



# CHIMES

Central United Methodist Church

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

VOLUME 74

DECEMBER 2, 2018

NUMBER 23

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:15 am- The Conversation

10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship

## UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

First Sunday in Advent. Pastor Jack will continue his C3 sermon series with "The Stories we Live: Called For..." Baby's first Christmas at 10:30am worship. Music by The Agape Ringers.

Happy Holidays Central Church,

One of my favorite seasons to celebrate is the Olympics. Can that be considered a season? I love watching athletes compete on my television screen. I'm amazed by their determination, joy, passion, and stories. Each athlete develops a routine to prepare for their big moment. Sometimes the actual race they compete in can take seconds, but the preparation takes time and planning. Most Olympians don't spend the moments leading up to their event trying to learn a new trick, lifting weights, or buying a new outfit. Instead, they spend time preparing mentally for what is ahead. They spend time with their coach, they envision their routine, they play their favorite music play list, and they stretch. Each of these activities helps prepare them mentally for the big day ahead while they wait for their big moment.

This preparation is for Olympians what Advent is for Christians. Advent is a season to prepare, to wait, and to anticipate the joy of Jesus' birth. Too often we fill the month of December with the busy-ness of buying new clothes, running around for the perfect gift, hosting a flawless party, or packing our schedule with social events. When we do this we get to Christmas exhausted, stressed, in debt, and unfocused. Perhaps, we can take a cue from the Olympians—making Advent about relaxing, stretching, spending

time with mentors and friends, and envisioning our world filled with the love of the Christ child.

At the Advent Lunch and Learn event on December 2nd from noon–2 pm I hope to help us adopt this mindset of preparation. We will spend the first hour in fellowship over a simple meal; then we will share a short time to worship together. During the second hour, various stations will help you engage in stress-relieving, thought engaging, advent practices. Stations will be activities that you can take home or replicate at home so that you might continue to practice them throughout the season of Advent. People of all ages are encouraged to join us and there is no cost to attend. If you plan to join us on December 2nd, please sign up outside the office, call, or email so the appropriate amount of food and activities will be available.

Thankfully Advent is not a competition, but we do have much to gain when we make space in our lives to receive the peace and promise of the Christ child.

Peace,

*Rev. Cora*



**Dec. 2nd** - Service Times Change; Advent Begins. Baby's First Christmas at 10:30am Worship  
**Dec. 2nd, 12pm** - Advent Lunch & Learn  
**Dec. 8th, 7:30pm** - Jackson Chorale Christmas Concert  
**Dec. 9th, 10:30am** - Christmas Cantata  
**Dec. 10th, 6:30pm** - Finance Committee Meeting  
**Dec. 11th, 7:30pm** - Tuesday Musicale Christmas Program  
**Dec. 16th, 5:30pm** - All Church Caroling  
**Dec. 19th, 7pm** - Blue Christmas  
**Dec. 20th, Noon** - Harvesters Outing  
**Dec. 21st, 7pm** - Carols & Beer at Rustic Leaf Brewing Co.  
**Dec. 23rd, 6:30pm** - Family Christmas  
**Dec. 24th** - Christmas Eve Worship at 8pm & 11pm

## CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

**Web:** [waterfordcumc.org](http://waterfordcumc.org)

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

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

**Phone:** (248) 681-0040

**Address:** 3882 Highland Rd.  
Waterford MI 48328

The deadline for the Sunday, December 16th issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, December 5th. Please send all of your articles, thank you notes and address changes to the Church office or e-mail them to [rdanek@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:rdanek@waterfordcumc.org).

## Methodist Children's Home Christmas Gifts

Since 2011 Central has been providing Christmas wishes for the boys at the Methodist Children's Home, and once again the Eschtruth Circle will be coordinating this gift giving. To donate, please choose a snowman ornament from the display in the Narthex window. The snowmen will be available starting Sunday Dec. 2nd. On them you will find one of the names of the 53 boys and an item from their wish list. If you purchase a gift, please bring it to the church unwrapped and put it in the collection box in the Narthex. If you choose a snowman with a \$25.00 gift card, please see Debra or Rainy as they will have the cards at the SCRIP table. To purchase a gift card, simply take the snowman to the SCRIP table, purchase the card and your shopping is done. The deadline to drop off gifts and purchase gift cards is Sunday, December 16th at noon. Your generosity toward this wonderful program is greatly appreciated and it will brighten Christmas for these boys. If you have questions, please contact Diana Carter 248-309-2490.

## Welcome New Members

We're pleased to welcome several new members to Central UMC. Please make sure to introduce yourself.

- Justin McCarthy
- Jamie McCarthy
- Wilbur Meadows
- Tom Eddy
- Trina Eddy
- Marian Hansen
- Kathy Chao

## Cradle Roll

Maximilian Julian James Carss

Born November 19, 2018

Son of James & Ravin Carss

Great-grandson of Larry & Doris Quick

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

## Advent Services

First Sunday in Advent

**Sunday, December 2nd**

9:15 and 10:30 am Worship.

Baby's First Christmas  
at 10:30 am worship.

Second Sunday in Advent

**Sunday, December 9th**

9:15 and 10:30 am Worship

Christmas Cantata  
"What Child Was This?"  
at 10:30 am worship.

Third Sunday in Advent

**Sunday, December 16th**

9:15 and 10:30 am Worship

Fourth Sunday in Advent

**Sunday, December 23rd**

9:15 and 10:30 am Worship.

## Christmas Services

Blue Christmas

**Wednesday, December 19th, 7 pm**

A service of remembrance and  
encouragement.

Family Christmas Service

**Sunday, December 23, 6:30 pm**

An intergenerational, family-friendly  
"candlelight" service.

Christmas Eve

**Monday, December 24**

8:00 pm—Carols & Candlelight

11:00 pm—Carols & Communion

## Sympathies To

The family and friends of Bill Wright, who passed away on November 14th.

The family and friends of Don McMillen, who passed away on November 18th.

Our prayers are with you.

## Thank You

### Teacher Goodie Bags

Dear Central United Methodist Church, Thank you so much for our teacher goodie bags! This is only my second year and last year I was blown away by how quickly the cleaning supplies and soap got used up!

I also really appreciate the gift card! I'm always so busy and not having to worry about lunch eases my mind. I am also a total sucker for a reusable cup!

Finally, I am so blown away by how amazing Blessing in a Backpack is. I wish you could all see my kiddo's faces when they get their bags of food. They light up so much. I think it is an amazing program and I feel so blessed to work in a school that can work with a church to help these kids! So, thank you again for helping our children, but also for spoiling us as well! Riverside is lucky to have you!

Sincerely,

Randi Ovellette  
2nd Grade Teacher  
Riverside Elementary

Central received several other cards from Riverside teachers in response to the bags of supplies provided at the beginning of the school year from funds raised by Central's Scrip program. Thank you!

## Address Change

Please note there is a new mailing address and phone number for:

Gil & Sue Waters  
2614 Driftwood Dr.  
Waterford, MI 48329  
(248) 599-7330

## Central Is Now a Non-Smoking Campus

As of October 2018 all Central Church facilities and property are non-smoking. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Upcoming CUMC Events

### Advent Study: *The Gift of the Nutcracker*

Thursdays 11/29 – 12/20,  
10:30 am & 6:30 pm

This four-week study will explore the characters from *The Nutcracker* and apply them to our familiar Christmas narrative. Join us Thursdays in the Parlor. Contact Rev. Cora for childcare.

### Advent Lunch & Learn

Sunday, December 2nd,  
12–2pm

What is Advent? How do I celebrate it? Everyone is invited to this afternoon of discovering what Advent is and how we can participate in it this year. Light lunch provided.

### Baby's First Christmas

December 2nd, 10:30 am  
Worship

Help us celebrate this special season with our youngest members.

### Jackson Chorale Concert

Saturday, December 8th,  
7:30 pm

Enjoy an evening of Christmas music with the critically acclaimed Jackson Chorale. Tickets are available at the door or visit [www.jacksonchorale.org](http://www.jacksonchorale.org) for advanced ticket sales.

### Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 9th at  
10:30 am Worship

Join us during worship as the children present "What Child Was This?" Featuring solos from the New Joy Singers Youth Ensemble and Carol & New Joy Choirs with flute, piano and percussion accompaniment.

### Tuesday Musicales Concert

Tuesday, December 11th,  
7:30pm

"Let Heaven and Nature Sing," a free Christmas performance by the Tuesday Musicales Chorus and Adele Thomas Bell Choir. There will be an afterglow immediately following the concert.

### All Church Caroling

Sunday, December 16th, 5 pm

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

### Harvesters Christmas Outing

Thursday, December 20th, noon

Join the Harvesters at the home of Virginia Mueller for an afternoon of holiday fellowship. Sign up outside the church office.

### Carols & Beer

Friday, December 21st, 7 pm

Bring friends and family to Rustic Leaf Brewing Co. for a holiday sing-along with the musicians of Central Church. Rustic Leaf does not serve food, so plan to bring a bite to eat or order from the food truck that will be on site.

### Advent and Christmas

For all the events and happenings visit our website at:

[News=>Advent & Christmas 2018](#)

## Opportunities to Serve & Grow

**Donate to Clothe-a-Child** and help provide winter clothing to Waterford students. Donate through Gifts to Missions Christmas Cards, or write a check to CUMC with "Clothe-a-Child" in the memo line.

**Purchase Gifts to Missions Christmas cards** for a \$5 per card donation. Cards can be purchased in the hallway or from the church office.

**Donate Christmas Cards for prisoners to send to family and friends.** Please include a stamped envelope with each card. Central will collect and deliver the cards. Please place donations in the Chapel hallway by December 10th.

**Give a gift to a boy in the Methodist Children's Home.** Take a snowman

ornament from the window in the Narthex and bring a new gift to the church by Sunday, December 16th. Or, purchase a gift card from the Scrip table.

**Donate a matched set of a hat and mittens/gloves** to go to Waterford School children through the Clothe-a-Child program (please no scarves).

**Give to Central's Christmas offering.** Central will tithe 10% of this year's offering to local missions: Oakland Hope and Baldwin Center.

Help make Christmas brighter for a family by **donating items to the Baldwin Holiday Store.** For a list of items, visit our website at [News=>Baldwin Center Holiday Store.](#)



### Clothe-a-Child is Off to a Great Start!

Our intrepid shoppers have been taking advantage of holiday sales to purchase clothing for Waterford school children. There's still time to brighten the holidays for a local family by making a donation. Just put a check in the offering plate and mark it "Clothe-a-Child" in the memo. Thank you for your generosity.





## Stewardship 2019

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge to the church. We have received several additional pledges. If you haven't made a pledge, please prayerfully consider regular giving to support the mission and ministry of the church.



## Holiday Shopping for Good

Keep Central in mind while you're planning your holiday

gift-giving.

### Scrip Cards

When you buy gift cards from Central a portion of each purchase goes to support the church. Get cards on Sunday or during Central Cafe at the Script table.

### Amazon Smile

Designate Central as your non-profit, then start your online shopping at

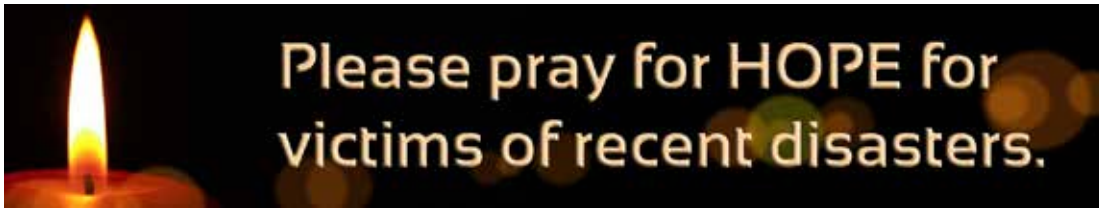
smile.amazon.com. A portion of what you spend will be donated to Central.

### Kroger Rewards

Sign up and select Central to receive a donation based on your Kroger shopping.

### Gifts to Our Little Sprouts

We've built a "wish list" at Amazon for items needed! You can access it from the Little Sprouts Facebook page. Remember to use smile.amazon.com to also support Central!



## Ministry Spotlight: Oakland Hope

Motivated by the love of God to alleviate hunger and empower lives.

Oakland Hope has been designated as a recipient of a portion of Central's Christmas offering. Oakland Hope is a food pantry serving residents of Oakland County that is funded by a self-run thrift store. The thrift store is the main funding mechanism for the food pantry, which provides supplementary food in a "client choice" format.

Food insecurity is a real a growing problem in Oakland County. The organization takes donations of items, merchandises them in its store, then uses the proceeds to purchase food. They also secure food donations via partnerships with Forgotten Harvest and Gleaner's Food Bank. While emergency help is available, the program is designed more as a supplement to help families through financial shortages, when a decision may have to be made between buying food and paying a bill, repairing a vehicle, etc. Because the pantry is more like a grocery store, allowing clients to select items, there is less food waste and it is more conducive to families that may have food allergies.

Central has a history of supporting Oakland Hope; in 2018 a portion of the proceeds from Central's rummage sale was donated to the organization to support their mission. Central is also evaluating opportunities for hands-on mission with Oakland Hope in 2019.



**Rachel Pierre and Shiela Strang present a check from Central's rummage sale proceeds to Norma Okonski, Director of Oakland Hope.**