a world peace board in 1924. Over these many years we have proclaimed that war is incompatible with the teachings and example of Jesus Christ. Today, we work for an end to the unjust war in Iraq, and against using war as an instrument of national domination by any country over another.

Over time, our consciousness has been raised on many other important matters including health care, civil and human rights, and economic and environmental justice. In fact, during the past half century, the world has been transformed by great moral and spiritual movements for equal rights for women, for environmental and economic justice, for an end to the nuclear arms race, apartheid and the Vietnam War, for civil and human rights for all people.

Jesus proclaimed he was anointed to bring good news to the poor and in that spirit we advocate for the Millennium Development Goals. 189 nations embraced these 8 goals to eradicate poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality, reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability, and create a global partnership for development.

Jesus said he was called to bring release to the captives. In that spirit we seek a legal system based on restorative, not retributive, justice.

Jesus said he came to heal the sick and bring recovery of sight to the blind. In that spirit United Methodists not only operate hospitals and health-care clinics, we also advocate for health care for all people.

Some time ago, a United Methodist youth choir from St. Louis visited the United Methodist Building here on Capitol Hill. They were asked how they would define justice. One young person said, "Justice is working to make the world look like the way Jesus would want it to look if he were here."

What do you think about these issues?

**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

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Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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