



Connecting with God,
Connecting with Others,
Changing Our World With Christ's Love

02.12.23

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

February 12, Pastor Jack continues our *You in X Years* message series with *From Evening to Morning*. Join us in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Friends,

I am writing this just having returned from the Men's Summit this past weekend, February 3-5. Our theme this year was *Fight – Winning the Battles that Matter Most*. It was based on the book by Pastor Craig Groeschel by the same title. There was a five-part video series with a discussion guide that accompanied the book and video. It was a great weekend, particularly since it is the first time we've been able to have our annual Men's Summit since the Covid-19 pandemic began.

Now, I'm probably going to bump up against the Men's Summit principle of "What happens at the Men's Summit stays at the summit." However, I am compelled to share enough so that when we are planning for next year, we can encourage and motivate even more men to come and enjoy this weekend of fellowship, food and fun!

We met at a new site this year, Skyline Camp and Retreat Center. This facility is in the woods outside the small town of Almont and close to Armada, where we went and had dinner on Friday evening. The pace of the weekend is relaxed and the focus is always on how we can become better followers of Christ and therefore better men, husbands, sons and fathers. Our participants this year ranged from 36 to 78. It was the first time for a couple of the guys, and some have never missed a Summit since they began.

What I experienced as the pastor of Central Church, and specifically as pastor of the men who participated in this past weekend's Summit, was joy and pride at the thoughtfulness and caring those men expressed about their lives, families, church and our world. I am honored not only to be their pastor but to call them friends and brothers in Christ.

I want to thank Reverend Maurice Horne for leading worship this past Sunday as we have begun a friendship and collegiality that I hope to nurture for many years. We have so many things in common and know so many of our colleagues personally, it's a wonder our paths haven't intersected before now. I know you join me in thanking him for his heart, energy and service to our church. He has already communicated how loving you were to him and his wife, Mae.

I'll end with an apology to my fellow Summit participants if I've shared too much, with the hope that I've shared just enough to encourage others to be a part of this great tradition in the future. I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Because of Christ,
Pastor Jack

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Office Hours and Staff Availability

By Pastor Jack

I know that it can be tempting during worship to take up “business” issues with church staff (oh, look, there’s Rachel. I think I’ll mention...), but please be considerate of their time. On Sunday, staff are in worship because they’re, well, worshipping, or sometimes helping out (as when you see Robin at the tech desk). If you have issues to discuss please do so during office hours (M-Th, 8:30am – 4:30pm with a lunch break from 12:30-1pm) when staff has access to the information and materials they may need for your request.

Sue Newill, our bookkeeper, works off-site and is available Tuesday through Thursday via phone at (248) 674-1482 or via email at snewill@waterfordcumc.org. Sue also attends the Monday evening Finance Committee Meetings each month. If you need information from her during one of those meetings it is helpful if you let her know beforehand so that she can prepare. For Kevin Naeve, our Music Director, Sunday is a work day so he is available to take your questions, suggestions, etc.

As to my availability, even though we sometimes have events on a Friday, technically, it is my scheduled day off and I am often out of town to be with my father or visiting with my grandchildren. And while Saturday isn’t technically a day off for me, I am usually busy getting ready for Sunday morning. On Sunday evenings I work with our Youth Group (which I love!!!), and many funerals happen on Fridays and Saturdays. So, like the rest of the staff I am best reached for non-emergency issues during office hours via text or a phone call (248-217-4004).

I hope that these guidelines are helpful as our Staff is very dedicated and many of them, as members of our church, love to worship alongside you, their beloved church family.

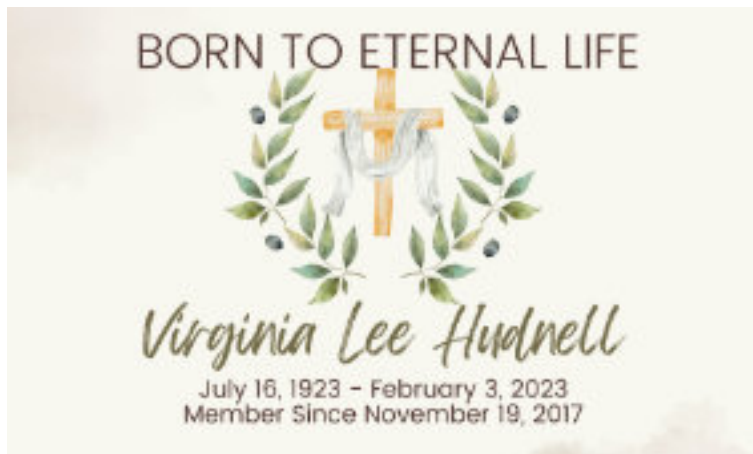
Black History Month

As we come to another February, I am pleased to be honoring Black History Month once again. This is one of my favorite times of the church year as we get to connect with the powerful music of Black Christian traditions that have deeply influenced the greater Christian Church. You can look to both choir and hymn selections this month to connect with one of my favorite musical traditions. I hope you find this music as powerful and meaningful as I do.

With Love,
-Kevin

Jail and Outreach Ministry Easter Baskets

It’s time again to collect items for the Easter baskets for families served by JOM. If you



would like to donate, please put items in the collection basket located in the Narthex by March 26th. Items could include: books, coloring books, crayons, bubbles, jump ropes, small stuffed animals, small games, Matchbox cars, Easter baskets, basket grass, wrapped candy, packs of veggie or flower seeds, hair ornaments, bubble bath, toothpaste & toothbrush, hair combs and brushes.

Thank You for Your Generosity

The free-will offering in support of the Music of Ukraine concert held at Central on February 29th resulted in donations of nearly \$5000. The funds will be split between two relief organizations; one in Ukraine and one in the US. Thank you for your support of our brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

Thank You

Dear Pastor Jack and parishioners,

Thank you for your donation of \$500 and for your support of our mission. At Hope Shelters, we continue to have a positive impact on the lives of the guests we serve. Thank you for being on this journey with us as we give hope and help to one guest at a time. Both Brian and I are Methodists and we appreciate your support!

-Brian Wright, Executive Officer
& Karen Plants, Chief Operating Officer

Address Change

There is a new address for James Marsh: The Avalon, Room #301, 2500 Martin Pkwy., Commerce Twp., MI 48390.

The next issue of the *Chimes* will be the February 26th issue. The deadline for articles is Thursday, February 16th.



Singers Olga Yalovenko and Leslie Ann Naeve perform with pianist Yaroslav Gnezdilov during Central's Music of Ukraine benefit concert.



Ash Wednesday
February 22nd
6:30–9:00am
Drive Thru Coffee and Ashes
9:00am–Noon
Ashes Available in the Chapel
7:00pm
Service of Ashes