

# Central United Methodist Church

## Weekly Messenger

February 15, 2024

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### Worship



This week in worship we will begin our Lenten series that is titled, "Depths of Love." My sermon title is "Has Come Near," and the scripture is Mark 1:9-15. Karen Hobson will be the Worship Assistant, and Elyse Brunnemer will share a message with the children. The choir will grace us musically, and our talented tech team will support all aspects of the service. Jo Jackson is the primary pianist this Sunday. Thanks to all who help facilitate our worship in the sanctuary and online.

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### Prayers for all, by all - Central UMC

**James Disney** asks for prayers for his wife **Suk Cha (Cha)**. The doctors are working to discover the cause of her Cirrhosis of the liver that was diagnosed last fall. The diagnosis doesn't make any sense, as Cha is not a drinker. She is very ill, but positive.

Please pray for **Sara Simon** in the passing of her aunt **Ruth Hooper**.

**John Tracy**, Priscilla's son, was in a head-on collision on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Jon Ainsworth**, is recovering from outpatient foot surgery.

Angie McClelland's mother, **Nancy Razey**, is in hospice suffering with Body Inclusion Myositis.

Angie Edward's nephew, **Chris Roberts**, healing from the amputation of a foot.

**Ken Wacker Sr.** struggling with Prostate Cancer.

**Smokey Boyer**: congestive heart failure.

**Charlie Carson**: adjusting to living at Medallion Rehab.

**Bob Adams**: ongoing health issues.

**Jack Whitney**: scheduled for hip surgery.

Our "WAVES", our country and its leaders.

Our World: The people of Ukraine, Russia, Israel, and Gaza.

Serving in mission: Kutela Katembo, in Angola, Africa.

## **Dates to Remember**

### **This Saturday:**

United Methodist Men's Breakfast  
is scheduled at 9:30 AM, on Feb 17<sup>th</sup> at IHOP,  
which is at 6005 Constitution Avenue (just off of Powers Blvd).

### **This Sunday:**

Rev. Judy Owsley is preaching  
while Rev. Deb and the Confirmation Youth are in the mountains at John Wesley Ranch.

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## **District Gathering**

**A joy-filled day of reclaiming, renewing,  
and reviving our connection as United Methodists**

With Bishop Karen Oliveto preaching and Quiet Disciples Celebrated.  
Then after lunch, two sessions of workshops will be offered.

Hope to see you there on **March 2, 2024**  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. w/ lunch \$20 per person  
@ Calvary UMC, Colorado Springs

Please register by February 22<sup>nd</sup>, for both in-person and online at this link:  
ESCO District Gathering Registration Link: <https://mtnsky-reg.brtapp.com/ESCODistrictGathering2024>

"I'd love to see some of our leaders join me," Rev. Deb

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## **Thank you to those who give their time.**

Thank you to the Family Life Team - for a wonderful Super Bowl Party.  
The food, games, and especially the Football were wonderful.

**Thank you from Judy Lykins**

Thanks to my church family for all the beautiful cards.  
I love them very much. Hope to see you soon.

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**Remember: Bridge on Galley closed from the west.**

Starting Monday, 1/15/2024, the bridge on Galley between San Miguel and Moffit will be closed. The closure will continue for several weeks. You will need to use alternate routes to get to Central. If you have questions please call the office at 719-597-6642.



## **“Helping Others X Two!”**

### **February Mission Focus**

You have been so generous in the past that there is an excess of funds from previous years for “Bundles of Love” to purchase the underwear and socks for Mitchell HS, Swigert MS, and Wilson Elem. BUT! **The Backpack Project** needs more money due to the rising costs of food. The same three schools receive a total of 60 backpacks each month, and there are families who rely on those groceries and hygiene items to make it through the month.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO HELP X 2:** You may bring “Bundles of Love” (socks and underwear) if you wish. That certainly will help! Please contribute all cash or checks for the Backpack Project. Checks may be made to Central UMC, designated Backpack Project.

## **Food Gifts in February**

How Many Cans Can a Food Cart Contain  
If Each Can Can Contain Some Fruit??

A silly tongue twister ... or a serious call for help? The pantry at Mercy’s Gate needs canned fruit and other non-perishable food and hygiene items. Let’s see how many cans a cart can contain!! (We’ll publish the count in the Messenger next month-.) You may bring donations to the cart in the entry on any Sunday or weekday. Thanks for caring!



## **Sundays at Central UMC**

Come join us before worship in Fellowship Hall  
for a time together with coffee and donuts.

### **Choir practice**

Every Sunday at 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
Sanctuary doors will be closed during their practice time.

## **Bible Story Time**

During Worship right after the Children's Message  
For kids Kindergarten – 3rd Grade  
Watch for Melissa, she'll lead you to more fun!

### **Can You Help?**

Melissa James has been offering Bible Story Time for our Kindergarten through Third Grade children during the Sunday morning service. The children leave the sanctuary after the children's message. To adhere to Safe Sanctuary procedures, we need two adults to be present with the children. We're hoping to find a few adults that are willing to be with the children one Sunday a month. This has a two-fold benefit: you'll get to know our children and Melissa will be able to enjoy the service once in a while. Please let Karen Hobson or Melissa James **(719-433-2461)** know if you would be interested in this opportunity.

## **Children's Sunday School**

Meets in the Assembly Room at 11:15 each Sunday.  
Bring your kids, stay for coffee and the adult class.  
"The Followers" with Karen Hobson  
Meets in Classroom 1 (off of Fellowship Hall)  
11:15 a.m. – Noon every Sunday.

## **The Followers Class**

led by Karen Hobson is starting a new study.  
Hope you will join us for a discussion of "Doubt" by Adam Hamilton.

### **"DOUBT"**

Everyone has doubts. Where is God when bad things happen? Does God hear our prayers?  
Is there a heaven? How can we know?

Often, we treat such questions as the enemy of faith. But uncertainty doesn't mean our belief is lacking. Doubt can be a path to a deeper, richer encounter with God.

In "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith," join best-selling author and pastor Adam Hamilton as he discusses some of our most significant sources of doubt and shows how a steady trust in God can emerge from them. You will delve into questions like:

"Does God exist? How can I know?"

"Is the Bible true?"

"Why do prayers go unanswered?"



## Tuesdays

We are doing something new!  
**Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Deb**  
**"He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado**  
What God did to win your heart.

Rev. Judy has graciously agreed to let me teach during her class time.  
Her study on *"The Lord's Prayer"* will pick up again after Easter on April 2, 2024

Rev. Deb's Lenten class will meet twice each week: Feb. 15-Mar. 26  
Tuesday mornings at 9:30 -10:30 a.m.  
Thursday evenings at 6:00 -7:00 p.m. on Zoom  
Books (\$14.00) are available in the office.

### **"He Chose the Nails"**

Is your heart unsettled by the chaos of the world? Are you heavy-laden with bad moments, mad moments, or anxious moments? Today, rest in God's self-giving love and leave all your troubles at the foot of the cross.

There were no accidents on the days surrounding Jesus' death. Jesus' last moments were not left up to chance. God chose the path; he selected the nails. Our Lord planted the trio of crosses and painted the sign. God was never more sovereign than in the details of the death of his Son. God didn't have to do all these things, you know. The only required act for our salvation was the shedding of blood, yet he did much more. So much more.

In *He Chose the Nails*, New York Times bestselling author and pastor Max Lucado will help you:  
Learn just how much God loves and cares for you.

Take comfort that Jesus understands everything you face in this life.

Remember that there's nothing you can do to earn God's gift.

Stand firm in the promise that you are forgiven, and you are welcome in God's presence.

Search the scene of the cross and listen for God's gentle whisper, "I did it just for you."



## Wednesdays

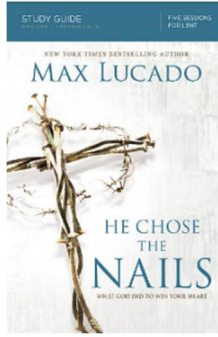


Heavenly Bells meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m., with Priscilla Tracy  
In the sanctuary. Come early to help set up.  
Call Priscilla to join the fun: (719)660-1433

**NOTE:** Rev. Deb has canceled her Wednesday class.  
Members chose to participate in Thursday's class on Zoom.



## Thursdays



### Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Deb

#### "He Chose the Nails" by Max Lucado

What God did to win your heart.

Thursday Evening @ 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Starting: February 15th - On Zoom

More information above on Tuesday's schedule.

### Naomi Circle

meets the 1st Thursday of the month @ 10 a.m.

Come visit with the ladies. Have **questions?** Call Wynona Batman at 719-596-1851.

See you on March 7, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m. at the church.

Pat Dudgeon will bring refreshments, and Karen Hobson will present the lesson.

### Men's Group

Thursday's @ 11:30 a.m. @ Gunther Toody's

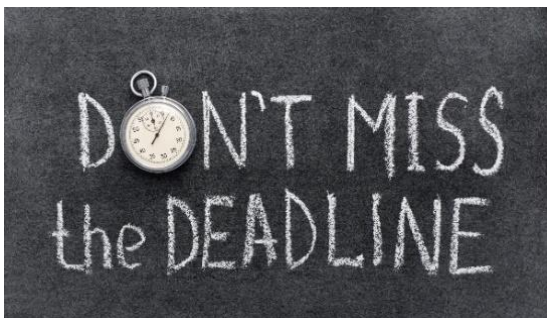
Call Bob Morris (719-574-1566) for more information.

ALSO

United Methodist Men's Breakfast and meeting.

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month

Call Robert Rummel (719-596-4144) for more information.



### Bulletin and Weekly Messenger Deadlines

Articles for the Weekly Messenger or Bulletin are due on Wednesdays by Noon.

Email the office at [office@cumccs.org](mailto:office@cumccs.org)

Call the office @ 719-597-6642



## February Birthdays

- 2 – Anita Hanson
- 2 – Rose Simon
- 3 – Lee Scheierman
- 10 – Barb Watson
- 14 – Brad Murdaugh
- 14 – Joe Straws
- 15 – Suk Cha Disney
- 15 – Melissa James
- 17 – Julean Heyns
- 19 – Macie Shannon
- 21 – MaKenzie Hawkins
- 22 – Diane Black
- 23 – Cerne Rieves
- 24 – Krystal Shannon
- 26 – Leo Laryea
- 28 – Cole Bowden
- 28 – Tori Dudgeon



## February Anniversaries

- 15 – Roger & Vicki Sams
- 22 – Bill & Diane Black



# FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 10 NAOMI CIRCLE 6P PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM	2 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP	3 7:00A GLEANING WORSHIP <b>9-3 COMFORT QUILTS</b> <b>10-1 PARKINSON'S</b>
4 8:45 CHOIR 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1:30-4 GLEANING	5 12-3 QUILTS OF LOVE	6 9:30 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 TRUSTEES 7:00 SCOUTS	7 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 9:00A GLEANING BIBLE STUDY 7:00 BELLS	8 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP <b>6-9 CSQG</b> 6P PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM	9 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 9:30 WORSHIP TEAM	10 7:00A GLEANING WORSHIP <b>8-12 EGA</b> <b>10-2 DKG</b>
11 SCOUTS SUNDAY 8:45 CHOIR 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1:30-4 GLEANING	12 12-3 QUILTS OF LOVE	13 9:30 BIBLE STUDY 6:00 FINANCE 7:00 SCOUTS 7:30 COUNCIL	14 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 9:00 GLEANING BIBLE STUDY 6:30 ASH WED SERVICE	15 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP <b>10-1 PARKINSON'S</b> 6P PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM	16 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 9:00 MHSP	17 7:00A GLEANING WORSHIP <b>9-3 CSQG</b>
18 8:45 CHOIR 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1:30-4 GLEANING	19 12-3 QUILTS OF LOVE 7:00 SCOUTS	20 7:00 SCOUTS 9:30 BIBLE STUDY 10:45 MISSION MTG	21 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 9:00 GLEANING BIBLE STUDY 7:00 BELLS	22 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 6P PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM	23 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP	24 7:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 1-5 BABY SHOWER
25 8:45 CHOIR 10:00 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1:30-4 GLEANING	26 12-3 QUILTS OF LOVE	27 7:00 SCOUTS 9:30 BIBLE STUDY	28 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 9:00 GLEANING BIBLE STUDY 7:00 BELLS	29 6:00A GLEANING WORSHIP 6P PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM		



## LENTEN WALK 2024

### DEVOTIONAL FOCUS: Won't You Be My Neighbor?

This year's devotional focus is based on the words of Mister Rogers

### WALKING FOCUS: Walk to other Methodist Churches

Instead of having a mileage goal, this year is more relaxed and there's no specific walking goal for each week...instead, we'd like to walk in our neighborhoods to another Methodist Church!

### PLEASE COME JOIN IN THE FUN!

#### Focus #1: Community

*Bible Verses: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor; if either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.*

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say – "It's not my child, not my community, not my problem". Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: Walk around your neighborhood and pick up trash.**

#### Focus #2: Love your neighbors

*Bible Verses: Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself, All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "You know, I think everybody longs to be loved and longs to know that he or she is lovable. And, consequently, the greatest thing we can do is to help somebody know that they are loved and capable of loving."

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: Smile, wave, and say hello to every neighbor you see.**

#### Focus #3: Love one another

*Bible Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "I believe that appreciation is a holy thing, that when we look for what's best in the person we happen to be with at the moment, we're doing what God does - so in appreciating our neighbor, we're participating in something truly sacred."

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: Tell at least 5 people what you appreciate about them.**

#### **Focus #4: Contentment**

*Bible Verse: Hebrews 13:5 Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."*

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "What do you think it is that drives people to want far more than they could ever use or need? I frankly think it is insecurity. How do we let the world know that the trappings of this life are not things that are ultimately important for being accepted?"

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: Purge items that you no longer need. Donate usable food items to a local food bank.**

#### **Focus #5: Love in action**

*Bible Verse: 1 John 3: 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.*

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "The real issue in life is not how many blessings we have, but what we do with our blessings. Some people have many blessings and hoard them. Some have few and give everything away."

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: Think of ways you can put a little more love into the world and then do it!**

#### **Focus #6: Kindness**

*Bible Verse: Ephesians 4:32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "Being kind means responding to the needs of others – and people can be kind, no matter how old or young we are."

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: Find one way to be kind – you get to decide what that action will be.**

#### **Focus #7: Be still**

*Bible Verse: Psalm 46:10 He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted on the earth."*

Words of Wisdom from Mr. Rogers: "Our society is much more interested in information than wonder, in noise rather than silence.....and I feel that we need a lot more wonder and a lot more silence in our lives."

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR CHALLENGE: Take some time to just sit, be still, and listen for God's voice.**