



Central Methodist

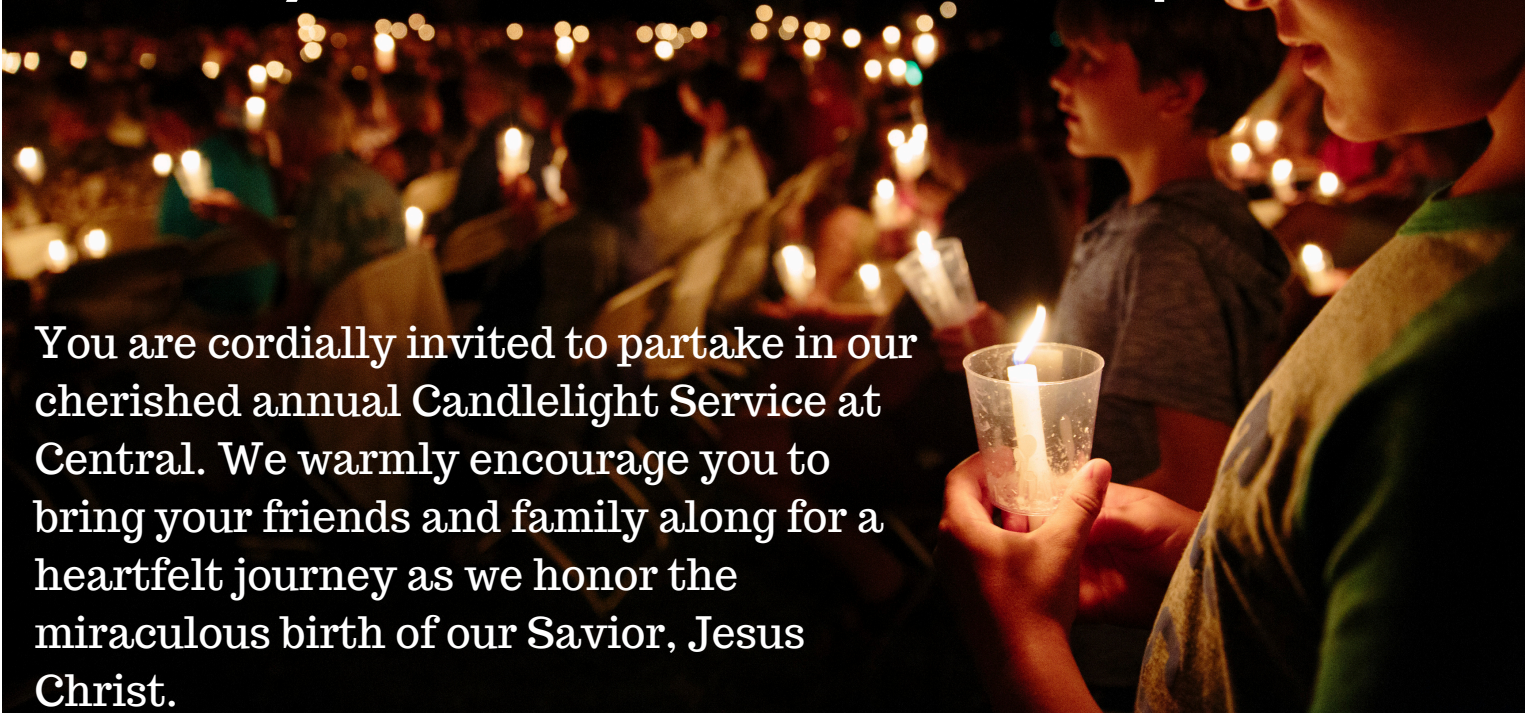
Vol. 24, Issue 12

Live and Love as Christ

December 2024

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 at 7:00 pm



You are cordially invited to partake in our cherished annual Candlelight Service at Central. We warmly encourage you to bring your friends and family along for a heartfelt journey as we honor the miraculous birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.



*Join us for our
Christmas Cantata*
Sunday, December 15, 2024
10:00 am

FIFTH SUNDAY BREAKFAST DECEMBER 29 AT 8:45 AM

Join us in the CAC and please bring a dish to share with your church family.



LET'S GO CAROLING

We will be going caroling to our shut-ins on Wednesday, 12/18 at 5:30 pm. If you'd like to join us & spread some Christmas cheer, contact the church office.

Join us for Worship on Sundays at 10:00am in person or online!

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Central Family,

On behalf of the Harris Family, we want to thank you for the delicious sandwich tray that you sent to us after the loss of our mother, Jean Harris. Your kindness was greatly appreciated during this difficult time. Thank you for thinking of us; we are very grateful.

Most Sincerely,

The Harris Family

Dear Friends at Central and the Russell Fellowship Christmas Project,

Thank you so much for the generous donation to our Student Needs Fund. This fund has been used to purchase winter clothing and assist with bills for those struggling recently.

We are so grateful to have a supportive community here, as we are a growing school with increasing needs. Please continue to keep our students in your hearts as we enter the holiday season--a hard time for many.

Blessings,

Bethware Elementary School

Dear Central Methodist Church and
The Russell Fellowship Christmas Project,

On behalf of West Elementary, I want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation to support students in need. Your kindness and commitment to making a difference in our community is inspiring.

We are incredibly thankful for your partnership and for the thoughtful way your congregation embodies the spirit of giving. May you be blessed this Christmas for the hope and joy you bring to others.

With gratitude,

Holly Robinson

Dear Russell Fellowship Christmas Project & Central MC,
Thank you for donating funds to support our students with the highest needs for basic necessities. We appreciate your support at Gover Elementary School!

Kindly,

Victoria James

School Social Worker

Central Methodist Church

113 S. Piedmont Ave., Kings Mountain, NC 28086

www.cmkm.org 704-739-2471

Staff: Pastor, Perry Hines, perry@cmkm.org

Administrative Assistant, Candy Love, central@cmkm.org

Handbell/Drama Director, Teresa Williams

Music Minister, Justin Harper, justin@cmkm.org

Organist, Doug Parker



WHAT IS ADVENT?

Advent is a season observed in many Christian denominations as a time of waiting and preparation for both the celebration of Jesus's birth at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, often referred to as Advent Sunday. The name comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning coming or arrival.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX PROJECT



Our Youth, accompanied by a host of dedicated volunteers, united their efforts to prepare the shoebox donations for Operation Christmas Child. Heartfelt thanks for your unwavering support of this remarkable mission by Samaritan's Purse!



KIDS CENTRAL

Come join us on Sunday Mornings

At Kid Central, we hope everyone is well as the Christmas season approaches. Starting December 1st, children (toddlers through 5th grade) will begin their Sundays in our 10 am service, sitting with Kids Central leaders before moving to their classrooms after praise and worship. Parents can choose to have their children sit with them until it's time to leave for class. This change allows children to participate in Advent readings.

On Sunday, December 8th, children will perform songs with the choir, and we encourage attendance for those in Kindergarten to 5th grade. KIDS Central will continue focusing on Bible learning, and we will present Bibles to the children during an upcoming service, encouraging them to bring their Bibles each Sunday.

- 12/1** Youth Night, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm
- 12/7** Youth Go Sees The Grinch
- 12/8** No Youth Meeting/
Helping with Parent's Bible Study
- 12/15** Youth Night, 5:30-7:30 pm
- 12/22** Youth Night, 5:30 pm-7:30 pm
- 12/29** No Youth Night

We welcome all youth from 6th-12th grade 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.


Parent Bible Study


CHILDCARE PROVIDED

Join us for a Parent Bible Study every 2nd Sunday of the month. A children's program for all ages up to 5th grade will be offered simultaneously with age-appropriate activities such as music and games. We will end with a Pot Luck Meal in the CAC!

Come Join Us!



 **DECEMBER 8TH**

 **4:30-6:00 PM**



SUNDAY MORNING GROUPS

Sunday Morning Group

Leader: Mark Dixon

Time and location: 8:30 am Asbury Room, Sunday mornings

Age: All ages



Sunday Small Group

Leaders: Clyde Kerns & Carolyn Hindel

Time & Location: 8:45 am Upstairs-Central Fellowship Room

Leader: contact info: clydekerns@att.net or carolynhindel@yahoo.com

WEEKLY GROUPS

Men's Bible Study

Leader: Tim Miller

Time and location: Weekly on Tuesdays, 7:30 pm Asbury room

Leader: contact info: tmnkm@bellsouth.net or 704-473-9148

Description: We are an ongoing small group for men of all ages. Dedicated to studying God's word as it is shared to us in the Bible. We meet for fellowship and worship in a safe and non-judgmental environment. We recognize and appreciate that not everyone is at the same level in their Biblical study, and we work together to make God's word understood and relevant for each of us in our lives.

Dwell Walkers

Meetings will be on Tuesdays, at 11:30 am. You are invited to join us as we learn about the practice of prayer, pray for each other and take prayer requests. We meet in the small conference room across from the church office.

Mary's Breakfast Brunch

Leader: Betty Masters

Time and location: Meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 9:00 am. Location is Linwood Restaurant: 805 Cleveland Ave, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Leader contact info: 704-739-2653



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

Global Church

Mission Statement

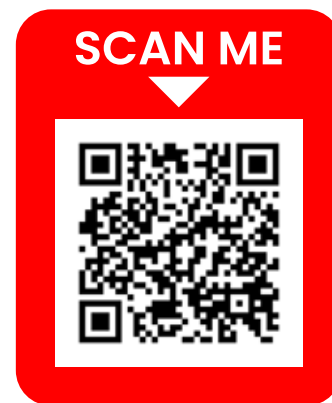
*Our Mission is to make disciples
of Jesus Christ who worship
passionately, love extravagantly,
and witness boldly.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **12/1/24:** First Sunday of Advent
 - No December Trustees Meeting
 - **12/8/24:** Parent's Bible Study, 4:30-6:00 pm
 - **12/9/24:** Finance Committee Meeting, 6:00 pm
 - **12/9/24:** Administrative Council Meeting, 7:00 pm
 - **12/16/24** Methodist Men Go Out to Eat, 7:00 pm
 - **12/18/24** Caroling, 5:30 pm
 - **12/25/24:** No Mary's Breakfast Bunch
 - **12/25/24** Office Closed
 - **12/26/24** Office Closed
 - **12/29/24** Fifth Sunday Breakfast
 - **12/31/24** New Year's Eve
- (All checks must be postmarked for 2024 giving credit)



It's time to start Operation Christmas Child! Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We invite you to build a shoebox online for the cost of \$25 or you write a check to Central Methodist Church for \$25 a box and we will build it online for you! Please write Operation Christmas Child in the memo line. Help us make our goal of 85 boxes online. For more information, please contact Audrey Brooks at 404-274-1758.



We invite you to [build a shoebox online](#) for the cost of \$25 or you may write a check to Central Methodist Church for \$25 a box.

**Online Collection
until 12/31/24**

A HISTORY MINUTE BY LIBBY PUTNAM



Recently our membership voted to update both the operating systems and physical appearance of our aging sanctuary. The use of Christian symbols and their meanings will not change. Each day workmen are hard at work putting the finishing touches on the sanctuary renovations as Advent approaches. Soon the beautiful Chrismon trees will be decorated with gold and white symbols of Christianity.

The Chrismon Tree idea originated in Danville, Virginia, at Ascension Lutheran Church in 1957. In 1970 our minister, Rev. D.B. Alderman and Mrs. Lib Mayes contacted Ascension Lutheran Church to request information about their Chrismons. That request resulted in Central receiving a copyright release to use the Chrismon designs originating at Ascension Lutheran. Evergreen trees, which symbolize the eternal life which our Savior has won for us, form the background for tiny white lights and white and gold Chrismon designs. The lights speak of Him who is the light of the world, and the Chrismon ornaments (CHRIST + MONogram) proclaim the name, the life and the saving acts of Jesus Christ.

The symbols used are interdenominational and the heritage of all Christians. Each Advent, we at Central decorate our Chrismon Trees as a means of praising and proclaiming the Christ. In the 1970s, ladies of our church lovingly made Central's first Chrismons. Those beautiful Chrismons are currently on display in the cabinet located in the hallway of the Educational Building next to the stairway leading to the second floor.



Merry Christmas



COMMUNITY KITCHEN REPORT

In **November 2024** we distributed food and goods, approximately 351 families.

Over **13,600 pounds** of food/personal hygiene items were donated to the Community Kitchen.

The Community Kitchen is open on **Thursdays from 3:00-4:30pm** and is partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank.

Volunteers are always welcome and we thank you for your support!



We are looking for greeters and ushers to warmly welcome attendees to church on Sundays in 2025. If you're interested in helping, please reach out to Joe Patterson. Alternatively, you can contact the church office at central@cmkm.org or call 704-739-2471.



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