REV. PAUL PEREZ
LEAD MINISTER

DEACONESS ANNE HILLMAN, PH.D.
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY MINISTRIES

MARGARET REESE
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

BRANDON REEVES
COLLABORATIVE PIANIST

REV. EDWIN ROWE
PASTOR EMERITUS

DEBRA COX
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

ANGELA BAKELEY
RECEPTIONIST

DAVE WILSON
BUILDING MAINTENANCE MANAGER

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

23 EAST ADAMS, DETROIT, MI 48226

313.965.5422

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Reconciling Congregation

Organized 1810 - Incorporated 1822 - Sanctuary Completed 1867

November 15, 2026

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

OUR WELCOMING STATEMENT

Central United Methodist Church is a Reconciling Congregation. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender identity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, age, ability, belief, or background, whether you are single or partnered, you are God's beloved and you are welcome here.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We envision Central United Methodist Church as a vital, diverse, River of Life nurtured by the light of Christ, rooted deeply in and living the scriptures, a holy presence in the center of the City of Detroit, transforming individuals, institutions, and the world, advocating peace and justice in all we do.

www.CentralUMChurchDetroit.org

CUMCdetroit1810@gmail.com

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

Central United Methodist Church acknowledges that the building in which we carry out our collective life together occupies and is built upon land that is part of what was first known as Waawiyaataanong ("At the curved shores."), the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy, but which is now referred to as Detroit. In 1807 the Ojibwe, Odawa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot nations granted use of these sovereign lands to the US government through the Treaty of Detroit. Central United Methodist Church affirms the continued Indigenous sovereignty over these lands and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. We commit ourselves to working together with our native brothers and sisters to advance equity in all dimensions of life and to promote a better future for the earth and all its peoples.

WELCOME TO CENTRAL

Central United Methodist Church is proud to be in the heart of Detroit and excited to welcome you to worship this morning. Whether this is your first time worshiping with us or you've been coming here for years, welcome!

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Children are celebrated here at Central, and we have diverse options for them to experience worship and learn about God.

The **Grace Space** (located in the SW corner of the sanctuary) is always available for our littlest ones to play and wiggle during worship.

Worship Boxes are available (along the south wall of the sanctuary) for our elementary-aged children and youth. Inside, are materials to help understand and participate in worship. Children and youth may choose to sit as a group in their special pews or take a worship box back to sit with their adults.

On **First Sundays** our worship service is focused on being intergenerational and all children and youth stay in the sanctuary for the whole service.

Near the beginning of the worship service there is a **Children's Message** offered at the front of the sanctuary and all children are invited to come forward as they are comfortable and sit at the base of the steps.

After the Children's Message, on 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sunday's children in Kindergarte-5th grades are dismissed for **Sunday School** on the 3rd floor. Youth are dismissed for Sunday School on 2nd and 4th Sundays, also on the 3rd floor. Children in K-5th grade should be picked up from their classroom by their adults after the worship service.

The **Nursery** is always open for use by families on the 1st floor across the lobby from the sanctuary, but it is only staffed on 1st Sundays.

ACTS OF GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE August Williamson & Igor Korokhov, guest pianist

OPENING PRAYER (from "*Worship Ways." United Church of Christ*)
Holy One, you call us to find your kin-dom already hidden in our world— in tiny, transforming possibilities; in beauty that calls us to surrender all; in complicated choices that call for wisdom.

Reveal yourself here in this moment and heighten our senses that we may find you and join you in building this kin-dom of love, and hope, and peace. In the name of the One who calls us to seek, Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *To What Can the Kin-dom of God Be Compared*

To what can the kin-dom of God be compared?
A mustard seed falls where a field's been prepared,
and there, where predictable plantings should be,
there grows up a wild bush — as big as a tree!
God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:
loving deeds ... signs of birth ... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.
Your reign is amazing, your ways still astound,
just like that new life springing forth from the ground.

A small bit of leaven will change the whole bread:
a poor woman sees that her neighbors are fed,
a church reaches out to the youth in the town,
a man shares his faith and God's blessings abound.
God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:
loving deeds ... signs of birth ... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.
Your reign is among us, creation is blessed,
when even a few faithful lives change the rest.

While some look for treasure or one priceless pearl,
God's reign is the gift wise ones seek in this world.
A girl sells possessions to help those in need;
a boy chooses faithfulness rather than greed.
God of love, here on earth, hidden things still surprise:
loving deeds ... signs of birth ... faithful, Spirit-filled lives.
Your reign is a treasure that wise ones pursue;
may we seek your kingdom in all that we do.

Tune: William Howard Doane, 1875 ("To God Be the Glory")
Text: Copyright © 2011 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. CCLI 2815228

ACTS OF WELCOME

GREETINGS AND WELCOME OF FIRST TIME VISITORS

Please help us know you were here in worship today by Scanning the QR code with your phone. There is also a place for notes and prayer requests for the pastor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Rev. Paul Perez

ACTS OF SHARING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *The Gift of Love by Hal H. Hopson* Central Choir

For electronic giving, please use this QR code

DOXOLOGY **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Holy One.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Indicates when to stand in body or in spirit
**Please silence cell phones
Hymnal Guide: W&S=Worship & Song, UMH=United Methodist Hymnal, TWFS=The Faith We Sing

ACTS OF PROCLAMATION

***SCRIPTURE** *Matthew 13:31-33*

Jesus presented another parable to the crowds: "The kin-dom of heaven is like the mustard seed which a farmer sowed in a field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all—it becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come to perch in its branches."

Jesus offered them still another parable: "The kin-dom of heaven is like the yeast a baker took and mixed in with three measures of flour until it was leavened all through.,"

ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Rev. Paul Perez

ACTS OF SENDING FORTH

***CLOSING HYMN** *All Things Bright and Beautiful* , v. 1-3 UMH #147

(Refrain) All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful: the Good God made them all.

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and med their tiny wings. *(Refrain)*

2. The purple headed mountains, the river running by,
The sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky *(Refrain)*

3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden: God made them every one. *(Refrain)*

WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848;
MUSIC: 17th cent. English melody; arr. by martin Shaw, 1915 CCLI 2815228

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION & SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE Augustus Williamson & Igor Korokhov, guest pianist

SPECIAL CHURCH CONFERENCE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP PLEASE REMAIN IN THE SANCTUARY.

THIS SERVICE IS LIVE STREAMED UNDER CCLI STREAM PLUS 21469425

Your Greeters today are: Helen Monroe
Your Ushers today are: Helen Monroe & Mary Park

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INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

Central UMC is committed to using inclusive language for God and humanity. You will find that some words have been changed in hymns or familiar prayers in order to be more inclusive.

LIVESTREAM INFORMATION

This worship service is livestreamed on Facebook and posted to Youtube each week. Those leading worship up on the chancel and those sitting in the center pews and the first 3 pews of the South section will be recorded by the cameras. If you would rather not have your image shown on the livestream, please sit in the side pews and allow others to come to you for passing of the peace. The children's Grace Space will always be out of view from the cameras.

To submit a request to take down a video containing your image please use this form:

www.CentralUMChurchDetroit.org
CUMCdetroit1810@gmail.com

CENTRAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Today, November 15th
Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.

Special Charge Conference

Youth Group, 4:00 p.m.
(At Oatley home)

Wed. Nov. 18th -
Choir Rehearsal

Thurs. Nov. 19th
Intergenerational Game Night,

Sunday, Nov. 22nd, Worship begins at 10:30 a.m.

Central Church and the NOAH Project will be closed Thursday Nov. 26th and Friday, Nov. 27th, for Thanksgiving Holiday.

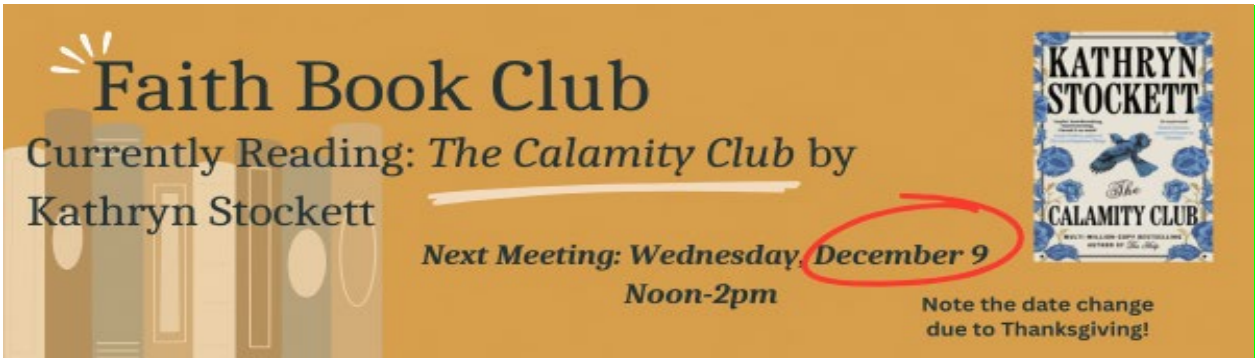
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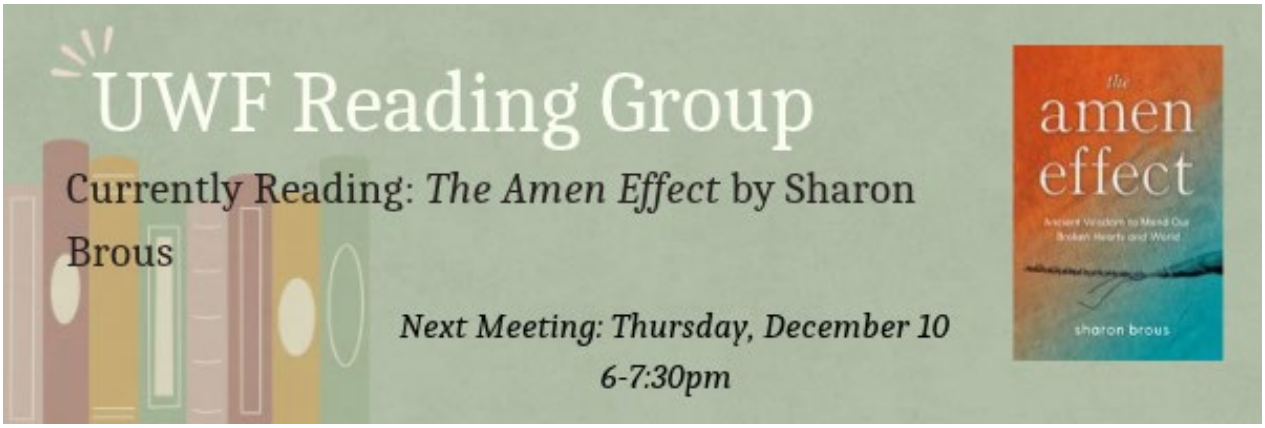
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Sunday School!

The K-5th grade Sunday School class meets on 2-5th Sundays and the Youth class will meets on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Both classes take place during worship, after the Children's Message. Classrooms are on the 3rd floor, and parents should pick up their K-5th grade students after worship.

November Birthdays		
2nd Margaret Jachim	11th Maureen Taylor	27th Nancy Zanke
3rd Susan Gallagher	11th Navarre Smith	20th Nadine Feinberg
7th William Robinson Jr	17th Kamara Jackson	24th Elsie Mack
10th Susan Francis	19th Zeke Gladstone	26th Rev Dr Jill Zundel
13th Alina Biernat		



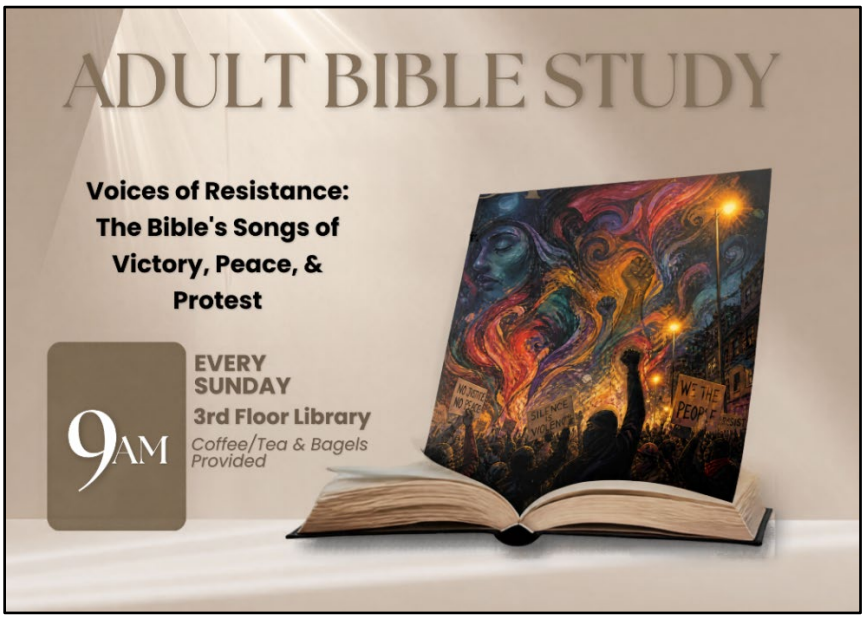


NURTURING & CIRCLE OF CARE

These persons are in assisted living, confined to their homes or institution, are ill, or in need of special prayers.

Ruth Biersdorf
Faith Carpenter
Dia Pearce
Naomi Mason
Sue Wabeke
Nadine Feinberg
Charles & Josefina Ford


CHILDREN'S CHOIR
Central's Children's Choir will be singing on Sunday, December 13th as part of our Sunday School Christmas Pageant. Rehearsals start Sunday, November 15th - following worship for 15 minutes. Let Miss Maggie or Deaconess Anne know if your child will be participating


ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Voices of Resistance: The Bible's Songs of Victory, Peace, & Protest
9AM
EVERY SUNDAY
3rd Floor Library
Coffee/Tea & Bagels Provided


Third Thursday Fellowship
GAME NIGHT
Bring a friend or your whole DND crew!
19TH NOVEMBER
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
4th Floor Clara Webb Fellowship Hall
Bring your favorite board or card game or come prepared to play one of the church's games.
Beverages & Snacks Provided (or bring your essential game snack to share)