

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Join us Sunday, April 23rd, as Pastor Jack begins a new message series with *The Fruit of the Spirit: Love Transcendent*. Join us in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Hello, Central Church!

I have only been here a very short time and I am highly impressed by the youth of Central United Methodist Church. They are just an awesome group of young people striving to learn more about themselves and their faith! The youth love to have fun, fellowship together, share a meal together and are very accepting and welcoming. I hope that you will take the time to get to know this amazing group of young people, and I hope you will pray for them as they grow in their faith life. Thank you for supporting the youth of Central UMC.

Friends are always welcome at Youth Group on Sundays from 5:45pm to 7:30pm. We share a meal together, laugh, dig into God's Word, play games and serve others.

Watch your email, text, Facebook, announcements and the church newsletter for more upcoming events!

Central UMC Kids Ministries

On Palm Sunday I had the opportunity to spend some time with the Sunday school kids and their leaders. The leadership for Sunday school is absolutely amazing! They are creative, fun, inviting and accepting. Right now Central Kids meets in a oneroom Sunday school classroom during the worship service. Oneroom Sunday school is fun for all ages with opportunities for everyone to grow in their faith, meet new friends, build relationships, and use their imagination, all in a safe environment.

Summer Happenings for Central UMC Kids' Ministries

Stellar Vacation Bible School will be held June 19-23 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Invite your friends and neighbors to this all-star event this summer!

Sunday Fundays will be held on Sundays in June, July and August. Sunday Fundays can be messy, filled with lots of laughter and fun for all ages! Imagine actually walking on water, or making

elephant toothpaste in the Wonder Lab, competing in a chef's challenge, crossing the Red Sea and so much more. Sunday Fundays will be held at 10:45am during the summer months. Check out the newsletter, announcements and your email for more information on summer events for children, youth and families.



There will be no Wednesday Evening Study this week (4/19).

WOMEN'S TEA Sunday, May 21st @ 3pm

Please sign up outside the church office. You can sign up to host a table or to attend.



Patty Stroup

The Fruit of the Spirit—Bearing the Fruit from God's Vineyard

Pastor Jack

From time to time I am asked to be a mentor for ministry candidates exploring the possibility of being in full-time ministry. An important part of the curriculum we teach is fruitfulness. The phrase "Fruit of the Spirit" is used by the Apostle Paul to express attributes of individuals and communities that result from living a life in connection with our God through Jesus the Christ. Paul wrote to the people of Galatia, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things." (Galatians 5:22-23)

As I've worked with our most recent class of candidates, I have come to appreciate their thoughts and reflections on what it means to be called to live fruitful lives. That is when I decided that after Easter this year I would like to explore the Fruit of the Spirit with our church family. This series of messages begins next Sunday, April 23.

One misunderstanding of the Fruit of the Spirit is that some of the fruit is the result of one person's life while other fruit results from the efforts of another person. While it is true that some fruit is the primary result of living a life in communion with God and others, the Fruit of the Spirit as a whole should be evident in each of our lives. That thought will be the thread that connects this series of messages.

It is my hope for this message series that we will all discover how we can bear the Fruit of the Spirit in its nine expressions (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) in each of our lives and as a community of faith. The Fruit of the Spirit is something for all of us to strive for daily, that we may live fully for God's greatest purposes on earth as it is in heaven. Come join us as we seek to understand more fully God's call to live fruitful lives!

Stellar Vacation Bible School

June 19–23, 9am–Noon

We are getting ready to blast off on an adventure!

At Stellar VBS, kids discover what it means to shine Jesus' light in everyday life. Stellar is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear and touch! The five days will include science fun, all-star team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats that are simply out of this world!

VBS is open to ages 3 years (as of 2022; must be potty-trained) through outgoing 5th graders. To register call Patty at 248-681-0040, or register online at <u>https://www.vbspro.events/p/ffcela</u>.

If you would like to volunteer and use your gifts and talents at Stellar VBS please call Patty at 248-681-0040 or sign up in the Narthex.

Memorial Garden Fee Increase

Due to rising costs, the placement fee for the Memorial Garden will be increasing beginning July 1, 2023. For members of Central United Methodist Church it will increase from \$425 to \$550; for nonmembers from \$625 to \$750; and for children under the age of one, from \$150 to \$200. Preplacement fees are accepted and encouraged. Those wishing to make pre-arrangements before the fee increase should do so before July 1st of this year.

For more information, Memorial Garden brochures and placement agreement forms are available in the church office or visit the church website <u>waterfordcumc.org</u> under "Care." If you have any questions, please contact Diana Carter, 248-309-2490.

It's Rummage Sale Time!

Volunteer!

Want to have a great time visiting with old friends or making new ones? Stop by the Rummage Sale table in the Narthex to sign up. You can volunteer to help set up the sale, man the sale, or both! Lunch will be provided to volunteers during set up. There is also a sign up sheet for food donations at the Rummage Sale table.

Donate!

Donations can be dropped off from Sunday, April 30th, after worship through noon on Wednesday, May 3rd.

Please do not bring stained or damaged clothing, baby car seats, exercise equipment, computers, entertainment centers, major appliances, stained or damaged furniture.

Questions?

Feel free to contact Shiela Strang at 248-681-8077 or Rachel Pierre at 248-681-0040.

Scholarships

High school graduate and continuing college scholarship applications are available in the church office or at <u>waterfordcumc.org/forms/</u>. Please have applications back to the office by May 21, 2023.

RaiseRight Kohl's Cards

We wanted to let you know about some changes in the Kohl's Cares Fundraising gift card program:

- Kohl's physical gift cards and eGift cards are temporarily unavailable from RaiseRight, effective immediately.
- You can continue to use all Kohl's gift cards and eGift cards previously purchased from RaiseRight in Kohl's stores and on Kohls.com.
- Kohl's physical gift cards and eGift cards should be available to order from RaiseRight later this week. These new cards cannot be applied to Kohl's Charge Card account balances.

If you have any questions about Kohl's RaiseRight cards, please contact Debra Hayden-Schmid at <u>debra.hs@att.net</u>.

Thank You

To My Church Family,

Thank you all for the cards, notes and prayers I received this past month after the passing of my mom, Gloria Hopkins. Your caring meant so much to me and my family.

Sincerely, with love, -Carol Hopkins Kozel



Thursday, May 4th noon-1pm, Early Bird (\$2 entrance fee) Thursday, May 4th 1-6pm Friday, May 5th 10am-4pm, 25% off Saturday, May 6th 9am-noon,



bag day Bags are 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5. Anything not bagged is 50% off. (Excludes Boutique and French Room)



Sympathies

Our prayers are with the family of Dawn Davis, who passed into eternal life on January 23, 2023.

Address Change

There is a new address for Glenna Mae Cox: Canterbury on the Lake, 5601 Hatchery Rd. - The Leas #3011, Waterford, MI 48329.

The deadline for articles for the May 7th issue of the *Chimes* is Thursday, April 27th.

Easter at Central

"Is It I?" Maundy Thursday worship featuring the men of Central Church.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY 80+ BIRTHDAY TO:

- George Johnston, 5/2
- Ron Newman, 5/4
- James Richardson, 5/5
- Ken Paul Bowers, 5/7
- Sharon Donner, 5/8
- Deanna Bowers, 5/9
- Helen Beason, 5/18
- Merideth Nelson, 5/29

HAPPY 50+ ANNIVERSARY TO:

 Ernie & Francie Bauer, 5/29, 52 yrs.

The Youth of Central Church leads 8am Easter Worship.

Summer Sunday Fun

Join Central's summer leaders after Children's Time on Sundays for some excellent summer fun.

- June 11 Wonder Lab
- July 2 Imagination Station
- July 9 Jonah & the Big Fish
- July 16 Walkin' on Water
- July 23 Wet N' Wild
- July 30 Chef's Challenge
- August 6 Ginormous Aquarium
- August 13 Sand Castles Beach Day
- August 20 The Great Crossing

Thank you to Central's Youth Group for leading Easter Worship. From L to R: Megan Riley, Hannah Strobel, Jaeden McCarthy, Shawn Riley, Nate Foster and Wesley Jade.