



UPCOMING IN WORSHIP

Sunday, April 5th. Easter Sunday.
Pastor Jack wraps up our Lenten
Message Series with: *Christ:
Defied! The Final Challenge.*
Worship is in person or online at
Live.WaterfordCUMC.org

Dear Central Church Family,

As we enter this Holy Week, I am once again acknowledging another "last." This will be our last Holy Week and Easter together. I have found that there is a great temptation inherent in these "lasts." It is the temptation to make these last events together spectacular in some way. So far, I believe I've been pretty successful in succumbing to those temptations in favor of preparing meaningful and helpful experiences. That is my hope for every time we worship, every time we gather for study or fellowship. I pray for meaningful and helpful experiences.

To that point, I want to make this last appeal for you to join us for our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services this week. On Maundy Thursday, we will once again have Jesus and the Twelve Disciples portrayed as a tableau of DaVinci's Last Supper painting. Each of the twelve will speak to their experience of Jesus as each of them asks the question, "Is it I?" Each disciple asks this of Jesus and themselves as they ponder the question of whether they are the one who will betray or deny Jesus. Our Maundy Thursday service will conclude with Holy Communion.

Our Good Friday Service will focus on the last hours of Jesus' life, his death, and crucifixion. As we continue with our Lenten Message theme of *Christ: Challenged!* we will confront the final enemies of suffering and death. This somber service will acknowledge our part in Jesus taking our sins to the cross, so that our relationship with God has the hope of reconciliation.

On my last Easter with you, as always, we will celebrate! We will reclaim the Alleluias of our faith in Jesus Christ and praise God for Christ's victory over the final enemy of death! We will, as is our tradition, have Holy Communion on Easter, as it is the first Sunday of the month. Of course, as is also our tradition, we will sing the *Hallelujah Chorus* from Handel's *Messiah*.

Please be mindful of this week as we journey through the time of betrayal, denial, suffering, and death before celebrating the great Easter Festival. As I have often said, experiencing the passion and death of Jesus makes the Easter Resurrection all the sweeter!

I look forward to being with you, church family, throughout this Holy Week and especially on Easter. I'll see you in worship!

Because of Christ,

Pastor Jack

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Easter
EGG HUNT
Saturday, April 4th

The hunt begins at 10am, rain or shine, so wear your coats and boots.
Bring a friend!

Craft Show Volunteers Still Needed

We still need volunteers for our third annual SPRING FOR IT Craft and Vendor Show! This is a juried show and will feature wonderful handmade items from a wide range of artisans. There will be shopping and lunch available for purchase. All funds raised will go to support the ministries of Central church.

We have several opportunities to volunteer. To be a part of this fun event, just add your name to the sign-up board in the Narthex. For more information, contact Cassandra at bookkeeper@waterfordcumc.org.

PrimeTime Trip to Cook's Farm Dairy

Wednesday, April 29th @ 11am

Central's PrimeTime Group will be visiting Cook's Farm Dairy this month. We will meet at 11am to carpool from the church to Bullfrog's Bar & Grill for lunch, then go to Cook's for a private tour of the farm. Cook's is the only dairy farm in Oakland County and has been family-owned since 1933. **The tour is \$7.50 and includes a cup of fresh chocolate milk and a dish of delicious Cook's ice cream.** Please pay Dan Arnold by Sunday, 4/26 for the tour ticket. You are on your own for the cost of lunch. Sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend.



Join Us for Music Bingo to Support Fueling Kids' Futures

Monday, April 20th, 6–9pm @ CJ's Upper Deck

Name That Tune to test your music knowledge while raising funds for hungry children (and maybe winning some dough yourself). Tickets are \$30 and include 3 bingo cards and two pieces of pizza. Proceeds from the event will go to support Fueling Kids' Futures (previously Blessings in a Backpack), a Waterford-based charity that provides more than 300 students with non-perishable food during the school year. CJ's Upper Deck is located at 3270 West Huron in Waterford. Tickets can be purchased by calling 248-802-8319 or visiting fuelingkidsfutures.org. For more information, contact Carol Kozel at 248-496-1803.

Pastor Jack & Ruth Farewell Gift

It's time to say farewell to our beloved pastor, Jack Mannschreck and his lovely wife, Ruth. He has served the church well and deserves to be celebrated as he enters his retirement. There is a long tradition in the Methodist Church of giving a signature quilt to an outgoing pastor—a gift to wish them well on the journey to their next destination.

Two personalized quilts will be made—one for Pastor Jack and one for Ruth. If you would like to include a special message, please pick up a form from the Church Office or [download it from our website](#). Please indicate next to your message whether it is for Pastor Jack or Ruth.

Messages must be received by Monday April 27, 2026 to be included. Messages received after that date will be added to an auxiliary item, TBD. You may turn this form into the office or give to me in the Narthex between services on Sunday.

Thank you,

-Jannette Deszell, 248-568-8328



**Central Cinema
Saturday, February 11th
(2nd Saturday) @ 6pm**

**Stranger Than
Fiction**

An endearing comedy about a shy, lonely IRS auditor, Harold Crick, who finds his mundane life the subject of narration only he can hear. Themes include creativity and transformation. Rated PG-13.



Holy Week at Central

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd @ 7:00pm

Christ: Challenged! Is It I, Lord? based on Matthew 26:17-25. A dramatic presentation of the perspectives of the 12 disciples as they struggle with their fading loyalty to their Rabbi, their leader, their Christ.

Good Friday, April 3rd @ 7:00pm

Christ: Challenged! The Enemies of Suffering and Death based on Matthew 27:24-56. Featuring scripture read by a vocal choir with individuals giving voice to the various people in the passage.

Easter Sunday, April 5th @ 8:45am & 10:30am

Christ: Defied! The Final Challenge based on John 20:1-18. Special children's event—Find the Alleluia.

Join us between services for coffee, treats, family activities, a photo booth, and a tour of the empty tomb.

Pot Holes, Floods & Ruts, Oh My

Bob Swartz is assembling a work group to plan the improvement and possible replacement of the church parking lot. If you have interest and/or expertise in this area, we would welcome your help. To get involved, please contact Bob Swartz at 248-882-4301 (text or call). Thank you

Potential Hunger Ministry

We have recently been supporting our partner ministry, HOPE Warming Shelter, with donations of warm clothes and boots. They also need help feeding clients, and we are exploring an opportunity to provide Hope with a meal on a regular basis. We would need donations of pre-made casseroles that Hope could warm up in their kitchen. If you would be interested in periodically donating a casserole, please contact Robin Danek (248-681-0040) or Debra Hayden-Schmid (248-705-8546) and let us know of your interest. Thank you.

From the Bookkeeper

We are still trying to apply a direct deposit from February 24th from a Fidelity account to the correct member. If you sent this deposit, please notify our bookkeeper, Cassandra, at 248-681-0040 or bookkeeper@waterfordcumc.org.

The next issue of the *Chimes* will be dated April 26th. Please have any articles submitted to rdanek@waterfordcumc.org by Thursday, April 16th.



Grief Support Group
Every Thursday @ 6:30pm.
All are welcome.



Kids' Ministries

KidVenture Sunday Morning,
10:45am to 11:30am

April 2 – No JUMP Kids

April 5 – No KidVenture on Easter Sunday

April 9 – JUMP Kids Youth Group at 4:30pm

April 12 – KidVenture

April 16 – JUMP Kids Youth Group at 4:30pm

April 19 – KidVenture

April 23 – JUMP Kids Youth Group at 4:30pm

April 26 – KidVenture

Youth Group

5:45pm to 7:30pm each Sunday for
all 6th – 12th Graders

April 5 – No Youth Group

April 12 – Youth Group

April 19 – Youth Group

April 26 – Youth Group

Welcome New Members



On Palm Sunday, Central welcomed new members (from left) Bobbie and Maria Alegre, Heather Riley, Natalie Helm, Janet Maxson, John Merle (with Joyce Merle, existing member), Michael Boutin and Fran Osmak.

