



# CHIMES

Central United Methodist Church

*Connecting with God,  
Connecting with Others,  
Changing our World with Christ's Love*

VOLUME 73

OCTOBER 8, 2017

NUMBER 16

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 am - Chapel Worship

10:00 am- The Conversation

10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship

## UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Join us as Pastor Jack continues his sermon series with "Momentum for Life—A Worthy Sacrifice."

## Eat and Do Good

### Liberia Luncheon

Join us Sunday, October 22nd after the 10:30 am service for a luncheon to support our international mission in Liberia. A delicious meal of lasagna (meat, veggie or gluten free), salad, garlic bread, dessert and beverages will be served. A free-will donation will be taken and funds will go to benefit our international missions, including:

- St. Mark UMC – Kakata Partnership in Ministry
- Water for Life (Wells for Liberia)
- C. W. Duncan Scholarships

Through these projects we are able to exchange ministry information, prayers and pastoral support, help St. Mark rebuild their edifice, which was destroyed during the civil war and build life-saving village wells. Twenty-four scholarships are also provided annually to help lift students and their families out of poverty.

It's a win-win all the way around!

### Peacemakers Workshop

The Peacemakers Workshop was held on September 23rd and was well received. We discussed and learned about peace, well-known and unsung peacemakers, and how we can be peacemakers in our world. We are planning to offer the workshop again in Advent as part of our Advent program.

## Over \$3300 Raised for Hurricane Relief



Over \$3300 in funds (to date) and many supplies were donated to UMCOR hurricane relief. Your support is truly a blessing to those in such dire need. Thanks to everyone who donated, hauled and organized to make this effort successful! Special thanks to coordinators Dan and Nancy Arnold.

### Another Great CROP Walk!

Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's CROP Walk, as either a walker, rocker or sponsor. We had 30 walkers, one rocker and many generous sponsors that helped raise funds to benefit the hungry both locally and internationally. Thank you Janice Mann for organizing the Central Team!

### Little Sprouts Thanks You

Little Sprouts, Central's Preschool and Child Care Program, has had a great fall kick off. This wouldn't have been possible without the hard work of so many volunteers who helped with painting, staining, repair and

clean up of the Little Sprouts rooms. A sincere thank you to everyone who pitched in to get us in shape for the 2017 school year. Also, thank you to all who have enrolled in the program. We are honored to be trusted with your children's education and care.

## Confirmation In Full Swing

Our 2018 Confirmation class has begun meeting. We have nine students participating this year. We kicked off the year with a blessing during worship. The confirmation class meets most Sunday afternoons through the beginning of May to learn about the Christian faith, the United Methodist Church, and their own faith and story. Confirmation Sunday, when confirmands can profess their faith openly, is on May 13, 2018.

## CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

**Web:** [www.waterfordcumc.org](http://www.waterfordcumc.org)

**Facebook:** [waterfordcumc](https://www.facebook.com/waterfordcumc)

**Twitter:** [@waterfordcumc](https://twitter.com/waterfordcumc)

**eNewsletter:** Sign up at [www.waterfordcumc.org](http://www.waterfordcumc.org) or email [rdanek@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:rdanek@waterfordcumc.org).

### The Conversation

**Facebook:** [cumconversations](https://www.facebook.com/cumconversations)

**Twitter:** [@conversationumc](https://twitter.com/conversationumc)

Help us save on printing and mailing costs. Sign up at our website to receive *Chimes* via email.

The deadline for the Sunday, October 22nd issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, October 11th. Please send all of your articles, thank you notes and address changes to the Church office or e-mail them to [rdanek@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:rdanek@waterfordcumc.org).

# The Life of the Church



It was a great Rally Day! Beautiful weather and a lot of fun to be had. But a bittersweet time as we said a final “goodbye” to Sara.



Please keep victims of recent disasters in your prayers, including those affected by hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural disasters, as well as the families and victims of the recent shooting in Las Vegas.



Congratulations to our 3rd Graders who received their Bibles on Sunday, September 17th. Pictured here (l. to r.) are Shawn Riley, John Peckham, Vanessa Burnham, Nate Foster and Maggie Halpin.



**Dear Central Church Family,**

Thank you so much for the unbelievably generous Love Gift! Words cannot adequately express how much I treasure

the support and love that I have received from my church family. Thank you also for the beautiful celebration and reception on September 3rd. It has been an honor and a blessing to serve the Central UMC congregation for so many years.

Thank you again.

Blessings,

*Sara*



**Cradle Roll**

**Eleanor K'anne Graham**  
Born September 24, 2017

Daughter of Ben & Elizabeth Graham  
Sister of Drew Graham  
Granddaughter of Bill & Tina Graham  
Great-granddaughter of Marge Jones  
Niece of Brian & Megann Meuser  
Cousin of Graham Meuser

We will be going to an all-digital *Chimes* in 2018. If you would like to continue to receive the print version, please contact the church office.

Back issues of recent *Chimes* newsletters are available on our website at:  
Connect=>Newsletter

**Opportunities to Serve & Grow**

**Donate to the Food Pantry.** We are in need of spaghetti sauce and pasta, crackers, tuna, soup (not cream of), baked beans, Manwich, rice, jelly/jam, mac and cheese, boxed stuffing, boxed potatoes, canned fruit and paper towels.

**Plan Your Faith Growth Pathway.** Pick up a brochure in the Chapel hallway, then work with Rev. Kathy on your personal plan for faith growth.

**Sign up for a Fall Study, Class or Prayer Group.** Pick up the brochure on 2017 Fall Faith Formation Opportunities in the Chapel Hallway to see what's available to help you in your faith growth.

**Serve in Children's Ministry.** Youth and adults are needed to serve as leaders and assistants in the Stepping Stones (infant-pre-k) and Kids GROW (elementary) programs. These children's ministry opportunities are during the 10 am and 10:30 am services. For more information please contact Rev. Kathy.

**Join the CUMC Prayer Team.** Help support members in need via phone, card, a visit and prayer. For info, contact Phyllis Liming at 248-732-7736 or pliming@sbcglobal.net.



**Address Changes**

Please note there is a new mailing address for:

Steve & Leah Halpin  
6585 Willowbrook Dr.  
Clarkston, MI 48346

Phyllis Liming  
Lockwood of Waterford  
1407 Skipper Dr. #303  
Waterford, MI 48327

There is a new phone number for:

John & Sally Lawrence  
248-755-9754

George & Barbara Johnston  
248-859-2295

Before the first day of class on September 5th a great deal of work went into getting the Little Sprouts rooms ready for the school year. Thanks to everyone who helped out!

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

**POSTMASTER:**

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**Central United Methodist Church**

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**D**ear Friends in Christ,

The first session of our *Defying Gravity* Stewardship Book Study involved an exercise in thinking about an activity or hobby participants enjoy that involves the use of at least one object. Ideas ranged from playing racquetball to sewing to just chatting with friends over a cup of coffee. After the activities and hobbies were shared, participants were asked to consider the challenges one would face if the activities and hobbies were attempted in zero gravity. Impossible, right?

Gravity is a fact of life. The relationship between objects in outer space—planets, stars, meteorites, etc.—is determined by gravity. Gravity on our planet earth determines the reality of our daily lives. If we drop an object, it will fall to the floor or ground. Sir Isaac Newton was best known for his law of gravitation that set the stage for the scientific revolution of the 17th Century. Gravity is an invisible force. Simply put, Gravity is the pull of objects on other objects.

In his book, *Defying Gravity*, Pastor Tom Berlin introduces the idea of “financial gravity.” He writes, “I suggest that just as gravity exists in the natural world, financial gravity exists in the economic world where you and I live each day. Like the gravity of our planet, financial gravity enables us to function in our daily lives. It is the invisible force that compels us to pursue our basic necessities—things such as food, shelter, and clothing for ourselves and those we love.” (Page 13)

So after reading that brief passage from Berlin’s book, is financial gravity “good” or “bad?” Neither! Like the law of gravity, financial gravity simply exists! There is often a verse of scripture that is misquoted—“Money is the root of all evil.” The actual quote, from I Timothy 6:10 is “For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.” Money is neutral in terms of intrinsic value as evil or good. The love of money can be the root of

all kinds of evil, but while extreme evil has been perpetrated through the use of money, much good has also resulted from the use of money.

It’s all about relationships. Just as gravity determines the relationship between heavenly bodies, financial gravity determines our relationship to that which we love and that on which we spend our money. I have a couple of questions with which I want to challenge you as we enter our *Defying Gravity* Stewardship Campaign. “What do you love?” Of course we love our families and friends, and we have to provide for our basic needs. I often hear how much people love their church. The second question I want to ask is, “How does financial gravity affect your love for Central Church?” I invite you to prayerfully consider these question as we plan to support our wonderful ministries in the upcoming year. Bless you as you do so!

I look forward to seeing you in worship.

*Pastor Jack*