

Discussion Questions

Prepare for August 7: This week we will begin a four week focus on lessons from the book of Hebrews. This week, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; we have an interesting look at what faith in God can do in our lives. To have faith in God, to trust in his goodness and love, means we will be aware of how what we know to be true does not line up with the world as it is right now. The author says the people of God, from the very beginning of the covenant with Abraham, longed for a better homeland or a better country. Do we long for anything today? A time or a place? For Abraham and Sarah, their longing was for something in the future. What longing do you feel for the future? How does our faith in God impact this desire and our response?

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.



August 14th - 9:30 am to 10:30 am
and after church service

Where do you fit?

Where are your talents needed?

Come visit the different ministry booths
and find where you can serve.

A **discernment letter** has been sent out via mail and email concerning the timeline for the process of discernment.

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

The **Blessing of the Backpacks** will be on **August 7th** at 10:30 service.

There will be a **Ministry Fair** on **August 14th** during the Sunday School hour and after church service in the Fellowship Hall. Representatives from every ministry at Central will be set up for an opportunity for members to find out what is going on at Central and get involved. There will be breakfast, fellowship and a little competition!

July Financials

Needed Weekly	\$15,559
Received July 24	\$6,260
Needed for July	\$62,235
Received for July	\$48,260

Last Week's Attendance

In-person:	148
Online:	48



616 Jackson Street
Decatur, Alabama 35601
256) 353-6941

CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com
<https://CentralUnitedMethodist.com>

Sunday School – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM

Calendar

Sunday, July 31

9:15 AM Crossroads (Rm 209)
9:30 AM Children, Youth 3rd Fl, Cornerstone (LFH), Agape (L), Lovett (Rm 208), Bates/Godwin (Rm 213)
10:30 AM Worship Service
4:00 PM Leadership Team Mtg with Vicki Cater

6:00 - 8:00 PM, Youth, 3rd Fl

Tuesday, August 2

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G
8:00 AM Centering Prayer, CH
2:30 PM Prayer Team

Wednesday, August 3

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G
11:00 AM Lunch Bunch, FH
5:30 PM Grief Group, Room 211

Thursday, August 4

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study-JJ

Friday, August 5

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G
9:00 AM, Women's Java Jaay Bible

CH- Chapel, FH- Fellowship Hall
LFH- Lower Fellowship Hall
L - Library S- Sanctuary G- Gym

Check our website for up-to-date calendar.
www.CentralUnitedMethodist.com

Central's mission:

Love God
Love others
Serve the world

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Action Required: Look Beyond



Central's mission:

Love God, love others, and serve the world

July 31, 2022

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 AM

Please silence electronic devices.

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

Musical Gift "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Birchweed

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Praise the Lord!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

Sing praises to God,

Who made heaven and earth,

Who is faithful forever,

Who gives justice to the oppressed,

Who gives food to the hungry,

Who sets the prisoners free,

Who watches over the stranger,

Who cares for widows and orphans.

The Lord will reign forever.

Praise the Lord!

*Opening Hymn #547 "O Church of God, United"

O church of God, united to serve one common Lord,

Proclaim to all one message, with hearts in glad accord.

Christ ever goes before us;

We follow day by day

With strong and eager footsteps along the upward way.

From every land and nation the ordered ranks appear;

To serve one valiant leader they come from far and near.

They chant their one confession,

They praise one living Lord,

And place their sure dependence upon his saving word.

Though creeds and tongues may differ, they speak, O Christ, of thee;
And in thy loving spirit we shall one people be.
Lord, may our faithful service
And singleness of aim
Proclaim to all the power of thy redeeming name.

May thy great prayer be answered that we may all be one,
Close bound, by love united in thee, God's blessed Son:
To bring a single witness,
To make the pathway bright,
That souls which grope in darkness may find the one true light.

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
The third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic* church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**universal*

*Greeting

Hymn "Change My Heart, O God"

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

Prayers of the People

**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.**

Children's Message

Alicia Mullican

Special Music "People Need the Lord"

Arr. Lloyd Larson

Every day they pass me by, I can see it in their eyes;
Empty people filled with care, headed who knows where.
On they go through private pain, living fear to fear;
Laughter hides their silent cries only Jesus hears.

People need the Lord, people need the Lord;
At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door.
People need the Lord, people need the Lord.
When will we realize people need the Lord?

We are called to take His light to a world where wrong seems right.
What could be too great a cost for sharing life with one who's lost?
Through His love, our hearts can feel all the grief they bear;
They must hear the words of life only we can share.

People need the Lord, people need the Lord;
At the end of broken dreams, He's the open door.
People need the Lord, people need the Lord.
When will we realize that we must give our lives,
For people need the Lord? People need the Lord.

Bible Reading — Luke 12: 13-21

**Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

Someone from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me."

Jesus said to him, "Man, who appointed me as judge or referee between you and your brother?"

Then Jesus said to them, "Watch out! Guard yourself against all kinds of greed. After all, one's life isn't determined by one's possessions, even when someone is very wealthy." Then he told them a parable: "A certain rich man's land produced a bountiful crop. He said to himself, What will I do? I have no place to store my harvest! Then he thought, Here's what I'll do. I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. That's where I'll store all my grain and goods. I'll say to myself, You have stored up plenty of goods, enough for several years. Take it easy! Eat, drink, and enjoy yourself. But God said to him, 'Fool, tonight you will die. Now who will get the things you have prepared for yourself?' This is the way it will be for those who hoard things for themselves and aren't rich toward God."

—
The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message — Look Beyond

Rev. Miriam Smith

*Closing Hymn 548 "In Christ There is No East or West"

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free;
Both male and female heirs are made, and all are kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north,
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

*Sending Forth

Musical Gift "Rejoice and Be Glad"

Barnett

Worship Director: Susan Thompson

Organist: Virginia Paul

Scripture Reader: Doug Shoemaker

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing – Birchweed c. 1992 Lorenz Publishing Co.

"O Church of God, United" Words © 1954, renewed 1982 The Hymn Society of America

"Change My Heart, O God" © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing

"People Need the Lord" Arr. Lloyd Larson © 1983, 2001, River Oaks Music Co/Shepherd's Fold Music, BMI

"Rejoice and Be Glad" - Barnett c. 1999 Lorenz Publishing Co.

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