

CHIMES

Central United Methodist Church
 Connecting with God,
 Connecting with Others,
 Changing our World with Christ's Love

VOLUME 72 July 31, 2016 NUMBER 14

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our members and friends to create home groups to gather and study how we can grow our church through building relationships. I will be leading this study on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. and as new groups emerge to take part in this study, we will make the day and time of those studies available to you.

It is my hope that as we move toward a busy fall and the launch of three worship experiences designed to welcome others to our church that we will learn to grow our church through building new relationships. I ask that you pray for me, pray for our church and I ask that you make every effort to attend worship on August 21 and the following weeks to hear the discussion of how we may grow our church through new relationships.

I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Blessings,

Pastor Jack

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
 Central UMC is hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, August 9th. You can sign up to donate blood at redcrossblood.org or call the church office at 248-681-0040.

CALLING ALL YOUNGSTERS 60 AND OVER!!!!
 When: Monday morning, August 15 at 10:30 a.m.
 Where: Parlor
 What: Beverages, Biscuits and Brainstorms
 Why: Share ideas for Older Adult Ministry at CUMC
 Join us for fellowship, food and fresh ideas about kick-starting programs, activities, etc. for those in the congregation who are "senior citizens".
ALL SENIORS ARE WELCOME!

Worship Notes

JULY 31, 2016
 Hymn Sing
 One Service - 10:00 a.m.

AUGUST 7, 2016
 One Service - 10:00 a.m.
 Celebration of Deacons
 Central Casting
 Led by Rev. Kathy Pittenger

AUGUST 14, 2016
 One Service - 10:00 a.m.
 Choral Festival
 "A Mass for Mixed Voices and Organ"
 Conducted by: Dr. Ulrich
 Accompanied by: Sara Hazen

2016 SUMMER CHORAL FESTIVAL

"A Mass for Mixed Voices and Organ"

Performance will be held Sunday, August 14th at 10 a.m. The performance will be conducted by Dr. Ulrich and accompanied by Sara Hazen, Director of Music at Central United Methodist Church.

CONFIRMATION 2016-2017
 During this school year we will be offering a Confirmation class for students in 8th and 9th grade. If you have a student in 8th or 9th grade who would like to learn more about confirmation or be included in the class, please contact Rev. Kathy Pittenger. We will have an introduction and orientation meeting in September.

KIDS CENTRAL MINISTRY NEWS

"ON-THE-GO WORSHIP BAGS"
 The warmer weather brings outside sports, camping, and vacations. With traveling and summer commitments it can be easy to miss several Sundays of worship. Starting in July we will have several "On-the-Go Worship Bags." Each bag will contain a Bible story or theme and resources that relate to it. Families may check out a bag for up to 2 weeks and after returning it may check out a new bag. The themes will relate to the Surf Shack VBS and summer worship. They will be located by the blue board by July 1st. Also by the blue board is a sign-up for summer prayer partners. You can sign-up there or contact Rev. Kathy.

Rev. Kathy's contact info:
kpittenger@waterfordcumc.org or
 248-681-0040 ext. 15

www.kidscentralweb.org

AUGUST 7TH WORSHIP
 Called! Have you ever thought "I could do that" or "I would love to do that" or wished that you knew how you could use your gifts and talents in God's Kingdom? We are all called to use our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness to the glory of God. During worship on Sunday, August 7th we will hear stories from those who are called, celebrate the ministry of Deacons (and learn more about what a Deacon in the United Methodist Church is), and experience a drama from Central Casting.

TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES
 Members of the Technology Team are offering learning opportunities for the different areas of technology that are used in our services. These classes will be at 9:00 a.m. at the technology cabinet in the Sanctuary. Here is the training schedule:

- Projector / Easy Worship
- August 7
- Video Cameras
- August 21
- Audio
- August 14

MISSIONARY SPEAKER

On Tuesday, at Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road, Clarkston, on August 2, at 6pm we will gather in the Parlor to meet Dr. Pierre Manya of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Dr. Manya is with the UM General Board of Global Ministries and serves as coordinator of health and medical services in the DRC. Born in the DRC, he is a gynecologist and surgeon. Come and join us for supper at 6pm and his presentation about his work at 7pm. Clarkston UMC would like to know if you are planning on joining them for dinner. A Free Will Offering will be taken.

PROJECT BACKPACK

Central UMC is partnering with the Waterford Coalition for Youth and are collecting school supplies for students in the Waterford School District. Your donations can help Waterford School District students prepare for a successful school year! Here is a list of the items that we are looking for:
Backpacks, Pens, Pencils, Pencil Boxes, 24 Count Crayon Boxes, Highlighters, Post-it Notes, Notebooks, Rulers, Calculators, Glue Sticks, Erasers, Markers, Notebook Paper and Pocket Folders.
School supplies will be collected until Friday, August 19th. Thank you!!!

Address / Phone Change

Rev. Dale and Susan Miller
129 Chauncey Ct.
Marshall, MI 49068-1175

Don Carter
cell: 248-303-8443

Diana Carter
cell: 248-309-2490

Shannon Taylor
cell: 248-563-5071

THANK YOU!

To my Church family,
Special thank you to Eschtruth, Caring Core and Purple Threads for all of the wonderful cards, they do mean a lot. And also to Carol Nelson for always getting me a copy of the Upper Room.

*God's Blessing to all,
Marilyn Bruce*

Thank you Central UMC,
Hello to you Pastor and Staff and Church members - especially those of you who are so faithful from Purple Threads and Angel Core in remembering me. As a new member there when I fell at a morning service, 3 years + now. It makes for a happy day when the mail comes. I know the time and effort it takes in your busy days. You and God are good to me! And many thanks! God Bless you!

*Sincerely,
Florence Anderson*

Thank you!
I am very blessed to have such a supportive church family. Thank you so much for the Amazon gift card - I've already put it to good use.
Sean McLaren

Thank you!
Thank you so much for awarding me the Richard and Sally Kuhn Family Scholarship. The money will be used to make my dreams come true.
Sara Lain

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that there are volunteer opportunities in the Church that we can't fill?!? Are you looking for a way to engage with Central UMC but don't know where to get involved?

Ask a staff member or check out the opportunities sheet in the weekly bulletin to see some of these tasks. We would love to help you get more involved in the Church's ministry!

August Birthdays
Best Wishes to the following members
Celebrating a Birthday of
80 years or more.

Samuel Ritchie - August 2
Richard Donner - August 4
Virginia Abney - August 8
Lewis Bradbury - August 10
Marvin Jewell - August 10
Sally Kuhn - August 11
Elizabeth Sawyers - August 18
Gladys Periard - August 21
Doris Hays - August 25
Mary Biggs - August 27
Maurice Grant - August 27

August Anniversaries
Congratulations to the following couples
Celebrating an Anniversary
of 50 years or more.

Durwood and Stephanie Shawl
August 5 ~ 54 years
Gary and Ruth Greene
August 15 ~ 51 years
Bill and Velette Svenkesen
August 20 ~ 54 years
Rev. Paul and Bea Blomquist
August 27 ~ 60 years

*Congrats on their
recent marriage!*

Andrew and Lindsay
McCracken



CHIMES
Deadline

The Chimes deadline is
**August 4 for the
August 14, 2016 Chimes.**

CHIMES ARTICLES

Please send all of your articles, thank you notes and address changes in to the Church office or e-mail them to Rich at rpittenger@waterfordcumc.org. Thanks and God Bless!

August 2016 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>Election Setup Men's Softball Tournament - TBA Small Group Meeting - Room 104A</p>	<p>2</p> <p>August Primary - FH/Narthex</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Election Teardown 10:00 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study - Parlor 7:00 pm - Summer Choral Festival Rehearsal - FH</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00 am - Thursday Morning Breakfast 6:30 pm - Disciple Study Group - 104A</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6:00 pm - Central Cinema - Parlor</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:30 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am - Worship Service</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 pm - Finance Meeting - Rm 104A 7:00 pm - Marketing Meeting - Rm 106</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12:00 pm - Blood Drive - FH 7:00 pm - T3 VCI Meeting - Room 106</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study - Parlor 7:00 pm - Summer Choral Festival Rehearsal - FH</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:00 am - Thursday Morning Breakfast 6:30 pm - Disciple Study Group - 104A</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 am - Summer Choral Festival Rehearsal - Sanctuary</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:30 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am - Worship Service - Summer Choral Festival</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 am - Older Adult Ministry - Parlor 6:30 pm - Ministry Team Leaders Meeting - Rm 104A, 106, 108 7:00 pm - Ministry Facilitators - Rm 104A</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 pm - Purple Threads - Parlor</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study - Parlor</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:00 am - Thursday Morning Breakfast 6:30 pm - Disciple Study Group - 104A</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:30 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am - Worship Service</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00 pm - Staff Parish - Rm. 104A</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:00 pm - Red Cross Blood Drive - FH 7:00 pm - Trustees - 104A</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10:00 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study - Parlor</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:00 am - Thursday Morning Breakfast</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Church Office Closed</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>9:30 am - Coffee Fellowship 10:00 am - Worship Service</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:00 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study - Parlor</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Support Groups</p> <p>Alcoholics Anonymous: Monday : 11:00 a.m. Wednesday : 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>Food Addicts in Recovery: Saturday : 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Recovery International: Tuesday : 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Narcotics Anonymous: Thursday : 8:00 p.m. Saturday : 7:00 p.m.</p> </div>		

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Dear Friends,

You may be familiar with the Old English proverb, “You can never have too many friends.” A Russian Proverb is very similar, “There’s no such thing as too many friends.” Of course this sentiment offers appreciation for supportive relationships and the assurance that our burdens can be shared with our friends as our joys are multiplied through our friends. Yet, I am moved to ask a question when contemplating these proverbs. Are they true? Do we, in fact, believe that we can never have too many friends? Is this true within our church?

One of my “Mannschreck Maxims” is, “Even the friendliest church isn’t as friendly as they think.” Before you judge my words as negative and cynical, let me explain my meaning. It is my belief that all churches, when it comes to friendliness, openness and hospitality, can improve. Even those churches most call “so friendly” and “nice.”

While accessing the strengths and growth areas of a church I was sent to serve (not Central), I recognized that the church was very friendly and was comprised of many large families. Everyone joked that I dare not say a negative word about

anyone in the church, because “we’re all related!” While I had initially deemed the friendliness and those large families as a strength of the church, which it was; I also had to admit that the church’s friendliness was also a cause for concern.

Each Sunday morning, when visitors would join us for worship and the coffee fellowship following, I would watch our wonderful members and friends greet each other and check in with each other. All the while, I might be the only person to make sure that a visitor – a stranger in our midst – was greeted and made to feel welcomed. I remember one well-meaning parishioner saying to me, “Hey Jack, I think that couple over there is new. You better go over and meet them.”

I was engaged in a conversation and unwittingly did the right thing when I responded, “Okay – but I have to finish this conversation. Why don’t you go over and meet them first? I’ll come over in a minute.” What happened was that well-meaning parishioner discovered that he liked meeting new people and learned that he had the gift of hospitality. It was the beginning of a great adventure of caring for those new to our congregation.

Here’s my point friends: We may say “You can never have too many friends.” but we act like we don’t need any more friends. We check in with those we know best to the detriment of not meeting new people and ultimately not meeting those new people’s needs.

Bob Farr, Doug Anderson and Kay Kotan write in their book, “Get Their Name Grow Your Church by Building New Relationships:”

One of the biggest risks for every mainline Christian is in spending all of our time with those who are already Christian. We reward our pastors specifically for spending time with those who are already connected in the church. If, in fact, a pastor decides to spend significant time in the mission field, he or she will likely receive significant pushback from the congregation: “Why don’t you care about us? Isn’t it more important to take care of us first?”

Beginning August 21, I will begin a series of message from the book I’ve just quoted, “Get Their Name Grow Your Church by Building New Relationships.” There is a four-week study that accompanies that series of message. While there will be some groups that will be meeting at the church at various time, we would encourage

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