

CHIMES

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

VOLUME 72 December 4, 2016 NUMBER 23



Born to Eternal Life
 Fran J. Richardson
 9/22/1943 - 11/24/2016
 Member of Central since:
 November 16, 2008

Our Deepest Sympathies
 Our deepest sympathies to
 Jim Richardson on the
 death of his wife.

BALDWIN HOLIDAY STORE
 Central UMC is supporting the Baldwin Center by collecting items for their Holiday Store. There is an extensive list of items needed and does not fit in this issue of the Chimes. There will be a bulletin insert with this list. Donations are due by Sunday, December 18th.

PRISON MINISTRY
 This year we will again collect Christmas cards with stamped envelopes for prisoners to send cards to family and friends. Please place them in the box on the table in the hall before December 15th. Olive Mae Glenn Circle

CLOTHE-A-CHILD 2016
 Preparations have begun for the 2016 Clothe-A-Child program! Last year, your generosity helped provide clothing for 353 children from 132 families within the Waterford School district. We are asking our congregation to once again consider keeping this amazing program in mind as you plan your Christmas Budgets and Holiday Charitable Giving. Checks can be made out to Central United Methodist Church (please write "Clothe-A-Child" in the memo line) and dropped off in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Baxter at clotheachild1970@gmail.com or 248-666-9788.

BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS
 Our annual Blessing for Baby's First Christmas will be on Sunday, December 18th during the 9:55am service. If you have an infant celebrating his/her first Christmas and you have not received a letter or you know a family who may appreciate an invitation, please contact Rev. Kathy as soon as possible.

CHRECHES, COFFEE AND CAROLS
 When: Monday, December 5, 10:30 am
 Where: Central UMC
 Who: EVERYONE!

Creches: Bring your favorite creche to display.
Carols: Sing some of your favorite Christmas Carols
Coffee: Enjoy fellowship and a cup of coffee
 Sponsored by the Older Adult Ministries



ALL-CHURCH CAROLING!
 Let's join together and share Christmas joy and peace with the homebound from our community on Sunday, December 18th at 5:00pm. We will meet at the church and then carpool to several members who are homebound. Everyone is invited (even if singing isn't your "thing"). We will return to the church following caroling for a light supper (soup & bread) and treats. After caroling the youth group will return to Pastor Jack's home for their annual Christmas party. Sign-up outside the church office so we can plan for caroling and supper. Contact Rev. Kathy with questions.

TRIBE OF DANIEL
 The Tribe of Daniel is proud to present our newest Christmas decoration... the outdoor Advent Wreath! It stands between M-59 and our sign. The Christ candle is 8 ft tall and the others range from 5'3" to 6'. The flames and lower lights will be lit during the night, beckoning for all to join in the experience of Jesus Christ. You will also find that nativity characters are traveling through the congregation toward the altar. Mary and Joseph, the Wisemen, and Shepherds will be amongst you. Please check them out and admire their beauty, but let's be very careful with them-they are a 1-of-a-kind. Watch as Christmas eve brings us baby Jesus and on Epiphany the Wisemen arrive.

THE CONVERSATION CORNER

It's really almost here! After a year of prayer and waiting, and weeks of "soft launch," The Conversation is ready to leave harbor and head into open seas this Sunday at 11:10am. With 1000's of invitations sent out to the surrounding area, we will most certainly have guests. We need all hands on deck to welcome and talk to new people. We need the entire church's help to create a warm, hospital place for people to come in out of the cold of life and back home to their faith. This isn't really about a new service. This is about reaching people for God in a new way. See you at 11am this Sunday in the Fellowship Hall!
 Ken Ferguson -
 Worship Leader

CHRISTMAS WISHES FOR THE METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME:

Coming soon...sponsored by the
Eschtruth Circle:

The Christmas wishes for the boys at the Methodist Children's Home will be available soon. Watch for the snowmen ornaments in the window in the narthex. On them you will find the names of the boys and an item from their wish list. The ornaments will go up on November 26th and the deadline to return the gifts is Sunday, December 11th. There will be a collection box in the narthex for the gifts. Debra will order all the gift cards for the boys, so PLEASE purchase them from her at the SCRIP table in the hallway and help the church, too. Take the snowman to the SCRIP table, purchase the card and she will take care of the rest. If you purchase a gift, it must be returned unwrapped. The gifts will be delivered on the 12th, so they must be back to the church by the end of the 9:55 traditional service on the 11th. Once again the generosity of the congregation is greatly appreciated.

Diana Carter



HATS AND MITTENS/GLOVES

We will be collecting hats and mittens/gloves for Waterford School children through the Clothe-A-Child program. (Please NO scarves). Please bring them in matched sets. If you buy a hat, please find appropriate sized gloves or mittens to match. If you buy gloves or mittens, please find the appropriate sized hat to go with them. Please safety pin them together. This will save the Clothe-A-Child shoppers lots of time in trying to find matches. We can also use children's socks. Crew socks are preferred. There will be a place to hang your items in the window in the narthex as well as a collection box after November 26th. Thank You!

Visit our website:

www.waterfordcumc.org

Contact us: 248-681-0040 or

info@waterfordcumc.org

Worship Notes

DECEMBER 4, 2016

8:30 a.m. - Chapel Worship

9:55 a.m. - Traditional Worship

11:10 a.m. - The Conversation -

"Hard Launch"

Led by: Pastor Jack Manschreck

"Welcome Home –

Mary's Story"

Worship Arts:

Chancel Choir, Y.T.B.N. Ringers

DECEMBER 11, 2016

8:30 a.m. - Chapel Worship

9:55 a.m. - Traditional Worship

11:10 a.m. - The Conversation

Led by: Pastor Jack Manschreck

"Welcome Home –

Joseph's Story"

Worship Arts:

Chancel Choir, Alleluia Dancers

DECEMBER 18, 2016

8:30 a.m. - Chapel Worship

9:55 a.m. - Traditional Worship

Children and Youth Cantata

"Chimes in the Night"

11:10 a.m. - The Conversation

GIFTS TO MISSION CARDS

Available Sundays in the hallway. The donation cost is \$5 per card. The missions to sponsor will be: Blessings in a Backpack, Clothe-a-Child, and Liberia missions. Thank you for your support of these ministries!



FOOD COLLECTION BY THE OLDER ADULT MINISTRIES

Join the Older Adult Ministries in helping to keep the Fish food pantry stocked. Here are the dates and the items to be collected:

* Dec. 4 - Dec. 18 - Cereal

Any contributions are welcomed. The items listed are in great demand. Let's be sure the closet is well stocked with these items.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE (EVE) SERVICE

Our Family Christmas Eve (Eve) Service is on Friday, December 23rd at 6:30pm. This is a highly interactive and casual Christmas Eve Service that is welcoming for all, especially those with children. This year we will need several children, youth and adults to participate in the service with speaking parts and non-speaking parts, sharing their musical talents, and getting ready for the birthday party for Jesus. If you are able to participate or serve during this service, please contact Rev. Kathy.



CHRISTMAS MORNING OUTREACH PROJECT

We are grateful for public servants who work on Christmas Day to ensure that people are cared for, protected, and safe. As a way to say "thank you" our church family will be preparing and delivering Christmas Baskets for 16 local organizations during the 10:00am worship service on Christmas morning. We anticipate the baskets to cost \$20-25 and are requesting donations to cover the cost. You can sign-up to deliver a basket or donate toward our service project outside the church office or at the table in the chapel hallway.

BLUE CHRISTMAS / LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Join us for a service for those struggling with loss during the holidays. Led by Pastor Jack at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday December 21st.

WORSHIP ON NEW YEAR'S DAY?

It was mentioned in the last Chimes what worship on Christmas day will look like. It was also mentioned that there will be one worship service on New Year's Day as well. Our 10 a.m. worship service on New Year's Day (January 1) will be held in our Fellowship Hall and the format will be our new worship experience, The Conversation. Join us on January 1 to experience our new form of worship!

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

6:30 PM FAMILY SERVICE

A CHILD AND FAMILY FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS SERVICE! DESIGNED TO BE INTERACTIVE AND FOR EVERYONE.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:00 PM LESSONS AND CAROLS

CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE
JUBILATE DANCERS CHANCEL CHOIR

11:00 PM LESSONS AND CAROLS

HOLY COMMUNION SERVED
CHANCEL CHOIR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 AM ONE SERVICE

A SERVICE OF CAROLS AND A SHORT HOMILY. WE WILL HAVE A SERVICE PROJECT TO PACK AND DELIVER CARE BASKETS TO PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO WORK ON CHRISTMAS.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL

Advent devotionals for all ages are located in the hallway near the Chapel.

Address / Phone Change

Karen Kneisel
6162 Del Rio
Port Orange, FL 32127

CHIMES Deadline

The Chimes deadline is
December 8 for the
December 18, 2016 Chimes.

CHURCH SIGNAGE

Before VCI, there was a need for directional signage inside and outside the building. VCI prescription #5 on Hospitality called us to tackle the project.

If you think about our logo, we have carried style and color elements through to the signage for consistency.

We are working to have most of the signs installed by December 4th, the launch of The Conversation.

If you have questions, please contact Katie Henwood or Deb Hayden Schmid.

PASTOR PICTURES

You may notice when you enter by Fellowship Hall that the pictures of the previous Pastors at Central UMC have been taken down. Fear Not! The pictures are going to be re-framed so they are all uniform and we are having the calligraphy redone as well. They will hang outside of the Bride's Room when they are completed. Thank you for your patience.

FAITH GROWTH PATHWAY

New Faith Growth Pathway groups will be starting in January. The Faith Growth Pathway is an excellent way to help you identify areas of strength and areas for growth in your spiritual life and provide resources and support as you grow in your faith. Contact the Faith Growth Pathway Team or Rev. Kathy for more information.

CENTRAL UMC T-SHIRTS

Central UMC has made a new t-shirt so that we can have something to wear in our community that identifies us as from Central. The shirts are sapphire blue with our new logo, the tagline: "A Place to Connect", and our location. They looked really nice for our bridge event at Riverside Elementary School for the Book Exchange and at our Ministry Fair and for the countless events since (and I have seen quite a few shirts worn around the Church!). If you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt, we do have some available! The shirts are \$7 for sizes Small to Extra Large and \$9 for 2 and 3XL. We may need to place another order for t-shirts, please contact the Church office if you are interested. Thank you!

Dear Central UMC,

I want to thank my Central family for all of the prayers and cards I received leading up to and during my recovery.

Blessings,

Ruby Rickard

Dear Central UMC

Thank you so much for the delicious cookies and other goodies! It warms my heart knowing friends and families from CUMC are thinking of us college students while we're away. It's a blessing to have such a great congregation to turn to in times of praise and in times of need! Thank you again!

Blessings Always,

Anna Kuhn

Dear Central UMC Friends,

Thank you so much for your expressions of sympathy with the passing of our dear husband, father and grandfather. Your cards, notes, prayers, words of encouragement, visits and hugs have been a source of great inspiration. Special thanks to Pastor Jack, Rev. Kathy and Sara Hazen for their support during this difficult time. Thanks, also to the Purple Threads and Caring Core for their continuous support. We have felt the warmth and love of our church family and truly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Love,

Sally Kuhn and Family



JACKSON CHORALE CONCERT

Saturday, December 10th Central UMC is hosting a Christmas concert by the Jackson Chorale. You can get more information and buy tickets at www.jacksonchorale.org.

TUESDAY MUSICALE CONCERT

Central UMC is hosting a FREE Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 13th! Come and hear great Christmas music and get into the spirit of the holiday season!

3882 Highland Road
Waterford, Michigan 48328
(248) 681-0040 Fax: (248) 681-2575
info@waterfordcumc.org

POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to:
Central United Methodist Church Chimes

Address Service Requested:

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 819
Royal Oak, MI

Central United Methodist Church

L

Dear Friends,

The turkey and pumpkin pie are now a fading memory as we transitioned on Thanksgiving weekend from tales of Pilgrims and Native Americans to focusing on Advent and the anticipation of Jesus' birth once again. That "once again" phrase sometimes causes us consternation about the passage of time. Matt Rawle, in his book *The Redemption of Scrooge* writes, "The Advent season plays with our notion of time. The church gathers in the present to ponder the past for a future hope." (Page 22)

So true! Although this is a nostalgic time of year, when we often pine for Christmases past, even as adults we anticipate with joy the gathering of family and friends in the not too distant future. Part of the transition from Thanksgiving to Advent involves Christmas music being played in stores, restaurants on whatever device you use to listen to music – from car radios to your tablet or phone.

While I enjoy a little "Jingle Bell Rock" and "I'm Dreaming of a White

Christmas," I also relish the music of our faith: the great Advent and Christmas Hymns that mark this time of year. One hymn that comes to mind as I write these words is Charles Wesley's, "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus." It is one of a few truly Advent Hymns. Hymn expert, Carlton Young, writes, "The central themes in Wesley's hymn are Hebraic messianic expectations – long expected freedom, release, rest, and consolation, and hope – and Christian fulfillment of that expectation in the birth of a child whose birth brought and continues to bring deliverance from the bondage of sin for the whole human family and the establishment of God's gracious reign in our hearts."

The good news of this hymn is that we can sing it each year as we live in anticipation of a promise fulfilled two millennia ago and is still being fulfilled in each of our lives today. Ponder with me for a moment. From what do you need freedom? What would give you rest and consolation? What joy do you look forward to being fulfilled? Matt Rawle stated it well. Advent plays with

our sense of time. During this time of year we celebrate a promise fulfilled for all humanity while anticipating that same promise being fulfilled in each of our lives.

You have already received our Advent Brochure with all the activities that are going on in our church, including activities of other organizations we host in our building but thought you might enjoy. One activity we hope to expand this year is our Christmas Caroling program on Sunday, December 18th. We will gather at the church at 5:00 p.m. and go to a variety of private homes as well as convalescent and nursing facilities. After about an hour and a half of caroling, participants will return to the church from some hot cocoa and cookies. The youth group will end their caroling with their annual Christmas Party at the Mannschreck's home. Please consider sharing the gift of music and joy with others on Sunday evening, December 18th. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,
Pastor Jack