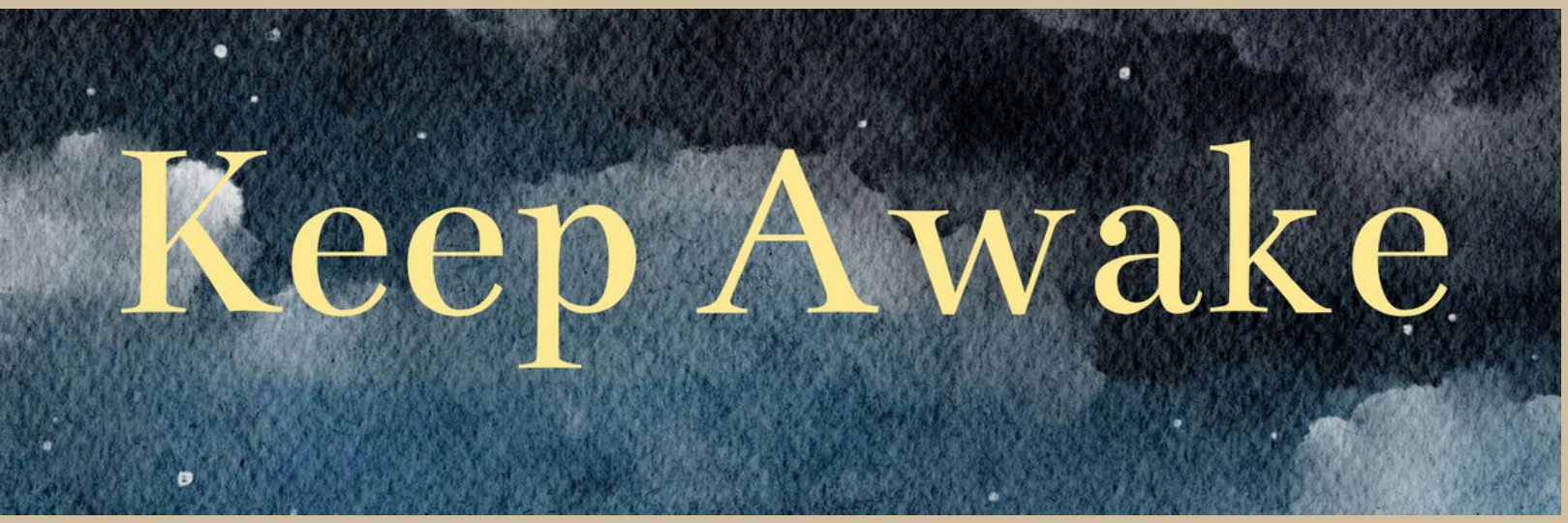
WEEKLY UPDATE



From the Pastor

One of the beautiful things about our faith tradition is the way that it connects us to others. We celebrate our connection with congregations around the world and down the street. We are reminded that we do not walk this journey alone, and that we are strongest when we are collaborating with and learning from others in the Body of Christ. This Sunday, we get to live that out in one small way – my husband Ryan and I will be trading pulpits for the day. A native of Iowa, Ryan and I met in seminary in North Carolina, and I am forever grateful he agreed to life and ministry together in the Michigan Conference! Ryan currently serves as the pastor of Coloma UMC. He is always up for a game of euchre, a round of disc golf, or a long run (preferably on the beach where collect beach glass at the same time). I'm excited for you all to be able to share a Sunday morning with him! What a gift to get to share the journey of faith with one another.



With hope and joy,
Pastor Elise

IN THIS ISSUE

Sunday Worship

Events and Week at a Glance

Opportunities to Serve

Faith Formation Classes

Caring Ministries Update

November Mission Focus

Birthdays

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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

Welcome and Announcements

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

*Opening Song: "You're Worthy of My Praise"

The Story For All Ages
Pastor Ryan

Scripture Reading: Matthew 25:1-13
Larry Buehler

Message: "Keep Awake"
Rev Ryan Low Edwardson

Musical Praise: "Goodness of God"
B.A.S.I.C.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Offering
Doxology: "You're Worthy of My Praise"

*Closing Song: "Blessed Be Your Name"

Blessing

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Mission Focus for November
The OutCenter
Welcome Rev. Ryan Low Edwardson

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.

Card Ministry-See page 3 of today's update.

Thanksgiving Baskets-We are collecting items for the Thanksgiving Baskets to give to 7 veteran families. Items needed can be found in the weekly update. Please see Sandy Hayes or Lona Vogie. We will be collecting through Sunday the 15th.

Serving in Worship Sunday, November 8

Kellie Meyer, Pianist
Larry Buehler, Lector
Barb & Bob Clark, Ushers
Diane Koebel, Greeter
Juliet & Ben Vehslage, Acolytes
James Thompson, Congregational Safety

Altar Flowers Given By Don & Melissa Rescoe In Celebration of My Sister Suzie's Birthday!

THIS WEEK AT SUMC

Monday, November 9
1:00pm SPRC Mtg
4:30pm Faith Formation
6:00pm Scouts
6:00pm Trustees Mtg
6:30pm Scouts

Tuesday, November 10
10:00am Card Ministry
2:00pm Scripture of the Week
4:00pm Card Ministry
6:30pm Scouts
6:30pm Ringing in the Spirit
7:00pm Pub Theology
7:30pm Scouts

Wednesday, November 11
10:00am Staff Meeting
1:00pm Wesley Prayer Study
5:30pm BASIC Rehearsal
7:00pm Cantata Rehearsal
7:45pm Senior Choir

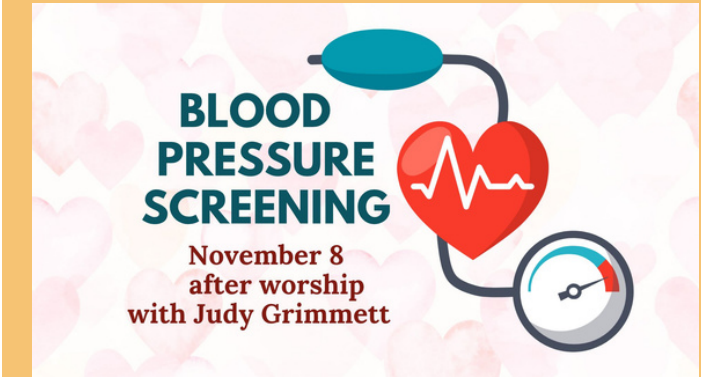
Thursday, November 12
11:30am Covenant Journaling
3:00pm Lancer Lunches
4:00pm Worship Mtg
5:45pm Berrien Quilters

Sunday, November 15
9:00am Men's Group
10:00am Worship
10:15am Sunday School











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

Kitchen Up-Date

This is just a reminder that if you have not completed the Kitchen Lead Up-date training, you need to do that prior to using the range or convection oven. I am happy to meet with you at a time that is convenient for you, so please just reach out to me and we can make this happen.

Sandy Hayes
Shayes1314@juno.com
269-449-3953

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 Novembre 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. Thank 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

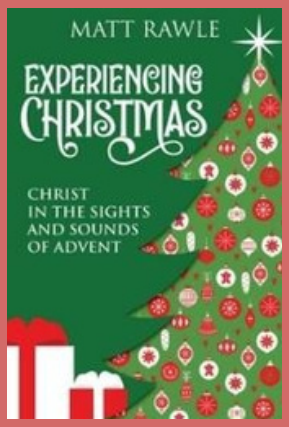
WESLEY PRAYER CHALLENGE: Four-week Study Starts October 21
Facilitators: Dick Lukey & Lona Vogie (jlvogie@sbcglobal.net)
In The Wesley Prayer Challenge, author Chris Folmsbee invites readers to consider words from the Wesley Covenant Prayer each day, while reflecting on their meaning. Each day's reading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



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY-Wednesday's at 1:00pm in the Gathering Area
Facilitator: Kathy Sankey (kathy.sankey2@gmail.com)

A four-week Advent Study begins on Wednesday November 18th. The study will focus on the book "Experiencing Christmas - "Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent" by Matt Rawle. Join the discussion about the sights and sounds you experience during the Advent and Christmas season.

From Caring Ministries

Enter his gates with Thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name. Psalm 100:4

November is here! November is our thankful month. A time when we acknowledge what we are thankful for is upon us. We can be thankful for so many things - family, friends, a place to live, etc.

We can give thanks every day, all year. We can give thanks for anything but most important give thanks to God. Thanks that we can freely worship Him.

Sharon Foxworthy, Caring Ministry

How do you decide which pie to make for Thanksgiving?
-You weigh the pros and pe-cans!

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





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 of healing for Abigail Vehslage who is recovering from ACL reconstruction surgery.
- Prayers of healing for Patricia Mulder who is in the hospital with pneumonia.
- Prayers of healing for Elaine Grave's friend Karen who is in her final stages of lung cancer.
- 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 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
Amy Schaub
Fred Seifert
Chris Stolk
Amber Stolk
Jan Taylor
J.T. Thompson
Kathy Trejo
Brooke Trux
David Sundblad Jr.
Judy Vanderaue
Chris Weber
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

