

## Bible Reading for September 5

James 2:1-17

*James is not interested in our comfort! As uncomfortable as we may be, it is good for us to sit with his words and weigh them carefully. This week, we hear his thoughts on how Christians should treat others. This is particularly important when we may be tempted to think of some people as more or less important than others. Is there anything in this week's reading that challenges you?*

There will be a church council meeting on Sunday, **September 19th**, at 5 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

### Wednesday Nite Café September 1st Menu



Spaghetti  
French Bread  
Rolls, Salad, Dessert

### Pricing

Adult/\$7  
Child/\$5  
Household/\$20

### August Financials

Needed Weekly \$15,559  
Received August 22 \$6,015  
Needed for August \$62,235  
Received for August \$42,774

### Last Week's Attendance

In-person: 122  
Online: 70

Music Director: Susan Thompson

Organist: Virginia Paul

"Shine Jesus Shine" - Arr. Schrader, c. 1998 Make Way Music

"Grand Choeur" - Dubois (c. 2006 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

"Open the Eyes of my Heart" - Baloché, c. 2010 Integrity's Hosanna/Music.

"Lord I Lift Your Name on High" - Founds, c. 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc.

"Hallelujah What a Savior"—Rouse, 2007. Praise Gathering, Inc.

"O How He Loves You and Me" - Kaiser, c. 1975 Word Music, Inc.

"Fantasia on 'Kingsfold'" - Paxton (c. 1998 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

Call to Worship Courtesy of Ministry Matters

Prayers of the People Written by Moira Laidlaw and posted on Liturgies  
Online. <http://www.liturgiesonline.com.au/> Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/08/confession-james-1-17-27.html>

## Calendar

### Sunday, August 29

9:15 AM Crossroads (Rm 209)  
9:30 AM Children, Youth 3rd Fl), Cornerstone (LFH), Agape (L), Lovett (Rm 208), Bates/Godwin (Rm 213), Good Fellowship (CH)  
10:30 AM Worship Service  
5:00-7:00 PM Youth, Children, 3rd FL

### Tuesday, August 31

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

### Wednesday, September 1

5:15 AM Exercise Class, G  
5:00 PM Wednesday Nite Café  
6:00 PM Wednesday Nite Programming  
Children, Youth, Adults

### Thursday, September 2

7:00 AM, Men's Java Jaay Bible

### Friday, September 3

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](http://www.CentralUnitedMethodist.com)



## Lessons From James Sermon Series

For the next four weeks, we are going to spend time learning from the wisdom in James. What is the purpose of our faith—in the most practical of terms? How can we put our faith to work? And is there a conflict between works and faith? Join us as we explore together.

August 29: James 1:17-27

September 5: James 2:1-17

September 12: James 3:1-12

September 19: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Facemasks are Recommended



and Encouraged while indoors.

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.



Central's mission:



Love God  
Love others  
Serve the world

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Decatur, Alabama 35601  
256) 353-6941

[CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com](mailto:CUMC@CentralUnitedMethodist.com)

<https://CentralUnitedMethodist.com>

Sunday School – 9:30 AM

Worship – 10:30 AM



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Love God, love others, and serve the world

August 29, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
10:30 AM

Please silence electronic devices.

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

Preservice Music "Shine Jesus Shine"

arr. Schrader

*Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory,  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire;  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Refrain**

Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
From the shadows into your radiance;  
By the blood I may enter your brightness,  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Refrain**

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
So our faces display your likeness;  
Ever changing from glory to glory,  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

**Refrain**

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

Every generous act of giving is a tribute to God's love for us.

**Lord, let us be people of generous and abundant gifts for others.**

Be ready to listen and slow to react in anger.

**Lord, prepare us to be peaceful people.**

Keep your hearts and spirits ready to serve the Lord.

**Lord, open our hearts to hear and respond to your words of life in ministries of hope and peace.**

**Amen.**

### \*Hymns “Open the Eyes of My Heart”

*Baloché*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,  
Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you, I want to see you.

**Repeat.**

To see you high and lifted up,  
Shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power and love  
As we sing. Holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy.  
Holy, holy, holy.  
I want to see you.

### “Lord I Lift Your Name on High”

*Founds*

Lord, I lift your name on high;  
Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life;  
I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay;  
From the cross to the grave,  
From the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high.

### \*Affirmation of Faith *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 #349 “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in his wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim  
In the light of his glory and grace.

### Prayers of the People

When the busyness of our lives erodes the intentions of our hearts:

Merciful God, **forgive us.**

When our personal agendas take precedence over reaching out to others:

Merciful God, **forgive us.**

When we keep putting off being more active “doers of the word”:

Merciful God, **forgive us.**

When we resist change, knowing that our acting and thinking  
are limited by our prejudice and ignorance:

Merciful God, **forgive us.**

When we only half-listen to those who cry out to be fully heard:

Merciful God, **forgive us.**

*A time of silence to contemplate these words*

*and how they apply to us personally and as a community of faith.*

As we become doers of the word and not merely hearers, we discover that  
it is “in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we re-  
ceive”—surely evidence of “the implanted word that has the power to save  
our souls”—Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

**Thanks be to God!**

### Children's Message

Debbie Looney

### Special Music “Hallelujah What a Savior”

*Rouse*

### Bible Reading — James 1:17-27

**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.**

All generous giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of  
lights, with whom there is no variation or the slightest hint of change. By his sovereign  
plan he gave us birth through the message of truth, that we would be a kind of first fruits  
of all he created.

Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters! Let every person be quick to listen, slow to  
speak, slow to anger. For human anger does not accomplish God's righteousness. So put  
away all filth and evil excess and humbly welcome the message implanted within you,  
which is able to save your souls. But be sure you live out the message and do not merely  
listen to it and so deceive yourselves. For if someone merely listens to the message and  
does not live it out, he is like someone who gazes at his own face in a mirror. For he gazes  
at himself and then goes out and immediately forgets what sort of person he was. But the  
one who peers into the perfect law of liberty and fixes his attention there, and does not  
become a forgetful listener but one who lives it out—he will be blessed in what he does. If  
someone thinks he is religious yet does not bridle his tongue, and so deceives his heart, his  
religion is futile. Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to care for or-  
phans and widows in their adversity and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### Message — “Get Moving”

Miriam Smith

### Closing Hymn “O How He Loves You and Me”

*Kaiser*

O how he loves you and me!  
O how he loves you and me!  
He gave his life. What more could he give?  
O how he loves you; O how he loves me;  
O how he loves you and me!

### \*Sending Forth

### \*Musical Gift “Fantasia on 'Kingsfold'”

*Paxton*