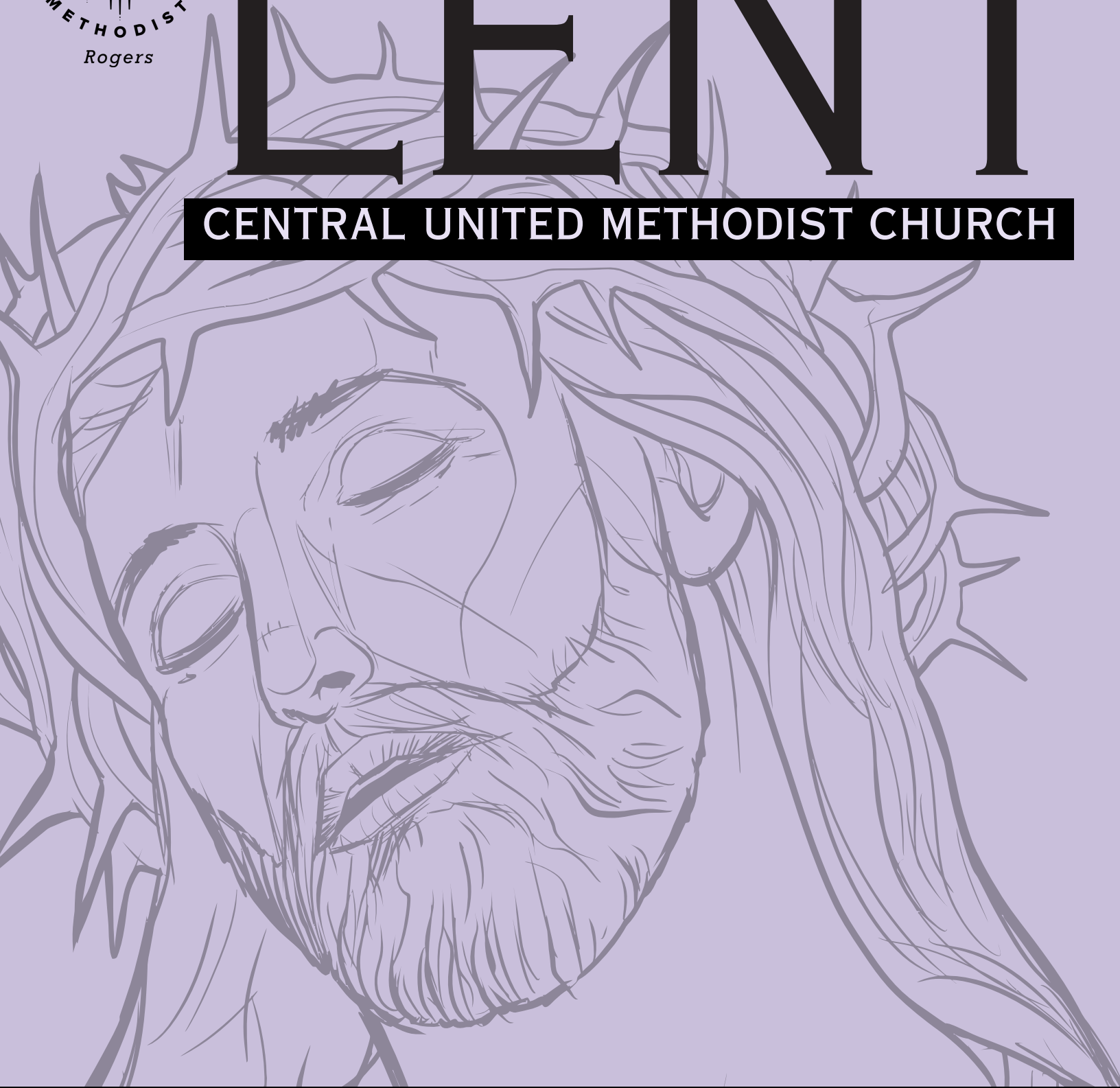




2025

LENT

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



EXPERIENCE THE PASSION, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION OF JESUS THIS LENTEN SEASON.



Lent is a sacred season of the church. Churches observe the season in different ways. The United Methodist Church calls its members to a time of repentance and self examination. As we focus on the last days of Jesus' ministry we look at our lives and ask God how we need to change to be more like Jesus. During Lent 2025 we will begin with an Ash Wednesday service which is a service of confession, repentance and commitment to the journey of growing a little more in our faith. I am especially excited about some changes during the last week of Lent, Holy Week, that will help us to experience the power of Jesus' last days. (See The Great Easter Vigil on the next page.)

I encourage you to read through the Lenten mailer for information on all the church will be offering. Take some time to pick out the different programs and services you can be a part of that will help you to get your heart and mind into a rhythm of hearing from God in this season. I want to highlight the services of Holy Week and the Lenten Reader as key opportunities to lean into the season.

I also want to challenge you to follow the Lenten practice of Giving Up/Adding On. This means we choose something to either give up or take on that will help you get closer to God. The act of giving up is usually something where you will have to depend upon God not to do it. The same is true for adding something into your life. This is usually something that you will need God's help to consistently do, like fasting or starting a new Bible study.

My prayer for you during Lent 2025 is that you are able to hear God's calling upon your heart. God's desire is that we grow a little bit more consistently in developing the ability to love like Jesus and align our lives to the Truth of God. May God bless us all as we enter into this season of reflection, surrender and love.

*Rev. Rob
Holifield*

**SENIOR
PASTOR**

*Rev. Dawn
Spragg*

**SENIOR
ASSOCIATE
PASTOR OF
WORSHIP**

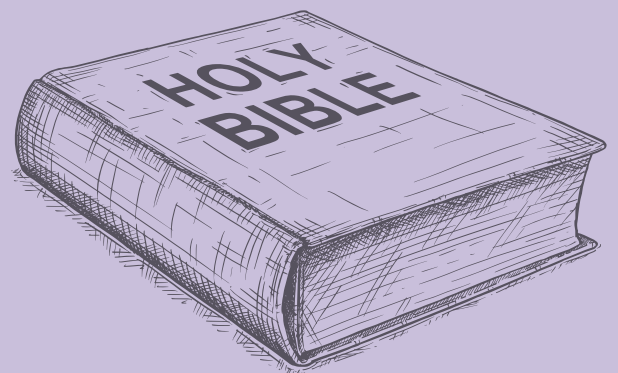
*Rev. Kerry
Turnbow*

**ASSOCIATE
PASTOR OF
PASTORAL
CARE**

SERMON SERIES

JESUS' FINAL WORDS FROM THE CROSS

During our Lenten season we will explore the powerful last words of Christ as He gave His life for us on the cross. In His final earthly moments, Jesus continued to minister to us in faith and fellowship. We will begin in March with the first of the seven sayings, "Father, forgive them..." and journey through to the commending of His spirit to The Father. We will conclude in celebration of His resurrection on Easter Sunday with "He is Risen!"





EVENTS

GRAVITY FUNDRAISER PANCAKE DINNER

Wed, March 5th, 5pm

Support Gravity Youth Missions at our pancake dinner and head to Ash Wednesday service after! Free will donation.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wed, March 5th, 6pm, Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. Lent is a holy season where we prepare ourselves for Easter by seeking the mind of Christ with humbleness, confession, repentance, and spiritual disciplines. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, we remember our need for forgiveness. Over the season we continue our journey of renewal that will culminate in celebration of the victory of Easter Sunday.

LILIES FOR SALE

March 30th - April 13th

Lilies will be on sale (\$15 ea.) for you to honor a friend and/or family member, or honor the memory of a loved one. The lily will adorn the Sanctuary and Chapel during Easter Sunday. They will be available for pick up after Easter services.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

Sat, April 12th, 2pm – 4pm

Our annual Egg Hunt on the front lawn will be a community wide event you won't want to miss! Beginning at 2pm, we will have games, crafts and events for egg hunters of all ages and abilities. While the actual egg hunt won't begin until 3pm, there will be plenty to do and see. Our missions team will be serving hot dogs & chips, and there may even be an Easter bunny sighting. Invite your friends and neighbors to this community wide outreach event today!

PALM SUNDAY

Sunday April 13, (Kids Processional at 10:20 & 10:30 Services)

On Palm Sunday the kids of Central will process into our services waving palm branches to commemorate Jesus' big arrival in Jerusalem. We will spend the Sunday school hour rehearsing, and kids will be seated with their families after the entrance.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

Thu, April 17, 6:30pm, Chapel

This year the Chancel Choir will be leading us in a very special Maundy Thursday service. In addition to the Lord's Supper, we will be presenting a brand new Choral work by Marianne Forman, entitled TRINITY. Our choir will be accompanied by a string quintet, and this will be a beautiful service, full of passionate worship and inspiring music, as we remember the moments of the Last Supper and Jesus' time with His Disciples in the Garden. You will not want to miss this one!

TENEBRAE SERVICE

Fri, April 18th, 6:30pm, Sanctuary

The Contemporary Praise Team will lead a special worship experience on Good Friday. The service will be a music lead Tenebrae service. We will begin in candlelight and worship together in response to each of the final seven sayings of Jesus on the cross. We will end this powerful service in humble darkness as we reflect on the sacrifice and passion of Christ.

THE GREAT EASTER VIGIL

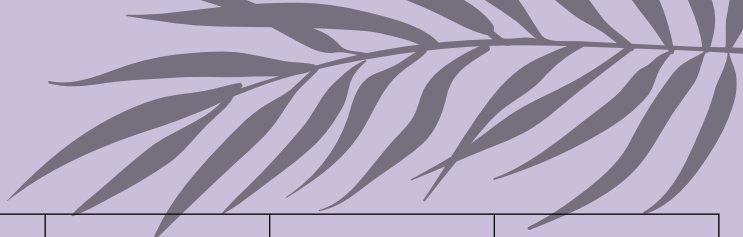
Sat, April 19th, 8pm, Chapel

This year the Chancel Choir will be presenting The Great Easter Vigil. The Great Easter Vigil is a beautiful liturgical worship experience celebrating the moment when Jesus arose from the dead. It was on Good Friday that Jesus died, and during the Tenebrae service we will have witnessed the Light of Christ being extinguished. Somewhere between sundown Saturday and sunrise Easter Sunday, Jesus arose from the dead. Our Vigil will begin at sundown, with everyone gathering outside of the Chapel, while we light a new fire. From it, the Paschal Candle is lit and the light of Christ will return to the Chapel, with a celebration ensuing.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

- **CHAPEL - April 20th, 8:15am – 9:15am, Chapel**
Early Traditional Communion Service. Nursery available.
- **CONTEMPORARY - April 20th, 9am – 10am, Sanctuary**
Contemporary Worship with Praise Band. Nursery available.
- **TRADITIONAL - April 20th, 11am – 12pm, Sanctuary**
Traditional Worship Service. Nursery available.

CALENDAR



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2	3 MARCH	4	5 Pancake Dinner Ash Wednesday Service	6	7	8 How to Series.. 'Painting with Acrylics' Gravity Youth Guys Night
9 Daylight Savings Gravity Worship	10	11	12 Wed. Nite Live	13	14 Sensory Friendly Worship	15 Men's Fellowship Breakfast Worship Arts Camp
16 Grace Community Meal	17	18	19 Wed. Nite Live	20	21 Guatemala Mission Trip	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Church Council		Wed. Nite Live			
30 Lilies for Sale Gravity Youth Event Church Wide Prayer	31	1 APRIL	2 Wed. Nite Live	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Wed. Nite Live	10	11	12 Community Easter Egg Hunt
13 Palm Sunday Lilies Sale Ends Gravity Worship	14	15	16 Wed. Nite Live	17 Maundy Thursday Service	18 Good Friday Tenebrae Service	19 Men's Fellowship Breakfast The Great Easter Vigil
20 <u>Easter Services</u> 8:15 Chapel 9:00 Contemporary 11:00 Traditional	21 Church Office Closed	22	23	24	25	26