



Central

United Methodist Church

Vol. 20, Issue 5

Live and Love as Christ

May 2020

Dear Church Members,

Over the last 6 weeks, we have made many changes in our lives, but at Central United Methodist Church our contributions have remained constant. Contributions for the first quarter of 2020 were \$153,598.30. We have been able to pay down the Crawford loan by \$40,000.00, leaving a balance of approximately \$50,000.00 on the debt. Additionally, we had two other large expenses during the quarter. The Endowment Fund was owed \$19,000.00, and we had tree removal at the parsonage for \$2,000.00.

I was concerned that we would be unable to pay some of our fixed expenses. Because of your love and dedication, we brought in \$81,610.47. You are unbelievable! I am so grateful to be your Finance Chairman; you make my job and the Finance Committee's job so much easier. In a time when many churches are struggling, we continue to prosper. There is only one reason, and that is because of your faithfulness.

During this quarter, we not only paid out some large expenses, but we have been able to push our reserves to \$160,587.01. These reserves allow us to financially persevere if we face difficult times. It will also allow us to pay down the debt and to bless others through our mission commitments within our community. Our reserves have also grown because our fixed expenses have been reduced due to the stay at home order.

The Finance Committee made the decision to continue payroll for staff positions during these unusual times. It is the right thing to do given that we are a Christian organization. During these times, Pastor Bruce and other members have been participating in a video worship service at 10:00am on Sunday mornings. They have been remarkable in finding ways to keep us engaged with our church.

I am sure over the next few weeks; we will face obstacles that we have never faced before. God has blessed us not only financially, but with members who genuinely care and love this community. Please continue to pray for Bruce and our staff in these unusual times.

God Bless you, and I look forward to the day that we can worship together again.

David C. Brinkley, Finance Chair



Dear Church Family,

Our first online Communion will take place this Sunday, 5/3/2020, and this a reminder about picking up the available Communion kits from the church office.

Communion will be part of our online service on Sunday, May 3, 2020, (the first Sunday in May) at 10:00 am. You can participate in this experience from your home.

THINGS NEEDED TO TAKE COMMUNION ONLINE:

- Grape Juice. (quantity depends on the size of your group)
- Bread. (You can select any bread or cracker of your choice)

We have Communion Kits available at the church if you would like to pick one up during office hours. **If you need a kit delivered, please contact the church office by 4/30/2020 by noon.** Pastor Bruce Gwyn will consecrate the elements in the service. We will email out the Communion Service and it will be available online as well. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know!

We appreciate your continued support of Central!



Continuing Online Education

Please make sure that you check out our YouTube Channel for our Sunday School Lessons and KID Central Video Lesson Plans. The link is available on our Facebook page and at www.cumckm.org.

Event & Meeting Notice

Please note that all of our regularly scheduled events and meetings at the church have been cancelled until further notice.

Giving & Tithing

Give Online:

<https://cumckm.org/donate/>

Give by Mail:

113 South Piedmont Ave.
Kings Mountain NC 28086

The Community Kitchen is still continuing to serve during this time with a few modifications. Meals are take out only with a few people allowed in at a time to pick up.

UPDATED New Hours:

*Mondays 11:00am-12:00am

*Thursdays 4:00pm-5:00pm

*If you would like to volunteer, please email central@cumckm.org or call the church office at 704-739-2471.

A History Minute by Libby Putnam

Recently Dot Dixon found a copy of the April 18, 1974 issue of the Kings Mountain Mirror and donated it to our History Room. That issue is especially interesting to us because of an article by Miss Janet Falls detailing the first 100 years of our church's existence. Not only was 1874 the year for the organization and state chartering of the city of Kings Mountain, but it was also the year Central Methodist Church was organized. That small, but determined, early congregation was served by the Rev. J.W. North who served as pastor of the Shelby Circuit from 1873-1876. Because the first church building was not erected until 1876, services in the early years were sometimes held monthly in a small frame school house located where the present Jacob S. Mauney Memorial Library now stands. At other times the circuit riding minister, as Rev. North was known, met with members in their homes and ministered to their spiritual needs.

Today, some 146 years after the organization of our church, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our own Rev. Bruce Gwyn is a modern day circuit riding minister, visiting with us in our homes each Sunday. Through the miracle of the internet, we have a variety of Sunday School lessons, videos, and live streaming services offered to hold our congregation together as we stay apart from each other. Perhaps future generations will look at our church's history from 2020 and applaud our determination.

Central United Methodist Church of Kings Mountain
113 S. Piedmont Ave. Kings Mountain, NC 28086
central@cumckm.org www.cumckm.org
704-739-2471

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am –4:30pm

Staff:

Pastor, Bruce Gwyn

Administrative Assistant, Candy Love

Director of Discipleship Development, Gene Bragg

Handbell/Drama Director, Teresa Williams

Preschool Director, Lindsay Romesberg

Organist, Doug Parker



Visit our YouTube page to see our children's ministry, Kid Central's lesson plan video! There will be one video for nursery and preschoolers and another for elementary. Please share the link found on our Facebook page and on our website www.cumckm.org with your friends and families so that their children and grandchildren will have the opportunity to learn about God and their walk with Jesus during this time.

While you are there please like the videos and subscribe to the channel to be notified when new videos are posted. The current videos are live now for your viewing.

Any questions, please contact Gene Bragg at gene@cumckm.org or 336-404-8673.



Due to the Shelter in Place government orders due to COVID-19, our youth are now virtually meeting and hanging out online.

We welcome all youth between from 6th-12th to come join us! We provide a time of gathering for youth to support one another, to have fun, to develop service projects, and to grow deeper in Christ. Any questions, please contact Gene Bragg at gene@cumckm.org or 336-404-8673.



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Graduation is Around the Corner!

If you have a graduating student, please send their name, school and major to central@cumckm.org by **May 22nd** to be included in June's newsletter.

**THE LORD
BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU;**

**THE LORD
MAKE HIS FACE TO SHINE
UPON YOU
AND BE GRACIOUS TO YOU;**

**THE LORD
LIFT UP HIS COUNTENANCE
UPON YOU
AND GIVE YOU PEACE.**

NUMBERS 6:24-26, ESV

**Scouting News
Scout meetings are
postponed until further notice.**

*For more information about the
Scouts, please contact the
church office at 704-739-2471.*



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If you need assistance please email your information to Pastor Bruce Gwyn at pastor@cumckm.org

Online Service News

Thank you for continuing to tune into our Sunday Online Worship at 10:00am and staying connected with your church family.

We appreciate the shares and likes as it helps build engagement to broaden our reach. Each week, our Facebook page is seeing an increase of followers and we are noticing views from near and wide watching our service. Please continue to comment on Sunday mornings, as it shows us that you are there watching! We are estimating we have an average of around 120 viewers during the live stream on Sundays.

Many people are coming back and are watching the videos later in the day. The service from 4.19.2020 was viewed over 700 times! Thank you for continuing to support Central!

**Central United Methodist Church
113 South Piedmont Ave.
Kings Mountain NC 28086**