



THE OUTLOOK

Central United Methodist Church

Volume 125 Issue 8

Our Mission:

Proclaiming Christ, Growing Disciples, Transforming Lives!

AUGUST CALENDAR

- 3 — Worship Service 9:30 a.m. (In-Person & Virtual)
- 6 — Staff Meeting 11 a.m. (Conference Room)
- 9 — Leadership Council Retreat 8:30 a.m.— Noon (Conference Room)
- 10 — Worship Service 9:30 a.m. (In-Person & Virtual)
Called to Prayer 11 a.m. (Conference Room)
- 12 — Planned Giving Meeting 5:15 p.m. (Conference Room)
Finance Team Meeting 6:15 p.m. (Conference Room)
- 14 — Romeo's 8:30 a.m. (Carmen's Café)
Juliet's 9:00 a.m. (Cherokee Restaurant)
- 17 — Worship Service 9:30 a.m. (In-Person & Virtual)
Beyond the Walls Packing 11:00 a.m. (Parish Hall)
- 18 — Mobile Food Pantry 4:30 p.m. (CUMC Parking Lot)
- 19 — Outlook Deadline
Building Team Meeting 11 a.m. (Conference Room)
- 24 — Worship Service 9:30 a.m. (In-Person & Virtual)
Mix & Match Team Meeting (11:00 a.m.) Library
Called to Prayer 11 a.m. (Conference Room)
- 31 — Worship Service 9:30 a.m. (In-Person & Virtual)

Thank you for helping keep our calendar accurate!

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 — Larry Bradfield, Debra Tompkins
- 4 — Connor Dahlquist
- 5 — Evan Clarke
- 6 — Joanne Ulrich
- 7 — Kyle Berry
- 9 — Jane Catey
- 16 — Ellie Applegarth
- 22 — Doris Morgan
- 25 — Keith Krol, Tyler Ellis
- 27 — Bonnie Borgeson
- 30 — Dennis Hartman



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 — Bruce & Shirley Privacky (1958)
- 9 — Cavan Berry & Jenny McNeill (1997)
- 13 — Michael & Cindy Belt (1994)
Kenneth & Patricia McNeill (1958)
- 25 — Harry & Julie Wierenga (1962)



The July/August Upper Room is still available at the Narthex Desk. Get your copy before they are gone.

THIS AND THAT

- ◆ Please keep the office updated on any changes you make to your address, telephone or email. We want our information to always be correct and up-to-date.
- ◆ Do you want to start receiving our Thursday and Sunday email? Please call the church office.
- ◆ If you serve on a committee, please see that the office receives the dates/times for each of your meetings. It's very important that the office keeps an up-to-date calendar.
- ◆ If you are sending cards to people in the church, please call the church office if you need their mailing address. People enjoy receiving cards not only at special times, but anytime.
- ◆ Think about making cookies for our Sunday Coffee Time or donating altar flowers. You can sign up with the sheets provided on the bulletin board outside the chapel.

Share their grief:

- ◆ Family and friends of **Larry Decker**, Betsy's son who passed away on June 21 in Florida after a long battle with cancer. Please keep Betsy's family surrounded with your love and prayers.
- ◆ Family and friends of **James Doig**, brother of Gray who passed away on July 8 in New Hudson, MI. Please keep Gary's family in your prayers as they cope with their loss.

Church Office Hours

**Our regular office hours at the church.
Tuesday — Thursday 9 a.m. — 2 p.m.**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT: During the month of August, please think about this wonderful quote of Gracie Allen's. How can we apply this quote? Where are we placing a period and not allowing God to place a comma? **God is always speaking.**

"Never place a period where God has placed a comma".

**Mission Possible for
August 2025**
(Weekly offerings)

Mission of the Month
Wesley House — Ferris State Univ.

Wesley House at FSU is a vibrant, messy, and deeply loving community of college students and young adults in Big Rapids, MI. This is a ministry of the UMC and is proudly inclusive to everyone...no matter of identity, orientation, or background. All are welcomed and loved. Support this ministry for the people in Big Rapids.

Helping Hand Fund
(Supporting people in need.)

Mission Accomplished
June 2025

Mission of the Month

God's Country MI UP Parish \$525

Local Mission

Every Woman's Place \$385

Helping Hand \$343

Hunger/UMCOR

World Hunger and Poverty \$355

Fifth Sunday

Veterans Affairs \$385

Dollars for CROP Walk \$200

Note of Thanks — Marian Davis

It's been four months since my major back surgery in February and I'm pleased to say that my recuperation has gone extremely well so far. And for this, I want to thank the entire staff and congregation of CUMC for all their cards, calls, texts, gifts, visits, transportation, love, hope, support, and most of all that prayers that have brought me through this journey of pain and joy. I would not be where I am today without my faith in God and the very best wishes expressed by everyone at Central and beyond. Because of the skill and dedication of the doctors, hospital, rehab, and all their auxiliary personnel, I am able to walk today without pain or extra medical equipment. So once again, I'd like to thank everyone connected to Central for walking beside me as I make my way toward full rehabilitation. Love you all!



"Creating safe spaces
for growth and community
in Christ"



**SHARE YOUR HOPES, DREAMS, AND PRAYERS
FOR OUR CHURCH!**

Please join a focus group to explore the use of our church building, consider a potential housing development project, and share an honest conversation about our congregation's past and future.

Sunday, August 3 at 11:00 a.m. — Choir Room
Wednesday, August 13 at 6:30 p.m. — T.B.D.
Saturday, August 23 at 10:30 a.m. — Choir Room

Groups will be limited to not more than 12 people. Sign up sheets will be available in the Narthex and in Parish Hall following worship, or you may contact the church office to reserve your place. If necessary, additional meetings could be held in early September, so please let us know if you are interested but are unable to attend any of these dates.

We value your participation, input, and ideas as we seek to share and use Central's space as God leads us.

Thank you for your presence and your prayers.

Pastor Rob
Nancy Crandall



THANK YOU PARKING VOLUNTEERS: Together we raised \$1,350 parking cars during the Taste of Muskegon and Lakeshore Art Festival events. We couldn't have done this without each of you wonderful people. ~Valerie Lundholm

CENTRAL WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

On June 29, 2025 we welcomed five new members into our church. Each of these wonderful people brought with them not only an enthusiasm for our church, but the desire to actively get involved with the programs within our church.

If you haven't met these people personally,
please seek them out before the service or during our coffee hour.

Garron Little & Julia Moll



Linda Hawkins



Eileen & John Schrader

