



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

03.10.24

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, March 10th. UMCOR Sunday. Pastor Jack continues our Lenten Message Series with *Jesus and the Prophets – Micah and God's Requirements*. Worship is in person or online at [Live.WaterfordCUMC.org](https://www.Live.WaterfordCUMC.org)

Dear Central Church Family,

Once again I feel compelled to express thanks to our Central Church Family as Ruth and I are still walking the road of grief after the deaths of Ruth's mother and my father. The cards with wonderfully personal expressions of love and support are far too many to display and are actually in stacks that, all together, are over a foot high! Thank you.

The death of my father at nearly 89 years of age—his birthday is March 13—is very different than the death of my mother at age 57. I have long believed in life that is eternal as a result of more than church dogma, creeds and traditions. However, when my mother died, my belief became very real and vitally important to me. It's been 28 years since Mom died and that belief is still just as vital and important to me as when Dad died a little more than a month ago.

My belief in eternal life is connected to what we are moving towards during this season of Lent, specifically the resurrected life made possible by the life, teachings, death and resurrection of Jesus. And my friends, the difference between eternal life and resurrected life is that resurrection life began when I first uttered the words that I believed in Jesus as my Lord and Savior and asked for forgiveness as I repented of my sins.

While heaven and eternal life became more real to me when my mother died, that "realness" is now woven deep within my soul and life on this side of eternity. I am definitely a different person than I was 28 years ago. I'm writing this on a Monday morning with an appointment this afternoon to plan a funeral for one of our members, and I've just learned about the death of another of our members. Even as I continue to grieve for my mother-in-law and father, I am already grieving for these members of our church family. We will celebrate as we recognize that their lives are different because of their relationship with our loving creator and savior.


Our changed lives are a result of turning toward our God and turning away from anything that separates us from God; we call that turning away from sin and toward God "repentance." Rabbi David Wolpe of Los Angeles' Sinai Temple has something to say about that: not about the Christian Lent, but about his own people's day of repentance, Yom Kippur: "One of the great things about repentance is that it doesn't only change the future, it changes the past: because if you become a different person, then all those mistakes and regrets and anguish, instead of sadnesses they become stepping-stones to the new person that you have created inside of yourself ..." (Rabbi David Wolpe, in a "Moments of Connection" video distributed online on September 10, 2021.)

As we are halfway through Lent with very busy weeks leading up to Easter, may we rejoice in our lives that are changed by our Lord who would lay down his life for our changed lives. I look forward to seeing you in worship. God bless you!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

CONNECT

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-  info@waterfordcumc.org
-  (248) 681-0040
-  3882 Highland Rd.
Waterford MI 48328

Lenten Studies

Wednesday Message Study 7:00-8:30pm with Pastor Jack, via Zoom

A weekly deep dive into our Lenten message series *Jesus and the Prophets*. We'll explore scripture, review key points of the message and discuss how it applies to our lives as followers of Christ. To get on the distribution list for the Zoom link contact the church office or email Pastor Jack at (jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org).

Thursday Study, 10am–11am and 6:30–7:30pm

March 7th–21st—Small Changes Make a Big Difference

These workshops will focus on nutrition basics, dietary recommendations and some myth busting. We will also look at wisdom from the Bible so you can be equipped to live an abundant life through a deeper understanding of health and wellness in and through God's Word!

Lenten Worship, Sundays @ 10:30am

March 10th—Fourth Sunday in Lent

Jesus and the Prophets: Micah and God's Requirements. Micah 6:1-6 and Matthew 5:1-12.

March 17th—Fifth Sunday in Lent

Jesus and the Prophets: Isaiah's Suffering Servant. Isaiah 42:1-9 and Matthew 3:13-17.

Holy Week Schedule

March 24th Palm Sunday, 10:30am

Jesus and the Prophets: Zechariah's Hope. Zechariah 9:9-12 and Mark 11:1-11.

March 28th Maundy Thursday, 7:00pm

Service Commemorating the Last Supper with Holy Communion.
Jesus and the Prophets: A Servant to the End. Isaiah 53:1-12 and John 13:1-15.

March 29th Good Friday

12:30pm Community Worship At Central 7:00pm Sanctuary Worship

Jesus and the Prophets: Fulfilling the Prophecies. John 19:14-42.

March 31st Easter Sunday, 8:00am & 10:30am Services

Jesus and the Prophets: Just An Old-Fashioned Love Song. Ezekiel 37:1-14 and Luke 24:13-35.

Easter Brunch will be served between Easter services. Please sign up outside the office or at WaterfordCUMC.org/lent-easter-2024/ if you plan to attend.

UMC Advocacy Day 2024—Get Involved

March 13, 2024 is the United Methodist Advocacy Day and this year's focus will be on mental health. We would like to take letters to Lansing from members of Central sharing their experience with mental health services.

Please personalize the letter with your legislator's name (see links below), put the letter into an envelope and address it to them. Those of us who are attending will make sure that it gets delivered. Your letter can be given to Pam Coleman-Gay, Bob Swartz, Pastor Jack or Robin Danek. If you have any questions, please reach out to Pam Coleman-Gay at dancegrammy57@yahoo.com.

To find your Michigan Senator, visit <https://senate.michigan.gov/FindYourSenator/>.

To find your Michigan Representative, visit <https://www.house.mi.gov/#findarepresentative>.

Readers to Leaders Bake Sale

April 21, 2024 Before and After Worship

Help support the MI-UMC Readers to Leaders initiative and treat yourself to some yummy sweet treats. All proceeds will go toward the Readers to Leaders fundraising campaign of the Michigan Conference, which supports two ministries focused on education—The Liberia Scholarship Fund and the Michigan Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools. The campaign goal is \$356,000 by May 1st and we're over 95% there. So purchase delicious homemade baked goods and let's help the Michigan Conference reach its goal of providing opportunities to develop Readers into Leaders.

If you would like to contribute baked goods to the sale, please contact Debra Hayden-Schmid at debra.hs@att.net.

Your Mission: To Serve, Lead, and HAVE FUN at Our VBS!

June 24–28 from 9am to 12pm.

Join us for Camp Firelight VBS: A Summer Camp Adventure with God!

We are currently seeking Camp Craft Station Leaders, Camp Counselors, Music in Motion Leaders, Check-In & Check-Out Team Members, and Snack Shack Leaders.

Contact Coach Patty at 248-681-0040 or pstroup@waterfordcumc.org if you are ready to partner with us for Camp Firelight VBS! You can also use the QR code to check out the job descriptions and sign up to volunteer!



Craft Show Volunteers Needed

April 20th, 2024, 9am–3pm

We have several opportunities to volunteer for our SPRING FOR IT Craft Show. To be a part of this fun event sign up online at bit.ly/spring-for-it-24.

Scholarships

High school graduate and continuing college scholarship applications are available in the church office or online at WaterfordCUMC.org/forms/. Please have applications back to the office by May 5th.

Thank You

To Central United Members

Scout Troop 51 would like to thank you for making our bottle drive so successful. Thank you again
-Troop 51

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, texts, calls, and warm messages of condolence after the passing of my dad, Ray Bush. He lived a wonderfully rich and long life, and as sad as we are that he is no longer with us, we rejoice knowing he is in the presence of Jesus and reunited with my mom.

Warm regards,

-Kathi and Scott Saffron, Kyle, Karli, and Zack

Dear Central Church,

Thank you for opening your doors for our community health screening in your area. It is because of your generosity that Life Line Screening is able to bring these health screening into our community and for that, we are very appreciative.

-Valli Webb, Life Line Screening

Sympathies

Our sincerest condolences to Chris Casselman on the passing of her husband, Bill, and to Mali Barris and Kristina (Bryan) Phelps on the passing of their father. Our prayers are with Chris and Bill's family and friends.

Address Change

There is a new address for Ruth Greene:
51-636 Kamehameha Hwy. Apt. 316,
Kaaawa, HI 96730.

The next issue of the *Chimes* will be dated March 24th. Please have any articles submitted by Thursday, March 14th.



Don't Forget to
Spring
Forward
Next
Weekend



Central's Chancel Choir sporting their new plum colored robes, generously gifted to us from the Korean Methodist Church of Detroit. Thank you, Aran, for coordinating this. And yes, we still have our teal robes and new white robes, as well (also donated).