



UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, February 6th, Pastor Jack begins a new message series with *For the Love of God—Quality Time*. Worship is online until further notice (no in-person worship). Please join us at: Live.WaterfordCUMC.org.

Dear Friends,

As a child growing up in the sixties, I would gather with my family on Sunday evenings to watch The Ed Sullivan Show. This variety show was the first of its kind, and remains the longest-running to date—23 years! The Ed Sullivan Show was renowned for introducing musical talent to American television, including the first Beatles performance. Sullivan also featured many African-American artists and record labels (many from Motown Records). However, one of my favorite acts was the “plate spinners.” In my defense, while the great performances of new talent and classic acts from opera and Broadway were popular, plate spinning is almost always mentioned in articles about The Ed Sullivan Show (along with Topo Gigio who appeared 50 times during the show’s run).

One of the reasons I like the plate spinners is that it’s a great analogy for life. I often feel like a plate spinner trying to keep a number of programs, studies, and initiatives going at the same time. I am thankful for the more frequent opportunities to visit folks in their homes or in different facilities where they live. I am also working with leadership in our church on putting together a new structure for our ministry, as well as a new in-person worship experience in our chapel. Of course, there are the usual duties of administration, along with caring for our building and working with the many groups and organizations who meet in our wonderful facility.

Recently, a young clergy colleague said there’s so much to think about in ministry he was worried about issues of self-care and burnout. While I am certainly no expert, I have learned a few things over the past 38 years of ministry. First, the work is never done! Second, time away to rejuvenate and rest is a gift to the church in the long run. Third, it is the responsibility of a clergy person to model self-care and honor our “Sabbath Time” as a means of being faithful to our calling.

I am reminded about the many elements of our church, from our four goals created a year ago—1) Hunger Ministries, 2) Congregational Care, 3) Online Church and 4) LGBTQ+ Inclusiveness—to working toward an understanding of gun violence and bullying in our schools, continued concerns about COVID-19, and working toward promoting mental health in our lives together.

SO...plate spinning. What plates are you spinning or what responsibilities are you juggling? How might we work together to accomplish God’s work in the world, and at the same time care for ourselves and one another? How are you being called by God to join in the endless ministry of our Creator and Savior? Pray with me in answering these questions. I look forward to being with 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

Thursday Night “Courage” Study—Hybrid!

Beginning this Thursday, February 3rd, Rev. Cora’s Thursday Night’s study on *Courage: Jesus and the Call to Brave Faith* by Tom Berlin will be both in-person and online. Join us from 6:30-7:30 pm in the parlor (masks strongly encouraged) or email cglass@waterfordcumc.org for the Zoom information! Books for the study can be found on Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Courage-Tom-Berlin/dp/1791015247>. We’ll discuss chapter 4, “The Hope of Courage,” this Thursday.

Holy Love—A Biblical Theology for Human Sexuality

Wednesdays in February, 7–8:30pm via Zoom

Pastor Jack is offering four sessions on Wednesday evenings in February to discuss LGBTQ+ inclusion in the United Methodist church denomination and at Central United Methodist Church. The book, *Holy Love—A Biblical Theology for Human Sexuality*, will provide the basis for these conversations and is available in the church office for \$7. Our first session will be this Wednesday, February 2. An email will go out the Monday prior with a link to the Zoom session. Come and join Pastor Jack in a discussion of “Holy Love.”

Please Update Your Online Giving App by January 31st

If you give online through the GivePlus App, please be aware that Vanco (the app developer) is retiring that app on January 31st, 2022 and moving to a new app. Before that date, please download and install the new app. To get it, go to Google Play (Android) or the App Store (Apple) and search for “Vanco Mobile.” Download the app called “Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement.” If you have been giving through GivePlus you will already have an account, although you will have to login and re-select “Central United Methodist Church.” There are a few churches named “Central United Methodist Church,” so make sure to select the one at 3882 Highland Rd in Waterford. If you can’t remember your password use the password reset option to change it. You can continue to give online at Central’s website and through text-to-give. If you have questions or are having issues, please contact Robin Danek (rdanek@waterfordcumc.org). If you are new to mobile giving, watch this short video at vimeo.com/waterfordcumc/vanco-mobile.

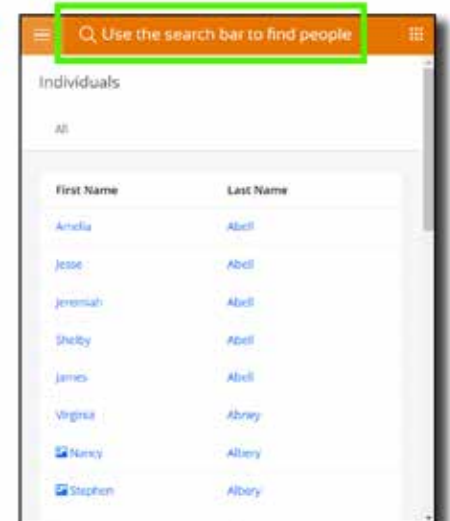
Let’s Get Floored Campaign Update

It’s tax time and if you haven’t had a chance to contribute to the Let’s Get Floored capital campaign, consider making a donation from your tax refund. To date, we’re less than \$5,000 away from achieving our goal! Thank you to everyone for your generosity to the Let’s Get Floored capital campaign.

Central’s Directory

You can now access contact information for other members from Connect=>Directory at Central’s website. You will need a username and password to gain access. If you need Directory access, please contact Rachel in the church office (info@waterfordcumc.org) and we will provide you with that information. Once logged in you will see a list of individuals. Use the search bar at the top to find the person you are looking for.

If you have questions or are having difficulty, contact Rachel at (248) 681-0040 or Robin (rdanek@waterfordCUMC.org) and we’ll help out.



Thank You

Dear Friends; Our Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you for all the condolences, prayers, and support for Marcia and me. The cards, notes, and thoughtful supporting gifts are very much appreciated. It has been a tribute in itself to hear those well-wishes from so many close friends. On Marcia's behalf, I'm flattered and humbled by all the folks we know who have expressed their kindness. You all are a supporting group beyond compare and each a blessing to us; both us as a couple and each of us as individuals. You, our church, are a gift from God. Thank you.

-Bob (Swartz)

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, recordings of past worship services and more.

Central's Vimeo Channel - <https://www.vimeo.com/waterfordcumc/>. Find recordings of past services and music and dance recordings. Past recordings of services can be found at <https://vimeo.com/waterfordcumc/MM-DD-YY> (month, day and year of the service).

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 and information, the latest COVID re-opening plan and the online Connection Card.

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

The deadline for articles for the next bi-monthly *Chimes* is Thursday, February 17th. The deadline for our next bi-monthly email-only newsletter is Thursday, February 10th.