

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 am - Chapel Worship
 10:00 am- The Conversation
 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday is our annual Christmas Cantata, performed by the Chancel Choir, Myra Trask and guest musicians.

**Hanging of the Greens
 Thank You**

Many, many thanks to all that gave of their time and talents to decorate the church for Christmas. Some of us were working weeks in advance—Myke Robson, Tina Graham, Sue Krueger, Betty Pfeiffer and Rachel Pierre. Before the big day, Tom Lewis (once again) was a huge help in getting the decorations out of storage. When the big day came, I was delighted to have the help of Nancy Alberty, Donna Bevington, Jane Ellen Bussard, Margie England, Tina Graham, Sally Hart, Sue Krueger, Tom Lewis, Bud Leverenz, Charmaine Morden, John and Joyce Merle, Megann Meuser and baby



Jannette Deszell and John Russell Pierre help with Hanging of the Greens.

Graham (he was in charge of putting smiles on everyone's faces), Rachel and John Russell Pierre (aka Elf), Myke Robson, Kathy Scafuri, Larry Spiece, Rainy Stephenson, Julie, Anna and Joe Tompkins. And of course, Diana Carter did help beforehand. And last, but certainly not least, a huge "Thank You" to my wonderful husband John, whose talents and willingness to put up with me and my crazy ideas is greatly appreciated.

—Jannette Deszell

Offering Envelopes are Available

Thank You for Your Pledge

Please pick up your offering envelopes from the table in the Chapel hallway.

Clothe-a-Child Thank You

The Clothe-a-Child team assembled 390 bags of clothes that went to local schools. Clothes were delivered to Houghton, Riverside, Donelson Hills and Beaumont schools. A special thank you goes out to everyone who helped coordinate the program, who donated and who organized the clothing into individual packages. Your work truly shows forth the love of Christ.

Clothe-a-Child is an ongoing program, and clothing is purchased during end-of-season sales throughout spring, summer and fall, so monetary donations are still (and always) welcome!

2017 End of Year Giving

Sometimes confusion exists on how year-end contributions are credited to your account. If you want funds to be credited to your 2017 giving, the funds must be *received at the church* in 2017. Cash/checks must be put into the offering plate or received through the mail by December 31st (and checks must be dated in 2017). Funds from e-giving must be received into the church's account by December 31st. The only exception is a mailed check that is dated in 2017 and postmarked in 2017, but not received until January 2018. These funds will be credited to your 2017 account. All other giving received after December 31st will be credited to 2018.

If you have questions, call Bookkeeper Sue Newill Tuesday-Thursday at (248) 681-0040.

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The Conversation

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

The deadline for the Sunday, January 7th issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, December 27th. Please send all of your articles, thank you notes and address changes to the Church office or e-mail them to rdanek@waterfordcumc.org.

The Life of the Church

Happy Birthday to Our Members Who Will Reach 80+ Years This January

- Marlene Fisher, 1/2
- Thomas Laing, 1/2
- Ethel Sinclair 1/5
- Raul Ochoa, 1/6
- Donald Osborne, 1/9
- Barbara Burns, 1/10
- Daniel Hosler, 1/14
- John Ostrander 1/14
- Shirley Tindall, 1/15
- Mary Jane Jewell, 1/21
- Mary McLintock, 1/21
- Glenna Mae Cox, 1/24
- Lillian Denyes, 1/27
- Ruby Rickard, 1/28
- Lorna Pierre, 1/31

Central 50+ Anniversaries

Congratulations to:

- Norman & Faye Campbell, 1/12, 61 yrs.
- Raul & Kathleen Ochoa, 1/30, 53 yrs.

Holiday Office Hours

The office will be open Wednesday, December 27th from 9-4pm, so please plan to conduct any church business on that day. We will be closed the other days between Christmas and New Year.

Upcoming Christmas Events

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 17th at
10:30 am Worship

Enjoy "For Us a Child Is Born," an uplifting cantata performed by our Chancel Choir during the Sanctuary service. The performance will also feature three soloists and accompaniment by Myra Trask.

All Church Caroling

Sunday, December 17th, 5pm

Share Christmas cheer with our homebound members. All are invited. Sign up outside the church office or contact Rev. Kathy for more info.

Carols & Beer

Join us for a festive evening of carol singing at local breweries.

- Thursday, December 21, 5:30-7pm @ Parker's Hilltop Brewery in Clarkston.
- Friday, December 22nd, 5:30-7pm @ Rustic Leaf Brewing Co. in Waterford.

Hope you can join us!



Advent Services

Third Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 17th

8:30, 10:00 and 10:30am Worship

Christmas Cantata
"For Us a Child Is Born"
at 10:30 worship.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 24th

10:00 and 10:30am only Worship

Sacrament of Baptism at 10:30
worship.

Christmas Services

Blue Christmas

Wednesday, December 20th, 7pm

A service of remembrance and
encouragement.

Family Christmas Service

Saturday, December 23, 6:30 pm

An intergenerational, family-friendly
"candlelight" service.

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24

8:00pm—Carols & Candlelight

11:00pm—Carols & Communion

Thank You

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for the many prayers, cards, calls, visits and other expressions of concern during my recent health crisis. A special thank you to Pastor Jack and Rev. Kathy for their hospital visits. They were greatly appreciated.


I am progressing nicely and gaining strength each day.

Sincerely,

Cathy Hazen

Order Your Scrip Cards by December 17th

December is rushing by. If your Christmas gifts include Scrip gift cards, the last day to order and have them in time for Christmas is December 17th. Cards can be picked up during office hours from staff or from Deb and Rainy on Sundays and Thursdays during Central Cafe.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>7 8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 5 pm - Youth Choir 5:45 pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>1  Church office closed</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 11:30 am - Olive Mae Glenn 7 pm - Leader Dog Training</p>	<p>4 8 am - Fix-It Crew 11 am - Harvesters 5:45 pm - YTBN Ringers 6:30 pm - Carol & New Joy Choir Rehearsal NO CENTRAL CAFE other than rehearsals listed above</p>	<p>5 Church office closed</p>	<p>6 6 pm - Central Cinema - Rise of the Guardians</p>
<p>14 8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship</p>	<p>8 10:30 am - Chair Yoga 6:30 pm - Finance Meeting 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts 7:30 - Church Council Mtg.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track</p>	<p>11 8 am - Fix-It Crew 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Eve. Study</p>	<p>12 Church office closed 6:30 pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>21 8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 4:15 pm - Confirmation Class 5 pm - Youth Choir 5:45 pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>15 10:30 am - Chair Yoga 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>16 6:30 pm - Girl Scouts 7 pm - Leader Dog Training</p>	<p>17 10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track</p>	<p>18 8 am - Fix-It Crew 12 pm - Harvesters Potluck 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Eve. Study</p>	<p>19 Church office closed 6:30 pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>20 9 am - UMCORERT Training</p>
<p>28 8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 4:15 pm - Confirmation Class 5 pm - Youth Choir 5:45 pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>22 10:30 am - Chair Yoga 7 pm - Staff Parish Meeting 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>23 7 pm - Trustees Meeting</p>	<p>24 10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track</p>	<p>25 8 am - Fix-It Crew 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Eve. Study</p>	<p>26 Church office closed 6:30 pm - Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby</p>	<p>27 2 pm - Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Central Café 4:00-5:00 pm Alleluia Dancers 5:00-5:45 pm Good News Ringers 5:15-6:30 pm Dinner served 5:45-6:25 pm YTBN Bell Ringers 6:25-7:15 pm Agape Ringers 6:30-7:30 pm New Joy & Carol Choirs 6:30-7:30 pm Jubilate Dancers 7:30-9:00 pm Chancel Choir</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Support Groups Alcoholics Anonymous: Monday 11:00 am & Wednesday 6:00 pm Food Addicts in Recovery: Saturday 9:00 am Nar-Anon: Thursday 7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous: Thursday 8:00 pm & Saturday 7:00 pm Lyme Disease: 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00 pm</p> </div> </div>						

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Dear Friends,

The first significant snow has fallen, we're two weeks into Advent and Christmas is less than two weeks away! Now, those words are not meant to stress you out but rather create excitement and joy. I know your days are busy and that every school, civic organization and club as well as groups of friends want to have some type of gathering, concert or party. In the message on December 10, I shared my reluctance to apologize for all the activities at the church, as Christmas is sort of our thing to begin with.

Having said that, I am thankful for the faithfulness of our many members and friends who offer their talents and gifts in helping our church and community focus on the deepest meaning of this season: the redemption and healing of all creation. I certainly want to inform you of the many opportunities to come together in celebration of Christ's birth and invite you to be a part of these wonderful times for celebrating, worship and wonder.

On Wednesday evening, December 20, we will have our annual Blue Christmas Service. This is a service for those who have experienced a loss, whether that loss is the death of a loved one or the loss of a job or the ability you once enjoyed. Blue Christmas is a service of healing and wholeness. Everyone is welcomed and some have come because they offer a presence in support of others.

We have five services the weekend of December 23 and 24, celebrating both the fourth week of Advent and Christmas Eve. On Saturday evening, December 23, Rev. Kathy will lead an intergenerational Christmas Eve worship service designed to be family-friendly and engaging. The morning of December 24, a Sunday, we will celebrate the fourth week of Advent, completing our series of Messages on *The Redemption of Scrooge*. We will have two Christmas Eve services the evening of December 24, at 8 and 11 p.m.

There are two additional times in which we will be gathering in our community the week before Christmas. I want to invite you to two evenings of singing

Christmas hymns and carols on Thursday and Friday, December 21st and 22nd. On Thursday, December 21st we will meet at Parker's Hilltop Brewery in Clarkston from 5:30-7 p.m., and on Friday, December 22nd, we will meet at Rustic Leaf Brewing Company in Waterford from 5:30-7 p.m. These events are meant to be an outreach and a presence in our community. We must be willing to go out into the world to proclaim our love and joy; that is where the message of Jesus' birth truly needs to be shared. Plus, it promises to be a good time!

I want to wish you a very Merry Christmas and pray that you will find meaning in our services and celebrations when we will meet and greet the Christ Child. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack