



Fat Tuesday will now be celebrated as  
**FAT SUNDAY!**  
February 11, following Worship



The Fellowship and Caring Committee is holding our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual “Fat Tuesday” celebration but changing to “Fat Sunday.” The term “Mardi Gras” refers to events of the celebrations beginning on or after Epiphany and culminating on the day before Ash Wednesday which begins on February 14. Mardi gras is French for Fat Tuesday, referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season.

**ATTENTION COOKS AND BAKERS! The Competition is ON!** Do you have a favorite dessert or confection recipe that will WOW the crowd and put you in the competition for “Confectioner of the Year”? If so, please plan to bring your dessert or confection to our “Fat Sunday” Celebration on Sunday, February 11. The rules are easy: Create your favorite confection or dessert. Please cut into one-inch pieces ahead of time, ready for sampling (this makes Sunday morning set-up much easier). Drop it off to the church kitchen when you arrive Sunday morning. Your identity will remain anonymous until after the votes are counted. *Please do not include any mint in your recipe.*

Helpers will be on hand to arrange the samples and place at tables with a vote basket. Everyone will be given 5 tickets to be used as “votes” to determine our winner. Additional tickets will be available by donation. The creator of the winning entry will be announced in the afternoon and will receive untold notoriety and a wonderful “traveling” trophy!



# 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  
[www.centralchurch-lakeo.org](http://www.centralchurch-lakeo.org) (616) 374-8861  
**Rev. Dominic Tommy, Pastor**  
[pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org](mailto:pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org)

**CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**Worship Celebration Service**

*5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany* *February 4, 2018*

\*\*\*\*\*

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

INTROIT “Think About His Love” Chancel Choir  
*Walt Harrah*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *Song of (Love) Songs 2:1-7*

I am a rose of Sharon, A lily of the valleys, even Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church. As a lily among thorns, so is my love among the maidens.

**As the apple-tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.**

He brought me to the banqueting-table, and his banner over me is love.

**Strengthen me with raisins and refresh me with apples because I am faint with love. His left hand *is* under my head, and his right hand embraces me.**

**All: Great is the measure of our Father’s love. Lord, receive our praise and thanksgiving!**

\*OPENING HYMN: “The Lily of the Valley” TFWS 2062  
*Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets*

INVOCATION PRAYER (in unison) *(Be seated)*

**Holy and Loving God, we praise you and rejoice in the institution of marriage, thank you, for the seed of love planted in the hearts of men and women. May it always inspire us to be kind in our words, considerate of feelings, and concerned for each other's needs and wishes. Help us to be understanding and forgiving grace of God, and restoration of fellowship among us through Christ our Lord. Lord, increase our faith and trust in you and in one another, and may your prudence guide our life, our love, our Church, and our homes. Bless our marriage, O God, with peace and happiness, and make our love fruitful for your glory and our joy, both here and in eternity. We love you, Lord! Amen.**

ANTHEM “Be With Us Now, O Lord” Chancel Choir  
*Jay Althouse*

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 dismissed to the Nursery downstairs immediately following the *Children’s Moment*.**

INVITATION FOR OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY “We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise” TFWS 2031

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF GIFTS

**Dear heavenly Father, all we have is from your gracious hand, and we dedicate these gifts to you with thanksgiving. You, O God blessed us with home, family and food and loving relationships. Thank you for the gift of your Son, Lord Jesus Christ, and the promise of salvation through Him. In our giving, remind us the spiritual blessings we receive from this place of worship. Let these gifts strengthen us in the local and global missions of this church.**

**In Christ’ name we pray. Amen.**

PRAYER CONCERNS, PRAISES, PASTORAL PRAYER

*Please stand for the Reading of God’s Word.*

\*SCRIPTURE: Matthew 22:1-14 Pew Bible, NT pg 23

SERMON: Reflection on Love and Marriage: Rev. Dominic Tommy  
*“Invitation to Marriage Banquet”*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION, Giving of the Bread and the Cup  
During Communion: ““Let us Break Bread Together” Hymnal 618  
“Let There be Peace on Earth” Hymnal 431

\*CLOSING HYMN “This is My Song” Hymnal 437

\*BENEDICTION **The Family of God (Gaither)**  
*I’m so glad I’m a part of the Family of God,*  
*I’ve been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His Blood!*  
*Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod,*  
*For I’m part of the family,*  
*The Family of God*

POSTLUDE *\*Please stand as you are able*

## Looking Forward to Lent and Easter

These activities are offered to you and your family  
for your Lenten walk here at Central Church:

- **Fat Tuesday Celebration** – Sunday, February 11 (see back page)
- **Ash Wednesday service** – February 14 at 6 pm
- **Six-week Lenten Bible Study** – Beginning February 20 (see caption below).
- **Palm Sunday Service** – March 25, 10:30 am Celebration Worship. *Parents and grandparents: Please bring your children for the Palm Sunday Parade.*
- **Holy Thursday Service** – March 29 at 6 pm
- **Community Good Friday Service** – March 30 at 1 pm
- **Easter Sunday Service** – April 1 at 10:30 am

\* \* \* \* \*

### Lenten Bible Study by Pastor Dominic Tommy

Topic: **NAMES OF GOD—investing and Appreciating God's Name**

In the Bible, God reveals Himself to us through various names. In this 13-lesson study of the names of God, the names will be studied in order, as God progressively reveals Himself through dispensations. From studying these 13 names of God, you will have a wonderful "Lenten journey into knowing God."

Lesson titles include: *The God Who Created You, When You Are Afraid, A Name You Need To Remember, When You Really Know God, When You Feel God Doesn't Care, Experiencing God's Power, When Life Seems Unfair, Don't Worry—Trust God, Receiving God's Healing, Enlisting God in Life's Battles, Finding Inner Peace, When You Feel Guilty, and When You Feel All Alone.*

This will be a part of the Lenten Experience for you. We'll divide it into two parts for 6-weeks of learning and fellowship. Class begins at 10:30 AM on Tuesdays from February 20 through March 27. Each session will last 90 minutes. We will meet in the Sunday School classroom upstairs.

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  
TODAY'S SERVICE:

**Worship Assistant**  
Von Goodemoot

#### Audio/Visual

Today: Tony Barcroft / Kay Barcroft  
Next Sunday: Same

#### Coffee Fellowship

Today: Open  
Next Sunday: Fellowship & Caring: Fat Sunday Celebration

#### Greeters

Today: Marcia Bytwerk / Warren Courtney /  
Next Sunday: Marcia Bytwerk / Dodie Denman / Warren Courtney

#### Nursery

Today: Dawn Deardorff / Penny Thelen  
Next Sunday: Karen Avery / Shelly Reiser

#### Ushers

Today: Dick Nelson / Warren Courtney  
Next Sunday: Same

\* \* \* \* \*

**In case of a pastoral emergency, please call  
Pastor Dominic at the parsonage (374-8294) or on his cell  
(269-941-3787) or the Church Office during office hours.**

### THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS

Family of Maxine Wildman  
Family of Bonnie Haskins  
Ron Walkington

Bonnie Leak  
Karen, Sharon, and Lily

Peg Cusack  
Reisha

#### Continued in Prayer

Sgt. Branden Curtis  
Sgt. Lloyd C. Corston  
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr  
1SG Nicholas Ludema  
PFC Jason Hilley  
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow  
Brian Rayner  
Patti Coorman

Karl Klynstra  
Phylis Armstrong  
Dale Patterson  
Terena Galaviz  
Pam Coleman  
Travis Tucker and family  
Judi Brandon  
Armrose LaBine

Gary Smith  
Ed Hilliker  
Hank Minenna  
Susan Steele  
Sharon Brink  
Ross McDowell  
Kim Seese  
Mary Shoemaker

#### Our Special Friends

Leah Abbott  
Lois Goodemoot  
Ed Reiser

Margot Bailey  
Joanne McDaniels  
Peg Faulkner

Ada Dennie  
Phil Shetterly

#### Our Partners In Ministry

Our Missionary, Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa  
East Lansing Peoples Church, East Lansing  
Harvest Community Church, Lake Odessa

### CELEBRATIONS

#### Birthdays

02/04 Dale Mossburg  
02/05 Thelma Curtis  
02/06 Lois Goodemoot  
Sam McNeill  
02/08 Bill Cobb  
02/09 Lori McNeill

\* \* \* \* \*



**Our next Blood Drive is:**  
**Monday, February 12, 2018**  
**12:00 to 5:45 pm**

\* \* \* \* \*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated in worship this morning. (Gluten-free and additive-free elements are available.) All are welcome at the Table.*

\* \* \* \* \*

#### EVENTS

Mon 2/5	AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	7 pm
Tues 2/6	<b>Nominations/Lay Leadership Committee</b> <b>Fresh Food Distribution</b> – back parking lot	<b>10 am</b> 2 pm
Wed 2/7	Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	7 pm
Thu 2/8	Respite Care – Lounge Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	1:30 pm 4:30-6 pm
Fri 2/9	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	
Sun 2/11	Sunday School - Classrooms Worship Service – Sanctuary <b>Fat Sunday Celebration</b> – Fellowship Hall	9:30 am 10:30 am <i>following worship</i>
Mon 2/12	<b>Missions Committee</b> – Front Room <b>Red Cross Blood Drive</b> – Fellowship Hall <b>UMW General Meeting</b> – Church Lounge AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	<b>9 am</b> 12:00-5:45 pm <b>1:30 pm</b> 7 pm
Wed 2/14	Friendship Group – Fellowship Hall <b>Ash Wednesday Service</b> – Sanctuary <i>No Choir Rehearsal</i>	9 am <b>6 pm</b>
Thu 2/15	Respite Care – Lounge Souper Thursday Community Dinner– Fellowship Hall	1:30 pm 4:30-6 pm
Fri 2/16	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	
Sun 2/18	Sunday School - Classrooms Worship Service – Sanctuary	9:30 am 10:30 am
Mon 2/19	<b>Finance Committee</b> – Front Room AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	<b>6 pm</b> 7 pm
Tues 2/20	<b>Lenten Bible Study begins</b> – Lounge	<b>10:30 am</b>
Wed 2/21	<i>No Choir Rehearsal</i>	