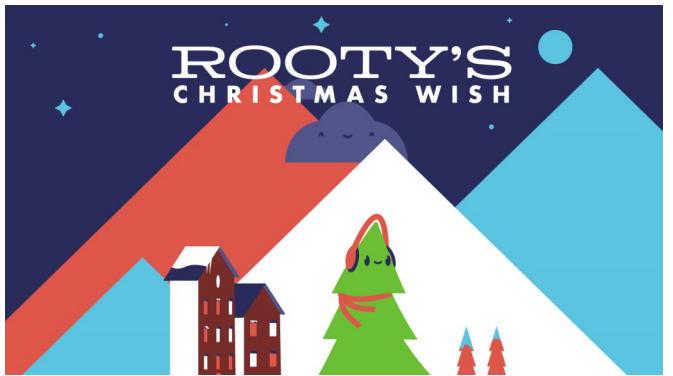


# Happy Birthday Jesus!

Join in for the Happy Birthday Jesus party on Wednesday, December 7 at 5 pm in the fellowship hall. Bring your shoebox filled with Christmas goodies to the party.



The children's Christmas play is Sunday, December 11, at 6 pm in the fellowship hall.

**Prepare for the second Sunday in Advent, December 4, 2022:** We will continue with our Advent journey through the words of the prophet Isaiah and Psalm 72; read Isaiah 11:1-10 and Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19. What is your favorite image from this selection from Isaiah? Is it the shoot coming out of a tree stump? The description of the one who will come wrapped in righteousness and faithfulness? The peace among the wildlife on God's holy mountain? What about in verse 10, the "signal to the peoples"? What does it mean for Jesus to stand as a signal to the peoples of the earth? Isaiah tells us that the reign of God's chosen one will be so good and just and powerful that all will be at peace. What would it be like today? How might we illustrate this with examples from our daily lives?

Need someone to talk to? Contact Pastor Miriam. Central also offers **Stephen Ministers**—lay Christian friends trained to help through times of crisis. The pastor can get you in touch with one.



**Lunch Bunch** is every Wednesday at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is \$3 to help with the lunch costs.

There will not be a **Wednesday Nite Café** until December 7, the Happy Birthday Jesus party. The November 30th and the December 14th meals have been canceled due to the uncertainty of attendance.

Please pick up your **poinsettias**, ordered through the Market, in the fellowship hall, **Tuesday, November 29 from 11 am to 4 pm**.

If you cannot be there, please arrange for someone to pick up for you.

The **Happy Birthday Jesus Party** is Wednesday, **December 7 at 5 pm** in the fellowship hall.

The **Children's Play**, Rooty's Christmas Wish, is on Sunday, **December 11, at 6 pm** in the fellowship hall.

## November Financials

Needed Weekly	\$15,559
Received Nov 20	\$10,605
Needed for Nov	\$62,235
Received for Nov	\$29,320

## Last Week's Attendance

In-person:	131
Online:	54



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[CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com](mailto:CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com)  
<https://CentralUnitedMethodist.com>

Sunday School – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM

## Calendar Sunday, November 27

9:15 AM Crossroads (Rm 209)  
9:30 AM Children, Youth 3rd Fl, Cornerstone (LFH), Agape (L), Lovett (Rm 208), Bates/Godwin (Rm 213), Young Adult (Rm 211)  
10:30 AM Worship Service  
11:30-1:00 PM Straw Poll, FH  
5:00-7:00 PM Youth-3rd flr  
5:30-7:00 PM Children-3rd flr

## Tuesday, November 29

5:15 AM Exercise Class, Gym  
8:00 AM Centering Prayer, CH  
11:00-4:00 The Market Poinsettia Pick-up, fh  
2:30 PM Prayer Team, L

## Wednesday, November 30

5:15 AM Exercise Class, Gym  
11:00 AM Lunch Bunch-FH  
5:15-6:00 PM-Chancel Choir  
6:00-6:45 PM-Voices of Praise

## Thursday, December 1

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study-JJ

## Friday, December 2

5:15 AM Exercise Class-Gym  
9:00 AM Women's Bible Study-JJ

CH—Chapel, FH—Fellowship Hall  
LFH—Lower Fellowship Hall, S—Sanctuary  
L—Library, JJ—Java Jaay

Central's mission:

**Love God  
Love others  
Serve the world**



## LET US GO UP ISAIAH 2:1-5; PSALM 122

Central's mission:

**Love God, love others, and serve the world**

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

10:30 AM

*Please silence electronic devices.*

\*Stand at these points, as you're comfortable.

\*\*Congregation will read bold print

Musical Gift “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Broughton

Welcome and Announcements

\*\*LITANY OF THE GREENS

In the days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hill; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say:

**“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God’s ways and that we may walk in God’s paths.” (Isaiah 2:2-3 alt.)**

With what shall we come to God's house?

**Bring holly, ivy, and an evergreen tree; bring greenery and garland; bring paraments of purple.**

**In acts of hanging greens, in singing, and listening to the words of prophets and seers, let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth.**

\*INVOCATION

**Good Lord, by your mercy guide our outward actions in such ways that our inward being is formed in faith, hope, and love.**

**May the decorations we offer engage our senses during the days of Advent and enliven our praise and worship, in the name of the child of Bethlehem, our risen and coming savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*HYMN #211 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH – Leslie Smith & Donnie Terry

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (sung)

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free.

## PLACING OF THE GREENS

How shall we make this place a reminder of our need of repentance and that faithfulness and integrity that comes from God our maker and redeemer?

**Let us see the greenery as Hosea speaks the word of God:**

*A reading from Hosea, chapter 14:*

I will heal (my people's) disloyalty; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like an evergreen cypress; your faithfulness comes from me. Those who are wise understand these things; those who are discerning know them. For the ways of the Lord are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them. (Hosea 4:4,8-9)

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

## HYMN #140 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (v.1)

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

## LIGHTING THE TREE

God, the Holy One of Israel, is a God of comfort and compassion. With the tree, we remember God's everlasting promises to the poor and needy. Isaiah spoke of God's making of the wilderness a place of blessing where water and plants, even evergreen trees, would manifest God's loving action to save and provide.

**Light the tree as we hear God's word:**

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah, chapter 41:*

When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst, I the Lord will answer them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them. I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water. And the dry land springs of water. I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, And the olive; I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together, so that all may see and know, all may consider and understand, that the hand of the Lord has done this, the Holy One of Israel has created it.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

## SPECIAL MUSIC "Christmas Day"

Holst

## HANGING THE CHRISMONS

Here in this place we prepare for the coming of the Lord. Here we will remember his Advent, his birth in Bethlehem, weak and helpless as an

infant. And here we rekindle our prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus" as we await his coming as the bright and morning star.

**Hang symbols and signs of Christ – ruler, prophet, priest. Hang stars, crosses, triangles, the "alpha" and the "omega" to remind us of his identity, his story, and of the holy Trinity.**

A reading from the book of Revelation, chapter 22: "See, I am coming soon...I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." The Spirit and the bride say, "come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

## HYMN #202 "People Look East"

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,  
that in course the flower may flourish.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim,  
one more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS- Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122

## SERMON

Rev. Miriam Smith

## The Great Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer—

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*We give thanks for God's creation and deliverance, concluding:*

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*We give thanks for the Son and the gift of the Holy Meal.*

...in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*We give thanks for God's presence, the Holy Spirit, concluding:*

...all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

With the confidence of God's children, we are bold to pray together:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses**

*as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory for ever. Amen.**

[While standing, receive the bread and cup. Then pray at the rail or return to your seat. Offerings left at the rail go to the needy. You may wish to receive with these words. If you wish to remain seated, please alert an usher and a server will come to you.]

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ given for you. **Amen.**

## HYMN #196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

## BENEDICTION

## MUSICAL GIFT "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Arr. Prentiss

Worship Director: Susan Thompson

Organist: Virginia Paul

Soloists: Debbie Looney, Ron Woller, Leslie Smith

Readers: Leslie Smith & Donnie Terry

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" - arr. Broughton 1971 Lorenz Publishing Co.

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" - arr. Prentiss c. 2004 Lorenz Publishing Co.

"Christmas Day" (c) 1910 by Novello and Company, Limited

"Christ the Redeemer" - Birchwood c. 2004 Lorenz Publishing Co.

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