



# CIRCUIT RIDER

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THE POWER OF  
CONNECTIVITY AND  
HOSPITALITY

## BIBLE RECAP 2024

GRAVITY YOUTH TURKEY  
BOWL EVENT IS HERE!

WNL YOUNG DISCIPLES  
PREPARE FOR ADVENT  
CELEBRATION

SERVICE OF COMFORT &  
HOPE - NOV. 12TH

CENTRALROGERS.COM



**Rev. Rob Holifield**

Senior Pastor

The new year is on the way! In just a few short months we will come to that exciting time where we get to reboot, start over and begin new things. You may be wondering why I am talking about the new year in November. It is because I want to let you know about an exciting new sermon series and study we will be launching on Sunday January 8th, 2024! I am so excited, I have actually been wanting to write to you about this for months. Now that plans are in place and I can finally tell you...

Next year our church will be reading through the entire Bible together using the Bible Recap reading plan. The Bible Recap is a one-year, chronological reading of the Bible. Many people have been following this plan by Tara-Leigh Cobble for the past several years. I have found it an amazing way to read the Bible. The reading plan itself and the tools offered allow one to get a better understanding of God's Word. What I love about this Bible reading plan is that there are many ways to engage with the material. Below I want to share with you the different ways you will be able to join Central on our journey of reading the Bible. You will be hearing a lot of details about the program over the next couple months but I want to get this on your radar so you can start thinking and praying about how you will join in. If you would like to learn more about The Bible Recap go to [thebiblerecap.com](http://thebiblerecap.com) . If you have questions, please contact me, one of the pastors, our discipleship chair, Clay Cutten, or Carole Baker who serves as our Director of Connections. Any of us would love to share with you our vision for the church reading scripture together. One beautiful thing about this program is that anyone can participate without spending any money. All you need is a Bible and a copy of the reading plan. There are other resources you can purchase. We will be sharing with you in the coming months about those resources. Today I want to highlight how you can participate.

First of all, this will be our only sermon series for the year 2024. Each week the pastors will be preaching on a passage from the previous week's reading. Therefore, the first way to participate is to come to church and listen to a sermon about a passage from the previous week's readings. You will hear scriptures preached on that you may have never heard a sermon preached on before. You will also learn how all scripture points to Jesus. The pastors will highlight this beautiful element about the Bible each week. And if showing up each Sunday is what you can commit to, that is great!

The second way you can participate is to follow the reading plan. The plan will start on Monday, January 1, 2024, and lists scripture for you to read each day. We will have paper copies available, or you can follow along through digital options available on the website or the YouVersion Bible App. I read it through the YouVersion Bible app which gives me readings each day and reminders. We will give you more details about how to access the reading plan.

The third way you can participate is to read or watch the Daily Recap of the readings. This is one of the things that I find the most valuable. Tara-Leigh Cobble has a podcast (summaries of the podcast available in print) that gives a summary about the reading of the day with some key insights. She also asks you to look for what stood out to you in the reading. She calls it her "God Shot". Listening to her podcast this past year has led me to think about scripture readings in new ways that have led to new insights. We will make it easy for you to access the Daily Recap if you would like to make this a way you participate with us.

The fourth way you can participate is to join in a weekly discussion of the readings. Some Sunday school classes have committed to use this as their curriculum next year. Small groups may form as well to connect in person or through Zoom. There is a book with discussion questions to help guide the conversation. We will make all of the options to join a discussion group available to you if you would like to join in this way.

The fifth way you can participate is to buy a book from Bible Recap (we will have ways to order or purchase) that has questions to take you into a deeper personal study of the readings each week. This is for individuals who want a deep dive each week.

As you can see this reading plan of the Bible has all kinds of ways to participate. It is going to be an exciting year to see how God uses His Word to touch our lives. This is another way we are leaning into Jesus as a church. We have already begun our season of prayer and now we will lean into Jesus together through studying the Bible. Please pray about how you would like to join us in 2024. However God leads you to join in will be a blessing to your life.

Have a great November and don't forget.....

You Matter to God!

Pastor Rob





# Gravity

## YOUTH MINISTRIES



October has blown by and Gravity is gearing up for November! We had an awesome Brinner (Breakfast for Dinner), and a huge thank you to the Church Council for cooking and serving our students and families. As we look to November, it's all about thankfulness and sharing our resources. We are gearing up for our 12th year of Turkey Bowl, the largest student-led food drive in the Arkansas Conference. Last year, Gravity alone collected 2,791 food items for Grace Soup Kitchen. We encourage you to join us as we collect food items (see image below for most needed food items; we will put a box in the Atrium for donations Nov. 5 – 12). We will wrap up November with a local mission project as we celebrate Thanksgiving at Graviendsgiving. Then we will take a quick breath and get ready for ALL December brings – Dec. 3 Advent Celebration (chili fundraiser and Santa Shop), Dec. 10 Gravity Christmas Party, and Dec. 16 Gravity Girls Night In.



As we look at December on the horizon, if you have anything (trinkets, unused gifts, books) to donate to Gravity's Santa Shop, please email [lswanson@centralrogers.com](mailto:lswanson@centralrogers.com) or drop them off in church office (labeled Santa Shop).



@GravityYouthMinistries



# KIDS

## Ministries

What kind of key will not open a door?

A tur-key!



### WED. NITE LIVE - Young Disciples

The Young Disciples have had an excellent year exploring the miracles of Jesus. Each night they receive a mysterious letter and clues that lead them on a journey that immerses them into the life of Jesus. They work as a team doing crafts and games that earn them points toward a prize. Following their life group classes, they end the night leading worship together in Children's Chapel. It is never too late for Young Disciples to join our group or to bring a friend! If you would like more information, reach out to Ms. Mollie.



On December 3rd, we will host our annual Advent Celebration! The evening will start with a special "Hanging of the Greens" worship service led by our WNL Young Disciples. Following our worship service, we will have a chili supper in our Atrium to support our Gravity Youth mission trips. The youth will open up their infamous Santa Shop while families enjoy fellowship, crafts, and games. We will have some big surprises and special guests in store, so stay tuned!



### ELEMENTARY SUNDAY SCHOOL

BEHIND THE SCENES: A 4-WEEK SERIES FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT ON ESTHER

The most important part of any play is what happens "behind the scenes." There's lighting, wardrobe, casting, playwriting — so much has to happen perfectly to bring the production together! In the story of Esther, there is a whole lot going on behind the scenes, too. In this four-week series, kids will discover the most important character in Esther's story isn't always center-stage, but can often be found behind the scenes working, helping, giving support and giving peace. (Spoiler alert: It's God!)



Connecting People to Christ

# WED. NITE LIVE

THEME & MENU 5:30PM

November 1 - FIESTA NIGHT - Taco Bar

November 8 - VETERANS NIGHT - Pulled Pork Sandwiches

November 15 - THANKSGIVING - Open Faced Turkey Sandwiches

**LAITY  
SUNDAY  
2023**

**2 TIMOTHY 1:13**

**RISE  
AND UP!  
REMAIN COMMITTED TO  
LOVE'S TEACHINGS.**

In the month of October, we celebrate Laity and the ministry of all Christians as they love God and neighbor. We at Central are blessed with a strong and dedicated Clergy team that partner with Laity each day to Connect People to Christ. This is done through very visible ways and also many times behind the scenes in quiet moments and unobserved efforts. We celebrate and thank ALL of our laity who serve with a passion to live out the purpose that God has put on their lives.

We hope you will help us celebrate Laity Sunday by attending the Connection Fair on Sunday, October 29th (9am – Noon in the Atrium) where you can learn more about how as Laity, you can be a vital part of the vision and mission at Central. You make a difference and you are needed to be in community and help build community in our faith family!

40 members of Central are certified Lay Servants or Lay Speakers. A Lay Servant is an active, supportive member of a United Methodist congregation who is eager to be in ministry through the church. Teaching, serving, training, leading, participating, caring, loving and communicating are integral parts of Lay Servant Ministries. We thank our Lay Servants and Speakers for all they do. If you are interested in becoming a Lay Servant, please call the church office or reach out to one of the laity below.

KAREN ANDERSON KATIE EMERY JUDY MCMURTREY MARK ANDERSON  
AMA ENGMANN JOHN MOUNTS CAROLE BAKER NICK FLINT JOEY MSALL  
CATHY BLACKWOOD RANDY GODSEY AMY PENNY SPENCER BOOZ SHAWN HERRINGTON  
MOLLY PICKERING KAREN BROWN TRACY HILLIS GEORGE RHOADS BECKY BURROW  
KIM KEARBEY TIFFANI ROBERTS DIANE CALLAHAN BERT KELL KEVIN SELL LINDA CANNON  
JAYNE KUHN ANGEL SHAW BRIAN CARROLL SHARON LLOYD JR SHAW TREY CARTER  
MITCHELL LLOYD GREG SPRAGG HANNAH CARTER LIZ LUSK TAMI STEWART CLAY CUTTEN  
VICKI MANSKER LANA DINAN LINDA MAYHEW

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# The Power of Connectivity and Hospitality

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**KERRY TURNBOW, MA, M.DIV., D.MIN**

Do you ever look around the church on Sunday morning, during the welcoming moment, to find someone new to welcome to the church? Well not too many months ago my wife and I were those new people visiting Central United Methodist Church.

The experience of being welcomed to this church brought Kelli and me back the next Sunday and the Sunday after that. We felt the warmth of a friendly church that made us eventually choose to be a part of Central United Methodist Church and make it our church home.

We have visitors join us each week looking for a place to worship or are just in town visiting. That first connection, walking into a new place, is vital to the impression that people experience. As they walk out the door after service, it is a primary catalyst as to whether they will walk through our doors again.

We often overlook the ministry of hospitality and how important it is to the vitality of the body of Christ. The New Testament has many examples of Christ's hospitable approach to people who were sometimes unwelcomed by his disciples and/or other religious leaders.

A good example of Jesus' welcoming attitude is found in John 4 where he encounters a Samaritan woman coming to a well to draw water where Jesus was resting. The woman, coming during the heat of the day by herself, is probably indicative of her feeling a bit isolated. Jesus demonstrates how important it is to have an attitude of connectivity and hospitality. His encounter with her leads her to a new revelation and insight of herself which makes her in turn eager to share that with others.

The welcome we give to new people coming through our doors represents, for them, an encounter not just with our church but also with Christ. We never know what challenging circumstances a person walking through the doors of the church is facing. Our friendliness and connection with them can be a vital step in their connection with our church and with Christ.

Each Sunday during our welcoming time make it a point to reach out to others who appear isolated or just seem to need a friendly outstretched hand. Kelli and I experienced that in a profound way which made us want to come back.

Though it may seem like a small ministry, the ministry of hospitality and connectivity is a powerful gift to the body of Christ. Let us remember to take full advantage of it each Sunday as we walk through the doors of Central United Methodist Church.

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Central United Methodist Church  
2535 W New Hope RD, Rogers, AR 72758



# Service of Comfort & Hope

PRAYER AND WORSHIP SERVICE CENTERED IN RECEIVING THE  
PEACE OF JESUS EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF LIFE'S STORMS.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH  
6:00 PM, CHAPEL  
CHILDCARE PROVIDED



# Lean In.

## NOVEMBER

1st	All Saints' Day	
1st	Sacred Thread Quilt Mission	9:00a - 2:00p, Rm 223/225
1st	Prayer Shawl Ministry	3:00p - 4:00p, Rm 206
1st	Wed. Nite Live Dinner & Classes	5:30p, Atrium
5th	Daylight Savings (End)	
5th	All Saints Sunday	
6th	Charge Conference	6:30p, Chapel
8th	Prayer Shawl Ministry	3:00p - 4:00p, Rm 206
8th	Wed. Nite Live Dinner & Classes	5:30p, Atrium
8th	Veteran's Day	
11th - 12th	Gravity Youth Turkey Bowl	
12th	Stewardship Sunday	
12th	Service of Comfort and Hope	6:00p, Chapel
15th	Prayer Shawl Ministry	3:00p - 4:00p, Rm 206
15th	Wed. Nite Live Dinner & Classes	5:30p, Atrium
17th - 18th	Lay Servant Academy	
19th	New Member Sunday	
23rd	Thanksgiving	
23rd - 24th	Church Office Closed	
26th	Christ The King Sunday	
26th	Church Wide Prayer	5:00p, Chapel
26th	Grav - iends - giving	6:00p, Youth Room
28th	Church Council Meeting	6:00p, Rm 202



Connecting People to Christ