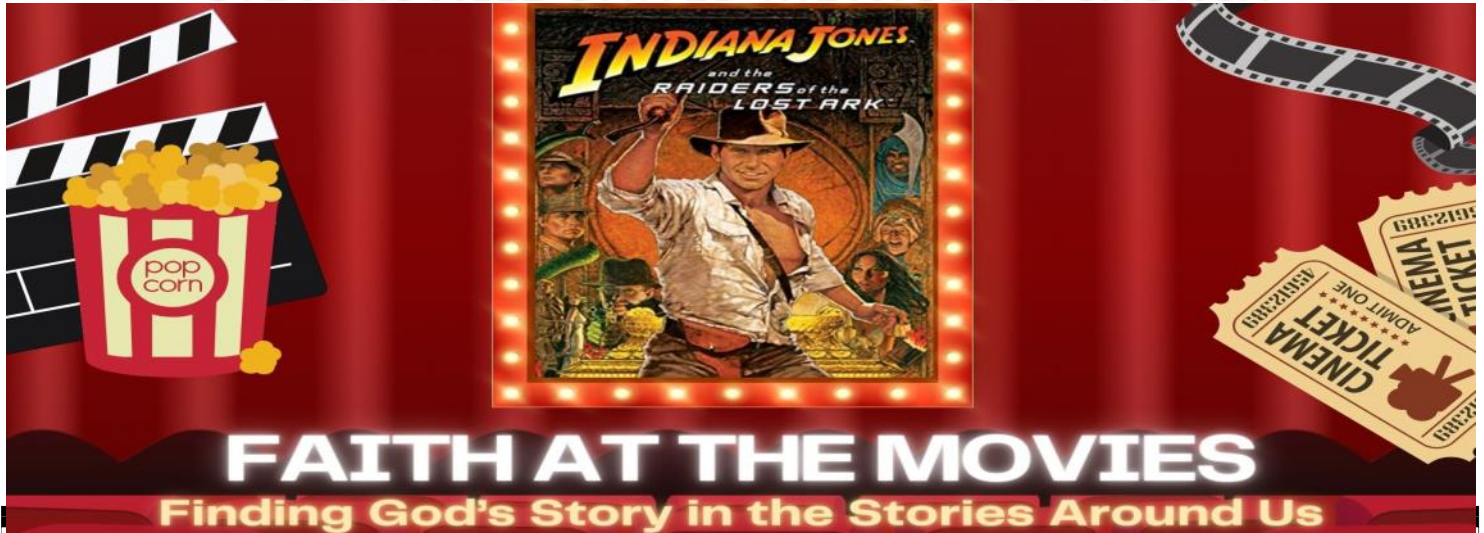


STEVENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE

9:55AM ON THE SUMC FACEBOOK PAGE
or click on the link on our website:
www.stevensville-umc.org

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Theme from
"Raiders of the Lost Ark/Onward Christian Soldiers"
Tom Mitchell, organ; Jacob Krieg & Faith Mitchell, percussion
take these moments to quiet your mind & heart as worship begins

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn: #400 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

The Story For All Ages

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 12:1-3
Dick Lukey

Message: "Raiders of the Lost Ark"
Pastor Elise Low Edwardson

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Offering: "Marion's Theme/Let All Things Now Living"

*Doxology: #95 "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Communion:
Musical Praise: "Come to the Table of Grace"
Senior Choir

*Closing Song: #2208 "Guide My Feet" (vs 1,2,4,6)

Blessing

Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Focus For January
Feeding America Mobile Food Pantry

Altar Flower Sign-Up For 2024 Now Available-Please leave your check in the box next to the sign up sheet in the hallway on the table. Cost is \$30.00 that will go towards missions.

Cardio Drumming-January 25th @ 6:30pm in Faith Hall.

MOVIE NIGHT-Friday, January 19, Indiana Jones, Raiders of the Lost Ark and Friday, January 26, Moana

We will gather @ 6:15pm for Snacks and the movie will begin at 6:30.

Mobile Food Pantry-RESCHEDULED TO Wednesday, January 24 @ 4:00pm. Set-up is at 2:30.

Membership Exploration Class After Worship

Sunday, February 4th from 11:15-1:15pm. Lunch and childcare will be provided. Sign-up in the gathering space today!

Serving in Worship, Sunday, January 21

Dick Lukey, Lector

Sally McWhirter & Dick Stauffer, Ushers

Grace Mitchell, Acolyte

Sandy Hayes, Myra Thompson, Heather Boyle,

Kathy Sankey, Communion Helpers

Altar Flowers Given by Bruce & Leanne Nitz In Honor of Their Granddaughter's 20th Birthday.

PASTOR'S NOTE



As I write to you this week, I give thanks to be in a place that is safe and warm, and pray you are safe and warm as well! The weather this week has certainly taken us on an adventure with blowing snow, frigid temps, and a true blast of winter. I have made the most of these days by indulging in hot chocolate after shoveling the snow; my husband Ryan has made the most of it by snowshoe running all around Grand Mere State Park – in our house, we've been choosing our own adventure!

This week we continue our series "Faith at the Movies" with "Indiana Jones: Raiders of the Lost Ark." Indy goes on quite the adventure as he seeks to secure the Ark of the Covenant and keep out of the hands of the Nazis. The pursuit of the Ark of the Covenant reminds me of all the ways that religion and faith can be pursued for less than holy purposes. At its worst, religion can be used by some to exclude or control others. Sometimes, we might find ourselves pursuing faith in hopes that it will keep us from painful circumstances in life. But the journey of faith is not about the pursuit of worldly power, but about pursuing the life-giving presence of God. The journey of faith is about pursuing peace in a world marked by chaos and injustice. The journey of faith calls us to pursue love in a world where indifference is all too common. It truly is the adventure of a lifetime.

Join us this Friday at 6:30 for a movie night, and on Sunday morning as we consider the adventure God is calling us to be a part of, and the ways we can pursue God's presence in our lives and in this world.

Let's be the Church,

Pastor Elise

Panel Discussion at Saron Lutheran Church

On Wednesday, February 7th, Pastor Elise will be participating in a panel discussion with other local clergy on the challenges and opportunities of the Church's future. The panel is part of Saron Lutheran's "Forum & Fellowship" series, and you are warmly invited to be a part of it. Join us on Wednesday, February 7th at 7 pm at Saron Lutheran Church, 510 Main Street, in St. Joe.

2024 Offering Envelopes Are Here

Pick up your envelopes on the table near the gathering area. They are listed by envelope number.

Membership Exploration Class - Sunday,

February 4

Whether you're brand new to SUMC, or have been attending for some time, membership can be a meaningful way to grow in your faith, your relationships with others, and make an intentional commitment to be a part of what God is doing at SUMC. If you are interested in becoming a member, or simply want to learn more about what that might look like, join us for a **Membership Exploration class after worship on Sunday, February 4th from 11:15 - 1:15.** Lunch and childcare will be provided. Sign up in the gathering space today!



HEALTH CONCERNS:

Don Alsbro
 June Avery
 Tery Bailey
 Bruce Barclay
 Chris Chorny
 Sara Collins
 Janet Crawford
 Jack Hardy
 Dianna Hartman
 Shirley Hetfield
 Diane Koebel
 Baby Sebastian Kurup
 Levi
 Mike Logan
 Mike Melcher

Carol Momany
 April Pinderski
 Gloria Pollack
 Joann Rumney
 Mike Rush
 Amy Schaub
 Kathy Trejo
 Brooke Trux
 Cathy Sommers
 Pat Steenbergh
 Carol Svorec
 Judy Vanderaue

SHUT-INS:

Jo Cupp
 Grace Park
 Dan & Sally Streick

MISSIONARIES IN THE FIELD:

Caleb Dormah-Liberia

IN ACTIVE SERVICE:

Taylor Allgood-England
 Lydia Sankey-Navy

**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

- ◆ Prayers for Janet Crawford and John and Michael as Janet enters into Hospice Care at Hanson Center.
- ◆ Prayers of comfort and strength for the family of Linda Shearer who passed away Saturday, January 13th.
- ◆ Prayers for Harold Rescoe who is recovering from carotid artery surgery in Florida.
- ◆ Prayers for Jack Hardy who is recovering from below the knee amputation and is back at Royalton for rehab.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for Myra Thompson's husband JT who is recovering from a stroke and is now back home.
- ◆ Prayers for Larry Shadle who is having more nerve pain.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for Eric Mallen who is home and for the Drs who are consulting and as more tests are being done.
- ◆ Prayers for Mattox Williams and family as he enters into hospice care. He is a Jr. at St. Joe High School.
- ◆ Prayers for Logan Boyle who is recovering from partial knee replacement surgery.
- ◆ Prayers for lonely individuals to connect to others so they are reminded of their beauty and importance.
- ◆ Prayers for the communities in areas of natural disasters, families affected by recent gun violence and those displaced and grieving due to the atrocities of war.
- ◆ We pray for those subjected to human trafficking and forced labor, and pray that we may grow in awareness of how our consumer choices impact others.

PRAYER JOYS:

The Rukunda family is back home safe and thanks everyone for their prayers of support during their recent travel.



JANUARY BIRTHDAY'S

JANUARY 1

Kathy Harris

JANUARY 3

Renee Menke

JANUARY 4

Josephine Cupp

JANUARY 5

Becca Meyer

JANUARY 9

Tafara Rukenda

JANUARY 13

Sally McWhirter

JANUARY 16

Chip Krieg

JANUARY 17

Kevin Boyle

JANUARY 18

Nancy Farrington

Bob Schmidt

JANUARY 19

Brian Radford

JANUARY 21

Nicholas Weingart

JANUARY 26

Gene Harris

Riley Logan

JANUARY 27

Kevin Ivers

Shawn Wade

JANUARY 28

Bert Robbins

Melissa Vegter

JANUARY 29

Sandra Andert

JANUARY 30

Barb Pries

CARING MINISTRY

It's January and the color White comes to mind.

I look outside and see a fresh blanket of White covering the ground. It may be cold, but it looks pure.

I grew up with the term White Sale. It was the time when we refreshed linens as they were always on sale in January. A clever marketing ploy by John Wanamaker in 1878 to aid sales and start the New Year by giving your home a clean, fresh start.

White stands for so many things—purity, innocence, wholeness, honesty, cleanliness, completion. White is the color of new beginnings, wiping the slate clean. White is used in the Bible many times.

Isaiah 1:18

“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.”

God invites His people to reconciliation and forgiveness, promising that even though their sins may be as scarlet, they will be washed away and made white as snow. We see purity through God's mercy and grace.

Let us embrace the season of white and embrace new beginnings for 2024.

Nancy Mead, Caring Ministry

Your Caring Ministry team is here for you. Please reach out to any of our members, Nancy Mead, Lona Vogie, Karen Pallas, Sharon Foxworthy, Chris Weber, and Elise Low Edwardson (Pastor)



SIGN-UP TO HELP WITH HOSPITALITY AFTER CHURCH

Do you enjoy the hospitality fellowship after church? We have had so many yummy treats from all who have baked and we are so grateful. There are 3 different areas you can sign-up to help keep this ministry going. You can sign-up to set up the coffee, you can sign-up to clean up, and you can sign-up to bake goodies. If you haven't set-up or cleaned up before that's ok, Sandy Hayes will be happy to show you. Thank you to everyone who has helped and shared there talents with bake goods.



The January Card Ministry classes will be held Tuesday, January 9 @ 10:00am. The evening class will be held Thursday, January 18 at 6:00pm. Please let Sandy Hayes know if you plan on attending so she can have enough supplies for everyone. If you have any questions please contact her at:

429-5328 or shayes1314@juno.com

Altar Flower Dedications For 2024

Collection Box By Sign-Up

Our Altar Flowers are silk arrangements done by Robin Weingart. Cost is \$30.00 and the money goes towards Missions. Thank you to all for sponsoring the flower arrangements every Sunday. **SIGN-UP ON THE CLIP BOARD IN THE HALLWAY AND PLACE YOUR PAYMENT IN THE COLLECTION BOX THAT IS NOW BY THE SIGN-UP SHEET.** If you are not able to get to church and sign-up please call the church office at 429-5911.



MOVIE NIGHT!


FRIDAY JANUARY 19
doors open at 6:15
movie starts at 6:30



JANUARY CARDIO DRUMMING

Meets in Faith Hall at 6:30pm

Thursday
January 25



I will be out of the office on vacation from Monday, January 15 returning Wednesday January 24. Nancy Mead will be covering for me.

**OUT
OF THE
OFFICE**

Thank you!
Sandy Krieg



Youth NEWS AND EVENTS



Youth Ministry Opportunities

Feb 9 & 10, 2024- Winter Blast for individuals in grades 3-12. The event will be held at Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center. Flyers with more information are on the information table. Please let Pastor Debi know of your interest if you want to participate!

**join us for a
HANDBELL
TEST
DRIVE**



HANDBELL TEST DRIVE!

Hold a Bell— Ring A bell
Have some fun together
No Commitment required

**SUNDAY FEB 4 & FEB 18
AFTER WORSHIP**

JANUARY MISSION FOCUS

FEEDING AMERICA

Feeding America serves 40 of Michigan's 83 counties from the Indiana border north through the western half of the state and the entire upper Peninsula. We are making a difference in our community at SUMC and one way is by providing the monthly mobile food pantry the third Wednesday of each month.

This year we have served the following:

1,425 Households: 3,958 Individuals: 1,425 Seniors: 1,233 Children: and 307 Veterans

We are so blessed to have the financial support of our church and community as well as our awesome volunteers.

We want to thank the co-chairs of our church fair booth for donating half of our church's proceeds from the fair to support the mobile food pantry in 2024. January mission of the month is our Feeding America Mobile Food Pantry. Hopefully, this will finish raising the money needed to continue supporting our mobile food pantry in 2024. The cost to Feeding America to bring the truck for the mobile food pantry is \$1,000.00 for 100 households and \$1200.00 for 100 to 150 households.

Each year we make a pledge donation to Feeding America. In January we will make the pledge again.

We hope you consider this mission to support in 2024 and the years to follow.



MISSION TEAM MEMBERS

Mindi Logan, Wanda Barclay, Co-Chairs

Barb Clark, Kathleen Deforest, Wayne Koebel, Judy Kuhlman,

Dick Lukey, Kellie Meyer, Leanne Nitz,

Paster Elise, Nancy Poelker, Barb Pries

Melissa Rescoe, Lona Vogie, Kathy Sankey, Myra Thompson,

Sally McWhirter, Rachel Wade, Robin Weingart,

Paul Westmaas