



CHIMES

Central United Methodist Church

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

VOLUME 74

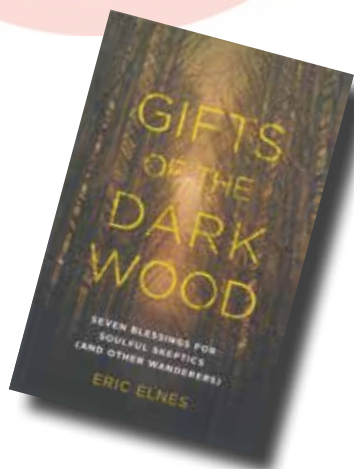
FEBRUARY 18, 2018

NUMBER 4

Lenten Study

Gifts of the Dark Wood

Uncertain? Empty? Lost? Join the crowd and find companions who are willing to wander the unseen road ahead. It's okay to feel awkward in your search for God. You're not alone amid your holy mess. In fact, author Dr. Eric Elnes believes that uncertainty about your spiritual life can be one of your greatest assets because it is while we are unsure that we probe, question, and discover. You don't need to be a saint or spiritual master to experience profound awakening and live with God's presence and guidance. You need only to wander.



During Lent Pastor Jack will be basing his Sunday messages on the chapters of the book. There are opportunities to participate in the study with both Pastor Jack and Rev. Kathy.

- Thursday mornings at 10:30 am with Rev. Kathy, February 15th–March 22nd.

- Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm with Rev. Kathy, February 15th–March 22nd.
- Sunday evenings at 7:30 pm with Pastor Jack, February 18th–March 25th.

So plan to join your church family as we walk the unseen road together to deepen our understanding of how life's challenges lead us to a better understanding of God.

Tuesday Women's Study

Tuesdays, February 27th–March 27th, 7–8 pm

God wants to rewrite your story and transform your life. *The Rewritten Life*, based on author Jessica LaGrone's popular Namesake Bible study, is a powerful and practical biblical study designed for today's busy groups. Six readable chapters explore the transformational power of God through the stories of people in the Bible whose lives—and names—were changed forever by God. As you meet Abraham and Sarah, Jacob, Naomi, Daniel, Peter and an unnamed woman, you will discover how God rewrote their stories, giving them new names and identities that were in line with God's call on their lives.

LaGrone connects the biblical stories to our own lives, showing us that God wants us to be just as intimately involved in rewriting our stories so that we may become and do all that God has planned for us—all for God's glory.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Pastor Jack will continue his *Gifts of the Dark Wood* Message Series with "The Gift of Uncertainty."

Shop and Fund Raise!

Use Scrip Cards

Consider Scrip cards for ongoing purchases like gas and groceries. Visit the Scrip table on Sunday or during Central Cafe on Thursday to purchase or pick up your Scrip cards.

Join Kroger Community Rewards

If you shop at Kroger and have a Kroger Card, designate Central as the recipient for Kroger Community Rewards. To sign up, visit: krogercommunityrewards.com

Children's Book Drive

During February Central's Justice Missions Ministry, in collaboration with the Waterford Refugee Welcome Alliance, will be collecting new and gently used children's books for elementary and middle school children of refugees. Please place books in the blue bin located in the Chapel hallway.

CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

Web: waterfordcumc.org

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

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

eNewsletter: Sign up at waterfordcumc.org or email rdanek@waterfordcumc.org.

The Conversation

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

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, March 4th issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, February 21st. 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 March

- Donna Ritchie, 3/4
- John Sawyers, 3/12
- Richard Britton, 3/23
- Donna Rose, 3/24
- Durwood Shawl, 3/25

Central 50+ Anniversaries

Congratulations to:

- Marion & Joseph Gonzalez, 3/2, 61 yrs.

Address Changes

Please note there is a new mailing address for:

Marvin & Mary Jane Jewell
758 Clark Crossing SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49506

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who called or sent cards after my recent back surgery. It really brightened up my days.

Ruby Rickard



Thank you for your gift received on 12/18/17 of \$3,310 to the General Board of Global Ministries through The Advance, the designated mission giving channel of The United Methodist Church. We are pleased to share that 100% of your contribution will support the missionary community in honor of Disaster Response, United States Advance #901670 (given in response to hurricane Harvey). Giving through The Advance enables United Methodists to partner with one another in mission and ministry around the world. Thank you for joining with us in God's mission.

Born to Eternal Life

Mary Louise Wilson

April 6th, 1923 - February 6th, 2018
Member since September 15th, 1968

Our deepest sympathies to her family and friends.

Sympathies To

Myke Robson and family on the death of his aunt, Esther Hawley.

Lenten Services

First Sunday in Lent
Sunday, February 18th
8:30, 10 & 10:30am

Gifts of the Dark Wood Message Series:
The Gift of Uncertainty.

Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday, February 25th
8:30, 10 & 10:30am

Gifts of the Dark Wood Message Series:
The Gift of Emptiness.

Third Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 4th
8:30, 10 & 10:30am

Gifts of the Dark Wood Message Series:
The Gift of Being Thunderstruck.

Fourth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 11th
8:30, 10 & 10:30am

Gifts of the Dark Wood Message Series:
The Gift of Getting Lost.

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Sunday, March 18th
8:30 10 & 10:30am

Gifts of the Dark Wood Message Series:
The Gift of Temptation.

Upcoming Events

Lenten Devotional Luncheon Series

Wednesdays, February 21st - March 21st @ Noon

Practice intentional discipleship by joining fellow Christians for a special Lenten Devotional series. Programs begin at 12 pm and are followed by a soup and sandwich luncheon. A free will offering will be taken.

February 21st led by Rev. Glenn Morrison at Community of Christ Church, Waterford.

February 28th led by Rev. John Negele at Grace and Peace United Methodist Church, Pontiac.

March 7th led by Rev. Carolyn Mobley at Canterbury-on-the-Lake Retirement Community, Waterford.

March 14th led by Rev. Jack Mannschreck at Christ Lutheran Church, Waterford.

March 21st led by Rev. Beth Delaney at Bethel United Church of Christ, Waterford.

"Circulate the Love" Blood Drive

Tuesday, February 20th,
Noon—6pm

Sign up at the blood drive table in the Chapel hallway to volunteer, or in the office to donate. You can also sign up to donate at redcrossblood.org.

Central Cinema

Saturday, March 3rd @ 6pm

March is Women's History Month. This month's movie, "Suffragette," chronicles the transformation of a working class mom into a radical feminist in 1912 England. Join us in celebrating the spirit of those who sought justice and equality for women.

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March 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>1</p> <p>8 am - Fix-It Crew 10:30 am - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study 11 am - Harvesters 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Evening Study - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>Church office closed</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6 pm - Central Cinema - "Suffragette"</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink Communion 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 11:45 am - Youth Choir 4:15 pm - Confirmation Class 5:45 - Youth & Tween Groups 7:30 pm - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:30 am - Chair Yoga 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8 am - 6:30 pm - Life Line Screening 1 pm - Hutchinson Circle 7 pm - Purple Threads 7 pm - Tuesday Women's Study - <i>The Rewritten Life</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track 7 pm - Leader Dog Training</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8 am - Fix-It Crew 9:15 am - Mom's Connect 10:30 am - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Evening Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Church office closed</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8 am - 4 pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 11:45 am - Youth Choir 4:15 pm - Confirmation Class 5:45 - Youth & Tween Groups 7:30 pm - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:30 am - Chair Yoga 6:30 pm - Finance Meeting 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts 7:30 pm - Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:30 pm - Girl Scouts 7 pm - Tuesday Women's Study - <i>The Rewritten Life</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track 6 pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8 am - Fix-It Crew 10:30 am - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study 12 pm - Harvesters 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Eve Study <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Church office closed 4 pm - Girl Scouts "Thinking Day"</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:30 am - Cub Scouts Pack 61</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 11:45 am - Youth Choir 4:15 pm - Confirmation Class 5:45 - Youth Group 5:45 - Tween Group 7:30 pm - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:30 am - Chair Yoga 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7 pm - Purple Threads 7 pm - Leader Dog Training 7 pm - Tuesday Women's Study - <i>The Rewritten Life</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8 am - Fix-It Crew 9:15 am - Mom's Connect 10:30 am - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study 4 - 9 pm - Central Cafe 6:30 pm - Thurs. Eve Study <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>Church office closed</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>8:30 am - Chapel Worship 9:15 am - FaithLink 10 am - The Conversation 10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship 11:45 am - Youth Choir 4:15 pm - Confirmation Class 5:45 - Youth Group 5:45 - Tween Group 7:30 pm - <i>Gifts of the Dark Wood</i> Study</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:30 am - Chair Yoga 7 pm - Staff Parish Meeting 7:30 pm - Boy Scouts</p>	<p>27</p> <p>6:30 pm - Girl Scouts 7 pm - Trustees Meeting 7 pm - Tuesday Women's Study - <i>The Rewritten Life</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p>10 am - Keller-Fitz Book Study 7 pm - Disciple Fast Track 6 pm - Girl Scouts</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8 am - Fix-It Crew NO CENTRAL CAFE 7 pm - Maundy Thursday Service 8 pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Church office closed 12, 12:30 & 1 pm - Community Good Friday Services 7pm - Good Friday Service</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Faith Growth Pathway Check In Sunday, March 18th, 9:30 am</p>
<p>PALM SUNDAY</p>			<p>MAUNDY THURSDAY</p>		<p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>																											

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

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Central United Methodist Church

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Dear Friends,

I know that the weather has been rough on weekends, with snow and snow showers and timing that makes it difficult—if not impossible—to make it to worship; the roads are treacherous or your driveway blocked by the snowplow going by. The weather was not ideal, but if you were able to attend our Sanctuary Worship Service (10:30 a.m.) on February 11, you were able to see our youth offer their leadership in our annual Youth-led Worship Service. I know I am joined by many of our members and friends in being proud of our youth.

I heard more than one comment that one or more of the youth was “not recognized” by members of our congregation. That’s because they’re new!

Youth have a more uninhibited habit of inviting friends to church activities—including worship. So the fruit of that lessened inhibition is new people feeling welcomed to join our fellowship

and become part of our community. Over many years of ministry, much of it spent working with children and youth, I have often experienced children and youth leading their families toward fellowship with the churches I’ve served.

Can we receive a message from the youth of our church? Can we become a little less inhibited in our inviting people to experience our worship, our fellowship and our many opportunities for meaningful ministry? We have so much to offer others: community, sound teaching and inspired worship, and limitless opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others.

I’ve already shared with you my excitement about Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes’ book *Gifts of the Dark Wood* and the message series and studies that will help many experience that teaching. We have so much to learn from the times in our lives when we feel uncertain, lost, tempted and alone.

Do you know anyone who is uncertain of their beliefs and faith; do they seem

lost? Do you know someone who is lonely and could use a safe community in which to experience supportive fellowship? Then why not invite them to Central Church, where we are always trying to “Connect with God, connect with others and change our world with Christ’s love?” Our Lenten program is meant for them and for you, my friends! I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack