



Lakewood Community Council Christmas Basket Program

Central Church will host the Lakewood Community Council Christmas Basket Program again this year. With your help, we provide generous gifts of food, certificates redeemable for meat and dairy products, gifts, hats, mittens, and socks for about 180 low-income families in the Lakewood area each year. Following the example of Christ, we strive to care for these families in need. The families who receive these gifts are blessed, and those who help with this project feel blessed as well. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

Our church has been asked to contribute \$10-\$12 gifts, wrapped and tagged, for **boys ages 10 and 14, and girls age 12**. Gift tags are available in Fellowship Hall. We can accept non-perishable packaged food, if that is better for you. Hats, mittens, and socks of all sizes are also needed. Financial contributions can be marked "Christmas Baskets" in the Missions section of your offering envelopes or a separate envelope. Kay Barcroft or Alan Goodmoot can answer any questions you may have.

We will be happy to find a job for you at any of these times

- **Wednesday, Dec. 5 -- 9 AM to 2:30 PM – Transport food & sort**
- **Thursday, Dec. 6 -- 9 AM to 2:30 PM - Pack boxes & gift bags**
- **Saturday, Dec. 8 -- 9 AM to noon - Delivery of boxes**

See Kay if you prefer to help Tuesday evening or Friday afternoon.

Donations can be brought in now through Wednesday, Dec. 5.

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 (616) 374-8861
Rev. Dominic Tommy, Pastor
pastor@centralchurch-lakeo.org

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Worship Celebration Service

26th Sunday after Pentecost

November 18, 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.

*PRAISING THE LORD “Give Thanks” On screen

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name. Make known God's deeds among the peoples!

God blesses us with gifts of love: with food and clothing, home and family.

God blesses us with daily work: and all we need from day to day.

God protects us in time of danger: and guards us from every evil.

God calls us into relationship with him: and forms us into one holy people,

The Church of Jesus Christ at Central is a storehouse of our spiritual life.

Therefore, shall we offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

And will give thanks to our God forever.

*OPENING HYMN “We Gather Together” Hymnal 131

Ushers will collect Prayer Request Sheets

INVOCATION PRAYER (in unison) (be seated)

**Everlasting God, we give thanks that you have gathered us into
your church and graced us with your faithful presence. Here,**

**in your presence we ponder our history, our ancient heritage,
and our faith in Christ. We marvel at many expressions**

of commitment among our leaders here at Central Church.

**Thank you, Lord, for you richly bless us with all that we need: bread
from the earth and the bread of heaven, which gives life to the world.**

**Grant us one thing more: love and commitment to your will, and a
grateful heart to sing your praise, in this world and the world to come.**

Through Christ, and for Christ's glorious kingdom. Amen.

ANTHEM “A Thanksgiving Garden” Chancel Choir

by Joseph M. Martin

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

*DOXOLOGY “I Surrender All” vs 1, refrain Hymnal 354

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of the wilderness, we give these offerings in gratitude,
rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us. We give these
offerings in faith, trusting that you will provide for our needs.**

**We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread
your love in this world. And with these offerings, we give ourselves;
May we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen.**

PRAYER CONCERNS, PRAISES, PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN “Trust and Obey” vs. 1,4 Hymnal 467

*SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 8:1-2 Pew Bible NT pg 172

Leader: The Word of God to the people of God!

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON **THE GRACE OF GIVING** Rev. Dominic Tommy

“Graceful Giving—a Heart of Thanksgiving”

*CLOSING HYMN “Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessings” Hymnal 671

*BENEDICTION

RESPONSE IN SONG Lord, Be Glorified

**1. In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified
In my life, Lord, be glorified today**

**2. In my home, Lord, be glorified be glorified
In my home, Lord, be glorified today**

**3. In Your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified
In Your church, Lord, be glorified today
be glorified today.**

POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able*

"Hanging of the Greens" will be Sunday, November 25, following coffee hour. This is a fun time to work together decorating the building for the Advent and Christmas season. Please stay if you are able. Many hands make light work. There is a signup sheet for lunch items. Even if you aren't able to help with the decorating, perhaps you could supply a lunch item. Children are welcome, too, if accompanied by their adult.

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Additional Stewardship pledge cards are available on ushers' tables. You will also find newsletters and prayer calendars for November, and daily devotionals.

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If you are not currently using **weekly offering envelopes** but would like to do so, please contact Dawn Deardorff or the Church Office. If you are interested in signing up for on-line giving through our website, or setting up an automatic reoccurring payment through your bank, you can also check with us for more information or if you have questions.

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*All are invited to the annual **Christmas Concert of Bells 'n Brass**, to be held at the Pleasant Valley United Brethren Church (13120 Bell Road), on Sunday, December 2nd, at 3:00 pm. The music will be Christ-centered; refreshments available. Wheelchair accessible.*

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Christmas 'Round the Town
Friday, November 23 and Saturday, November 24
Fellowship Hall will be full of vendors selling their wares.
The UMW is hosting the event and will be selling
ornaments, aprons and caramel corn- make sure you stop in
and check it out!

MINISTER: Every Member of This Church
PASTOR: Rev. Dominic Tommy
SECRETARY: Kim Stoepker
ORGANIST: Marilyn Noffke
CHOIR DIRECTOR: Jackie Spagnuolo
CUSTODIANS: Mike McCartney, Michael Helmic
TODAY'S SERVICE:

Worship Leader
Tom Reiser

Audio/Visual

Today: Tony Barcroft / Shelly Reiser
Next Sunday: Same

Coffee Fellowship

Today: Garlock
Next Sunday: Open

Greeters

Today: John & Terri Catt
Next Sunday: Same

Nursery

Today: Karen Avery / Andrea Gentner
Next Sunday: Marcia Bytwerk / Penny Thelen

Ushers

Today: Shane McNeill / Dodie Denman
Next Sunday: Same

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THIS WEEK'S PRAYER CONCERNS

Judy Cross	Donna Moore	
<u>Continued in Prayer</u>		
Sgt. Branden Curtis	Karl Klynstra	Mary Shoemaker
Sgt. Lloyd C. Corston	Phylis Armstrong	Susan Steele
PFC Steven Wakley, Jr	Dale Patterson	Hank Minenna
1SG Nicholas Ludema	Travis Tucker and family	Kim Seese
PFC Jason Hilley	Pam Coleman	George Speas
Sgt. Nathan Sparrow	Armrose LaBine	Brian Rayner
Judi Brandon	Brian Harper	Arlene Lee
Marti Lind	Barbara Wareing	Lloyd Corston

Our Special Friends

Leah Abbott	Margot Bailey	Lloyd Corston
Virginia Decker	Ada Dennie	Peg Faulkner
Bette Makley	Joanne McDaniels	Ed Reiser
Phil Shetterly		

Our Partners In Ministry

Missionary Paul Webster, Zambia, Africa
 Missionaries Brendan and Mary Webb, Arabian Peninsula
 Woodland United Methodist Church, Woodland
 Zion Lutheran Church, Woodland

CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

11/19 Barb Hall
 11/21 Jane Lawther
 Cain Nelson
 11/23 Art Wagner
 Dick Winkler

Please Note:

The Church Office will be closed Wednesday, November 21, thru Friday, Nov. 23. If you know you will need assistance, please call ahead or leave a message on our answering machine.

As always, if there is a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Dominic at the parsonage (616-374-8294) or on his cell (269-941-3787).

EVENTS

Mon 11/19	Finance Committee – Front Room AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	6 pm 7 pm
Wed 11/21	<i>Church Office is Closed</i> <i>No Choir Rehearsal</i> Thanksgiving Worship Service – Zion Lutheran Church	7 pm
Thur 11/22	<i>Thanksgiving – Church Office is Closed</i>	
Fri 11/23	Christmas Round the Town – Fellowship Hall	9 am
Sat 11/24	Christmas Round the Town – Fellowship Hall	9 am
Sun 11/25	Sunday School – Classrooms Worship Service – Stewardship Hanging of the Greens	9:30 am 10:30 am <i>following coffee hour</i>
Mon 11/26	Vision Forum – Fellowship Hall AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	6 to 8 pm 7 pm
Wed 11/28	<i>No Friendship Group</i> Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	7 pm
Fri 11/30	<i>Office closed – For an emergency, Pastor can be reached at 269-941-3787</i>	
Sun 12/2	Sunday School – Classrooms Worship Service – Stewardship	9:30 am 10:30 am
Mon 12/3	AA Open Meeting – Sr. High Classroom	7 pm
Tues 12/4	Fresh Food Truck – Back parking lot Christmas Baskets set-up – Fellowship Hall	2 pm
Wed 12/5	Christmas Baskets – Fellowship Hall Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary	9 am - 2:30 pm 7 pm
Thur 12/6	<i>(There will be no UMW Christmas breakfast this year.)</i> Christmas Baskets – Fellowship Hall	9 am – 2:30 pm
Sat 12/8	Christmas Basket Delivery	9 am to noon

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Upcoming Events:

- ❖ Dec. 14 Community Christmas in the Village Parade and Festival – 6 to 9 pm
- ❖ Dec. 24 Candlelight Christmas Eve Service – 7 pm