



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

09.17.23

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, September 17th Pastor Jack continues our message series with *The Twelve: Matthew the Tax Collector*. Worship is in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Friends,

What is your vision for the church? What would be your vision for our church? How have you experienced your best expectations of a church? In the book of Acts, shortly after the coming of the Holy Spirit to be among humanity, we can read a description of what life was like for that young and growing community of faith. Acts 2:46-47 reads, "Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

There are four basic activities that defined these early church people. First, they spent time studying in the Temple and second, they broke bread together. Breaking bread has two meanings; they ate meals together and shared in what they understood to be the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Third, they enjoyed each other in a fellowship that was glad and generous. Finally, they praised and worshiped God. We're told that the people who were observing the church in its infancy liked what they saw! These two verses conclude with the positive result that "day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved."

So, there is a fifth attribute of the early church that is evident in this description; the church was growing. This past Sunday was Rally Sunday and, admittedly, it was a rather low-key celebration of transitioning from summer to our busier fall schedule of activities. While I was putting yummy food on my plate at the potluck, a member of our church said to me, "Pastor Jack, turn around and just look at this!" What I saw were people who, after worshiping God and learning about Simon the Zealot (part of our message series titled *The Twelve*), were breaking bread together and enjoying each other's presence in warm and friendly fellowship.

AND....there was nearly a dozen people who are fairly new to our church community. We engaged in all four attributes of the early church described in Acts AND experienced the potential for our church to grow! It was a very exciting morning and early afternoon. The food, the fellowship and the fun were great!

I just wanted to point out how we are living into the best Biblical expectations of the early church. I ask you to consider all that means for us twenty centuries later as we are experiencing God's blessings. Join me in celebrating Central Church as we enter this great time of the year. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

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Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar for these events, studies and more!

Wednesday, September 13th, 7pm. Pastor Jack's weekly study based on the previous Sunday's message resumes.

Thursday, September 14th, 5:15 - 6:30pm. Central Cafe resumes with a dinner of pierogi and sausage. Please sign up; there are no carry-over names on the sheet.

Tuesday, September 19th 7pm. Purple Threads prayer and study group resumes.

Thursday, September 21st, 5:15pm. JUMP Kids mid-week ministry for K-5th grade.

Thursday, September 21st, 6:30-7:30pm. Thursday Evening Study resumes with *Dangerous Wonder*.

Tuesday, October 3rd, 7pm. Blessing of the Pets. Bring your furry friend for a special blessing in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals.

Sunday, October 29th, 4-6pm. Trunk or Treat. Join us for a Marvel-ous, comic-themed Trunk or Treat.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

HAPPY 80+ BIRTHDAY TO:

- Ray Robinson, 10/2
- Larry Quick, 10/4
- Russell Jacobson, 10/15
- Virginia Mueller, 10/20
- Bea Blomquist, 10/26
- Catharine Hazen, 10/27
- Beverly Lax, 10/27

HAPPY 50+ ANNIVERSARY TO:

- Roger & Julia Crick, 10/7 - 56 yrs.
- James & Cynthia Trosin, 10/21 - 51 yrs.
- Don & Monique Payne, 10/24 - 54 yrs.

It's Almost Trunk or Treat Time

Patty is looking for folks to help out on the Trunk or Treat planning committee. If you'd like to help, contact Patty at (248) 681-0040 or pstroup@waterfordcumc.org.

Rose Smith's Orange Fluff

Several people requested this recipe after our Summer Block Party, so for your dining pleasure, here is the recipe. You can also pick up a copy in the Narthex.

Sympathies

Our sincerest condolences to Emily Wendt on the passing of her sister, Marilyn Wendt on August 30th, 2023. Our prayers are with Marilyn's friends and family.

Prayers for Central's custodian Jerry Paquette and family on the passing of his mother, Nita Richardson, on August 30th, 2023.

Rose Smith's Fabulous Orange Fluff

- 2 medium containers of cottage cheese
- 2 containers of Coolwhip
- 2 large boxes of orange Jello
- 1 large jar or can of Mandarin oranges

Combine cottage cheese and Coolwhip and mix until smooth. Add the boxes of Jello, and mix thoroughly. Divide the oranges in half and fold 1/2 into the mix. Garnish the top with the remaining oranges. Keep chilled until ready to serve.

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 October 1st issue of the *Chimes* is Thursday, September 21st.

Fall Fun at Central



Below: The youth of Central Church kick off the season with a Gaga Ball tournament.



Above: We had a great turnout for this year's Rally Day worship and potluck!



Left: As usual, the food was plentiful and delicious at our Rally Day Potluck.