



LAMPLIGHTER

Central United Methodist Church

“AND THE ONE WHO WAS SEATED ON THE THRONE SAID, ‘SEE, I AM MAKING ALL THINGS NEW.’” - REVELATION 21:5A (NRSV)

Lent is a season of 40 days (not including Sundays) that begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th this year, and ends on the Saturday before Easter. It is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for Easter through self-examination and reflection. These practices of Lent can be a way to open us to a renewed, deeper connection with God. As we grow in this relationship and understanding of God’s love, we become more aware of our true self or the person God created us to be. During this season, or anytime for that matter, we choose to engage in different activities or spiritual disciplines, but we must consider our motivation. As in most things in life, the “why” matters.

In a recent devotional, Richard Rohr wrote: “We don’t manufacture our core identity by good behavior, sacraments, or reading the Bible. We merely awaken it by letting loving people rub off on us, eating the Eucharist, enjoying an entirely sacramental universe, and fully recognizing God’s image in all creatures, without exception.” I think the same point applies to our observance of Lenten disciplines. We are not likely to experience anything significant or meaningful if our “why” is to simply say we did it. As Rohr suggests, we awaken our core identity or true self when we engage in practices that help us to better experience God’s presence and raise our awareness of the divine that is already present. Magic and computer programs follow repeated patterns of ‘if you do this then this will happen.’ Spiritual disciplines are not if-then propositions. If you do x, y, or z your outcome or experience may be similar but likely not the same as that of another person. The disciplines that I find helpful and bring me closer to God may not give you the same experience, nor would I expect that the

things you find most helpful to hold the same meaning for me.

The prophets often spoke harshly to the people of God when they were merely going through the motions of faith. Eugene Peterson’s The Message paraphrases Amos 5:21-24 this way:

“I can’t stand your religious meetings.

I’m fed up with your conferences and conventions. I want nothing to do with your religion projects, your pretentious slogans and goals. I’m sick of your fund-raising schemes, your public relations and image making.

I’ve had all I can take of your noisy ego-music.

When was the last time you sang to me?

Do you know what I want?

I want justice—oceans of it.

I want fairness—rivers of it.

That’s what I want. That’s all I want.”

Ouch! It sounds harsh, but the truth is God wants authenticity from us. God wants us to engage in prayer and fasting and reading of Scripture and whatever other spiritual disciplines we choose to make ourselves fully present with Him. It is not about the time we spend, the pages we read, or the labor we put into the practices. It is about seeking to know and be known by God so that He can do the working of “making all things [in and around and through us] new.” Our Lenten series this year is titled Rehab. Just as addicts, dilapidated homes, and broken bodies need rehab (or rehabilitation) to set things right and experience restoration, some times our spiritual lives need rehab as well. The preaching will focus on our need for and steps to take to experience spiritual rehab. Rather than on going studying groups throughout the season of Lent, we will provide opportunities to experiment with different spiritual disciplines so you can pick and choose the ones you want to attend. We will have a complete schedule available by Ash Wednesday. As we prepare for the season of Lent, consider what you might do so that in so doing you may experience a rehab’d spiritual life that adds vibrancy and vitality to your relationship with God.

IN CHRIST, Pastor Tom



Souper Bowl

The Super Bowl will be here before we know it! Would you like to be a part of the excitement? On Sunday, February 4th, the children of CUMC will help us to support those who are hungry through the Souper Bowl of Caring. We are going to collect money and soup cans for the local food pantry. Soup cans will be collected by the children before the service in the parlor and brought forward during the service. Money will be collected during the communion offering.



Hey 5th Graders! Join us at Arrow!

We had an awesome time at our first Arrow gathering and hope you'll join us for the next one, Sunday, February 18th, 4:30-5:30pm. Arrow is a time to get excited about moving up into youth group. From 4:30-5:00 Pastor Jen will lead a devotion and games. From 5:00-5:30 we will join Sheri and the youth group to play games and have a snack with them. Then they will continue with their normally scheduled youth group time after Arrow has ended. As always, please pick up promptly at 5:30pm. Please contact Pastor Jen with any questions.

Creative Hands

We will meet February 8th and 22nd as we work on projects and get ready for the garage sale. Fun for everyone! (and fellowship and food)!

Garage Sale

On March 24th, we will be having a Garage Sale. That means, if you have garage sale items, you can bring them now. Put them outside the church office at the basket. We will have a drop off day March 10th from 9am - 12pm.



Fundraiser and Fun

Join us on Saturday, February 24th for a Chili Cook Off and Family Game Night! Bring your favorite chili or soup to enter into the contest, your favorite game (tables for euchre and other games will be set up), and your cash and coins for voting for your favorite chili/soup. Feel free to also bring a side or dessert to share. A free will offering will be collected to raise money to send youth to camp. Games will begin at 3:00pm and the meal will commence at 5:00pm. We hope you will come out to support the youth and enjoy this time of fellowship and fun!

Primetimers

Please join us Wednesday Feb. 21st at noon in the Fellowship Hall as we hear from Denise Retz, Richmond Park Superintendent. You must reserve a seat to attend. To reserve your spot, please call the office at 765-962-8543 or email Christin at christin@richmondcumc.com

Altar Flowers

If you would like to give flowers to be placed on the altar for Sunday Worship, please contact Christin at 765-962-8543. The cost is \$25 per order and will be billed through Jack Daggy Flowers.

Care Chain

If you live alone, CUMC invites you to be a part of our new Care Chain. Those who love you will be put at ease to know you are in touch with someone every day. Choose the method you prefer: phone, text or email. Someone will contact you and you in turn will contact someone else. It will only take a few minutes at most, but the peace of mind will last all day. See Sally Sayre for more information. Final plans will be in place as soon as we have our list of participants.

THE TRIBE NEWS

“FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE GATHER IN MY NAME, I WILL BE WITH THEM” - MATTHEW 18:20

thank
YOU



THANK YOU

Thank you for all of the amazing support you showed the youth by donating and attending the mystery dinner. The students will receive scholarships for the mission trip and/or camp from this fundraiser.

Not able to make it? You can still support your students! We will have some other opportunities for donating in the coming months so “stay tuned”.

YOUTH SUNDAY IS COMING

Sunday, March 4 at Centerville & First UMC
Sunday, March 11 at Central UMC

SENIORS:

You have first priority with participation. Want to sing a solo? Play an instrument? Share your faith story? Let Sheri know ASAP.

TRIBE IN FEBRUARY

is all preparation for Youth Sunday. We will be interviewing people, practicing skits and music, and making our banners and other props. Please join us from 5pm-7pm each week at Central.

MISSION TRIP

Rising 8th-12th grade
Sebring, FL
UMCOR Disaster Relief

\$50 deposit is due on Sunday, March 4th to secure your spot for this trip. Your participation in fundraisers will determine the final balance for your trip.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMP

Rising 6th-Rising 8th
CAMP ADVENTURE in Pierceton, IN
June 25-29

Sheri and Amanda are on the directing team for this week. We love watching middle schoolers have a blast while growing in their faith! Please contact Sheri if you want more information.

HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUP

Coffee and “Cool Name Pending”
We will be joining with YoungLife for our Saturday gatherings. Join us the 1st Saturday of every month at Roscoe’s, in the Depot, from 6-8pm. Shauna and I will be there on February 3rd, March 3rd, and April 7th. waiting for you! Bring a friend and get your coffee FREE!
(May will be a special event for Seniors)

SAY

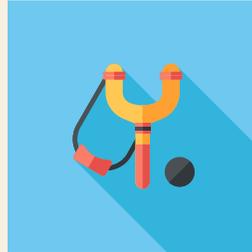


1. I love you.
2. I love you no matter what.
3. I love you even when you are angry at me.
4. I love you even when I'm angry at you.
5. I love you when you are far away. My love for you can reach you wherever you are.

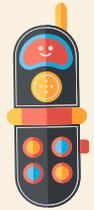
SHARE



6. The story of their birth or adoption.
7. A story about yourself when you were their age.
8. About some fears you had and how you overcame them.
9. Your dreams for their future.
10. Something unique you love about them.



WAYS



SHOW



11. Your child how to do something instead of banning them from it.
12. An interest in their interests.
13. How to fold laundry.
14. How to look up information when you don't know the answer.
15. Affection to your spouse.

to



LOVE

YOUR

CHILD



PRAY



16. That your child will awaken to the reality of God.
17. That your child will have a healthy fear of God.
18. That your child will love obedience.
19. That your child will recognize God's voice.
20. That your child will crave God's Word.

GIVE



21. Hugs (don't let go too fast)
22. A kiss on the top of their head when you walk past.
23. Piggy back rides.
24. Age appropriate privileges that show you trust them.
25. Your undivided attention for a time, even if there's other things to be done.

WORK AS WORSHIP

1-DAY LOCAL CHURCH RETREAT



Wendy Davidson
President, US Specialty Channels Kellogg Company



Kelly Shackelford
CEO of First Liberty Institute and frequent guest of FOX, CNN, ABC, and NBC



Matt Chandler
Lead Pastor, The Village Church, Dallas, TX



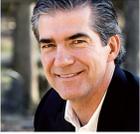
Christopher Brooks
Senior Pastor, Evangel Ministries Detroit, MI



Norm Miller
Chairman of Interstate Batteries



Anne Beiler
Founder of Auntie Anne's, Speaker, and Author of Twist of Faith



Joel Manby
President & CEO of SeaWorld and Author of Love Works



Phil Vischer
Creator of VeggieTales and founder of Jellyfish Labs



Patrick Lencioni
New York Times Best-Selling author of The Five Dysfunctions of a Team



Tom Nelson
President of Made to Flourish and Senior Pastor at Christ Community Church



Bryant Ambelang
CEO of NatureSweet Tomatoes

On Friday, February 23, 2018, Central UMC will be hosting a "Work As Worship". This is a 1-day retreat that will be a simulcast of RightNow Media's "Work As Worship" Conference. It will be from 8:30am to 3:30pm. This retreat will be engaging and informative. It will include many well-known and respected Christian leaders in many fields.

Think about this! Work is what we spend most of our lives doing. If we can do it in such a way as to make it a spiritual discipline, think of the possibilities for growth you could experience! This is exactly what the retreat will seek to do!

**For more information visit
www.workasworshipretreat.org**

**To sign up, simply visit this link:
www.workasworshipretreat.org/Registration**

If you need help with this, please feel free to call the church office at (765)962-8543. The price is \$25 and includes lunch and refreshments. It will be paid at the time of registration. Please do not let finances stop you from attending, contact us and we will work that out. Please also invite a friend or co-worker to join you! The impact the retreat will have for your life will be compounded if you are able to invite friends and co-workers to join you in this way of thinking about work. If you are an employer, it could be a real gift to your employees to allow them the opportunity to come to the retreat. I can truly say that I think this will be a great opportunity for you to grow. If you are able to come, I know that you will not regret it! I look forward to seeing you there!

Calendar of Events

2/3	UMW Pop-Up	10:00am
2/6	Preschool Board Meeting	6:00pm
2/8	Creative Hands	9:00am
2/8	Soup Kitchen	9:00am
2/10	Bread Baking	8:00am
2/12	Medical Monday	1:00pm
2/14	Lunch Bunch	11:30am
2/15	Friendship Circle	9:30am
2/17	Disciples Hand	8:30am
2/18	Arrow	4:30pm
2/19	Monday Morning Connection	9:00am
2/20	Bread Basket	4:30am
2/20	Trustees Meeting	6:30pm
2/21	Primetimers	12:00pm
2/22	Creative Hands	9:00am
2/22	Ad Council	6:30pm
2/23	Work as Worship Conference	8:00am
2/24	Chili Cook-Off	3:00pm

Planning an event?

If you are planning on an event you would like to be held here at the church, please contact the church office at 765-962-8543 at least a week before the event to make sure the date and time are available. Please make sure to fill out a church event form, located in the office, so we know how you would like your event set up and where you would like to have it. If you have any questions, please call Christin at 765-962-8543 or email christin@richmondcumc.com

Upcoming Serivces

2/14	Ash Wednesday	6:30pm
3/25	Palm Sunday	10:00am
3/29	Maundy Thursday	6:30pm
3/30	Good Friday	12:00pm
4/1	Easter Sunday	10:00am

Weekly Bulletin Articles

due on Tuesdays by 5pm

Lamplighter Articles

due on the 15th of the month

Office Hours

Mon. - Thurs. 9am - 12pm & 1pm - 5pm
Friday 9am - 12pm

Greeters

2/4	Springer & Mary Ann Smith
2/11	Youth
2/18	David & Sharon Miles
2/25	Tom & Lori McWhinney

Acolytes

2/4	Jamie & Dylan Puckett
2/11	Ike Khamis & Olivia Swonder
2/18	Ava McCurdy & Anna Claire Ream
2/25	Annetta Itnyre

Scripture Readers

2/4	Kathy Robinson
2/11	Debbie Jenkins
2/18	Anna Claire Ream
2/25	Ann Cashner

Children's Message

2/4	Pastor Tom / Pastor Curtis
2/11	Jeff Sheridan
2/18	Ann Cashner
2/25	Pastor Jen

Ushers

2/4	Eric Burkhardt, Electa Berk, Larry Parker, Linda Witter, Jim Robinson, Lester Robinson
2/11	Eric Burkhardt, Electa Berk, Larry Parker, Linda Witter, Jim Robinson, Lester Robinson
2/18	Rick Eyer, Phil Scott, Jackie Scott, Roger Clark, Beryl Wesler, Ned Toms
2/25	Rick Eyer, Phil Scott, Jackie Scott, Roger Clark, Beryl Wesler, Ned Toms

Altar Guild

Fred Chatfield