

## Christmas Appreciation Luncheon (Take-home)



**Sunday, December 6th  
with Holy Communion**



~Menu~



BBQ Pork, Soups, Sandwiches, Assorted  
Cookies & Christmas Gift

*Merry Christmas!*



Questions? Call 540-886-3441

### Members Appreciation

Sunday, December 6th we will be hosting a members appreciation lunch with Holy Communion. BBQ, soup, cookies and a small gift will be included. Though, it is a great way to bring in the Christmas season, we also just want our members to know how much they are valued and appreciated. Thank you all!

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28

### Central Christmas Tree Lighting

Covid has put a damper on a lot of things this year, but fortunately Christmas isn't one of them. We will be abiding by social distancing regulations so entry for our Christmas Tree Lighting will be made through reservations. Time slots for each party will be ran in 15 minute intervals from 5pm-9pm, so call the church at (540) 886-3441 or email us at [centralumc@centralumcstaunton.org](mailto:centralumc@centralumcstaunton.org) to make your reservation. On snickerdoodles and hot cider, we can't wait to see you there!

**Sunday Dec. 13th 5-9PM  
At Central UMC's Courtyard**

## Central Christmas Tree Lighting

Join us for pre-packaged  
snickerdoodles and hot  
cider

Reservations accepted by  
phone (540)886-3441 or by email  
[centralumc@centralumcstaunton.org](mailto:centralumc@centralumcstaunton.org)



# The Central Connection

2020 December Newsletter

## Merry & Safe Christmas!



Caroline Jones

Carolyn Smith  
Ed Smith

Willie Bean

Wm W

Barbara Snyder  
Phyllis Miller

Shirley Ruffer

Joe Hill

Jacobs Bell

Cheryl Kent

Savannah Munro

Bobbie Ross

Janet Gustafson

Leann Brown  
John Bowman

Richard Brown



**Central Finance News**

This has been a tough year for Central financially. We have been able to get by, paying our bills and salaries, thanks to the wonderful gifts from some of our families who gave in memory of their recently lost loved ones and from a federal PPP grant. However, these funds have now been depleted and we once again ask that you remember Central when you are considering your Christmas presents. Central has been very proactive this year in helping our community; please help us continue to be of service to our members and community by giving generously.

Thank you,  
Joe Hill  
Finance Committee Chairman

To the members of Central,

Words cannot express our gratitude for the many individual contributions you have made to our family. I can honestly say we would probably not have been able to pay for groceries + gas without the many gift cards. On top of all that, you all held a fundraiser to help us with Haniyah's medical bills. We know what a labor of love that fundraiser was, + we are still blown away by how much was raised. Thank you all for loving our family so well.  
- All our love + thanks,  
The Russells

Dear Mom and Central Church family  
I thank God for each of you! Your generosity and love shows as you hand out comfort food like the soups we enjoyed. May God continue to Bless you as you glorify our Lord's name, Grace and Peace to all,  
Martha Fittwell

**Welcome Savannah!**

Central welcomes Savannah Murrin as our new Administrative Assistant. Savannah began work on November 2. As she self-describes, she grew up with an adventurous soul and an open heart. Born in Los Angeles and raised in the suburbs of Midlothian Virginia, she found her love for the mountains while attending college at UVA at Wise before settling down in the gorgeous town of Staunton. Savannah grew up as the oldest sibling out of four brothers. All the chasing resulted in her love for outdoor running and hiking, which she now does with her fiancé, spirited stepdaughter, and loyal fur baby. She is beyond excited to begin her journey here with Central UMC and cannot wait to meet and grow with the CUMC family.



**November**

- 18: Susan Black
- 19: Deborah Atno-Shelton
- 20: Sherry Vaughn Oeyen
- 21: James Harris

**December**

- 3: William Bushman
- 4:Eleanor Andrews
- 5:Brent Foltz
- 6:Deborah Reed & Ronald Atno-Shelton
- 10:Freddie Gutshall
- 14:John Un & William Lindamood
- 21: Fred Fountaine
- 23:Anita Jackson
- 26:Ed Pickett
- 30:Connie Davis
- 31:Thomas Mitchell





## November 2020 Council Minutes

The Church Council of Central UMC was called to order by Chairperson Tom Davis at 7:03 pm on October 27. Due to COVID-19, Council met electronically via Zoom. John Myers presented the devotion. Those present included Tom Davis, Connie Davis, Linda Dinsmore, Bill Bushman, Beverly Coltrane, John Myers, Mary Douglas, Won Un, Sandra Clemmer, and Joe Hill.

### **Committee Reports**

**Lay Leader:** Connie Davis reported that on this coming Saturday she, Tom, and Pastor Won will be attending the Virginia Annual Conference via Zoom. The last time they had to cancel due to technical issues. Tom added that if something important happens he will share with Council.

**Finance:** Joe Hill reported that the Finance Committee met prior to Council and he shared the financial reports *Statement of Financial Position* and *Statement of Activities* for the month of September. During September, the total income was \$12,808.91 and expenses totaled \$21,735.99. At this evening's meeting, the Finance Committee approved paying the remaining \$1,046 of the Active Clergy Health Benefits apportionment. During this past month, he has served as interim bookkeeper until a replacement for Maddie Buttitta can be found and trained. As of today, all banking and credit card accounts have been reconciled, all bills paid, all deposits made and recorded, and the October 30 payroll is set to be paid. He announced that CUMC had received formal notice that our \$18,237 PPP loan had been forgiven by the Small Business Association. In addition, Central has received two other grants, \$1,000 from the Virginia Conference for technology equipment and \$1,500 from the Staunton Community Foundation. The Finance Committee also approved for a new computer to be purchased for the administrative assistant.

**Staff Parish:** Sybille Jobin reported via e-mail

that after Madeleine Buttitta left us, the SPRC has interviewed via Zoom two qualified candidates for the vacant administrative assistant position. As yet no final decision has been made which candidate will be chosen. They expressed their sincerest gratitude to Joe Hill for temporarily taking over the bookkeeping duties associated with that job.

**Endowment:** Tom Davis reported that the church's investments have done well. The value of the Schwab Pastor Housing Endowment was \$404,744.68 as of October 26. During the year thus far, \$12,375 has been paid to Central from this account. The value of the Schwab General Endowment was \$166,758.58 on October 26 and it has paid Central \$7,000 during 2020. The value of the First Bank Endowment was \$837,055.12 and it has paid out \$61,856 during the year.

**Trustees:** Bill Bushman reported that the Trustees have installed ultraviolet lighting inside the duct work which helps scrub the air from respiratory viruses. He reported that the Trustees felt like they were doing as well as possible for mitigating COVID-19 spread. He reported that the Boy Scouts of America have applied for bankruptcy. The Conference has hired a law firm to assist any churches who have a history of sponsoring a Boy Scout Troop. In the 1960's Central did sponsor a troop but there have not been any reports of issues relating to pedophilia which precipitated the Boys Scouts' bankruptcy. Bill does not recommend that we join the Conference's Memorandum of Understanding which would mean that all participating churches would share any legal expenses in case a church were charged related to Boy Scouts. He is going to check with an attorney. He reported that a new, larger, audio board is in our balcony sound system though it will require some modifications to the current system. In the kitchen, it may be that the sink next to the dishwasher may need to be replaced. There are some painting issues as well. The previous painter did not get to some areas including louvers on the tower. The Trustees are considering replacing the wood in the tower with PVC. The Trustees are also looking into some issues with some of the stone steps.

**Nurture/Witness:** Beverly Coltrane reported that they have visited some of the shut-ins. Also, birthday cards have been sent.

**Choir/Music:** Yi-Ping Chen was not available for the meeting. Council members commented on how much they enjoy her music which is live-streamed each Sunday on YouTube.

**Outreach:** Connie reported that Food Bank is going strong on Wednesdays. Last week we provided food for 34 families. There is a Saturday Food Bank now which is likewise going well. The goal is to have two separate teams to manage these two Food Banks. Connie reported that the soup ministry will continue this coming Saturday. Food Bank clients have been given hot soup recently. On Fridays, Connie and Millie Brown have been distributing soup at the noon luncheon. Linda Dinsmore has been wonderful with the clothes closet. Connie reported that the Staunton community has been very, very appreciative of Central's outreach ministries. Connie and Won reported that Trinity Episcopal is still not hosting luncheons at their site so they are now doing so from Central. Lunches are provided Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. There is an average of approximately 40 recipients each day. We have been asked to continue to provide the location for these luncheons through December. There will be a special Thanksgiving noon lunch on November 24.

**Children and Youth:** Mary Douglas reported that John Bauman is still Zooming on occasion with the youth teams.

**UMW:** No report.



**UMM:** John Myers reported that the men are still not meeting in-person but will be preparing Brunswick Stew for sale at 12:30 on Saturday, November 14. Volunteers are still being sought for this project.

**At Large:** No report.

**Pastor:** Won reported that approximately 20 people have been attending the Sunday morning in-person services. John Myers was complimented for his work making the in-person services safe. This coming Sunday is Laity Sunday; Connie will deliver the message. There will be a non-traditional Communion. Also, during this coming Sunday's service those who have passed away during the past year will be honored.

Won echoed that the noon luncheons were going well. He announced that the office would be closed for two days at Thanksgiving. Both Yi-Ping and Janet Nuckoles will be on vacation at various times during December. He announced that they are considering another soup Sunday on December 6. On December 13, we will host a Christmas tree lighting in the courtyard. Attendance will be via advanced sign-ups. Won is not sure yet about the Christmas Eve service and will decide in late November whether this service will be held or not.

Won reported that another refrigerator is being purchased. Trinity Church donated \$500, the Community Foundation donated \$500, and Central is paying for the rest. This refrigerator is needed because we currently do not have space for soup as the refrigerators in the Food Pantry are needed.

Won also thanked Lizzie Burkett who has helped out with legal advice on several recent matters. He noted that we have an upcoming wedding in the church on December 5.

Tom reported that there is no Council meeting scheduled for the remaining of 2020. There may be a called meeting if required. He closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by

Joe Hill, Council Secretary



### Central's Reverse Advent Calendar 2020

During the months of November and December, Central UMC will be collecting the following items to donate to our Food Pantry. If you should fill your box early feel free to bring it to the church office during the week or you can leave it in the gathering room any Sunday morning. If you would like to participate but are unable to shop we will be glad to do it for you. A donation of \$35.00 would cover the cost of a box. If you need us to pick up your box please call the church office (886-3441) and leave your name and number and we will contact you to set up a pick up time.

- November 29 - stuffing mix
- November 30 - boxed potatoes
- December 1 - cake mix
- December 2 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 3 - paper towel roll
- December 4 - box of 6 oz Jello
- December 5 - box of 6 oz pudding
- December 6 - canned fruit cocktail
- December 7 - box of tissues
- December 8 - cranberry sauce
- December 9 - box of crackers
- December 10 - deodorant
- December 11 - toothpaste
- December 12 - toothbrush
- December 13 - comb/brush
- December 14 - ketchup
- December 15 - cake frosting
- December 16 - salad dressing
- December 17 - small jar of mayo
- December 18 - band aids
- December 19 - gravy mix packet
- December 20 - brownie mix
- December 21 - salsa
- December 22 - bag of chips

Thanks,  
Outreach Committee



# "Feed



# My

# Sheep"

John 21:17

