



Founded 1850

# Central Journal

Informing Members and Friends – Encouraging Fellowship and Spiritual Growth

## Pastor Mark's Musings

May Peace Prevail on Earth.

It seems that the way to peace is a rough road. political division is at an all time high as people from all persuasions draw lines in general societies throughout the world. Hateful rhetoric seems to be the means of much communication. This fragmentation serves only to weaken communities, including the church.

We, The United Methodist Church, are also embroiled in conflict as we seek to find a “Way Forward” that will enable us to be faithful to the spreading of the good news of God that we have found in Jesus Christ.

Frankly, my spirit is deeply troubled. I find it unnerving that some fuel the fires of strife just to make a point. I admit that there have been times when I have done the same. Therefore, I rely on sources beyond the rhetoric that have proven valuable over the years. The Social Creed of The United Methodist Church is such a document. I offer it here as a reminder of the soul of The UMC.

May we each read it with prayerful consideration at this time of strife and bickering.

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive for ourselves and others the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and people with disabilities; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of all persons.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations, and to individual freedom for all people of the world.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen. (Let it be so.)

**Central Ministries Calendar**

(note that community groups are not listed/concerts are.)

August

**1 Wednesday**

6pm All Church Picnic with Tennants

**5 Sunday**

*Holy Communion*  
9am Pre-Worship Coffee  
9:30 Worship  
10:30 Fellowship Time  
10:45 Engaging Worship

**10 Friday**

Friday Night Group

**12 Sunday**

9am Pre-Worship Coffee  
9:30 Worship  
10:30 Fellowship Time  
10:45 Music Committee

**13 Monday**

6:30pm Rainbow Café

**19 Sunday**

*Monthly In-gathering for South Lansing Food Bank*  
a9m Pre-Worship Coffee  
9:30 Worship  
10:30 Fellowship Time

**21 Tuesday**

6pm Trustees

**22 Wednesday**

Day-Trippers to *The Parade Co.*

**26 Sunday**

9am Pre-Worship Coffee  
9:30 Worship  
10:30 Fellowship Time

**27 Monday**

Guys Lunch Out

september

*Holy Communion*

**2 Sunday**

9am Pre-Worship Coffee  
9:30 Worship  
10:30 Fellowship Time

**3 Monday ~ closed**

Happy Labor Day

**9 Sunday**

*Kick Off Sunday*  
9am Pre-Worship Coffee  
9:30 Worship  
10:30 Fellowship Time

Upcoming Events

*To invite friends, neighbors, anyone to!*

August 22, 2018 an *Inter-generational Day Trippers* event - a fun bus tour for young and old to *The Parade Company* in Detroit. Invite your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, friends and neighbors to get a preview of America's Thanksgiving Day Parade! We will tour the warehouse where floats are made and stored. This creative kingdom makes storybook characters come to life. This trip is handicap accessible and places are available to sit during the one-hour tour. We'll stop for lunch on the way there. Details available at Central on Sundays or by contacting Rev. Bill Amundsen.

September 13, Central's Historical Celebration

September 16, Central Homecoming

Sunday, October 14, at 4:00pm, Bobby Jo Valentine will bring his Big, Big Love tour—a concert tour about the ways we find, lose, and discover love. His brand-new album, "Maybe Stars," is available on iTunes and Spotify.

November 12, 4:00pm, Frontier in Concert, with Cody Harrell and Brandon Smith

The annual Christmas Cabaret Benefit will be on **Friday, December 7**, with auction items made available ahead of that weekend.



Music and Worship Notes

Caryn Welter, Music Ministries and Worship Arts Director

## MUSIC AND WORSHIP NOTES FOR AUGUST, 2018

Many thanks go to Catherine Hibbard and Randy Whatley for bringing us "Robert Shaw: A Film" on July 22 in Wesley Hall. The story of Robert Shaw's life as it evolved from his young life to his starring as probably the nation's most talented choral conductor was awe-inspiring. Too, the enhanced coffee hour that was provided by Sue Kephart and Edie Robinson was very much enjoyed by those who attended.

CHOIRS WILL BEGIN ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, AT 6:30 (SPIRIT SINGERS) AND 7:30, RESPECTIVELY (CHANCEL CHOIR); HANDBELL REHEARSALS WILL BEGIN ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, AT 5:30 P.M.

Thursday, September 13 – At Central's Historical recognition, carillonneur Janet Geissler will ring our carillon 5:15 – 6:00 p.m., featuring some patriotic classics.

Many issues will be addressed by the Engaging Worship Team at its Sunday, August 5, meeting at 10:45 a.m., including upcoming special services.

Sunday, September 16 – Co-chairs Nancy O'Shea and Carolyn Kirkby, assisted by Mary Ellen Maas, and John Houston, are designing and implementing "Homecoming," the launching of Central's program year. Should they ask for your help, please give them a hand. This promises to be an exciting and inspirational day!

THE 2018-19 CONCERT SERIES will launch on Sunday, October 14, with soulful singer / songwriter Bobby Jo Valentine. On his Big, Big Love tour, kicked off in Orange, California, and continuing throughout 2018, he presents the ways we find, lose, and discover love. His brand new album "Maybe Stars" has been released and you can get it on iTunes, or check it out on Spotify. Sunday, November 11, 4:00 – FRONTIER won the 2018 International Next Generation Varsity Quartet Contest, bestowed by the Barbershop Harmony Society. Section Leader Cody Harrell and former Section Leader / Bell Choir Director Brandon Smith have gone "over-the-top" with their talents in earning a well-revered prize. Now we can look forward to a concert presented by this all-star group.

Central's Christmas Cabaret Benefit for 2018 will be held on Friday, December 7, with doors opening at 5:45 p.m. Just a reminder: auction items will be shown ahead of time.

Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m..



August



If you experience any radio/audio-visual issue, please IMMEDIATELY call or text Peter Hudy @ 5179276682 so that the issue can be addressed as soon as possible.

Thank you for your help in making this ministry more effective. in making this vital ministry more effective.

**Additional hearing aids** are available on loan during the service. Ask an usher if you need one. These new devices are in memory of Marion and Rolin Stutes and Donald McLaughlin.

Central LIVE on the Airwaves

WJIM-AM 1240

Broadcast weekly

9:30-10:30



Sponsor a radio broadcast in memory or honor of a loved one...or just because...!  
Call 485-9477

We frequently hear stories from many folks who say that Central's Radio Broadcast is:

- A  **blessing**  to those who are not able to attend.
- A  **witness**  to the community.
- A  **comfort**  to those who are honored.
- A  **privilege**  to carry on the tradition.

You are invited to participate individually or by partnering with others in continuing to bless others via Central Live on the Airwaves!

Contact the Office for available dates and indicate who is being honored or remembered. (485-9477)

You may also contribute towards the radio ministry without sponsoring a specific broadcast.

The cost is \$250 per week.

Our 55th Year of Broadcasts.



Filling the Cup of Ministry  
Investing in our  
Future

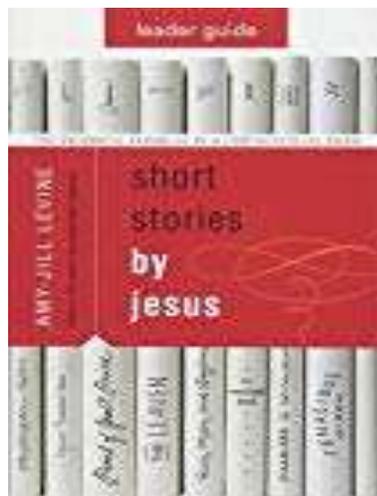
Announcing Our  
Fall 6-week All-Church  
Small-group Book Study!  
Coming in late September

SHORT STORIES

BY JESUS;

The Enigmatic Parables of  
A Controversial Rabbi

By renowned biblical  
scholar,  
Amy-Jill Levine!



To: The Congregation of Central UMC

From: Stephanie Rave

Subject: Quarterly Statements

Date: July 23, 2018

I would like to thank all of you for your patience waiting for your quarterly reports. As you will see, the new program is working and you have a new look.

Any special donations for Blanket Sunday, etc., will appear under the Non-Pledge heading. Those who have made a pledge, it will appear under Pledge.

If you find any problems or have questions, you can call me on Monday and Friday morning at the church, 485-9477, I will be happy to help.

Again, thank you for your support.

*Grateful*

*Thankful*

*Blessed*

# Mission Committee

Cathy Amundsen, Chairperson

**Ken Harvey has retired again! When you see Ken be sure to thank him for transporting the food collected the 3rd Sunday of every month to the Lansing Food Bank. The folks at South Lansing Ministries, where the food bank is located, miss him already! However, they are ready to welcome another member/friend of Central each month as we drop off the food and personal needs items collected. If you would like to be part of this ministry please contact Cathy Amundsen at 517-323-2445.**

**School supplies for Willow School**

**Again, Central is collecting the following items for Willow School:**

Copy paper

Pencils

Construction paper

Hand sanitizer

Baby wipes

Facial Tissues

**The staff and teachers appreciate very much all Central is doing to give them some of the supplies they need to do their important work with the children. What is collected will be dedicated on August 26th.**



**Three More  
Backyard Potluck Picnics  
Coming!**

**Wed., August 1  
Potluck Picnic and Concert  
at the St. Johns City Park  
805 W. Park St.**

**Hosts: Bill and Joi Tennant with  
Doug and Mary Bower**

**Gather at the smaller Hainer Pavilion near  
the Fantasy Forest Playground at 5:30.**

**Eat at 6:00.**

**We will furnish tableware, hotdogs, condiments,  
lemonade, ice tea and ice water.**

**Please bring food to share, such as a salad, vegetables, a casserole, chips, or dessert.**

**At 7:00 you can take a short walk or drive over to the Performance Shell to enjoy the wonder-  
ful "Flying Latini Brothers" from Detroit in concert**

**Superb Blues/ Soul/R&B (free)**

**Bring lawn chairs for the concert.**

**Rain or shine!**

**RSVP 989-224-8159**

**Revena McLaughlin's picnic is  
at noon Saturday, August 18  
at Grand Haven Manor,  
3215 W. Mt. Hope, Lansing**

**This will be a "true" potluck. We will need to bring main dish contributions  
as well as any other kinds of foods.**

**Revena will contribute  
the table service and ice water.**

**RSVP 517-482-6870**

**Remember that the Jessups have invited us to their home in Dimondale on  
Friday evening, September 7, 5:00. 517-646-6729 (Details later.)**



Do You Know About "GUYS'  
LUNCH OUT?"

MOST FOURTH MONDAYS...a group of guys gather at the South Waverly Flap Jack Shack for lunch. That's at Lansing Road and South Waverly Road. Each is responsible for his own lunch. There is little by way of "agenda." Occasionally, you'll be asked to be prepared to tell about yourself or some topic of interest. Otherwise, it's conversation between us. If someone needs a ride, phone Pastor Bill (517.323.2445), and we'll TRY to make arrangements. Each person orders off their menu, and SENIORS receive 10% off their lunch tab.

Our August meeting will be held on August 27th. This is a welcome call for all men of Central UMC. Come join us!

DID YOU KNOW...that we have Building  
Use Forms?

Lansing Central UMC is a busy place, and our Building Attendants work hard to fit everything in. But it is very difficult to do when we spring things on them. To make it easier for everyone and to accommodate everyone, there are BUILDING USE FORMS. They may be sent to, or hand-delivered to Bruce Newton. By doing that, the space you need for a meeting or workshop or educational event will be available when you need it. If you need such a form, ask at the desk or contact the front desk or Bruce Newton. Thanks for your help to keep the ship sailing smoothly.

*Bill Amundsen*



"The church is not a building...the church is a people." So the song goes.

We are in this together wish to empower each other for the sake of spiritual and numerical growth.

If you would like to help:  
serving as a liturgist or usher, contact Edie Robinson

presenting to the "Young at Heart," contact Caryn Welter

greeting, contact Sue Strait

serving in the summer music schedule, contact Caryn Welter

ringing with the Central Bell Ringers, contact Janet Geissler

singing with the Spirit Singers, contact Caryn Welter

singing with the Chancel Choir, contact Alison Geesey

Baby rockers and toddler engagers needed! There are Sundays when families come and need to leave their little ones in the loving care of nursery workers...

If this is something you'd like to do, please let the Office know at 485-9477. Background checks will be run for everyone's protection.



**Central Journal: August 2018  
Board of Trustees**

**The role of the trustees is to support and maintain all of the property belonging to the congregation so that the ministries of the congregation can be effective.**

**Tuckpointing:** As reported earlier, the trustees received proposals from three companies that inspected the condition of the masonry work of our buildings, the stone and brick. Borner Restoration has been selected as the company that is best able to restore the conditions of our stone and brick exteriors to protect the building in the future. During the review of the proposals, it was determined that gutters and downspouts need to be replaced and roof flashing repaired. We will have that work done at the same time that the tuckpointing is done. A contract for more than \$200,000 has been signed with Borner. Work on the project is expected to begin in the middle of August. Mike Sanders has played a very large role in helping Central try to obtain funds for this project.

**Lansing Central Historic Celebration:** Central is the only church in the Lansing area that has been recognized as an historic building at the national, state and local levels. The most recent recognition was by the Lansing City Council last year. As a Local Historic District, Central has agreed that the historic exteriors of our building will be preserved. There will be a recognition of Central in our Fellowship Hall on Thursday, September 13, starting with playing of the carillon by Janet Geissler at 5:15pm. Refreshments will be provided at a gathering that will start at 5:30. Caryn Welter will provide music during the gathering. Rev. John Boley, former minister at Central, and now Clergy Assistant to the Bishop of the Michigan Area of the United Methodist Church, will be the first speaker. Lansing Mayor Andy Schor and Cassandra Nelson of the Lansing Historic District Commission will also speak. Tours of the church buildings will be available after the conclusion of the formal program..

**Gym Restoration:** The first work to be done on the project has been to remove items that were not in good condition. Everything has been cleaned. Boards and walls have been repaired. Painting and more painting has been done. The ceiling lights will be replaced with more effective lights. The very attractive colors that were used in the social hall will also be used in the gym. Bruce Newton, Jack Neller and Mark Graham have been working on this project. Major building projects are often completed during the warmer months of the year.

Submitted for the Board of Trustees by Larry Beckon





Among Friends  
Please pray for ~

*As of this writing,*

Frank Anderson, Burcham Rehab; Win Anderson, home; Mike Garcia, home; Joanne Harvey, Storypoint; Barb Lansing, home; Carolyn Schuurmans, Colorado; Cindy Sewell, home; Bill David Tennant, home; Pastor Mark Thompson, home; Tom Towseley, home; Bob Westerfield, home.

The **Central Journal** is published monthly by Central United Methodist Church, 215 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

The September deadline is **August 20**. Please submit your article to the editor at [adminassistant@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:adminassistant@lansingcentralumc.net) by that date.

**Thank you for participating in  
Central UMC**

**Happy 100th Birthday!**  
Our own Virginia Cantwell turns  
100 on August 6th.

Please join with her family in a  
Shower of Birthday Cards.  
Virginia listens faithfully Sundays to the  
Service.  
Her address is  
924 Maycroft Road  
Lansing MI 48917.



Central email addresses:

Pastor Mark: [seniorpastor@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:seniorpastor@lansingcentralumc.net)  
Office: [adminassistant@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:adminassistant@lansingcentralumc.net)  
Music/Worship:  
[musicdirector@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:musicdirector@lansingcentralumc.net)  
Pastor Bill: [assistantpastor@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:assistantpastor@lansingcentralumc.net)  
Building: [buildingsuper@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:buildingsuper@lansingcentralumc.net)  
Finance: [financialsecretary@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:financialsecretary@lansingcentralumc.net)

Please use for all church correspondence.  
Thank you.

## Church Directory

**Rev. Mark Thompson**,  
*Senior Minister*  
**Rev. Bill Amundsen**, Assistant Pastor  
**Joi Tennant**, *Small Group Coordinator*  
**Caryn Welter**, *Director, Music and  
Worship, Organist*  
**Alison Geesey**, *Director, Chancel Choir*  
**Janet Geissler**, *Director, Bell Choir*  
**Pat Mort**, *Administrative Secretary*  
**Stephanie Rave**, *Financial Secretary/  
Bookkeeper*  
**Bruce Newton**, *Facility Manager*  
**Jack Neller**, *Custodian/Building Attendant*

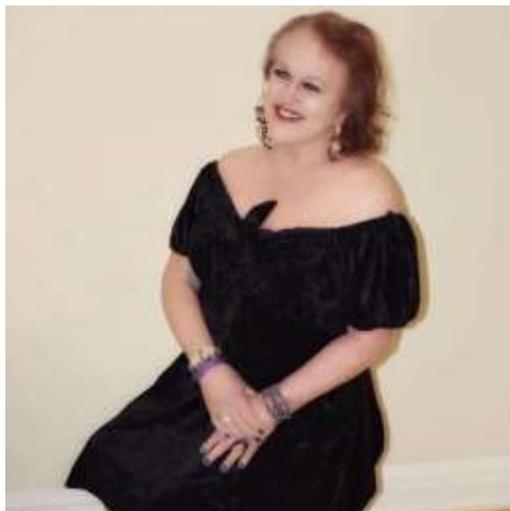
**Office Phone: (517) 485-9477**  
Office Fax: (517) 485-9772  
Website: [lansingcentralumc.net](http://lansingcentralumc.net)  
Facebook: Lansing Central United  
Methodist Church

Coffee Fellowship 9:00  
**Sunday Worship – 9:30 AM**  
Fellowship Hour – 10:30 AM

The worship service is broadcast live  
On **Radio** at 9:30 AM on WJIM-AM (1240)  
radio  
**Delayed television** telecast  
Sunday at 10AM and Thursday at 4 PM on  
Lansing Comcast Cable channel 16.

**For publication in the next Journal send  
copy by the 20th to:**  
[adminassistant@lansingcentralumc.net](mailto:adminassistant@lansingcentralumc.net)

## Laci: My Journey to Love and Acceptance



Laci Marie Basel, a transgender woman, will be the featured speaker at Lansing Rainbow Café August 13th from 6:30 - 8pm.

A retired teacher and high school principal, Laci (aka Jim) has an amazing way of putting into words and song the inspirational journey she is on. As a father of 2 amazing children Laci brings an intimate story to any group looking to better understand the complex experiences of our transgender family and friends. Come and share this Rainbow event.

Lansing Rainbow Café meets at Central United Methodist Church in downtown Lansing on the second Monday of each month from 6:30 - 8pm. This event is free with light snacks and beverages provided. All are welcome. . .come and be INSPIRED.

Denny Stoneman, Founder/Director  
Lansing Rainbow Café

Dennydds1@yahoo.com  
Facebook: Lansing Rainbow Cafe



Happening in August

Willow School Collection, with Dedication August 26

August 1 ~ Backyard Potluck Picnic with Tennants and Bowers

August 6 ~ Virginia Cantwell's 100th birthday

August 18 ~ Backyard Potluck Picnic with Revena McLaughlin

August 19 ~ Monthly in-Gathering for South Lansing Food Bank

Coming in September

September 6 ~ Spirit Singers and Chancel Choir rehearsals begin

September 7 ~ Backyard Potluck Picnic with Jessups

September 13 ~ Historic Celebration

September 16 ~ Homecoming

Monthly in-Gathering for South Lansing Food Bank

September 23 ~ Peace with Justice Sunday



Cyrus Prame, Fisher Welch ~ high school graduates and Benjamin Hudy-Velasco, college grad on Graduation Sunday. Unable to attend, high school grad Kristopher Montry-Huston.



Caryn Welter, Carolyn Kirkby, Allen Clarkson and his very capable assistant at Worship.



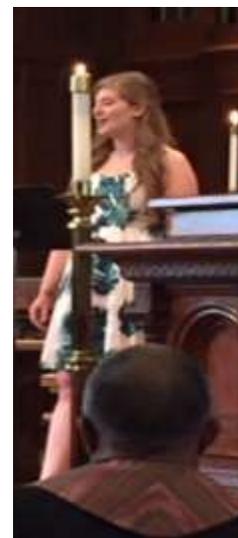
Coffee Hour ~ Victor Asbury, Mike Garcia and Faye MacCracken

**It may be summer, but Central is the place to be!**

Janet Geissler and Rachel Weinfeld bring special music in Worship. Thank you for sharing your gifts, ladies!.



Enjoying July's backyard picnic.





*The Heart of Christ in the Heart of Lansing*

**[lansingcentralumc.org](http://lansingcentralumc.org)**

215 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933  
(517)485-9477

Join Us Every Sunday

9:00 AM Coffee Fellowship

9:30 AM - Worship Service

10:30 AM - Fellowship Coffee Hour

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