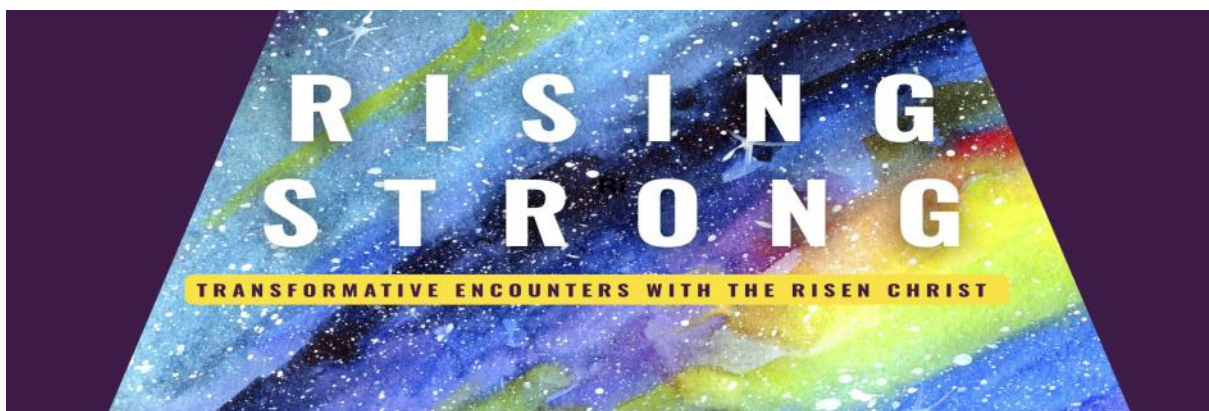


# STEVENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## **SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE**

9:55AM ON THE SUMC FACEBOOK PAGE

or click on the link on our website:

[www.stevensville-umc.org](http://www.stevensville-umc.org)

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*(take these moments to quiet your mind & heart as worship begins)*

\*Call to Worship

\*Opening Song: #2166 "Christ Beside Me"

The Story For All Ages

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Holly Hetfield

Message: "Rising From Fear"

Rev. Elise Low Edwardson

Musical Praise: "Give to God Our Immortal Praise"

Grace Notes

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Doxology #94

\*Closing Hymn: #369 "Blessed Assurance"

Blessing

Postlude

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***Mission Focus For April-Annual Conference Giving***

**Pie In The Face Mission Trip Fundraiser**-See page 4 of today's update.

**Church Spring Clean-Up Day**-Saturday, May 2, 9:00am

**Brunch Bunch**-Monday May 4th, 11:00am at Dino's in St. Joe. Sign-up in the gathering space.

**Lawn Mowing**-Please see page 6 of today's update.

**VBS Sign-up**-Sign-up is now available for VBS. See page 7 of today's update. Share with family and friends.

**Gallon Milk Jug Collection**-See page 5 of today's update.

***Serving in Worship Sunday, April 26***

*Kellie Meyer, Pianist*

*Holly Hetfield, Lector*

*Stan & Joni Dubbert, Ushers*

*Lynne Willadsen, Greeter*

*Brody Nelson, Acolyte*

*Bob Clark, Congregational Safety*

***Altar Flowers Given by Lona Vogie  
In Loving Memory of My Mom, Opal Bell***

## Travelling Mercies



When it's time to hit the road for a trip, many of us make a habit of praying for travelling mercies – prayers for safety, protection, and for a uneventful journey from Point A to Point B. This Sunday, we catch up with a couple disciples making their way home from Jerusalem after a most eventful week, where they experience a different kind of travelling mercy on their journey. Their travels are interrupted by a stranger, listening ear, an invitation, and a revelation. The risen Christ was present with them! As we continue "Rising Strong," our series on encounters with the resurrected Lord, we just might find that God has been present with us in surprising ways all along.

With Easter Hope,  
Pastor Elise

## Random Thoughts from Your Lay Servant

If you read the news on your phone or in a newspaper, listen to the radio, or watch any news channel on TV, it can be overwhelming. It seems there is bad news at every turn. It could be easy to let anxiety, fear and worry guide our thoughts and actions. Although it is important to stay informed about what is happening in our community, our nation and the world, we may choose to just tune it all out. Yet, we are not meant to live with an anxious, worried and fearful heart. Those feelings can overwhelm and paralyze us. Often keeping us from trusting in God and walking in faith in Him. *1 Peter 5:7 says "Cast all your anxiety on Him because He care for you."* Perhaps instead of worrying, consider turning your fear and anxiety into prayer. God cares deeply for each of us. He offers peace for troubled hearts. He wants us to come to Him in prayer, sharing our joys, our praises and gratitude for all He has done and will do in our lives, and sharing our doubts and worries with Him. *Psalm 94:19 reminds us "When doubts filled my mind, your comfort gave me renewed hope and cheer."* I wonder what our day would look like if we sang "Don't Worry, Be Happy" by Bobby McFerrin every morning. The first verse goes like this:

*"Here's a little song I wrote, you might want to sing it note for note,  
Don't worry, be happy,  
In every life we have some trouble, but when you worry, you make it double,  
don't worry be happy!"*

Imagine what our world would look like if it was filled with hope and cheer!

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:6-7*

Your Lay Servant,  
Kathy Sankey

**HEALTH CONCERNS:**

Tery Bailey  
Bruce Barclay  
Gordie Barry  
Christi Blunt  
Adam Burnett  
Missy Carroll  
Dianne Collins  
Sue Dock  
Jerry Farrington  
Jack Hardy  
Dianna Hartman  
David Hills  
Jason Kik  
Debbie Foley  
Ken Foyder  
Patrick Fowler

Shirley Hetfield  
Dick Lukey  
Sebastian Kurup  
Mike Melcher  
Gary & Lee Nelson  
Schaeffer Ott  
Bonnie & Tom Parrish  
Gloria Pollack  
Mike Rush  
Amy Schaub  
Fred Seifert  
Jan Taylor  
J.T. Thompson  
Kathy Trejo  
Brooke Trux  
David Sunblad Jr.  
Judy Vanderaue

Gary Wank  
Dan Whitt

**SHUT-INS:**

Carol Momany  
Grace Park  
Sally Streick  
Carol Svorec

**MISSIONARIES IN THE FIELD:**

Caleb Dormah-Liberia

**IN ACTIVE SERVICE:**

Taylor Allgood-Illinois



**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

- Prayers of safe travel for Monique who is on a two week research data collection in South Dakota.
- Prayers of healing for Jessica Buehler who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- Prayers of comfort and peace for the family of Sharon Alsbro who passed away March 28.
- Prayers for peaceful transformation for Myra's brother in law who has stage 4 cancer of the liver, lungs and colon.
- Prayers of healing for Chris Stolk who is recovering from surgery to remove colon cancer. Also prayers for his sister Amber who has a mass in her colon.
- Prayers for all our men & women in the armed forces, especially for Lydia Sankey-Orsillo who is on a destroyer ship in the Mediterranean Sea. May they all be safe and appreciated in their mission.
- Prayers for de-escalation in the air strikes taking place in the Middle East. Prayers for open dialogue and humility.
- Prayers for Mick & Barb Pries son who is looking for a job in engineering that is a good fit for him.
- Prayers for Lisa Williams Uncle Norman who is having treatments for mouth cancer and her brother Mark Long for surgeries.
- Prayers of lament in the loss of life, the separation of families, and for fear.
- Prayers for Ralph Stocking's granddaughter, Prissy Bau who's breast cancer has returned.
- Prayers of peace for our world.
- Prayers for Amanda Feigley who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. She is 30 years old.

**APRIL 1**

Kelly Hahaj-Mendus

**APRIL 2**

Dick Lukey

Bonnie Parrish

**APRIL 3**

Val Ruttenberg

**APRIL 8**

Nicole Tubman

**APRIL 9**

Joyce Hudak-Allen

**APRIL 10**

Jackie Witt

**APRIL 12**

Elliott Edwardson

**APRIL 13**

Robin Weingart

**APRIL 15**

Robert Hendley

**APRIL 16**

Katy Smith

**APRIL 17**

Lou Hendley

**APRIL 18**

Carrington Tubman

**APRIL 21**

Chris Stolk

**APRIL 22**

Sue Russell

**APRIL 23**

Mary Sundblad

**APRIL 26**

Ted Hollacher

**APRIL 29**

Perry Melcher

Brody Nelson

Sally Streick

**APRIL 30**

Max Logan

Savanna Stolk



**Zimbabwe Mission Team**



**Pie-in-the-Face Fundraiser**

200

150

100

50

0

Elise

Mike

Stan

Joni

Tendi

Farai

David

Ken



153

48

36

26

31

22

63

Total so far:

**\$446**



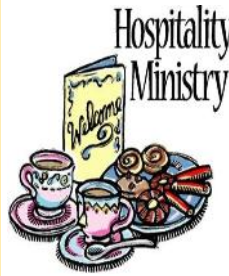
Scan to Give!  
Put team member  
name in  
memo line



### Faith Formation

The Faith Formation Coordinator serves as a member of the church staff and will direct/manage all Educational/Formational Ministries

of SUMC, 25-30 hours per week. Interested candidates should send a resume to Rev. Elise Low Edwardson, [reveliselowedwarson@gmail.com](mailto:reveliselowedwarson@gmail.com)



### Hospitality Ministry

Please consider signing up to help set-up, clean-up or make cookies for our Sunday Morning Hospitality. If you have questions please see Sandy Hayes or Lona Vogie. Sign-ups are at the hospitality table. Thank you!

## SIGN UP FOR

### Altar Flowers Sign-Up For 2026

Altar Flowers are silk arrangements done By Robin Weingart. Cost is \$30.00 and goes towards missions. Sign-up on the clip Board in the hallway. If you are not able to get to church to Sign-up please call the church office at 429-5911. Thank you!



## ALTAR FLOWERS

Gallon Jugs Needed!-We are collecting gallon size jugs for VBS! These jugs will be transformed into an igloo for our winter-themed week of adventure. Please bring clean gallon-size jugs to the collection box in the gathering space.



**Clean Gallon Jug Donations for our VBS igloo!**

SUMC Missions Team is organizing a food and household goods collection for a local family whose breadwinner has been deported back to their home country. The remaining family members are in need of food assistance and a few household goods. The aim of the drive is to source non-perishable food items that the family of seven typically need and use. These items include:

### FOOD COLLECTION LIST

- Canned or dried pinto beans
- White long-grain rice
- Canned sweet corn
- Canned tomatoes
- Canned diced tomatoes
- Canned crushed tomatoes
- Canned tomato sauce
- Canned fruit
- Fresh fruit that doesn't spoil easily
- Bottled water -- packs of 16.9 fl. oz. or gallon-size jugs
- Similac Soy Isomil baby formula (pink label)

### HOUSEHOLD GOODS LIST

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Clorox cleaning wipes
- Pampers #5 diapers

**GIFT CARDS NEEDED TO SHOP FOR PERISHABLE ITEMS (\$25, \$50, \$100 etc.)**


- Meijer gift cards
- Aldi's gift cards

These items will be collected on Sundays in May (May 3, May 10, May 17) in a designated area to be determined. We will then deliver items to the family the week following the last collection date.


**THANK YOU~THE MISSION TEAM**

## Faith Formation-April

As a new month begins, we gather with open hearts and expectant spirits. Faith Formation invites us to pause, reflect, and grow—together. Whether through study, conversation, journaling, or prayer, each gathering offers a chance to deepen our connection with God, discover fresh purpose, and share the journey with one another. Come explore, question, and be nourished by practices that awaken the soul and strengthen community.

 **Men's Group:** 🕒 Sundays at 9:00 AM • Room 1, Faith Hall -


**NEW STUDY WILL BEGIN APRIL 12, "CHRISTIANITY AND WORLD RELIGIONS" BY ADAM HAMILTON. THE STUDY WILL RUN FOR 6 WEEKS.**

 **Scripture of the Week** – with Pastor Elise Low Edwardson 🕒 Tuesdays at 2:00 PM • Location - Lounge

Ever wish you had more time to reflect on Sunday's message before it's preached? This gathering offers just that. Pastor Elise gently unpacks the week's scripture, offering context, insight, and space for conversation. It's a chance to engage with the Word ahead of time—so it can settle in your heart before it's proclaimed from the pulpit.

 **Pub Theology** 🕒 Tuesdays at 7:00 PM • The Watermark

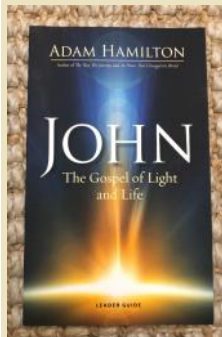
Pull up a chair and join the conversation. Each week we dive into moral, ethical, theological, and philosophical topics in a relaxed, open setting. Bring your thoughts, your doubts, and your curiosity—no question is too big or too small.

 **Covenant Journaling** – 🕒 Thursdays at 11:30 AM • Lounge

Enter a sacred space of quiet reflection. With gentle, meditative music surrounding us, we journal our prayers, thoughts, and spiritual insights—whether through Bible journaling, faith journaling, or prayer journaling. We close with shared prayer practices that refresh the spirit and nourish the soul.

### **A NEW STUDY John The Gospel of Light and Life By Adam Hamilton**

The Gospel of John is the most deeply spiritual of the four gospels. This writing is filled with rich images and profound truths, but John notes that his aim in writing the gospel is that readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they "may have life in his name." The Gospel of John is the most deeply spiritual of the four gospels. This writing is filled with rich images and profound truths, but John notes that his aim in writing the gospel is that readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they "may have life in his name." This study will begin Wednesday April 8 at 1 PM in the Gathering Area. The study is being facilitated by Lona Vogie and Kathy Sankey. It is a six week study. Please join us for good discussion and fellowship. You are welcome to participate even if you may have to miss a class or two along the way. If you're not into reading the video is often enough to be able to join in the discussion.



#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

The Trustees team will be hosting a church spring clean up on **Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** from 9 am - Noon. There will be things to do inside and outside the church. We hope everyone will plan to attend, even if you can only give an hour or two!



#### **LAWN MOWING SIGN-UP**

**PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING UP TO HELP MOW THE CHURCH'S LAWN. THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE GATHERING SPACE ALONG WITH AN INSTRUCTION SHEET. THANK YOU!**  
***THE TRUSTEE TEAM***



**WEEKLY CALENDAR AT SUMC**

**April 27-May 3**

**Monday, April 27**

4:30pm Caring Ministries

6:00pm Scout Troop Mtg

**Tuesday, April 28**

2:00pm Scripture of the Week

7:00pm Harmony Ringers

7:00pm Pub Theology

**Wednesday, April 29**

10:00am Staff Mtg

1:00pm Study/John

5:30pm BASIC Rehearsal

7:00pm Sr Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, April 30**

11:30am Covenant Journaling

1:00pm Old Chimers

2:00pm Lancer Lunches

5:30pm SUMCC Board Mtg

6:15pm Cardio Drumming

**Saturday, May 2**

9:00am Church Spring Clean-up Day

**Sunday, May 3**

9:00am Men's Study

10:00am Worship

10:15am Sunday School

Cokesbury Kids

# SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE VBS

**FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD**

**June 22-26 ❄️ 9am - 11:30am**

**Stevensville United Methodist Church**  
**5506 Ridge Rd, Stevensville**  
**269-429-5911**  
**www.stevensville-umc.org**

**KINDERGARTEN - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**Register Here!**



**BRUNCH BUNCH**

Monday, May 4th

11:00am

Dino's Restaurant

ALL ARE WELCOME

Please sign-up in the gathering space.

Hope to see you there!

## **APRIL MISSION FOCUS**

The Good News Is.... United Methodists have always been amazing at recognizing the needs in the world around them, making plans to address those needs and then putting the plans into action. Each year, during the Michigan Annual Conference, congregations are given the opportunity to support specific areas of ministry. This year, the traditional opening worship offering will support two long standing missions: Haitian Assets for Peace International (HAPI) and Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village in Liberia.

Through HAPI, the families in Mizak have access to healthcare and job training. The Start Right program gives babies a healthy start in life. HAPI is working to reverse hypertension and heart disease so Haitians can live healthier, longer lives. Healthcare workers are being trained on how to take charge of healthcare programs within their communities.

Established in 2000, the Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village in Liberia provides education, health care and counseling for children orphaned by civil war. Originally established as an orphanage, today, most children spend their day in the village classrooms, receiving education and meals, returning to their own homes each evening. When you support this program, scholarships become available so children have the opportunity to attend school, receive healthcare, and meals.

In addition to supporting HAPI and Bishop Judith Craig Children's Village, 10% of the offering collected will support the Miracle Sunday Initiative. Each year, this initiative provides vital support for 500 clergy living outside of the U.S. through The Endowment for Theological Education. While more than 70% of clergy in the U.S. hold a theological degree, less than 5% of clergy outside of the U.S. have earned a theological degree. This portion of the offering will help close this gap by funding and sustaining theological education for emerging pastors in Africa, Europe and the Philippines.

Your generous donations will be presented by Pastor Elise during the Michigan Annual Conference in May. Thank you for your support of these vital programs.

***Mission Team Members – Monique Yoder (Chairperson), Wanda Barclay, Barb Clark, Kathleen Deforest, Pastor Elise, Dick Lukey, Kellie Meyer, Leanne Nitz, Nancy Poelker, Barb Pries, Kathy Sankey, Myra Thompson, Lona Vogie, Rachel Wade, and Robin Weingart***