Central United Methodist Church

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

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ear Friends,

Back to school shopping begins just after July 4, Halloween candy sales begin after Labor Day and Christmas music is played on some radio stations beginning the first week in November. People seem to be celebrating earlier and earlier the various holidays that are important to them.

On October 5, I was enjoying my day off, walking on a street from a parking lot to meet a friend for lunch. As I walked I saw a figure that appeared to be wearing a top hat approaching. As it became clear that the person—indeed a male wearing a top hat—was possibly under the influence of some substance because he was staggering, I wondered if I should cross the street to avoid him.

Just a few more steps closer and I could see that this man was a zombie celebrating Halloween a little early. As he passed me, he broke character with just a slight tip of his head and a grin on his lips. I sort of wondered where he was going, thinking that I might hear about him in the news later that day. Nothing. There was no mention of this early Halloween reveler in any media that I follow.

That experience reminds me of how some react to John Wesley's Simple Rules for Money: Earn all you can. Save all you can. Give all you can. First, earning all we can sounds good, and you wonder about that like wondering about an approaching figure wearing a top hat. Second, save all you can sounds interesting, but you need more definition.

Is this going to require a lot of effort and sacrifice—or could it be a scam? Third, give all you can: Oh no! It's a zombie!

Our Stewardship Campaign culminates with what I've begun to call "Generosity Sunday" on October 28; just a few days before Halloween. I don't want our people to be afraid, but I agree with our Finance Committee in saying that we need to be informed. The fact is, our church is fortunate to have a large endowment fund and reserves, which are used to balance our expenses with our income. This has been the practice of our church for over 10 years now. In recent years, however, we have used \$150,000 from our reserves to meet our annual expenses. While the good news is that we have those funds available to us, the bad news is that this is not a sustainable model of funding our ministry.

We do amazing ministry in our community and we will continue to do that ministry. We need our members and friends to know that ministry is accomplished mostly by your generosity and, frankly, the generosity of past generations. The challenge for us is: what are we leaving for future generations?

I encourage you to come to worship this month to learn more about our ministry, how we fund that ministry and how you are a vital and necessary part of that support. I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

The deadline for the Sunday, November 4th issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, October 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.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

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

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

October 21st

Pastor Jack's Message will be "Simple Rules: Save All You Can..." Music by the Good News Ringers.



Oct. 22nd, 7 pm - SPRC Meeting

Oct. 22nd, 9:30 am - Moms

Connect

Oct. 23rd, 7pm - Trustees Mtg.

Oct. 27th, 7pm - Youth Haunted Tunnel Overnight

Oct. 28th - Generosity

(Stewardship) Sunday

Oct. 28th, 4pm - Trunk or Treat

Nov. 3rd, 6pm - Central Cinema

Nov. 4th - Daylight Savings Time

Nov. 4th, 10:30am - Rose Memorial Sunday

Nov. 4th, 12:15pm - SPRC Meeting

Nov. 4th, 1pm - Church Conference

Nov. 6th - Election Day

Nov. 11th - Founder's Day

Nov. 12th - Veterans Day

Nov. 12th, 9:30am - Moms

Connect

Nov. 12th, 6:30pm - Finance Mtg.

Nov. 12th, 7:30pm - Church

Council Mtg.

CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

Web: waterfordcumc.org

Facebook: waterfordcumc

Twitter: @waterfordcumc

Phone: (248) 681-0040

Address: 3882 Highland Rd.

Waterford MI 48328

The Life of the Church



Central Volunteers Provide HOPE to the Homeless

Once again several volunteers from Central UMC provided hospitality to some of our homeless neighbors when the team provided meals and manpower at HOPE Shelter in Pontiac on September 21st, 22nd, & 24th.

Twenty-three generous souls spent hours preparing and serving meals during the three days. These meals provided not only sustenance for the body, but also nourishment for the soul as guests of HOPE Shelter were cared for by volunteers from the community. The Shelter was at full capacity—65 guests—all three nights, so nearly 200 people were served. Meals were planned for 80 per night so that Central could provide dinner for the volunteers and staff as well.

Central also provided funds for the food for each dinner. The cost per night is \$200, and funds were provided by an allocation from the annual rummage, sale as well as generous monetary donations.

The purpose of the HOPE Shelter ministry is to live out Central's mission of Connecting with God, Connecting with Others and Changing Our World with Christ's Love. This ministry began with Don Hosler in 2003 when the HOPE Shelter resided at Place of Hope in Pontiac. Don was very passionate about this ministry and it continues through the efforts of new volunteers and those who are also passionate about serving year after year. HOPE Shelter guests are especially appreciative of the home-made food that is prepared and served, as well as the punch, coffee and dessert.

A special thank you to Cheryl Hinsberg and Debra Schmid for coordinating this effort, and to Shiela Strang who did all of the food shopping and lead the meal preparation teams.

If you would like to join us in the future, Central serves at the HOPE Shelter for two days in the spring and three days in the fall. Everyone is welcome to join us! We think you'll find it a positive and fulfilling experience.

2018 CROP Walk Thanks

A heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who walked, rocked or donated to this year's Waterford Area CROP Walk on Sunday, October 7th. Central was well represented this year with 37 walkers. Stay tuned for total amount raised to help alleviate hunger locally and worldwide.

Cradle Roll —

Marin Ranelle Swartz Born September 21, 2018

Daughter of Matt & Toni Swartz Little sister of Marshall Allen Granddaughter of Bob & Marcia Swartz

CONGRATULATIONS!



The November movie is "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World"

An Oscar-winning sea saga starring Russell Crowe and Paul Bethany, based on Patrick O'Brian's novel. Set in the time of the Napoleonic Wars, this film explores the themes of friendship, compassion and ethics. PG13

Winter Clothing Collection

The Waterford Refugee
Welcome Alliance is
collecting new and clean,
gently-used winter clothes
and outerwear during the
month of October.

Please put donations in the bins in the Chapel hallway.

Thank you.

If you're making cookies for Central's students and service people, please bring them to the church by this Sunday (10/21).

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

- Patricia Loomis, 11/1
- Mary Wilhoyt, 11/3
- Bruce Hazen 11/8
- John Nelson, 11/11
- Howard Shipley, 11/12
- Marilyn Bruce, 11/15
- Doris Quick, 11/17
- Judith Bradbury, 11/18
- Eleanor Snyder, 11/23

Sympathies To

Jan and Marshall Rice and family on the death of Jan's mother, Helen Wiley.

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 2019 fiscal year.

Join a Study or Discussion Group

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

Purple Threads. Tuesdays at 7pm This women's group is studying *Fire On the Mountain: Displaying God to a Broken World.*

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

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

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

Address Changes

Please note there is a new mailing address for:

Bill Wright The Meadows, Apt. 16B 5601 Hatchery Rd. Waterford, MI 48329

LaVonne Kaul Lourdes Assisted Living 2450 Watkins Lk. Rd.. #301 Waterford, MI 48328

Lincoln Simoni 2488 Willow Beach St. Keego Harbor 48320-1319

Heather Marks 29431 Tropea Dr. Warren MI 48092-3322

Annabelle Closson 6585 Willowbrook Clarkston MI 48346

Have You Ever Felt Called by God?



Sermon Series Beginning November 4th



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

- Sally Wasson
- Helen Wiley



Candy & Cupcakes & Cider, Oh My!

Last year over 500 people attended Trunk or Treat, so we're in need of many volunteers and lots of candy and treats.

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, cupcakes or funds for food
- Volunteer for event setup or at the event
- Work with Central's youth to build and/or staff our legendary "haunted tunnel."

To donate or volunteer, sign up on the board outside the church office.

Thank You

I just want to thank you and your staff and church family. Helping me with your donation in this stressful time has made my move easier to bear. Thank you so much.

- Leanne Johnson (Good Samaritan Recipient)

On behalf of the Waterford Coalition for Youth and Birmingham Bloomfield Credit Union, thank you for supporting Project Backpack!

Dear Purple Threads,

Thank you for prayers for my son, Sheldon Brim, and now my husband George. It's such a comfort to know we can call on our church family in time of need.



November 2018