



CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A place to connect.

# Small Groups & Ministries

## Fall 2025

Find a group that matches your interests, form friendships and grow spiritually. You are welcome to join any of the groups. To join a group, please contact the group director.

We are many parts of one body, and we belong to each other.

- Romans 12:56

**Our Mission:**

Connecting with God,

Connecting with Others,

Changing Our World with Christ's Love

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Central United Methodist Church • 3882 Highland Rd.

Waterford, MI • (248) 681-0040

[www.waterfordCUMC.org](http://www.waterfordCUMC.org)

Central Church has many opportunities for you to participate in programs to help you grow spiritually, to grow in your faith, or to just enjoy social time with your church family. Some groups may require the purchase of materials/ resources or restaurant meals.

## **Serve Groups: Worship Arts**

Central has a wide range of opportunities for those interested in singing, ringing, dancing or visual arts.

### **Agape Ringers Bell Choir**

**Rehearses Thursdays from 6:25 to 7:15pm, Fall through Spring.**

**Leader: Aran Kim—[akim@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:akim@waterfordcumc.org)**

Multi-generational hand bell choir for grades 4 through adult. No prior experience is necessary. The ability to read music is helpful, but not required. The group performs during worship approximately every six weeks. To get involved, contact Music Director Aran Kim.

### **Chancel Choir**

**Rehearses Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:00pm, Fall through Spring.**

**Leader: Aran Kim—[akim@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:akim@waterfordcumc.org)**

The Chancel Choir welcomes adults over the age of 18 who love to sing. The choir sings most Sundays. No prior experience is necessary. The ability to read music is helpful, but not required.

### **Tribe of Daniel**

**Meets as Needed**

**Leader: Myke Robson—[dejoker1@att.net](mailto:dejoker1@att.net)**

The Tribe of Daniel uses playful creativeness to decorate and accentuate the worship experience. They work with worship and ministry leaders to use visual arts to illustrate sermon series, seasonal themes, and special events or projects.

## Serve Groups: Local, Regional & Int'l Ministry

Central supports several local organizations that provide assistance for families and communities. There are ample opportunities to volunteer with and/or donate materials or funds to these groups.

### **Blood Drives**

**Timing: 4Xs per Year**

**Leaders: Margaret Hazlett–[info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)**

This ministry is to provide the Red Cross with the space and volunteers needed to hold a blood drive. Our church provides hosts/hostesses to welcome those who donate blood and also provides a meal to the Red Cross workers. All are welcome to participate.

### **Clothe-a-Child**

**Timing: November and December**

**Leader: Kristi Cornish**

This ministry provides clothing to children in Waterford. CUMC is in contact with social workers at Waterford elementary schools. When a child is recommended, all children in their family, from infant through high school, receive clothing. Toddlers and infants also receive diapers if requested. All are welcome to donate funds year round and/or help to organize clothing for delivery.

### **Food Pantry**

**Timing: Ongoing**

**Leader: Margaret Hazlett–[info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)**

Central runs a food pantry to help local families in need of meals. The program is administered by the church staff, but donations of food and/or funds are always needed and welcomed.

## **Outreach Ministries**

**Timing: Ongoing**

**Leader: Various**

Central provides many opportunities for members to become involved in local initiatives that are supported by the church. Opportunities range from volunteering, to donating supplies and materials. Ministries include: Fueling Kids' Futures, Baldwin Center, Oakland Hope, United Methodist Children's Home, Waterford Community Coalition, Micah 6 and others.

## **Knit for Kids**

**Timing: Ongoing, Self-Directed**

**Leader: Diana Carter—[dianacarter@comcast.net](mailto:dianacarter@comcast.net)**

Knit for Kids provides sweaters, baby blankets, and baby caps for children in the U.S. and around the world. This ministry is done individually at home by each participant, and finished products are turned into the church throughout the year. Free patterns and yarn are available at the Knit for Kids table.

## **C. W. Duncan Scholarships**

**Timing: Ongoing**

**Leaders: Ernie and Francie Bauer**

C.W. Duncan Methodist School is in Clara Town where only 1 in 10 children can afford to go to school. In 2010, while still in high school, Jessica Arnold began raising money for tuition for students at C.W. Duncan School. Waterford Central UMC has provides scholarships for 12 boys and 12 girls annually. This mission is open to everyone to donate.

## **Good Samaritan Fund**

**Timing: Ongoing; Collection Taken Every Fifth Sunday**

This ministry provides financial assistance to those in our community and surrounding areas. By helping people pay for rent or utilities, they can remain in their homes, providing a more stable

situation for individuals and families. This mission is open to everyone to donate. A collection is taken every fifth Sunday to support the Good Sam program, however you may donate at any time.

## **Serve Groups: Church Ministry**

These ministries take place at or around the church. Many are seasonal and are good for people with limited volunteer time.

### **Wednesday Morning Fix-It Crew**

**Weekly, Wednesday mornings**

**Leader: Bob Swartz—[racerbob@comcast.net](mailto:racerbob@comcast.net)**

This group meets at the church to do “handyman” work. Basic to advanced skill levels welcome.

### **Trunk or Treat Planning Committee**

**Weekly during October, Time TBD Based on Schedules**

**Leader: Coach Patty—[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

This ministry plans and staffs this annual community event that offers a fun and safe place to trick or treat. Opportunities exist to decorate your car and hand out candy, serve food, decorate the church and more.

### **Memorial Gardeners**

**Timing: As Needed, Spring through Fall**

**Leader: Diana Carter—[dianacarter@comcast.net](mailto:dianacarter@comcast.net)**

The Memorial Garden is located at the South entrance to the church and is a place where members and friends can meditate and remember loved ones. Anyone who enjoys gardening and caring for sacred places is welcome to join in caring for the garden.

## **Caring Core**

### **Monthly Ministry of Compassion**

**Leader: Cathy Hazen—[cathzen@comcast.net](mailto:cathzen@comcast.net)**

The Caring Core ministry is an ongoing connection with members and friends of the church family who may be homebound, experiencing long-term illness or in need of a word of encouragement. Each month, Caring Core volunteers send cards, make phone calls and sometimes visit to ensure the connection continues. Volunteers are always welcome.

## **Welcome Center Greeters**

### **Weekly, Sunday Mornings**

**Coordinator: Diana Carter—[dianacarter@comcast.net](mailto:dianacarter@comcast.net)**

This ministry is for friendly people who man the Welcome Table, greet guests, help them get their kids signed into KidVenture and introduce them to others attending worship.

## **Office Angels**

### **Timing: Weekly**

**Coordinator: Margaret Hazlett—[info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)**

Central's Office Angels assist the church staff with various office tasks, including answering phones, stuffing bulletins and preparing mailings. Volunteer opportunities are typically in 1-3 hour increments, Monday through Thursday between 9am and 4pm.

## **Nursery and Child Care**

### **Timing: As Needed**

**Coordinator: Erica Kin**

Many of Central's adult events offer child care. If you enjoy working with infants and children, this volunteer opportunity may be great for you. Sessions are typically 1-2 hours on Sunday during worship or throughout the week and occasionally on weekends.

## **Banner Hanging and Changing**

**Timing:** Periodically as Liturgical Seasons Change

**Leader:** John and Jannette Deszell

Banners in the Sanctuary are changed out for the liturgical seasons. This involves taking down and putting away the banners from the prior season, and preparing and hanging the banners for the upcoming season.

## **Serve Groups: Worship Ministry**

On any given Sunday there are several opportunities to be part of worship at Central.

### **Ushers**

**Serves:** Approximately Once per Month

**Coordinator:** Margaret Hazlett—[info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)

Ushers assist people once they are in the building by helping them find seats, refreshments, the coat closet, Sunday school, the nursery, etc. Central has several usher teams that rotate through each month.

### **Liturgist**

**Serves:** Approximately Once Every 2-3 Months

**Coordinator:** Margaret Hazlett—[info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)

Liturgists work alongside the clergy on Sunday to deliver Bible readings. Anyone interested in delivering the word of God during worship is invited to become a Liturgist.

### **Tech Team**

**Serves:** Approximately Once or Twice per Month

**Coordinator:** Rustyn Robinson

The media tech team supports and enhances the worship experience using audio/visual technology. The team is also periodically available for non-worship events (concerts, funerals, weddings).

## **Communion Stewards**

**Timing: Monthly**

**Coordinator: Pastor Jack—[jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org)**

This group purchases and prepares communion elements. They are also responsible for placement and removal of the elements on the altar on communion Sundays (usually the first Sunday of the month), and at other designated services.

## **Growth Groups**

### **Wednesday Evening Study**

**Wednesday evenings 7–8:30pm via Zoom beginning September 10.**

**Leader: Pastor Jack—[jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org)**

Pastor Jack hosts a study based on the message from the previous Sunday. This group explores the impact of our worship service—especially the scripture and message—on our lives. Contact the church office ([info@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:info@waterfordcumc.org)) or Pastor Jack ([jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:jmannschreck@waterfordcumc.org)) or call (248) 681-0040 to get on the weekly mailing list to join this Zoom Class.

### **Thursday Faith Formation**

**10:30am and 6:20pm in the Parlor**

**Leader: Coach Patty—[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

### **Signs and Wonders Book Study**

**September 18 - October 23, cost: \$20.00**

Explore the miracles of Jesus in a historical and theological context. Learn how you can draw meaning from Jesus' words and actions from past witnesses and how they understood the events. This is a 6 week book study. We will look at the BIG QUESTION of not "did this happen," but "what does it mean?" And ultimately, "so what?" Learn how these old miracle stories can speak good news into our lives in this time and place.



## The Difficult Words of Jesus Book Study

**November 6 - December 18, cost: \$18.00**

Sometimes Jesus spoke words that His followers then and now have a hard time understanding. Sometimes it was, “SAY WHAT?” In *The Difficult Words of Jesus* we will look at these difficult teachings and how they would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how these teachings have been understood over time, and how we interpret them through the Gospel of love and reconciliation.

## Purple Threads

**1st and 3rd Tuesday, 7–8:30pm, September – November and March – May. Fall session begins September 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Leaders: Diana Carter–[dianacarter@comcast.net](mailto:dianacarter@comcast.net) and Sue Shipley–[sesunionlake@comcast.net](mailto:sesunionlake@comcast.net)**

Bible book study and an intentional intercessory prayer group for women. Please contact Diana if you wish to join us.

## Keller-Fitz Book Group

**Weekly, Wednesday from 10am–Noon via Zoom**

**Leaders: Marshall and Jan Rice–[ricecheeks@outlook.com](mailto:ricecheeks@outlook.com)**

A progressive adult group dedicated to continuing faith development and spiritual growth. The group studies 1-2 books during each semester written by well-known theologians (and some not-so-well-known theologians) that helps guide us to new understanding of the teachings of Jesus Christ.

## Body and Soul Ministries

Stretch Your Faith

**Meets: Weekly on Tuesday from 10:30 to 11:30am, beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Leader: Coach Patty–[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

Stretch Your Faith focuses on stretching and flexibility. A fun class for all abilities with time for fellowship, a holy huddle and much more. This class is DVD driven. Bring your yoga mat if you have one

## Tai Chi

**Meets: Weekly on Tuesday from 7:00 to 8:00pm, beginning September 16<sup>th</sup>.**

**Leader: Coach Patty–[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

Need time to unwind after a long day? Need to de-stress? Our Body and Soul Tai Chi class is just what you need to focus, de-stress, work on your balance, your flexibility and to relax. We will also be focusing on Scripture that will help us center our attention, our worries, our struggles and life on Jesus and God's healing Word.

## Youth and Children

### Youth Group

**Meets: Weekly on Sundays 5:45–7:30pm**

**Leader: Coach Patty–[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

Youth in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades eat together, discuss God's Word, have some fun and work together to serve others. If you are interested in learning more about our Youth Ministries please contact Coach Patty.

### Movin' & Groovin' in Faith for Kids

**Meets: Weekly on Thursday, 4:15—5:15pm beginning September 18. Cost: Free Will Offering to cover equipment costs**

**Leader: Coach Patty–[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

Two levels will be offered for Pre/Pre-K/Jr. Kindergarten and another level for elementary-age kids. Movin' & Groovin' in Faith is an in-motion class for kids to run, play and get fit without even knowing it. Movin' and Groovin' consists of obstacle courses, core movement, balance, catching, throwing, coordination and just plain fun! To register please contact Coach Patty.

## **Central Kids KidVenture**

**Meets: Weekly on Sunday mornings from 10:45am to 11:30am**

**For all kids through 5<sup>th</sup> grade**

**Leader: Coach Patty—[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

Kids meet during worship, then head to their adventures following the Children's Time. KidVenture is rotational for elementary age youth and classroom-based for younger kids. Check-In and Check-Out is located near Room 112 (east hallway on the main level, next to our Nursery). Elementary age youth check-in at Room 112 and head down to the lower level for their adventures and can be picked up in Room 112 at the end of worship. Younger kids stay in Room 112, where they can be check-out by their parents. If you would like to register your child(ren) for KidVenture please contact Coach Patty.

## **Liturgical Dance**

**Rehearses Thursdays from 4:30-5:15, Fall through Spring.**

**Leader: Katey Gay—[katey1702@hotmail.com](mailto:katey1702@hotmail.com)**

Liturgical dance group for children and youth in grades 2 through 12. Dancers learn some basic techniques, movement to different rhythms and how to express themselves prayerfully through dance. The group performs during worship every 6-8 weeks during the school year.

## **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

**Meets: One week in Summer, Typically in June, 9am - Noon**

**Leader: Coach Patty—[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

Central's Vacation Bible School program helps children and youth/adult leaders to connect with God, connect with others, and change the world with Christ's love through story, science, crafts, music, snacks, and games. We invite children from our church and the community to enjoy an energetic and fun week of learning

about God and connecting with others. There are also many opportunities to assist with VBS.

## **Confirmation Ministries**

**Meets: Weekly or Retreats, based on preference of the class.**

**Leader: Coach Patty—[pstroup@waterfordcumc.org](mailto:pstroup@waterfordcumc.org)**

For youth in 7th, 8th and 9th grades. 9th graders meet retreat style (4 times a year if the youth did not take Confirmation in middle school) and 7th and 8th graders meet each Sunday from 4:15 - 5:15pm on a weekly basis during the school year to grow deeper in their knowledge and love of God. It is also an opportunity to explore their faith, ask questions, and to affirm their baptism. Youth who have not been baptized will have an opportunity to be baptized. Confirmation is a celebrated faith milestone with a special worship service and a reception.

## **Connect Groups**

### **Easy Exercise for Seniors**

**Weekly, Mondays 10:30-11:30am**

**Leader: Margie England—[margeryengland@yahoo.com](mailto:margeryengland@yahoo.com)**

Chair exercise for older adults. Bring your water and a blanket if you'd like. Open to everyone in the community.

### **Prime Time Adult Ministry**

**Meets: Events monthly; watch for *Chimes* and Bulletin Announcements**

**Leader: Cathy Hazen—[cathzen@comcast.net](mailto:cathzen@comcast.net)**

This ministry is an opportunity to engage with others for fellowship, enrichment activities and service projects. Events are open to everyone.

## **Central Cinema**

**First Saturday of the Month at 6:00pm, September–June.** Enjoy an evening of entertainment and perhaps even make new friends! Gather in the Parlor with a snack to share. Admission is free. For more information pick up a brochure, visit [WaterfordCUMC.org](http://WaterfordCUMC.org), or call the church office at 248-681-0040.

## **Central Café**

**Every Thursday, September through May, 5:15–6:30pm beginning September 4<sup>th</sup>**

Central offers a time of dinner and fellowship. All are invited to dinner before Thursday evening rehearsals and Thursday evening study. There is a small fee to cover food expenses. Volunteer opportunities exist to help with meal prep and clean up. Must sign up outside the Church Office if you plan to attend.

## **Men's Softball Team**

**Monday Evenings, mid-May through August**

This ministry is open to all men of the church. All are welcome to come to the games and cheer on the team.

## **Becoming a Member**

If you are interested in becoming a member of Central United Methodist Church, please indicate this on your Connection Card, or contact the church office at (248) 681-0040. New member classes are schedule throughout the year as needed. You may also transfer membership from another United Methodist Church.

## Contact Information:

### Staff Contacts:

- Rev. Dr. Jack Mannschreck, Lead Pastor,  
jmannschreck@WaterfordCUMC.org
- Coach Patty Stroup, Director of Lifelong Faith Formation,  
pstroup@WaterfordCUMC.org
- Aran Kim, Music Director, akim@WaterfordCUMC.org
- Margaret Hazlett, Church Administrator,  
info@WaterfordCUMC.org
- Robin Danek, Marketing and Outreach,  
rdanek@WaterfordCUMC.org
- Cassandra Thompson, Bookkeeper,  
bookkeeper@WaterfordCUMC.org

For other events and ministries, please contact the church office for leadership contact information.

### Church Office:

3882 Highland Road  
Waterford, MI 48328  
(248) 681-0040