

**Seeking God and others
By Loving
Serving
And Learning together**



**Central Park Church
March 15, 2026**

Pastor Marc Nelesen will be preaching on Genesis 22:1-19 "Living Sacrifice" for the fourth Sunday in Lent.

Order of Worship

We Gather

Prelude – Jennifer Kramer

Ring of the Bells

Welcome

"Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"

Call to worship

"How Firm a Foundation"

We Approach

Announcements

Ministries Update – Faith Formation

Congregational Prayer

Mutual Greeting

Presentation of Offering *"Doxology"*

Children's Message

Inviting the Kids to CPKids

"Turn Your Eyes"

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for illumination

Scripture: Genesis 22

Page 18 in Pew Bible

Sermon: "Living Sacrifice"

Prayer

We Respond

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

Blessing

"When Peace Like a River"

(hearing loop available)

A Community Seeking God & Others



To send out an email **For Prayer and Care** contact Jessica Stam:
at 616-820-9329 jessica@centralparkchurch.org

- **Roger Sal** has moved to Appledorn. Pray for his transition as he will have new surroundings and care staff.
Appledorn South
727 Apple Ave Room A-6
Holland, MI 49423
- **Marge Streur** is being treated at Holland hospital after suffering a heart attack last week.
- **Marsha Machiela** has moved to American House of Holland.
11911 James St.
Lighthouse Building room 7
Holland MI 49424
- **Barb Blystra** is at Mary Free Bed in Grand Rapids for treatment after her stroke. She is making progress.
- **Ralph Holmes** is home after his rehab at Freedom Inn.
- **Sandi and Charlie VanHouten** are requesting prayers for Charlie's mother, **Betty (Sandy) VanHouten**. She suffered a stroke this week which has affected her left side. She is a resident in a care facility near family in Joliet, IL.

A group meets every Sunday morning from 9:25-9:45 for prayer in the Overlook Room. You are welcome to join to pray or to be prayed for. In addition, the second Sunday of every month, prayer team members are available after the morning service at the front of the sanctuary and would be glad to pray with or for you there, or if you prefer, in a more private setting.

By Loving & Serving

Worship Online- To catch the livestream or watch the service later, click on the link on our website homepage and go to the Central Park Church YouTube Channel.

A nursery is available on the lower level for children and infants to 3 years old. Our helper today is Kris O'Donnell. Next week (March 22) will be Pat Veenman.

Stay for a bit following worship and enjoy coffee and cookies.

Coffee is also available before and during the worship service. Please use one of the covered cups. Women's Bible Study are our Hospitality leaders today. Next week (March 22) will be Dave & Lynn VanHekken. Diane Slager and Judy Prince are our Greeters this morning before and after worship. Next week (March 22) will be Kathy TenBrink and Bill VanBruggen.

St. Willibrord will be renting the gym for Sunday morning worship through March. Please do not use entrance D on Sunday mornings so we don't interrupt their service. The downstairs will be closed for use, except the nursery. They will also be meeting on Wednesday and Friday evenings in the sanctuary.

The Congregational Life and Care Team will be hosting a pizza luncheon on March 22 after the service. If you would like to help with dessert, there is a sign-up sheet on the information table in the Gathering Place.

We have heard from our missionary, Blaine Newhouse in Bahrain. They have been instructed to leave, but the airport is closed. Meanwhile, though they are hearing bombs in the area - they realize that they are in God's hands and are encouraged knowing that they, and all the people in the Middle East, are being lifted up in our prayers.

Central Park's Kids Easter Egg Hunt will be on Wednesday March 25 with dinner at 5:30pm. If you would like to donate candy for the easter eggs, there is a container in the Gathering Place to drop it off. We will also be having our Cake walk for the kids. Bring a sweet treat in the week of March 22.

Park and Central Park Church combined choir opportunity for the Maundy Thursday service. Rehearsals start today, Sunday March 15 and also on March 22 and March 29. Central Park participants should try to arrive at Park as soon as they can after your worship service concludes.

Keeping our Micro Pantry well stocked

Here's what we need this week-

- Boxed Cold Cereal
- Snacks – Jello, fruit snacks, granola bars, pudding cups and fruit cups
- Complete Meals
- Spaghetti and Sauce
- Pancake mix and Syrup
- Kleenex, Hand sanitizer, Hand and Dish Soap

Help us support our community by donating items to keep the pantry full. Keeping our Micro Pantry stocked this week is Lynn Streur.

Wednesday night community dinner served 97 people last week. We will be having Chicken Fajitas, chips & fresh Pico and dessert for dinner this week.

New, newer, or newish to Central Park? Are you curious about Central Park, its ministries or who it is trying to be or where it is trying to go? Have you ever wished someone would give you a tour of the building? Have you ever wondered about getting closer to the church, getting baptized, professing your faith, transferring your membership, or joining the work of ministry? Join us on Sunday, April 19 following worship for 30-45 minutes for some light nibbles, refreshments, and great conversation. RSVP to Jessica in the church office 616-335-9462 or jessica@centralparkchurch.org

And Learning Together

Lenten Journey - Jennifer Kramer will be hosting a Bible study on Sunday afternoons (4:30pm) that will walk through N.T. Wright’s book *The Way of the Lord: Christian Pilgrimage Today* as we explore themes of journey and pilgrimage in the life of Israel and the ministry of Jesus.

MS/HS Students meet on Sundays at 6:30pm.

Everyone has a story. During Lent, we are reflecting on the Christian life as a journey and will be encouraging everyone to think about high points, low points, and pivot points in our journeys. **Join Bill VanBruggen and others on Sundays March 15 and 22** to discover and talk about your story in ways to meaningfully connect with others. These two gatherings will be relaxed, conversational, meaningful, and helpful. These two meetings will take place in the Cornerstone Room and begin 10 minutes following worship each Sunday.

Monday Morning Women’s bible study meets at 10:00am.

Wednesday Nights –

March 18	🕒	Jeff Monroe Telling Stories in the Dark 4
Mar 25	🕒	End of year party

Saturday Women’s Bible Study meets every other week; they are studying *Experiencing Contagious Joy*.



Save the Date for VBS 2026... June 15th – 18th in the evening.

Next Sunday Pastor Marc Nelesen will be preaching on Ruth 1 “With You” for the fifth Sunday in Lent.

This Week at Central Park Church:

Sunday March 15

- Way of the Lord Study in the Cornerstone Room – 4:30pm
- Dinner after Bible Study – 5:30pm
- Students – 6:30 – 8:00pm

Monday March 16

- Women’s Bible Study – 10:00am

Tuesday March 17

- Cardio Café – 9:00am
- Congregational Life and Care Team Meeting – 6:00pm
- Outreach & Mission Meeting – 6:00pm
- Faith Formation Team Meeting – 6:00pm

Wednesday March 18

- Community night Dinner – 5:30pm
- Kids classes – 6:00pm
- Adult education – 6:15pm

Thursday March 19

- Cardio Café – 9:00am
- Open Volleyball – 7:00pm

Saturday March 21

- Women’s Bible Study – 10:30am

Offering:	3/8/26	YTD %
General Fund	\$4,695.00	72%
Mission Fund	\$70.00	74%

Two ways to give from your smart phone.

- Text the keyword GiveCPC to 616-201-3550
- Scan our Giving QR Code

Contributions can be made online through the church website, by mail, dropped off during office hours or placed in the baskets at the sanctuary entrances. **Thank you for your continued financial support of the ministry of Central Park Church.**



Consistory Communication to the Congregation following March 10, 2026 meeting

The Consistory approved the following recommendations:

1. From Finance and Facilities: replace the outdated smoke alarms in the building per the recommendation of Siemens Fire Protection following multiple false alarm calls to the local fire department.
2. From Finance: approve an Action Plan to address shortfalls in the 2026 budget.
3. From Executive Team: Affirm office-bearer eligibility requirements and allow for an eligibility exception to the “2 years off” rule for nominees who served until the end of 2024 (meaning, they have been off since 2024, but had served until December instead of concluding their term in May, 2024).
4. From the Executive Team: Affirm the criteria for being eligible to serve on the Search Team. That criteria and the invitation to submit nominations will be published in March.
5. From the Community Outreach and Mission Team: Approve the cost of the Sunday night meals during Lent be covered by the Vision for Mission Fund (up to \$1000).
6. From the Community Outreach and Mission Team: Approve the 2025 local 1/2 mission share to go to the Holland Deacons Conference for The Brothers & Sisters House Ministry.
7. From the Community Outreach and Mission Team: Approve \$750 grant from the Vision for Mission fund for Central Park’s participation in the Virginia Park Community Picnic. This picnic is scheduled for August and is sponsored by Central Park, Embody, and Park churches.
8. From the Community Outreach and Mission Team: Approve a Vision for Mission grant for up to \$750 for the Trunk or Treat Community meal in October.

For Information:

9. The Elders are offering a gathering for those who are interested in knowing more about Central Park. “Exploring Central Park” will be offered on 4/19/26.
10. The Elders are close to completing a Welcoming Statement for Central Park.
11. In March, a Faith Formation team will begin meeting to integrate lifelong and intergenerational learning together at Central Park.
12. The Community Outreach and Mission Team is planning an Easter Egg hunt for Wednesday, March 25. March 25 also marks the end of our Wednesday night meals and programming until the fall.
13. The Community Outreach and Mission Team is planning VBS for the week of June 15 (M-TH 6-8pm). Community dinners will be served.
14. The Community Outreach and Mission Team has named the new indoor pantry the “Central Park Community Cupboard”. A service of dedication and prayer is scheduled for Sunday, March 22.
15. The Congregational Life and Care team is planning a fellowship meal following the service on 3/22/26. Pizza will be served.

Next meeting: March 10, 2026, is the next normally scheduled Consistory meeting.