"Currency for Change" Monthly Mission Donation Project

October Spotlight: Women's Resource Center

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.

Blessing Bags

PICK UP A BLESSING BAG IN THE GATHERING PLACE AFTER WORSHIP OR IN THE CHURCH OFFICE!

BAGS TO BE RETURNED TO THE LOUNGE DURING OFFICE HOURS.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO GET ALL THE DETAILS

Find Your Place to Serve: Two October Workshops

Join us after the All Church Meal **on Wednesday, October 21 —**
Where Do I Fit? Discover your gifts and find meaningful ways to serve at Central and in the wider community.

On Wednesday, October 28 —
How Do I Show Up? Build comfort and confidence serving people from diverse backgrounds with respect and dignity.

Lead by Ginna Beckett, Central's Volunteer Coordinator.

Find out more: tccentralumc.org/events

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.

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/tccumc or our Instagram: www.instagram.com/tccumc or visit our website: tccentralumc.org or phone us at 231-946-5191

For your convenience, our 11 AM worship services is livestreamed weekly during the summer months. In addition, our 11AM worship service is broadcast live on WCCW-AM 1310 (Traverse City), sponsored by Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. Flowers provided by The Flower Station

Other information you might want to know:

Prayer requests are welcome. Cards are available in the pews, and may be placed in the boxes in the back of the Sanctuary. You can request to be part of the prayer chain by contacting our Director of Congregational Care, Sarah Drews: 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, medical transportation assistance, and hospital visitation. If you would like support during a difficult time, please contact one of the pastors or our Director of Congregatonal Care, Sarah Drews: 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.

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Morning Worship

8 AM Small Group Service
in the Chapel
9 AM Upbeat, Casual Worship
in the Sanctuary
11 AM Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

CENTRAL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 11, 2026
Traditional Worship

Prelude "When Morning Gilds the Skies" by John Behnke
Central Bells

Greeting and Announcements — Rev. Linda Stephan

*Passing the Peace — Rev. Linda Stephan

*Call to Worship — Jeremy Lund

One: We come from different places,
carrying our unique joys and burdens.
ALL: God welcomes us all with open arms and abundant grace.
One: We bring our questions, our hopes, and our desire to belong.
ALL: God sets the table and invites everyone to the feast.
One: Come, let us worship this God of extravagant hospitality.
ALL: We come ready to receive God's welcome and share it with the world!

*Opening Hymn "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" UMH No. 158

Blessing the Children — Rev. Linda Stephan

Prayer of the People — Jeremy Lund

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Ministry of Music "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" by Pote
Central's Chancel Choir

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime! I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

Scripture Ezekiel 34:1-16 OT p. 803
Leader: The Word of God for the People of God. **People: Thanks be to God.**

A Bigger Table Sermon Series
Message "The Divine Search for the Church--Hurt and Lost"
Mark Johnston

Reflection Moment

Invitation to Giving — Rev. Linda Stephan

*Doxology — UMH No. 94

Prayer Over the Gifts — Rev. Linda Stephan

*Hymn "Come, Ye Disconsolate" UMH No. 510

A Blessing for Mark and Jeremy — Rev. Linda Stephan

*Benediction — Rev. Linda Stephan

Choral Benediction "Grant Us Thy Peace" by John Ellerton

Postlude "Fantasia" by Arthur W. Marchant
Barbara Slagel, organ

You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.
(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)

*Please stand as you are able.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Pastors: Rev. Linda Stephan and Rev. Joan VanDessel;
Mark Johnston, guest preacher
Liturgist: Jeremy Lund
Music: Central's Chancel Choir, Jeffrey Cobb, director; Central Bells,
Lynne Lombard, director; Barbara Slagel, piano and organ
Welcome Desk: Mary Ann Borton
Greeters: Bob and Carol Blackmer, Jane Damschroder, Tom Emling
Ushers: Tom Emling and friends
Production Team: Tom Bartlett, Kylen Kintigh,
John Sonnemann, Allie and Jeff Seymour
Refreshment Table: Mary Dillinger, Renee Mischel

SCAN TO CHECK IN

SCAN TO GIVE

Announcements & Opportunities

ADULTS

Knit One, Crochet Too: 10:30 am - 12 noon Tuesdays in the Lounge. If you enjoy yarn crafting, please join others for knitting, crocheting and fellowship. New members and interested learners are welcome. We'll help you start or decipher a pattern. Contact Linda Wolgast: linda65ac@gmail.com

Sunday Morning Pilgrimage: Sundays from 10:00 to 11:00 in Room 301. This is an open discussion study group seeking a deeper understanding of God's presence in our lives and in our world. We will be discussing Cynthia Bourgeault's small book "The Wisdom Way of Knowing." Contact Kathy Mead: meadka09@gmail.com.

Caregivers Support Group: 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm third Mondays in the Library In person or via Zoom. Come be in community and find support in being a caregiver for your loved ones. Contact Sharon Hill, sharondiamondhill@gmail.com

Donuts and Devotions: 9:00 am - 10:30 am first and third Wednesdays in the Lounge. You are welcome to join this drop-in circle of men who are seeking God in their lives. Join us for coffee, donuts and conversation. Contact the office at officeassistant@tccentralumc.org for more information.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Heroes in Action: 5:30 - 7:15 pm Wednesdays in Room 105
Children entering grades K-2 will learn Bible Basics, all about Jesus and his love for all of us!

The Wonderers: 5:30 - 7:15 pm Wednesdays in Room 106
Children entering grades 3-4 will join friends here to help us grow together in grace, God and with the eyes of Holy Wonder!

MS Youth Group: 5:30 -7:15 pm Wednesdays in Room 103
Youth entering grades 5-7 will join in community to learn more about God, and also about people who have made impacts throughout history.

HS Youth Group: 5:30 -7:15pm Wednesdays in the Youth Room
Youth grades 8-12 are invited for a time of fellowship, service, learning and fun! All are welcome—invite a friend!

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a deeper connection to church? Bring your coffee and cookie to the Lounge after the 11:00 service for a short facilitated discussion led by Ryan Hannon, Director of Outreach and Discipleship.

Halloween on Cass is coming on October 31 at the front door!
Contact erica@tccentralumc.org for questions or to volunteer.

Baptism is currently scheduled for November 8 and December 6.
If you are interested in baptism, contact the church office for more information. Additional dates may be available.