

May 2024

# CENTRAL TO LIFE

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Contact Us:

## Church Office Hours:

Stop by our church office anytime  
Tuesdays and Thursdays from  
9:00am to 1:30pm!

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Church Phone: 828-648-7270

Email: [cantoncentralumc@gmail.com](mailto:cantoncentralumc@gmail.com)

Church Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 792 Canton, NC 28716

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Pastor Tom Owens: 540-255-8232

Erin Gamez: 828-788-0561

Pam Kearse: 828-788-0556

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Find us also on Facebook or Instagram!

OUR MISSION IS TO  
MAKE KNOWN THE LOVE  
OF JESUS CHRIST TO ALL.

## Mark Your Calendars!

- National Day of Prayer  
Thursday May 2nd
- “Up the Hill” Workday  
Saturday May 4th
- Graduate Recognition  
Sunday May 5th
- United Women in Faith  
Thursday May 9th
- “Down the Hill” Workday  
Sunday May 19th
- Leadership Team Meeting  
Monday May 20th
- Last WOW  
Wednesday May 22nd
- Preschool Graduation  
Thursday May 23rd
- Packing Backpacks  
Tuesday May 28th



## BLESSING BOX AND BACKPACK MINISTRY UPDATE

Thank you for your support of these 2 greatly needed and used ministries! Please continue to bring canned pasta (Chef Boyardee microwavable cups), non-perishable foods, and toiletry items. The backpack ministry serves 62 kids each week at North Canton Elementary. The blessing box is used daily. The backpack ministry will take a break over the summer but we anticipate the need for the blessing box to increase over the summer when kids are no longer receiving school breakfasts and lunches. Currently we are in urgent need of canned food and other types of hearty food for the blessing box. We have been blessed with other items currently but we are running low on “filling foods” such as canned soups, canned pastas such as Chef Boyardee, canned tunas and chicken, pork and beans, ramen noodles, etc. The box is currently being restocked an average of 4 times a week and each day we go to refill it, it is near empty. If you could help us build back up our backstock of items for this greatly needed and used ministry we would be so appreciative of it. Thank you!

## Graduate Recognition Sunday May 5th!

Join us as we celebrate our graduates! We Con-GRAD-ulate Kari Russell and Sam Dunbar!

Kari is graduating from Liberty University with a Doctorate of Education in Community Care & Counseling: Pastoral Counseling degree.



Sam is graduating from Montreat College with a Master of Public Administration degree.



## Ways to Serve

There are a few current opportunities to serve your church family as a volunteer. We are needing volunteers to serve on our usher teams on a rotating basis. We are also updating our bereavement meal teams. If you feel led to serve on either of these please come see us and talk to us about these opportunities!

# WOW SCHEDULE

We will have our last WOW on May 22nd.

We will restart WOW back up in September after Labor Day.

- May 1st:  
Supper Host: Pam Kearse
- May 8th:  
Supper Host: Tom McNeel and Larry Roberts
- May 15th:  
Supper Host: The Paxtons
- May 22nd:  
Supper Host: The Schandevils

**Updated cost for dinner: \$5 adult, \$3 child, \$15 family max.** Please sign up for dinner on the Opportunity Form, the weekly email, or call the church office by noon on Tuesday.

- **5:15-6:00** Churchwide dinner in the fellowship hall
- **6:00-7:00** Youth Bible Study  
Children's Ministry and Music  
Adult Bible Study
- **7:00** Chancel Choir  
Theology on Tap (meets May 8th, and 22nd at Southern Porch)

Kona Ice will be here **Wednesday May 22nd** for our end of year WOW party following supper. Church's treat!



## Study of the Parables of Jesus

Larry Roberts will continue leading a study on Wednesday evenings about the parables of Jesus.

Join us on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:00pm in the library.





# Rise and Shine & Give God the Glory

ISAIAH 60:1

## UP THE HILL AND DOWN THE HILL WORKDAYS

Saturday, May 4th is our Up the Hill workday from 9am-12pm. Biscuits, donuts and juice will be provided. Join us to help spring clean and do odd jobs to help clean up and maintain our church facility and grounds!

Sunday, May 19th is Down the Hill. Sign up sheets for this event are available at the church. You can also sign up through the church office to participate in this event!



United  
Women  
in Faith

**The United Women in Faith will have their next meeting on Thursday, May 9th at 10:00am in the Rowe Henry Classroom/Library.**

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

## SUNDAY MORNINGS

Join us for Sunday School at 10:00 am in the downstairs children's classroom!

For the month of May there will be no children's worship at 11:00am due to the special Sundays (1st Sunday of the Month, Mother's Day, Down the Hill, and Memorial Day Weekend).

The children will be singing in worship on Sunday, May 12th at 11:00.

## Sunday Morning Nursery Schedule

(for Pastor Tom's children) 10:00am-12:15pm

May 5th: Starr Lankford and Pat Owen

May 12th: 2 Volunteers Still Needed

May 19th: 2 Volunteers Still Needed

May 26th: No Nursery Needed

## WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Children's Ministry and Music 6:00-7:00

Children will have music with Mrs. Rebecca and then Bible study time and activities with

Mrs. Aimee. Our last WOW will be

Wednesday, May 22nd until September.



## Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for VBS for August 1st-3rd!

We are partnering with First Methodist of Canton

to host a summer VBS at our church. There are

numerous ways for our church family to support

this ministry. Let Starr Lankford, Jessica Igwe, or

Aimee Aiken know if you are interested, or sign up

through the church office.

## Flea Market Fundraiser for Camp Tekoa

**THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!!!** We had another successful flea market fundraiser because of YOU!! We appreciate all the items that were donated to us. We are grateful for your help in spreading the word of the sale, and we are thankful for those who came and shopped at the yard sale and bake sale! We raised \$1,560 in yard sale items, \$200 in the bake sale and lemonade stand, for a total of \$1760 that will go strictly to helping pay for our kids going to Camp Tekoa! A HUGE shoutout to Doris Cathey and Allison Suttles for helping so much to pull off this successful event!



# WINCHESTER CREEK FARM



# YOUTH

## Sunday Night Youth Group

5:00-7:00 in the Fellowship Hall and Youth Room

### Supper Hosts:

**May 5th:** Erin and Victor Gamez

**May 12th:** No Youth (Mother's Day)

**May 19th:** End of Year Party!! Details TBA

**May 26th:** No Youth (Memorial Day Weekend)

## Wednesday Night Youth Group

6:00-7:00 in the Youth Room

### Wednesday May 22nd

End of WOW Party

### Wednesday May 29th

No youth group

If you would like any information to go into the June issue of "Central To Life", please submit your requests to the office no later than Tuesday May 28th.

Thank you!

NEW  
SLETTER

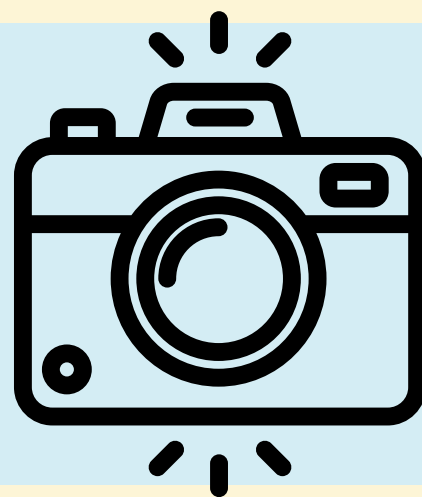
## APRIL BY THE NUMBERS

Average Worship Attendance: 117

Giving to Budget to Date: \$95,076

## Updating Our Records

We need updated photos for our directory! Please submit your own family photo that we can publish in the directory, or let us take a photo of your family at church one Sunday! You can text a photo to Erin Gamez or send it to the church email.



# THANK YOU

## BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY

We were able to make a monetary donation from the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to Haywood Pathways Center. They mailed the church a thank you card that is on the bulletin board outside of the fellowship hall. It reads "Dear Central United Methodist Church, On behalf of the residents, staff, and volunteers at Haywood Pathways Center, thank you for your contribution. Your compassionate support is pivotal and contributes greatly to the HPC mission to provide shelter and food to the homeless and hungry in our community. Your dedication makes an incredible difference. Sincerely, Mike Knox HPC Board Member"

# SUMMER

WE ARE STARTING TO PLAN OUR FAMILY FUN SUMMER ACTIVITIES! IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS YOU WANT TO SEE US DO, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND LET US KNOW! WE WANT TO HAVE ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES AND SEE OUR CHURCH FAMILY COME TOGETHER FOR FELLOWSHIP AND FUN OVER THE SUMMER MONTHS!

Mia Kate, Nicole Rogers, Sarah Kearse and Pam Kearse extend the following invitation to the church family:

**READY to POP**

mia kate invites you to join us for a baby shower honoring **VICTOR, ERIN AND BABY BOY GAMEZ**

SUNDAY DROP IN FROM 12PM-2PM

**JUNE 2**

RSVP TO PAM KEARSE 828-788-0556

CANTON CENTRAL UMC  
104 CHURCH ST.  
CANTON, NC 28716

Erin is registered at Amazon and babylist.com