

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

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

*Call to Worship

*Opening Song: #2196 "We Walk By Faith"

The Story For All Ages

Pastor Elise

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Sandy Krieg

Message: "Good Bones and a Living Faith"

Rev Elise Low Edwardson

Musical Praise: "On Eagle's Wings"

Ringing in the Spirit

Wendy Willis, Director

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Doxology: "Sanctuary" 2164 (2x)

Holy Communion

#393 "Spirit of the Living God" (2x)

#394 "Something Beautiful" (2x)

#628 "Eat This Bread" (2x)

*Closing Hymn: #539 "O Spirit of the Living God"

Blessing/Postlude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Focus for September

"CHANGE FOR CANCER ROUND-UP"

Berrien County Cancer Services

Card Ministry-Tuesday, September 8 10:00am and 4:00pm.

Plastic Bags Needed-The box is back! If you 've been saving your plastic grocery bags over the summer it's time to bring them in.

Fall Rummage Time is Here-See page 9 of today's update.

New Faith Formation Classes-See page 6 of today's update.

Serving in Worship Sunday, September 6

Kellie Meyer, Pianist

Sandy Krieg, Lector

Nancy Malinkowski & Doug Weingart, Ushers

Sharon Foxworthy, Greeter

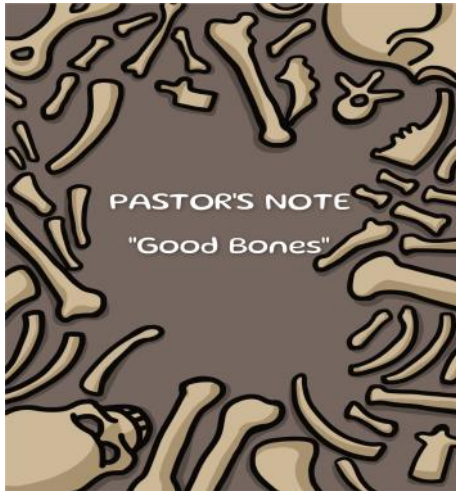
Sandy Hayes, Sandy Krieg, Bette Mallen, Doug

Weingart, Communion Helpers

Mike Logan, Congregational Safety

***Altar Flowers Given by John & Elaine
Graves in Honor of Their
Anniversary Week!***





PASTOR'S NOTE

"Good Bones"

If you've ever undertaken a home remodeling project, you know the value of *good bones*. *When a house has good bones, you know you can trust the foundation and the integrity of the structure, even if other parts of the house are in need of updates or repairs. A house might be old, out-of-style, or in real need of a fresh vision – but if the bones are good, possibilities are endless.*

Our United Methodist faith might sometimes feel a bit like an old house that could use a fresh remodel. But this old house of ours is blessed with some very good bones. Join us as we begin our September series, "Good Bones," and explore the solid foundation upon which our faith is built.

With hope and joy,
Pastor Elise

FALL KICKOFF SUNDAY

Sunday, September 13-Fall Kickoff! Join us September 13th after worship for our Fall Kickoff and Potluck! We will share a meal, hear about ways to grow and get connected as the school year begins, and enjoy some ice cream and games together. We're saving you a seat! Sign-up sheet available to bring a dish to pass.



CARD MINISTRY
create cards for our church family
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
AT 10:00AM & 4:00PM



**Jr. Youth Enter Bird
Houses in the Fair**

This summer the Jr. Youth constructed and painted bird-houses and entered them in the fair. Congratulations to them for receiving ribbons!!



Caring Ministry

This past Sunday, we heard the story of Jesus, Mary & Joseph on their annual trip to Jerusalem for Passover. When the festival was over, most of the congregation began to travel home. Jesus was not among them. When his parents realized this, they traveled back to the temple to find him. This 12 year-old was in the temple, asking questions and learning from the teachers there!

As we learned in Luke 2: 46-49, Jesus stayed in Jerusalem, even though he knew his parents would be upset.



After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”

“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?”

God wanted him to stay and learn from these wise men. We could take this to heart, and join others in learning something new during this season of “back to school”. Maybe God wants you and I to be curious as well.

Dear Lord,

Thank you for sending Jesus to be an example of how to listen. Help us to stay open to learning new things about you and our faith. Please be with us as we continue our study and learning your Word for our lives.

In Jesus name,

Amen

Karen Pallas – Caring Ministries

Your Caring Ministry team is here for you; please contact any of the members if you have a need: Nancy Mead, Lona Vogie, Karen Pallas, Sharon Foxworthy, Elaine Graves, Chris Weber, Lisa Williams, and Pastor Elise Low Edwardson



Congregational Safety Volunteers Needed

The Congregational Safety Team is looking for individuals to help ensure safety and emergency preparedness. Members of the Safety Team help keep the building secure by locking and monitoring all the doors after worship begins, and by being ready to respond to safety issues that arise. The team also helps respond to medical emergencies that occur during worship or other church events. If you are interested in learning more about serving on the Congregational Safety Team, please contact the Church Office.



WEEKLY CALENDAR AT SUMC

SEPTEMBER 7-SEPTEMBER 13

Monday, September 7

SUMCC DAYCARE CLOSED

SUMC OFFICE CLOSED

HAPPY LABOR DAY

Tuesday, September 8

10:00am Card Ministry Class-G

4:00pm Card Ministry Class-G

6:30pm Scout Mtg-B

6:30pm Scouts-B

7:00pm Pub Theology at Harpole's

Wednesday, September 9

10:00am Staff Mtg-G

5:30pm BASIC Rehearsal-S

6:00pm GSRP Meet the Teacher-F

6:30pm First Impressions Mtg-L

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal-S

Thursday, September 10

11:30am Covenant Journaling-L

5:45pm Berrien County Quilters

Sunday, September 13

10:00am Worship

11:15am Blood Pressure Check

11:15am Fall Kick-Off-F

2:00pm Scout Court of Honor-F

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!



SAFE GATHERINGS

Required training for all who plan to work with children, youth, or vulnerable adults at SUMC

EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE TO FIND OUT MORE!



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



**Blood Pressure Check
Sunday, September 13
After worship with
Elizabeth Carlson in Faith
Hall.**

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 2

Robert Clark

SEPTEMBER 4

Ryan Low Edwardson

SEPTEMBER 6

Carol Svorec

SEPTEMBER 8

David Mead

Jamie Polker

SEPTEMBER 10

Larry Buehler

SEPTEMBER 13

Leanne Nitz

Tendai Rukunda

Linda Stright

SEPTEMBER 15

Margie Hardy

Thomas VanDerAue

SEPTEMBER 17

Larry Cole

Mick Pries

Linda Sprague

SEPTEMBER 18

Rachel Wade

SEPTEMBER 19

Jack Pallas

SEPTEMBER 20

Scott Meyer

Melissa Rescoe

SEPTEMBER 22

Jillian DeForest

Sarah Melcher

SEPTEMBER 23

Brenda Beezley

SEPTEMBER 24

Tom Parrish

SEPTEMBER 26

David Hendley

SEPTEMBER 29

Sherry Hunt

Myra Thompson

SEPTEMBER 30

Peggy Topping



HEALTH CONCERNS:

Tery Bailey
Bruce Barclay
Gordie Barry
Christi Blunt
Adam Burnett
Missy Carroll
Dianne Collins
Sue Dock
Jack Hardy
Margie Hardy
Kathy Harris
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
Chris Weber
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 Spain

**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

- Prayers of comfort and peace for the Mitchell Family on the loss of Cindy after a brief and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.
- Prayers of comfort and peace for the family of Sherry Hunt who's brother-in-law Tommy passed away.
- Prayers of healing and comfort for Betty Iver's dearest friend of 60 years.
- Prayers for Jan Bickers who is recovering from surgery.
- Prayers for Elnora Holmes who is hospitalized with fluid on her lungs.
- Prayers for Becky Chaffee on the passing of her sister Cathryn from Alzheimer's.
- Prayers for Pat Mulder's cousin Ken who fell after a stroke and broke his hip.
- Prayers for Elaine's cousin Karen who is recovering from surgery to remove a growth on her brain.
- Prayers for the people of Venezuela, Colombia and Japan from the high magnitude earthquakes.
- 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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES FALL 2026

**Tuesdays
2:00pm
in the
Lounge**

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK: Starts Sept. 15

Facilitator: Pastor Elise (reveliselowedwardson@gmail.com)

Ever wish you had more time to reflect on Sunday's message before it's preached? Join Pastor Elise as she 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.

**Tuesdays
7:00pm
at
Watermark**

PUB THEOLOGY: Facilitator: Everett Harpole (everett.harpole@gmail.com)

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.

**Wednesdays
1:00pm
in
Gathering
Space**

HOLY SPIRIT: Six-week Study Starts Sept. 16

Facilitators: Dick Lukey & Lona Vogie (jlvogie@sbcglobal.net)

In The Holy Spirit, Adam Hamilton explores what Scripture teaches about God's Spirit - from the Hebrew Bible through Jesus' promises in the Gospels, the powerful Pentecost experience in Acts, and the rich teachings found in the New Testament letters. This accessible study helps believers understand and experience the Holy Spirit's presence and power in their daily walk with Christ.

**Sundays
9:00am
in
Room 1**

MEN'S GROUP: Starts Sept. 20 Facilitator: Bob Clark (bandbclark2@gmail.com)

The Holy Spirit (God's presence and power at work within us) by Adam Hamilton. The Holy Spirit is God's active presence and power at work in the world and in our lives. Through the Spirit, we are transformed, led, empowered, and guided in our faith journey. Jesus promised his followers that the Spirit would come alongside them as comforter and counselor, empowering them to transform the world."

**Thursdays
11:30am
in the
Lounge**

COVENANT JOURNALING: Facilitator: Patti Harpole (patti.harpole@gmail.com)

Enter a sacred space of quiet reflection. With 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. Everyone is welcome!

**Thursdays
6:30pm
in the
Lounge**

ETERNITY IS NOW IN SESSION: Six-week Study Starts Sept. 17

Facilitators: Mike & Nancy Farrington (mfarrington4@comcast.net)

Eternity Is Now in Session, by John Ortberg, examines the idea that eternal life only starts after we die. Drawing from John 17:3 ["This is eternal life: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you sent"] Ortberg illustrates how eternal life begins the moment we start truly knowing God; and that changes everything about how we live today.

You Should Join the
Stevensville United Methodist Church
Men's Group

The Men's group meets every Sunday at 9:00 before church service in room 1. We are a very casual group that has great fellowship, learns about our faith and Bible through short video studies viewed during the class. There is no required attendance, books to read or homework! Come as you are available. Of course, there is plenty of time for discussing guy stuff like cars, sports, tools, and projects at home. One of the greatest benefits is just getting together in a small group and sharing or experiences.

The first class of the '26-'27 year will be September 20th with a short series by Adam Hamilton titled "The Holy Spirit" discussing God's presence and power at work in us.

The other part of the group is helping with Church and congregation members projects. This isn't frequent and entirely optional depending on availability but is another great way to connect and help out the Church and its' membership. Past projects have included:



Helping with church activity set up like the rummage sale, sanctuary reconfiguration for special services, work at the fair booth, participating in church work days.

Helping members with needs at their homes such as: cleaning, moving furniture for disability needs, general visits to members in need, landscape projects.

Special requests such as building a small building used in conjunction with a sermon series, constructing an igloo out of milk jugs, and others.

Please join us! Contact Bob Clark or any other member of the Men's group if you have any questions. Hope to see you soon!



SUMC Music Ministry

Senior Choir - starts September 9

Wednesdays, 7-8:15pm in the Sanctuary
Adults of all ages are welcome

Grace Notes Instrumental Band - starts September 20

Second and 4th Sundays after worship at 11:15am
Open to instrumentalists 9th grade - adult

B.A.S.I.C. Praise Band - starts August 26

Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30pm in the Sanctuary
Open to anyone 9th grade - adult who enjoy singing or
playing guitar, bass, drums, keyboard

Ringin' in the Spirit Ringers – starts September 14

Mondays, 7:00- 8:00pm in the Sanctuary
This Handbell choir welcomes all experience levels

Kids Music Ministry – starts September 20

Kids in Sunday School will have the opportunity to learn and practice a musical offering for worship several times throughout the school year.

For more details or questions, please contact Kellie Meyer at
stevensvilleummusicdirector@gmail.com or 269-930-3540

SEPTEMBER MISSION FOCUS

"CHANGE FOR CANCER ROUND-UP" - Berrien County Cancer Services



For over 75 years, Berrien County Cancer Service (BCCS) has supported individuals and families who are affected by cancer in our community. The "Change for Cancer Round-up" provides financial support for programs and services offered through BCCS.

- 1. Emotional and Social Support:** Cancer can isolate individuals, leaving them feeling emotionally drained and disconnected from their communities. Through personal support, community events, and needed referrals, BCCS creates an environment where patients and their families can share their experiences, find comfort, and build connections with others who understand their struggles.
- 2. Early Detection and Screening:** Promoting early cancer detection through education regarding early detection and screening and assisting individuals find community resources available for cancer screening programs.
- 3. Education and Advocacy:** Through educational events, outreach programs, and partnerships with local healthcare providers, BCCS ensures that individuals have the information they need to make informed decisions about their health.
- 4. Community Collaboration:** BCCS works in close collaboration with local businesses, healthcare providers, and volunteers to enhance the reach and effectiveness of its services.
- 5. Hope and Empowerment:** By offering access to vital services, fostering a compassionate community, and advocating for cancer awareness, BCCS is not just about treatment—it's about uplifting and empowering individuals to face their cancer journey with strength and resilience.

Whether through in-home skilled nursing, emotional support, or resources needed for caregiving, BCCS continues to make a lasting difference in the lives of countless individuals and families. Please consider giving your "spare change" to ensure continued support of these programs.

LOOKS LIKE THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

Time to get out our warm coats and sweaters and time to brush off and dust off all our unused furniture and household items.

Because....It's FALL RUMMAGE sale time!!

This year's sale will take place on Friday, October 2nd and Saturday, October 3rd. Watch for further updates in the coming weeks on drop off dates and times!!

