

central

united methodist church

Pastoral Transition

Dear Friends & Families of Central:

Greetings in the blessed name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Comfort and I are grateful for your gracious invitation to be in ministry with you at Central UMC. We are excited to begin this new journey, and we look forward to what the Lord will be leading us to do at Central.

As my pastoral ministry begins on July 1, I have confidence in the leadership team that has been put together by previous pastors, and presently, the Reverend Karen Sorden. *We bid Pastor Karen farewell* and will hold her in our thoughts and prayers as she serves in her new appointment.

I am glad to join the Administrative Council and well organized committees of various ministries at Central UMC. With your support and prayers for the leadership, we shall continue to seek the Lord's guidance in fulfilling the missions of Christ's Church in Lake Odessa and its surroundings. We invite families and friends of this great congregation to find your place in the life and ministries of the Church. Come with us—let us dream together, pray together and develop shared-ministries that will build and transform our spiritual lives at Central.

Responding to the call of Christ, we shall be sensitive to the leadership of the Spirit, seek God's directions for new ministries that may enable us to make disciples of Jesus Christ. And we pray that "You"—being a part of the family of God would share the optimism and be opened to opportunities of service for the Lord here at Central UMC.

Speaking of himself and Apollos as they labored for Christ in Corinth, Apostle Paul writes to the Corinthians, "**Neither one who plants nor one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. One who plants and one who waters are one, and each will receive wages according to their labors; for we are God's fellow workers (in the vineyard of the Lord). You are God's field, God's building.**" (1 Corinthians 3:5-9)

Notice that Paul's emphasis here is **on the united front of all Christians to do the work of ministries;** and because we all "**belong to God and gifted with spiritual gifts for services,**" we then should be united in missions of Christ. As a united front—you, your **pastor, all members and friends at Central belong to God;** belonging to God then, made all of **us fellow ministers in Christ's Church and ministries.** **In fact, based on record of leadership here at Central, you all excel, and I am confident that the momentum will continue on that same spirit of faithfulness to the Lord and His Church.** Yes, the Lord expects our services, shall hold us accountable, and shall reward us at the ceremonial entrance to His presence.

Building on the Foundation:

My predecessor, *the Reverend Karen Sorden*, and others before us have laid a solid foundation of Christian ministries among you. The foundation laid for over decades of ministries at Central stands as a testimony of many witnesses who have gone before us into glory.

We have come to be in ministries with you and, with your prayers, support and offering of your gifts and talents in the service of Christ, we shall continue to build on that foundation of our founder's vision, goals and objectives for the good of the Church. It is our prayers that Comfort and I can make a place of our own in your heart and in many families here at Central.

Sincerely in Christ, Pastor Dominic Tommy

July 2017



Summer is Here!

62nd Annual Chicken Bar-B-Q

Friday, July 7th
5 to 7 pm

Includes Homemade
Salads, Baked Beans,
Roll, & Cookies

Take-out or dine in.

BY DONATION:

1/2 Chicken	\$10.00
1/4 Chicken	\$ 8.00

Tickets are now available from all Trustees, the church office, or Walker Pharmacy.



Our next Fresh Food Distribution day is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, at 2 p.m. (due to the holiday falling on July 4th).

Volunteers are welcome and asked to arrive by 1:30.

Central United Methodist Church is located in downtown Lake Odessa at 912 4th Avenue.
Contact us at 616-374-8861; info@centralchurch-lakeo.org or pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org.

You can also check out our Facebook page for current activities, weekly dinner menu, and youth activities.

where Christ is central.

Celebrations

Birthdays

07/01	Sidney Klynstra	07/21	Allison Thelen
07/03	Ken Steele	07/27	Judy Freidhoff
07/10	Virginia Rayner	07/28	Christina Jackson
07/11	Von Goodemoot	Anniversaries	
07/18	Tom Reiser	Harold & Ada Dennie	07/28/1977

Recent Prayer Concerns

Family of Susan McDaniels	Patsy Cole	Margo Bailey
Family of Dallas Stadel	Dannie	Dean Durkee
Family of Rev. Mary Soderholm	Karen Morse	Marilyn Noffke
Shirley Estep	Bill Barcroft	Angie Landon
Unspokens	Philip Shetterly	Dale Smith
Dale Brock	Rachael Gaskill	Sadie Goodemoot



Our love and prayers go out to Char Kendregan, following the loss of her sister, Susan McDaniels.

Our sincere condolences to Von Goodemoot, for the passing of his step-brother, Dallas Stadel.

Thank-You!!

We would like to thank all of the Trustees for their commitment to the maintenance and beautification of Central Church: from restoring the sconces on the front of the church to a beautiful condition; planting, weeding, and watering landscape; cleaning, mowing and general maintenance at the parsonage and at the church; to coordinating bids and contracts for roof repairs and water damage—our Trustees put in countless hours which many don't realize. Your members are: Del Kostanko, Lynda Cobb, Mark Corston, Dawn and Kim Deardorff, Jane Everett, Char Kendregan, Leona Rayner, Mike McCartney, and Ray McDaniels.

Upcoming Events

FRESH FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Tuesday, July 11—2 pm

Parking lot on 3rd Avenue. Volunteers are welcome and asked to arrive by 1:30.

ADULT RESPITE (No Respite on July 6)

Thursdays, July 13, 20, 27—1:30 to 4:30 pm

SOUPER THURSDAY COMMUNITY DINNER (No Dinner on July 6)

Thursdays, July 13, 20, 27— 4:30 to 6 pm

WELCOME GATHERING FOR PASTOR DOMINIC & COMFORT TOMMY

Sunday, July 16—following worship

Potluck Luncheon—Fellowship Hall

Check out the calendar on the church's bulletin board for ongoing scheduled activities or log on to our Facebook page to stay current with events.

NEWS OF THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN!!

Monday, August 21st—Noon

Our salad luncheon is open to everyone—spouses, friends; bring a salad and table service for some good fellowship. Please be there by 12 noon. A program of CLASSIC SONGS FOR CLASSIC PEOPLE will follow. These folks were here several years ago and are excited to return. No reservation and no charge. Enjoy a fun filled afternoon!

Friday/Saturday, October 6-7

The United Methodist Women are beginning to accept items for the annual fall rummage sale from church members only. No books please. Please contact Terri Catt to schedule your drop-off (480-231-7785).



CROP Walk

The final results are in! Together with walkers from our sister churches, \$9,500 was raised in the Lakewood Area CROP Hunger Walk to respond to hunger needs locally and around the world. The Lakewood Community Council has already received a check for over \$2,000 for local needs. Our Central team of 5 raised \$2,125. Nearly half was given through on-line contributions.

Hope Church of the Brethren, once again, was the top group raising over \$5,000.

From Others . . .

Dear Friends, Thank you so much for the opportunity to share with you. It was very enjoyable. May God bless you as you transition to a new pastor. ~Duane Walter

Dear Leona, Words can't express how thankful we are to you and everyone else who donated and volunteered for our Easter event. Your generosity is overwhelming and we appreciate all of you very much. Best regards, ~Marnie Thomas
Lakewood Area Chamber of Commerce
People at Church, Thank you for your wonderful caring and support during my time doing nothing but "staying home." I appreciate the beautiful paper you gave me. I'll be okay but probably not able to drive to church or town. You are so wonderful and thoughtful! Love, Margot

Upcoming Blood Drive



Our next Red Cross blood drive is scheduled for August 7th, 12 to 5:45 pm. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Marian Durkee at 616-374-7489.