

Scripture for Contemplation

We speak the wisdom of God, hidden in a *mystery*, that God determined before the ages for our glory. But just as it is written, “Things that no eye has seen, or ear heard, or mind imagined, are the things God has prepared for those who love Him.” (I Corinthians 2:7, 9)

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned; for she hath received of the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.

The voice of him that cries out in the wilderness; “Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the crooked places shall be made straight, and the rough places plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.” (Isaiah 40:1-5)

...and all the people were astonished at the *majesty* of God. (Luke 9:43)

Welcome

We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Central is a family church, with generations of families making their home here. Central is also a mission-oriented church, sharing the love and good news of the gospel with one another, our neighborhood, our community, and the world, as you will see throughout our ministries, events, and announcements for this week. We would love to be your church home, but if you are just here for the day, we pray God’s blessings on your journey!

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. Worship (One Service, December 27)

Sunday School: (Classes for all ages) 10:45 a.m. (December 27)

Prayer: Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Emmaus Prayer Group - Parlor

NEIGHBORHOOD MINISTRIES THIS WEEK

Food Pantry: Monday 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Rack Shack: (Used items/Clothes) Monday 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

MEETINGS & FELLOWSHIP EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Today 5:00 p.m. Shalom Neighborhood Dinner – FLC
6:00 p.m. Nativity Film – Garden Room
- Tuesday 9:00 a.m. Church Staff Meeting – Church Office
- Thursday 8:00 a.m. Angel Tree Delivery – Nolte Room
Christmas Eve – Church Office & Child Care Closed
11:00 p.m. Candle-Light Communion Service
- Friday Christmas – Church Office & Child Care Closed
- Saturday 12:00 p.m. N. A. Meeting – Library



PRAY FOR THE CENTER CITY CHURCH CLUSTER

Central, Fairlawn, St. John’s and Trinity UMC, plus St. Lucas UCC.

Budget Envelope Giving Last Week	\$5,714
Giving Year-To-Date	\$327,121
Needed Weekly \$6,680	Needed Year-to-Date \$334,000

CANTATA CONTINUES SUNDAYS OF ONE SERVICE AT 9:30

Welcome to today’s special worship service with the cantata our choir has been preparing for us—at this special time. For the remainder of December we will have one service at 9:30 a.m., with Sunday School at 10:45 a.m. Our Praise Band will lead next Sunday’s service.

A BIG THANK YOU

I would like to tell everyone that I am so pleased with the cards, calls and prayers. They really helped! I hope to see you soon. Lillian Alderson

COMPASS CLASS COOKIE SALE TODAY

The Compass Class is offering delicious home made cookies and candy for sale today from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center. The price is still \$5.00 a pound and gift boxes will be provided.

THE NATIVITY STORY

You are invited to a special viewing of “The Nativity Story” tonight, at 6:00 p.m. in the Garden Room. Light refreshments will be provided. Please come enjoy this moving film as we inch ever closer to Christmas.

CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION – 11:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE

Join us for Christmas Eve worship at our beautiful and traditional Candlelight Communion Service at 11:00 p.m. this Thursday, December 24.

ANGEL TREE DISTRIBUTION – 8 AM THURSDAY

All are invited to help deliver Angel Tree gifts and Family Food Boxes. Come to the canopy entrance at 8:00 a.m. Christmas Eve morning.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING

There are envelopes in the pews to make a special Christmas Offering to honor Jesus’ birth and support Central UMC in its sharing the “Good news of great joy for all the people,” as sung by the angels (*Luke 2:10*).

2010 BUDGET ENVELOPES AVAILABLE

Please pick up your 2010 Budget envelopes in the Parlor. Envelopes not able to be picked up will be mailed.

FREE NEIGHBORHOOD MEAL TONIGHT

The Shalom Zone’s monthly free neighborhood meal is tonight at 5:00 p.m. in our Family Life Center.

2010 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

2010 Central UMC calendars are available free in the Sanctuary and Parlor. We thank Boone Funeral Home for printing these.

ROMANS STUDY RESUMES DECEMBER 30 & JANUARY 6

The last two sessions of the Romans study will be held at 6:10 p.m. on Wednesdays, December 30 and January 6.

PROGRESS ON PAYING FOR CAR FOR WILLIAM

We are only \$714 short of fully paying for the car bought for William Mpere-Gyekye, so he could fulfill his chaplaincy residency duties. Contact Pastor Joe, if you would like to help finish this off.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY’S CANTATA

Chancel Choir

Sopranos

Carolyn Casper
Linda Harris
Laura Henry
Linda Sanders

Tenors

Ned Conder
Rich Crow
Josh Fraccaro
Larry Merritt
Steve Millay

Altos

Amy Barron
Melissa Counts
Janet Duncan
Gloria Millay
Connie Romain
Amanda Schreiber
Mary Schreiber

Basses

Doug Duncan
Joe Easley
Joe Fraccaro
Ken Schreiber

Central Carillon

Carolyn Casper	Laura Henry
Melissa Counts	Terri Pennington
Alan Eggleston	Bill Seymour
Linda Eggleston	Jon Renner
Charles Giesman	Linda Wambach
Paula Giesman	

Narrators

Michael Eggleston
Abby Wilson

Children

Makenna Counts
Talon Counts
Anna Schreiber
Ethan Schreiber
Katy Swain

Pianist – Carolyn Howard
Director – Letta Fraccaro