

CENTRAL NEWS

November 2024



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Pastor's Message – Serving in the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:27-31 (NRSVUE): *Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.*

This scripture on the “body of Christ” is pretty familiar to most Christians. However, we may not have paid close attention to the types of gifts mentioned in verse 28. When we hear spiritual gifts (parts of the body of Christ), we usually think of the first few and call it a day. In the final verse of this passage Paul implies that even the spiritual gifts at the end of the list are very important. The next to last gift is “forms of leadership.” In order for the “body” to function well, all the parts have to work together. Leadership in the church is vital to this effort. As a small church, leadership positions at Central are more important than in most churches.

In order to fulfill all of our leadership needs a high percentage of church members/constituents must be involved to fulfill our mission - to make new disciples and spread God's love. I'm grateful to those of you who already have stepped forward to share your gifts and talents. If you're feeling God nudge you to help with the ministry at Central, I'd love to talk with you. We're particularly in need of someone to serve as our delegate to Annual Conference June 12-14, 2025. Our current leaders have recently not been available to attend this important part of the United Methodist connection. Important business is carried out for the Conference at this gathering. In 2025 we'll be voting on the legislation passed by the General Conference earlier this year. However, there is also some of the best worship you'll ever experience.

I remember the first time I attended an Annual Conference. I was serving as an “at large” district delegate. I learned a lot about the structure and workings of our Conference and the United Methodist Church in general. It's interesting and informative to hear about the ministries of other churches and how they're being fruitful. Finally, I found it spiritually enriching as well. I look forward to having conversations with you about sharing your God-given gifts and talents.

God Bless You, *Pastor Shayne*

All Saints Day – Sunday Nov. 3

During worship at 11:00, we will honor church members, family and friends who have acquired their angel wings this past year. Candles will be lit in remembrance.

Hurricane Disaster Relief

We've all been touched by the tremendous destruction from Beryl, Helene, and Milton. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the humanitarian relief and development arm of The United Methodist Church, assisting persons in need around the world. Any donations you make to UMCOR go directly to the people in need. None of your donation is used for administrative purposes. Please note UMCOR on your giving envelope or check. The church will send the monies directly to UMCOR, designated for hurricane relief. Thanks for considering a donation to this worthy cause.

Renovation Updates

The fellowships hall flooring was replaced within a week. The subfloor was stabilized in several areas. Ten radiators were removed. Thanks to Pro Group Construction for their professional and efficient work! The new look is awesome!

Oculus Construction has almost completed the restrooms. We will be ADA compliant, which was needed to accommodate our members, as well as our partner organizations. This has been a long project with city permits, re-drawings, and delayed supplies. Everyone involved will be glad to have this project completed!

In late November the ramp door will be replaced. Currently there are two 24" doors. They will be replaced with a 36" (for ADA compliancy) and a solid 12" panel that can be opened when moving furniture in/out.

Fellowship Luncheons

We try to plan an after church lunch about every 4-6 weeks. On October 13th we honored Pastor Shayne for Pastor Appreciation Month. Our next luncheon will be December 8th to celebrate the holiday season. Rumors are there will be ham, so bring a side dish of the season.

Blue Christmas Service – Dec. 7th, 3 pm

Central's traditional Blue Christmas service is for those who may find the holiday season difficult because of family separations, death of a loved one, or other personal reasons. This service will feature special music (Shayne promises to play his cello) and healing thoughts to face the holiday with joy and grace.

Game Nights – 6pm, Nov. 16th; None in December

Come enjoy pizza, snacks, and lots of good fellowship. You don't have to participate in board games to attend. Invite someone to attend with you.

November Birthdays

Karen Brown 11/4

Cary Taylor 11/5

Curtis Simmons 11/29

Note: Bible Study has changed from Wednesdays to Thursdays, same time 6:30pm.

This change accommodates Pastor Shayne, for he leads a grief workshop every other Wednesday at Grace United Methodist.

Upcoming Events

Thursdays @ 6:30 pm weekly Bible study @ St. Francis Home: *Gospel of John*

Nov. 1, Fri. – Northstar packs lunches for the Healing Place

Nov. 3, Sun. – All Saints Day

Nov. 22, Fri. 9am – Church Board Meeting

Nov. 16, Sat. 6pm – Game Night

Nov. 28, Thurs. – Thanksgiving

Dec. 7, Sat. 3pm – Blue Christmas Service

Dec. 8, Sun. noon – Covered dish lunch after church

Central UMC Traditional Sunday Worship Service: Sun. @ 11am, All are Welcome!

Narcotics Anonymous meets weekly: Sun. @ 7pm, Wed. @ 6pm; Fri. @ 6pm

Northstar Community: Sundays, 8:30am – Men's & Women's Groups in classrooms; 9:30am

– Healing Service in Wesley Hall; Tuesdays 6:00pm – Recovery Yoga; First Wednesdays

6:30pm – Women's Group