



UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, August 11th Pastor Jack continues our *Women of the Bible* Message Series with *Lydia, the First European Convert*. Worship is in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Friends,

The Olympics are in their second week and we are witnessing excellence in all types of sporting events. It is a marvel to see some of the feats that are performed by athletes from all over the world. I think of the time and effort put in by the athletes, their coaches and trainers, in addition to the countless hours the athletes devote to their sport.

I am proud of all our American athletes, particularly Katie Ledecky, now the most decorated female American Olympian, and Simone Biles, the GOAT (Greatest Of All Time) gymnast. Wow! These athletes seek excellence in what they do, and I would surmise that they seek excellence in many aspects of their lives, from their relationships to their academic endeavors to how they interact with the public.

How about us Christ followers? How do we seek excellence in our lives? Not just in following Jesus the Christ but in all aspects of our lives. I'm thinking about this time of year as we ask members of our church to work in various capacities on committees and in our ministries. I'm also thinking about how we approach the elections coming up (tomorrow's primary and the election in November). How do we relate to others in the workplace, our neighborhoods and in the public?

It was the Apostle Paul who wrote, "But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way." What are your greater gifts? How are you using them for God's Kingdom work on earth? What do you feel Christ calling you to do with your life, and how is the Holy Spirit empowering you to do that work? Our Church Conference is August 25...very early this year. We are taking stock of how we're doing as a local congregation. I hope you will join us virtually for our conference as we celebrate the excellence with which we endeavor to do God's will for this time and this place. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

PrimeTime Waterford Historical Village Trip

Wednesday, August 28th, 10:00am

Join us for a trip back in time to the Waterford Historical Village. We will meet at 10am at Central and carpool over. Once we arrive we will enjoy a boxed lunch in the pavilion before the tour. The tour is free but there will be a cost (TBD) for the boxed lunch. If you have questions, please contact Cathy Hazen (cathzen@comcast.net).

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The Bride's Room is Getting an Update!

Central's Bride's Room features pictures of couples who have been married at the church. If you were married here and would like to have your picture added to the Bride's wall or have a picture you would like to have removed, please contact the church office by September 30th. Thank you.

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.



Softball Tournament

Saturday, August 10th

Central's Men's Softball Team has an impressive record of 9 wins to 3 losses. The team will be playing in the annual tournament on August 10th in the morning. We're not certain yet of the time, but if you'd like to attend call the office later this week or watch for Facebook posts with the times. Let's cheer our team on to a final victory!

Thank You

Dear CUMC,

Thank you for awarding me a CUMC scholarship and for the graduation gift. I appreciate all the years of support this church and church family have given me.

-Dan Taylor

Please note that the church office will be closed on election day, Tuesday, August 6th.

The next issue of the *Chimes* will be dated August 25th. Please submit articles by Thursday, August 22nd.

PRIMETIME

Thursday, October 17 @ 10am

Please join us as we visit the new Pontiac Transportation Museum.

We will meet at 9:30am and carpool from Central. Following the museum, we will stop for lunch at Heroes Bar-BQ & Brew.

\$10 Regular Admission
\$8 Seniors 65+ and Military



More Summer Fun

Left: The kids had a great time at Central's Slime Time Live Summer Camp

Right: What's better than a win? Hot dogs and a win! An evening of fellowship during the Men's Softball game.

