

REPORT FROM THE KITCHEN COMMITTEE

After the discontinuation of the Super Thursday program at the end of November, 2018, the pastor recommended we again establish a Kitchen Committee to oversee the kitchen maintenance and usage of the church kitchen and related storage areas. The following church members agreed to serve on the committee: Dawn Deardorff, Leona Rayner, Dodie Denman, Karen Avery, Mary Dykhouse, and Sharlene Goodemoot. At the initial meeting on December 10, 2019, Sharlene Goodemoot was elected to chair the committee, and Dawn Deardorff was elected Secretary.

The main responsibilities of the committee were determined to be quarterly cleaning of the kitchen and storeroom and keeping supplies stocked for Coffee Hour, Funerals, and any other events that arise. A list will continue to be posted on the door for church members to note needed kitchen supplies. Sharlene will make sure the needed items are procured with the help of other committee members. *Please Note: When someone is using the kitchen for an event, they are responsible for emptying waste baskets and sweeping the floor as needed, as well as washing and putting away any dishes used.*

New plumbing has been installed under the island so we no longer have floods if more than one sink is emptied at a time! We eliminated the garbage disposal and installed a new flexible faucet over the handwashing and food preparation sinks. The floor tiles which were disturbed will be repaired in the near future. Funds were not available to replace the countertops, but we hope to be able to put some new paint on the walls in the future.

The kitchen is now sparkly clean. The cupboards and drawers have been re-organized and labeled. If you have difficulty finding items, please ask one of the committee members. Thank you to everyone who helped with the cleaning after the construction!

Sharlene and Dodie have taken the State Food Management Course and have become certified. Sharlene has also received certification for the Michigan Food Allergens Training. We plan to have a related workshop this fall for representatives of the groups who frequently use the kitchen and anyone else in the congregation who is interested.

Congratulations to Terri Catt!

Terri was the recipient of the 2019 Janie Rodriguez Award. Central United Methodist Church is very proud and appreciative of Terri for serving among us and thankful for all that she does for the Lake Odessa community, the United Methodist Women, and Central Church.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING DONORS TO OUR MEMORIAL FUND:

In Memory of Leah Abbott: Steve & Carol Price

In Memory of Gwen Phillips: Steven & Debra Steward, Allen & Kathy Decker, David & Elizabeth VanDuinen, Don & Shirley Mast, Janice Merces, and Ruth Fink.

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.

central
united methodist church

September 2019



Pastoral Reflection from Pastor Dominic Tommy

Dear Central Friends and Families:

Embrace this Promise: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8).

If you live outside the city, or if you go driving around countrysides, you have probably seen fields of glossy yellow buttercups many, many times. Perhaps you have held one to your chin and looked in the mirror to see whether you are "like a buttercup of God's creation."

Some buttercups are cultivated for their beauty and livestock grazing in the fields eat some. However, other plants are poisonous or bitter to taste—if animals or persons eat them, they may cause physical suffering, even death. And yet most of the plants display multiple bright colors; and when we look at them, they are pretty, and all reflect the glory of God, indeed, *"This is My Father's World...the morning light, the lily white declares their Maker's praise ...He shines in all that's fair; in the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere."* (Maltbie D Babcock)

Now, as we admire the fields of colorful plants, does God see us as His beautiful creations? You bet; or can we be pretty to look at but spoil that beauty in God's eyes by the way we act? What is more important to God: Is it how we look or what we do that pleases Him? Do you think it is possible to be lovely on the outside as the flowers of the field? But on the other hand, practice what Apostle Paul called on Galatians Christians to avoid:

"Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, revelries, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:19-21). Think about the promise at the beginning of this reflection (Matthew 5:8) and compare with the verse in Galatians 5:19-21. Pay attention to this phrase: *"I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."* If not, what is our goal of being a Christian? Let Jesus come into your heart, will you?

Yes, we are called to act in God's world with kindness, be considerate of other people's feelings, and express ourselves in a beautiful manner. I think—it is possible through the grace of God in Christ—for to the Lord, you will be the aroma of his pleasing (2 Corinthians 2:15).

As we approach the end of summer in its fullness on the forthcoming Labor Day, let us take time to enjoy the remaining weeks of outdoors. Prune your flowers, appreciate nature around you, and best of all see yourself as a child of the King—a beautiful flower in God's garden and—You, the delight of His creation! And in the words of William D. Longstaff:

Take time to be holy,

The world rushes on; spend much time in secret

With Jesus alone; by looking to Jesus,

Like Him thou shall be; His friend in thy conducts

His likeness shall see.

Pray with me: *Our heavenly Father, we pray today that our imperfect lives may in a small way be a blessing to those we know and love. Increase in us daily a will to grow toward being more perfect servants of yours. May we try to learn more about the things Jesus did and taught so that we may be better followers of His. Amen.*

Please take note of the **Schedule of Preaching for September and October, the theme: **"Grace of Encouragements."** In this lonely world, we all need friends who can encourage us along our pilgrim journey. Hope you'll be present in worship to benefit from this series. Invite friends and families.*

To you with love and gratitude, always! Pastor Dominic Tommy

Celebrations

Birthdays	09/21 Cole Jackson	09/30 Christine Cunningham
09/10 Betty Shetterly	09/21 Leland Bursley	Anniversaries
09/10 Dawn Deardorff	09/23 Bo Cobb	09/03/1960 Ray & Mary Dykhouse
09/11 John Catt	09/25 Bill Walker	09/04/1976 Kim & Dawn Deardorff
09/16 Karen Avery	09/25 Joey Jackson	09/06/1997 Tim & Kay Goodmoot
09/20 Chuck Rayner	09/28 Kim Girvin	09/18/1965 John & Terri Catt
	09/29 Ada Dennie	

September Events

- A.A. OPEN MEETINGS**
Mondays, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30—7:00 pm
- FRESH FOOD DISTRIBUTION**
Tuesday, September 10—2:00 pm
(Volunteers are asked to arrive by 1:30)
- ADULT RESPITE**
Thursdays, September 12 and 26—1:00 to 4:00 pm
- FRIENDSHIP GROUP**—Fri, Sept. 13 & Sept. 27, 12pm

- Committee Meetings Scheduled:**
- Fellowship & Care**—Tues., Sept 10, 6:30 pm
 - Nominations/Lay Leadership**—Wed, Sept. 11, 10am
 - Finance**—Mon., Sept. 16, 6 pm
 - Staff-Parish and D.S.**—Mon., Sept. 16, 7 pm
 - Worship**—Tues., Sept. 17, 7 pm
 - Education Committee**—Tues., Sept. 24, 7 pm
 - Endowment/Memorial**—Mon., Sept. 30, 6 pm

September's Preaching Schedule

DATE & SPECIAL EVENTS	MESSAGES & TEXT
September 1 – Communion Sunday 12 th Sunday After Pentecost--Green	Introduction: "Grace and Gift of Encouragements" Text: (2 Corinthians 1:3-5)
September 8 - Sunday School Begins 13 th Sunday after Pentecost--Green	"Portraits of Encouragement in First Converts" Text: (Acts 2:37-47)
September 15 14 th Sunday after Pentecost--Green	"Principles of Encouragements—Barnabas" (Part 1) Text: (Acts: 4:34-37)
September 22 - United Methodist Women Day 15 th Sunday after Pentecost--Green	"Mary—Passion from the Heart" Text: (Mark 14:1-9)
September 29 16 th Sunday after Pentecost	"Principles of Encouragements—Barnabas" (Part 2) Text: (Acts: 4:34-37)

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS!!
The **Salad Luncheon** was a big success with 52 women and guests. Food was wonderful. Our devotion was on seven biblical reasons why singing matters:
(1) When you sing, you obey, it is commanded in the Bible. *Colossians 3:16*. (2) When you sing, you dig deep roots in the world. *Colossians 3:16*. (3) When you sing, you build up others. *Ephesians 5:19 Psalms 105:1-2*. (4) When you sing you make war. *Colossians 3, Ephesians 5:19*. (5) When you sing you are spiritually strengthened. *Acts 16:25*. (6) When you sing, you walk a God-designed pathway to joy. *Psalms 5:11 and Psalms 9:2*. (7) When you sing, you glorify God.

We were then Entertained by Julie Slate, the ukulele Lady with Christian hymns. She talked about the writer of the hymns and what they meant to her. She also sang songs she had written. It was enjoyed by all.
Officers Meeting—Sept. 9 at 9:30 at Meyers Bakery.
Ruth Circle—Sept. 16 at Andrea Gentner's home.
District Meeting- Sept. 18 at Greenstreet UMC, Hastings. Registration must be in by Sept 11. If you bring it to church on Sept. 8 with your \$10, I will get it in for you.
United Methodist Women Sunday is Sept. 22 . We need ushers, greeters, worship assistant and coffee hour help. Please sign up during coffee hour.
~~Terri Catt, president

Prayers of Condolence

Family of Marge Erickson
Family of Cameron Yager, Sr.
Family of Neil Katsul
Ron Beard family



EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Our Zoo Trip was a Great Success!

Thanks to your generosity during the Education Committee's Fundraisers this summer, we were able to take 13 students and 6 adults to Binder Park Zoo on August 16th. Our regular students earned their ticket to the park by memorizing a Bible verse about the wonders of God's creation. Once inside the park, we watched the kangaroos and the red panda, and marvelled at the beautiful owls and the wolf pups. Next, we travelled to Wild Africa where we saw lots of animals from the African continent, including lions, zebras, storks and tortoises. We were able to feed the giraffes, and even have an ice cream treat ourselves. Once back to the main zoo, we took a train ride, saw the snow leopards, and visited the petting zoo. Miss Julie even brought all of us pennies to smooch so we could take home a souvenir. We ended our day with a picnic lunch under one of the pavillions. A good day was had by all!

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF



Our annual Fall Kick-off celebration will be **Sunday, September 8th**. We invite you to wear your favorite team's football colors to get into the spirit. After worship, please join us for a potluck in Fellowship Hall. The Education Committee is providing hotdogs and buns, and ice cream for dessert. Please bring a dish to share.

Sunday School will begin at 9:30 and end at 10:15. There will be two Sunday School Classes offered for children this fall. The first class will be for ages **Pre-K through 4th Grade**, and they will meet in their regular classroom (the first on the right at the top of the front stairs) They will be learning and growing using *Grow Together Now: Volume 1*, which includes Sunday school lessons for children of all ages.

The second class will be for **5th through 8th grade** and we will start out meeting in the basement in the old Mi-High classroom. The older kids will be studying **BE BOLD: Fearless Preteen Curriculum**. **BE BOLD** promises to validate their faith questions and give them a place to explore those questions together.

Please see any member of the Education Committee if you'd like to get involved: Jane Kostanko, Mary Dykhouse, Judy Freidhoff, Andrea Gentner, or Nanette Biang.

State of the Church Report

Stats for July 2019

Average Attendance: **66**
Operating Fund:
Receipts **\$10,263.55**
Expenses **(\$12,779.89)**
Monthly receipts needed to maintain budget: \$16,580.00

Other Designated Giving:

Building Fund	\$ 330
Rentals Fund	\$ 120
General Missions	\$ 180
Funeral Fund	\$ 300
Missionary Delbert Groves	\$ 10
Christmas Baskets	\$ 70
N/O Habitat for Humanity	\$ 91
Memorial Fund	\$ 120
General Education Fund	\$ 100
Chicken BBQ	\$ 3,651

If anyone is interested in reviewing monthly reports for May and June, please contact the Church Office or Mike McCartney.

Annual Rummage Sale

Dates are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 3, 4, and 5.



See the bulletin board for more details.

Annual Church Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 7:00 pm at Hastings Green Street First UMC.
All church members are encouraged to attend.