



## CONNECTING POINTS

**Connecting Points are places on the journey for members and friends to move deeper into their relationship with God and the faith community. There are a number of points on the journey, represented by road signs, where one can connect. Each kind of Connecting Point has its own brief description.**



### **Turning Point Groups**

Turning Point groups are for those who are seeking or experiencing change in their lives and in their relationships. These safe and accepting environments help persons move forward in loving God and loving others through fellowship, spiritual practice and study. We hope to expand Turning Point opportunities. Current groups include:

#### *JOURNEY AND YOKEFELLOWS*

Journey and Yokefellows are study and fellowship groups that meet on a regular basis throughout the year. These groups are not currently seeking new members, but if you are interested in this type of small group experience, please contact us. We hope to form new groups so more people can benefit from this opportunity to grow in faith and friendship with others in our church family.

Contacts: Nan Horstman [nhorstman@charter.net](mailto:nhorstman@charter.net) 946-9314 or Alline Beutler [alline@tccentralumc.org](mailto:alline@tccentralumc.org) 946-5191.

#### *MEMORY KEEPERS*

Those who have lost someone dear to them are invited to join with others who have experienced loss by sharing memories, support, and friendship.

NOTE: Participants are welcome to join this group as they feel the need or desire. A long-term commitment is not necessary.

Third Wednesdays, 4:00-5:15 PM, Church lounge

CONTACT: Muriel Peavler, 947-1654, [pea728@charter.net](mailto:pea728@charter.net)

#### *WOMEN OF GRACE*

The group uses books, the Bible and other media studies to lead conversations about issues related and of interest to women. It provides an opportunity for women, aged 30-50, to strengthen old friendships and form new ones through fellowship and prayer.

1st and 3rd Thursdays during the school year, 9:30-11:30 AM.

Church library with childcare provided in room 301.

CONTACTS: Alline Beutler, [alline@tccentralumc.org](mailto:alline@tccentralumc.org), Ann Porter, [Ann@tccentralumc.org](mailto:Ann@tccentralumc.org). 946-5191

#### *THE MEN'S ROOM*

Join others for conversations on being good men, beginning with discussions based on Derek Maul's book, "Get Real." Men, young and old, are invited to come for friendship, challenge, and inspiration. Join Pastor Chris in the Chapel.

Thursday Evenings 7:00 - 8:15

Contacts: Pastor Chris Lane, [chris@tccentralumc.org](mailto:chris@tccentralumc.org), 946-5191 and Bruce Falconer, [bjfalconer@chartermi.net](mailto:bjfalconer@chartermi.net), 947-7785.



### 2010-11 WOMEN'S RETREATS

Spend a day or weekend with other women in study and fellowship. Each is a stand-alone event. Attend any or all. **All women are welcome.**

- **Sat., Feb. 12** 9-3, A Spa Day with God, BetteWattles-Williams' home off Sliver Lake Rd.
- **Fri., May 20**, 9-3, "Saving Birds Through Habitat" meeting room, Leelanau County
- **Thurs., July 14**, 4-9, Deb Jackson's home near Kingsley. Inside and outside with a campfire

CONTACT: Nan Horstman, 946-9314. [nhorstman@charter.net](mailto:nhorstman@charter.net)

### **Viewpoint Groups**



View Point groups are Bible or thematic studies for the purpose of spiritual growth and equipping persons for the Christian journey. Participants will be able to make friends, explore their faith, and be exposed to different perspectives. Groups include:

#### *FAITHLINK*

FaithLink groups meet to discuss topics of current interest provided by the United Methodist Church's Cokesbury Publishing. The groups are open to all who want to apply their United Methodist beliefs to current faith issues and world events. They are encouraged to consider their personal views on important contemporary issues, and also to act on their beliefs.

All are welcome. They are open groups. Members are not obligated to attend when conflicts arise. Attendance is very flexible.

**Sundays**, 9:45-10:45, Room 305, CONTACT: Alline Beutler, [alline@tccentralumc.org](mailto:alline@tccentralumc.org), 946-5191

*ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES* - See program book and website for current offerings.  
Contact: Alline Beutler

*ALL-CHURCH READS* – Fall, 2010 book was Longing for Enough in a Culture of More.  
Another book planned for Fall, 2011

#### *DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY CLASSES*

The DISCIPLE Bible Study program is designed to develop strong local churches through the in-depth study of Scripture. Through DISCIPLE, people are strengthened in their faith and guided into service and ministry.

*THEMATIC STUDIES* – See *The Journey is Central* program book and website for details

Contact for all: Alline Beutler



### **Activity Point Groups**



Activity Points are activity and fellowship based groups. Some also have a service component. Groups include:

#### *BOOK WOMEN: Reading Beyond Our Doors*

All women are welcome; diverse age-group desired. Members read same book.

Monthly, September-May, Evenings, Members' homes and church lounge.

CONTACT: Jan Engle, 264-9694, [engleridgefarm@yahoo.com](mailto:engleridgefarm@yahoo.com)

#### *WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB*

For women who enjoy reading and sharing their books. Not everyone necessarily reads the same book. Members exchange their books. All are welcome; most present members 60+.

4th Tuesdays, 7:00 PM, September-May, Members' homes.

CONTACT: Phyllis Garn, 941-8534

#### *SUNDAY EVENING BOOK GROUP*

This group selects a variety of books which participants read and discuss. Most are relatively recent titles.

Monthly, September-May, Will Poland's home

CONTACT: Will Poland, 922-0836, [wdpoland@charter.net](mailto:wdpoland@charter.net)

#### *COMFORTERS*

Members enjoy knitting, crocheting, quilting, and fellowship. The group has a number of ongoing service projects, including prayer shawls, as well as special and individual projects. Experienced, as well as inexperienced "stitchers" are welcome. Help and support are offered.

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 10:00 AM– Noon, Room 305

CONTACT: Beth Chisholm, 946-4430, [jbchisholm@chartermi.net](mailto:jbchisholm@chartermi.net)

#### *NEEDLEWORK*

Members enjoy doing needlework activities together, whether it's counted cross-stitch, needlepoint, or knitting. Meets monthly.

CONTACT: Anne Ross, 947-5405, [ak37ross@aol.com](mailto:ak37ross@aol.com)

#### *DINNER GROUPS*

Composed of about eight people, dinner groups meet four-six times a year in members' homes. The schedule or activity is determined by the group. The cooking is shared by the members.

CONTACT: Sally Ellinger, [sallyle@charter.net](mailto:sallyle@charter.net), 933-4026 or Renee Mittelstaedt, [rhmittelstaedt@charter.net](mailto:rhmittelstaedt@charter.net)

#### *PaTH: Parents (and families) Together Having Fun*

Geared around parents with young and school-aged children.

CONTACT: Marcia Bartlett, 946-3268

[number1bradygirl@yahoo.com](mailto:number1bradygirl@yahoo.com)



#### **BRIDGE**

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, Sept.-May, 10:30-2:30. Room 301, CUMC  
Members bring own lunches; snack provided  
CONTACT: Doris Thibedeau, [thibjd@aol.com](mailto:thibjd@aol.com), 946-6754

#### **CRIBBAGE/EUCHRE**

2nd Mondays, September-May, 7-9:00 PM, church lounge  
(Subject to change for convenience of participants)  
CONTACT: Bruce Falconer, 947-7785, [bjfalconer@chartermi.net](mailto:bjfalconer@chartermi.net)

#### **SNOW BIRDS (And Friends)**

Want to make connections with Central folks when you're here in the warm months?  
Join this group for fellowship and fun — brunch, lunch, games, etc. Your ideas welcome.  
CONTACTS: Ellen Force, [curtforce@aol.com](mailto:curtforce@aol.com), 946-3003  
Bev Crisman, [bevcrisman@hotmail.com](mailto:bevcrisman@hotmail.com), 946-8548  
Esther Harmon, [estherharmon@charter.net](mailto:estherharmon@charter.net), 946-5787

#### **VOLLEYBALL**

Central UMC's co-ed volleyball team plays in the Traverse City Parks and Recreation League. All players, 16 and older, are welcome.  
Games are Wednesday evenings Oct.-April, Eastern Elementary School.  
CONTACT: Carla Roberts, 463-8233

#### **SOFTBALL**

Central UMC 's softball team, "The Mighty Methodists," plays in the YMCA co-ed recreational league. All adult players are welcome. Games are Sundays, Spring and Summer, Civic Center  
CONTACT: John Meyers, 947-2881, [jjmeyersvb\\_ref@charter.net](mailto:jjmeyersvb_ref@charter.net)

#### **GOLF**

Two golfing groups meet from June through August. September and October times are pick-up events. Scores are not recorded nor handicaps kept. All are welcome.  
Monday evenings, 18 holes, various courses.  
Meet at church, 2:00 PM  
CONTACT: John Sonnemann, 946-6196  
[sonnemann@charter.net](mailto:sonnemann@charter.net)

Friday mornings, 9 holes, 9:00 AM, Bay Meadows  
CONTACT: Allen Horstman, 946-9314  
[ahhorstman@hotmail.com](mailto:ahhorstman@hotmail.com)

#### **WALKING GROUP**

Members walk various, not too demanding, trails, usually 2-4 miles in length where they enjoy the area and the plants. In winter they walk at Cherryland Mall.  
All are welcome; most present members 60+. 4th Saturdays, 9:00 AM  
CONTACT: Phyllis Garn, 941-8534



## **Serving Point Groups**

Serving Point groups provide opportunities for ministry and mission in the church and community. Groups include:

### *MUSIC*

#### Chancel Choir

Our Chancel Choir is open to singers of all ages and rehearses Wednesday evenings at 7:45pm, Sunday mornings at 9:45am and sings at the 11:00am service. We are always happy to have new singers join us! Please email Tom Bara at [baratg@interlochen.org](mailto:baratg@interlochen.org) for more info.

#### Adult Handbell Choir

Our Adult Handbell Choir is open to any adult with an interest in ringing handbells. We rehearse every Sunday evening at 6:30pm and perform throughout the year. New ringers are encouraged to come join us! We are a very supportive and patient group – if you're interested in learning to ring, or have any questions, please email Jeff Cobb at [jeffcobb@charter.net](mailto:jeffcobb@charter.net).

#### Youth Handbell Choir

Our Youth Handbell Choir is open to students in 7th-12th grade. We rehearse every Sunday at 5:30pm, and we perform throughout the year. If you've rung before, or are interested in learning how... we want you there! We have such an energetic and talented group – I hope you will come join us! If you would like more info, please contact Jeff Cobb at [jeffcobb@charter.net](mailto:jeffcobb@charter.net).

#### Choristers

Our Choristers group is open to all singers in 3rd-6th grade. We rehearse every Sunday morning and perform throughout the year. Our year culminates with a musical that is performed for the entire church – one of the highlights of the year! If you'd like to join us, or need more information, please contact Jeff Cobb at [jeffcobb@charter.net](mailto:jeffcobb@charter.net).

#### "The WELL" Music Ensemble –

The WELL is our new, casual and up-beat service in the Chapel. We are always looking for new singers and instrumentalists interested in being a part of our services at 9:00am and 11:00am. We have a wonderful core of musicians, but we're always looking to expand our team. If you have questions, or would like more info, please email Jeff Cobb at [jeffcobb@charter.net](mailto:jeffcobb@charter.net).

### *SAFE HARBOR*

Central UMC participates with over twenty other Traverse City area churches in the Safe Harbor program which provides shelter, meals and Christian fellowship for the homeless of Grand Traverse region during the cold weather portion of the year. If you are interested in serving on the shelter planning committee or being added to our volunteer list, please contact Mike or Sandra McDonald at 935-3759 or [m\\_mcdonald@charter.net](mailto:m_mcdonald@charter.net) (note underscore between m's).



### *COMMUNITY OUTREACH*

Central's Fellowship Hall opens its doors every week to the homeless and economically challenged. Services provided to clients include a hot/continental breakfast, access to showers and a phone, as well as a message and mail center. Most importantly, Community Outreach provides a safe and warm environment and good fellowship. Further, our Community Outreach Coordinator, works with guests on job and assistance applications, provides BATA bus passes on a regular basis, and counseling on how to obtain other services that they might be in need of. Guests may stay as long as they like during the hours we are open. We have at least one volunteer assisting the coordinator each of the days we are open. If you are interested in volunteering for this ministry, please contact the church office at 946-5191.

### *COMMUNITY MEAL*

Central Church joins eight other local churches to serve a hot meal to the homeless and economically challenged year around – seven days a week. Central hosts its Community Meal every Thursday from Noon until 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We have rotating teams of volunteers that cook, serve and clean up after the meal each Thursday. If you are interested in forming a team or simply would like to volunteer your services for this ministry, please contact the church office at 946-5191.

### *KIDS HOPE*

Central Church is now affiliated with KIDS HOPE USA, a national program that mentors at-risk children in local elementary schools. We as a congregation are rich in people who are looking for ways to offer their skills of hope and kindness and there is an increasing need for that service in our schools. We will begin this program with children at Willow Hill Elementary School in Fall, 2010. A mentor will provide one-to-one mentoring and affirmation for one child. A prayer partner will make a commitment to faithfully pray for each mentor and student. Contact Katy Ramsdell, [krmsdl@charter.net](mailto:krmsdl@charter.net), 943-9550 or Allen Horstman, [ahorstman@hotmail.com](mailto:ahorstman@hotmail.com), 946-9314.

### *MISSIONS TEAM*

Central Church responds to God's love and the urgent call to love and care for others. Responding is as near as the hallways of our church building where people in need come for assistance, beyond to U. S. communities and on to the world as we support needs in Bolivia, Haiti, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. As Central reaches beyond its doors locally and globally, we experience God's love and share that love with others. Team members plan the missions' budget, organize fund raisers and invite the congregation to participate in mission work.

Contact: Chuck Ellinwood, [chiela@aol.com](mailto:chiela@aol.com) or Staton Lorenz, [ntpockets@aol.com](mailto:ntpockets@aol.com)

### *HUNGER TEAM*

The Hunger Committee plays a key role in Central's outreach to the less fortunate in our own community and the broader world. CONTACT: Pat Batta, [patnar.batta@prodigy.net](mailto:patnar.batta@prodigy.net)



#### *UNITED METHODIST WOMEN*

The organized unit of United Methodist Women is a community of women whose purpose is to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, who develop a creative supportive fellowship, and expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Are you interested in Mission? That's what we are all about. We help women, children and youth. You are invited to visit our Fellowships and/or General Meetings to discover more about UMW and to ask questions.

Contact: Corinne Plough, 922-4978, [cplough@charter.net](mailto:cplough@charter.net)

#### *MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP*

A fellowship and service group composed of church members and friends, mostly older, but younger men are strongly encouraged to join. Scheduled activities include:

- Spring and Christmas Women's Luncheons
- Sponsoring at least two "Wonderful Wednesday" dinners.
- Support of church softball team.
- Support of many mission projects
- Project "Tool Trailer"

1st Wednesdays, 8:00 AM, Breakfast Buffet, Elks Lodge

CONTACT: Bob Grigereit, [cgrigereit@aol.com](mailto:cgrigereit@aol.com)

#### *WELCOME TEAM*

Our Welcome Center is located just outside the narthex, in the Gathering Place. It is a wonderful resource for guests of our church as well as our church family. At the Welcome Center, team members offer brochures about our programs and activities, information on Methodism, and greet visitors and answer questions they may have regarding Central United Methodist Church. They also invite visitors to stop by before or after the service and sign our guest register, the better for us to extend a welcoming greeting.

We welcome all and if you would like to be a member of this ministry just contact Jo Allen at [jo@kindiwin.com](mailto:jo@kindiwin.com).

#### *CONNECTION TEAM*

The Connection Team is new. We know that helping people to make the connection to others who are traveling the journey of faith is so important, but sometimes difficult to do, especially in a large church. This group particularly looks for ways to help people in that process. The group meets regularly to review lists of new members and visitors, as well as inactive members, and then contacts them regarding connecting points in the church where they might want to be involved. The Team also discusses possible new opportunities for connections that might not yet exist -- new small groups for instance -- and how we create an environment that helps people to want to become a part of this journey. CONTACT: Nan Horstman, [nhorstman@charter.net](mailto:nhorstman@charter.net), 946-9314



#### *RECONCILING MINISTRIES GROUP*

Reconciling Ministries is a study/action group that supports full inclusion of gays and lesbians in the life of both Central United Methodist Church and the greater United Methodist Church.

CONTACTS for meeting dates and times: Mike and Sandra McDonald, 935-3759, [m\\_mcdonald@charter.net](mailto:m_mcdonald@charter.net) (Note underscore between m's)

#### *COOKIE BAKING TEAMS*

Teams meet once a month to bake cookies for the hospitality time after Sunday services. All are welcome.

1st Tuesdays, 1 PM– noon, CONTACT: Jan Engle, 264-9694, [engleridgefarm@yahoo.com](mailto:engleridgefarm@yahoo.com)

OR

3rd Thursdays, 6-9 PM, CONTACT: Carla Roberts, 463-8233

#### *CREATION STEWARDS*

This group explores the role of the church in relation to the environment. Activities include anything from a film screening to a nature hike to a service project at the church or in the community.

CONTACT: John Flesher, 935-4003, [jeflesher@yahoo.com](mailto:jeflesher@yahoo.com)

#### *Central/Christ Church Community Garden*

A new sub-group of Creation Stewards, this group has “broken ground” for a garden to provide fresh produce to needy families. The garden is located at Christ UMC church at Garfield and 3 Mile, but will be planted and tended by members of both congregations.

CONTACTS: John Ellinger, 933-4026, [johnwe1@charter.net](mailto:johnwe1@charter.net) or Larry Winegar, 271-2372, [lkwclw@aol.com](mailto:lkwclw@aol.com)

#### *CENTRAL IMAGE*

A group of photographers capture and process digital images of Central Church ministries. Amateur and professional photographers welcome.

Contacts: Mike Allen, 264 8053, [mike@kindiwin.com](mailto:mike@kindiwin.com) & Jacqueline Southby, 929-1765, [southby@charter.net](mailto:southby@charter.net)

#### *ADVENTURERS*

The Adventurers is a service and fellowship group that meets regularly. Though Adventurers is not currently seeking new members, we hope to form new groups. If you are looking for an opportunity to serve God in our community with a group of others from our church, please let us know.

Contact: Nan Horstman [nhorstman@charter.net](mailto:nhorstman@charter.net) 946-9314



#### *EDUCATION TEAM*

The Education Ministries Team works to develop and implement a comprehensive Christian Education program for the church. Opportunities for leadership range from teaching Sunday School classes and weekly studies to helping with the church youth groups or volunteering in the church nursery. CONTACTS: Ann Porter, [Ann@tccentralumc.org](mailto:Ann@tccentralumc.org) or Alline Beutler, [alline@tccentralumc.org](mailto:alline@tccentralumc.org). 946-5191

#### *STEPHEN MINISTRY*

Stephen Ministry is our congregation's one-to-one care giving ministry. Contacts: Marlene Steider - [marlenesteider@gmail.com](mailto:marlenesteider@gmail.com), Carol Winegar – [lkwclw@aol.com](mailto:lkwclw@aol.com), or Will Poland - 922-0836, [wdpoland@charter.net](mailto:wdpoland@charter.net)

#### *HEALTH MINISTRY*

This group seeks to help meet the wholistic health needs (spiritual, physical, emotional and mental health) of our congregation and friends. Contact: Muriel Peavler 947-1654, [pea728@charter.net](mailto:pea728@charter.net),

#### *VISITORS IN THE PARISH*

The Visitors in the Parish Team seeks to maintain personal contact with those congregants unable to attend regularly. Contact: Bruce Falconer, 947-7785, [bjfalconer@chartermi.net](mailto:bjfalconer@chartermi.net)

#### *KITCHEN KREW*

Central's Kitchen Krew is a group of volunteers who work together to provide hospitality and kitchen support for church ministries including funeral luncheons, Thursday community luncheons, Sunday morning coffee hour, Wonderful Wednesday meals and District meetings and events. Volunteers can choose which ministry teams to be a part of and usually function in an "on call" capacity. Training is provided. For more information, contact Kim Burch, at 946-5191 or [kim@tccentralumc.org](mailto:kim@tccentralumc.org).

#### *OFFICE ASSISTANTS*

The Central Church office staff members rely on volunteers to help carry out the ministries of the church. From answering phones to stuffing envelopes, filing, sorting mail, inputting membership data, to recording attendance in worship and classes, our volunteers do it all! We are always looking for folks who can come in regularly each week, help with special projects or act as substitutes to help cover staff vacations. Training is provided. For more information, contact Kim Burch, at 946-5191 or [kim@tccentralumc.org](mailto:kim@tccentralumc.org).



## ***OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES – Contact Pastor Dale Ostema***

### ***Board of Trustees***

The Trustees are responsible for the inventory, inspection and maintenance of all church property. You don't have to be a "handy with a hammer" to join the trustees, you just need a genuine interest in seeing our church's property be its best.

### ***Church Administrative Council***

The Church Council plans and carries out a program of nurture, outreach and witness in our congregation. The Council is also responsible for the administrative and organizational life of the church. If you are a church member and interested in helping our church carry out current plans and envision new ones, this is a good opportunity for you.

### ***Church and Society Committee***

This committee cares for the outreach ministries of the church. Hunger, homelessness and health care issues are examples of its concern. If you have a heart for social justice and the connection between church and society, this is a place to live out your call to action.

### ***Church Archives Committee***

The Archives Committee collects and maintains the church's historical record. If you are interested in history, creating displays, labeling documents or doing oral interviews, this is a good fit for you.

### ***Columbarium Committee***

The Columbarium Committee is charged with the administration and care of the church columbarium located next to the church chapel. Team members work with the Pastors to help families through the process of interment.

### ***Committee on Lay Leadership***

This group seeks to match and equip potential leaders for ministry in and through the church. If you are interested in helping connect people in ministry positions, this is a role for you. Typically meets four times a year.

### ***Communications Management Team***

The CMT works on creative and consistent ways to present the church's message and ministry to the larger community. The Church Cyber Team works to maintain the church Web site. If you're interested in developing and implementing creative marketing for the church the CMT may be a good way to use your gifts.

### ***Cyber Team***

The Cyber Team manages the day to day and long term development and maintenance of Central's Web site. We strive for the most friendly and dynamic representation of Central Church and all of its members. Consider joining us in this ever changing arena that is the World Wide Web!

### ***Finance Committee***

This group is responsible for raising, managing, and distributing the financial resources of the



church. If you are interested in helping our church's stewardship of finances, this is a ministry for you.

***Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee***

The SPPRC serves a key role in establishing the focus of the pastors, staff, and congregation's ministry. By advocating for the pastors and staff and helping to interpret their roles and ministries, the SPPRC supports and nurtures the entire congregation. Members interested in working with the pastors and staff in developing a healthy congregation will appreciate this team's work.

***Wills and Memorials Committee***

The Wills and Memorial Committee receives and manages bequests and memorial donations given to the church. It oversees the church endowment fund and distributes grants to fund ministry projects. Committee members work to promote endowments within the congregation. .

***Worship Team***

The Worship Team is charged with supporting the worship ministries of the church. While the committee does not directly plan worship services, it cares for the many important tasks that make a meaningful worship experience possible. Those interested in helping our worship experiences be the best they can be may be interested in serving on this team.

***Well Design Team***

This group has helped to develop and continues to guide the Well worship services. THE WELL offers an engaging new worship experience and welcomes seekers of all ages looking for a worship and time different from the traditional Sunday format. Our Well Worship Team is laying the groundwork for our new worship gathering. It's challenging, exciting and forcing us to live by faith.