

# Helping Our Community, One Family at a Time

Pastor Un,  
We cannot thank you enough for the amazing lunch you all provided for our staff today.  
The soup was amazing, and the desserts are out of this world delicious!!!

We also cannot thank you enough for the soup pots you donated to us, that was so kind of you all to do that for us. What an amazing partnership we have with you all and we are so appreciative of that.  
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for what you do for us and for all the ones in need.  
You all are amazing. Please pass our thanks along to Connie and Mille as well.

Have a great rest of the week and be safe in the bad weather coming.  
Kind regards,

Annette



Hello Pastor Un,  
Please share my gratitude with everyone who made last Wednesday's lunch possible. You can feel the love in each cookie and bite of soup. With the day being so dreary the past couple of weeks, it was a nice, uplifting treat.  
Thank you for ALL that you do for our community.

Stay well,  
Sarah



On behalf of Project GROWS we want to thank you for your gift of \$100.00.  
Your generous support across 2020 helped to sustain (y)our farm-based education, food access and public health advocacy efforts. Thank you for investing with us!  
We are indeed living in an extraordinary moment. Our mission in public health, food access, justice and sustainable food systems is needed more than ever.  
With you we are engaged and making a positive impact across our communities! With your sustaining support we are resilient and continue to grow, educate and advocate for the best of health and the future for our children, youth, families and communities.  
Your support is significant at this time given renewed and emerging needs of health and hunger in our communities. The pandemic has escalated the underlying realities of inequity in food access and food justice and we are taking this into account and working to transform these realities where we can and we are doing this work with you!

On behalf of the Team at Project GROWS, thank you for your support across 2021!

  
Tom Brenneman  
Executive Director  
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Sybille Jobin



## The Central Connection

2021 January Newsletter



### February 2021 Council Minutes

The Church Council of Central UMC was called to order by Chairperson Tom Davis at 7:01 pm on February 23, 2021. Due to COVID-19, Council met electronically via Zoom. Sybille Jobin presented the devotion. Those present included Tom Davis, Connie Davis, Beverly Coltrane, Caroline Jones, Yi-Ping Chen, John Myers, Sybille Jobin, Won Un, Sandra Clemmer, Bill Bushman, and Joe Hill.

### Committee Reports

**Lay Leader:** No report.

**Staff Parish:** No report.

**Finance:** Joe Hill reported that the Finance Committee met prior to Council and he shared with them the financial reports *Statement of Financial Position* and *Statement of Activities* for the month of January. During January, the total income was \$26,790.56 and expenses totaled \$15,095.87. However, \$15,840.38 of the income came from investment accounts, not from current members. During February thus far, the expenses have far outnumbered the receipts which totaled less than \$5,000 for the first three Sundays in February, leaving Central with a negative balance in the general fund used to pay for bills and payroll. As a result, the Finance Committee approved moving \$8,300 from the Schwab Baylor Funds to the General Fund to cover the shortfall.

**Endowment:** Tom Davis reported that the church's investments have done well. The parsonage endowment began 2021 at \$432,218 and is currently \$442,034.

### Special Upcoming Dates

March 28th: -Holy Week  
April 4: -Resurrection of Jesus  
-Soup & Sup Sunday



## February 2021 Council Minutes

The Schwab General endowment began 2021 at \$181,528 and is currently \$185,076. The FirstBank endowment began the year at \$914,838 and is currently \$943,384.

**Trustees:** Bill Bushman reported that the Trustees approved the quote from Weekly Masonry for the damage to the wall along Beverley Street for \$500.00.

**Nurture/Witness:** Sybille Jobin reported that Audrey Bocock has moved to Birch Gardens Assisted Living in Fishersville.

**Choir/Music:** Yi-Ping Chen reported that the choir had its second Zoom karaoke. The choir is considering a new system for a way for music to be broadcast from individual cars within a parking lot. Additional equipment would need to be purchased.

**Outreach:** Connie Davis reported that Central's outreach is going strong with the Food Pantry and soup ministry. Caroline Jones reported that during 2020 we averaged serving 253 persons per month. Each individual received 23.9 pounds of food per person. In January and February of this year, over 9 tons of food (18,386 pounds thus far) passed through our Food Pantry.

This food has not cost us (or recipients) anything. Food is distributed in boxes. Clients visit once weekly. Our Pantry is asking for a grant for double door refrigerator, new shelving, a lift, a cart, and an awning. Tom suggested that a thank you note should be sent to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank. Connie reported that Millie Brown provided a nice luncheon for the Food Bank personnel on February 12. Connie reported that Linda Dinsmore is doing a fantastic job with the Clothes Closet. The Saturday Food Pantry and Soup Saturday

have been going very well. Connie had special thanks to Millie for all the food preparation and giving she contributes. John Myers and Connie both pick up food from Food Lion on Mondays and Fridays which is distributed with the Food Pantry. The Noon luncheons are going well and will likely continue at CUMC through April. Pastor Won noted that several non-members have been regular helpers at the Saturday Food Pantries and Soup Ministries.

**Children and Youth:** No report. Won reported that John Bauman had conducted a youth meeting recently via Zoom.

**UMW:** Caroline Jones reported that the UMW plans to meet on March 11 via Zoom.

**UMM:** John Myers reported that the men have not met due to COVID-19. He will be reaching to UMM members shortly.

**Pastor:** Pastor Won reported that we will host a "Feed the Feeders" fish fry luncheon on March 19 for those who have been helping with the Noon Luncheons. We are planning on re-opening for in-person services on Easter Sunday. Won plans to survey the membership before the next Council meeting, March 23, to see if there is a sufficient number of members who wish to do so. Tom and Won discussed the reorganizing of the Virginia districts which will begin July 1. There will still be 16 districts but only 8 district superintendents. Won expressed doubts that one superintendent could adequately serve all churches in two districts. More information will be provided to him at a meeting he will have with our current district superintendent, Jay Carey, in the next few days. Won also discussed that the General Conference may meet via Zoom this year to discuss the possible split of the United Methodist Church. A conservative subset of the General Conference called the Wesley Covenant Association (WCA) has

proposed to pull out of the United Methodist Church and form a new denomination without the current structure of the UMC such as apportionments, appointments, trust clause, etc. Won believes that this will be attractive for many local churches which would leave those churches who remain in the denomination having to shoulder the financial burden of the current administrative system. The decision to join either the WCA or remain UMC can be made in the next four years.

Won reported that the Lent season has begun and will last until March 21. He has posted the lectionary readings on Facebook and the Central website. Won also is asking Central members to reach out to each other. He will provide a list of active members. On March 7, the Soup and Sup Sunday, a Mary Baldwin University student, Kaitlyn Savage, will be joining our church. This 10:30 service will be shared via Zoom with the congregation. The March Soup and Sup service will be the last Soup and Sup service this season. Won mentioned that Savannah Murrin is getting married on March 8. Won closed the meeting with a reading from John 21:18.

Tom reported that the next meeting will be March 23. Joe Hill will have the devotion.

Respectfully submitted by

Joe Hill, Council Secretary



### March

1. Jerry Jones
10. Lilly Noto & Andy Noto
11. Beth Blackmer
14. Lili Un
20. Diony Detablan
22. Beth Mullenax
25. David Berry

### April

3. Sarah Melton
4. Linda Dismore
12. Diana Un
15. Jim Clemmer
18. Kimberly Mitchell
25. Wanda True
26. Ken Beals & Ann Hill