



CHIMES

Central United Methodist Church

Connecting with God,

Connecting with Others,

Changing our World with Christ's Love

VOLUME 74

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Dear Friends,

We've had a busy beginning to our fall schedule. While we still have a quarter of the year left, we are already making plans for next year, building on what we've begun this past month.

October has traditionally been the time of year when we consider our support of next year's ministry. Our Stewardship Campaign theme this year is *Earn. Save. Give.* Those concepts come from John Wesley's classic sermon, *The Use of Money.* In that message Wesley defined some basic practices regarding money and wealth. Wesley believed that there is nothing wrong with having wealth, and in fact we should earn and save as much as we can. Having met our personal needs through that practice, we then respond to God's call to give toward God's Kingdom work in the world. I encourage you to take time to learn more about the mission and ministry of Central Church so that you may prayerfully decide how you want to support our presence in the world throughout the next year.

In October we are also preparing for another program—*Creating a Culture of Call* (or C3 for short)—that will be in full development in January and February of next year. In October, during our Stewardship Campaign, we will be viewing a video introducing us to the concept of *Creating a Culture of Call.* I will begin an eight-week message series in November exploring what it means to be called by God to be in relationship to one another and to God. Then, in January and February we will have small group

studies utilizing the book, *The Stories We Live: Finding God's Calling All around Us*, by Kathleen Cahalan.

C3 is a three-year process of developing a deeper understanding of how God calls us all to be who we are created to be in the world. Yes, that means the ministry and mission of the church, but there is a more basic call of God upon all our lives—to be in relationship with one another and with God; as parents, teachers, spouses, siblings, brothers and sisters in Christ. Our relationships and the lives we live are an indication of the direction and purpose God intends for each of our lives.

As we commit to funding our ministry for next year, I want us to seriously take up the task of preparing to engage in a study of God's call upon all our lives. When we discover our deepest purpose in life, we are truly blessed by the community in which we live out our purpose. As we prepare for next year, I encourage you to ponder living a life worthy of God's call (Ephesians 4:1).

I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

October 7th

Message by Pastor Jack; Chancel Choir and Jubilate Dancers.



October 7th - World Communion Sunday

October 7th, 2pm - CROP Walk

October 8th, 6:30 pm - Finance Committee Meeting

October 10th, 7 pm - FastTrack Bible Study Begins

October 11th, 6:30 pm - "God's Messy Family" Study Begins.

October 22nd, 7 pm - SPRC Meeting

October 23rd, 7pm - Trustees Meeting

October 27th, 6:30pm - Youth Haunted Tunnel Overnight

October 28th - Stewardship Sunday

October 28th, 4pm - Trunk or Treat

Save the Date!

The annual church meeting will be on Sunday, Nov. 4th.



Thank you to everyone who gave a memorial gift in honor of beloved friends and family who recently passed on, including:

- Beverly Chisnell
- Rev. Susan Stiles

The deadline for the Sunday, October 21st issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, October 10th. 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

Blessings in a Backpack

Thank you so much for giving my family food. It really helped us. I could look into the pantry and there was food there and I have you to thank for that.

I think it's really amazing that you're thinking so much about the children in this school to give them free food every week.

These are just two of the notes from the 5th-graders that were received at the end of last year. The Blessings in a Backpack program in Waterford, co-chaired by Judge Rich Kuhn and Barb Laing, is now immersed in its eight year of providing weekend food for elementary school students who qualify for the free and reduced fee lunches during the week. Now in the fifth year at Riverside, the program is meeting new challenges of serving more children.

Blessings is attempting to add another school, Donelson Hills, to the program. To do that, the steering committee first needs to raise enough money to feed every eligible child for one year, or \$45,000! There is \$18,000 more to go, and then they can start feeding the 450 eligible children at Donelson Hills, in addition to our Riverside kids.

How Can You Help?

So, even as the team wants to sincerely thank you for all your past and current support, they're asking you to help

even more. It still takes only \$100 to feed a child for one year. Checks can be made out to Central United Methodist Church, with "Blessings in a Backpack" in the memo line. Donations are tax deductible.

You can volunteer at Riverside once a month to help unpack the truck that delivers food from Meijer, or come on Wednesdays to help pack backpacks. More volunteers will be needed when they open at Donelson Hills. For more information feel free to see Rich or Barb, Google the website, or call Rachel in the church office.

Is It Making a Difference?

Teachers tell Blessings personnel that kids return to school on Mondays more alert and ready to learn, and they hear from parents that the food helps their children. In the past seven years, they've provided over 159,600 meals. More than 185 volunteers—many from Central—gave approximately 7000 hours.

So, it's about the kids, and it isn't. It's also about us. Will we sit quietly by and bemoan the fact that children in our community are hungry? Or will we continue to answer Christ's call to compassion as part of our own spiritual journey? This is still a justice issue, but until systemic change happens, and all are fed, we must feed these children.

Thank you for what you've already done. Please continue to give money, give time or offer prayers for this project, or for any project that allows us to be the face of Jesus in a hurting world.

When have we given enough? When everyone has enough.

Thank you, Barb Laing

Harvesters Field Trip



Thursday, Oct. 18th
12:30pm

Everyone welcome!

Sign up outside the church office.
We will carpool to the cider mill from Central. Meet at 12:30pm.



It's Time Again!

Once again we'll be hosting this great event for the local community; last year over 500 people attended. And you know what that means—we're in need of many volunteers and a lot of candy!

If you'd like to help with this year's Trunk or Treat, there are several ways to get involved:

- Decorate your car and hand out candy
- Donate candy or funds
- Volunteer for event setup or at the event
- Work with Central's youth to build and/or man our legendary "haunted tunnel."

To donate or volunteer, sign up outside the church office, or contact Rev. Cora.

Take Us Shopping!

Central has reusable grocery bags available for \$3 each or two for \$5. Purchase them from the Scrip table on Sunday mornings or Thursday evenings.





October 7th

On World Communion Sunday United Methodists take a special offering to help to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve. Please prayerfully consider giving to this important mission. Mark checks “World Communion Sunday.”

Sympathies To

Pat Loomis and her family on the death of her sister, Sally Wasson.

Opportunities to Serve & Grow

Make a Stewardship Pledge

Support Central’s mission to “Connect with God, Connect with Others and Change the World with Christ’s Love” with a monetary pledge for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Join a Study or Discussion Group

Earn. Save. Give. Stewardship Study.

- Sundays, 7 pm on 9/30, 10/7, 10/14 & 10/21
- Tuesdays, 7 pm on 10/2, 10/9, 10/16 & 10/23
- Thursdays, 10 am on 10/4, 10/11, 10/18 & 10/25

FaithLink. Sundays at 9:15am. This group hosts discussions that connect the Bible, United Methodism, and life today.

Purple Threads. Tuesdays at 6pm This women’s group is studying *Fire On the Mountain: Displaying God to a Broken*



Hurricane Florence Relief

Central will once again be a drop off site for materials for hygiene kits which will be sent to victims of hurricane Florence. Items needed included kitchen-sized towels, washcloths, combs, toe nail or finger nail clippers, bars of soap, toothbrushes (no advertising please), adhesive bandages and gallon-sized Ziploc bags. If you know business professionals that have these materials, please encourage them to donate. Bring donations to the church M—Th, 9am – 4pm.

World.

Keller-Fitz. Bible and book study meets Wednesdays at 10am.

Disciple Fast Track. Wednesdays at 7pm. Bible study for the time challenged.

Thursday Evening Studies. Bible and book study meets Thursdays at 6:30pm.

Help Clothe-a-Child

The Clothe-a-child team is looking for a new team member. They are seeking someone who can be a liaison between our church and social workers at the local schools. This person would make sure that our clothe-a-child forms get to the social workers who, in turn, give them to the families who would benefit from receiving a new outfit this Christmas. Then these forms are returned to us so that we can distribute over 400 outfits to local children this December. Let Kristi Cornish or Barb Foster know if you want to join the Clothe-a-Child team.

Youth Events & Updates

Tween Group (4th & 5th grade)

4th and 5th grade students will not have a regular tween group meeting this fall. Please plan to join us for the following activities in October:

Sunday 10/7 CROP Walk. We will meet for CROP walk at 1:30 at Christ Lutheran Church (5987 Williams Lake Rd.) The walk should end around 3:30 at Christ Lutheran.

Friday 10/26. Meet Rev. Cora at the Church parking lot from 5-6pm to help decorate her car for Trunk or Treat!

Sunday 10/28. Join us for Trunk or Treat from 4-7pm at the church for a night of games, food and fun!

Youth Group (6-12th grade) in October

CROP Walk

The Youth Group is walking in the CROP Walk! Don’t forget to sign up. We will meet for CROP walk at 1:30 at Christ Lutheran Church (5987 Williams Lake Rd.) The walk should end around 3:30 at Christ Lutheran.

Meetings

Youth Group will meet Sunday 10/14 and 10/21 at 5:45-7:30pm.

Trunk or Treat

Youth Group’s Haunted Tunnel Overnight begins Saturday 10/27 at 6:30pm and ends Sunday Morning at 8am. Then join us Sunday night to help run our haunted tunnel and Trunk or Treat!

Fair Trade Clearance

We found a box of fair trade jewelry and scarves from a previous fair trade project. They are for sale in the church office or at the Scrip table (Sundays and Thursday evenings) at a deep discount, so stop by when you’re here for some early Christmas shopping!



Welcome to Central's New Connection Card

By now, you've probably noticed that the friendship folder has been replaced with the "Connection Card." Thank you for filling out the card each week! The Connection Card is designed to help us in a few key areas:

- It provides a single place for important information—visitor info, areas of interest, prayer requests and faith growth suggestions. Previously this information was scattered between the friendship folder, pew cards and inserts. The new card makes it easier for members and visitors alike.
- The "I am interested in" section allows us to understand each individual's interests, enabling us to better serve members, visitors and the community. It will also enable us to reach out with information on special programming, events and opportunities.

The Connection Card is an important part of Central's ministry to members and newcomers. It also enables us to keep our records up to date. Please continue to fill the card out each Sunday to let us know of any changes.

CONNECTION CARD

Dr. / Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. / Miss

Name(s): _____ Date: _____

Email: _____ (Please list full names of all family members attending)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

How did you hear about Central UMC? _____ (Name of person who invited you, postcard, online, etc.)

1st time guest
 2nd time guest
 Regular Attender
 Member
 Change in contact info

Please place this card in the offering plate during worship.

Cookies for Encouragement

It's time again to send cookies out to our college students and military men and women who are far, far away. **Give us your son or daughter's address** (even if it's the same as last year) and we'll make sure they get a package of cookies from their church family. Please send addresses to the church office (info@waterfordcumc.org) or fill out the form found in the Sunday insert (or online) **by Wednesday, October 17th.**

We also need cookies! Sign up outside the office if you can provide us with cookies. Please wrap/bag them in packages of two. You can also donate individually wrapped snacks. Please drop them off in the main kitchen, marked "Students/Service" **by Sunday, October 21st.**



Using the profits from the Scrip Gift Card program, Rainy Stephenson and Debra Hayden-Schmid put together gratitude bags for all of the teachers at Riverside Elementary School and Little Spouts Preschool. Here, an employee at Riverside helps Rev. Cora and Deb distribute bags to each teacher.