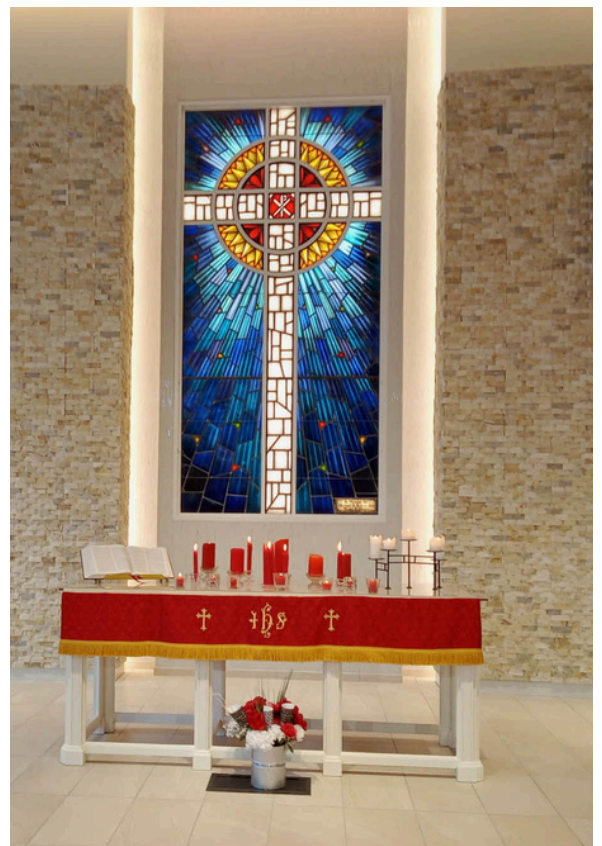


CENTRAL CHIMES

Spirit at Work Among Us Pentecost Sunday Highlights



PASTOR PAGE

“So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God’s glory.”
Romans 15:7 (CEB)

Dear Members and Friends of Central UMC,

On June 14, Arlington Temple UMC will hold its last worship service before they officially close at Annual Conference. Each year at Annual Conference, it is a bittersweet moment when we vote to close a congregation. We give thanks for the past faithfulness and ministry in the life of that congregation, because that ministry mattered. We also mourn that the ministry in that place can no longer continue. In that moment at Conference, I remember that not every church started by Saint Paul exists today. But those churches are part of the legacy of our faith.

When Arlington Temple officially closes their members will be able to transfer their membership to any church of their choice. For those who have not indicated otherwise, on June 30, Central will receive Arlington Temple UMC members as part of our church family. Some folks may choose to call Central their home and become active members. Others may simply need a little while to decide where they would like to move their membership.

To our new family members coming from Arlington Temple, we know you carry cherished memories, deep friendships, and a faith shaped by years of life together. We celebrate those connections and pray that you might find a place at Central to continue to build on that foundation.

This summer, as Central prepares to welcome anyone from Arlington Temple who might want to become part of our church family, I want us to remember Paul’s instructions about welcoming one another. Welcoming another person into our lives is an act of worship. When we open our arms to one another, we reflect the same grace Christ extends to each of us. So let us be the kind of community that makes this transition feel less like an ending and more like a door opening onto something new. May we welcome one another to God's glory.

Blessings,

Pastor Sarah

CHURCH FAMILY SPOTLIGHT: STEVE BARHAM



Favorite Bible Verse: John 3:16

Favorite Hymn: Spirit Song

Something You Enjoy Doing: Methodist Men's socials and retreats in years past.

Something You're Thankful For: My family- my marriage, my sons and daughters-in-law, and my four grandchildren. I'm also thankful for my grandmother, who took me to church when I was young.

How Long Have You Been Part of Our Church? Joined in 1968

One Thing You Love About Our Church Family: Welcoming of all who enter the doors.

MUSICAL CONNECTIONS: FATHERS AND SONS

This month we celebrate Father's Day. Below is an incomplete chart with names and birth years of famous pairs of father-and-son musicians. Can you fill in the blanks? See page 7 for the answers. How did you do?

	Dad	Son	Surname	Birth Years
1	Sir Paul		McCartney	1942, 1977
2		Carl Philipp Emanuel	Bach	1685, 1714
3		Jakob	Dylan (Zimmerman)	1941, 1969
4	John	Joseph	Williams	1932, 1960
5	Edward (Eddie)	Wolfgang		1955, 1991
6	Julio		Iglesias	1943, 1975
7		Zak	Starkey (Starr)	1940, 1965
8	Leopold		Mozart	1719, 1756
9	Johann (I)	Johann (II)		1804, 1825
10	John		Lennon	1940, 1963
11		Adam	Cohen	1934, 1972
12	Andrea	Matteo		1958, 1997

MIRACLE SUNDAY



Endowing United Methodist
Theological Education
Africa | Europe | the Philippines

During the season of Easter, we reflected on the rich heritage of our Wesleyan faith. Now, we begin to look towards the future, embracing a renewed vision for who God is calling Methodists to be as part of a worldwide movement of the Holy Spirit. On Pentecost Sunday, May 24, we launched **Forward Through the Flame**, a six-week worship series rooted in Scripture and ignited by the same Spirit who empowered the early church. This is more than a local worship series. We are joining more than 30,000 United Methodist congregations around the world in a worship series inspired by the denominational vision statement established in 2025: **“The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.”** Alongside churches in Tanzania, the Philippines, Hungary, the United States, and beyond, we will worship, learn, and grow together as one global body. Each week, we will explore what it means to be disciples who love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in the world God so deeply loves.

Our series will conclude with a special offering on “Miracle Sunday,” a bold and joyful United Methodist initiative designed to strengthen the future of the church by investing in theological education and the formation of pastoral leaders in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. This is a one-time special offering that all 833 churches in the Virginia Annual Conference are asked to give generously as we join with almost 30,000 Methodist congregations around the world.

The Challenge We Are Answering

Our church has weathered a global pandemic, navigated seasons of disaffiliation, and responded with compassion in the face of conflict, war, and disaster. Now we are called to embrace a renewed vision, one that invests in preparing the next generation of servant leaders for the most challenging mission fields in the world.

A significant leadership gap exists across our global connection:

- In the United States, 71% of clergy hold a master's degree in theology, supported by \$54 million in annual denominational funding and well-established seminary endowments.
- Outside the United States, fewer than 5% of clergy hold that same degree, with only \$5 million in annual denominational support. More than 20 theological schools across Africa, Europe, and the Philippines operate with limited resources and little or no endowment.

We can, and must, do better.

The Endowment for Theological Education

The Miracle Sunday offering will support The Endowment for Theological Education in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines, a permanently invested fund established by the Council of Bishops in 2014 to address these disparities across the global connection. Think of an endowment like planting a tree: its roots grow deep, its branches spread wide, and future generations benefit from its shade and fruit. The principal of this fund remains permanently invested, while the returns provide ongoing support for students and seminaries for generations to come.

Endorsed by United Methodist bishops worldwide, this offering has one clear goal: to fund 500 scholarships annually for students who are preparing to serve as pastors in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. These students are answering God's call to lead faithfully in their own contexts, bringing hope, stability, and spiritual leadership to communities that need it most.

Why Your Gift Matters

Outside the United States, students preparing for pastoral ministry face vast geographical distances to the nearest Methodist seminary, limited financial resources, few trained teachers, small libraries, and multiple language barriers. Africa University is the only institution in the global connection with a substantial endowment. The many other schools training a new generation of United Methodist clergy need our support.

When you give through the Miracle Sunday offering, you are not simply meeting a present need. You are strengthening the church's capacity for faithful leadership well into the future. You are empowering a young pastor in Tanzania to finish her degree. You are equipping a church planter in the Philippines to serve his community. You are forming a leader in Hungary who will carry the Wesleyan flame forward for decades to come.

Miracle Sunday is a moment of shared faith and generosity that reflects who we are as United Methodists: a global, connected, Spirit-empowered people who believe that the best days of the church are still ahead. To participate, you can give in person or online during worship on June 28 and mark your offering "miracle Sunday." You can also give online at this link: <https://vaumc.org/miraclesunday/>



SHARE YOUR MUSICAL GIFTS THIS SUMMER

Musicians and singers of CUMC, have you ever wanted to share your gifts in Sunday worship without making a regular time commitment? Each Sunday from the July 4th weekend through Labor Day weekend, there will be opportunities to contribute by playing an instrument, singing, or even gathering an informal group.

There may be openings for preludes and postludes, accompaniment for congregational hymns, or special music in place of the usual choir anthem. If you are interested, please email Greg Capaldini at conductor@cumcballston.org or leave a message with the church office at 703-527-8844.

THE FIRST 15: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Join us on Monday, October 19 from 6:30–9:00 PM for The First 15, a free emergency preparedness and response training offered in partnership with Arlington County Emergency Management. This hands-on course equips participants with practical skills to respond confidently during the critical first minutes of an emergency before first responders arrive.

Participants will learn how to create an emergency plan, build a basic emergency kit, call 9-1-1 effectively, stay aware during crisis situations, provide psychological support, and practice essential first aid skills, including bleeding control.

This training is open to all and especially helpful for those involved in church ministries, hospitality, or community outreach. To register, contact the church office at 703-527-8844 or office@cumcballston.org.

BELLA VOCE SPRING CONCERT – SATURDAY, JUNE 13

We are delighted to welcome back Bella Voce, an Arlington-based a cappella women's ensemble, for a Spring Concert here at our church on Saturday, June 13 at 4:00 PM.

After a wonderful Christmas concert last year, Bella Voce returns with a new seasonal program of uplifting music, continuing their tradition of sharing beautiful a cappella performances with the community. The ensemble is made up of volunteer singers who have been offering concerts for over 11 years, supporting local causes through their music.

This free concert will once again benefit our Community Café through voluntary donations. The Community Café provides free meals and a welcoming space for anyone in need every Wednesday and Thursday, serving our unhoused and food-insecure neighbors.



MEN'S GROUP FELLOWSHIP & GAMES

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 • 3:00–5:00 PM

All men of Central are invited to our next monthly Men's Group gathering on Sunday, June 14 from 3:00–5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. This is a relaxed time to share laughs, build friendships, and strengthen one another in faith through games, conversation, and fellowship.

Bring yourself, invite a friend, and feel free to bring a snack to share. These gatherings are a great opportunity to connect with other men of the church and encourage one another in daily life and faith.

To RSVP, please email office@cumcballston.org or call the church office at 703-527-8844.

CHURCH CONFERENCE ON JUNE 28, 2026

We will hold a Church Conference on Sunday, June 28, at 12:00 noon in the sanctuary. This will be an in-person meeting only—there will not be an online option.

At this meeting, we will elect our Leadership Board and Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development for the next leadership year (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027).

This is an important time in the life of our church, and all Professing Members of Central UMC are encouraged to attend and participate in this time of prayerful discernment and voting. We hope you will make plans to be there.

SUNDAY BULLETIN NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Sunday church bulletin is now available on our website for all who attend online. You can download it or view it during the service to stay connected with announcements, readings, and service details.

Access it here: www.cumcballston.org/worship-and-events/

Answer Key

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. James | 5. Van Halen | 9. Strauss |
| 2. Johann Sebastian | 6. Enrique | 10. Julian |
| 3. Bob | 7. Ringo Starr | 11. Leonard |
| 4. Joseph | 8. Wolfgang Amadeus | 12. Bocelli |

STAY CONNECTED – YOUR WAY

Would you like to receive the Central Chimes right in your email inbox? It's quick, convenient, and helps us save resources—just email us at office@cumcballston.org or call 703-527-8844 to switch.

Printed copies are available for pick-up at the church anytime during Sunday services throughout the month, and of course, we're still happy to send them to your home by mail if that's easiest for you. Whichever way you choose, we're glad to keep you connected with all that's happening at Central United Methodist Church.

GOD IS EVERYWHERE. WE CAN BE, TOO.

Join Us Online!

Can't make it to church in person? Watch our Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. live on cumcballston.org, YouTube, or Facebook.

Follow us for updates and community highlights:



Facebook Live

www.facebook.com/cumcballston



Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/cumcballston/>



Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/@CUMCBallstonVA>

Support Our Church

Your gifts help us serve our community and grow our ministries.

Donate via PayPal or Venmo

Every gift, large or small, makes a difference.

You may also scan the QR code below to donate.

Checks can also be mailed to:

Central United Methodist Church
4201 Fairfax Drive, Suite 1
Arlington, VA 22203

