

Calendar Dates

June 19: Socialite @ 6pm
June 20-22: Annual Conference
June 25: Finance & Council meetings
June 26: Agape noon lunch @ Trinity

July 5-6: Meating Place fundraiser
July 17: Socialite @ 6pm
July 23: Finance & Council meetings
July 24: Agape noon lunch @ Trinity
July 26: Family Fun Day @ Elizabeth Miller Gardens

Meating Place Fundraiser

Dear Centralities,
The Meating Place (they love it when Central comes and cooks!!) and Central are calling your name!! Mark your calendars for July 5th and 6th for this important and fun fundraiser.

We want to make this a very successful fundraiser and to make sure that happens, we need your help. There are two ways for you to help. First, is to sign up and be hands on. There will be a volunteer sign-up sheet in the gathering area (next to the buffet) so please sign up as your schedule permits. If you are not able to be hands on, the second way to support this important event is to stop by and purchase a yummy breakfast, lunch and bake goods. If you have family in for the 4th, bring them out! More the merrier. The Meating Place told us this is their busiest weekend of the year, so we were thrilled to get these dates.

All proceeds will go to support Central's Mission and Ministry. With the community's support and yours, Central will be able to continue helping others where there is a need, locally and globally.

In advance, I thank you very much for your help and prayers for this fundraiser.

-Connie Davis

Office Hours

Our church secretary Sarah Russell has updated her office hours. Her new hours are Monday-Thursday from 8:30 AM—3 PM.

Upcoming Socialite Events

We will meet on June 19th for fellowship and, of course, a delicious potluck meal. A huge thank you to everyone that has and continues to support Central's Socialite Gatherings. Because we would like our Socialite evenings to be fun and informative for all ages, at our June dinner, please bring your thoughts and ideas for future speakers/programs.

Central has been blessed with Won's leadership as he continues to keep us up to date on the very important matters that will certainly affect Central United Methodist Church. To continue to address The Way Forward and what that will look like for Central, for our July Socialite some members of Central will discuss and answer your questions. We will discuss supporting the Traditional Plan that was recently passed at the General Assembly as well as discussing supporting an exit plan.

Please mark your calendars for July 17th. We hope to see all of you there.

-Socialite Team



June

2: Mary Douglas
David Granfield
6: Suzanne Noto
13: Keith Artley
28: Bobbie Rosson
29: Martha Bushman

July

4: Beth White
9: Jim Mullenax
21: Emily Morgan
22: Tammy Obaugh
23: Judi Jones
25: Lynn Hill
28: Richard Brown
30: Betty Hanger

The Central Connection

2019 June Newsletter



Central Next

Mark 13: 5-6 And Jesus began to say to them, "Take heed that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray.

Many parts of our country have been hit by unprecedented rain and tornados, disrupting and destroying human lives. At this time, prayers are needed accompanied by acts of mercy. In the next month or so I would like to host an event to raise funds to send some relief to these victims. Later, we may even organize a mission team to help them rebuild their lives.

Currently, our United Methodist denomination is undergoing unprecedented tumult resulting in an interruption of the usual life of United Methodist churches including Central. Hopefully, the Annual Conference in June will bring a clearer understanding of who we are, and a future direction will emerge for our conference as well as for Central. For this reason, Central will use our July Socialite to share a report from Annual Conference as well as to explore our options concerning our future.

I preached this before: do not put faith in man-made tradition or institutions. In the end, man-

made will surely disappoint you. Put faith in God through Jesus and no one else.

In the aftermath of General Conference 2019, we hear numerous voices – ranging from traditionalist to progressive – claiming to be the next United Methodist Church. Examples are A New Thing, Good News, Wesley Covenant Association, UMCNext, Reconciling Ministries Network and others. Numerous congregations are discussing whether we are entering a post-denominational era.

The core issue at hand is this. At the GC 2019 our United Methodist denomination adopted the plan to stay on course in regards to banning same-sex marriage and LGBTQ ordination but with stricter language and penalties. So the question of the day for every United Methodist congregation is: Do we remain or do we depart from what many now perceive as a closed-hearted denomination?

Elsewhere in this newsletter, lay leader Connie Davis writes about the upcoming July Socialite where two panels will present their findings and open up the floor for discussion. One panel will explain to us Central life if we remain in the denomination; the other panel will explain Central life as an independent church.

We are in a critical time for our denomination, but crisis can also be opportunity. Let's not shrink in the face of fear and uncertainty. I think of this crisis as God pushing a reset button for our denomination to take a hard look at our UMC mission and ministry and to reassess how to be a truly authentic Jesus following church. Maybe GC 2019 was a warning call for our denomination. The call has been issued. Now the question for Central UMC is how are we to respond to His call?

-Won Un, Pastor



5/1/2019

Central United Methodist Church
PO Box 953
Staunton, VA 24402

Dear Friends of the Valley Mission,

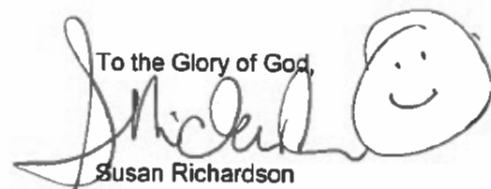
On behalf of the Board of Directors and the staff here at the Valley Mission, I wish to extend our warmest thanks for your support of our agency. The Valley Mission not only provides shelter, clothing, and meals to the homeless in our community, but our staff also offers spiritual and emotional support to our residents, which help them face the issues surrounding homelessness. Generous gifts like yours allow us to fulfill our mission to serve those in need, twenty-four hours a day seven days a week.

Most often, those in need of help face difficulties that they simply do not have the tools to repair. Their circumstances cause them to feel beaten down and hopeless that tomorrow could ever bring about the possibility of a positive change in their lives. Because of donors such as yourself, the residents of the Valley Mission are fed, clothed, encouraged, and provided the tools that allow them to hope to dream of a better life. In many cases, our residents are making this dream a reality. For so many, your caring support is life transforming.

Your contribution of \$105.50 is greatly appreciated. According to IRS regulations, we must state that no goods or services were received in exchange for your donation. Please keep this letter for your tax records.

Valley Mission's sole purpose is to serve the needs of others in our community, and we are incredibly grateful for your partnership in helping us provide a place of hope for those who are experiencing challenges. May God continue to bless you in all that you do.

To the Glory of God,


Susan Richardson
Executive Director

1513 W. Beverley Street Staunton, VA 24401
Phone: (540) 886-4673 Fax: (540) 885-7228
www.valleymission.net

*Thank you so much for
your donation to our
ministry!
God Bless you!
- Susan*

Food Pantry Report

Exciting changes came to Central's Food Pantry in April (and more are on the way)! After years of sharing space with Food Pantry, Central's Clothes Closet now has its own room (the former Treasurer's office). Built-in shelves are perfect to display shoes. Free-standing shelving and clothes racks are more accessible. Best of all, visitors to Clothes Closet and Food Pantry no longer need to squeeze by one another in a single room.

What is the USDA room and how did moving the Clothes Closet benefit it? The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) distributes federally supplied items such as canned and frozen foods to eligible households through The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Central participates in TEFAP, which means we receive USDA food. We are required to inventory USDA food received and distributed on a monthly basis. Having a larger space means **all** USDA food is located in one place. The larger space now houses two freezers and one refrigerator/freezer. Before April, we often had to monitor USDA food in three separate rooms. Yes, it sounds easy, but making errors in the inventory was easier!

The Non-USDA room also has two freezers, a cooler, and free-standing shelves. None of the commodities in this room fall under the restrictions of USDA/TEFAP, and they do not require monthly inventory.

Your donations and also non-USDA foods ordered from the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank are placed in the room. Snack items, baby products such as diapers, dish and laundry detergents, and personal care items are especially popular with our visitors. We are always thankful for your kind and generous support!

I promised that more changes are on the way. Within the next few weeks our Food Pantry will receive a second cooler and a one-door freezer. The cooler will go in the USDA room and the freezer will go in the Non-USDA room. The new equipment was awarded via a Partner Agency Capacity Grant from the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Also awarded through the grant are two new laptops for management of client files. All of Food Pantry's upgrades, moves, and improvements were possible because of some wonderful volunteers. Thanks to the many men and women who provided creative thinking and muscle power to bring about our new look. Please feel free to stop by for a visit. Come on a Wednesday morning between 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. to see mission in action. Want to get involved? Let's chat!

-Caroline Jones
Food Pantry Coordinator



STAUNTON AUGUSTA CHURCH RELIEF ASSOCIATION

118 N New st
Staunton, VA 24401
540-886-3957

May 17-2019

Central United Methodist Men
Staunton, VA 24401

Spirit-filled greetings,

I am writing on behalf of the SACRA Board of Stewards and the clients that we serve to thank you for your contribution of \$500.00, dated May 6, 2019. We appreciate your continued valuing of the service that we provide to the needy of our area by your monetary gift. We hope that you receive back the good feelings that come from such generosity.

All the best to you .

Sincerely,


Steven Tabscott
Treasurer

District Mission Trip

The District has planned a youth and adult mission trip to Selma, VA. I am looking forward to spending several days working alongside and getting to know some of the youth and adults in our district.

We will start our work on Sunday afternoon, June 2nd and wrap up on Friday, June 7th.

It is a desire of Epworth United Methodist Church to become more involved in reaching out to their community, specifically to the children. In order to prepare for this important outreach, the church will be undergoing renovations inside and outside.

During our stay at Epworth UMC, we will be scraping, painting, cleaning, and decorating classrooms and other areas of the church, as well as sprucing up a bit outside.

We look forward to several days of hard work, worship, fellowship and lots of fun with our Mission Team.

When you say your prayers, please pray for our safety as we travel and work.

Won and I are so pleased to be part of this Mission Trip.

-Connie Davis

Elizabeth Miller Garden's Family Fun Day

Elizabeth Miller Garden's annual Family Fun Day will be held on July 26th from 10am-2pm. The staff at Elizabeth Miller Garden's offers several activities for the residents and their guests to enjoy. Last year the children enjoyed horse riding, dunking booth, water slide, a bounce house and dancing to a DJ. Local community groups come and share educational information and answer any questions the attendees may have.

For the past few years, Central has participated in this fun outreach activity with and for our neighbors. In addition to hot dogs and other lunch items the staff at Elizabeth Miller Garden provides, Won smokes his delicious BBQ . As you can guess, it is a tremendous hit with everyone that attends this festive day.

The residents, their guests and staff will be treated again this year to Won's BBQ and tasty sauce. Thanks Won for the hard work you put into this community outreach event . It does not go unnoticed!!

-Connie Davis



Notes from Trustees

The Trustees would like to thank you for entrusting this beautiful building to us. We work diligently to maintain it in a way that glorifies God, and allows us to worship and serve Him. When you're trying to maintain a building, there is work that always needs to be done...and the Trustees have been busy this spring. Some things you may notice, and others are not as visible.

The painting of exterior trim has begun, and will probably continue throughout the summer. This will improve the appearance of the church, but more importantly will help preserve the building. Upon

completion of the painting we plan to replace the outdoor carpeting at the main entrance. It is showing wear, and new carpet will improve the appearance as people enter the church. While I'm speaking of outside appearance, the Trustees want to thank and commend Millie (and her assistant Richard) Brown for their tireless efforts in the flower beds around the church!!!!!!

We are in the process of upgrading the telephone and Internet service, which will help our office staff and anyone in the church needing to use Wi-Fi---the change should help us offer additional programming that may be available on the Internet. We have also recently had all of the interior carpet professionally cleaned, which has not been done since the sanctuary was redecorated. Our redecorating committee continues to work on improving the Gathering Room, and I expect you will see more changes in the upcoming months. We have repurposed a classroom on the third floor for a Teen Room, as we are blessed to have a large and active group of teens. It has been mentioned in a previous newsletter that we also made significant improvements to a restroom on the third floor, creating a family/handicapped accessible restroom.

In addition to the significant items I've mentioned, there have been many more routine maintenance items that are addressed on a daily/weekly basis. The Trustees are able to fund routine maintenance expenses with budgeted funds, from your weekly contributions. However, it is only through the generosity of those who have remembered Central with memorial funds that we are able to continue paying for larger, more expensive projects. We are continuously trying to "spruce up" the church building, and were glad to be able to jettison a great deal of surplus items at the recent yard sale. Thanks to everyone who helped carry out, sell, or haul away. We keep a never ending "to do" list, but if you see something around the church that needs attention don't hesitate to mention it. It may already be on our list, or it could be something we've overlooked. Our faithful Trustees are Leslie Artley, Susan Black, Bill Bushman, Martha Bushman, Mike Melton, Sam Richardson, Ed Smith, Jack True, Beth White, and myself.

-Jim Printy, Trustee Chair

May Council Meeting Minutes

The Church Council of Central UMC was called to order by Chairperson Tom Davis at 7:00 pm on May 28, 2019 in the Wesley Fellowship classroom. Joe Hill presented the devotion. The minutes from the March 26, 2019 meeting were approved. There was no April Council meeting. Those present included Tom Davis, Won Un, Connie Davis, Bill Bushman, Sam Richardson, Sybille Jobin, Jim Printy, Virginia Buchanan Sandra Clemmer, Jim Clemmer, Mike Melton, Linda Dinsmore, and Joe Hill.

Committee Reports

Lay Leader: Connie Davis reported that she is looking forward to Annual Conference in June and has been preparing for the Conference.

SPRC: Sybille Jobin reported that SPRC met to evaluate Won. They praised him for his work with the youth, the new Sunday School program, his leadership, including his pastoral care and concern, friendliness and inclusiveness, and outreach to the community. The committee would like to see continued growth in the youth and music programs and discussed various ways to see this happen. The Central Total Bible Curriculum was also discussed with Won.

Finance: Joe Hill distributed the January-April 2019 financial statement. The statement showed that for the first three months of 2019 the income for budgeted expenses has been \$84,439.10 and the expenses have been \$82,517.68. However, no apportionments have been paid since February. He made a motion that the \$1,000 quarterly income from the investment accounts designated for apportionments plus any other income received specifically designated for apportionments be used to pay part of these apportionment accounts: 5135 - Active Clergy Health Benefits, 5140 - Retired Clergy Health, 5145 - Pension Liability Assessment, 5190 - Black College Fund, 5510 - District Admin Fund, 5520 - Camp Overlook, 5205 - Conference Mission & Ministries, and 5530 - Campus Ministries. The motion was approved unanimously. He also shared a study that Treasurer Sarah Russell had done about our utility costs over the last three years.

Endowment: Tom Davis reported that our endowment funds are somewhat unstable now because of the trade disagreement between the

United States and China. However, overall the accounts are doing well.

Trustees: Jim Printy reported that an upcoming newsletter article will update the congregation on items such as our phone/internet that are being upgraded this week. He reported that the carpet had been cleaned. The painting contractor has begun his work. The air conditioning is working OK except for the choir room. A person had expressed interest in renting our kitchen but apparently is no longer pursuing this. He thanked Sam Richardson and Mike Melton for their work. He reported that the yard sale had helped clean up many sections of the church.

Nurture: Sandra Clemmer reported several members helped with the April Socialite and the yard sale. Volunteers are still needed for the Agape refreshments for the second Sunday of each month. The distribution of Bibles presented to upcoming third graders is being discussed. Prayer shawls have been made by Sherry Huffer to be taken to VIPs when they are visited. She reminded Council that the fundraiser at the Meating Place is scheduled in July.

Choir/Music: No report. Yi Ping is currently in Peru. Council had much praise for Yi Ping's work.

Outreach: Connie Davis reported that there will be Socialite dinners in June and July. At least seven members of our youth are going to participate in a mission trip to Epworth United Methodist Church in Selma, VA during the first week of June. Connie is going to be participating in this mission all week. She reminded us of the Meating Place Fundraiser July 5-6. There is a Family Fun Day scheduled at Elizabeth Miller Gardens on July 26. Jim Printy reported that he had expressed interest with Philip Houlbrook about Central's work in Renewing Homes. He received a thank you card for our work on the Johnson Street projects. Connie added that the Food Pantry has been going well as has the clothes closet. Linda Dinsmore reported that girls' clothes and linens were in high demand. Council thanked Linda Dinsmore for her work in the Clothes Closet and especially for that on the yard sale. The Yard Sale produced a profit of \$1,379.

Children and Youth: Won Un reported that teachers for children under 12 years old during the morning worship are needed. Won is teaching the Youth during the Sunday School time for 9 more weeks; he has done this for 4 weeks thus far.

UMW: UMW is having a luncheon at Kathy's Restaurant on June 29. On June 2 UMW is sponsoring a spaghetti luncheon after morning worship. November 16 is the date of the Holly Jolly fundraiser; UMW will be selling cookies that day.

UMM: Bill Bushman reported that UMM has given \$500 to SACRA, \$200 to the Annual Conference (in lieu of the birthing kit), and contributed labor for the yard sale. UMM also paid for the pork for the BBQ sale at the yard sale. He also mentioned that on July 14 UMM will be providing a hot dog luncheon after morning worship. Jim Printy mentioned that UMM sent a donation in memory of Dan Myers, John Myers' brother.

At Large: Linda Dinsmore thanked those who helped during the yard sale.

- Pastor:** Pastor Un reported that:
- He copied a questionnaire about The Way Forward and would like Council to respond to this questionnaire which is presented in an online format. This questionnaire has been tested with the SPRC committee.
 - He thanked Ken Beals for taking Communion to the VIPs. He and Ken have been doing this on alternate months.
 - The Bishop's "Chat and Chew" is scheduled for June 1 in Charlottesville. CUMC will be taking a van for interested members.
 - Our Meating Place fundraiser is scheduled for the first weekend in July.
 - He would like to educate our congregation about the recent changes in the Church discipline at the July Socialite. This June, the Annual Conference may give some direction as to how Virginia will react to the newly adopted Traditional Plan. The July Socialite will be dedicated to sharing/ discussing this information.
 - The church's membership list needs to be reviewed this fall so we have an accurate count of those who are active members of Central.

- He explained the Annual Conference's exit plan which requires approval of 2/3 of church's membership, payment of 2 years of apportionment, and approval by a simple vote of the Virginia Conference. He explained that no decision would be made by Central until after May, 2020.
- He thanked UMM and UMW for supporting the Annual Conference and Dioni and Luz Detablan for sharing the use of their van.
- Concerning the Central Total Bible Curriculum, he suggested that he could start an early morning (9:00 - 10:00) service focusing on Bible Study each Sunday in lieu of doing this during the 11:00 service. This could begin after he completes the Youth Sunday School lessons. Council discussed the pros and cons of this proposal. He has not made a definite decision on this yet.
- He requested that Finance review a proposal of \$1,000 to hire a children/youth director for July and August. Joe suggested that a special offering be collected to support this. Jim Printy motioned that the special offering be taken; Council unanimously approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2019. Bill Bushman will provide devotions. The meeting concluded with the Lord’s Prayer at 8:35 PM led by Jim Clemmer.

International Student

I was approached by ISE (International Student Exchange) to see if any one of us would like to volunteer to be a student representative to a Korean student (female) who is currently enrolled in Robert E. High School. Note, you are not ‘hosting’ but being representative to the student. If you are interested please contact Pastor Un (804-929-0690).

Phone Numbers

Text Pastor Un to have your name and phone number in his new cell phone. For instance, text to my cell phone number (804-929-0690) and writing your name and send.