



UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, October 5th. World Communion Sunday. Pastor Jack's begins a new message series with *We Gather...To Recognize Our Common Needs*. Worship is in person or online at Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Church Family,

First and foremost, friends, I want to encourage our Central Church Family to join me in prayer for the people of Grand Blanc and specifically for the members and friends of the Church of the Latter Day Saints. At the writing of this letter, there are five dead and eight hospitalized with injuries. Of course, there are many who will bear the trauma and scars of this horrific display of violence for years, if not decades.

I speak from experience, having been the Pastor of Oxford United Methodist Church for ten years. Four years ago this November, nineteen years after I left Oxford UMC, I reached out to my friends and colleagues as they reached out to me. The daughter of one of my youth when I was Pastor was injured, a bullet piercing her hand. Other Oxford students continue to have nightmares from that fateful day. Keep praying for the families of those who died and were injured yesterday. and pray for the entire community of Grand Blanc as healing and wholeness seem very far away today.

During my message yesterday, titled *When Is It a God Thing?*, I said we can either believe that God is in control of everything or we can believe that God is control of nothing. I reject the idea that God is in control of everything, because God gives us free will. In other words, God doesn't control us but rather, because of God's loving nature, God allows us the freedom to respond (or not) positively to His grace and love. To believe that God is control of nothing isn't acceptable, either, as that would lead to chaos and smacks of fatalism and determinism. The truth of God's control of creation mysteriously lies somewhere between those two extremes. Ultimately, I do believe that God will have the final say about how all of creation will be reconciled on that great and terrible "Day of the Lord." (Joel 2:11) But the ultimate will of God is a discussion for a different time.

For us today, we should always be looking for God, not just in the blessings of life, but all things in life. God is with us always. Beginning this next Sunday, October 5, I will begin a series of stewardship messages on why we gather as God's people. I hope you'll join us throughout October and into the first week in November as we focus on our "We Gather..." series of messages. Blessings to you, my Church Family, and I will see you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

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**Saturday, October 4th,
6pm**

The Holdovers

A dramedy about a curmudgeonly history teacher who remains on campus during Christmas break to supervise held-over students. 2024 Oscar nominee for Best Picture. Rated R.

Emergency Preparedness

In light of the recent tragic shootings, we have been asked about emergency preparedness. In the spring of 2024, a team worked on an emergency plan, and there are signs with instructions and exits posted in all public areas. We are also working with the Waterford Police on active shooter training and will have more information on this as we work through the training. Thank you for your concern.

Cookies for Students

Every October Central sends a care package of cookies and treats to our college students. If you're a baker and would like to provide cookies or treats, please sign up outside the church office. Not a baker? Not to worry; the students also enjoy individually-wrapped store-bought treats as well. **Cookies/treats are due in the kitchen by Thursday, October 9th.**

If you would like to get your student on the list to receive a care package, please contact the church office or submit their address at waterfordcumc.org/its-cookie-time-again/. Please have your student's address to the Office by Wednesday, October 1st.



PrimeTime Trip to the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

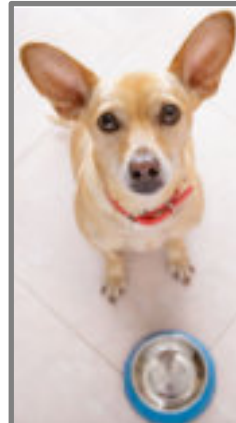
Enjoy a private tour of the Ford House in Grosse Pointe Shores. The trip includes a buffet lunch in a private room, followed by a chance to stroll around the grounds. The cost for the trip is \$50, payable by October 14th to Dan Arnold or the church office (make checks payable to Dan Arnold). We will meet at the church at 9:30am to carpool to the Ford House. Please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend. For more info, contact Dan Arnold at danieljarnold15@gmail.com or 248-884-5904.

Rummage Sale!

Thursday 10/2, 12pm-8pm
Early Bird 12-1pm; \$3 entrance

Friday 10/3, 10am-4pm - 25% off

Saturday 10/4, 9-11am
Bags are 1 for \$5 or 2 for \$8
(excludes Jewelry & JoAnn's Closet items). 50% Off Individual Items, Jewelry, JoAnn's Closet



Due to Central's Annual Rummage Sale

There will be no Central Cafe on Thursday, October 2nd.

Central Is Hiring!

We are currently seeking a Choir Director and Organist/Accompanist. This can be one or two part-time positions, depending on the candidates' skills. Please let your friends, family and colleagues know about this opening. To apply, visit the Careers section of our website.

Meijer Donations—We Are Blessed and Grateful

Over the last 6 months Central Church has received two donations from Meijer.

May Craft Show—We received a \$300 donation from Meijer that covered most of the craft show expenses so all monies raised went to Central's food pantry.

June Food Pantry Donation—Meijer donated \$500 to Central's food pantry. The money will be used to purchase nonperishable items to add to food pantry baskets.

Central's Food Pantry—Thank You to Everyone Who Supports This Important Ministry

Central Church maintains a food pantry that provides short-term assistance to families. Food is available M-Th by appointment. Families complete an application and are eligible to receive food four times per year.

The pantry accepts nonperishable food and monetary donations from Central Church members and friends and community groups. We also purchase perishable items to include in the food distribution bags. Central spends about \$500 per month buying these items.

The church office receives calls daily with requests for food. On a weekly basis Central provides food for up to eight families, provided that the church has food available to fill these requests.

Thank You

Dear CUMC Family,

Thank you so very much for all of the cards and expressions of sympathy on the passing of my father-in-law, Walt Danek. He was truly a great dad, grandfather and friend and he will be missed. Your heartfelt condolences and prayers have made this difficult time a bit easier.

-Robin Danek

The next issue of the *Chimes* will be dated October 19th. Please have any articles submitted by Thursday, October 16th.



Kids' Ministries

October 2 - Movin' & Groovin' in Faith KidFit @ 4:30pm

October 5 - The Adventures of Noah @ 10:45am

October 9 - Movin' & Groovin' in Faith KidFit @ 4:30pm

October 12 - Whoa Noah! @ 10:45am

October 16 - Movin' & Groovin' in Faith KidFit @ 4:30pm

October 19 - The Great Deception @ 10:45am

October 23 - Movin' & Groovin' in Faith KidFit @ 4:30pm

October 26 - Brothers Again! @ 10:45am

October 26 - Trunk or Treat, 4-6pm

Youth Group

Sundays, 5:45–7:30pm

October 5 - Trunk or Treat Planning

October 12 - Mystery Dinner

October 19 - Pumpkin Carving and Bonfire

October 24 - Trunk or Treat Lock-in at 6pm

October 25 - Trunk or Treat Lock-in ends at 12pm

October 26 - Trunk or Treat from 4-6pm