



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

05.07.23

## UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Pastor Jack continues our *Fruit of the Spirit* message series with *The Fruit of the Spirit: Three Peaces*. Join us in person or online at [Live.WaterfordCUMC.org](http://Live.WaterfordCUMC.org)

## Dear Church Family,

Pastor Michal White wrote, "When it comes to plants—the growth of a plant has very little to do with the plant itself. It has everything to do with the environment it grows in—the sunlight, composition and nutrition of the soil, the amount of water it gets." Michal is a new candidate for ministry in our Michigan Area of the United Methodist Church. She has been a part of a group of new candidates that I have been mentoring since January. Her husband is a horticulturist and he offered the above insight to Michal as she prepared a devotion for one of our meetings.

I had already planned our current series of messages and I asked if I could borrow some of her material in reflecting on the series. As I prepare for this next Sunday's message on the Fruit of Peace, her words are particularly helpful.

Michal writes,

"Too often, when we reflect on verses like Galatians 5:22 and 23, we begin to think about all the ways we can increase these things in our lives. We begin to think of ways we can act consistently with this fruit. To muscle up love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

But I would like for us to consider that starting with a change of behavior is like tying apples onto a tree. Actually, I think it does harm when we try to force those things because we wind up bypassing difficult emotions like anger, fear, and sadness, because those don't look like these fruits. We become obsessed with maintaining an outward appearance of holiness without tending to the inner place where we need true transformation.

The best way to experience this kind of fruit is to pay attention to our environment—in many ways, these are the spiritual disciplines we've been exploring—prayer, meditation, fasting, lectio divina, study; it's also the holistic health that our reading described—rest, nourishment, movement, etc. When we create the right circumstances for growth, the right environment for the Holy Spirit to move in our lives; because this is the fruit of the Spirit, not the fruit of our hard work."

## CONNECT

-  [waterfordcumc.org](http://waterfordcumc.org)
-  [waterfordcumc](https://www.facebook.com/waterfordcumc)
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-  [waterfordcumc](https://twitter.com/waterfordcumc)
-  [info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)
-  (248) 681-0040
-  3882 Highland Rd.  
Waterford MI 48328



**Spring Rummage Sale**

**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)

I love that last line, "Because this is the fruit of the Spirit, not the fruit of our hard work." When we allow for God's Spirit to work in our lives, we welcome the peace that allows for a deep and abiding presence of God within us. As we continue with our series of messages on *The Fruit of the Spirit*, may we welcome the peace that allows for all the Fruit of the Spirit to grow and flourish in our lives, our church and our community. I look forward to seeing you in worship.

## Graduation Sunday—June 11, 2023

It has been a long-cherished annual tradition at Central Church to celebrate our high school and college graduates. This year our celebration will be June 11th. We encourage graduates to join us in worship, wearing their cap and gown if possible. We'd like to welcome you to join Pastor Jack and Patty up front to share your accomplishments and hear a word from you about your future plans.

In preparation, we are requesting that all graduates share with us by Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, your anticipated graduation as well as the next steps in your life (college, work, military service, etc.). We'd also love to have a picture that will become part of a poster in our Sanctuary lobby. Please submit your information and photo online at [WaterfordCUMC.org/graduation-sunday-june-11th/](https://WaterfordCUMC.org/graduation-sunday-june-11th/) or use the form found on the "forms" page of our website.

Please plan to join us for worship when we will have a gift to share in your joy and offer a prayer for your future.

## Scholarships

High school graduate and continuing college scholarship applications are available in the church office or at [waterfordcumc.org/forms/](https://waterfordcumc.org/forms/). Please have applications back to the office by May 21, 2023.

## Stellar Vacation Bible School

June 19–23, 9am–Noon

We are counting down to blast off!

Stellar VBS will be here before you know it, so make sure to register your budding space explorers by calling Patty at (248) 681-0040 or online at <https://www.vbspro.events/p/ffcela>.

VBS is open to ages 3 years (as of 2022; must be potty-trained) through outgoing 5th graders.



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



Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>  
6pm

### Queen of Katwe

Phiona, a young girl living in Katwe, Uganda, sees her world rapidly change after being introduced to the game of chess by missionary Robert Katende. This true story is one of hope and perseverance. PG.

## 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.



## CHURCH CLEANUP DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 13TH  
9AM - NOON





## Thank You

### To The Wonderful Central United Community,

I wanted to write an actual note to you, the actual people who made an actual impact. Thank you for so generously allowing us to use your Fellowship Hall for our Sweet Music fundraising event. We had a lovely evening and earned over \$700! Those funds help defray the cost of uniforms, band camp, festivals, concert accompanists, etc. This would not have been possible without your generosity. So THANK YOU for supporting your local high school musicians!

With appreciation,

-Carrie Newman, Mott Music Boosters Secretary.

## Congratulations

A special shout-out to Shawn Riley and Kate Taylor, both of whom were honored at the Waterford Youth Alliance recognition night. The Youth of our church are so amazingly awesome!

**The deadline for articles for the May 21<sup>st</sup> issue of the *Chimes* is Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.**



*Central's Rummage Sale Team takes a quick lunch break. Thank you to everyone who volunteered!*



## Softball Schedule

5/8 – 6:15pm – Field #4

5/15 – 7:30pm – Field #1

5/22 – 6:15pm – Field #3

5/29 – No Game

6/5 – Bye

6/12 – 6:15pm – Field #1

6/19 – 7:30pm – Field #4

6/26 – 6:15pm – Field #1

7/3 – No Game

7/10 – 7:30pm – Field #3

7/17 – 6:15pm – Field #1

7/24 – 6:15pm – Field #4

7/31 – 7:30pm – Field #3

8/7 – Rain Make Up

8/12 – All Day Tournament

Field #1 – New Hope

Field #2 – St. Trinity

Field #3 – Missionary

Field #5 - Clarkston  
Community



## SUNDAY FUNDAYS

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

Following Children's Time during worship! All ages welcome! Join the fun and bring your friends!