

MINISTER: Every Member of This Church
PASTOR: Rev. Paul Reissmann, IV
SECRETARY: Jackie Spagnuolo
ORGANIST: Marilyn Noffke
CUSTODIANS: Mike McCartney, Michael Helmick
LITURGIST: Von Goodemoot
AUDIO: Tony Barcroft
VISUAL: Shelly Reiser
GREETER/USHER: Tom Reiser

ANNOUNCEMENTS

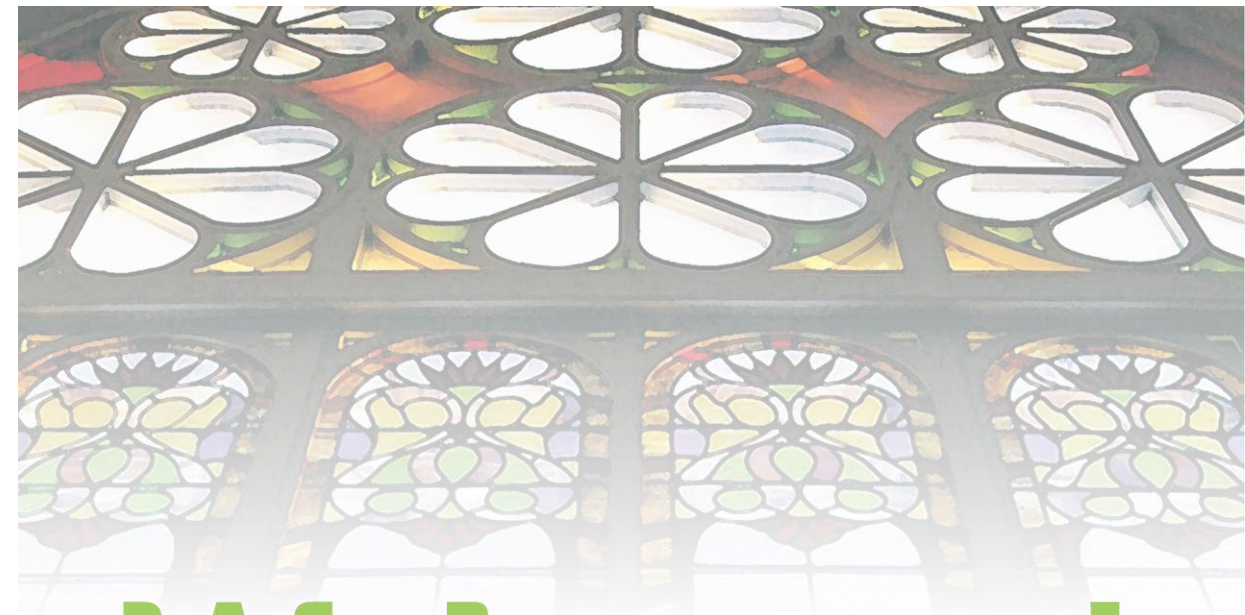
- We will be hosting a Special Church Conference with our District Superintendent, Rev. Dwayne Bagley, following worship on June 9 at 11:00 am to vote on our new Governance Board and Leadership Structure.
- If you like to encourage the spiritual education in the next generation, why not volunteer to help with Vacation Bible School! A sign up sheet is available in Fellowship Hall on the bulletin board with the Coffee Hour and Altar Flower Sign ups.

Upcoming Events

Mon 5/6	Private Event – Fellowship Hall	6:30 pm
Tue 5/7	Belding Adult Education Class – JR/SR High Classroom	9 am – 12 pm
	Fresh Food Truck – Back Parking Lot	2 pm
	Fellowship & Care Meeting – Fellowship Hall	6 pm
	Administrative Council Meeting – Lounge	7 pm
Wed 5/8	Belding Adult Education Class – JR/SR High Classroom	9 am – 12 pm
	Rev. Paul's Bible Study – Lounge	5:30 pm
	Honeybee Fitness Class – Fellowship Hall	6:30 pm
Thu 5/9	Community Respite/Support – Lounge	1-4 pm
	Community Dinner – Fellowship Hall	4-6 pm
Sun 5/12	Sunday School	9:30 am
	Worship – Mother's Day	10:30 am



Altar flowers this morning are presented by Brandon and Jackie Spagnuolo in celebration of their 7th Wedding Anniversary on April 29th and their birthdays on May 4th



Welcome!


Central
CHURCH
 A UNITED METHODIST MINISTRY

Keeping Christ Central

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 Central United Methodist Church - Lake Odessa

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 Paul Reissmann



CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Celebration – 10:30 am

6th Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

This parable only appears in the Gospel of _____. Remember: some Gospels have _____ stories entirely, while some stories are _____ by multiple Gospels.

The _____ in the story are _____, a kind of plant that resembles _____ until it _____. It is hard to distinguish which plant is _____ or _____.

_____ are slightly _____ to human beings and are essentially _____ to harvest.

_____ is a _____ crop in order for bread to be made in the _____ (the area of Palestine and its surrounding neighbors). Destroying this crop is not only a means to _____ someone's _____, but also _____ them from food.

Jesus uses this _____ to compare the _____ to _____. In doing so, we are left wondering what the _____ and the _____ are in our lives. This teaching from God's creation helps us to understand God's _____ - God does not _____.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Prayer

Holy and Gracious God, the one who sows and reaps in us a harvest of justice and righteousness, we find ourselves at times tangled in this life.

The weeds and thorns of life strangle and cut us in our pursuit of our skyward growth.

Life is not without suffering, Holy One, but your world gives us hope for your pattern of wisdom.

There is life in you, Holy One. Though there is messiness and difficulty, even suffering, there comes a time when you see us for who we are.

Your presence and your teachings work to untangle us in this life that we might know the abundance of grace you pour out for each thing you've made.

Field hand of Heaven, help us to discern which parts of us give us life so that we might bear loving fruit for your world. Help us to grow into perfection in love in this lifetime, Amen.

WORSHIP WITH PRAYER AND SONG

*Hymn *For the Fruits of This Creation* Hymnal 97

Sharing of Praises and Prayer Requests

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Hymn *All Creatures of Our God and King vs 5* Hymnal 62

*Dedication of Tithes & Offerings Hymnal 95

WORSHIP WITH THE WRITTEN WORD

Reading of Scripture: Matthew 13:24-30

Liturgist: Words from the past made new for us today!

People's Response: **Thanks be to God!**

The Message *The First Bible: Wheat & Weeds*

COMMUNION LITURGY

Hymn during Communion *Hymn of Promise* Hymnal 707

Benediction

Postlude

*Please rise in spirit or in body