



UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, October 31st, Pastor Jack's message is "Healthy Halloween," based on Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22. We will also be celebrating the sacrament of Baptism. Join us in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org.

Dear Friends,

It is at this time of year that I become very aware of my thankfulness. As we approach Thanksgiving I am inspired toward giving thanks for the many blessings in my life. I know that some families at Thanksgiving gatherings will go around the table and each person must mention something for which they are thankful before eating. That was not a tradition in my family but it was the tradition in my wife, Ruth's family. Those were some wonderful moments giving thanks and sharing hope. Unfortunately, we were only able to have a couple of those dinners before Ruth's grandfather died and her grandmother moved to Colorado to live with Ruth's parents.

From my earliest memories, our family gathered on Thanksgiving at my Uncle Roger and Aunt Phyllis' home. The dining room was not large enough, so my Aunt and Uncle converted their garage into a banquet hall where as many as fifty people could feast on the traditional foods of turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing and gravy. There were usually two types of cranberry sauces plus some foods unique to our gathering: Cinnamon candied apples and oyster dressing. Yum! It was a great family festival and I remember so looking forward to this gathering, feeling loved and accepted in the bosom of my extended family and later bringing my children to this feast. Truly, I am thankful for this season of giving thanks.

This year, I am particularly thankful for our church as I believe we are moving out of the Covid-19 pandemic and are heading to a new year of blessing and opportunities. Isn't it wonderful to be singing—even in masks—during our worship services and enjoy the musical offering from our various choirs? This past Sunday we had the Alleluia Dancers participate in worship; what a treat and blessing! In the next few weeks, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday with our Rose Memorial Worship Service (November 7th), we will have Founders Sunday the second Sunday in November and before you know it we will find ourselves in the season of Advent!

As I close, I want to remind you of the one to whom we are thankful: our loving Creator. I think of the words of the Apostle Paul in Colossians: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

I am already giving thanks for what God will do in our midst as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving and enter into the blessed seasons of Advent and Christmas. I am already giving thanks for God's guidance in the new year! Join me. I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Because of Christ,

-Pastor Jack

CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

Website: waterfordcumc.org

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

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

Vimeo: [waterfordcumc](https://vimeo.com/waterfordcumc)

Email: info@waterfordcumc.org

Phone: (248) 681-0040

Address: 3882 Highland Rd.
Waterford MI 48328

Let Our Generosity Flow into 2022!

On October 17th we asked our members and friends to turn in their Generosity Cards in support of our ministry and mission in 2022. Presently, there are 69 pledges totaling \$190,311. We have received \$13,100 of that in prepaid pledges. We would like to wrap up our Generosity Campaign soon so that our leadership can move on to creating our budget and make plans for the New Year. Please turn in your Generosity Card at your earliest convenience, or pledge online at bit.ly/2022-pledge.

In addition to the news about our campaign for next year's ministry we've been conducting the "Let's Get Floored Capital Campaign" to provide a new floor for our Fellowship Hall. So far, there are 40 pledges for a total of \$16,430. Our goal is \$25,000. We are well on our way! We've received \$8,164.81 of the pledge amount. This capital campaign runs through June 30, 2022. Feel free to call the church office if you have any questions. Here's to a blessed and financially sound 2022!

Another Successful Trunk or Treat!

Thank you to Rev. Cora, the planning team, and the many volunteers who decorated trunks, manned the haunted trail, served food, registered guests, set up, cleaned up or participated in other ways during this year's Trunk or Treat. A special shout-out to Central's Youth Group for an epic haunted trail and fun games area! Despite the drizzle and cold, we hosted nearly 500 guests from the local community!



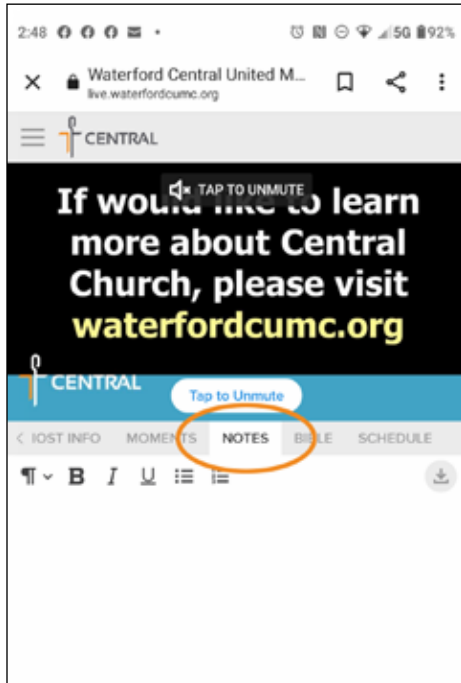
Why Has Online Worship Moved?

By now you've probably noticed that we have moved online worship to a new "location." A few curious

minds have inquired as to why. There are a few reasons. When the pandemic hit, Central—like many other churches—had to quickly adapt to Michigan's stay-at-home order. Facebook was generally considered the go-to service for streaming, as it was free and ubiquitous. However, now that we have identified worship outreach as one of Central's 2021 strategies, we decided to evaluate other platforms for online worship. The reasons for looking to other platforms include licensing restrictions on Facebook (which affects our ability to livestream the Alleluia Dancers), the ease of "finding" online worship, the tools available to enhance the worship experience, and the technical complexity of setting up a Facebook livestream and getting it started (just about the time our tech staff would get used to the Facebook interface, they would change it.) For these reasons, we are

using Vimeo for streaming, coupled with the new worship interface at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org.

Worship Notes



If you like to follow along with Pastor Jack's worship notes you can find them under the "Notes" tab at this new worship location. Just below the video window are a series of tabs. Click on "Notes" and you will be taken to the Message Notes. You can "fill in the blanks" on the message notes on your computer, tablet or phone.

How to Watch Recorded Worship

If you miss worship and would like to view it during the week, you will find the recorded worship services at vimeo.com/waterfordcumc/. As a shortcut, we are also creating unique URLs in the format of vimeo.com/waterfordcumc/MM-DD-YY (so, to get to the October 3rd worship, go to vimeo.com/waterfordcumc/10-03-21). The service will be available by noon the following Monday.

Would You Like to Host Online Worship?

The new worship interface enables "hosts" to interact with the online congregation during worship. Basically, the worship host welcomes worshippers, posts links to the Connection Card and giving page and answers any questions that worshippers may have. As a host you do not need to be in the Sanctuary; you can be online from your home, and you do not need to host every Sunday. If you would like to be part of the online worship host team, contact Robin Danek (rdanek@waterfordcumc.org).

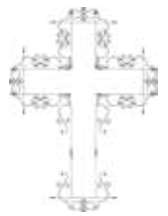
Thank You to Our Cookie Bakers and Packers

A special thank you to everyone who baked and packed cookies for our college students. Many students have told us that receiving these packages is very meaningful and reminds them that they are loved by their church family.



Born to Eternal Life: Gary Greene

October 18, 1943–October 18, 2021, Member Since
February 28, 2010.



Our prayers are with Gary's wife Ruth, his daughter Sally Greene (Mike Smola), and with his many family and friends.

Sympathies

Our condolences to Kristina and Aaron Hathcock on the passing of her grandfather, Richard 'Dick' Stong Jr., on October 12, 2021. Our prayers are with Kristina, Aaron and their family.

Memorials

Thank you for the many generous Memorial Contribution honoring our dear saints who have passed on in 2021, including John Pagen, Mary Wilhoite, Vivian Eddy, Sue Pearsall, Dan Aldrich, Charles Steeber (food pantry), Debra Shear, Louise Fortier, Dan Hosler, Jared Behmlander, Annabelle Closson, Jay Young, James Schlib, and Eric Gay.

Central Cafe Is Starting Back Up

First Dinner on November 4th, 5:15pm - 6:30pm

As in previous years, we will follow the Waterford school district schedule of vacations and closures, so there will be no Central Cafe on November 25th (enjoy your turkey), December 23rd, December 31st and March 31st. The meal cost is the same as prior years: adult/youth (13+) are \$5.00, children (12 and under) are \$2.50.

Opportunities to Grow and Serve

- **Generosity Campaign—Enough: Experiencing Joy Through Simplicity and Generosity.** We are continuing to receive pledges for our 2022 Generosity Campaign to support the work and ministries of Waterford CUMC. It's not too late to return your card or to pledge online at <https://bit.ly/2022-pledge>. Thank you.
- **Food Pantry.** Your generous donations to Central's food pantry help keep food on the tables of our neighbors! Please see the [Food Pantry Needs flier](#) for a list of requested items.
- **Shoe Drive.** Central has teamed up with Waterford Youth Assistance as a drop-off location for their Shoe Drive. You can donate gently worn, used, and new shoes now through December 3rd. A donation box is located in the chapel hallway.
- **Supply Drive for Area Refugees.** The Waterford Refugee Welcome Alliance is collecting cleaning supplies, baby food & diapers. The collection box is located outside the Chapel.

Connect with Central

Central's Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/waterfordcumc>. Find recordings of previous services, faith development videos and daily inspirations.

Central's YouTube Channel - <https://www.youtube.com/waterfordcumc/>. Find Pastor Jack's weekly devotionals and more.

Central's Vimeo Channel - <https://www.vimeo.com/waterfordcumc/>. Find recordings of past services and music and dance recordings.

Central's Facebook Group - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/waterfordcumc/>. A private group that allows members to support one another with posts and inspiration.

Central's Website - <https://www.WaterfordCUMC.org>. Find recordings of sermons, upcoming events, the latest COVID re-opening plan and the online Connection Card.

Online Worship - <https://Live.WaterfordCUMC.org>.