STEVENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | NOVEMBER 1, 2026

WEEKLY UPDATE

From the Pastor

All Saints' Sunday

I've heard it said that we become the average of the five people we spend the most time with. While I've certainly experienced the truth in that statement, I've also seen how those who have gone before us can continue to shape us, even after their time on earth is done. My father's sense of courageous adventure spurs me on to try things that I might not have otherwise dared to do. My Mimi's gift of hospitality reminds me of the ways I can welcome and love my neighbor. My Grandma's deep faith and steady, no-nonsense spirit continue to show me what peace can look like.

This Sunday, we celebrate All Saints' Sunday. The saints that go before us show us what God's love looks like. They help us see what a faithful life can look like. They remind us that we don't embark on this journey alone. This Sunday, we will remember those saints from our church family who have joined the Church Triumphant in the past year. We will remember those saints from our own lives who we carry in our hearts. We will remember the heavenly hope we have that points us towards Jesus in this life, and the life to come. Join us for a very special Sunday as we give thanks for all the saints.

With hope,
Pastor Elise

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

November 1, 2026

Welcome and Announcements

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

*Opening Hymn: #711 "For All the Saints" (vs 1,2,4,6)

The Story For All Ages
Pastor Elise

Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:1-3
Kris Zook

Musical Praise: "An Unclouded Day"
Senior Choir

Message: "What Great Love"
Rev Elise Low Edwardson

Naming Our Saints

Sharon Alsbro	*Mike Hollacher*	*Carol Momany*
Barb Bittner	*Jerry Hunt*	*Larry Shadle*
Marian Hagenauer	*Judy Miller*	*Jan Sonneman*
David Hills	*Cindy Mitchell*	*Paul Stright*

Musical Praise: "Hallelujah"
Sherry Hunt, Violin Solo

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering
Doxology #94

Holy Communion
#2283 "For All the Saints"
#712 "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"

*Closing Hymn: #708 "Rejoice in God's Saints

Blessing

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>
Mission Focus for November
The OutCenter

Day Light Savings Time-November 1st is when we fall back. Don't forget to change your clocks!

Wonderland Donation-Deadline this Sunday, November 1.

Brunch Bunch-Monday, November 2 11:00am Dino's.

Thanksgiving Slab Pie Demo and Training Thursday, November 5, 6:30pm**-**See page 6 of today's update for all the details.

Blood Pressure Check-Sunday, November 8, 11:15am after worship in Faith Hall with Judy Grimmett.

Fall Clean Up-Saturday, November 7 9:00am-noon.

Men's Breakfast-Sunday, November 8. See page 3 of today's update.

Serving in Worship Sunday,
November 1
Kellie Meyer, Pianist
Kris Zook, Lector
Barb & Bob Clark, Ushers
Sharon Foxworthy, Greeter
*Larry Buehler, Sandy Hayes, Elizabeth Carlson, Allyson Rigler (*bc) Communion Helpers*
Lorna & Jamsey Thompson, Acolytes

Altar Flowers are Given by Mary Sundblad
In Loving Memory of the Saints in <u>All</u>
of our Lives.

THIS WEEK AT SUMC

Monday, November 2
11:00am Brunch Bunch
5:00pm Widows Group
5:30pm First Impressions Task Force
6:00pm Scouts
6:30pm Ringing in the Spirit

Tuesday, November 3
2:00pm Scripture of the Week
3:00pm Lancer Lunches
7:00pm Pub Theology

Wednesday, November 4
10:00am Staff Meeting
1:00pm Wesley Prayer Study
5:30pm BASIC Rehearsal
7:00pm Cantata Rehearsal
7:45pm Senior Choir

Thursday, November 5
11:30am Covenant Journaling
3:00pm Lancer Lunches
6:30pm Pie Demo & Training

Saturday, November 7
9:00am Fall Clean-Up

Sunday, November 8
8:00am Men's Breakfast
10:00am Worship
10:15am Sunday School
11:15am Grace Notes
11:15am Blood Pressure Check

Be Empowered to Serve…

Congregational Safety Team 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. Thank you.

Hospitality Ministry

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

Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are silk arrangements done by Robin Weingart. Cost is $30.00 and goes towards missions. Sign-up on the clipboard 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!

Church Fall Cleanup Day - November 7, 9:00 AM to Noon

On Saturday morning, November 7, we will be doing our Fall Cleanup of the church and grounds and will need as many participants as possible. Tasks will include window washing, shrubbery trimming, carpet spot cleaning and general landscaping maintenance. Many hands will make quick work of getting the church in shape for the winter.

SUMC Trustees

Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Once again this year, SUMC will be supporting 7 veteran families with Thanksgiving Food Baskets. This mission is especially important this year as the price of groceries has continues to increase to a point where some families may not be able to celebrate Thanksgiving as they have in the past. We have included below a list of the basic items that will be in each food basket. If you were to purchase all of these items, it would cost about $75.00. And, at this point, we still don't know what the price of turkeys will be, so that price could be higher. Starting this Sunday, November 1, we will be collecting food donations for these baskets. We will continue to collect on November 8 and 15. The baskets will be delivered on November 22 and 23. If you would like to help deliver the baskets, please let us know. There will be a crate in the Gathering Area where you can put your food donations. If you would rather, you can write a check and put Thanksgiving Baskets in the memo line. This will allow us to purchase perishable items to add to the baskets. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Sandy Hayes or Lona Vogie. Thalnk you.

TURKEY-15#
STOVE TOP STUFFING MIX
CANNED GREEN BEANS
5# BAG OF POTATOES
CRANBERRY SAUCE
CANNED CORN
MUSHROOM SOUP
TURKEY GRAVY (JAR) - 2

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2026

Tuesdays 2:00pm in the Lounge

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK:
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

WESLEY PRAYER CHALLENGE: Four-week Study Starts October 21
Facilitators: Dick Lukey & Lona Vogie (jlvogie@sbcglobal.net)
In The Wesley Prayer Challenge, author Chris Folmsbee invites readers to consider words from the Wesley Covenant Prayer each day, while reflecting on their meaning. Each day's reading will include scripture, prayer, and a challenge for daily life.

Sundays 9:00am in Room 1

MEN'S GROUP FELLOWSHIP
Facilitator: Bob Clark (bandbclark2@gmail.com)
Each Sunday we gather for fellowship and discussion on a relevent book or DVD series. All men of the church are welcome!

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!

From Caring Ministries

We've just finished a wonderful series about expanding the table. What a great reminder in this time of gathering with family & friends to include the typically forgotten or unwelcome guest around our tables. Whether they are angry, sad, argumentative, or just lonely, they are welcome.

In Luke 19: 5-7, we find Jesus inviting himself to the table of Zaccheus, and gladly received. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."
And in Acts 17: 6-7, we read about Jason, who welcomed Paul & Silas into his home, even at his own peril.

But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some other believers before the city officials, shouting: "These men who have caused trouble all over the world have now come here, and Jason has welcomed them into his house."

And in the best news for all of us, from Psalm 23:
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Dear Lord,
We are all sinners; please forgive us our trespasses, and help us to welcome everyone we can in all the ways that we can. Help us to see beyond attitudes, clothes, or wealth – we are all your precious children.
Please be with us as we strive to continue our acting on your Word.
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

outcenter
SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

November Mission in Focus

The OutCenter of Southwest Michigan aims to advocate for change and provide community to LGBTQ+ persons, their allies, and their families in Southwest Michigan. The center does this through advocacy efforts, support services, and community building programs. It also pursues initiatives that change systems, working in partnership with area-wide systems to ensure that LGBTQ+ people receive equitable services within their communities.

The work of the OutCenter is as important as it has ever been. In an era where many organizations across the region, the state, and the country are contracting, the OutCenter is committed to expanding its work and deepening its impact. Over the last year and a half, the OutCenter staff and board have worked collaboratively on what meeting this moment entails, and how we can best achieve that goal.

New location! 143 S Front St. in downtown Dowagiac, MI.

This change in location comes alongside a refreshed vision of the OutCenter's work, defined by five new pillars:
LGBTQ+ Safety and Inclusion,
Progressive Human Rights,
Rural Social Cohesion,
Effective and Competent Local Communities, and
Civic Literacy and Engagement

You can contribute to expanding God's table through widening God's mercy to youth and adults in Southwest Michigan by donating to the OutCenter directly https://www.outcenter.org/donate or giving to our November Mission Focus.

To find out more about the OutCenter and participate in upcoming community building activities, go to: https://www.outcenter.org/

MISSION TEAM MEMBERS — Monique Yoder (Chairperson), Wanda Barclay, Barb Clark, Kathleen Deforest, Paster Elise, Dick Lukey, Kellie Meyer, Leanne Nitz, Barb Pries, Kathy Sankey, Lona Vogie, Rachel Wade, and Robin Weingart

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 9
Bruce Barclay
Casey Tubman
NOVEMBER 10
Kenneth Foyder
NOVEMBER 15
Ryan Arnt
NOVEMBER 17
Susan Ferry
Patricia Seifert
NOVEMBER 19
Jan Tylor

NOVEMBER 22
Elizabeth Carlson
Mike Melcher
NOVEMBER 23
Nicole Birmingham-Moersch
NOVEMBER 24
Linda Willadsen
NOVEMBER 29
Hugh Black
NOVEMBER 30
Charlie Archey

The funeral luncheon team would like to invite EVERYONE to observe OR participate in a "SLAB PIE" demonstration on Thursday, November 5th starting at 6:30pm! What is a that?? It is a pie that can be cut into squares and is easy to serve. Whether you are watching and tasting OR want to build your own, please sign up to let us know if you are coming!! https://signup.com/go/OYZasde Making your own? Please see the ingredients list in the signup page or call Mindi (269)363-1661 for help.

Thanksgiving Slab Pie Demo and Training

Thursday Nov 5
6:30pm

Join Robin W in the Faith Hall kitchen to learn, taste or build your own!

SIGN UP VIA SIGN-UP GENIUS

MOSAIC & FRIENDS
PRESENT

Wonderland Toy Drive

at SUMC

at SUMC

NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS
Ages 0–12 yrs

GIFT CARDS $10–$50
Ages 12–18 yrs · Walmart, Meijer, Amazon

Your donation of **stuffed animals**, **infant and baby toys**, **board games**, **trucks/cars**, **dolls**, **crafts**, **educational toys**, and **books** stocks the Wonderland Toy Store —a special Christmas shopping experience where parents shop NEW toys for their children at just 10% of their original value, with dignity and joy.

DROP OFF TOYS & CARDS/DEADLINE NOVEMBER 1

Look for the Wonderland box in the church concourse.

Can't shop? Scan to give!
mosaicccda.kindful.com
Questions: wts@mosaicccda.com

MOSAIC CCDA

Donated gifts typically range from $10–$50.
All gifts donated should be unwrapped with a price tag on the gift if possible

Middle School Dances!

2026-27

at Stevensville United Methodist Church
with DJ Dan Hansen!

Friday, OCTOBER 16

Friday, NOVEMBER 20

Friday, DECEMBER 18

Friday, JANUARY 15

Friday, FEBRUARY 19

Friday, MARCH 19

Friday, APRIL 16

Friday, MAY 21

7pm - 9pm

School ID's required - $10 per person
concessions available

STEVENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5506 RIDGE RD, STEVENSVILLE

Prayer Requests

Prayer Concerns

- Prayers for Gloria Pollack who is recovering from shoulder surgery on Wednesday, Oct. 28.
- Prayers for Louise Boelcke who is recovering from Knee replacement surgery on Oct. 28
- Prayers for Gloria Hopkins who has been diagosed with Neuropathy in both legs and Parkinsons.
- Prayers of healing for the Rescoe's cousin who is recovering from wound care treatments.
- Prayers of healing for Chirs Stolk who is home from the hospital and continuing dialysis treatments.
- Prayers of healing for Myra's niece Faye who is recovering from back surgery and is in a lot of pain.
- Prayers for those going through seasonal ailments for relief and being able to return back to worship.
- Prayers for Kathy Sankey's friend who has stage 4 kidney cancer. Prayers of comfort for her and
- wisdom for the health care team.
- Prayers for Elaine's cousin Karen who is recovering from brain surgery.
- Prayers of wisdom and recovery for Lisa Williams' mom Donna. Also, prayers for her Mother-in-law Frida going through cancer treatments and her Uncle Norman who is going through cancer treatments.
- 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 peace for our world.

Ongoing Health Concerns:

Bruce Barclay
Gordie Barry
Maggie Behrens
Christi Blunt
Adam Burnett
Missy Carroll
Dianne Collins
Sue Dock
Jack & Margie Hardy
Kathy Harris
Chelsea Hunt
Jason Kik
Ken Foyder
Shirley Hetfield
Dick Lukey
Sebastian Kurup
Mike Melcher
Gary & Lee Nelson
Schaeffor Ott
Bonnie & Tom Parrish
Gloria Pollack
Mike Rush
Amy Scaub
Fred Seifert
Chris Stolk
Amber Stolk
Jan Taylor
J.T. Thompson
Kathy Trejo
Brooke Trux
David Sundblad Jr.
Judy Vanderaue
Chris Weber
Gary Wank
Dan Whitt

Home-Bound:

Grace Park
Sally Streick
Carol Svorec

Missionaries in the Field:

Caleb Dormah-Liberia

In Active Service:

Taylor Allgood-Illinios
Lydia Sankey-Orsillo-USS Bulkeley DDG84-Rota Spain

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
-Philippians 4:6