



## UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

August 21, Pastor Jack is on vacation. Come meet Pastor Martha, our new Director of Lifelong Faith Formation. Join us at 10:30am, in person or online at [Live.WaterfordCUMC.org](https://www.Live.WaterfordCUMC.org).

## Dear Church Family,

It's a funny thing how things work out. Some call it coincidence while others call it luck. People of faith sometimes call it a "God-incident." The hand of God is upon us in ways that are beyond our imagination. I'm not suggesting that God ordains all that happens, but God's will always has a way of shining through. Because love is at the core of God's will, love always rules the day. Certainly, we humans make a mess of things, however, God's grace allows for us to partner with God so that God's Kingdom will come and God's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

As our Mission Statement articulates, "Central United Methodist Church: Connecting with God. Connecting with others. Changing our World with Christ's love." As we enjoy our connection with God, our connections with each other deepen as we work together to be the living presence of Christ in the world.

Yesterday during worship, the chair of our Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Kathy Chao, made the announcement that Martha Piesko is joining our staff as the Director of Lifelong Faith Formation. Pastor Martha joins us after a long career of teaching and many years of working in several churches in our Michigan Conference, as well as in other denominations. Most recently, Martha has been working in a Presbyterian church, Orchard Lake Community Church.

Martha and I worked together for three years at my former church, Big Beaver United Methodist Church in Troy, where she was the Director of Christian Education. Through the years we have stayed connected. When our position of Director of Lifelong Faith Formation became available, Martha called me to inquire about the position and we had a great conversation—as we always do when we connect.

Martha applied for the position and the SPRC loved her and is excited to welcome Martha to our staff. I share in that excitement as I remember fondly our years together at Big Beaver UMC. We worked closely together on worship services, and I enjoyed Martha's creativity, especially when creating special services such as Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. One year during Lent we worked on a series of contemplative worship experiences. What fun!

Welcoming Pastor Martha to our staff is a blessing. It is a "God-incident" that I pray will have a tremendous impact on our church for many years to come. You can hear Martha preach her first message at Central Church this next Sunday, August 21. I look forward to seeing you in worship. God bless you, Central Church, as we welcome another into our family.

Because of Christ,

*Pastor Jack*

## CONNECT WITH CENTRAL

**Website:** [waterfordcumc.org](https://www.waterfordcumc.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Introducing Pastor Martha Piesko

Martha Piesko has joined the staff of Central United Methodist Church as our new Director of Lifelong Faith Formation, replacing Rev. Cora Glass. Martha brings with her more than 30 years of educational experience as a teacher in Detroit Public Schools and nine years of Children's Ministry experience. She is coming to us from Orchard Lake Community Presbyterian, where she was the Director of Children's Ministries, and has experience from Big Beaver United Methodist Church. She has a BS in Elementary Education from Central Michigan University, a MA in Early Childhood Education from University of Detroit Mercy and more than 800 hours of Pastoral education from the Ecumenical Theological Seminary. She is currently a member at Birmingham UMC.

Martha's church experience has included developing intergenerational programs, ballet and jazz camps, and art and music collaborations inside the church and within the community. We look forward to working with her on enriching the ministry program at Central UMC.

-Staff Parish Relations Committee

## Congratulations!

To Central's Men's Softball Team, who took second in their tournament on Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Rally Day!

### Sunday, September 11th

Join us for a special worship service celebrating the staff of Central, with a church potluck afterward. The church will provide hamburgers and hot dogs, so bring a dish or dessert to share. Invite a friend as we celebrate getting "back to church" after the long days of summer.

## September Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Happy 80+ Birthday to:

- Nancy Radenbaugh – 9/5
- Paul Blomquist – 9/10
- Roger Crick – 9/26
- Bruce Lax – 9/29

### And Happy 50+ Anniversary to:

- Wilbur & Linda Meadows – 9/3, 55 yrs.
- Dale & Susan Miller – 9/18, 51 yrs.
- Don & Mary Lou Osborne – 9/30, 66 yrs.



**Adult Choir and  
Bells start on  
September 15th**



**American  
Red Cross**

**Upcoming Blood  
Drives:**

**August 17th and  
September 28th**

To give, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and use the code **centraluni** to book an appointment.

**Free Concert: 338<sup>th</sup> Army Band**  
**Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> @ 3pm**



Waterford Central United Methodist Church is hosting the 338<sup>th</sup> Army Band in the church's Sanctuary. This is a great opportunity to experience, connect with, and show your appreciation for our men and women in uniform.

The 338<sup>th</sup> was first commissioned in 1943 as a support group for General Patton. The group is stationed in Livonia, MI and Whitehall, OH, and brings together talented service musicians from Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky.

Their public performances are designed to entertain and educate patriots of all ages. This will be an exciting concert and is not to be missed as the 338<sup>th</sup> Army Band showcases their talents.

## **Thank You**

### **Dear CUMC Church Family,**

We appreciate so much the outpouring of sympathy from Purple Threads and Caring Core, and so many others who were there for us in prayer and expressions of support in the loss of our dear brother-in-law, Henry Schaup. We miss his presence with us too deeply. Our family has suffered a great loss.

-John and Joyce Merle, Jamie Schaup

### **Dear Central United Methodist Church,**

As you know, the Baldwin Center is deeply invested in the community we serve. We rely on donors, volunteers and community partners so much, which is why your donation of \$1000 on 7/27/2022 is truly appreciated. Thank you for believing in the work we do! It is a privilege to partner with you in bringing our vision to life.

-Elizabeth Longley, Executive Director

### **Central United Friends,**

We value our partnerships and cannot do what we do without you! Thanks to your prayers and your financial support our dedication to serving the thousands of hungry families, seniors, and veterans each month has not changed, even though the world we live in has. Thank you for being part of the Hunger solution!

-Norma (Director of Oakland Hope)

## Dear Rummage Sale Committee

Thank you for your gift of \$500 and your faithful support. Your support contributes to Hope Shelter's success stories. Your donation means that Hope Shelters can stand with our guests while they transform their lives.

-Brian Wright, Executive Director and Karen Plants, Chief Operating Officer

## Dear Church Family,

I am writing you all today to thank you not only for your endless love and support throughout the years but also for the scholarship that I received. I'm so thankful to be able to continue on in my education journey. Once again, thank you so much.

-Ashley Gibbs

## Dear Church Family,

Thank you for all the love and support you all have shown me throughout the years. I am grateful for the scholarship I received through church ministry and look forward to my next educational journey.

-Aubrey Gibbs

## Dear Friends of Lighthouse,

Thank you for your generous donation! Your gift of \$600 will help all those who turn to Lighthouse for support. With your help we are becoming a beacon of hope for more families in our community. On behalf of the Lighthouse, MI family and those we serve, thank you for your generous support.

-Ryan B. Hertz, President & CEO, Lighthouse MI

## Address Change

There is a new address for Barbara Johnston: Anthology of Novi - Apt #113, 4200 12 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48377.

## 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, and the online Connection Card.

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

The deadline for articles for the next bi-monthly *Chimes* is Thursday, August 25th.