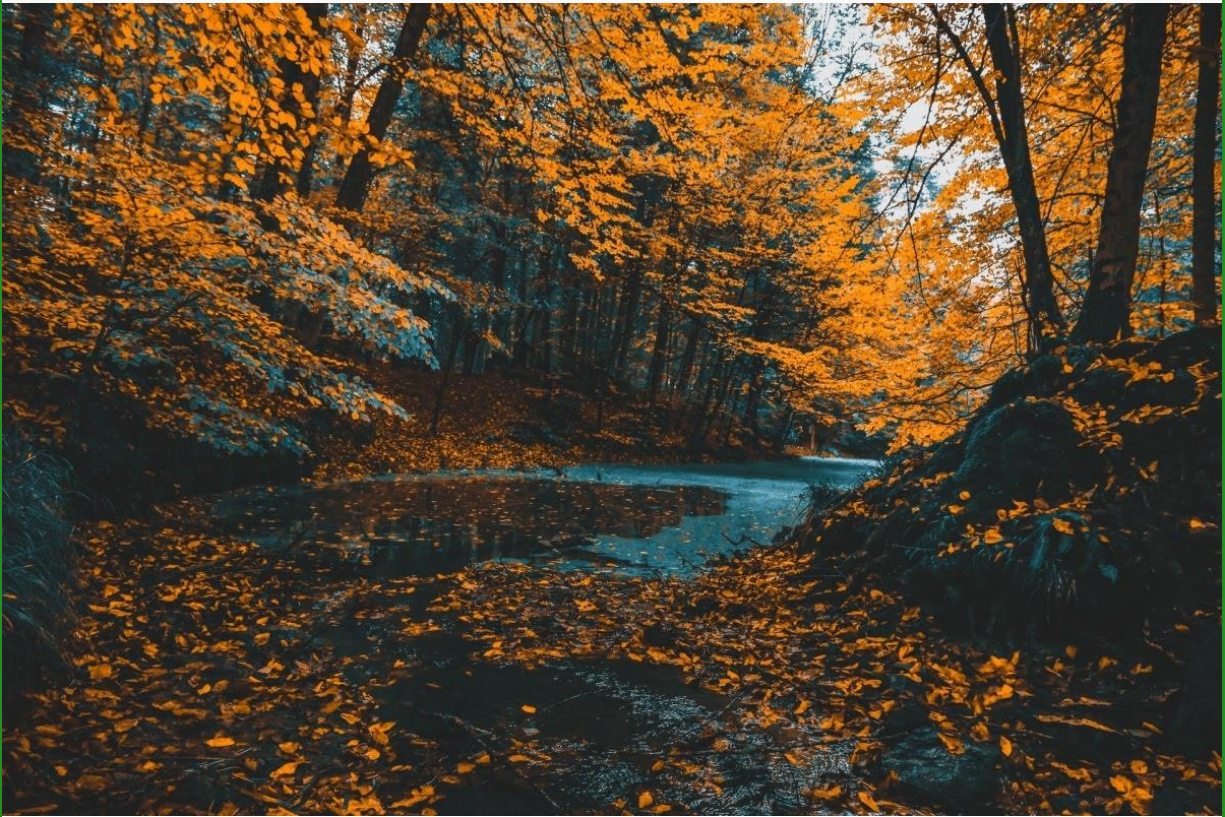


Central United Methodist Church



Lectionary Readings for
November 12, 2023
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost:

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25 Psalms 78:1-7 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

Beloved,

“Those who give generously receive more, but those who are stingy with what is appropriate will grow needy.” Proverbs 11:24

God told Abraham; I will bless you with the purpose that you will then in turn be a blessing to others.

Jesus said, “Give, and it will be given to you. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return.”

Paul said, “The one who sows a generous crop will also reap a generous crop.”

Proverbs 11:24 sums it up, *“Those who give generously receive more, but those who are stingy and give the minimum will grow needy.”*

Well, there it is. Nothing fancy, nothing you didn't already know. All the modern, positive psychology about happiness proves the Bible true. But the truth about how generosity and happiness relate only becomes meaningful if you apply it.

Do you want happiness? Then live by these biblical principles.

And it's hard, because we tend to grow sticky fingers when handling money. Studies have also shown that the more money you have, the harder it becomes to give more away. John Wesley said, “Whenever I have money in my hand, I find a way to give it quickly away, lest it find its way into my heart.”

Let's do that. From now on, make an intentional point to give a bit more than you think you ought, each time you give. Up it a bit. If you would normally throw in five for food during fellowship/coffee hour, make it six. When special offerings, appeals, advances come, rather than \$20, make it \$25. Push it up. Top it off. Give a bit more. OK?

Find your level of giving on the Pledge Challenge Steps chart [Click Here](#) and take the next step up in your financial gifts to Jesus.

Now, the true key to happiness is having a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Without that, nothing else works. But when you have Jesus, then you are led to live differently. And here is the good part: you have the Holy Spirit to help you make those changes in your life. It can be done! Find out about yourself and the gifts of the Spirit that come naturally to you with this link [Click Here](#)

The Holy Spirit has gifted you for ministry beyond the church building. She leads you into contentment and generosity.

Trust Jesus' Blessing,

Pastor Biel

Bible Study

Join us for Bible Study from **9 am to 9:45 am** - Sunday morning via Zoom. If you would like to be on the Zoom list for the Bible Study Class, please email the church office by clicking on this link: centralchurch@skokiecentralumc.org.

Worship Service

Join us this **Sunday, November 12, 2023 at 10:30 am** - Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost - in the Sanctuary for our in-person service.

The Worship service will also be available on **Zoom at 10:30 am**. Click on the link below to join.

Altar Flowers



The altar flowers this Sunday are given by Malou De Ocampo.

Fellowship

Join us for Fellowship after church this Sunday provided by the Marigold Cooper.

Starting in November we will have the last Sunday of each month as a potluck for Fellowship. There is a signup sheet outside the kitchen for Fellowship from now until the middle of May 2024.

Everybody's Birthday



Sunday, November 12, 2023

On Sunday, we will be celebrating Everybody's Birthday with our guest of honor **Lois Martin**.

Lois Martin

Sunday, November 12, 2023

It is our pleasure and delight to honor **Lois Martin**, who has been an active member at Central Church since 1957. Lois will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on **Saturday, November 11, 2023**.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall after service for a Birthday Celebration!

Lois Martin may your day be filled with joy, love, and lots of laughter, many blessings and Happy Birthday!



Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 7:30pm

The Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving, sponsored by the Niles Township Clergy Forum, has happened every year since it began at Temple Judea Mizpah in **1971**. Host sites have rotated between Jewish, Protestant, and Roman Catholic houses of worship. This year, the host is **Skokie Central United Methodist Church**.

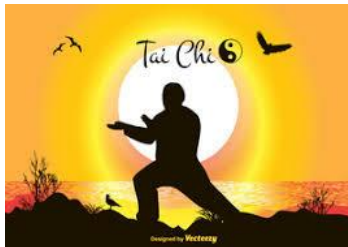
The Worship service will also be available on **Zoom at 7:30 pm**. Link will be provided Tuesday morning.

Volunteers will be needed for set up and clean up. Please email the church office at: centralchurch@skokiecentralumc.org

Tuesday Morning Meditation

Join us weekly on Tuesday at 8:00 am on Zoom. If you have questions, please email the church office at: centralchurch@skokiecentralumc.org

Tai Chi Classes



Interested in learning Tai Chi? Join our free class in the Log Cabin on Tuesday mornings, 9:15 to 10:00 a.m. Classes are taught by certified instructors, Jas and Jo Faber. This slow, meditative exercise is designed to improve energy, relaxation, balance and overall health.

Mini Food Pantry

Thank you to everyone who brings food for our Mini Food Pantry. The Pantry needs filling every day. Please bring something on Sunday - even a couple of cans would be gratefully accepted.

Please do not bring any containers - empty jars, etc.

Below is a list of suggested items - because the Mini Food Pantry is outside, it's important to only contribute non-perishable items, such as:

- [Canned goods](#) with ring-pulls
- Hygiene products: toothpaste/toothbrush, deodorant, soap, menstrual products, etc.
- Tuna and crackers
- Spices; salt and pepper
- Cooking oil
- Sugar
- Tea and coffee
- Peanut Butter
- Kids' snacks
- Dish Soap
- Stove-top Stuffing
- Non-perishable foods
- Bottled water

Thank you for your support in helping others less fortunate.

If you have questions or suggestions, please email the church office at centralchurch@skokiecentralumc.org



Donate



We appreciate all the financial support that has been received to support the church and missions. You can now give your financial support to Central in many ways.

CASH and CHECKS– Cash and check donations can be placed in the offering box at our church services. Checks can be mailed to the church.

VENMO – Using the VENMO app, pay by credit card. Enter Central Church's Venmo email: centralchurchgiving@gmail.com.

ONE TIME DONATIONS OR SET UP RECURRING DONATIONS BY CREDIT CARD OR BANK TRANSFER USING THESE OPTIONS:

ONLINE GIVING – go to <https://onrealm.org/skokiecentralumc/give/now> ; or use the QR Code.

TEXT TO GIVE – Using our secure online giving platform, TEXT to 73256 and send the message GIVECHURCH. A response will appear with a link to our online giving web page.

Central United Methodist Church

[Send Us An Email](#)

Rev. Timothy Biel Jr., Pastor

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(847) 673-1311



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