



5987 Williams Lake Rd
Waterford, MI 48329

All are welcome...
...no really!

SUNDAY WORSHIP
10AM

OFFICE HOURS
Monday—Thursday
9:00am to 2:00pm

PHONE
248-673-7331

CHURCH EMAIL:
office@christwaterford.org

WEBSITE:
www.christwaterford.org

WATCH ONLINE
<https://christwaterford.org/online-worship/>

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!
www.facebook.com/ChristutheranWaterford

INSTAGRAM
[@christlutheranwaterford](https://www.instagram.com/christlutheranwaterford)



Parish Caller

CLC's Monthly Newsletter

March 2026



Dear Church, Lent is here. And if we're honest, Lent can get misunderstood. It is not a spiritual self-improvement plan. It is not a religious boot camp. It is not forty days of trying harder to finally become the person we think God will like better.

Kate Bowler once said, "Dust is not a problem to be solved." And that might be the most honest description of Lent I've ever heard. On Ash Wednesday we heard, "*Remember that you are dust.*" Not as an insult. Not as a threat. But as truth. We are finite. Fragile. Beautifully human. **Dust is not a failure.** It is the material God chose to work with from the very beginning.

Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber reminds us that Lent is about telling the truth about ourselves. Not to shame us - but to free us. The truth that we are limited. The truth that we are loved anyway.

So if you find yourself feeling not quite "there"... not quite disciplined enough, not quite faithful enough, not quite put together enough - that is not failure. It is being human. And Lent is the season where we stop pretending otherwise.

The prophet Joel says, "*Return to the Lord your God, for God is **gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.***" (Joel 2:13)
We do not return because we have perfected ourselves.

Pastor Stephanie Newman
pastorsteph@christwaterford.org

Secretary Edelyn Rose
office@christwaterford.org

Treasurer Judi Baptista
treasurer@christwaterford.org

Bookkeeper Karen Hillestad

Custodian Dave Kane

Music Ministers

John Joannette and Tracy Hoffman
music@christwaterford.org

Church Council

President: Charlie Moritz

Vice President: Edelyn Rose

Administrative

Charlie Moritz

Children & Youth

Kathy Reddeman

Community & Cong. Life

Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach

Communications

Edelyn Rose

Education

Stephen Cooperrider

Finance

Lisa Kargol-Stephens

Property

Hayleigh Baptista

Worship and Music

Cindy Edwards

Cont. from pg. 1

We return because God is gracious. And we walk this road together...and something beautiful is happening in the walking.

This month, I encourage you to plug into your Lenten journey in a tangible way. Make space for God. Make space for honesty. Make space for growth that doesn't come from striving, but from surrender. There is something stirring here right now - a holy energy, a hunger for deeper engagement - and I don't want you to miss it.

Our Wednesday Bible Study has taken off in ways I did not expect. The Spirit is stirring something lively and honest and deeply engaging. What began as a small gathering has grown into a vibrant, thoughtful, energetic group asking real questions and leaning into real faith. Something new is going to happen in response; instead of pausing Bible study during Lent, this year, we will continue on! Join us Wednesdays at 1:00pm for this dynamic group.

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In Our Prayers

Members lifted in prayer, Chuck Roller, Annie Chachich, Joan Dort, Cindy Edwards, Steve Fante, Dale Folsom, Robin Hansen, Barbara Harris, The Hess Family, Carol Hollis, Fred Jones, Nadine Keway, Pat Kinnison, Jane Madsen, Andy Nestor, Lynn Norton, Butch Reddeman, Ashley Wichtman, Rita Zettel, Sarah Apigian, Lisa Head, Jerry Scrivo, Roger Newman.

Our Armed Service and support personnel: Aaron Butora; Cole Nichols (Fred & Jill Jones), Kurtis Barney (Terry Young)

Gerry's Shoutouts!

To Todd Cooper and Riane Forbing for all the amazing activities that you both do on Sunday mornings as ushers, greeters, taking attendance, ringing the church bell, lighting the altar candles, collecting the offering, helping with communion, collecting the information slips, and cleaning up after services. You guys are busy and thank you!

Easter Breakfast

Thanks to all who have volunteered to help, I could use a few more in the kitchen. Set up will be on Saturday April 4, at 10 AM. I will have a meeting on Sunday March 15, after services to go over final details. See you there,

Gerry

Upcoming Events

Weekly Bible Wednesday's at 1pm
Wednesday Lenten Soup Supper

5:30pm, Service 7pm

Every Wednesday in March

WELCA Meeting Sunday March 8th,
11:30am

Grief & Loss Support Group

Monday's March 9th & 23rd

6:45pm

Noisy Offering is Sunday, March 15th. This month offering goes to Fed Up Food Truck

Men's Food & Fellowship

will meet Monday, March 22nd,
6:30pm





Cont. from pg. 2

This month, we are grateful to share how Christ Lutheran continues to live out our calling beyond our walls.

Through the CLC Endowment Fund, \$2,500 was granted to **Micah 6** Community in Pontiac. Micah 6 provides food distribution, clothing, household goods, and community support to neighbors experiencing economic hardship. Our gift helps sustain their ongoing outreach and ensures families have access to essential resources and compassionate care.

The Endowment Fund also provided \$1,200 to **ReconcilingWorks**, the Lutheran organization that supports congregations in their commitment to welcome and affirm LGBTQIA+ individuals. As a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, this partnership reflects who we are and what we stand for — that all people are created in God's image and fully belong in the life and leadership of the church. Our support strengthens this ministry of education, advocacy, and inclusion across the wider church.

In addition, our recent Chili Cook-Off raised over \$500 for the **Waterford Community Coalition**, which works to support youth and families through prevention programs, mental health awareness, and community-building initiatives right here in our area.

These are more than financial gifts. They are expressions of our faith in action. As Christ's hands and feet, we are making a tangible difference — locally and beyond — because of your generosity and heart for service. Thank you for being a church that shows up and lives out love in meaningful ways.

Truly, this is not the Bible study you used to know. It is curious, challenging, full of laughter and depth - and I will tell you plainly, it has become one of my favorite parts of the week. Come check it out. There is room for you.

Soup Suppers continue every Wednesday at 5:30pm, followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00pm - a quieter, more reflective service that gives us space to breathe. Come for food, fellowship, and faith. Come exactly as you are.

This Lent our children's church will be diving into Lent and Easter in their own beautiful way - learning about Jesus, creating meaningful Easter crafts, and discovering that resurrection hope belongs to them too.

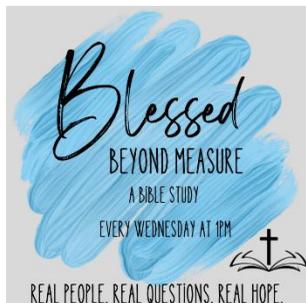
And even in a season of reflection, joy is not canceled. Save the date for April 12th right after worship as we celebrate June Swain's 100th birthday with a full luncheon and celebration. One hundred years of life is holy ground, and we intend to honor it well.

Opportunities to serve continue as well. We are preparing to help with community meals, deepen our partnership with Hope Shelter in Pontiac, and Fueling Kids' Futures carries on each Wednesday. Because Lent is not only about reflection — it is about love moving outward.

Church, this season is not about becoming less human. It is about trusting that God meets us right in our humanity. Dust is not a problem to be solved. It is the place where resurrection begins.

And so we pray with the psalmist, *"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me... Restore to me the joy of your salvation."*(Psalm 51)

May this Lent be honest. May it be gentle. And may it restore your joy. With gratitude for each of you, Pastor Steph





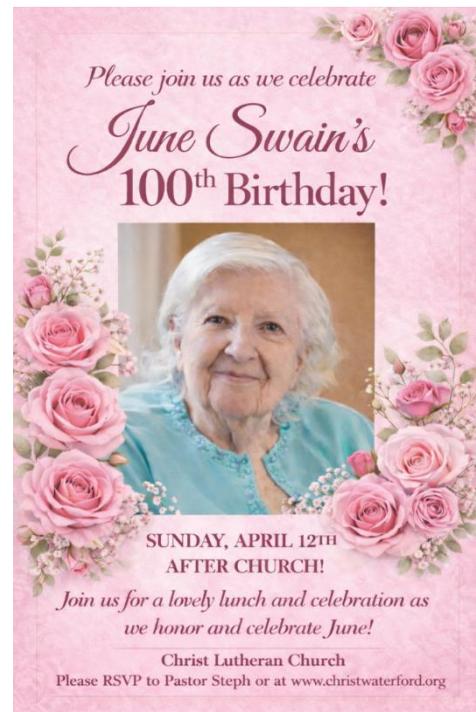
De la Ferriere yoga is holding a 7-week gentle yoga session on the lower level of the church beginning March 26, Thursdays, 11-12:30.

Class fee is \$56.

No experience is necessary. Bring a mat if you have one and wear comfortable clothing.

We welcome you to join us. If interested, please contact Janet at rotron@comcast.net.

The CLC crew supporting Becca & Stephanie's hockey team!!!



WORSHIP SERVANTS

Greeters

If you cannot be there on your scheduled day, please switch with someone or find a substitute and let the church office know of the change.

Lay Assistants

- 3/1 – Julia Hanneman Schoenbach
- 3/8 – Donna Butora
- 3/15 – Stephanie Radtke
- 3/22 – Mike Mitchell
- 3/29 – Edelyn Rose

Ushers

- 3/1 – Ron & Kris Goetze Sharon Morse, Jim Austin
- 3/8 – Elisabete Nestor, Norm Kinnison, Gerry Cleasby Christopher Nestor
- 3/15 Todd Cooper, Gerry Cleasby Vicki Hill, Catherine Roller
- 3/22 Jacen Schnitzer, Jim Austin Julie Zarembo, Anna Findley
- 3/29 Norm Kinnison, Jill Jones Todd Cooper, Gerry Cleasby

Counters for March

- Norm Kinnison - Head Counter
- Mary Bratun, Sharon Morse

3/1 - Hanna & Riana Forbing Vicki Hill, Jill Jones

3/8 - Linda Jensen Carol Scrivo, Linda Martin

3/15 - Ron & Kris Goetze Roland Jakel, Linda Martin

3/22 - Diane Harris, Linda Jensen, Jill Jacobson

3/29 Linda Martin, Elisabete Nestor, Anna Findley, Cathy Roller

Coffee Hour

3/1 – Geri Moritz & Co.

3/8 – Council Team 1
Charlie Moritz
Edelyn Westwood
Stephen Cooperrider
Kathy Reddeman

3/15 – WELCA
Elisabete Nestor - Chair

3/22 – Men's Group

3/29 – WELCA 5th Sunday

Altar Team for March

- Cindy & Krystal Edwards
- Kate Smith

WORSHIP SERVANTS

Tech Team January 2026

3/1

Switcher: Ole Anderson
Projection: Krystal Edwards
Sound Up: Charli Moritz
Cameras: Edelyn Rose
Kim Harris

3/8

Switcher: Krystal Edwards
Projection: Kerri Kinneberg
Sound Up: Edelyn Rose
Cameras: Brian Domain
Tracey Barney

3/15

Switcher:
Projection: Krystal Edwards
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Kim Harris
Carol Segal

3/22

Switcher: Edelyn Rose
Projection: Kim Harris
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Brian Domain
Tracey Barney

3/29

Switcher: Krystal Edwards
Projection: Kerri Kinniberg
Sound Up: Charlie Moritz
Cameras: Kim Harris
Christopher Nestor

Communion Assistants

3/1 - Mary Bratun, Joan Kossman, Linda Jensen

3/8 - Julie Hanneman Schoenbach
Stephen Cooperrider, Cindy Edwards

3/15 – Marsha Fanta, Phyllis Folsom,
Linda Greiser

3/22 – Hanne & Riane Forbing,
Stephen Cooperrider

3/29 - Vickie Hill, Joan Kossman,
Donna Butora

Join Our Tech Team!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to give back to our church?

We need YOU to help us enhance our services by joining the Tech Team!

No skills or experience? No problem! We will provide all the training you need.

Your support will help us create a welcoming and engaging environment for our congregation.

This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved and make a difference!

Interested? Please contact the office for more details or to sign up.

Community Dinner Dates

2026

April 25th

August 8th

November 25th

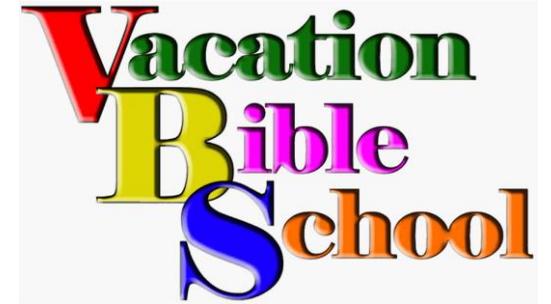
All dinner times are
5-7pm

We are delighted to help you!

If you have a church office request, please send it by email to office@christwaterford.org or by calling the church office during regular hours: Monday–Thursday, 9:00 AM–2:00 PM. These are the best ways for us to receive and respond to requests, so please avoid contacting staff through personal phones or emails, social media, or by asking staff and volunteers or in person, *those messages cannot be processed.*

If you leave a voicemail, please share your name, phone number, and a short description of your request.

Thank you for your patience and for helping us serve one another with Christ's love. Many blessings to you!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS VBS IS COMING

Planning has started and we are looking forward to warmer weather and our summer VBS program. We wanted to get on your calendars - hoping you will join us for VBS this year the last week of July (26th - 31st exact dates to be determined). As in the past years - **All Are Welcome!** The program will be in the evening with a light supper from 5:30pm - 6:00pm, followed by the VBS program from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Please mark your calendars and let friends, family and neighbors know.

Watch for registration and more information to come.

HELPERS NEEDED - please consider volunteering. If available and interested please contact Pat Scott at PScott6451@gmail.com
Thank you!

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10am Service Lent 2	2 7pm Scouts	3	4 1pm Bible Study 5:30pm Soup Supper 7pm Holden Service 7:45pm Choir 8pm AA	5 9am Quilting Group Yoga 11am-12:30pm TOPS 5-6pm	6	7 8pm AA
8 10am Service Lent 3 WELCA Meeting	9 6:45 Grief & Loss Support Group 7pm Scouts	10 7pm MS Support Group	11 1pm Bible Study 5:30pm Soup Supper 6pm SCSA 7pm Holden Service 7:45pm Choir 8pm AA	12 9am Quilting Group Yoga 11am-12:30pm TOPS 5-6pm	13	14 8pm AA
15 10am Service Lent 4 Noisy Offering Grounds Crew/ Peace Garden After servicezz	16 6:45pm ALS Support Group 7pm Council Meeting 7pm Scouts	17 	18 1pm Bible Study 5:30pm Soup Supper 7pm Holden Service 7:45pm Choir 8pm AA	19 9am Quilting Group Yoga 11am-12:30pm TOPS 5-6pm	20	21  8pm AA
22 10am Service Lent 4	23 6:45 Grief & Loss Support Group 6:30 Men's Fellowship 7pm Scouts	24	25 1pm Bible Study 5:30pm Soup Supper 6PM SCSA 7pm Holden Service 7:45pm Choir 8pm AA	26 9am Quilting Group Yoga 11am-12:30pm TOPS 5-6PM	27	28 8pm AA
29 10am Service Palm Sunday	30 7pm Scouts	31	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MARCH BIRTHDAYS</u></p> <p>3/3 Maureen Stislicki, 3/4 Ethan Harris Newman, 3/8 Lily Miles, 3/12 Jo Naylor, 3/22 Brent Gobler, 3/22 Brandon Middleton, 3/23 Geraldine Howard, 3/25 Carole Scrivo, 3/25 Julie Zarembo, 3/26 Margie Gobler, 3/28 Ryan Christensen, 3/30 Jill Jones</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>MARCH ANNIVERSARIES</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">3/17 Fred & Jill Jones</p>			