

### 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**  
dleonard@centralumcmonroe.org

**Laura Hamrick - Associate Pastor**  
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**Debbie Walters - Business Manager**  
debwalters@carolina.rr.com

**Heidi McKnight - Office Administrator**  
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**Jim O'Dell - Director of Music**  
jaodell@carolina.rr.com

**Sylvia Jenkins - Custodian**  
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**Emily Kroeger - Director of Christian Formation**  
ekroeger@centralumcmonroe.org

## CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.centralumcmonroe.org

### WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

January 21, 2018

There's an old story about a carpenter who banged his thumb with a hammer while on the job. The foreman sent him to a clinic to get checked out.

Walking into the place, he found himself in a room that was empty except for a desk and two chairs. On the far side of the room were two doors. One was marked "Illness" and the other "Injury."

He walked through the door marked "Injury." There he found himself in a room that looked much like the first, containing only a desk and two chairs. Again, there were two doors. These said "Internal" and "External."

He chose "External" and found himself in yet another room with one desk and two chairs, offering a choice of two doors: "Therapy" and "Treatment."

Choosing "Treatment," he again saw a desk, two chairs and two doors. The choice this time was between "Major" and "Minor."

He walked through the door marked "Minor" and found himself back out on the street. He returned to the job site and was greeted by the foreman, who asked if the clinic had been able to help him.

The man responded, "I'm not exactly sure, but it was the best-organized outfit I've ever seen."

As I read that story I was immediately reminded of a quote that is attributed to John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church. Speaking about the church, he said, "I am not afraid that the people called Methodists should ever cease to exist either in Europe or America. But I am afraid lest they should only exist as a dead sect, having the form of religion without the power."

We Methodists certainly have plenty of structure. We can do things right but if we aren't doing the right things we will merely exist.

The most important question is, "are lives being transformed as a result of the ministries of our church?"

Come to worship this Sunday and you will learn about one of the ministries of the church that is sharing the love and life transforming power of God.

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

## 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. Cost for the Retreat is \$105 for the room and 3 meals (Dinner Friday, and Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday). Program Registration is \$25.



**KIDS**

### BE OUR GUEST! BRING A GUEST IN JANUARY!

**YOUTH**

**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.

## THE LESSIE-ANNE CIRCLE MEETING FEBRUARY 6TH, 10 AM, IN LIBRARY

Mary Engel has tickets for the "Heart to Heart" luncheon. Contact her at 704-226-1176 with questions. Britt Hadley will present our program.

### 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; [revlbhamrick@gmail.com](mailto:revlbhamrick@gmail.com)).

### INCLEMENT WEATHER CONDITIONS POLICY

If you did not get your email announcement please follow the below policy: CUMC Office will follow the same schedule as Union County Schools. If they get out early, are delayed etc. the office will be also. For Sunday services & activities please refer to TV stations WBTV (Channel 3) & WSOC (Channel 9) for the list of closings. We feel this is the best way to keep it simple when the weather is bad and some of the office staff can not get here.

## THIS WEEK AT CENTRAL

**Monday, 1/22**

6:00 pm Upward Practice - FLC  
6:30 pm New Beginnings Circle - Hospitality Room

**Tuesday, 1/23**

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, 1/24**

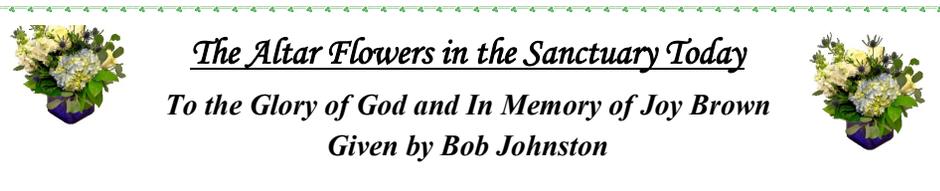
10:00 am Soul Food - Hospitality Rm.  
6:00 pm Celebration Singers - Choir Rm.  
6:30 pm Grace and Mercy - Library  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir - Choir Rm.

**Thursday, 1/25**

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

**Saturday, 1/27**

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



### PLEASE REMEMBER WITH YOUR PRAYERS

**Virginia Duncan**, 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 14, 2018

<b>ATTENDANCE TOTAL:</b>	Contemporary	97
	Traditional	<u>113</u>
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>210</b>

<b>TITHES AND OFFERINGS JANUARY 14:</b>	<u>WEEK</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
Budget	\$16,410	\$ 32,820
Actual	<u>\$11,941</u>	<u>\$ 36,730</u>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>(\$ 4,469)</b>	<b>(\$ 3,910)</b>