

STEVENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously



Living as faithful United Methodists

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: *You Are Good*

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

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn: #408 "The Gift of Love"

The Story For All Ages
Elaine Graves

Scripture Reading: 1 John 4:7-12
John Graves

Message: "Love Boldly, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously"
Kathy Sankey, Elaine Graves, John Graves

Musical Praise: "Rule of Life"
Summer Choir

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering
Doxology: #2026 "Halle, Halle, Halleluja" (2x)
Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Song: #2106 "The Summons"
Blessing/Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Focus for July - World Central Kitchen

Berrien County Youth Fair Sign-Up-Please check your summer calendars and sign-up to work a shift or 2 at the fair. We are at 61% with 90 out of 147 spots filled. It is a great time of fun and fellowship with our church family and our community. Thank You!



South Bend Chicago Cubs Game-See page 4 of today's update.

Ringin In The Spirit Hand Bell Clinic- See page 4.

Safe Gatherings Training-See page 2 of today's update.

SUMC OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, JULY 31.

Serving in Worship Sunday, July 26

Kellie Meyer, Pianist
Kathy Sankey, Elaine Graves, John Graves, Lay Leaders
Sandy Hayes & Sandy Krieg, Ushers
Bette Mallen, Greeter
Brody Nelson, Acolyte
Mike Logan, Congregational Safety

***This Sunday, July 26th, we
invite you to join us for worship.
We are doing a Laity Sunday event to tell you about our weekend at
the Michigan Annual Conference.
We are excited about the theme ...
LOVE **SERVE **LEAD
We will share some tidbits of our events, experiences, and reflections
of this special event starting with the Children's Time all the way
through to the Benediction.
We are proud members of SUMC...A church that is
GROWING CONNECTIONS
to God **to Each Other to the Community**
and BEYOND!
Blessings and Peace from your Laity team and hopefully we'll see you
on July 26th for a FUNDAY SUNDAY!!
Kathy Sankey, Elaine and John Graves***

Safe Gatherings Training

SUMC requires that everyone working with children, youth, and vulnerable adults complete a background check, as well as training to maintain a safe environment for all participants. This process is now available to complete online through a program called Safe Gatherings. If you have not yet completed Safe Gatherings training and plan to work with children, youth, or vulnerable adults, please email the Church Office at stevensvillechurch@gmail.com

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



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!

How often do you think about the mission, vision and purpose of our church or the United Methodist Church in the world? Honestly, it's not something I think about every day. Mission and vision statements sometimes feel like lofty statements. For me, determining how our vision actually works in our daily life is the most important thing, where the rubber meets the road.



During annual conference in May, John Graves, Elaine Graves, and I were reminded the United Methodist Church exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Forming disciples of Jesus Christ, who empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully and lead courageously in local communities and through world-wide connections is our purpose, our vision. This vision is more than words on a page. These words are meant to encourage us to take action, to embrace joy and hope. It gives us our purpose, reminding us why we do the things we do. It helps us know where we are going and how to live as we grow in faith. Our church is one of the most significant places where disciple making can happen. Consider how we love boldly.

How do we love God and follow Jesus' example to embrace and include people of every age, nation, race, gender and walk of life. Where can we do better to love with boldness?

Do we serve joyfully with the heart of Christ walking alongside the most vulnerable among us, offering care and compassion? Or rather are our actions done out of duty, lacking kindness or joy, filled with grumbling and lack of enthusiasm?

Do we follow Jesus' example to lead courageously, seeking to resist and thwart the all the ways evil, injustice and oppression appear in our community, our state, and in our world today?

Do we fight for justice, for peace and for reconciliation? Every day, challenges surround us. Yet we are called to trust God's plan for the world, to love boldly, serve joyfully and lead courageously. Could today be the day we change our perspective and embrace Loving Boldly, Serving Joyfully and Leading Courageously? As for me, I hope these are not mere words, but are reflected in my actions.

Your Lay Servant,



WEEKLY CALENDAR AT SUMC

JULY 27-August 2

Monday, July 27

4:30pm Caring Ministry Meals

6:00pm Scouts

Tuesday, July 28

7:00pm Pub Theology

Thursday, July 30

6:15pm Cardio Drumming

Friday, July 31

SUMCC OFFICE CLOSED

Sunday, August 2

10:00am Worship

PRAYERS AS OUR MISSION

TEAM SERVES IN

**ZIMBABWE THIS WEEK AND
WILL BE TRAVELING BACK HOME!**

CARDIO DRUMMING



SUMC Fun Day at the Ballpark -- August 9



SUMC is planning a fun trip to catch the South Bend Cubs take on the Cedar Rapids Kernels on **August 9 at 2:05 pm.**



Tickets are **\$17** each and come with a free cap and program!

FREE South Bend Cubs cap • Free Game Program • Scoreboard recognition

- Hot Dog, Chips & Soda Voucher available for \$7
- Fun Zone Wristband available for \$7
- Parking Voucher available for \$10



Visit <https://bit.ly/SBCUBS26> or scan the QR code to sign up.



For more info: Contact Dick Lukey at (269) 470-8856 or SUMCCubsGame@gmail.com

Summer Choir is Back!

Sunday, July 26

Come join us in the choir loft at 9:00am to rehearse an 'easy' song that we will share during the service that morning. Hope to see our 'regulars' along with some new faces!

"Ringing in the Spirit" Handbell Get-Together, Sunday, July 26, 11:15-12:30pm

Come join Music Director, Kellie Meyer and Guest Handbell Clinician, Wendy Willis for a little snack, meeting time, music rehearsal and moving forward time together. Are you an advanced ringer, played some ringer, haven't played in years ringer or brand new ringer? All are welcome! If you know someone who might like to come try to play handbells, please invite them. This is the perfect time to give it a try.

Any questions, please email Kellie at stevensvilleummusicdirector@gmail.com

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Tery Bailey
Bruce Barclay
Gordie Barry
Christi Blunt
Adam Burnett
Missy Carroll
Dianne Collins
Sue Dock
Jack Hardy
Margie Hardy
Dianna Hartman
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
Chris Stolk
Amber Stolk
Jan Taylor
J.T. Thompson
William 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
Lydia Sankey-Orsillo-USS
Bulkeley

DDG 84-
Rota

**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

- Prayers for the family of Paul Striet who passed away.
- Prayers for Nancy Farrington who has a foot fracture and will be in a boot for 4-6 weeks.
- Prayers for Elaine's cousin Karen who is recovering from surgery to remove a growth on her brain.
- Prayers for Chris Weber who is recovering from back surgery.
- Prayers for Vicky McDonald's granddaughter Katie who will be leaving for medical school in Arkansas.
- Prayers for the people of Venezuela and from the high magnitude earthquake.
- Prayers of comfort and healing for Melissa Rescoe who is recovering from hamstring surgery.
- Prayers for Linda Sprague's friend Ingrid who is hospitalized with an aneurysm.
- Prayers for Utah and all those displaced by the fires including the firefighters.
- Prayers of wisdom and recovery for Lisa Williams' mom Donna.
- Prayers for Barb Pries's sister Joanne who is struggling with recovery from a fall.
- Prayers for Lisa Williams' Mother-In-Law Frida who has 3 treatments done. Cancer throughout her body. Also prayers for her Uncle Norman who is halfway through treatments for esophageal cancer and in severe pain.
- 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 of peace for our world.

PRAYER JOYS:

- Happy 40th Anniversary to Mike and Sarah Melcher on July 19.



Faith Formation-JULY

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.

 **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.



Rev. Wade Panse will be available for pastoral emergencies from July 16 to July 30.

Pastor Patti Harpole will be covering for pastoral emergencies from the evening of August 2 through the 7th. Please call the Church office at 429-5911 or Nancy Mead at 269-449-2213. Thank you.





We're Back!

Believe it or not, we are just a little more than two months away from this year's version of our SUMC Berrien County Youth Fair Food Booth. This year's fair will run from August 17-22.

Last year was our most successful fair ever in terms of participation; 100% of the volunteer slots were filled by great SUMC supporters like you.

Sales of all the breakfast sandwiches, bacon, sausage, pancakes and muffins, as well as hot dogs, sloppy joes and our "exclusives": **SLOPPY DOGS and BROOKIES!** supported contributions of nearly **\$13,000** for the Feeding America food truck and new church HVAC units.

This year we'll again be supporting **Feeding America, The Samaritan Center** and maintenance and upkeep of the SUMC parking lot.

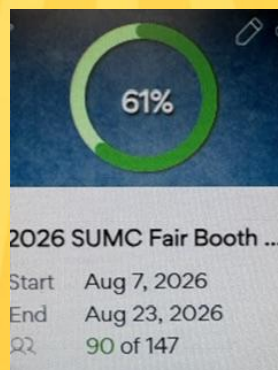
If you wish to let us know **what you like to do most** (e.g., count money, work the counter, fry bacon, flip pancakes, etc.), fill out this short survey: https://bit.ly/SUMC_FAIR_PREFS and we'll try to see your talents are put to best use.

This year we continue to improve booth operations with a simplified schedule, menu and pricing.

PLEASE SIGN-UP FOR A SHIFT BY CLICKING THE LINK OR SCANNING THE QR CODE BELOW.

<https://bit.ly/2026SUMCFairBooth>.

Contact the church office MWTF 9:00 am - Noon at 269-429-5911, or Dick Lukey any time at 269-470-8856 or email SUMCFairBooth@gmail.com with any questions.



We look forward to working together to make 2026 **the best fair booth ever**.
Blessings, Jonie Dubbert, Sandy Krieg, Dick Lukey and Rachel Wade
2026 SUMC Fair Booth Team

FAIR BOOTH DONATIONS

We are kicking off the month of July with an expanded list of items you can donate for the fair. You may start bringing in any of the following items:

20 oz Bottles of Blue, Orange or Red
Gatorade



Cases of Ice Mountain Water



Cases of Coke, Diet Coke,
Mountain Dew, Sprite



We also need 6" round paper plates. (Microwaveable please)

**BROOKIE INGRIDENTS HAVE BEEN COLLECTED.
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR
GENEROSITY!**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

Mission of the Month for July-World Central Kitchen



Under the leadership of founder, Jose Andres, World Central Kitchen (WCK) has created a new model for disaster relief helping devastated communities recover.

World Central Kitchen is first to the frontlines, providing meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises. Applying their model of quick action, leveraging local resources, and adapting in real time, WCK has served hundreds of millions of nourishing meals around the world. When disaster strikes, WCK's Relief Team mobilizes with the urgency of now to start cooking and serving meals to people in need efficiently and with dignity. By partnering with organizations on the ground and activating a network of local restaurants, food trucks, or emergency kitchens, WCK serves comforting meals to survivors of disasters quickly and effectively. To support regional economies, WCK prioritizes purchasing local ingredients to cook with or distribute directly to families in need. **We know that good food provides not only nourishment, but also comfort and hope, especially in times of crisis.**

During the month of July, members of SUMC will have the opportunity to support this global mission by donating to World Central Kitchen. See the Mission bulletin board