

**Central United Methodist Church**  
**Weekly Messenger**  
**April 26, 2024**

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**Worship**

Last week I told you that we were in our final week in the series, "How Shall We Live?" This week there is a slight difference in the series title from last week. In "**How Shall We Love**" we move from how we are called to walk with Jesus, to how we are to love with Jesus. We begin this series focus with our first title being, "**We Bear Fruit**". We also move from 1 John to the **Book of John, chapter 15, verses 1-8**. In worship, The Heavenly Bells will provide special music with Director Priscilla Tracy. Priscilla will then give our Children's message speaking to the joy and benefits of ringing bells. Also, helping in worship this week is Joyce Witt as our Worship Assistant, and our AV Team as they continue to balance mechanics and prayer in our AV booth.

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**Prayers**

For all, by all - Central UMC

**Judy Lykins**, at St. Francis undergoing tests, no visitors, please.

**Rhonda Von Lührte**, a friend of Sara Simon, for comfort and strength after post-hip surgery complications.

**Michael Greene**, a friend of Sara Simon, whose son Tristan (19) is currently missing and that Tristan's safe.

**Wonda Heynes** is struggle with medical care and high blood pressure, Apnea, and Asthma.

**Pam Newman** recovering from surgery at home.

**Walter Irwin**, cousin in law of Sharon Irwin, receiving a double lung transplant in N. Carolina.

**Jan Adams** had a successful shoulder surgery April 17<sup>th</sup>. She is at home recovering.

**Lee Scheierman**: Health issues.

**Brian Salladay**, son of June and brother of Christy Malone, at Memorial Central healing.

**Vicky Sams** for health issues.

**Ken Wacker Sr.** overcoming Cancer.

Our "WAVES", our country and its leaders;

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

**May each of you be blessed  
and held firmly in the  
light of God's presence.**

**Rev. Deb**



## **A Visit from Kenyan Bishop at Central United Methodist Church**

Sunday morning, May 5<sup>th</sup> promises to be a most special and memorable time.

Starting at 9:00, we will celebrate Cinco de Mayo with breakfast burritos prepared by our United Methodist Men.

THEN, during the worship service at 10:00, we will welcome **Bishop Isaiah Deye**, Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of Kenya, and **Dr. Don Messer**, Executive Director of the Center for Health and Hope, headquartered in Denver. Bishop Deye and Dr. Messer are coming to thank our congregation for our December gift of \$6000 to build 2 Grandmother's Houses in Kenya.

In several small villages in Kenya, the United Methodist Church is striving to build "Grandmother's Houses." Grandmothers who are extremely poor "inherit" their grandchildren when the parents die of AIDS. They and the children struggle in many ways, often living in rundown shacks. The Maua Methodist Hospital organizes and oversees the building of small homes (\$3000 each), and when completed, each new home is dedicated. Our December gifts provided the full amount needed to build two Grandmother's Houses. One will be dedicated in memory of Trae Gilbert-DeGraffe, and the other will be dedicated in honor of all the 'saints' of Central UMC.

Before being elected Bishop, Isaiah Deye was the head of the Maua Hospital that coordinates the building of the Grandmother's Houses. Dr. Messer and Bishop Deye will offer a dialogue sermon with pictures and stories about the Grandmother's House project in Kenya, and we will share in communion together.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear firsthand about the results of our mission-giving and to join together in welcoming our very special guests.

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### **Dates to Remember**

#### **Senior Recognition Sunday**

will be held on Mother's Day: Sunday, May 12, 2024

We will be celebrating high school graduates:

Will Schipfer, Keagan Hawkins, Dustin, and Sierra Spillar  
And, College Graduates: Tori Dudgeon and Christina Cox

#### **Galley Road Closed for 8 months**

Galley Rd. will close to traffic between East San Miguel St and Moffat Circle

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

Thank you to John Cox, Diane Black, and Elaine Ainsworth for helping with Isaiah and Alyssia Thorpe's wedding.



**Children Summer Ministries**

**Central United Vacation Bible School**

June 3-6

More Information Coming Soon....



**First Church Opportunities**

**Theatre and Arts Camp**

July 8-12

9:00-12:00 pm

With optional after-camp care from 12:00-3:00pm

PK-5th grade

Register at [go.fumc-cs.org/summercamp](http://go.fumc-cs.org/summercamp)

**Tween Camp**

July 16-18

6-8th grade

John Wesley Ranch

Let me know if you have families who may be interested. Rev. Deb



**CHILD CARE ATTENDANT NEEDED**

**SUNDAYS DURING WORSHIP**

**2 HOURS**

**\$14.50/ AN HOUR**



***AND AGAIN: CANNED VEGETABLES***

Groceries for the Backpack Project

Our church fills 60 backpacks every month for 3 schools: Mitchell HS, Swiegert MS and Wilson Elementary. We need a total of 60 cans of **Cut Green Beans** or **Peas** or **Sweet Corn** (not creamed corn). The Walmart store brand is the lowest cost.

We didn't quite reach our goal in April, so we're extending into May.

Can we bring enough canned veggies to fill those backpacks?? You bet we CAN!!

## **Native Grace**

A United Methodist Ministry in Southern Colorado  
May Mission Focus

We are part of a remarkable story! We at Central learned about Native Grace in 2019 and have been able to support them in their ministry with several heartwarming projects.

Native Grace is a native American fellowship that holds Sunday worship in the building of the Cortez United Methodist Church. The two congregations work together to support families (especially the elderly) living on the Navajo Reservation in the Four Corners area.

In 2020 our Christmas offering raised funds to purchase replacement propane tanks for homes of the elderly. In 2021 we helped Native Grace to purchase a utility trailer so that experienced craftsmen in the church could partner with young men and women to repair rundown homes on the reservation. That service will continue for many years.

We want to continue supporting Native Grace as they offer a place where Christian faith and Native traditions come together ... a place where children can learn about their heritage as they grow to love Jesus Christ. If you're able to help, you may write a check, payable to CUMC and designated for Native Grace, or drop currency in the pottery bowl at the sanctuary doors.

### **MANY WAYS TO HELP**

Welcoming Families to Be Our Guests  
Sunday evening, May 19 – Sunday morning, May 26

Once again, our church (ALL of us!) is preparing to host four families who are temporarily homeless. On Sunday, May 19, beginning at noon, we will set up private sleeping rooms in the classroom spaces off Fellowship Hall, get out toys for the children to play with, and arrange foods in the kitchen for breakfasts and lunches. Then, every evening, we will share dinner with our guests, enjoying a home-cooked meal provided by volunteers.

The families will arrive at 5:00 each evening and leave again by 7:00 each morning. Family Promise has a Day Center located in First UMC downtown. This is where our guests can spend the days if they are not in school or at work. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! Please, consider how you can help:

1. Assisting with set-up on 5/19 or take-down on 5/26
2. Providing dinner one evening
3. Being an evening host (5:00 – 8:30)
4. Spending one night, sleeping on a rollaway bed with a Memory Foam mattress OR
5. Making a donation to help with the cost of groceries.

(Write a check payable to CUMC, marked IHN.)

Sign-up sheets will be in Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, April 21.

QUESTIONS? Talk with Pat Dudgeon, 951-255-5538 / [patdudgeon84@gmail.com](mailto:patdudgeon84@gmail.com)

# Conference News from Mainstream UMC

## 1/3 of African Delegates May Miss General Conference

Rev. Dr. Mark Holland, Executive Director, Mainstream UMC - [www.MainstreamUMC.com](http://www.MainstreamUMC.com)

To be clear, no one at **Mainstream** UMC, nor in our coalition, believes there is malice involved in the absence of delegates from Africa. We have already been hearing this false accusation from the other side. We have heard, and share, concerns about widespread delays in communication coming out of the office of the Secretary of the General Conference. These concerns have now been confirmed in a press release yesterday stating that as many as 101 of 862 total delegates may not be in attendance.

The United Methodist Book of Discipline sets as a Quorum the presence of half of all delegates to conduct business. This number anticipates unusual circumstances. There are no provisions for remote participation or absentee voting. Those of us who are in Charlotte are the valid voting delegates for this 2020 General Conference. We have no alternative but to press on with the work of the church.

Here is the breakdown of Delegate allocation by region:

- United States 482
- Africa 278
- Philippines 52
- Europe 40
- Concordat 10 (Britain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Caribbean)
- Total 862

Securing visas for delegates in Africa is the hardest work of the General Conference. Every year there are between 20 and 30 delegates, mostly from Africa, who are unable to attend because of visa issues. The Secretary has now confirmed 39 absences, which might already be the highest percentage ever. But the press release shows there are 62 more still in limbo.

The information from the Secretary of the General Conference focuses on the delegates from Africa, Europe, and the Philippines, which is 370. Of the 101 who may miss, our best estimate is that 93 of those are from Africa, which would be a full third of their delegates. This is an unprecedented number that will require dramatic process changes in the future to ensure this does not happen again.

### What does this mean for our work in Charlotte?

**Removal of the Harmful Language:** We were already confident in our vote count to remove the harmful language even if all delegates were present. There is no question that the absence of a large number of “traditional” votes will increase the percentage of removal but will not change the outcome.

**Passing Regionalization:** We honestly do not know the impact. We have heard there is a lot of

support for regionalization in Africa. We have also heard there is little support. As is now evident, we have not been able to contact large numbers of African delegates to find out. We need a 2/3 vote to pass regionalization. If the vote is close, either way, the delta is likely present in the missing delegates. The Secretary has also not told us from where the delegates are missing. We know there are some areas that support regionalization more than others. The missing region could be the deciding factor.

The bigger question is how this will impact ratification. If there is a significant feeling of exclusion in Africa, that could sour the willingness to ratify in the next year. The reality, however, is even those delegates who are not able to attend General Conference will still have their voice heard during the ratification vote. The harder pill to swallow would be if the vote fails at General Conference and pro-regionalization delegates never get to weigh in.

### **Ending Disaffiliations:**

This, like removing the harmful language, only requires a majority vote. This is another one where the region from where Africans are missing could swing the vote one way or another. We believe if all of Africa were seated, disaffiliations would fail. This remains to be seen.

### **Conclusion:**

We have anticipated for months that delays in sending letters of invitation to delegates could have negative consequences. This is now playing out. It is incumbent upon the remaining delegates to be thoughtful as we move forward. This is perhaps the most consequential General Conference in a generation. The show must go on.

### **Please Support Mainstream UMC at General Conference 2024.**

- Please support Mainstream UMC: [www.MainstreamUMC.com/Donate](http://www.MainstreamUMC.com/Donate)
- Please forward this email to 5 friends and encourage them to sign up: [www.MainstreamUMC.com/Sign-Up](http://www.MainstreamUMC.com/Sign-Up)
- Like us on Facebook for live updates from General Conference: [www.Facebook.com/MainstreamUMC](http://www.Facebook.com/MainstreamUMC)



## **Recurring Calendar Events**

### **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 for their practice time.

**Bible Story Time**  
**BIBLE STORY TIME RESUMES ON April 7<sup>th</sup>**  
For kids Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

**Children's Music**  
11:00 -11:15 every Sunday  
Meet in the Assembly Room.  
Children are invited to enjoy singing and learning to play bells.

**Children's Sunday School**  
Meets in the Assembly Room at 11:15 each Sunday.  
Bring your kids, stay for coffee and adult class.

**The Followers Class**  
Led by Karen Hobson  
Book Study: *"Doubt"*  
Meets in the Sunday School Classroom 1 (off of Fellowship Hall)  
11:15 a.m. – Noon, every Sunday.  
Hope you will join us!

**"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**

Bible Study led by Rev. Judy Owsley  
9:30 -10:30 in Classroom One  
"The Lord's Prayer"  
By Adam Hamilton

The Tuesday study of *The Lord's Prayer* will resume on Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. It's not too late to join!!  
Books (\$14) are available in the office.

### **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



### **Thursdays**

Rev. Deb's Thursday class will take a hiatus.  
Stay tuned for our next study this summer.  
Thursday Evening @ 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Starting: This Summer - On Zoom

### **Naomi Circle**

Meets the 1st Thursday of each month @ 10 a.m.  
Come visit with the ladies.  
Call Wynona Batman (719 596-1851) for more information.  
See you on May 2nd, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m. at the church.  
Delores Neal will bring refreshments. Wynona Batman 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  
Next Saturday: April 20<sup>th</sup> – Location to be announced.  
**...still at 9:30 AM.**

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







26 – Wayne Medina

28 – Meghan Brunnemer



Ernie and Janet Dunbar – April 29<sup>th</sup>



1 - Karen Hobson

14 - Prezlie Olson

4 - Valerie Brunnemer

14 - Maggie Schipfer

4 - Alma Leacock

15 - Cayley Kammerdeiner

4 - Mildred Webb

20 - Deb Wacker

5 - Kathy Andrew

21 - Jasmine Dudgeon

6 - Trevor Spillar

22 - Jan Adams

11 - Keagan Hawkins

29 - Tami Wakins

12 - David Kozad

31 - Hubert Dudgeon

13 - Patsy Williams

# MAY

# 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6 GLEANING 7 BELLS	2 6 GLEANING 10 NAOMI CIR	3 6 GLEANING	4 7 GLEANING 9 COMFORT QUILTS 10-1 PARKINSON'S 4:30 GLEANING BIBLE STUDY
5 8:45 CHOIR 10 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1-4 GLEANING CHURCH	6 12-3 QUILTS OF LOVE	7 9:30 BIBLE STUDY 6 TRUSTEES 7 SCOUTS	8 6 GLEANING 7 BELLS	9 6 GLEANING 6 CSQG	10 6 GLEANING 9:30 WORSHIP TEAM	11 7 GLEANING 8-12 EGA 9-3 CSQG WORKSHOP 4:30 GLEANING BIBLE STUDY
12 8:45 CHOIR 10 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1-4 GLEANING CHURCH	13 12-3 QUILTS OF LOVE	14 9:30 BIBLE STUDY 6 FINANCE 7 COUNCIL 7 SCOUTS	15 6 GLEANING 7 BELLS	16 6 GLEANING 9:30 PARKINSON'S CG	17 6 GLEANING	18 7 GLEANING 8- WORKDAY 9-3 CSQG SEW 4:30 GLEANING BIBLE STUDY
19 PENTECOST 8:45 CHOIR 10 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1-4 GLEANING CHURCH  IHN	20 12-3 QUILTS OF LOVE 7 SCOUTS PL  IHN	21 9:30 BIBLE STUDY 7 SCOUTS  IHN	22 6 GLEANING 7 BELLS  IHN	23 6 GLEANING  IHN	24 6 GLEANING  IHN	25 7 GLEANING 4:30 GLEANING BIBLE STUDY  IHN
26 8:45 CHOIR 10 WORSHIP 11:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL 1-4 GLEANING CHURCH	27 MEMORIAL DAY- CLOSED	28 9:30 BIBLE STUDY 7 SCOUTS	29	30	31	