



## UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, September 19th will be a special service celebrating our 2020 Confirmands. It is also 3rd Grade Bible Sunday. Join us in person or online at:

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

## Dear Friends,

It has been said that the perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing and the lawnmower is broken! The summer often offers some time off and an environment that expands our homes onto patios, yards and decks—yet there is work to be done for sure. I hope this summer has offered to you rest and respite from your usual labors and burdens; at least a change of pace and perhaps venue! I also pray that the summer has allowed you time to enjoy the blessings of God in unique ways.

Wesley Taylor of Tigard, Oregon tells the story of one summer, in which a man spent the day on the beach in Jacksonville, Florida. The undertow was unusually strong that day, and more than once, lifeguards jumped down from their towers to rescue swimmers from the treacherous surf. Finally, the man went to the lifeguard station to express his appreciation for the dedication of these men. When he walked inside, he noticed a sign on the wall in large red letters: If in doubt, go! The man mused, "Those same words should be on the walls of every church and on the wall of every person's soul."

While there are many enjoying the sand and surf of a beach there are those dedicated souls that keep a watchful eye to ensure their safety. It's the same for us. While we seek a time for rest from our busy lives and restoration for our souls, God is ever-present, watching that we don't get caught up in dangerous undertows. Just as it is helpful to be aware of the lifeguards' presence and not stray too far from their watchful eyes, it is to our benefit to be aware of God's presence.

As we approach our fall schedule, still in the throes of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have programming planned to continue to connect us to one another. Many of our programs are still online; however, we are looking for other opportunities that will bring us "live and in-person!" We're exploring how to open up our Central Café as well as exploring what our special services will look like as we enter the holiday season in just a couple months. Part of our message plan this fall is to explore our Mission Statement—Central United Methodist Church: Connecting with God. Connecting with Others. Changing our World with Christ's Love.

I pray that this fall will allow us to connect in ways that are meaningful, and will be a blessing to our church and community. I am thankful for the rest I've had this summer and I am looking forward to our fall beginnings and further blessings from our God. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

*-Pastor Jack*

## Welcome Back *Chimes*!

In March of 2020, Central moved to a weekly newsletter in order to keep all of you updated on the changes happening in our church lives and to provide much-needed support and communication through trying times. Now that we are moving back to "normal" (albeit still a "new normal") we are going back to a twice-monthly newsletter and bringing back the *Chimes* masthead. As needed, we'll put out a digital-only newsletter in between issues of the *Chimes*. There will be no newsletter the week of September 20th as our Communications Director, Robin Danek, will be on vacation.

## CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

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

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

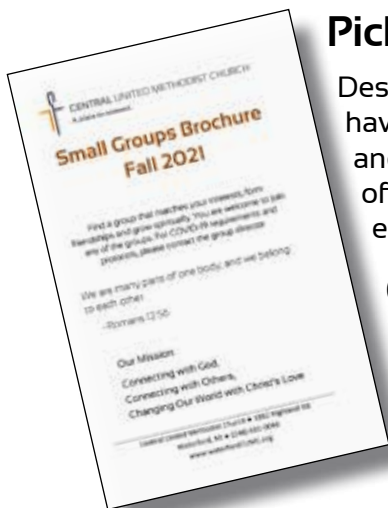
**YouTube:** [waterfordcumc](https://www.youtube.com/waterfordcumc)

**Email:** [info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)

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

**Address:** 3882 Highland Rd.

Waterford MI 48328



## Pick Up a Small Groups Brochure

Despite the ongoing pandemic, Central's dedicated lay leadership and staff have many offerings this fall to enrich your spiritual life or just provide some fun and fellowship. Pick up a *Fall 2021 Small Groups Brochure* and check out the offerings. Many classes are being conducted via Zoom, so remote worshipers are encouraged to get involved as well.

## CROP Walk 2021

Our 29th Waterford Area CROP Walk will be on **Sunday, September 26th, 2021** at Christ Lutheran Church. We will gather for a program at 1:30 pm and begin walking at 2:00 pm. Refreshments are provided during and after the walk. Our community goal for 2021 is \$14,000 which would bring our all-time total raised to over \$300,000!



Money raised supports Church World Services global outreach efforts to alleviate hunger and poverty, plus four local charities: Open Door Outreach Center, Meals of Wheels Pontiac, the Baldwin Center of Pontiac, and the Good Samaritan Food Pantry of Pontiac.

Online fundraising and walker registration can be done at [CropHungerWalk.org/WaterfordMI](https://CropHungerWalk.org/WaterfordMI). Click "Join or Start a Team" and then find the "Central United Methodist Church" team in the search bar. You can also sign up or donate at our CROP walk table after worship, or in the church office.

## Online Worship Is Changing

Central's tech team has been evaluating a new platform for online worship that is easier to navigate than our current Facebook Livestream. This new platform has been tested by several people and has gotten positive reviews. Beginning in October we will be streaming to both this new platform and Facebook, but directing online worshipers to this new platform. We hope to have everyone switched over by the end of October. Watch this newsletter and the Facebook Group for more information and a link to our new online worship experience.

## SCRIP Cards

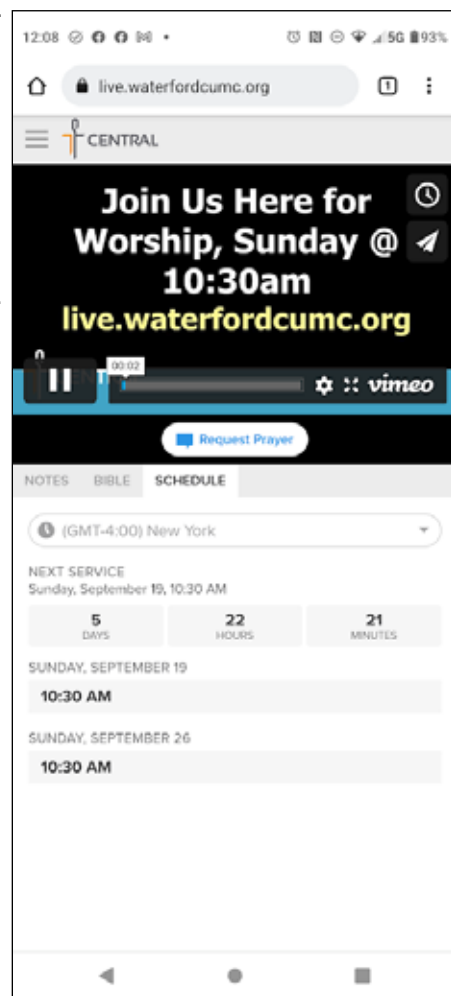
The SCRIP table is back and you can order cards before and after worship on Sundays or from the office. Orders are placed with the Scrip Center Sunday evening and typically are ready for pick up Wednesday during Central Church office hours (but please call prior to coming in). The Central ShopWithScrip gift card order form lists many popular gift cards and is [available on the forms page on Central's website](#).

## WRWA Supplies Drive

The Waterford Refugee Welcome Alliance is currently collecting cleaning supplies, baby food and diapers. A collection box is located outside the Chapel. You can learn more about this Community Organization by [visiting the WRWA Facebook page](#).

## Ushers Needed

We have openings on the usher teams for 1st, 3rd, and 4th Sunday. Your commitment would be one Sunday a month plus one 5th Sunday a year. If interested, please contact the church office at (248) 681-0040.



Central's new online worship platform provides a mobile-optimized worship experience, chatting without setting up an account and improved streaming.