

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, July 28th Pastor Jack continues our *Women of the Bible* Message Series with *Herodias: Evil Incarnate?* Worship is in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Friends,

Wow! You go away for a week-and-a-half vacation and a lot changes! From the assassination attempt on former President Trump and all the fallout and commentary to President Biden now leaving the presidential race, there is a lot to talk about. In our time of 24-hour news cycles, we will talk and talk and talk and...well, you get the idea. There is no shortage of opinions being expressed inclusive of fear, hope, confusion, despair and even outrage.

So what are we to do as Christ-followers? One of the expressed desires in the Pastoral Profile of our church when I came to be your pastor was the ability to navigate the diverse views of our membership—from politics, theology and socio-economics to race, gender and sexual orientation, to name a few. Let us remember that we can be diverse and at the same time not divided. We can each embrace our faith in God and Jesus the Christ and express our faith-informed views in a variety of ways.

It doesn't matter on what side of the political realm you align yourself, violence is never appropriate. It doesn't matter what color you are or how you define yourself in terms of gender and sexuality, hatred is never right. It matters not what your economic situation or level of education is when it comes to your right and responsibility to vote your conscience.

I received a text yesterday from a church member concerned for President Biden. It was an expression of sadness—not motivated by politics but rather as concern for another human being who has reached the end of his career, doubting his ability to serve our country well. I assured them that I will be praying—for our nation and our process of selecting leadership. I will pray for the church to continue to be a beacon of hope, love and support. I will pray for former President Trump, President Biden and for Kamala Harris, who will most likely become the Democratic nominee for President. I ask that you join me in prayer.

Whatever emotions you are feeling, from hope to fear and everything in between, let's remember that God's presence and blessing are always with us. Let's practice a bit of "Christmas in July" and recall the words from the hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem*: "The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight."

Keep the faith my friends, and remember that God is with us always. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

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

Softball Schedule

7/29 – 7:30pm – Waterford Rec.
8/5 – 6:15pm – 1st Missionary
8/10 – Tournament



Central Rummage Sale Planning Meeting

August 4th after Worship, Room 104

If you are interested in getting information or providing input regarding the fall rummage sale please plan to attend this event. The committee would love your participation and input! Crunch time for the rummage sale is quickly approaching and there will be lots of information and opportunities for you to help in the next few weeks. Please stay tuned!

Fall Thursday Faith Formation Opportunities for Youth and Adults

11am-Noon and 6:30-7:30pm in the Parlor

September–WHY?

Why? Is a four-week series that focuses on some of the common questions people ask about the Christian faith. Asking questions and wrestling with your faith signals that you are taking ownership of what you believe. Understanding the why behind what we believe reinforces the desire for actions that stem from what we believe.

Dates are September 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th.

October–Habits of Jesus

Habits of Jesus is a four-week series that focuses on some of the habits we see Jesus live out in the Gospels. Because Jesus lived a perfect life, he set a perfect example for what and how we are meant to be. Following the practices of Jesus will help us live a life that more closely resembles the life of Christ.

Dates are October 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th.

November–Different

Different is a three-week series that focuses on the truth that following God will often cause us to go in a different direction than everyone else. The word "holy" means to be set apart or separate from the rest of the world. So as God calls us to be holy, he is also calling us to be different and live differently.

Dates are November 7th, 14th, and 21st.

Quarterly Statements

Second-quarter statements were sent via email on July 7th. We are missing email addresses for 46 people. If you would like to receive a quarterly statement, please contact the Church Office to make sure we have your email address. Thank you.

PrimeTime Ministry DIA Trip

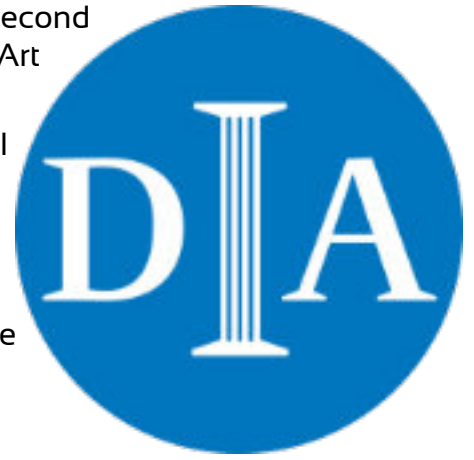
Tuesday, September 17th, 12:00pm

Join us for an afternoon at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA). If you haven't been to the DIA recently, you're in for a treat. It was named as the nation's best art museum in *USA TODAY*'s



2024 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards. Taking the top prize for the second consecutive year, the DIA outranked other institutions such as The Art Institute of Chicago.

This PrimeTime trip is for those 55+ and is free. We will leave Central by bus at 12:15pm, tour highlights of the DIA at 1:00pm, then have from 2:00-3:00pm for a self-guided visit. The bus will depart the DIA at 3:00pm and arrive back to Central around 4:00pm. We need a minimum of 25 people (50 people max.), so please sign up in the Narthex soon so that we can get an accurate head count and finalize all of the details. If you have questions, please contact Cathy Hazen (cathzen@comcast.net).



2024 Memorials

Thank you to those who have given in honor of a loved one. Central has received Memorials (through June) in honor of:

- James Arnett
- Diane Beedle
- Duffy Bowman
- Ruth Cooper
- Roger Crick
- Mike Dempsey
- Ted Kobylas
- Mary Lou McLintock
- Marion Mannschreck
- Norma Painter
- Lorna Pierre
- Stephanie Shawl
- William Svenkesen

Thank You

Thank you to all of our VBS Camp Firelight Sponsors!

You helped make our VBS awesome! Thank you for your generosity—from camp sponsorships to donated supplies. We appreciate you, and the kids and the camp staff created a giant card for you to say thank you! Thank you! The giant card is in the Narthex of Central UMC.

-Coach Patty

Dear Members of the CUMC Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for not only supporting me financially as I begin studying psychology at MSU this fall, but for supporting me spiritually as I grew up in church. I'm excited to make the most of the opportunity you've most generously granted me.

-Sincerely, Megan Riley

Address Change

There is a new address for Helen Beason: America House, 3741 S. Adams Rd., Rochester Hills, MI 48309.

The next issue of the *Chimes* will be dated August 11th. Please submit articles by Thursday, August 1st.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATION DRIVE
Through August 11th
To benefit the Waterford Coalition for Youth

- Crayons
- Glue Sticks
- Highlighters
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Calculators
- Pencil Boxes
- Pens
- Post-its
- Rulers
- Backpacks

Donation box is located in the narthex.