

IT TAKES HOPE #battleready

Holly Le Blanc will be sharing her story on Tuesday, May 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Center at Central Wesleyan Church. Everyone is invited to this sacred evening to give God the glory in her final days on this earth.

Holly found out in her early twenty's, after battling a life threatening illness, she had a rare progressive, debilitating disease called Friedreich's Ataxia. Although she is continually facing losses, she is constantly humbled by God's overwhelming grace.

Last summer, after working at Central for two decades, she sensed the Lord leading her to start a non-profit called It Takes Hope (ittakeshope.org). Four months later, she was diagnosed with stage IV breast cancer. She has courageously decided to discontinue chemotherapy. Holly desires to live her life to the fullest with the time she has left.

Although Holly's journey on this earth is not how she imagined it, she longs to live life battle ready. It's her hope to spread awareness for the dreaded disease of Friedreich's Ataxia as well as adopting the hashtag #battleready. Her message will inspire you to fight through your own challenges as you seek to find the hope only God provides.

Don't miss it! Bring a friend—or 10 of them!! This event will be so meaningful for your own spiritual journey as well as celebrating the life of Holly (and Barkley, of course).

More info at centralwesleyan.org/ittakeshope

Recovering: Ra David, Art Haan, Nancee Harrington, Glenn Hull, Laurie Newhouse, Judy Posma and Deb Scurio.

THE NUMBERS

April 30, 2017

Attendance

Central Holland	2583
Central Online	713
Central La Roca	141
Central Cambodia	172
Central Indonesia	156
The Local Church	197

Total Attendance 3,962

Community Groups	450
Small Groups	600

General Budget

Received Last Week	\$101,200
Received Since 6/16	\$4,713,400
Weekly Need	\$96,500
Need Since 6/16	\$4,789,600

Missions

Received Last Week	\$10,300
Received Since 6/16	\$584,400
Need Since 6/16	\$642,700

Stronger

Received Last Week	\$35,200
Giving Goal by 5/31/2017	\$2,000,000
Received to date	\$1,971,000



Give online at centralwesleyan.org/give.

Goodson, author of Thoughts of a Foster Dad on Sunday, May 21, 5:30 p.m. in D309. Childcare provided. *RSVP to attend and for childcare to centralwesleyan.org/foster-adoption.*

Gathering Grounds

We are looking for someone to work in a paid position 8-10 hours a week as we meet the growing needs of the guests we serve. Go to centralwesleyan.org/jobs.

Amazing Race for couples!

Looking for a way to get connected and have a fun night out with other couples? Then this is for you! On Saturday, May 20, we will be racing around Holland to find clues and see who will win the title of Amazing Race winner! Cost is \$10/couple for pizza, pop and fun. Childcare vouchers available to cover your date night out if needed. Registration will be closing on Sunday, May 7. *Register and get the details at centralwesleyan.org/amazingrace.*

FAMILY NEWS

We extend our sympathy to: Dan (Heather) White in the loss of his mother, Ellie White; the Sluis family in the loss of Jeannette Sluis.

Dealing with a serious or long term illness:

John Boersema, Marianne Brower, Dave Dekker, Phyllis DeWitt, Sandy DeWys, Dan Dykstra, Dan Heiberg, Amanda Johnson, Amy Kamphuis, Joy Kirklin, Mel Kirklin, Henne Kleinheksel, Holly LeBlanc, Jodi Lokker, Norm Lyzenga, Carmen Modrzynski, Chris Morren, Janice Mullins, Niko Pilafas, Renae Postma, MaryLou Rutgers, Jill Schreur, Jeannette Sluis, Karen Smeltzer, Loie VanDis, Marlene Walsh, James Winn and Elaine Zwagerman.

GENERAL

Congregational Vote

On May 21, members are encouraged to stop by the table in the Main Lobby to vote on the 2017–2018 General Budget, affirm the Elders, affirm a church Secretary, and elect Delegates and Alternate Delegates for District Conference. Elder nominees are as follows: Jason Adams, Londa Alderink, Sue Auchtung, Mark Ebbers, Dan Kappenga, Jack Lynn, Darrel Turner, Robb Veltema, Kelly Weener.

Mother's Day

Mother's Day is beautiful and rich for some and heartbreaking for many others. No matter the stage of life you find yourself in, God sees into the hidden parts and pockets of our soul. Join us to celebrate moms as we welcome Sara Hagerty to speak on Mother's Day, May 14 and stop by the photo booths in the lobby to get your family picture taken! Also, stop by the book table in the Lobby today to purchase Sara's book, *Every Bitter Thing Is Sweet*. This book would make a lovely Mother's Day gift for someone in your life.

Thank You!

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped spread bark around the campus last Saturday morning. The weather was perfect and we were blessed to have around 60 volunteers spread over 175 yards of bark in less than four hours! *Check out centralwesleyan.org/volunteer for more ways to get involved and serve here at Central.*

Help Jefferson School

Donate your Box Tops, Campbells' Labels at the Information Desk on any given Sunday. Thank you!

Hand 2 Hand Food Items

Are you willing to help stock our Hand2Hand food pantry? This month we need mac and cheese and soup. Items will be collected in the shopping cart located in the main lobby. Thanks for helping serve our community. *Questions? Contact Tracy at 395.3079.*

5k Fun Run

Help our Central Students raise money for Summer Trips by participating in our Central Family 5k Fun Run. You can walk, run, ride, bike, blade, board, etc.! Saturday, June 3, at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$20.

CHILDREN

Summer in Central Kids

We are so excited for summer and have some amazing events planned for Preschool, Elementary and Special Needs programs! You don't want to miss a minute! Pick up a calendar with all the details today in Central Kids.

5th Grade graduation

Join us for graduation on Sunday, May 21, at 10:45 a.m. in the new Multi-purpose room! Parents, we can't wait to celebrate your child with you! After graduation, our 5th grade programming in Central Kids ends for the summer and your student is officially part of Ignite, our Middle School ministry.

Crash Landing

If you are in 5th grade, join us on Wednesday, May 31, from 6:30–8 p.m. in the Ignite Room (D309). We'll have pizza, ice cream and games – you don't want to miss it! Parents: you're invited to stay for the first 10 minutes to meet the Ignite team!

Night at the Playland

Preschool and Elementary children with Special Needs are invited to join us,

along with their families, for a fun night at the Playland on Thursday, May 18, from 6–8 p.m.! *For information about our event, connect with Debbie Heiser at dheiser@centralwesleyan.org.*

Connect with us!

Want to know all about what is happening in Central Kids? Want the scoop on all the amazing events coming up? Sign up for our monthly "Central Kids Highlights" today! Email centralkids@centralwesleyan.org and enter "Monthly email" in the subject line!

STUDENTS

Color War

High school students, it's time for the color war! On May 21, meet in the Ignite Room at 7 p.m. and wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty. We'll be done at 9 p.m. by the Standing stone. Cost is \$5.

XCOM 2017

High school students, registration forms for Xcom 2017 Summer Camp are now available! Grab yours at FUEL! This is our summer houseboat trip taking place July 20–24.

YOUNG ADULTS

College/Young Adults!

We'll be hanging out downtown tomorrow night, May 8, from 7–8:30 p.m. at the 205 Coffee Shop! *For more information, email: YA@centralwesleyan.org.*

OPPORTUNITIES

Congregational Meeting

You're invited to join us for an informational meeting about our vision for the next fiscal year at Central. At this meeting you can meet the newly appointed elders, hear from our

leadership team, receive an update on the budget and about all of the Water's Edge Network campuses around the world. Please come tonight at 6 p.m. in the Worship Center to be a part of our journey together.

Custodial Position

Want to join the facilities team? We have a part time custodian position available. Work involves general cleaning, set ups and tear downs. Please check out the centralwesleyan.org/jobs for a full job description and to apply. *Contact Cristina at 395.3115 or cllanos@centralwesleyan.org for more information or questions.*

Senior Bus Trip

Join us Saturday, June 10, at 8 a.m. as we board the Great Lakes Coach for a leisurely day trip to Middlebury, Indiana. We will visit Rise 'n Roll Bakery for mid morning coffee/donut; Essenhaus Restaurant for family style meal at noon; and see the show *Mail Order Bride* in Heritage Hall at 2 p.m. Sign up deadline: May 19. To reserve your spot on the bus, please send your checks (\$60 made out to Central Wesleyan Church) to Central Wesleyan Church, 446 West 40th Street, Holland, MI 49423, attn: Bette Johnson. *For more information call Bette Johnson at 395.3133.*

Foster Care

1st Night Bags for Kids in Foster Care: Too often kids come into foster care with nothing at all. We'd like to change that. Throughout the month of May, stop by the table in the lobby on Sunday mornings to select a foster child to put together a "1st Night Bag" with items like PJs, underwear, an outfit, and toiletries.

Foster/Adopt Dessert Night

Are you a foster/adopt parent or considering it? Come hear Julian