



UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, January 28th. Pastor Jack continues our *I Heart Me* message series with *I've Had Enough!* Worship is in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Central Church Family,

I want to thank you for your kind words and loving support upon the death of Ruth's mother, Ruth Cooper. She was a remarkable woman, born in China to German Christian missionaries. Separated from her parents as a result of World War II, mum and her sister lived in an orphanage in Germany before being reunited with her parents in New Jersey. Mum was a school teacher, pastor's wife and an international porcelain painter. Thank you for your many cards and expressions of sympathy. Thank you also for your support of my father, who is in hospice care. He seems stable but very tired.

As I mentioned in my message this past Sunday, the loving nature of our church was part of the inspiration for our series of messages titled *I ♥ Me*. I've always thought that the challenge of loving others was not in our capacity to express compassion for others, but rather in our ability to love ourselves. We all know the words of Jesus, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is similar: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39) Jesus is quoting the Hebrew Scriptures Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. Upon those two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. (Matthew 22:40).

I wanted to focus on self-love early in this year because we might be better off pursuing self-love as an inspiration toward accomplishments we hope to achieve this year. Nurturing our self-esteem, self-worth and self-love can lead us to happier lives, relationships and greater purpose and meaning. If you made any New Year's resolutions, I am certain that self-love will bring you closer to them.

I've already received some positive feedback from yesterday's message and I pray that the next two messages will bear fruit for all of us as individuals and for our church as a community. Again, thank you for your loving ways, Central Church family, and know that I look forward to seeing you in worship.

Blessings and Cheers!

Pastor Jack

Knit for Kids

A BIG thank to you those who have been busy knitting sweaters, baby blankets, hats, scarves and mittens for the Knit for Kids project. Also, thanks to those who have donated yarn. We are in need of full skeins of colored yarn, but please no more white or beige, as we have lots of that in our supply. Four shipments were sent out in 2023 at a cost of \$135. Our expenses are mostly covered

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by the Compassionate Christmas card project, but fortunately there were other donations this past year to help cover the cost.

We received a thank you from World Vision, who distributes the knit items in the US and around the world—most recently to Afghanistan, Burundi, the Congo, Lesotho, Niger, Sierra Leone, Somalia Swaziland, Zambia and warehouses in Chicago, Dallas, and Hartford.

Since our first shipment in 2006, we have provided 1,758 sweaters, 1,255 baby hats, 737 kids hats, 551 pairs of mittens, 115 baby blankets and 37 scarves. If you wish to participate, knit and crochet patterns and yarn are available on a table outside the Bride's Room just beyond the Narthex. Once your project is completed, please place it on the table. If you have questions, contact Diana Carter at 248-309-3490.

PrimeTime "Central Cinema"

Tuesday, February 6th, 2pm in the Parlor

Join us for a special Central Cinema free movie afternoon. Our film will be "Valentine's Day" (PG-13). Popcorn and cake will be provided. Please bring your own beverage and any additional snacks you may want to share. Sponsored by PrimeTime, however all are welcome.

From the Bookkeeper

Year-end statements were both emailed and mailed last week. 96 people did not have an email address on file, so will only receive the printed statement. Going forward, quarterly statements will only be emailed, so if you would like to receive quarterly statements, please make sure we have your email address, or email Cassandra (bookkeeper@waterfordcumc.org) and she will make sure you receive a printed version. Year-end statements will continue to be both emailed and printed/mailed.

Compassionate Christmas Cards

Thank you to everyone who purchased Christmas cards through Central's Compassionate Christmas Card program. Funds received were:

- Baldwin Center - \$35
- Clothe A Child - \$55
- Blessings in a Backpack - \$90
- Liberia - \$930

Thank You

Dear Friends In Mission,

Thank you!

The dear people you just helped with your gift may never have the



**Saturday, February 3rd
6pm**

To honor Black History Month, we offer "Till," a biographical film. In 1955, after Emmett Till is murdered in a brutal lynching, his mother vows to expose the racism behind the attack while working to have those involved brought to justice. Rated PG13.



opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be "thank you!"

Through your financial support you are serving within a vital web of interactive relationships, partnering to engage globally in direct ministry to people in need.

Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural, and national backgrounds and to demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Central's Gifts to Global Ministries Include:

- UMCOR - Where most needed: \$1, 452
- Scholarships for Elementary, Secondary, College and Seminary Education - \$5,400.

Grace and peace,

-Roland Fernandes, General Secretary

From Little Sprouts

Thank you very much from Little Sprouts to the congregation for the generous Christmas Love Offering.

-Co-Directors Mary Boynton and Monica Hungerford

Address Change

Please note that there is a new address for Susan Krueger: 1697 E. Chippewa River Rd., Midland, MI 48640.

**The next issue of the *Chimes* will be dated February 11th.
Please have any articles submitted by Thursday,
February 1st.**

Memorials

A special thank you to those who have given Memorial Gifts in 2023 in honor of loved ones.

Central received gifts in honor of:

- Norma Painter
- Paul Blomquist
- Marcia Swartz
- Margaret Mariner
- Kenyon Painter
- Betty Truhn
- Walter Cortese
- Lynn Vincent
- James March
- Barb Johnston
- John Ostrander
- Ginny Glidden
- Bill Svenkesen
- Marilyn Wendt
- Eric Stone
- Nita Richardson
- Marcy Dennis
- Virginia Hudnell
- Richard Donner



Left: Congratulations to two of Central's 2024 confirmands.
From left: Shawn Riley, Coach Patty, Pastor Jack, Nathan Foster.

Right: Shawn and Nathan help Pastor Jack with the Reaffirmation of Baptism on Confirmation Sunday.