

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



**Central Park Church
May 17, 2026**

Pastor Marc Nelesen will be preaching on John 17:1-11 “Jesus Prays” for the seventh Sunday of Easter. We will hear a ministry update from the Community Relationships and Mission Team.

Order of Worship

We Gather

Prelude – Jennifer Kramer
Ringing of the Bells
Welcome
“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”
Call to worship
“Come People of the Risen King”

We Approach

Ministry Update
Announcements
Congregational Prayer
Mutual Greeting
Presentation of Offering *“Doxology”*
Children’s Message
Inviting the Kids to CPKids
“Goodness of God”

We Hear God’s Word

Prayer for illumination
Scripture: John 17:1-11
Page 943 in Pew Bible
Sermon: “Jesus Prays”
Prayer

We Respond

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”
Blessing

(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

- **Carol Sanchez**, one of our Wednesday community night attenders, had to reschedule her eye surgery. Her surgery will now be June 30 in Grand Blanc.

Thank you to everyone who has prayed for my cancer to be removed – it has been done!
-Dave Mulder

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 helpers today are Jenn & Hailie Streur. Next week (May 24) will be Kris O'Donnell.

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. The Congregational Life and Care Team are our Hospitality leaders today. Next week (May 24) will be Jim & Judy Prince. Doug Kooiker and Jim Zeedyk are our Greeters this morning before and after worship. Next week (May 24) will be Dianne Slager and Judy Prince.

St. Willibrord will be renting the gym for Sunday morning worship through May. 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.



Honor a family member or friend at Memorial Day and bring some color to our landscaping around the church facility with a **Memorial Geranium**. Pick up an envelope from one of the tables outside the sanctuary or the information center to make a contribution of \$5.00/plant and designate the person(s) in whose memory it is given. Donations need to be turned in by today, May 17. The geraniums will decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 24 and be planted outside the following week.

The Congregational Life and Care Team will be hosting a Fellowship Meal today, May 17 after the service. Stay and enjoy sandwiches, chips, coleslaw and dessert.

The **Central Park Youth Group** will be hosting a fund raiser dinner on Sunday May 31 in the gym at 6:30pm. They will be serving BBQ chicken or BBQ pulled pork sandwiches with sides. A sign-up sheet is available in the information center. Save the date and help support the kids going to Nashville on the Mission trip this summer.

Spring Cleaning! Don't know what to do with your used unwanted household items? Bring them to church we can sell them in our Attic Special booth at the Holiday Shoppe.

Keeping our Micro Pantry well stocked

Here's what we need this week-

- Boxed Cold Cereal
- Jello cups, pudding cups and fruit cups
- fruit snacks
- Peanut Butter crackers and Cheese crackers
- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Complete Meals
- Spaghetti and Sauce
- Pancake mix and Syrup
- 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.

And Learning Together

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

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

Saturday Women's Bible Study meets every other week; they started a new study using the book "Surrendered", a study of Jesus in the wilderness. The theme being "Letting go and Living Like Jesus". You are invited to join us on this 6 week study and learn how to apply the 6 Principles of Surrendering. If you are interested or need more information, please connect with Kathy Ten Brink or Elizabeth Maynard.



Registration is now available for VBS 2026 online or paper copies in the information center. Sign-up sheets are available in the information center for volunteers.

Next Sunday Pastor Marc Nelesen will be preaching on Acts 2 “Fresh Wind, New Fire” for Pentecost Sunday.

This Week at Central Park Church:

Sunday May 17

- Students – Year end Party – 6:30-8:00pm

Monday May 18

- Women’s Bible Study – 10:00am

Tuesday May 19

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

Thursday May 21

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

| Offering: | Needed/ week | 5/10/26 | YTD NEED | YTD GIVEN |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| General Fund | \$5,527 | \$3,350 | \$105,013 | \$91,685 |
| Mission Fund | \$547 | \$930 | \$10,393 | \$7,450 |

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 May 12, 2026 meeting**

The Consistory approved the following recommendations:

1. From the Executive Team:

- a. The Consistory-approved, Lead Pastor job is available in the church office for hard copy review by anyone who wishes to preview it. Public copies will not be made available until after the Search Team begins convening.
- b. A list of search team nominees to explore that is double the size of the final search team.

2. From the Elders:

- a. The request to approve the following Welcome Statement for Central Park Church:

“At Central Park Reformed Church, we welcome all who seek to know God and grow in faith. United by our belief in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we follow Jesus Christ and trust the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the truth of Scripture. We are a community committed to loving, serving, and learning together. We believe that every person is created in the image of God, worthy of dignity, compassion, and grace. Because interpreting Scripture faithfully can be complex, we approach differences with humility, respect, and commitment to unity. Our goal is to create a community where meaningful conversations can happen and where relationships remain strong even when viewpoints vary. We strive to reflect Christ’s love in how we worship, how we serve, and how we care for one another. We invite you to join us as we seek God together and share His hope with a world in need. You are welcome here.”

3. From the Deacons:

- a. The request to resume passing the plate for the offering during service.

4. From the Faith Formation Team:

- a. The request to adopt the phrase “Learning to be more like Christ” as the reason we do faith formation.

5. From the Community Outreach and Mission Team:

- a. The request to host a Wednesday evening bonfire on 7/18/26
- b. The request that the 1/2 local mission share be split between 70 x 7 and Escape Ministries

For Information:

6. New Consistory members will be installed on 5/31/26.
7. The Worship Team will be seeking the Elders input for prioritizing pulpit supply requests.
8. St. Willabrord will continue renting the gym for Sunday morning worship on a week-to-week basis.
9. The Momentum Center will be extending their contract on a month-to-month basis giving both the Consistory and their board time to approve negotiations.
10. Jennifer Kramer and Sam Pastoor will be working together on a comprehensive list of Faith Formation offerings to hand out to newcomers.
11. The Youth Group will be having a fund-raising dinner on 5/31/26 at 6:30 to raise funds for their Mission Trip to Nashville.
12. The Outreach Team is working with Park and Embody churches to organize the Virginia Park Community Picnic on 8/15/26.
13. Central Park and Park Church were pleased with the Wednesday night Adult education over the last year. Both churches will continue to work together in both education and worship.

Next meeting: June 9, 2026, is the next normally scheduled Consistory meeting.

Central Park Consistory

Pastor – Rev. Marc Nelesen, PhD

Elders – Jeanne Kane, Kris O'Donnell, Dianne Slager, Kathy TenBrink, Jen Werley

Deacons – Doug Kooiker, Kim Nevenzel, Jennifer Streur, Jodi Vosburg, Kyle Wright, Dave VanHekken

Congregational Life and Care Team

For care and prayer

Val Nevenzel, Kris O'Donnell, Vickie Overway, Jennifer Streur, and Jeanne