



CHIMES

Central United Methodist Church

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

VOLUME 74

JANUARY 21, 2018

NUMBER 2

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30 am - Chapel Worship

10:00 am- The Conversation

10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Pastor Jack will begin his Movie Sermon Series with a message based on "The Greatest Showman."

Dear Central Church Family

Happy New Year! Thank you for your generosity toward our ministry in 2017. You make it possible for our church to offer inspiring worship, congregational care and many opportunities to meet the needs of our church family and the communities we serve. We expect that 2018 will offer us the same blessings in providing a witness for God and Jesus Christ.

When it comes to financially supporting their ministries, many churches face certain challenges these days. Central Church is no exception. For nearly ten years now, we have relied on the generosity of previous generations to help support our ministry. By this, I mean that we supplement your annual giving toward our ministry with funds that accrue from the investments of both our Endowment Fund and our Major Gifts Fund. Last year we met our financial obligations by supplementing our annual giving with over \$220,000 of investment interest and gains.

As has been true for the past ten years, our deficit is primarily the result of maintaining our beautiful but older building, growing expenses and decreased giving. Unfortunately, we are projecting a similar deficit in 2018. There is good news though! Last year our Weekly Offering Totals exceeded our expectations by \$13,000 and this year's Estimates of Giving is up \$17,000 over last year. This is truly a wonderful trend that we hope will continue and grow!

As Chair of our Finance Committee, I want to assure you that we work diligently to create a realistic budget and reduce costs wherever reasonably possible. In light of this year's deficit, we have recommended to our Church Council that we reduce our 2018 Apportionment payments by approx. 50%. This recommendation was approved in January. Apportionments are Central United Methodist Church's portion of District and Conference expenses. In addition to this reduction, we are working to grow alternate sources of revenue including outreach to the surrounding area with information about our facility in the hopes of increasing our rental income. Again, thanks for your continued support of Central Church's ministry that means so much to so many. May we receive many blessings in 2018 so that we can continue to be a blessing.

Mat Cornish
Chair of Finance

The CUMC Music Department Will Honor Black History Month In February

The music of the church is built on the shoulders of giants...Martin Luther, J.S. Bach, Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn, and so many more. But often overlooked when recounting the history of church music is the profound influence of our African, Caribbean, and Black

American brethren. They suffered so much under the European expansion around the globe, and were introduced to, and clung to, Christianity as a way to hope for salvation in the glory land. Out of this tradition grew powerful music that speaks to all of our hopes for something more to come and comforts us in our daily lives. Join us in remembering and celebrating this tradition as the music program will highlight spiritual and gospel music throughout our ensembles at the 10:30am service during the month of February. And let yourself be reminded of, and comforted by, the sacrifices we make for ourselves and others in order to make our home in heaven.

Several pieces that Central choirs will be performing are arrangements by renowned African-American composer Moses Hogan, whose arrangements of traditional spiritual and gospel songs have become staples in the repertoires of choirs worldwide.

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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, February 4th issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, January 24th. 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 February

- Daniel Aldrich, 2/2
- Elvira Blanchard, 2/4
- Janice Caldwell 2/6
- Marshall Rice, 2/10
- Sally Hon, 2/11
- Joyce Clarkson, 2/12
- Marjorie Jones, 2/15
- Dawn Davis, 2/25
- Phyllis Liming, 2/25

Movie Sermon Series

Central will be presenting a three week sermon series on movies that are currently in the theaters! We encourage you to see these movies ahead of time, so here is the line up.

The Greatest Showman – January 21st

Inspired by the imagination of P. T. Barnum, *The Greatest Showman* is an original musical that celebrates the birth of show business & tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation. Rated PG.

Ferdinand – January 28th

Ferdinand is a young bull who escapes from a training camp in rural Spain and is adopted by a girl who lives on a farm. Ferdinand's peaceful existence comes crashing down when authorities return him to his former captors. With help from a wisecracking goat and three hedgehogs, the gentle bovine must find a way to break free before he squares off against El Primero, the famous bullfighter who never loses. Rated PG.

The Post – February 4th

Katharine Graham is the first female publisher of a major American newspaper, *The Washington Post*. With help from editor Ben Bradlee, Graham races to catch up with *The New York Times* to expose a massive cover-up of government secrets that spans three decades and four U.S. presidents. Together, they must overcome their differences as they risk their careers—

Central 50+ Anniversaries

Congratulations to:

- Russell & Barbara Jacobson, 2/12, 63 yrs.
- Larry & Doris Quick, 2/25, 57 yrs.

(Movie sermon series continued)

and very freedom—to help bring long-buried truths to light. Rated PG-13.

Want more info? View the trailers at our website:

News=>Central at the Movies Sermon Series 2018

Scrip Cards Are Still Available

The holidays may be over, but Central can still benefit! Consider using Scrip cards for ongoing purchases like gas and groceries. Keep cards handy in your wallet and you'll be donating while you spend. Visit the Scrip table on Sunday or during Central Cafe on Thursday to purchase or pick up your Scrip cards.

Thank You

Thank you for all that you have done for us at Donelson Hills (elementary school) this year. We appreciate the *Clothe-a-Child* program and we are so thankful you were able to help 84 families.

Donelson Hills Staff

Opportunities to Serve & Grow

Thursday Evening Study

January 11th - February 1st. *Earn. Save. Give.* James A. Harnish brings John Wesley's teaching on money into a personal faith experience for the 21st century.

UMCOR ERT Training

January 20th, 8:30 am - 5 pm

Have you ever wanted to help out when there's been a major disaster like a hurricane or flood? If so, then consider Early Response Team training from the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Upon completion you will be certified to go into areas that UMCOR is serving to help with clean up and support. The cost is \$35 per person, which covers your training manual, t-shirt, badge, lunch and snacks.

Men's Summit

January 26th - 28th, Wesley Woods Camp, Dowling Michigan

Join the men of CUMC for study, fellowship and fun at this weekend retreat! This year's book study is *Man in the Mirror* by Patrick M. Morley. The cost is \$73 per person. Sign up outside the church office. For more information, contact John Pierre, Myke Robson or Mark Strobel.

Disciple Fast Track

Bible study for the time-challenged. Begins January 31st at 7pm with a 12-week study of the New Testament.

Lenten Study

Lent will be here before you know it. Plan to join us mid February through mid March for a study of the book *Gifts of the Dark Wood*. Classes will be offered Thursday mornings and evenings and Sunday evenings.

February 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Support Groups</p> <p>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>	<p>Central Café</p> <p>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>	<p>Fix-It Crew 8 am - Fix-It Crew 12 pm - Harvesters Outing</p> <p>4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Evening Study - <i>Earn. Save. Give.</i></p>	<p>Church office closed</p>	<p>6 pm - Central Cinema “The Long Walk Home”</p>		
<p>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 “Big Game” Party</p>	<p>10:30 am - Chair Yoga 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track 7 pm - Leader Dog Training</p>	<p>8 am - Fix-It Crew 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe</p>	<p>Church office closed</p>	<p>11 am - Cub Scouts</p>	
<p>8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship/Scout & Youth Sunday 5 pm - Youth Choir 5:45 pm - Youth Group</p>	<p>10:30 am - Chair Yoga 6:30 pm - Finance Meeting 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>6:30 pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>8 am - Fix-It Crew 10:30 am - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Lenten Study 12 pm - Harvesters Potluck 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Eve Study <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i></p>	<p>Church office closed 7:30 pm - Sister Act - Lakeland Players</p>	<p>7:30 pm - Sister Act - Lakeland Players</p>	
<p>8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 5 pm - Youth Choir 5:30 pm - Sister Act - LP 7:30 pm - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Lenten Study</p>	<p>10:30 am - Chair Yoga 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>12 - 6 pm - Blood Drive 7 pm - Purple Threads 7 pm - Leader Dog Training</p>	<p>8 am - Fix-It Crew 10:30 am - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Lenten Study 9:15 am - Moms Connect 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Evening Study - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i></p>	<p>Church office closed 7:30 pm - Sister Act - Lakeland Players</p>	<p>7:30 pm - Sister Act - Lakeland Players</p>	

Faith Growth Pathway Check In

Sunday, February 25th, 9:30 am
 Sunday, March 18th, 9:30 am
 Faith Formation brochures are available in the Chapel hallway.

Statements and envelopes are available for pick up from the table in the Narthex. Please pick them up by the end of January. Thank you.

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Dear Friends,

One of the highlights of my ministry occurred about 26 years ago this next month. In February of 1992 I traveled to the Holy Land with an ecumenical group of clergy. It was ten days of walking where Jesus walked, where Joshua marched around Jericho, where John the Baptizer baptized Jesus, where the shepherds watched over their flocks by night. It was a beautiful experience of worshipping where our Biblical ancestors worshiped, singing in churches with amazing acoustics and enjoying the archeological wonders of thousands of years ago.

On November 12–21 of 2018, Ruth and I are planning to accompany our Bishop, David Bard and his wife, Julie, on a 10-day tour of the Holy Land. I've been working with Dr. Ray McGee, a United Methodist clergy colleague, and it is our hope to fill our own bus with friends and family from the churches we served over the years. This is my invitation to you to consider this

often once in a life-time experience. Join us for a journey that will deepen your understanding of scripture and spiritually connect you to a time and place when God walked this earth incarnate in Jesus the Christ.

Bishop Bard offers his invitation to you as well:

“That’s the hope, isn’t it, of traveling to Israel, to walk where Jesus walked, to be in those places where persons were touched powerfully by God’s Spirit. We want our reading the Bible to be illumined in new ways. We want our thinking to be enriched. We want our prayer life to be deepened. We want our commitment to God’s shalom to be strengthened. Come walk with us, see with us. Learn with us, pray with us. Let’s trust that along the way, Jesus’ presence will become even more real.”

There will be two informational meetings that will be held so that interested people can gather, see some slides of my trip 26 years ago and ask questions about the trip. Those

meetings will be on Sunday, February 4 at 2 p.m. and Monday, February 5 at 7 p.m. Both meetings will take place in the parlor at Central UMC. In the meantime, there are brochures available in the office. Please feel free to call me at (248) 217-4004.

Welcome to an experience you will never forget; one that would shape your faith. I fully expect to return from that journey renewed and refreshed for ministry that is vibrant and engaging. It is my prayer that our church will benefit from this pastor’s journey, along with those who can join with us. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack