



# Central

United Methodist Church

Vol. 18, Issue 6

Live and Love as Christ

June 2018



Rev. Billy Towery

**A Message from Rev. Jill Rhinehart:**

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, Marie Brinkley, Staff Parish Relations Chair announced that Rev. Billy Towery will be the new minister at Central UMC. I think Billy brings great gifts and talents to Central UMC. He is moving from Pleasant Grove UMC in Charlotte NC. Billy has served at Pleasant Grove UMC since 2010.

Billy is originally from Cherryville and still has family that lives in that area. Billy is a graduate from Gardner Webb University. He received a Master of Divinity from Duke University. Billy's wife is Karen and they have two children. Billy's current church has two services. One is a contemporary service and the other a traditional service.

I am grateful to welcome Rev. and Mrs. Billy Towery and their children to Kings Mountain. I know they will be a wonderful addition to the Central UMC church family. Billy and his family will move into the parsonage by the first week in July. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be July 15th, 2018.

**June Family Night for Jill!**

Join us in the CAC on June 13th at 6:15 for a goodbye party for Jill. Keith Falls will provide the meat. Everyone else is asked to bring a covered dish to share. A love offering will be taken up for Jill. Checks can be made to Jill Rhinehart or the church.

Please RSVP to Candy in the office as soon as possible so that we make room for all!

**Graduation & Confirmation**  
**Sunday, June 3rd at 10:50am**

### A History Minute by Libby Putnam



Jake and Dot Dixon have been faithful servants of Central United Methodist Church for many years, both of them serving on various committees and in many capacities. Originally, Dot

went to El Bethel with her dad who was Methodist, but in the 1940's the family joined Central when Rev. Garland Winkler was minister. She was soon active in the youth program. Jake's family joined Central in 1952 and he soon became a member of the Chancel Choir where he is still an active member. In 1959 Jake and Dot were married in our old sanctuary. Until their sons, Mark and Jeff, were born, Dot also was a member of the church choir.

Dot has been an active member and held many offices in the UMW, taught Bible School, served on the Administrative Board, and for over 40 years took care of our precious little ones in the church nursery. She decorates the Chrismon trees and places the poinsettias at Christmas and the lilies at Easter, as well as serving as kitchen coordinator. For about 60 years, Jake has worked in the church office on Sunday mornings counting the offering and making deposits. He has served on building committees, chaired the Administrative Council, served as a delegate to conference, and been on nine mission trips. Jake is one of three living charter members of the Central UMM and presently serves as Secretary-Treasurer. Jake and Dot continue to be ever faithful and willing servants for Central United Methodist Church.

*We are thankful for the many responses we have had to our History Project of gathering the memories and activities of our church's members. We will continue to highlight those responses here in the newsletter and in supplements to the bulletin in the coming weeks. We look forward with appreciation to your responses.*

#### Central United Methodist Church of Kings Mountain

113 S. Piedmont Ave. Kings Mountain, NC 28086  
central@cumckm.org www.cumckm.org  
704-739-2471

#### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:30am — 12:30pm  
1:00pm — 4:30pm

#### Staff:

**Pastor,** Jill Rhinehart  
**Youth Ministry & Director of Discipleship,**  
Aaron Simmons  
**Children's Minister & Christian Education,**  
Mallory Monroe Brown  
**Organist,** Doug Parker  
**Music Director,** Carlos Zamora  
**Handbell/Drama Director,** Teresa Williams  
**Preschool Director,** Lindsay Romesberg  
**Administrative Assistant,** Candy Love



### Congratulations to our Graduates!

#### High School Graduates

**Gracie Plonk**—KMHS  
Eastern Carolina University (Nursing)  
**John Harris IV**— KMHS  
Eastern Carolina University (Finance)

#### College Graduates

**Mitchell Cloninger** — Masters of Fire Protection & Administration from UNCC

**Kathy Livsie**—Masters of Science in Technology Systems with a Manufacturing Systems Concentration from East Carolina University

**Kinsey Rhinehart**—University of North Carolina School of the Arts with a degree in Film Editing

### *Welcome to Our New Members:*

Mason & Megan Dixon  
Ashley Kerns  
Doris Sweeting  
Debby Ray

### *We Welcome Our Confirmands:*

Melissa Brooks  
Grace Hudson  
Kat Knight  
Eli Osborne  
Ashlyn Wood

### Picture Days/Membership Directory

We are currently working on updating our Membership Directory. If you would like a new photo or to be included in our updated Membership Directory, we have these upcoming photo dates:

**Sunday, June 3rd 8:30 or 10:30am**  
**Sunday, June 10th 8:30 or 10:30am**  
**Wednesday, June 13th, 6:00pm**  
Just show up ready to smile!



***The Parables  
and Pura Vida***  
2018 Community  
Vacation Bible School  
**August 5th-9th**  
CUMC

### Dear Friends of Central United Methodist Church,

Several weeks ago, Fred Rudder addressed the congregation on a topic plaguing our nation and more specifically North Carolina – the opioid addiction. Between 1999 and 2016, N.C. deaths tied to opioid use grew more than 900%. Many individuals facing this addiction are “accidental addicts”. They had a medical event in which a doctor prescribed an opioid classified drug such as Vicodin or Oxycodone to treat pain and they became addicted. That is not to say that all who take such prescribed drugs will become addicts, but unfortunately with prolonged use, these highly addictive drugs can lead to abuse and dependency.

Many attempts to treat and alleviate this epidemic are being made by organizations throughout the country. One such treatment that has had a high success rate is administered through Integra Medical of NC. Success is defined as getting the patient off the opioids and not having them relapse for a period of 90 days. Integra patients are 70% less likely to relapse than those who receive treatment from other organizations. Integra uses a faith based approach in which patients receive medically assisted treatment. They are given the drug Suboxone to assist with the withdrawal process as well as Christian based counseling at centers with experience in drug addiction, specifically opioid addiction. All patients are required to participate in after care so as to surround themselves in a Christ centered environment. Further, they must join a spiritual based pro-active relapse prevention program – Celebrate Recovery.

Celebrate Recovery is a multi-step recovery program aimed at all “hurts, habits, and hang-ups” including but not exclusive to high anxiety; co-dependency; compulsive behavior; financial dysfunction; drugs and alcohol addiction and eating disorders. The missions committee of Central United Methodist would like to provide support to those fighting the opioid addiction as well as those facing any other hurts, habits and hang-ups through the establishment of a Celebrate Recovery program that would meet on a weekly basis at our church.

What is needed from our members?

- Prayer
- Volunteers to help support this multi-step recovery program.
- Join the Celebrate Recovery program or invite anyone who might benefit from attending such a series. Overcoming our hurts, habits and hang-ups allows us to grow and serve in Christ.

In the weeks to come, more information will be given out addressing how to volunteer and become trained as a Celebrate Recovery guide. In the mean-time we ask that you pray and reflect on the following scriptures:

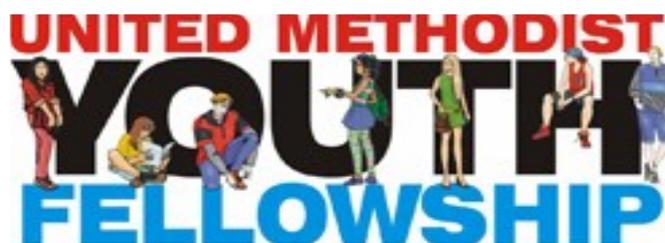
***Let us not love with words but with actions and truth 1 John 3:18***

***Use your God-given gifts to serve others  
1 Peter 4:10***

Many thanks,  
**The Missions Committee**



*The last Kids for Christ (KfC) meeting wrapped up at the Schiele Museum of Natural History in May 2018. They had a great time visiting the planetarium and the many exhibits. KfC will kick off in September 2018!*



***Hello! I'm excited about this summer. Below is our schedule of events. We will very possibly throw in some spontaneous outing but these are what's on the calendar:***

June 9th Graduation for KMHS  
June 13th  
Jill's Going Away So Let's Party, 6 pm  
June 21st White Water Center  
June 27th Wed Night Meet Up 6 pm-7 pm  
July 9th Carowinds  
July 11th Family Fellowship Night  
at Lake Montonia  
July 15th- 21st Florida Mission Trip!  
July 24th Hiking  
Aug 5th-9th VBS  
Aug 14th Knights Game  
Aug 22nd Wed Night Meet Up 6 pm-7 pm  
Aug 27th First day of School CCS  
*Thank you so much for letting me work with your children!*  
**Aaron Simmons**  
Youth Director/Director of Discipleship  
704-472-1725

## ***Goodbye From the Pastor...***



It has come time for me to move on to a new endeavor. As many, if not all of you know, I have decided to take a sabbatical from the ministry for a year. Rev. Billy Towery will be appointed to Central UMC, Kings Mtn. starting July 1.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Central UMC. It has been wonderful being back home in Kings Mountain and rekindling past relationships with friends as well as having the chance to begin new friendships.

During my sabbatical, I have planned to do several things. In September, I hope to spend 6 months participating in mission work at Camp Symonette, on the island of Eleuthera, Bahamas. I will be working with the Bahamas Methodist Habitat (BMH) through the partnership of the United Methodist Volunteers in Missions (UMVIM). BMH is a disaster relief and housing repair outreach ministry that works with volunteers to repair homes and provide community projects.

Prior to leaving for the Bahamas and once I return, I want to spend as much time as possible backpacking on the Appalachian Trail. My hope is to complete it but time will tell as well as if my mind, body, and spirit can endure such a rugged terrain. I have always enjoyed hiking and backpacking but have never spent more than 4 days on the trail. Both of these opportunities will be a new adventure for me. My desire is that the time backpacking and the time in mission work will provide a chance for me to sit at the feet of Jesus Christ abiding in His love and healing spirit.

I also intend to spend as much time as possible loving on my children, Kinsey and Nicolas. Each one of them have started their own life's adventures but we expect to spend some time together. I always look forward to seeing Kinsey and Nicolas. I am very blessed to have such great children.

Deciding to take a sabbatical has been a bittersweet decision. I love everyone at Central UMC. This is an incredible church filled with amazing disciples of Jesus Christ. The staff at Central is wonderful, with each staff member having a strong theology and love for God. I love being close to so many members of my family. I have enjoyed coming back home. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the community of Kings Mountain and each one of you. But even with so many wonderful things there is a part of me that needs time for spiritual recovery.

I want to thank you for your kindness, friendship, and support. It has been an honor to be your minister, and friend.

Blessings,  
Jill B. Rhinehart

**Central United Methodist Church  
113 South Piedmont Avenue  
Kings Mountain, NC 28086**