

April 2023

THE Central SENTRY

United Methodist Church

REV. DR. MICHELLE BOGUE-TROST

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PASTOR'S NOTES

With April comes Easter!

This high holy day of our faith tradition is the culmination of the 40 day Lenten preparation and waiting. Reflection and self-examination give way to jubilation. The practice of pondering our spiritual lives transitions into the celebration of our belovedness in God through Christ.

Here in the northern hemisphere, we have a more tangible sense of the renewing power of God, as winter (finally) gives way to Spring and we can see the renewal and life springing around us. Flowers and pollinators emerge, ready to fill the earth with new life.



Pastor Paul and I have been using the image of chrysalis and butterfly to set a metaphor for the season; you may have noticed it in worship as a subtle reminder of the progression of the season. For us, it is a powerful symbol of renewal and restoration, particularly in this year when we are celebrating our emergence from the "COVID Cocoon" in which we've been wrapped for three long years. It's also an apt metaphor for Central's celebration of 185 years of ministry and service in Endicott and beyond.

The question Easter poses to each of us is this, I think: What cocoons have held us for too long? What needs to emerge in our own lives? What transformation needs to happen? Where might you fly if you had the wings? What pollination might you be capable of? Whether you have observed a Lenten practice or not, Easter gives all of us a new opportunity to refresh and to breathe in the new life God offers. We invite you to join in the celebration and open up to the possibilities.

May the joy of the Easter season be yours!

Stil in One Peace,

Pastor Michelle Bogue-Trost

PASTOR PAUL'S NOTES

“And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.”
(2 Corinthians 3:18, NRSV)

In the original Greek that the author used, the word transformed is “metamorphoo” from which we get the word metamorphosis. Metamorphosis, like a butterfly in a chrysalis, is a dramatic change that something undergoes. These changes are pronounced and radical, but often take time and are gradual.



Sherri and I are doing a major kitchen/dining room/ living room renovation project. We have been planning for well over a year and two big steps have been completed- a supporting wall has been taken down and replaced by a beam and we now have a new kitchen/dining room floor. This change is taking forever and it seems like a never ending task; I don't know if we will ever finish, but when it is done, it will be a great space.

That's kind of what Paul is saying to the church in Corinth- we are being transformed, metamorphosed, into something great, the image of Christ! This transformation is not instantaneous, but it will be radical in the results. We see the glory and greatness of Christ and we are slowly transformed into that same image.

Lent is a time for us to hone our skills and examine our metamorphosis into something greater. How do we assist this transformation to happen in us? Bible study, small discussion groups, reading and responding to devotionals, being in communication with God all help us in becoming the new creations God desires of us.

Mission work is another aspect of our transformation. As we become more and more transformed into the image of Christ, we desire to help and do for others. The Mission Team has several projects that we will be rolling out over the next few months that we can participate in as we reflect the glory and radiance of our Christ.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



United
Women
in Faith

CENTRAL MEN'S GROUP



All women are invited to attend one of the United Women in Faith Circles. Please contact the leader for more information about each circle.

Deborah Circle

Tuesday, April 18 at 7pm in person (church library)
There will also be a Zoom connection for those not attending in person. Nancy will send out the Zoom connection.

Contact: Pat Breneman, 607.748.3430

Grace Circle

Wednesday, April 19 at 12pm (Community Room)
Please bring a lunch. No Zoom.

Contact: Pauline Witt: 607.748.4142

Sarah Circle

Tuesday, April 18 at Noon (Community Room) Please bring your lunch with you.

Contact: Carole James, 607.757.2629

Calling all Men! Friday, April 14.

The CUMC Men's Group will hold their monthly meeting on Friday April 14. All are welcome to join us for a devotion, fellowship and plenty of laughs.

For those who can meet in person we will get together at 6:00 for a meal. (Tacos!) For those who are out of town or prefer to meet virtually, we will have a ZOOM meeting at 7:00.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86723920791>

Meeting ID: 867 2392 0791

Passcode: 027541

MISSION RECOGNITION



United Women in Faith Sunday was held on March 19. The Officers and Leadership Team of UWF was installed at the 11:00 service.

United Women in Faith presented a Mission Recognition pin to Amy Klock in appreciation for her wonderful service and management of the clothing center at our church. Many people in our community have benefitted from Amy's dedication to this important ministry of our church. From our entire congregation, Thank You Amy!

TECH MINISTRY

TV Ministry is integrating two new, up-to-date computers into the video system. These computers are compact, powerful, with more capacity, and run at higher speeds than the 8-10 year-old machines they replaced. They operate with Windows 11 and should serve well into the foreseeable future.

Their introduction, however, has revealed a weakness in the rear projector (an older, original piece of equipment) which displays images and text for worship leaders. Conversations are underway about whether to try to modify/repair the projector or to instead replace it with a more up-to-date screen similar to those in front of the sanctuary.

TV Ministry is always looking for new ways to support the church's worship and program life. Ideas and suggestions are welcome any time.

We have a good cadre of adult and youth tech members who work in the booth during programs and services as well as provide support to prepare and follow up. The Tech Team Youth/Young Adult Intern Program has been a great help in this regard. We continue to welcome new persons of all ages into the ministry. No experience is required. Each person currently in the tech booth started knowing nothing and over time learned skills that they now use readily. Contact the office or stop by the booth on Sunday morning to learn more.

We are grateful for the continued support of Central's members, friends, and supporters.

Mark Marino

FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Spring has sprung! We look forward to warmer weather, seeing the new flowers bloom, birds chirping and being outdoors enjoying all that God created.

In April, the Faith Formation Team held an Easter event. We have an amazing team that I am so appreciative of. I'd like to give a big shout out to all who repeatedly help out time after time as events take a lot of prep work and planning. We have exciting community events coming this summer, so we have decided not to hold an event in May.

Speaking of the summer, we will give you a sneak peak of what's to come. Last year we held some very successful movie nights and game nights. So this year we will again do a movie night in June. Dates, movie choice, and further details are to come. We are also very excited to announce that we are planning to bring back and host a neighborhood block party in August. This will require a lot of planning, help, and donations to make this a successful event. I have no doubt that our church is capable of this task. And again as always no task too small, so if you want to help out in any way please let me know. Be sure to read the newsletters for more information in the upcoming months. Take care and God Bless.

Donna Miller-Kross

185 YEARS OF MINISTRY!

Central was chartered in 1838, which makes us 185 years strong! Through the year, we will be celebrating this anniversary with newsletter articles, creating new ministries, and having some sort of event near our charter date in November.

If you would like to participate in planning this year's celebrations, please contact Karen in the office (607.754.6060), and we will put together a team.

LUKENS- JACKSON CAMPING SUNDAY



Get Ready for Summer! Join us for Camping Sunday on April 23rd

The Lukens-Jackson Task Force of Central UMC has worked since 1972 to sponsor children and youth to attend summer camps at Sky Lake, many of those years hosting and staffing one week of racially diverse camp at a time when such experiences were very rare. Today, Sky Lake hosts 20 camps covering a variety of themes, bringing together children, youth and adults with special needs from various cultural, ethnic, and economic backgrounds, allowing them to grow an appreciation of each other in a natural setting and nurturing atmosphere. The Lukens-Jackson Task Force works through the year to raise money and recruit children to send to camp.

We need your support! Last year we sent 37 campers at a cost of \$17,745. Our balance would allow us to send just 4 campers this year. We know Central has shown great support in the past and we ask for that again as we build up our reserves.

Funding for Lukens-Jackson camperships is provided entirely through generous donations from you! Donations may be given on Camping Sunday or at any time as an online donation at www.centralumcendicott.org/give.html You may also see a tree of blessing throughout April that will allow you to choose an amount to give and place that directly in the envelope to support us.

Sky Lake is also looking for paid and volunteer summer camp staff! This is a great way for young adults to spend the summer: working at camp, making lifelong friends and gaining leadership skills. For more information about summer opportunities, visit www.skylakecenter.org, and click "Summer Staff" at the bottom of the page.

INVEST IN CENTRAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DINNER

Central's leadership has begun an ambitious Capital Campaign for our 185th year, and your participation is important! Central's buildings have been here for a long time, and they have some issues that need to be addressed as soon as we can. Leaders and members of teams and committees have already committed over \$100,000—that's almost one quarter of the needs-and-wishes goal!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO
AN INVEST IN
CENTRAL LUNCHEON
IN THE DINING ROOM
SUNDAY, APRIL 30 AT 12.30PM

YOU'LL BE TREATED
TO LUNCH AND A PRESENTATION
ON THE PRESENT
AND FUTURE NEEDS OF
CENTRAL'S BUILDING PLANT
AND THE MINISTRY OF
HOSPITALITY IT REPRESENTS.
PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND
AS WE CELEBRATE
CENTRAL'S PAST, PRESENT,
AND FUTURE MINISTRIES!



CENTRAL CHURCH EVENTS:

TRIVIA

TRIVIA NIGHT Saturday, April 15th 7pm

It's been a while since we had our last Trivia. Of course everyone is invited. Lots of fun had by those who have played before. Even if you haven't played trivia in the past, you don't need to be a 'know-it-all' since each trivia question has a musical clue which may help with the answer. For example "What are raisins made from? Musical Clue: "I Heard it Through the Grapevine" Answer: Grapes This will be on Zoom only.

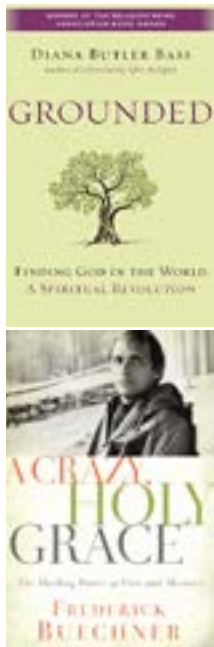
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87371595785>

Meeting ID: 873 7159 5785
Passcode: 788349

WESLEY CLASS Thursday, April 13, 7pm Zoom

SAVE THE DATE: July 15, 2023 UWF GARDEN TOUR

MONDAY NIGHT BOOK STUDY 7:30pm



Grounded: Finding God in the World:
Diana Butler Bass (7 weeks)
April 3 193-232 (Chap 6)
April 10 pp 233-end (Chap 7-end)

A Crazy Holy Grace (4 weeks)
Frederick Buechner
April 17 pp 9-52 (Foreword-Pt 1)
April 24 pp 53-84 (Pt 2, #3-4)
May 1 pp 85-118 (Pt 2, #5-6)
May 8 pp 119-138 (Pt 3)

BLOOD DRIVE HELPERS NEEDED Saturday, April 29th 8am-1pm

Central continues to support the Red Cross by hosting Blood Drives throughout the year, and we have been getting a great turnout of donors. Central supports the donors by providing some food which is a bit more than the snacks the Red Cross provides. We need volunteers for Check-in and to serve snacks. We have two shifts 7:45-10:30 and from 10:15-1:00.

Please let Knud Hansen know if you're able to help by volunteering for either of these time slots.
khansen3@yahoo.com or 607-754-0882

Blood Donors Needed

There's always an urgent need for donors during the winter months. It's never too early to schedule your appointment for April 29. Pre-drive reservations are required by going to the Red Cross Website and search for the Blood Drive at Central <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/finddrive>

Knud Hansen



MISSIONS TEAM

The Missions Team had a great planning meeting a few weeks ago. We are excited about the potential we have to be in ministry with our neighbors, both locally and globally.

One project we will be rolling out soon is Health Kits for UMCOR. These kits contain basic health needs (soap, washcloth, comb, hand towel and a few other items). Our plan is to gather the materials and then gather as a group and assemble them. We will be issuing a challenge to our neighboring churches to see who can create the most kits!

Another project is a revitalization of the "Lighten the Load" collection. In our area, the average cost to wash a load of laundry (at a laundromat) is \$2.50; dryers cost, 25 cents per five minutes. A family can easily spend \$25 a week for just a few loads of laundry! We will be collecting spare quarters and then visiting local laundromats to gift people with our generosity.

Both of these projects are coming up, so listen for announcements and watch the announcement loop prior to worship!

Pastor Paul



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

The last several weeks we have had some great discussion on the various "gifts" provided by God: the gift of Jesus being one of us, the "gift" of sin, the gift of the curtain, and the gift of choice. We are using materials from Max Lucado's "He Chose the Nails." How often do we try to ignore God's calling? How many times have we said to God, "Not right now!" We will look into our reluctance to hearing and responding to God's call through the eyes and steps of Moses. "In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet" by Adam Hamilton will guide us as we explore God's call for each of us. Our new study will begin on April 16 and everyone is invited to join us at 9:45AM.

Pastor Paul

HELP WANTED: PARISH VISITOR

Our Parish Visitors Team is a vital part of the nurturing care of Central's members. They work to keep contact with our homebound members, follow up on health and family crises, arrange for pastoral visits when requested, and send cards for holidays. If you would like to be a part of this team in this amazing and fulfilling ministry, please contact Pastor Michelle at the church office (607.754.6060).

ANNUAL REPORT



If you haven't yet picked up a copy of Central's Annual report for last year, copies are still available. You can pick up a printed copy in the Welcome Center. You can also access it online at the Central Website. Be sure to read it to see all the amazing accomplishments of the Central family last year. As you read, if you want to support any of the programs or ministries, please contact the Church office.

UWF Spring Take-Out Luncheon 2023

Saturday, April 15th, 2023 11am - 1pm

PRE-ORDERS Recommended



Good day to all. Yes, our Spring Take-Out Luncheon is coming up again VERY SOON. It's the week after Easter, so plan your schedule around **Saturday, April 15th, 2023 from 11am - 1pm** here at CUMC for our 'park and pick-up' pre-ordered food items. Easy-peasy as usual.

Enjoy our wonderful items of food that we are preparing for you, featuring the famous chicken salad (by the pint), ham/cheese - turkey/cheese or roast beef/cheese sandwich wraps (includes lettuce and tomato); veggie sandwich wraps (with various healthy veggies included), deviled eggs (2 halves per order), fresh fruit (by 1/2 pint), macaroni salad (by the pint), potato soup (by the pint), and last but truly not least, the delicious homemade cookies sold by the HALF dozen. (molasses, chocolate chip, oatmeal raisin, snickerdoodles and pizzelles).

In order for this luncheon to be a success, we would be thankful for any monetary donation you can provide. Please leave the money in a sealed envelope with Karen in the office - LABELED "Spring Luncheon Donation - Shelley Lobevero".

We're doing it the same as last year - in order to place a PRE-ORDER, please either call Shelley Lobevero at 607-624-1984, or email Shelley at shelley.lobevero@gmail.com PRIOR TO 4/7/23 (FRIDAY). It would be appreciated that if you plan on ordering, you do it as soon as you can. EVERYTHING you can do to help will assist UWF in making money for our wonderful missions. Thank you....Your UWF Spring Take-Out Luncheon Team



ITEMS:	Cost	Quantity	Total per Line
Chicken Salad (by the PINT)	\$ 8.25	Qty _____	Total _____
Ham/Cheese WRAP	\$ 7.50	Qty _____	Total _____
Turkey/Cheese WRAP	\$ 7.50	Qty _____	Total _____
Roast Beef/Cheese WRAP	\$ 7.50	Qty _____	Total _____
Veggie WRAP	\$ 7.00	Qty _____	Total _____
Macaroni Salad (by the Pint)	\$ 6.50	Qty _____	Total _____
Deviled Eggs (2 halves per order)	\$ 1.00	Qty _____	Total _____
Fresh Fruit (by 1/2 pint)	\$ 5.00	Qty _____	Total _____
Potato Soup (by the PINT)	\$ 7.25	Qty _____	Total _____
Cookies - (6 per baggie)	\$ 5.00		
Molasses		Qty _____	Total _____
Choc Chip		Qty _____	Total _____
Oatmeal Raisin		Qty _____	Total _____
Snickerdoodles		Qty _____	Total _____
Lemon Pizzelles		Qty _____	Total _____
TOTAL OF ORDER _____			TOTAL _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>APRIL 2023</h1>						
2 PALM/PASSION SUNDAY 8:00am Worship TV 8:30am Worship 9:45am Adult Ed 11am Worship	3 5:30pm Worship TV on TWC 5:45pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm ZOOM Book Study	4 12:00pm Clothing Center 5:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Program Councils (ZOOM)	5 10:00am ZOOM Soul Care 12:00pm Clothing Center 1:00pm UWF ZOOM 5:45pm Endicott Toast Masters 7:30pm AA	6 MAUNDY THURSDAY 4:30pm Shepherd's Supper 6:30pm Cappella Ringers 7:00pm Worship 7:30pm Choir rehearsal	7 GOOD FRIDAY 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Worship 7:30pm AA	8
9 EASTER SUNDAY 8:00am Worship TV 8:30am Worship 9:45am Adult Ed 11am Worship	10 5:30pm Worship TV on TWC 5:45pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm ZOOM Book Study	11 12:00pm Clothing Center 5:00pm Girl Scouts 5:45pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm ZOOM Finance	12 10:00am ZOOM Soul Care 12:00pm Clothing Center 6:45pm Lions Club-Library 7:30pm AA	13 4:30pm Shepherd's Supper 6:30pm Cappella Ringers 7:00pm Trustees ZOOM 7:00pm Wesley ZOOM 7:30pm Choir rehearsal	14 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm AA	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 11am-1pm UWF Spring Luncheon Take Out 7:00pm Trivia Night (ZOOM)
16 8:00am Worship TV 8:30am Worship 9:45am Adult Ed 11am Worship	17 5:30pm Worship TV on TWC 5:45pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm ZOOM Allocations 7:30pm ZOOM Book Study	18 12:00pm Clothing Center 12:00pm Sarah Circle 5:00pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Deborah Circle ZOOM & Library 7:00pm SPRC	19 10:00am Zoom Soul Care 12:00pm Clothing Center 12:00pm Grace Circle 5:45pm Endicott Toast Masters 7:30pm AA	20 4:30pm Shepherd's Supper 6:30pm Cappella Ringers 7:30pm Choir rehearsal	21 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Men's Group ZOOM 7:30pm AA	22
23 CAMPING SUNDAY 8:00am Worship TV 8:30am Worship 9:45am Adult Ed 11am Worship	24 5:30pm Worship TV on TWC 5:45pm Girl Scouts 7:00pm Ahwaga Canoe 7:30pm ZOOM Book Study	25 12:00pm Clothing Center 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Doll Club 7:00pm ZOOM Church Council	26 10:00am ZOOM Soul Care 12:00pm Clothing Center 6:45pm Lions Club-Library 7:30pm AA	27 4:30pm Shepherd's Supper 6:30pm Cappella Ringers 7:30pm Choir rehearsal	28 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm AA	29 8:00am Blood Drive DONORS & HELPERS NEEDED
30 8:00am Worship TV 8:30am Worship 9:45am Adult Ed 11am Worship 12:30 Invest in Central Lunch						1 1pm-3pm EASTER CELEBRATION