

Central Methodist

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WELCOME OUR NEW PASTOR AND WIFE



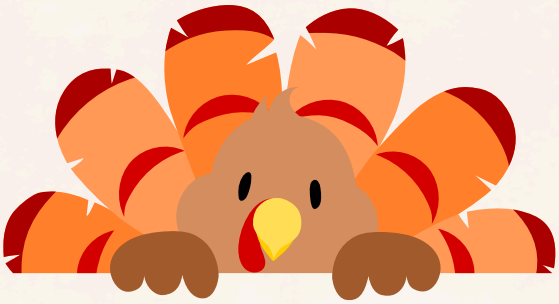
We joyfully welcome Pastor Kerry and his wife, Deborah, to the Central Methodist Church family! Kerry Wood will begin serving as our pastor on November 1. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this new journey together. Please see their bio on page 5.

Sunday, November 1
Pastor Welcome Breakfast 8:30 am
To welcome our new pastor and his wife, we will gather for a **special catered breakfast by Cracker Barrel at 8:30 am** on Kerry's first Sunday in the pulpit. Everyone is invited to join us!



METHODIST MEN'S SOUP SALE

The Methodist Men's Soup pick up sale will be held on **Saturday, November 7, from 11:00 am- 2:00 pm in the CAC.** Tickets are now available—see any Methodist Men member to buy yours, or contact the church office at 704-739-2471.



NOVEMBER FAMILY FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

Please join us for our November Family Fellowship Night on Wednesday, November 11, at 6:15 p.m. The Methodist Women will be hosting a special Thanksgiving meal, and everyone is invited! A donation of $7 per plate is suggested. Please **RSVP by Monday, November 2,** so we can be sure to have plenty of food for everyone.

FALL FESTIVAL 2026 – A WONDERFUL DAY OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

On Saturday, October 17, we were so blessed to have many visitors to our Annual Fall Festival! The bounce houses, face painting and pumpkin stations were buzzing with activity, while hot dogs disappeared almost as quickly as they were served! Even after all the treats were handed out during Trunk or Treat, we had extra candy to share. Our leftover candy was donated to App Chapel in Boone, NC, where it was gratefully received to help offset the costs of their upcoming fall event. What a wonderful way to keep the spirit of giving going! We want to thank everyone who supported our event by volunteering and everyone who attended. We couldn't have been successful without your help!

















HISTORY MINUTE BY LIBBY PUTNAM



In the tall glass front cabinet in the History Room are several small pins that have been donated through the years. Many of you would recognize the pins, and perhaps even have one or more of them at home. Doing a little research made the significance of each pin clear.

(1) The first pin is from the Little's Cross and Crown collection and was usually awarded for perfect attendance in Sunday School. Pictured is the base pin received for the initial year of perfect attendance. Continued perfect attendance was marked by added bars, wreaths, or colored enamel year guards. These pins were not only used in the Methodist church, but also in the Episcopal Church.
(2) The gold-filled oval Christian cross pin was designed as both a religious symbol of faith and a personal accessory worn to express devotion or serve as a visible testimony of belief. The use of gold in the design has been long associated with divinity, purity, and royalty.
(3) The Ichthys pin is widely recognized as a symbol of faith. The word ichthys is the ancient Greek word for fish, and the design of this pin is commonly known as the Jesus fish. This particular pin is meant to be worn as a lapel pin or tie tack.
(4) This is a classic WSCS (Women's Society of Christian Service) special recognition pin. These pins honored women who had worked selflessly in missions, church leadership, or community service and across the top of the pin are the letters W S C S. If awarded for Life Membership, some of these pins had the letter L M at the bottom of the frame.
(5) This cross and flame choir pin was used from the late 1960s to mid-1980s. It most often represented special recognition. The word Choir is written in the red banner at the base of the cross. This special pin belonged to Jake Dixon, longtime Central Choir member, and was donated to the History Room by his wife, Dot.

Central Methodist Church
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Staff:
Pastor, Kerry Wood, pastor@cmkm.org
Administrative Assistant, Candy Love, central@cmkm.org
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, Kalin Brooks, kalin@cmkm.org
Director of Infant and Children's Ministries, Stephanie Wilson, stephanie@cmkm.org
Handbell/Drama Director, Teresa Williams
Music Minister, Justin Harper, justin@cmkm.org
Organist, Doug Parker

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Global Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe. Our vision is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK OF METROLINA
Together We CAN End Hunger

COMMUNITY KITCHEN NEWS

In **October 2026**, we served 548 families. Over **12,606 pounds** of food and hygiene items were distributed through the Community Kitchen, thanks to your generosity.

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

****Special Thanksgiving Hours: 12pm to 1:30pm.****

We are in need of Thanksgiving sides: stuffing, instant gravy, cranberry sauce, and yams. Please bring your donations to the CAC hallway to put in the collection bin.

Volunteers are always welcome, and we appreciate your support.

YOUTH NEWS

youth CALENDAR

November 1 - Normal Youth Meal: Stephanie Wilson
November 8 - Normal Youth Meal: Miriam Thompson
November 15 - Normal Youth Meal: Pastor Kerry Wood
November 22- Friendsgiving/Samaritans Purse
(Youth activities begin at 3:30 p.m.) Meal: Lisa Farmer
November 29 - No youth due to Thanksgiving Break

SAVE THE DATE!

BIG YOUTH EVENT WEEKEND April 23-24, 2027



We welcome all youth in grades 6–12 to join us on Sunday nights from 5:30-7:30 pm.

YOUNG ADULTS SCHEDULE

First Mondays – Bible Study Virtually
Third Mondays – Bible Study / Go Out to Eat

November Bible Study: TBA

If you're interested in joining our Young Adult Small Group or have any questions, please contact Kalin Brooks, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, at kalin@cmkm.org.

KIDS CENTRAL NEWS



Our KIDS Central class welcomed our new pastor, Kerry Wood, and his wife, Deborah, by writing cards and letters and decorating his office door.

Come join us on Sunday Mornings 10:00 AM

Children (toddlers through 5th grade) 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.

If you have any questions about KIDS Central, please contact Stephanie Wilson, Director of Infant and Children's Ministries, at stephanie@cmkm.org.

SUNDAY MORNING GROUPS

Sunday Morning Group
Leader: Mark Dixon
Time and location: 8:30 am
Asbury Room, Sunday mornings
Age: All ages

WEEKLY GROUPS

Men's Bible Study
Leader: Tim Miller
tmnkm@bellsouth.net or 704-473-9148
Time and location:
Tuesdays at 7:30 pm in the Asbury Room

We are an ongoing small group for men of all ages, dedicated to studying God's Word as it is shared with us in the Bible. We meet for fellowship and worship in a safe and nonjudgmental 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. We meet to take prayer requests and to pray for others during the week at home. We meet in the small conference room across from the church office. For prayer requests, please text Audrey Brooks at 404-274-1758.

Women's Bible Study
****We will resume January 2027****
Tuesdays from 6:30–8:30 pm. No materials are required—just bring a Bible and a notebook if you'd like to take notes. Everyone is invited! If you have any questions, please call Liz Pflieger at 704-466-1202.

MEET PASTOR KERRY WOOD



Pastor Kerry was appointed as lead pastor at Central effective November 1, 2026. He and his wife, Deborah, are both originally from Texas. They met in college, got married in 1987, and God blessed them with two daughters and a son. The family moved to Ohio in 2002 when Kerry responded to God's call into ordained ministry. He and Deborah came to North Carolina as empty-nesters in 2023 to be part of the Global Methodist Church. The family now includes two granddaughters (whom they don't see nearly enough anymore) and two sons-in-law.

Kerry loves history and science fiction (Star Trek - NOT Star Wars). He's been known to do oil-painting at times, and likes acting and singing (but he can't dance). Deborah plays violin and loves to do needlework, put together jigsaw puzzles, and cuddle with her cats. She's also an excellent cook!

3RD ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

We are excited to announce the winners of our 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off!
1st Place: David "Big Mac" McDaniel
2nd Place: Greg Dixon
Spiciest Chili: Lon Thompson
A big thank-you to everyone who participated and joined us for our October Family Fellowship Night. Your delicious chili, friendly competition, and wonderful fellowship made the evening a great success. We look forward to seeing everyone next year for our 4th Annual Chili Cook-Off!



KEN LEVRA'S 75TH BIRTHDAY

Please join us on Sunday, November 15 , after worship in the CAC for a drop in-75th Birthday Reception for Ken Levra. Everyone is invited!

2026 OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Mark your calendars! Operation Christmas Child Collection Week is November 16–22, but please bring all shoeboxes to the church by **Sunday, November 8**, so we have time to prepare and pack everything for collection.

Operation Christmas Child: Our Goal is 52! Why 52? There's a little more to that number than you might think! This year, Central Methodist Church has set a goal of filling 52 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes—inspired by the story of the five loaves and two fish. In this familiar story, a young boy offered Jesus what he had: five loaves and two fish. It may not have seemed like much compared to the enormous need before them, but when placed in Jesus' hands, that small offering became enough to bless thousands. That's the spirit behind our goal of 5 + 2 = 52! Each shoebox may seem like a small gift, but when we come together and give what we can, God can use those gifts in ways far greater than we can imagine. Each box is an opportunity to share joy, love, and the message of Jesus with a child somewhere in the world.

SCAN ME!

The cost of each shoebox is $30. You can donate online by scanning the QR code or write a check to Central Methodist Church, and we will build the box for you.

If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Brooks at 404-274-1758 or the church office at 704-739-2471.

PASTORAL CARE & PRAYER NEEDS

If you or a loved one is in the hospital, has an upcoming surgery, or is in need of prayer or pastoral care, please let us know. Contact Pastor Kerry Wood at 513-498-2805. Or you may contact Candy Love in the church office at 704-739-2471 or central@cmkm.org. Candy will make sure the information is shared with our Pastoral Care Team so they can offer prayer, support, and care. Please help us stay connected and care for one another!

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

11/1/26 All Saints Day Service, 10:00 am
NO November Trustees Meeting
11/8/26 Church Charge Conference, 3:00 pm
at Kistler's Chapel in Rutherfordton
11/9/26 NO Finance Meeting
11/9/26 Administrative Council · 7:00 pm
11/10/26 Worship Committee, 6:00 pm
11/11/26 Family Fellowship Night · 6:15 pm
No November Methodist Men Meeting
11/18/26 Mary's Breakfast Bunch · 9:00 am
Church Office Closed 11/26 & 11/27