



Founded 1850

# Central Journal

Informing Members and Friends – Encouraging Fellowship and Spiritual Growth

## *Pastor Mark's Musings*

As I write this article, I am also preparing for significant events in the work of ministry at Central and beyond.

We at **Central** are amid change. We pray, plan, and work for a viable future. We wish to live further into one of our mottos, "Downtown for Good." As some prepare to awaken early tomorrow to operate our Food Drop and Drive event others are preparing for the upcoming worship service this Sunday. Yet others are brainstorming for greater use of our facilities to better serve the community, while some are praying for "those not here yet" to worship, learn, pray so as to grow as disciples of Jesus, the Christ.

### **I am hopeful for the vibrant future of Central UMC.**

I am also in the mist of reading and discussing materials submitted by persons who wish to be **ordained in the Michigan Conference of the UMC**. As a member of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, I have the amazing honor to review the work of candidates to help them discern if God is calling them to be a Deacon or Elder in our Conference. Such work reminds me of my calling that is distinct as I continue to serve as a UMC Elder. It is also awe-inspiring to see the high caliber of persons who we are reviewing in the process.

### **I am hopeful for the vibrant future of the Michigan Conference of the UMC because God continues to call persons to serve among us.**

I am also preparing to attend **General Conference 2019**, wherein 864 delegates from around the world will discern the future role and status of LGBTQ persons within the UMC. As a gay person, I am taking keen interest in this process and pray for God's will to be done, a will that I believe is guided by diligent study of **scripture**, understanding of the bigger picture of **tradition** beyond our chapter in history, is informed by **reason** that considers scientific and current cultural understandings that support the greater good of all people, and the use of dialogue that underscore the integrity of current **human experience** of those of the whole of UMC (present and future). May the unconditional love of God prevail.

### **I am guardingly hopeful for the future of The UMC.**

Would you continue to pray along with me for the present and future of Central, those called to serve in the Michigan Conference of The UMC and the UMC as a whole?

Praying and Working Along Beside of You,

Pastor Mark

*Do all the good you can, by all the means you can,  
in all the ways you can, in all the places you can,  
at all the times you can, to all the people you can,  
as long as ever you can.*

*- John Wesley*

**Central Ministries Calendar**

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



*March*

**3 Sunday**

**Holy Communion**

9:00am Pre-Worship Fellowship

9:30am Worship

10:30am Fellowship

5:30pm Vespers

**5 Tuesday**

5:45pm Book Study w/Rev. Ellen Zienert

**6 Wednesday**

12:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

**7 Thursday**

6:30pm Spirit Singer

7:30pm Chancel Choir

**9 Saturday**

10:00am Pastor at Clergy Mtg. w/Bishop Bard

10:30am Carolyn Schuurmans Memorial Service

12:00pm Carolyn Schuurmans Reception

**10 Sunday**

9:00am Pre-Worship Fellowship

9:30am Worship

10:30am Potluck meal w/discussion: Where Do We Go From Here?

5:30pm Vespers

**11 Monday**

6:00pm Rainbow Café

**12 Tuesday**

6:00pm Trustees Commission

**14 Thursday**

5:30pm Bell Choir Practice

6:30pm Spirit Singer

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**15 Friday**

7:00am CUMC Food Drop

**16 Saturday**

9:00am Methodist Federation for Social Action mtg: Where Do We Go From Here?

**17 Sunday**

9:00am Pre-Worship Fellowship

9:30am Worship

10:30am Fellowship

10:45am Worship Commission Meeting

5:30pm Vespers

**18 Monday**

5:30pm Staff Parish Relation Committee Meeting

6:00pm Judy Grove Circle

**20 Wednesday**

5:00pm Church Ladies

7:00pm Ad Council

**21 Thursday**

5:30pm Bell Choir Practice

6:30pm Spirit Singer

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**22 Friday**

5:30pm Paul G.—Raisin in the Sun Play

**23 Saturday**

12:30pm Paul G.—Raisin in the Sun Play

**24 Sunday**

9:00am Pre-Worship Fellowship

9:30am Worship

10:30am Fellowship

5:30pm Vespers

**28 Thursday**

5:30pm Bell Choir Practice

6:30pm Spirit Singer

7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**31 Sunday**

9:00am Pre-Worship Fellowship

9:30am Worship

10:30am Fellowship

5:30pm Vespers





## Services for Lent

**March 6 – Ash Wednesday – Noon and 7pm in the Sabina Chapel**

Theme: *Be Like Jesus* (Joel 2:1-2, 12-17)

**March 10 – 1<sup>st</sup> Lent**

*Be Like Jesus: Resist* (Luke 4: 1-13)

**March 17 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Lent**

*Be Like Jesus: Compassionate* (Luke 13: 31-35)

**March 24 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Lent**

*Be Like Jesus: Life Giving* (Luke 13: 6-9)

**March 31 – 4<sup>th</sup> Lent**

*Be Like Jesus: Realist* (John 12: 1-8)

**April 7 – 5<sup>th</sup> Lent Communion**

*Be Like Jesus: Determined* (Luke 15: 11b-32)

**April 14 – Palm Sunday**

*Be Like Jesus: Good* (Philippians 2: 1-11)

**Music and Worship Notes for March 2019**

**Worship & Music** Caryn Welter,  
*Director of Music and Worship Arts*

**Sunday, March 3 – Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Wednesday, March 6 – 12 noon - Ash Wednesday service in the Chapel**

**Wednesday, March 6 – 7:00 p.m. - Ash Wednesday service in the Chapel**

**Saturday, March 9 – 11:00 – Carolyn Schuurmans’ memorial service**

**Saturday, March 9 – 7:00 p.m. – Frontier Barbershop – off site – Grand Ledge**

**Sunday, March 10 – 10:45 a.m. – Music Committee meeting in second floor lounge**

**Thursday, March 14 – 5:30 p.m. – Central Bell Ringers rehearse – sanctuary**

**Sunday, March 17 – 10:45 a.m. – Engaging Workshop meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lounge**

**Friday, March 22 – 7:30 p.m. – Paul Grettenberger - “Raisin in the Sun” – Fellowship Hall**

**Saturday, March 23 – 2:30 p.m. – Paul Grettenberger – “Raisin in the Sun”**

**Saturday, March 30 – 10:00 a.m. – FUMMWA Board meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lounge**

**Looking forward:**

**Sunday, April 7 – Bells Ringing in Worship**

**Thursday, April 18 – 6:00 p.m. Holy Thursday dinner and service – Fellowship Hall**

**Friday, April 19 – 12:00 – 12:45pm – Good Friday service – Chapel**

**Sunday, April 21 – No pre-service coffee; 8:45 – 9:15 am– Is an Easter breakfast: eggs; coffee; orange juice; cinnamon rolls**

**Sunday, April 28 – 4:00 p.m. – MSU piano virtuoso in concert, Yan Zheng**

**Sunday, May 5 – 4:00 - Capital City Ringers in concert – Fellowship Hall**

**Sunday, May 19 – Celebration of Music in Worship / Spaghetti Lunch**



## Board of Trustees March, 2019

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

**Temple House elevator sump pump:** In the past few weeks, this elevator was closed due to the work that was being done. The elevator has been flooded often in the past few years, requiring us to hire a company to pump the water out of the elevator. The needed work has been successfully completed and the system, which was designed by Swanson Design Studios, is operational. This system has cost Central much less than other systems that were considered. There is one last item to be completed – final inspection of the system by the State of Michigan.

**Peppermint Creek Theatre:** Facility Manager Bruce Newton has been working with Peppermint Creek Theatre who has been looking for a new location for their plays. Peppermint Creek is a well known non-profit theatre group. Five plays have been booked at Central for the 2019-2020 season which begins in September. Rehearsals will be held in the loft with the plays held in Fellowship Hall. Plays will be held on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Two of the plays in the present season are Shakespeare in Love and Framing Device, a world premiere of a play collaborated with the Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University.

**Parsonage:** Leaf guards have been installed and a new dryer has been purchased and installed. Additional work will be done at the parsonage when the weather is much warmer.

**Loading Dock:** The replacement of the damaged frame and door on the Temple House loading dock will be completed by the time that you read this.

**Plaster Restorations:** A contractor has been selected to repair plaster in several places in the buildings, including the NE area of the sanctuary and the SW stairway to the sanctuary. The damage was caused by water entering the buildings.

**Other Planned Work in the Buildings:** Unless we incur damage, we do not plan to have major work done in our buildings during the rest of 2019.

Submitted for the Board of Trustees by Larry Beckon

## Mission News

THANK YOU for your gifts to: the Human Relations Day offering. The total was \$300.00.

Valentines for Blankets (CWS/CROP) the total was a little more than \$1000.00. Blankets, blankets, blankets. Our February Valentine blanket project was a great success again this year. That means 100 blankets donated by us will go to help those who have lost homes or who are refugees living in difficult conditions. We are most grateful for your generosity. Still, if you missed out or couldn't give at that time, we offer Thank You, Get Well, and Birthday cards as a way of letting others know about this wonderful ministry (and of raising this total!). Just let Susan know at [grettenbergerse@gmail.com](mailto:grettenbergerse@gmail.com)

Noisy Sunday offering for Ministry of Kindness fund was \$266.81.

COMING in March: UMCOR Sunday (OGHS). Since 1940 when UMCOR was established to meet the needs of those suffering overseas at the onset of World War II, it has continued to respond to those in desperate need - today throughout more than eighty countries around the world.

UMCOR is known as the agency that is "first in and last out" when disaster strikes. This is an important offering as it pays the overhead for UMCOR thereby making it possible for 100 % of what you give to any other disaster relief through UMCOR to go directly to that need. THANK YOU FOR CARING FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN HERE AT HOME AND AROUND THE WORLD.

The Mission Commission

**MICHIGAN CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Beginning January 1, 2019, the West Michigan and Detroit Annual Conferences dissolved. The Michigan Conference was fully born. This change was envisioned many years ago. The vote to bring it to reality took place 3 years ago at each Conference. This change was due to need to consolidate offices, programs, services, and ministries for the sake of effectiveness to serve the entire state of Michigan.

There was also a realignment of the Districts. The Lansing District was dissolved and the Mid-Michigan District was born, which includes more churches than the old Lansing District. We are 83 churches strong, with Rev. Jerome (Jerry) DeVine as our District Superintendent.

**MICHIGAN CONFERENCE CENTER**

1011 Northcrest Road, Lansing, MI 48906

Phone: 517-347-4030

Office of the Bishop: 517-347-4003

**CONFERENCE CENTER NORTH**

Treasury, Administrative, Services &amp; Benefits

1161 East Clark Road, Suite 212, DeWitt MI 48820

Phone: 517-347-4030

**CONFERENCE CENTER WEST**

207 Fulton St E., Suite 6, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Phone: 517-347-4030

**WEBSITE:** [michiganumc.org](http://michiganumc.org)**MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT**

1161 E. Clark Rd. Suite 216, DeWitt, MI 48820



## HAVE YOU SEEN HIM?

Have you seen him? Have you seen him yet? The tall man with long hair and a beard and the kindest eyes! He's got on a long white gown. He seems at ease, just watching! His hands are stretched out like he's greeting the people. He looks like a friend that you could talk with— —

Now have you seen him?

Have you seen him yet?

Welcome back Jesus!

By: Win Anderson



## New Lenten Small Group Study Coming Mid-March

Denny Stoneman will lead a small group book study, to be announced soon. Watch for details in the bulletin, or you can learn more and even weigh in about day, time and place options by calling him at 407-462-0081.

### 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)

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Please use for all church correspondence.  
Thank you.

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

The **April** deadline is **March 20th**. 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**

## 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*

*Soprano, Anna Poco*

*Alto, Colleen McNickle*

*Tenor, David Miechiels*

*Baritone, Cody Harrell*

**Janet Geissler,** *Director, Bell Choir*

**Delicia Lockhart,** *Office Manager*

**Betsy Mauk,** *Financial Secretary*

**Bruce Newton,** *Facility Manager*

**Jack Neller,** *Custodian/Building Attendant*

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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)





*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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