



April 6, 2025

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT CENTRAL CHURCH

### Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday worship services at 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am

Children of all ages—come and wave your palms high in celebration of Christ. He walked in triumph even in the darkest of moments on the way to the cross.

### Wednesday, April 16 Whitefish Dinner and Music Midweek

Join us at 5:00 for a delicious whitefish dinner presented by Our Neighbors' Garden. We are grateful to hear the voice and music of pianist Fred Szczepanski, known as Mr. Fred, at 6:00 in the sanctuary, as we experience Holy Week and Christ's walk to the cross. Fred is especially known for his Taize-inspired worship offerings through the season of Lent.

### Friday, April 18 Good Friday

Good Friday Ecumenical service from 12:15—3:00 pm: offerings will support the refugee resettlement work of Bethany Christian Services. Participating pastors from the community have been invited to reflect on Christ as a stranger or outsider or immigrant as we journey with Jesus to the cross.  
Stations of the Cross in Rotary Square at 6:00 pm: sponsored by Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel. Our CUMC Sunday Morning Pilgrimage class will host a station during this community event where allies can walk the stations of the cross for migrants.

Tenebrae service at 8:00 pm: join us as the sun goes down for a powerful experience of the last breath of Christ, when the world went dark. We will strip the altar and enter mourning until the light returns on the third day. Experience Easter completely this year, by allowing your spirit to truly see how Christ's light shines through the darkest of nights.

### Easter Sunday April 20

#### Christ is RISEN! RISEN INDEED!

Sunrise service at Greilickville Park at 7:00-7:30 am: rise early and dress warmly for a chance to praise God and celebrate new life in Christ together in song and prayer as the sun rises gently over west Grand Traverse Bay.

Easter Sunday worship services at 9:00 and 11:00 am: celebrate with us in word and song as we raise our voices in praise for the One who knows our sorrows and conquers the grave! This is the biggest celebration of the Christian year! We need your voice to join in the song!

### SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

#### Rooted in the Covenant: 6:00 pm 1st, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the Lounge

Join this class led by Pastors Linda and Joan to dig deeper into who we are as the people called Methodist and consider how our faith shapes the way we live in the world.

Disciple1 (Fast Track Old Testament Study) returns: Thursdays at 6:00 beginning April 10. Contact Darcy at [darcy@tccentralumc.org](mailto:darcy@tccentralumc.org) for more information.

Our Neighbors' Garden informational meeting next Sunday in the sanctuary after the 11:00 service. You don't need a green thumb!

Reconciling Ministries meeting and potluck next Sunday, 12:30 pm in the lounge

Graduation Sunday is coming soon. Contact Sue Cobb in the office if you have a graduate from high school or an advanced degree to be recognized.



**"Currency for Change" Monthly Mission Donation Project**  
 March Spotlight: *Michael's Place* Got currency? Bring it to church and drop it in the "Currency for Change" bucket anytime this month. All funds collected will be designated to this month's mission.

GET MORE INFORMATION IN THE GATHERING SPACE AFTER WORSHIP SERVICES

PLANT A TREE  
 SUPPORT CENTRAL YOUTH GROUP

Scan this QR code to get all the details

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 TRAVERSE CITY, MI



SAVE THE DATE

## Music Midweek



### April 16: Fred Szczepanski, pianist

Scan this QR code to get all the details



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16  
 5:00 PM | FELLOWSHIP HALL  
**Whitefish Dinner**  
 TO SUPPORT  
 OUR NEIGHBORS' GARDEN

Gathering Music "Kee Wee" Jayf Kahb  
*featuring the Well Worship Band*

Greeting and Announcements Rev. Linda Stephan

Passing of the Peace Rev. Linda Stephan

Song for All "Your Love Defends Me" by Matt Maher  
*featuring The Well Worship Band and Vocalists*

Song for All "Transfiguration" by King and Ligertwood  
*featuring The Well Worship Band and Vocalists*

Prayer for All Rev. Linda Stephan

The Lord's Prayer  
**Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name, Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture Reading John 12:1-8 NT p. 106  
 Leader: The Word of God for the People of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

*Renewing the Soul, Restoring the World Sermon Series*  
 Message "The Sacramental Life" Rev. Joan VanDessel

Celebration of Holy Communion  
 One: The Lord be with you.  
**ALL: And also with you.**  
 One: Lift up your hearts.  
**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**  
 One: Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.  
**ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Pastor continues...*  
 One: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:  
**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Pastor continues...*  
 One: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,



we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,  
as a holy and living sacrifice as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Pastor continues...*

One: Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup (*All elements are gluten- and alcohol-free.*)

Receiving of our Gifts and Offerings

Focus Song "The Wonder of the Cross" by Vicki Beeching

*Verse O precious sight, my Savior stands, dying for me with outstretched hands.*

*O precious sight, I love to gaze, remembering salvation's day,  
remembering salvation's day. Though my eyes linger on this scene,  
may passing time and years not steal the power with which it impacts me,  
the freshness of its mystery, the freshness of its mystery.*

*Chorus May I never lose the wonder, the wonder of the cross.*

*May I see it like the first time standing as a sinner lost,  
undone by mercy and left speechless, watching wide eyed at the cost.*

*May I never lose the wonder, the wonder of the cross*

*Verse Behold the God-man crucified, the perfect sinless sacrifice.*

*As blood ran down those nails and wood, history was split in two,*

*yes, history was split in two. Behold the empty wooden tree,*

*His body gone, alive and free. We sing with everlasting joy,*

*For sin and death they've been destroyed,*

*yes, sin and death they've been destroyed. Chorus*

Prayer Over the Gifts Rev. Linda Stephan

Song for All "Yes and Amen" by Chris Tomlin  
*featuring The Well Worship Band and Vocalists*

Parting Blessing Rev. Joan VanDessel

Parting Music "The Well" by Hall and West  
*featuring the Well Worship Band and Vocalists*

**TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Pastors: Rev. Linda Stephan and Rev. Joan VanDessel

Music: The Well Worship Band and Vocalists; Jeffrey Cobb, music leader

Greeters: Lisa Myers, Lisa Paul, John and Amy Pflughoeft

Welcome Desk: Mary Dillinger

**Thank you  
for joining us today!**



SCAN TO GIVE YOUR GIFT NOW



SCAN TO CHECK IN NOW

## Thank you for joining us today!

**Things you might find helpful while you're here:**

**If you are a first-time visitor, please stop by the Welcome Center  
outside the sanctuary - we have a special gift for you!**

**Large print bulletins, hymnals and hearing assistance devices  
are available upon request.  
Please ask an usher if you need assistance.**

**Children are welcome in worship!  
We offer a special family-friendly Grace Space  
in the back of the sanctuary where children can participate in  
hands-on activities during the worship service.  
If you prefer, our nursery for children five and under is located  
on the lower level. A sound-proof two-way mirrored infant room  
is located outside the sanctuary, across from the church office.**

**Our greeters, ushers and welcome center hosts are happy to  
help you with directions or questions you may have today.**

**If you'd like more information about Central Church, please follow  
our Facebook Page: [facebook.com/cumctc](https://facebook.com/cumctc) or  
visit our website: [tccentralumc.org](https://tccentralumc.org)**

**For your convenience, our 9 & 11 AM worship services  
are livestreamed weekly.**

**In addition, our 11AM worship service is  
broadcast live on WCCW-AM 1310 (Traverse City),  
sponsored by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home.**

**Other information you might want to know:**

**Prayer requests are welcome. You can submit your prayer  
and/or request to be part of the prayer chain by contacting our  
Wellness Advocate, Sarah Drews: [sarah@tccentralumc.org](mailto:sarah@tccentralumc.org)**

**Along with the pastors, Central Church has a volunteer caring  
team that is available for support in many ways including home  
visitation, Stephen Ministry care, medical transportation  
assistance, and hospital visitation. If you would like support  
during a difficult time, please contact one of the pastors or our  
Wellness Advocate, Sarah Drews: [sarah@tccentralumc.org](mailto:sarah@tccentralumc.org).**

## All are Welcome.

**Welcome to all who seek true community,  
or who have no church home, who have been here  
awhile, or have just arrived, who need strength,  
who want to follow Christ, who have doubts,  
firm convictions, or who aren't sure what they believe.  
Welcome to new guests and to old friends.  
Welcome to people of all colors, cultures, abilities,  
sexual orientations and gender identities,  
to old and young, to believers and questioners  
and welcome to questioning believers.**



## Sunday Morning Worship

**8 AM Small Community Worship**  
in the Chapel

**9 AM Upbeat, Casual Worship**  
in the Sanctuary

**11 AM Traditional Worship**  
in the Sanctuary

