

MAD: Making a Difference

A Methodism to our MADness
February 12, 2012
3:00—5:30 PM
Bethel United Methodist Church
245 South Church Street
Spartanburg, SC 29306

Laity or clergy, committee chair or member, visitor or church member—MAD: Making a Difference is a district wide event that empowers all people to serve in their local church. You will be given valuable leadership resources, opportunities to attend helpful workshops, and a chance to talk with your District Superintendent as well as members of your District Connectional Ministries Team.

Schedule

- 3:00** Introduction and Leadership Resources
3:25 Workshops
The Ministry of Teaching—1.5 hr.
Missions for Everyone—45 min.
Computer Help for Methodist Resources—45 min.
What It Means to be a Methodist—45 min.
Connecting Churches in Ministry—45 min.
5:00 Commissioning Service

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOUTH

Valentine's Luncheon
Youth Fundraiser
Sunday, February 12

Youth will cook and serve a delightful meal for your donation to their upcoming mission trips and activities. It is a favorite annual gathering at Central. Reservations are needed, so make yours by placing the form/insert in this week's bulletin in the offering plate or by contacting the church office by Wednesday, February 8. The cost is a donation to Central's Youth. Hope to see you there!

Menu

Baked Spaghetti, Salad,
and Dessert



**Sunday,
February 5**

The youth will join a national effort to alleviate hunger through Souper Bowl of

Caring. They will be taking donations at the exits of the sanctuary after worship this Sunday. The collection will go to Greater Spartanburg Ministries Food Pantry with whom they work every month as their service project.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Message from the Stewardship Committee

Our stewardship campaign brought in 141 pledge cards for \$143,742. This is approximately \$20,000 less than last year and means that we will have to manage our 2012 budget very carefully. Thanks to everyone who returned a pledge card and to Alex Stevenson, Jan Francis, and Liz Patterson for writing newsletter messages as well as Megan DeMoss, Liz Patterson, and George Fields for delivering Stewardship Moments.

Fred Herren, Chair of Stewardship

175th Anniversary Central Tee Shirts

Central tee shirts will be sold Wednesday evenings during the fellowship supper. Shirts are \$10 each. See Pat Hasty for details.

STAFF LEAVE

Karen Jones will be away from the office on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and will not return until February 6. If anyone has an urgent matter before then, please contact the church secretary or senior minister.

Sacred Traditions and Rituals

a call to connection

Many Faces of Love

*a service devoted to all things love**

**Sunday, February 12
6:00 PM
Central UMC
Fellowship Hall**

*SOCK-IT-TO the Soup Kitchen
with Love

Sack Gift Offering: Please bring SOCKS to share - all sizes for men, women, and children.

Service Schedule for 2012

March 11 Recognizing Our Divine Spark
April 8 Surprise Party
May 13 Praying in Color

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

January 16-29

To Margaret Cannon by Tom and Mary Lou Miller, and Katherine Moore

To The Reverend W. S. Mitchell by Tom and Mary Lou Miller, and The Norton Sunday School Class

To Lem Carter, Donald Grant, and William C. Lyles by Tom and Mary Lou Miller

In Recognition of the 175th Anniversary

**In Memory of
The Reverends David A. Clyburn, Sr., and Samuel H. Poston
and**

**In Honor of
The Reverends David A. Clyburn, Jr., John W. Ropp, and Luther H. Rickenbaker, III** by George and Mildred Fields

WEEKLY BUDGET 1/29/2012

Weekly Budget	\$	11,849
Received		27,253
Over for the week		15,404
YTD Budget	\$	59,245
Received		63,935
YTD Over		4,690

Building Fund Debt

Balance as of January 20
\$106,632

ATTENDANCE

January 29, 2012
Sunday School 98 Worship 202

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10:30 AM (Parlor)

The Wednesday Morning Bible Group has just started a new study on the Book of Exodus.

If anyone would like to join us, please do.

Betty Griffin



Calendar

Sunday, February 5

- 9:00 AM** Coffee and Doughnut Hour
9:00 AM Moravian Worship (Chapel)
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice
11:00 AM Worship Service
12:00 PM Called Church Council Meeting
4:30 PM Youth Work Area (Conference Room)
5:00 PM Chimers Rehearsal
5:45-8:00 MYF/Youth Supper (Wyatt)

Monday, February 6

- 10:30 AM** UMW Executive Board (Parlor) (Note: New Day and New Time)
4:30 PM Brownies and Daisies (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, February 7

- 7:30 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 PM Bible Study (Music Room)

Wednesday, February 8

- 10:30 AM** Bible Study (Parlor)
4:00 PM Knitting Group (Parlor)
4:30 PM Confirmation Class (Youth Room)
5:00 PM Children's Choir
5:45 PM Wednesday Night Supper
6:30 PM Carillon Rehearsal
6:30 PM Children's Fellowship
6:30 PM Youth Devotions
7:30 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 9

- 7:00-9:00 PM** Music Club Recital (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 PM Disciple I (Library)

Saturday, February 11

- 9:00 AM** Set-up For Youth Valentine Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, February 12

- 9:00 AM** Coffee and Doughnut Hour
9:00 AM Moravian Worship (Chapel)
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice
11:00 AM Worship Service (Sanctuary)
12:30-3:00 Youth Fundraiser (Fellowship Hall)
5:45-8:00 MYF/Youth Supper (Hudgens)
6:00 PM STAR (Fellowship Hall)

Monday, February 13

- 10:30 AM** Miriam-Ruth Circle (Library)
10:30 AM Mary-Martha Circle
7:00 PM Joanna Circle (Restaurant)

Tuesday, February 14

- 7:30 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, February 15

- 10:30 AM** Bible Study (Parlor)
4:00 PM Knitting Group (Parlor)
5:00 PM Children's Choir
5:45 PM Wednesday Night Supper
6:30 PM Carillon Rehearsal
6:30 PM Children's Fellowship
6:30 PM Youth Devotions
7:30 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 16

- 12:00 PM** Centralites (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 PM Disciple I (Library)

Saturday, February 18

- 9:00AM-3:00PM** (Reserve Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, February 19

- 9:00 AM** Coffee and Doughnut Hour
9:00 AM Moravian Worship (Chapel)
9:45 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Chancel Choir Practice
11:00 AM Worship Service
5:00 PM Chimers Rehearsal
5:45-8:00 MYF/Youth Supper (Liner)

Monday, February 20

- 4:30 PM** Brownies and Daisies (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, February 21

- 7:30 AM** Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
12:00 PM Healing/Communion Service (Chapel)

Wednesday, February 22 Ash Wednesday

- 10:00 AM** Bible Study (Parlor)
4:00 PM Knitting Group (Parlor)
5:00 PM Children's Choir
5:45 PM Wednesday Night Supper
6:30 PM Carillon Rehearsal
6:30 PM Children's Fellowship
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service
7:30 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 23

- 10:30 AM** Aftercare Program (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 PM Disciple I (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday School 9:45—10:45

CENTRAL EXPEDITION SCHEDULE PRESCHOOL AND K THROUGH GRADE FIVE

**Lesson: Jonah
February 5**

All classes meet in the Coliseum
Teacher: Carolyn Sparks

February 12

TBA

MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL CLASS

February 5 and 12

Program: *The Book of Proverbs*
Teacher: Kristian Roof

NORTON CLASS—Room 210

February 5

Program: *Justified by Faith in Christ*
Teacher: Sam Knight

February 12

Program: *Freed From Law Through Christ*

Teacher: Sam Knight

SHEPARD CLASS

February 5

Program: *After Jesus: The First Three Hundred Years*

Teacher: Mitch Kyllonen

February 12 and 19

Program: *Living a Life that Matters*
Teacher: Joan Johnson

20/30 YOUNG ADULT

February 5 and 12

Program: *Faith*
Teacher: Sarah Beth Gadus

GARRETT CLASS

February 5 and 12

Discussion Group

UPPER ROOM CLASS

February 5

Program: *Joy to the World*

Teacher: Jean Diehl

February 12

Program: *The Spirituality of Sacred Traditions and Rituals*

Teacher: Sue Perrin

LYDIA CIRCLE

The Lydia Circle will have breakfast at the Piedmont Club on Saturday, February 11, at 9:45 AM. Tyler Swain, Wofford Presidential Scholar will be our guest. This event is sponsored by the Lydia Circle but the congregation is invited. Please contact Sherrill King, 461-9660.

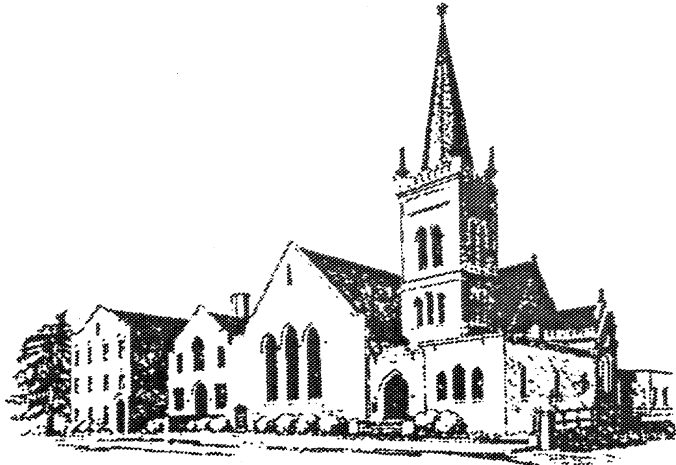
NOTE FROM THE KITCHEN

If anyone has borrowed any pots and pans, or kitchen utensils, please return them as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sherry Manry,
Church Hostess

Central United Methodist Church
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Spartanburg, SC 29306
Alex Stevenson, Senior Minister

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Organized January 25, 1837

Central United Methodist Church

Sunday, February 5 Eleven O'clock AM

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany—Green
Holy Communion

The Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29-39
Sermon: **AFTER THE HEALIN'**

Hymns 92 *For the Beauty of the Earth*
367 *He Touched Me*

Crucifer Ryan Smith

Acolytes Maggie Smith and Lindsay Taylor

Nursery Sandra Berry and Ruth Lesesne
Children's Church Thom and Perry Henson

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 5

There will be a very brief meeting of the Church Council immediately after worship on Sunday, February 5. The sole item of business is to act on a motion from the Finance Committee to adopt a proposed budget for 2012. I hope you will be able to attend.

Richard Robinson, Chair of Church Council

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER February 8, 5:45 O'clock

Menu

Baked Chicken Rice, Green Beans,
Salad, Bread, Dessert, Coffee/Tea

Adult \$6 Children \$3 (ages 4-10)

Sunday, February 12 Eleven O'clock AM

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany—Green

New Testament Reading:
I Corinthians 9:24-27

Sermon:

CONFESSIONS OF AN ARMCHAIR CHRISTIAN

Crucifer Andrew Harrelson

Acolytes Jack Layne and Michael Henson

Nursery Amy and Dusty Blake
Children's Church
Sue Lowe and Louise Parris



Central Time



Central United Methodist Church

Organized 1837

Spartanburg's First Church

February 1, 2012

Thoughts of the Pastor

God's Valentine: Saint Valentine

"Be My Valentine." This is a phrase that conjures up a lot of different images associated with the celebration of Valentine's Day: cards with hearts and little poems on them, candy and flowers given to someone you love, images of cupids flying around shooting their arrows of love into unsuspecting youth, young and old alike expressing their affection for their sweethearts. February 14, for us, means cards, candy, flowers, and cupids.

Our mothers and fathers in the faith would be surprised at what has become of Valentine's Day. What we call Valentine's Day began as the Feast of Saint Valentine. According to legend, Saint Valentine was a priest near Rome in about the year 270 AD. At that time the Roman Emperor was imprisoning Christians for not worshipping the Roman gods. During this persecution Valentine was arrested. While in prison, Valentine witnessed to the guards. One of the guards was a good man who had adopted a blind girl. He asked Valentine if his God could help his daughter. Valentine prayed, and the girl was given her sight. The guard and his whole family, forty-six people, believed in Jesus and were baptized. Because these people had come to know Jesus, Valentine praised God right there in his prison cell. When the emperor heard about this, he was furious that Valentine was still making converts even in prison, so he had Valentine beheaded.

Valentine knew that he might get caught in his Christian activities. He knew that if he told the court the truth about the Roman gods that he would be thrown in prison. And he knew that if he continued to witness to Christ in the prison he would make his captors angry. But he continued because he loved the Lord and his fellow humans. He was willing to risk his life to free the prisoners and spread the good news of Jesus Christ to those who needed to hear it.

The Bible says: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13). God showed us this love by coming in Christ to die for our sins. And Saint Valentine demonstrated this love when he died for his friends. That is the kind of love that Valentine's Day is really about.

Christ's Peace,
Alex Stevenson, Senior Minister

Golden Cross Sunday February 5

On Sunday we will receive a special offering used within the SC Conference to support medical assistance for United Methodist families in need, healthcare scholarships, and maintenance and insurance on homes for retired ministers and spouses living in our three retirement communities: Wesley Commons, Methodist Manor of the Pee Dee, and The Oaks. Please plan to give a little extra to support these valuable ministries.

Deaf Ministry at Central

We have launched a deaf ministry at Central! We now have an interpreter in place for Sunday School and Sunday Morning Worship. Now we need to get the word out to the community that this service is available. Pass the word. Let others know that we are ready to welcome the deaf and hearing impaired at Central.