



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

030925

UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, March 9th. Pastor Jack continues our *Praying with Jesus* Lenten Message Series begun on Ash Wednesday with *Listening for God*. Worship is in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Friends,

In my last *Chimes* letter I mentioned how I consider Lent to be an important and meaningful time of our year. It is often considered a season of accelerated spiritual growth and deepening our relationship with God and each other. I remain excited to share our Lenten Message Series titled *Praying with Jesus*. We will take some time during our Sunday morning worship service to learn some prayer disciplines that may or may not be familiar to you.

There are several opportunities to be a part of Lent study groups, from our online (Zoom) Wednesday Evening Study discussing the message topics of each Sunday, to our Wednesday Lunch and Learn Study with Rev. Deb Cox, to Patty's *Believe Like Jesus* study on Thursdays. Coach Patty has also put out a great display of Lenten Devotionals for you to use during this Holy Season. All of these programs and opportunities are outlined in this issue of the *Chimes*.

In addition to our regular studies and worship services, we will be having three different activities that you may want to participate in. As we draw closer to Easter, we will offer an online Easter Experience titled "21 Days of Hope." We will also offer a Prayer Experience within our congregation where you will put your name in a basket and draw a name out of that same basket. You will then pray for that person, whether you know them or not. Of course, someone will draw out your name as well and pray for you. I would encourage you to journal and record your experience of praying for that person. After Easter, participants will meet for a time of fellowship, meet the person for whom you prayed and the person who prayed for you.

The third activity and resource we will provide you with is "Kindness Cards." These are opportunities to witness to members of our community and let them know that you and our church family care about them. For example, perhaps you can buy a cup of coffee for a stranger at a local coffee shop and give them a Kindness Card letting them know that you are a part of Central Church, who values and cares for them. Perhaps you could just hand the card to the greeter at a local store thanking them for their hospitality and share with them that our faith community values hospitality as well.


Lent can be a joyful season of growing in your relationship with God and others. It is a journey worth taking.

As always, look forward to seeing you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

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Lenten Study & Worship

Ash Wednesday—March 5th

6:30–9:00am—Drive Thru Coffee & Ashes

9:00am–noon—Ashes in the Chapel

7:00pm—**Service of Ashes.** Pastor Jack begins our Lenten Message Series with *Praying with Jesus: The Value of Prayer* based on Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 and John 14:1-14.

Coach Patty and the children will Hide the Alleluia.

Lenten Message Study

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30pm with
Pastor Jack, via Zoom

A weekly deep dive into our Lenten message series *Praying with Jesus*. We'll explore scripture, review key points of the message and discuss how it applies to our lives as followers of Christ. Join us for any or all of these studies, conducted via Zoom so that you can join from the comfort of your home. To get on the distribution list for the Zoom link contact the church office or email Pastor Jack at (jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org).

Believe Like Jesus: Rising from Faith in Jesus to the Faith of Jesus

Thursdays, 11am–Noon and 6:30–7:30pm beginning
March 6th

What might happen if we rise from having faith *in* Jesus to having the faith *of* Jesus? What *is* the faith of Jesus? How do we learn to believe like Jesus? Would this mindset change our lives, our communities, our world?

Take an inward journey of spiritual transformation to live courageously, grow strong and thrive.

Lenten Lunch & Learn

Wednesdays @ 12:15pm

March 12th, 19th, 26th and April 2nd, 9th, 16th

Bring your lunch and join Rev. Deb for a study based on the book *When the World Takes the Wind Out of Your Sails* by James Moore.

Devotionals

Spend time this Lent developing spiritually. Devotionals are available in the Narthex and are a great tool to help with faith formation.

Kids Ministry Calendar of Faith & Fun

KidVenture Morning Adventures in Faith every Sunday @ 10:45am

March 7 – Pizza and Game Night at 6:00pm. Grab your running shoes, bring your friends for crazy games, art projects, and good food!

March 13 – Cartooning for Kids at 5:15pm in the Imagination Station

March 20 – Mad Science Lab at 5:15 in Room 6

March 27 – Spring Break! No Children's Ministries.

YOUTH MINISTRY



Sundays @ 5:45–7:00pm unless otherwise indicated. Includes dinner.

March 2 – Tower of Babel Challenge

March 9 – Youth Group Service Project

March 16 – Ping Pong Madness

March 23 – Spring Break! No Youth Group

March 30 – Movie Night at 5:30pm

CUMC Youth Group is for youth in 6th – 12th grades. All are welcome!

New Member Classes

**March 16th @ 4pm &
March 17th @ 7pm**

Makeup Sessions: March 30th @ 4pm & March 31st @ 7pm

If you are interested, contact the church office at (248) 681-0040 to sign up.

It's Easter Lily Time!

Order Easter lilies to beautify the Sanctuary. Use the order form found in your Order of Worship or visit our website at [News=>Order Your Easter Lilies](#) for the order form.

PrimeTime Trip to Central Station

Thursday, March 20th @ 10:30am

Tours are all pre-paid at \$20 each. Please play Bob Swartz in advance. We will meet at 10:30am and car pool to Slow's BBQ for lunch (your own tab). Then take a short drive to Michigan Central Station. We are scheduled for a 90-minute tour. Once the tour is completed your car pool group can continue exploring or depart back to Central.

Sing with the Choir for Our Easter Cantata

Chancel Choir will perform an Easter Cantata on April 13th, Palm Sunday. Anyone who would like to join the choir for this special opportunity, **please come to choir practice on Thursdays starting on March 6th**. We will work on the Easter Cantata music from 7:30-8:10. If you have any questions, please contact Aran at akim@waterfordcumc.org.

Little Sprouts Open House

Saturday, March 15 @ 10am–Noon

Explore our learning spaces, meet our staff, and register for any available 2025-26 openings. Openings are limited and will be filled on a first-come first-served basis. Please contact us at littlesprouts@comcast.net if you have any questions or would like to arrange for a tour prior to Open House!

FAMILY Play Groups meet once each week for weekly playful indoor and outdoor experiences designed to nurture the cognitive, physical, and social-emotional growth of infants and toddlers ages birth through three.

PRESCHOOL Programs are a natural extension of our family programming in both philosophy and in learning environment. Classroom experiences for three- and four-year-olds nurture the unique cognitive, physical and social-emotional development of little learners by utilizing a child-centered, developmentally appropriate, play-based curriculum. The children participate in a daily balance of indoor and outdoor learning experiences. All children will grow together as leaders, problem-solvers, risk-takers and caretakers in a supportive learning community.

The Great De-Churching Sessions

On Sunday, February 16th, Pastor Jack conducted the first of three sessions to discuss the findings in the book *The Great De-Churching*. Since the weather kept many folks home we

Join us every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 1pm in the Parlor for



Folks can work on personal projects, crafts, play games or just socialize with friends.

For more information, contact Cathy Hazen.

DELAYNA JADE SCOUT PROJECT

SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH

A logo for a "Bake Sale" featuring a green silhouette of a hand holding a cookie. The words "Bake Sale" are written in a large, green, sans-serif font. The background shows a close-up of a chocolate chip cookie.

Bake Sale

Shop a variety of baked goods. The money raised will help Delayna Jade with her Girl Scout Garden Project here at Central. Food grown will be donated to Central's Food Pantry.

Time Change on the Horizon!



Make sure to "spring forward" before worship on Sunday or you'll be here early!



Waterford Jigsaw Puzzle Competition

Saturday, April 26th, Noon–3pm

To Benefit Fueling Kids' Futures. Be the first team to complete a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle. Teams can sign up for \$40 or individuals for \$12. Registration is required through Eventbrite using the QR code or searching online.



continued the livestream so that folks online could attend. If you missed the session or would like to review what was discussed you can view a recap on our website at Waterfordcumc.org/the-great-de-churching-sessions/. The next sessions will be on March 16th and April 27th, after 10:30am worship.

Youth Group Service Project

We are collecting donations for Art Therapy Kits for Kids. **Donations are needed by Thursday, March 6th**. We are collecting crayons, markers, colored pencils, blank note pads, small coloring books, scissors, watercolor paints, pencil sharpeners, kinetic sand, modeling clay, glue sticks, index cards, thank you cards, non-spill paint containers and blank puzzles (that kids can draw on; these can be found at craft stores). The assembled kits will be delivered to Grace Centers for Hope, HAVEN, and Children's Hospital. Please place donations in the basket in the Narthex.

Restaurant Week Passports Are Available

March 1st through the 16th is Restaurant Week in Waterford. You can pick up a Restaurant Week Passport from the Church Office or the Narthex. Get your passport, dine out during those dates, fill your passport with stickers and support local businesses.

Thank You from HOPE Shelter

This week Debra Hayden-Schmid delivered items to HOPE Shelter, including:

- 3 – 3 packs of white socks
- 3 – 3 packs of white undershirts
- 2 packs of disposable briefs
- 13 pairs of reader glasses
- 1 bag of hygiene items: deodorant, lotions, shavers, toot paste, chapstick, etc.

Again, they were very appreciative!

They also mentioned an immediate need for travel-sized toothpaste. And, they always need men's undershirts, men's boxer-style underwear, and socks.

The next issue of the *Chimes* will be dated March 23rd and will be sent out on March 18th. Please have any articles submitted by Thursday, March 13th.

