

Welcome to



Central Church

Our Mission

Central United Methodist Church Glorifies God through the Work of Ministry and the Making of Disciples of Jesus Christ.

912 Fourth Ave., PO Box 485, Lake Odessa, MI 48849
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Rev. Dominic Tommy, Pastor
pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Lake Odessa, Michigan
Rev. Dominic Tommy

December 31, 2017

10:30 a.m.

GATHERING

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available. Please ask an usher.

PRELUDE

Tomi Whitford/Marilyn Noffke

NOISY OFFERING *Today's Noisy Offering will benefit the Lakewood Area Ministerial Association's Benevolence Fund.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please sign, pass, and return red friendship pads in each pew at this time.
Also prepare Prayer Request Sheets during this time.*

*INTROIT "Angels from the Realms of Glory" Congregation
James Montgomery

*CALL TO WORSHIP (congregation in bold)

Christmas Day has come and gone, New Year's Day is upon us.

The Word has become Flesh and lived among us.

But the world does not notice, and we have turned away from Christmas,

Our Messiah has been born, Emmanuel, God With Us.

Turn away from the pace of the world, and tune your hearts to Christ,

Who humbled himself, and became obedient, even to the cross.

God has exalted him, and has given him the name that is above every name:

Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us worship our Savior!

*OPENING HYMN "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Hymnal 240
Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets.

INVOCATION PRAYER (in unison) (be seated)

God of perfect light, lead us as we proceed through life. Forgive us when, like Herod, we allow selfish ambition to make us willing to harm others. Forgive us when, unlike the magi, we refuse to follow the light you give us. Shine in our lives through the light of your Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Christmas Grace" Tomi Whitford/Marilyn Noffke
Ruth Schram

SHARING PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus be with You!

And Also with You!

(Please take this time to greet one another in the Name of Christ by saying, "Peace be with you" and your neighbor says "And also with you")

CHILDREN'S MOMENT **Children age 4 & under are welcome to leave for the nursery downstairs after the *Children's Moment*.**

INVITATION FOR OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal 95

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SERMON "THIS ONE THING I DO" Rev. Duane Walter
Philippians 3:7-14

*CLOSING HYMN: "Freely, Freely" Hymnal 389

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able.*

New **Upper Room** devotionals are now available on ushers' tables and in Fellowship Hall.

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The Worship Committee invites you to join them in the **'taking down the greens'** on Wednesday, January 3rd, 2018, at 7 pm.

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Dear Central Church Family,

Thank you to our Central church family for your generous support of the community Christmas Basket project. Low-income families in the Lakewood area received generous boxes of food, meat certificates, toys, hats, socks, and mittens for children. Your generosity of prayers, time, and various gifts was greatly appreciated by us and by those who were blessed to receive the baskets.

On behalf of the Lakewood Community Council, we especially appreciate the use of our facilities for a full week! What a great gift to the community!

Love in Christ, Alan Goodemoot and Kay Barcroft, Basket Coordinators

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Year-End Notes from the Finance Office:

- Today is the last day to make financial contributions for credit in 2017.
- 2018 envelopes are now available in Fellowship Hall.
- If you are interested in signing up for On-line giving through our website, or setting up an automatic reoccurring payment through your bank, please see Dawn Deardorff or the church office for more information.

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MINISTER: *Every Member of This Church*
PASTOR: *Rev. Dominic Tommy*
SECRETARY: *Kim Stoepker*
ORGANIST: *Marilyn Noffke*
CHOIR DIRECTOR: *Jackie Spagnuolo*
CUSTODIANS: *Mike McCartney / Rolando Varela*

Guest Preacher:
Rev. Duane Walter

Worship Assistant:
Von Goodemoot

Audio/Visual

Today: Chuck Rayner / Kay Barcroft
Next Sunday: Tony Barcroft / Shelly Reiser

Coffee Fellowship

Today: Open
Next Sunday: Open

Greeters

Today: Dale Mossburg / Jean Cook / Karen Avery
Next Sunday: Kim & Dawn Deardorff / Mark Corston

Nursery

Today: Dawn Deardorff / Eunice Goodemoot
Next Sunday: Leona Rayner / Karen Avery

Ushers

Today: Tony Barcroft / Dave Faulkner
Next Sunday: Kim & Dawn Deardorff

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THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Bill Wilson Patti Cooreman Gage Beland
Unspokens A friend Braden Horton
Praise for Helen Miller Traveling mercies for families traveling

Our love and sympathy to Pat Wilson, her family, and friends following the death of her husband, Bill Wilson.

Continued in Prayer

Sgt. Branden Curtis Karl Klynstra Gary Smith
Sr. Airman Lloyd C. Corston Phylis Armstrong Ed Hilliker
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr Dale Patterson Hank Minenna
1SG Nicholas Ludema Terena Galaviz Susan Steele
PFC Jason Hilley Pam Coleman Sharon Brink
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow Travis Tucker and family Ross McDowell
Brian Rayner Judi Brandon Kim Seese
Patti Coorman Armrose LaBine

Our Special Friends

Leah Abbott Margot Bailey Ada Dennie
Lois Goodemoot Joanne McDaniels Phil Shetterly
Ed Reiser Helen Miller

Our Partners In Ministry

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa
Williamston Crossroads United Methodist Church, Williamston
Retired Pastor George Speas, Woodland

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

01/01 Virginia Decker
 Marcia Bytwerk
01/02 Mary Shoemaker
 Jane Kostanko
01/04 Brendan Klynstra

Congratulations to Nanette Biang following the birth of her first grandson born to Mary & Dave Beckman on December 19.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Rev. Duane Walter to the pulpit this morning and would like to thank him for his service to Central UMC.

Today's Noisy Offering is designated for the Lakewood Area Ministerial Association's Benevolence Fund. Your spare change could change a life.

EVENTS

Mon 1/1 **New Year's Day** (church office closed)
AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm
Wed 1/3 **Worship Committee & Friends, Taking Down Greens** 7 pm
No Choir Rehearsal
Thu 1/4 Respite Care – Lounge 1:30 pm
Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall 4:30-6 pm
Fri 1/5 *Office closed*
Sun 1/7 *Sunday School resumes* 9:30 am
Worship Service – Sanctuary 10:30 am
Mon 1/8 **Administrative Council Meeting** – Fellowship Hall 7 pm
A.A. Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm
Tues 1/9 **Fresh Food Distribution** – back parking lot 2 pm
Fellowship & Care Committee – Front Room 6 pm
Wed 1/10 Friendship Group – Fellowship Hall 9 am
Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary 7 pm
Thu 1/11 Respite Care – Lounge 1:30 pm
Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall 4:30-6 pm
Fri 1/12 *Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787*
Sun 1/14 Sunday School - Classrooms 9:30 am
Worship Service – Sanctuary 10:30 am
Mon 1/15 **Finance Committee** – Front Room 6 pm
AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom 7 pm
Tues 1/16 **Nominations/Lay Leadership Committee** – Front Room 10 am

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*****Sunday 12/31 thru Saturday 1/6 – Pastor Dominic will be on vacation*****

In case of a pastoral emergency, please contact George Carpenter (616-260-0758), Marian Durkee (616-374-7489), or the Church Office.