

SERMON MESSAGES

The Month of July

5 JULY Golden by EJA
Pastor Scott

12 JULY Where I Find God by Larry Fleet
Pastor Scott

21 JUNE I Am Not Okay by Jelly Roll
Pastor Scott

28 JUNE What a Wonderful World by Louis Armstrong
Pastor Melissa

Summer Playlist

Sermon Series // July 5 - August 2

Summer Playlist is back! This annual summer sermon series is one of our favorite traditions as we explore how God can speak to us in many ways—including through music. Each week, we'll take a closer look at secular songs YOU chose and discover biblical truths and meaningful conversations that challenge, encourage, and help us grow in faith together.

Whether the songs are upbeat, emotional, nostalgic or inspiring, we believe God can use everyday moments and familiar lyrics to point us toward hope, truth and a deeper relationship with Him.



Central Contributions

| | 3-MAY | 10-MAY | 17-MAY | 24-MAY | 31-MAY | ONLINE |
|--|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| WORSHIP ATTENDANCE <small>* worship attendance includes online</small> | 301 | 351 | 303 | 296 | 337 | |
| SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE | 173 | 156 | 176 | 131 | 127 | |
| CONTRIBUTIONS | \$ 16,119 | \$ 14,781 | \$ 7,757 | \$ 9,303 | \$ 6,869 | \$ 19,641 |
| FAITH PROMISE | \$ 9,607 | \$ 100 | \$ 895 | \$ 325 | \$ 470 | \$ 660 |

Promised 7-1-25 to 6-30-26: **\$122,308**



Tractor For Sale!

870 John Deere • Four-Wheel Drive • 1,210 Hours

Looking for a dependable tractor? We're selling a John Deere 870! This four-wheel drive tractor has 1,210 hours and is known for its reliability, versatility and ability to handle a variety of property maintenance tasks.

Whether you have acreage to manage, a farm to maintain, or projects around your property, this tractor is ready to get the job done. **The asking price is \$8,500.** If interested, please contact the church office (cumc@centralmethodist.com or 865-986-7329).



THE CONNECTION

Monthly Newsletter of Central United Methodist Church

JULY 2026 ISSUE

BAPTISM

at the Lake

Saturday, July 25 // 2:00pm

Summer at Central

A Letter from Pastor Scott

While many people think of summer as a season to slow down, our church has been actively serving, reaching, and making a difference in our community and beyond. From children and youth attending camp, to Central Student's mission team serving with Smoky Mountain Outreach, to our mission team sharing Christ's love in Costa Rica, God is at work in powerful ways.

Closer to home, we hosted a community blessing at the Lenoir City Central Park and Splash Pad and are providing free shoes for children who participated in camp on July 24. Lives are being touched, relationships are being built, and people are experiencing the love of Christ because of your generosity and support.

As you enjoy the summer months, I encourage you to remember your church in your giving. Every gift helps us fulfill our mission of helping people find and follow Jesus and serving our neighbors in His name. Thank you for your faithful support and partnership in ministry. Together, we are making an eternal difference.

If you would like to be baptized or to remember your baptism, contact Pastor Scott (scott@centralmethodist.com) or Pastor Melissa (melissa@centralmethodist.com) for more information.

Save THE DATE
FALL SMALL GROUP KICKOFF
Sunday, August 2
10:00am



FOR LC - Snow Cones in the Park

Saturday, July 18 // 10:30-11:30am LC Central Park & Splash Pad

Let's bless families in our community! Join us at the downtown Lenoir City park and splash pad as we hand out free snow cones. Wear your "I Am the Church" t-shirt and simply connect with other families while your kids play and enjoy the park. This is a relaxed way to serve, build relationships and show our community God's love.

CENTRAL KIDS

Hannah Collins, Director of Children's Ministries

Children's Ministry Program

hannah@centralmethodist.com



Summer Playlist Featuring Central Kids

Sunday, June 19 // 9 & 11am Services
Central Kids in grades 1st-5th are invited to sing in our Summer Playlist series! On July 19th, **children will sing the background vocals to "I Am Not Okay" by Jelly Roll.** Kids are practicing with Mrs. Rachel during Sunday school. More details will be messaged directly to families soon.

July/August Sunday School - Blessings & Birthrights

Sundays // 10:00am Children's Hallway
Children ages Pre K-5th grade will explore the story of Jacob and Esau and learn that God blesses us. Their memory verse for this series is Numbers 6:24: "The Lord bless you and keep you." Join us as we dive deep into this story through art, games, cooking, science and more!



What's better than a day at the lake? A day at the lake with your friends! If you're a 6th-12th grader you're invited to enjoy kayaking, canoeing, paddleboarding, swimming, games and hanging out with friends at the McCammon's Lake House. This is a free event and includes lunch and dinner. We'll also discuss Courage and celebrate baptisms at 2:00pm. **RSVP to Michelle (865-622-1899 or tatum005@gmail.com) by July 15th if you plan to attend.**

CENTRAL STUDENTS

Student Ministry Program

Michelle Garcia, Director of Student Ministries michelle@centralmethodist.com

Sunday School - Life of David Series

Sunday Mornings // 10:00-10:45am Room A134/5

All 6th-12th graders are invited to discover more important life lessons from the *Life of David* series this month.

Youth - Essentials Series

Sunday Nights // 5:00-7:00pm Room A134/5

Sunday nights will include good food, fun experiences and engaging discussions about three essentials to the Christian faith: knowledge, prayer and courage.

July AT A GLANCE

July 5
SERVE AT COLD HANDS
WARM HEARTS
4:15-6:10pm or
6:05-8:10pm

July 12
YOUTH - BIBLE ESCAPE
ROOM & ESSENTIALS:
KNOWLEDGE
5:00-7:00pm

July 19
YOUTH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION &
ESSENTIALS: PRAYER
5:00-7:00pm

July 25
LAKE DAY
10:00am-8:00pm
McCammon's Home

July 26
No Youth due to
Lake Day

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Women's Ministry Program

All women in our church are invited to participate in United Women in Faith (UWF) programs. For additional information contact Sandy Dunsmore at 865-271-7426.



United Women in Faith

JULY CIRCLE MEETINGS

Hope Circle

Tuesday, July 28 // 6:30pm Kit Sexton's Home
Gather for dessert and meeting. Contact Kit (701-441-1082) for additional information.

*Notice: Martha and Ruth circles do not meet in July or August.



Save THE DATE
DISTRICT SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAM
Saturday, August 22
9:00am-12:00pm
Worship Center



Smoky Mountain Outreach Mission Trip

Central Students went to Smoky Mountain Outreach last month for their summer mission trip. They served at Second Harvest Food Bank, a nursing facility, working on decks and so much more. Way to go, students and leaders!



Camp in the Community

Last month we hosted 64 kids for Camp in the Community! Thank you to everyone who helped make this week a success and allowing these kids a safe place to learn and grow in their faith.



July Birthdays

Happy birthday to all our wonderful church family celebrating in July!
May God bless each of you with joy, good health and a year filled with His favor!

- 2 Ken Cook
- 3 Jennifer Malone
- 5 Wesley Good
- 5 Rachel Owens
- 6 Charlotte Wright
- 7 Norma Idom
- 7 Julia Stauffer
- 7 Reverie Rendon
- 8 Sarah Jane Raymer
- 9 Doug Raymer
- 10 Sharon Lantz
- 10 Jennifer Tomaszek
- 13 Becky Manning
- 13 Jake Allen
- 13 Anna Layer
- 15 Nena Hall
- 16 Edwin Blackburn
- 16 Chris Hartzler
- 16 Peggy Tinnel
- 17 Savannah Gresham
- 17 Chase Wright
- 18 Clay McCammon
- 18 Matt Collins
- 20 Elizabeth Hartzler
- 20 Lisa Thompson
- 20 Amelia Jarvis
- 22 Melissa Smith
- 24 Brayden Hartzler
- 25 Charly Vicars
- 25 Caleb Lantz
- 26 Gerald Carnes
- 29 Blake Messler
- 31 Hayden Wright