# questioning CHRISTIANITY

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

During this series following the modern worship service, Pastor Scott and Pastor Melissa will be available to lead a 20 minute discussion group that will go further with questions and applications from the message of the day. Meet in the back of the Worship Center at 10:00am. All are welcome!

## **Questioning Christianity**

September 7 - October 19

This series creates space for honest questions and deep struggles. Each week you'll explore common objections to Christianity and see how doubt, far from being a threat, can actually lead you closer to a stronger, more authentic faith. Discover how lesus doesn't run from your questions - He meets you in them.

#### SEPTEMBER MESSAGES:

- **9.7** The Sunnier Side of Doubt Scott
- **9.14** When the Church is Toxic Melissa
- **9.21** *Is the Bible Relevant? -* Scott
- **9.28** *Science and the Existence of God Melissa* & Scott - 10:30am Combined Service



Join us for a combined service at 10:30am as our Central Kids and Students help to lead worship. This service is very special as we get to enjoy the next generation leading us in worship in many different ways. Enjoy coffee & fellowship at 9:30am, doors open at 10:00am and service will begin at 10:30am.



## **Volunteer Spotlight - Sheila Borders**

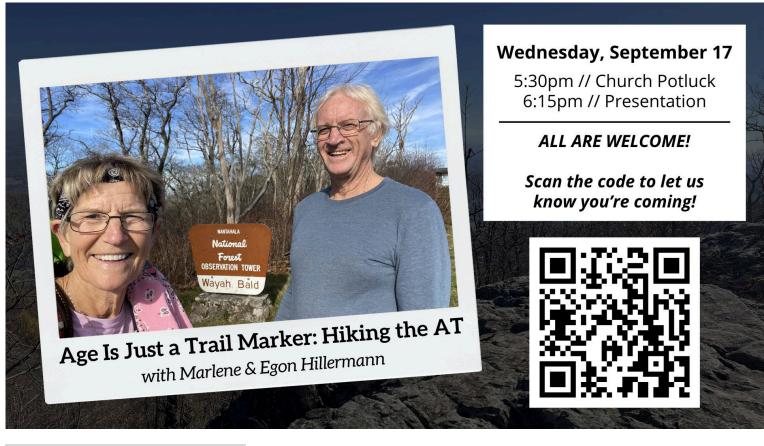
For more than 20 years, Sheila Borders has poured her heart into Loudon County Habitat for Humanity teaching homeownership classes, mentoring families, serving on their Board, rallying Central to build and volunteer, and showing up wherever she's needed with a smile and a servant's heart.

At this year's Habitat for Humanity of Tennessee Conference, Sheila was honored with the Leadership Volunteer of the Year Award, a recognition so well deserved for her unwavering commitment to our mission. Way to go, Sheila!

# THE CONNECTIO

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2025



## A Note from **Pastor Scott** I Am the Church

Have you ever had somebody show up for you? Maybe it was for a health scare, a divorce or a celebration for you or one of your loved ones. It's been said 85% of life is just showing up. In church terms, it's called the ministry of presence.

During the next five months (pictured right), we're going to show up for our community. If you haven't yet, pick up your new, free Central T-Shirt and choose at least one activity to show up got your community. We are the Church!

- Scott Layer

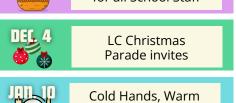
## Age Is Just a Trail Marker

Wednesday, September 17

Make plans to join us for a fellowship night and hear Marlene and Egon Hillerman share their experiences of hiking and completing the Appalachian Trail. We'll gather at 5:30pm for a potluck dinner followed by the presentation at 6:15pm. All are welcome! Bring a friend to hear this incredible story!







Hearts Dinner

## Flourishing in Your 60's & **Bevond with Ron Johnson** Wednesday, October 29 6:00pm

**Vates to Remember** 

The Ultimate

**Falloween Bash** 

Sunday, October 26

3:00-5:00pm

**UWF Fall Bake Sale** 

Sunday, November 16

9:45am-12:15pm





## I Am the Church - LC Football Game Friday, September 12 | 7:00pm

Join us for our first "I Am the Church" mission of the year! Wear your Central shirt and join us in cheering on all of our Central Students involved in the McMinn county game. Following the game, Central will host a 5th Quarter for all high schoolers at Sno Biz in Lenoir City! Students will enjoy a FREE snow cone, a chance to win one of many prizes, listening to music, hanging out with friends and hearing about how much God loves them. Invite your friends – the more the merrier!!

## **CENTRAL KIDS**



#### Sunday School - The Exodus Sunday Mornings | 10:00-10:45am Children's Hallway

Central Kids will be studying *The Exodus* in Sunday school for the next two months. Through engaging lessons, including art, science, games, missions, spiritual practices, cooking and more, our children will remember our great God's power!

## **CENTRAL STUDENTS**

**Sunday School - Knowing Jesus**Sunday Mornings | 10:00-10:45am Room A133

Central Students will explore how Jesus prays and how He prays for us in a Sunday school series called Knowing Jesus. All 6th-12th grade students are welcome!

#### **Confirmation**

Sunday Mornings | 10:00-10:45am Room A137

Why is there evil and what's so special about the Bible? Confirmands will discover the answer to these two very important questions this month.

#### Youth - Real Friends

Sunday Nights | 5:00-7:00pm Worship Center

All 6th-12th graders are invited to enjoy fun games, good food and deep discussions in our series called *Real Friends* this month.

## September at a Glance

- **9.6-7** Refresh Retreat
- **9.7** No Sunday School/Confirmation due to Retreat
- **9.12** High School 5th Quarter @ Sno Biz // 9:30-11:30pm
- **9.14** Youth // 5-7pm
- **9.21** Youth // 5-7pm
- 9.28 CK/CS Worship Service // 10:30am No Sunday School or Confirmation Youth // 5-7pm

## Mission Partner Update: Habitat for Humanity

We currently have two homes under construction. The first is the final build in the Hope Haven neighborhood in Loudon – it is expected to be finished in the next few weeks, with a dedication likely in October. The other is in the Brooksview neighborhood in Lenoir City –exterior work is moving steadily toward completion. Volunteers are needed for interior work at both sites.

Meanwhile, site preparation work in the new Hilltop Hideaway neighborhood in Loudon continues to progress, with the first construction volunteers likely to be needed by November.

#### **COMMUNITY HABITAT EVENTS**

#### **Community Garage Sale**

Friday, September 26 and Saturday, September 27 8:00am –12:00pm | Community Church at Tellico Village You can volunteer to set up or donate items on Friday September 26 or help with the garage sale on Saturday, September 27.

#### **Farm to Families Dinner**

Thursday, October 16 | RiverView Family Farm.
This signature farm-to-table dinner features Chef
Robert Allen, live music, and a beautiful setting on
Fort Loudoun Lake. General admission is \$125, and
sponsorships range from \$1,000–\$10,000. Tickets are
available at farmtofamiliesloco.org.

## **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

## **Ruth Circles**

Thursday, September 18 // 1:00pm Rm A133

## Martha Circle

Tuesday, October 7 // 1:00pm Rm A133

## **Hope Circle**

Tuesday, September 23 // 6:00pm Dianne Kelley's home for dinner and meeting, RSVP 865-456-6606

For additional information regarding meetings for Central's United Women in Faith contact <u>Sandy Dunsmore at 865-271-7426</u>.

## September Birthdays

**1** Elijah Whitt

**3** Drew Herron

**3** Noah Thacker

**3** Ronnie Powell

**3** Brenda Fitz

**3** Cristiana Wright

**4** Fletcher Pickett

**4** Pam Kirthlink

**4** loel Patten

**4** Teresa Weaver

**4** Katie Grugin

**6** Lucas Smith

**7** Annie Kate Platfoot

**9** Chris Shanahan

**10** Kara Scheetz

**10** Maggie Layer

**17** Bernie Horton

**18** Veda Kirby

**18** Lisa Lantz

**18** Alex Herron

21 Hudson Collins

21 Jordan Galyon

**21** Larry Scheetz

**22** Vincent Shanahan

23 Autumn Davis

23 Summer Davis

**23** Ray Morton

**24** Jennifer Hensley

**27** Kim Everett

27 Tim Leonard27 Hung Ma

gie Laver **29** Patti Cole

## **Championship Golf Tournament**

Sunday, September 28 | 2:00pm

The annual CUMC Championship Golf Tournament is a great opportunity for fellowship and fun! We'll gather at the Knoxville Municipal Golf Course (3925 Schaad Rd Knoxville, TN 37921) at 2:00pm for a shotgun start. Cost is \$43 per person for golf and cart. All are welcome to play!

To make things more competitive the Callaway Handicap system will be used to determine the winner. For questions, contact Garry Hudson at 865-207-3050...

### **Donations Needed**

Martha Circle and UWF plan a trip to Henderson Settlement on Friday, October 3. We'll be collecting the following requested items September 7-October 1:

- Clothing (winter items
- for all ages)
- Kitchen items in good
- condition
- Bedding and towels
- Diapers (all sizes)Baby wipes
- Canned goods
- Office suppliesSchool supplies

the gathering area. If you have any questions, please email Sharon Lantz at slantz564@gmail.com.

Please place items at

the designated bins in