

STAFF PASTOR PARISH COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

We are very grateful for having been blessed these last eight years with the capable financial and business direction from Debbie Walters. While many of you may not have had much direct interaction with her, I assure you that she was skillfully orchestrating many aspects and projects related to the daily operations of the church as our Business Manager. Before Debbie joined our staff in 2010, she left a successful career as a National Claims Director at Cigna after 28 years. It is very apparent that Debbie loves and cares deeply for this church, but if you know her, it is also obvious that she desires to spend time with her son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

At the end of March, Debbie will be retiring, and we celebrate all of her accomplishments and efforts on our behalf. While it is always sad to see someone leave, we are happy knowing that she will spend less time traveling to and from work and spending more time with her loved ones.

It may be tough finding her in the coming weeks to say goodbye as the beginning of a new calendar year means closing out the last financial year and she will be very busy doing just that. The Staff Pastor Parish Relations committee is already busy reviewing all the tasks she has acquired over the years to determine the most appropriate way to fill the responsibilities she carried. We will also be planning an appropriate venue to thank her for her service and send her off with our love and gratitude. These details have not been worked out, but we will be sure to announce those plans once they are made.

This is the second staff vacancy to be announced in just two weeks. It is not always easy to understand God's timing, but rest assured that He is control of all matters. Both Emily and Debbie are leaving for their own reasons and each one is working to ensure the smoothest possible transition. Our committee will be quite busy over the coming weeks reviewing positions and eventually candidates. We ask for your prayers and God's guidance in the lives of these two faithful women and the direction of our church.

Faithfully,
Dale Loberger, Chair SPPRC



CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF

Danny Leonard - Senior Pastor
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CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.centralumcmonroe.org

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

January 14, 2018

Since it has been so cold recently, I thought the following story was fitting. Arne and Peter decide to go ice fishing. They head out, find a nice spot, cut a hole in the ice, and stick in their poles.

Suddenly, a loud voice booms from above, "THERE ARE NO FISH HERE!!!"

Arne and Peter look around, look at each other, and look up, and they don't see anyone.

"I suppose we'd better move then," says Peter. They get up and find another spot on the ice, cut a hole, and stick in their poles with great hopes of fresh Walleye. Once again, the voice booms from above, "THERE ARE NO FISH HERE!!!"

They look around, look at each other, then look up. Again, they don't see anyone. "We best find another spot," says Arne. So, they gather up their equipment, choose another promising spot on the ice, cut a hole, and stick in their poles.

Once again, the loud voice booms from above, "THERE ARE NO FISH HERE!!!"

They look around, look at each other, then look up, again seeing no one. Peter calls out, "God in Heaven, is that you?"

The voice responds, "NO! THIS IS THE SKATING RINK MANAGER! THERE ARE NO FISH HERE!!!"

We had a little hiccup with the heat in the sanctuary on Sunday but that did not deter our worship. Our worship in the chapel was meaningful and spirited. Following some repairs, we look forward to a warm atmosphere this Sunday at our 11am worship in the sanctuary.

I look forward to seeing you in worship on Sunday.

Danny

Address: 801 S. Hayne Street, Monroe, NC 28112

Phone: 704-289-3186 Fax: 704-289-3187

Senior Pastor: Reverend Danny Leonard

Associate Pastor: Reverend Laura Hamrick

THIS WEEKS ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION TEAM MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH, 6:30 PM RM 114

An opportunity awaits **any** church member who has a passion for missions. The first meeting will be on Goals and mission focus will be established for another exciting year. Come and be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community as past projects continue and new ones are developed. Contact Nancy Gustafson, Mission Team leader at 704.733.8686.

STEPHEN MINISTER CARE

When was the last time someone really listened to you? We're talking about that undistracted, full attention kind of listening. That's one of the ways Stephen Ministers care for others. We need more Stephen Ministers to care for those who are making that long journey through the valley of a life crisis. Will you consider serving in this way? Interviews are the week of January 22.

Training begins on February 13. For more information, contact Rev. Laura Hamrick ([704-289-3186](tel:704-289-3186); revlbhamrick@gmail.com).



BE OUR GUEST! BRING A GUEST IN JANUARY!



Kids who bring a first time guest with them to Sunday School, Church or youth will receive two Free Chick-fil-A Kid's Meal Cards. **Youth** who bring a first time guest with them to Sunday School, Church or to a Life Group Meeting will get two free Chick-fil-A Treat cards. Limited Quantities. First come, first served. Go to the bulletin board next to Central Hall to get your Jan. Guest Special Form & redeem your card.

JOIN US AT BEAUTIFUL LAKE JUNALUSKA JUNE 15-16

The 2018 Spiritual Growth Retreat sponsored by the Western NC Conference United Methodist Women. We know it's early and June is a ways away but this Retreat is a popular one and accommodations fill up fast. Registration opens February 1st. If you are interested please let me know by Sunday, January 29th. Thanks, Ginger Hightower [704-207-3349](tel:704-207-3349). Cost for the Retreat is \$105 for the room and 3 meals (Dinner Friday, and Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday). Program Registration is \$25.



THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

Monday, 1/15

OFFICE CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY
6:00 pm Upward Practice - FLC
6:30 pm New Beginnings Circle - Hospitality Room

Tuesday, 1/16

6:00 pm Upward Practice - FLC
6:30 pm Knitting Girls
6:30 pm Trustees Meeting - Library
6:30 pm Missions Meeting - Room #114

Wednesday, 1/17

10:00 am Soul Food - Hospitality Rm.
6:00 pm Celebration Singers - Choir Rm.
6:30 pm Grace and Mercy - Library
7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Choir Rm.

Thursday, 1/18

7:30am Thursday's Men's Group - Hilltop Restaurant
6:00 pm Upward Practice - FLC
6:15 pm Handbells - Sanctuary

Saturday, 1/20

9:00 am Upward Games - FLC
9:00 am Brass Rehearsal
10:00 am InnerChange Vocals - Choir Room
11:00 am InnerChange Instrument - Central Hall

WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT SYMPATHY TO

Mary McClure and her family in the passing of her brother
Billy Faucette December 30th.

PLEASE REMEMBER WITH YOUR PRAYERS

Harriet Crumen (Paula Russell's sister), The Campbell children, Grace Medlin, Cindy Malone, Clara Wiggins & family, Belinda Sisk, Andrew Young, Joel Kurtz, Amy Helms, Gail Klein, Evan White-Parker A1C, Lloyd Ratliff, Barbara Murray, Pat Johnson, Bob Sullivan, Jo & Julian Bell, and Jason Hill.

OUR FAITHFULNESS - JANUARY 7, 2018

ATTENDANCE TOTAL:	Contemporary	93
	Traditional	130
	Total:	223

TITHES AND OFFERINGS JANUARY 7:	WEEK	YEAR-TO-DATE
	Budget	\$ 16,410
	Actual	\$ 10,489
	Difference	(\$ 5,921)