



Dear Friends,

I find it hard to write my Pastor's Letter for this issue of our newsletter, *The Chimes*. In our staff meetings we spend time deciding the content of *The Chimes* and assign the various articles to staff and members of our congregation. Sometimes we collaborate on articles. It was decided that I write on Mother's Day in this issue. Scanning the Internet for ideas, I found "An Open Letter to Pastors" by Amy Young. Young advises pastors to, among other things, acknowledge the wide continuum of mothering:

“To those who gave birth this year to their first child, we celebrate with you. To those who lost a child this year, we mourn with you. To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains, we appreciate you. To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions or running away, we mourn with you. To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears and disappointment, we walk with you—forgive us when we say foolish things; we don't mean to make this harder than it is. To those who are foster moms, mentor moms and spiritual moms, we need you. To those who have warm and close relationships with your children, we celebrate with you. To those who have disappointment, heartache and distance from your children, we sit with you. To those who lost their mothers this year, we grieve with you. To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother, we acknowledge your experience. To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests and the overall testing of motherhood, we are better for having you in our midst. To those who are single and long to

be married and mothering your own children, we mourn that life has not turned out the way you longed for it to be. To those who are a step-parent, we walk with you on these complex paths. To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren, yet that dream is not to be, we grieve with you. To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year, we grieve and rejoice with you. To those who placed children up for adoption, we commend you for your selflessness and remember how you hold that child in your heart. And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising, we anticipate with you. This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. We remember you.”

I have conducted the funeral of eight beloved mothers so far this year. I have counseled with those whose children are troubled, and we've mourned the loss of a child not yet born to one of our church's daughters.

Amy Young is wise in recognizing the spectrum of the experiences of mothers. Whatever your experience, I pray that you will hear me when I write that you are not alone; in times of great joy and in times of debilitating sorrow. We will celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, recognizing our common need for God's presence, mercy and healing. I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Because of Christ,
Pastor Jack

Amy Young, *An open letter to pastors (A non-mom speaks about Mother's Day)*, messymiddle.com, May 9, 2014. Found on the Homiletics website.

The deadline for the Sunday, May 26th issue of *Chimes* is Wednesday, May 15th. 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

9:15 am- The Conversation
10:30 am - Sanctuary Worship

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Mother's Day. Pastor Jack preaching.
Music by the Carol and New Joy Choir and the Good News Ringers.

May 11th, 9:15am - Oakland Hope Volunteer Opportunity
May 12th - HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
May 13th, 9:30am - Moms Connect
May 13th, 6:30pm - Finance Mtg.
May 13th, 7:30pm - Church Council Mtg.
May 13th, 7:30pm - Men's Softball @ St. Trinity
May 14th, Noon - Tuesday Musicale Program
May 14th, 7pm - Eschtruth Circle
May 16th, Noon - Harvesters
May 16th, 6:30pm - Thursday Eve. Study - Prayer
May 18th, 9am - Noon, Church Clean Up
May 19th, 10:30am - New Member Sunday
May 19th, 10:30am - Choral Cantata
May 19th, 11:30am - Youth Arts Picnic
May 20th, 6:15pm - Men's Softball @ Clarkston Community
May 22nd, 8am-6pm - Lifeline Screening
May 27th, 10am - Memorial Day Parade
May 28th, Noon-6pm - Blood Drive



Final Dates for the Season

Thank you to everyone who helps make Central the church that it is. Your dedication and talent are a gift to our ministry. As the season wraps up, please keep these final dates in mind.

Worship Arts Groups

	<u>Final Performance</u>	<u>Final Rehearsal</u>
• Children's Choirs and Good News Ringers	May 12	May 9
• Chancel Choir	May 19	May 16
• Agape Ringers	May 26	May 23
• Alleluia and Jubilate Dancers	June 2	May 30
• YTBN	June 9	June 6

Small Groups and Fellowship

	<u>Final Date</u>
• Central Cafe	May 16th
• Central Cinema	June 1st
• Thursday Eve. Studies	May 16th
• Purple Threads	May 7th
• FaithLink	June 9th
• Youth Group	June 9th
• Hutchinson Circle	June 4th

Have a wonderful summer!



Spring Choral Cantata

May 19th During 10:30am Worship

Central's Chancel Choir and guest musicians will perform the beautiful and moving Coronation Mass K. 317 by Mozart.

Happy Mother's Day

From Your Friends at Central UMC

Youth Arts Picnic May 19th, after 10:30am Worship



Youth and their families will gather for a festive picnic on the lawn outside Fellowship Hall.

Attention Snowbirds!

If you've been wintering in one of the sunny states and haven't had a chance to pick up your offering envelopes, please pick them up from the office. Thank you.

Harvesters!
May 16th @ Noon

Come for an afternoon of socializing, lunching and a special craft. Please sign up outside the church office.

Take Central Shopping!

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



Thank You To Everyone Who Helped with the Rummage Sale

Gross proceeds from the sale are \$9026.50. Last year's gross proceeds were \$8825.59, so we're up from last year! Great job.

Summer Soloists

Would you like to perform a vocal or instrumental solo this summer during worship? Contact Kevin Naeve for more information.



Conference Update on Judicial Council Ruling

Last week, The Judicial Council of The United Methodist Church handed down its ruling on the constitutionality of the Traditional Plan that was passed in March during the special session of the General Conference. The Council ruled that some of the Traditional Plan petitions were constitutional, and some were not.



Petitions found constitutional and taking effect January 1, 2020 included:

- An expansion of the definition of a “self-avowed practicing homosexual” to include persons in same-sex marriages or civil unions.
- Prohibition of bishops from consecrating bishops or commissioning or ordaining “self-avowed practicing homosexuals.”
- Minimum penalties for being convicted at a church trial for officiating at a same-sex wedding: a one-year suspension without pay for the first conviction and loss of clergy credentials for a second conviction.
- Prohibiting District Committees on Ordained Ministry and Boards of Ordained Ministry from recommending persons who do not meet all disciplinary requirements.
- Making every effort to have a complainant agree to the terms of a just resolution of a complaint, and specifying that a just resolution must contain a statement of harms and how they are addressed in the resolution.
- Church trial verdicts can be appealed on the basis of egregious errors of church law.

Petitions found unconstitutional:

- Petitions which would have moved the accountability of bishops away from their jurisdictional college or central conference.
- Petitions which would have required specific certification for persons nominated for the Board of Ordained Ministry.
- A petition which would have asked Boards of Ordained Ministry to examine candidates in part, through a search of social media, to determine if they meet qualifications for commissioning or ordination.

Finally, the Judicial Council ruled that a petition specifying a process for local church disaffiliation from an Annual Conference was constitutional.

These rulings reinforce The United Methodist Church’s current stance on human sexuality and the limitations for LGBTQ persons to be married by our pastors or in our churches, or to be eligible for licensing, ordination and appointment.

Bishop Bard continues to counsel patience and tolerance as these decisions are assimilated and a plan for moving forward is formulated. This issue is expected to be at the forefront of discussions during the 2020 General Conference in Minneapolis, MN.

For more information and to read Bishop Bard’s letter, please visit our website at <https://waterfordcumc.org/news/>.



Join us on Memorial Day as “Band of Misfits” (The Conversation Band) plays in the Waterford parade. Parade begins at 10am.

Service of Ordination at Annual Conference

June 2nd, 2019 @ 2pm

The Service of Ordination at Annual Conference this year (Traverse Bay Resort, Traverse City) holds special meaning for our Waterford Central family. Our Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, Cora Glass, will be ordained a Deacon in our United Methodist Church. Jeremiah (JJ) Mannschreck, Pastor Jack and Ruth’s son, will be ordained as an Elder in the United Methodist Church.

Both of these Orders—Deacons and Elders—represent a great deal of time and effort. Both Cora and JJ went to undergrad school and they both graduated with their Masters Degrees from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Some of our members and friends have expressed interest in attending the Service of Ordination. Traverse City is a three and a half hour drive and carpooling is suggested. If you are interested in attending the Ordination Service, contact the church office by May 26th. We will create a list of people who may be interested in carpooling to Annual Conference for this special day in the life of our Church.

VBS June 24th - June 28th



For children 3-1/2 years old through those finishing 5th grade. Sign up to volunteer or register your young Voyagers at myvbs.org/waterfordcumc. Everyone is welcome, so let your friends and neighbors know!

Our Deepest Sympathies

To Ivoylo and Amanda (Soldan) Dimov on the death of their baby, and to the Soldan and Miller families on the death of their granddaughter, niece, cousin, Natalie Catherine. Our prayers are with the families and friends.

Opportunities to Serve & Grow

Join the Final Thursday Evening Study: Prayer

Thursday, May 16th at 6:30pm

Featuring a short, thought-provoking video followed by discussion. No book is required.

Help Get the Church Ready for Spring

May 18th, 9am - Noon

It's time for spring cleaning and gardening! Bring your gloves, tools, favorite cleaning supplies and your bright smile, and help us get the church and grounds into shape. Sign up outside the office, or just show up for the fun.

Donate to Help Refugees

Central's Justice Ministry, in association with the Waterford Refugee Welcome Alliance, is collecting laundry and cleaning supplies to help out Waterford area refugees. Please put donations in the bins in the Chapel hallway.

Soap for Hope

We are collecting soap of any type—shower gel, bar soap, laundry soap, dish soap—for Oakland Hope to use in their food pantry. Please put donations in the bin in the Chapel Hallway.

Help Plant the Memorial Garden

May 21st, 9:30am

The Memorial Garden Committee invites you to help plant flowers. Rain date is Thursday, May 23rd. Many hands make light work and your efforts will be greatly appreciated by all who enjoy the garden throughout the summer and fall. Please bring your tools, gloves and something to kneel on. Light refreshments will be served. Thank You!

Walk in the Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27th 9am - Noon

Once again Central's Band of Misfits praise band will be playing in the Memorial Day parade. If you'd like to walk along and hand out candy, please sign up outside the church office. If walking isn't your thing, consider donating a bag of individually wrapped candies. Just drop them off in the church office.

Give Blood

Tuesday, May 28th, Noon - 6pm

Central's spring blood drive will be held on Tuesday, May 28th. Please consider donating. Sign up in the Chapel hallway for a time slot.

Donate or Volunteer to Help with VBS

VBS is a great way to help children and youth in our community grow in faith. Sign up to donate items; a list will be available after worship on May 19th. Or, contact Rev. Cora if you're interested in volunteering.

Help St. Mark UMC Put a Roof on Their Church

Give to Central's CrowdRise campaign to raise money to put the roof on St. Mark's UMC in Kakata, Liberia. Visit Central's Facebook page to donate, or mark checks "St. Mark's Roof" and place in the weekly offering.

Men's Softball Schedule



Come out for a game and support Central's team!

Date	Time	Field
5/13	7:30pm	2 - St. Trinity
5/20	6:15pm	1 - Clarkston Community
6/3	7:30pm	1 - Clarkston Community
6/10	Bye Week - No Game	
6/17	6:15pm	4 - First Missionary
6/24	6:15pm	4 - First Missionary
7/1	7:30pm	3 - New Hope
7/8	6:15pm	1 - Clarkston Community
7/15	6:15pm	4 - First Missionary
7/22	6:15pm	2 - St. Trinity
7/29	7:30pm	1 - Clarkston Community
8/5	7:30pm	2 - St. Trinity
8/10	Tournament @ Rotary Park	

Scrip Cards Make Great Gifts!

Keep Central's Scrip program in mind when buying gifts for teachers, staff, and graduates of all ages. Scrip cards are also great for Mother's Day, Father's Day and as wedding gifts. Select Scrip retailers are offering low denomination gift cards for all of your needs.

We also have extra Scrip cards in inventory for popular retailers. Stop by the Scrip table on Sunday after worship and pick up a Scrip card to use for your next purchase.



CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

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