



Stevensville United Methodist Church

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF MINISTRY

5506 Ridge Rd, Stevensville, MI 49127

Telephone: 269-429-5911

E-Mail: office@stevensvilleumc.org

Website: www.stevensvilleumc.org

Worship Schedule

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours 9 A.M. to Noon Mon - Fri

Next Newsletter Deadline: Friday, November 10

Pastor:

Rev. David Hills
dfhills@gmail.com

Office Administrator:

Sandy Krieg 429-5911
stevensvillechurch@gmail.com

Children's Center:

429-1069
Director:
sumcc@stevensvilleumc.org

Youth Director:

Jesse Robbins
saves6363@gmail.com

Music Ministry:

Nancy Farrington, Kellie Meyer
music@stevensvilleumc.org

Organist:

Dean Boward
ddboward@gmail.com

Education Director /Membership Care

Ashlei Horn
membercare@stevensvilleumc.org

Financial Administrator:

Sara Lawrick
finance@stevensvilleumc.org

Counseling:

926-6199
Dr. Mick Pries (Centered on Wellness)

To Everything, Turn...

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Authored by King Solomon under the pen name "Kohelet," Solomon was not alone in his thinking. The ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus of Ephesus is widely thought to be the first to say: "The only constant in life is change."

While statements about change may often have a bit of hyperbole, it's probably not as much as we'd like to think. We may be children of God, but we are also creatures of habit who are drawn to the familiar, the stable, the routine, the comfortable. We may get to experience those comforts for a time, maybe even a season, but *everything* changes eventually. It's in the very fabric of Creation.

In looking through some quotes on the topic of change I got reacquainted with Dr. Viktor Frankl, the Austrian born neurologist, psychiatrist, and holocaust survivor. Frankl is probably best remembered for his 1946 book "Man's Search for Meaning." In very broad strokes Frankl believed that after our most basic human needs are met (ie. water, food, shelter, relationship), our deepest innate human need is to find "meaning" in life. I happen to believe our "need for meaning" is at the very heart of our spiritual yearning to find, experience, and know God.

On the issue of change, this is what Victor Frankl said:

*"When we are no longer able to change a situation,
we are challenged to change ourselves."*

Why this quote from among so many others? Because I believe Frankl describes precisely where the Church, and where **our** church, finds itself in this time and place. At several if not many points over the 150 year life of this congregation, lay leaders and clergy have likely made changes because they discovered that "what we have always done" was no longer working. That's hardly unique to us. Since peaking in 1962 the percent of the US population who identify as "religious" has dropped from just over 80% to 69%, and over half of the decline happened since 2002. So the trend has accelerated. Some believe "evangelical" or "Bible-belt" churches have managed to avoid the decline. It looked that way for a time, but only because the decline started later. The decline is seen in every denomination, across broad theological spectrums. The exceptions are "new church starts" and "mega-churches" I could say how, but it doesn't really apply. We aren't "mega" and many of us likely don't want to be. Nor are we "new" though we should "re-new" some things.

So have any established churches like ours found ways to grow in this season of wide-spread church decline? YES, some have. And it turns out that regardless of their denominational or theological identity or location, established churches that are thriving today didn't do it by trying to change the culture around them. Instead they intentionally took up Frankl's challenge to "change themselves."

There is nothing wrong with wanting to change the world or culture around us for Christ, but to do so we have to learn to speak to the culture in which we live today. That means learning the language of the culture, rather than expecting the culture to learn our language. This does NOT mean changing the message of the Gospel! But it does mean changing the ways in which we communicate and share the Gospel. Even the Apostle Paul understood this when he went to Rome. (See Acts 17:16-34)

Bottom line? I'm going to need next months column and maybe the one after that to finish my larger point. But for now.. I still believe Frankl was right. I believe that people are still seeking "meaning" for their lives. Perhaps now more than ever. But the ways in which the church has traditionally shared the message of the Gospel that gives meaning to our lives is no longer as effective as it once was.

On our own, we can't change the culture around us. BUT, if we really believe what we say we do, and if we trust that the Spirit of Christ is with us and will lead us, we CAN choose to change "how" we share Jesus' good news with people in our community, which can make all the difference over the next 15 or 150 years.

The alternative is to keep doing things the same way, hoping for different results, which is one definition of insanity.

Until next month, Pastor David

CELEBRATING
150 Years
Opening Hearts,
Minds, & Doors

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Help decorate the sanctuary with poinsettias (6 1/2" pot) for the Christmas Season. Complete the form below and return it to the church office along with your check made out to SUMC, or cash for each plant ordered. **PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER. More order forms are available on the opportunities table.**

The color choices this year are Red, Cream and Jingle Bells. The price is \$7.55 and you may take your plant(s) home after the last Christmas Eve Service.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2017

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Number of plants _____ x \$7.55= _____

COLOR CHOICES

RED CREAM JINGLE BELLS



GIVEN BY: _____

PHONE #: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

Please check box if you wish for your Poinsettia Plant to be donated.

BIG AZA RETIREMENT FUND

Big Aza is the church's boiler. "Aza" is the Hebrew word for "to heat or make hot." Big Aza has faithfully served this congregation since 1963. Working seasonally, Aza has provided much needed warmth during the winter months. Sadly, the church must seriously consider Aza's retirement. The Trustees will be reviewing specifications on appropriate qualifications for new candidates to replace Aza. Also, they will be reviewing the cost for the replacement of this dear faithful servant.

While a specific dollar amount is not known at this time and we are not yet starting a formal capital campaign, there have been requests to give to a fund designated for this purpose. Accordingly, the Generosity Team has established such a fund. If you would like to donate, mark your offering envelope "Boiler Fund". Please do not re-direct your current giving to the General Fund to this new account. We really do need your donations to keep the ministries of the church going through your General Fund offering. This new fund would be that little extra you might have and are willing to help the church. If by the grace of God, we receive more funds than what is needed to replace Aza, after all bills are paid, the extra funds will be moved to the General Capital Fund.

Thank You from the Trustees & Generosity Team



holiday Craft Fair

STEVENSVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S
35TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREASURES LUNCHEON, COOKIE WALK & CRAFTS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2017
9AM - 2PM

Please join us for:

"The Cookie Walk"

"Our Luncheon Café!"

Lunch served from 10:30am - 1:30pm

CRAFTS

The menu includes Hot Turkey Sandwiches, Sloppy Joes, Veggies, Homemade Pies, Desserts, Beverages and MORE!

WE NEED CRAFTERS!

We would love to have you join us.

We need quality crafters to help fill out our show this year.

Your 10"x7" space rental is only \$40.00.

The church's proceeds from the day go for church projects and missions.

Please call the church office: 429-5911 for more details.



Food Cabinet

We have a small food pantry at SUMC that we use to serve members of our church and the community. All items are appreciated but we are currently in most need of:

Juice, macaroni and cheese, apple sauce, oatmeal, granola bars, soup, canned green beans, pancake mix, cereal, and jelly.



Frozen Meals

We are currently out of frozen meals that can be delivered to members of the congregation who have had surgeries, illnesses, a death in the family, or could just use a "pick me up." We need people who are willing to put together frozen casseroles in disposable pans or bagged frozen meals that can be put into a crock pot. Meals can be placed in the freezer in the kitchen at the church. Please write the type of food and date on the meals.



- ◆ At a Glance: Sundays, 9:15-10:45 Sunday School
- ◆ Sunday's 6pm - 7:30pm, MS Youth Group
- ◆ Wednesday's 6:00pm - 8:00pm HS Youth Group

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

- 11/1: Inclusion
- 11/3: Lunch After School
- 11/8: Inclusion
- 11/15: Inclusion
- 11/22: No Youth Group
- 11/29: Movie Night!
- 12/6: Denominational Differences
- 12/13: Denominational Differences
- 12/17: Christmas Dinner
- 12/20: Denominational Differences
- 12/27: No Youth Group

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

- 11/5: Parables of Jesus
- 11/10: Dance
- 11/12: Parables of Jesus
- 11/19: Parables of Jesus
- 11/26: No Youth Group
- 12/3: Youth Group
- 12/8: Dance
- 12/10: Youth Group
- 12/17: Christmas Dinner
- 12/24: No Youth Group
- 12/31: No Youth Group



November Birthdays



Nov 2
Ronald Frohock

Nov 4
Chris Ruppel
Cole Tubman

Nov 6
Steven Barclay

Nov 8
Veronica Jackson

Nov 9
Bruce Barclay
Casey Tubman

Nov 11
Wesley
Sonnenberg

Nov 13
Mikey Melcher
Lydia Sankey

Nov 15
Ryan Arnt

Nov 17
Patricia Seifert

Nov 19
Jean Kuschel

Nov 21
Kegan Hart

Nov 22
Joan Gobert
Mike Melcher

Nov 23
Nicole Birmingham-Moersch
Kerry Burger
Sean McDowell
Michael Mead

Nov 25
Brian Lewis

Nov 26
Donald Beezley
Jacob Krieg

Nov 28
Angel Geary

Nov 29
Hugh Black
Jillian Harris

Nov 30
Charles Archey
Alex Farrington



DELBERT & SANDY GROVES

Join us in catching up with Delbert and Sandy Groves at St. Joe First UMC on Saturday, Nov 11 at noon for a pot luck luncheon. Chicken and Beverages will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Come hear what they are doing and join in the fellowship of other believers! For more information call Robin Lydic @ 983-2939.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all of the kindnesses extended to me during my recent surgery. The prayers, love, concern, cards, hugs, food, and faithful visitors are so over whelming and very much appreciated. Where is a Christ-like love exhibited to parishioners? At Stevensville United Methodist Church, of course!

In Christ, Mary Sundblad



WE NEED SOMEONE TO HELP MAINTAIN PEW ATTENDANCE PADS

Is this a ministry you can help with? This is an important part of keeping track of attendance in our church and keeping the pews stocked with filled pew pads/prayer request cards, sharpened pencils etc. Please contact the church office if you can help.

THANK YOU!



SUNDAY VISUALS TEAM - Youth & Adults!

Multi-Media is an important part of worship here at SUMC.

We are currently expanding our visuals team.

If you can click a mouse, YOU can run PowerPoint from the balcony! Training provided-No experience necessary.

If this is a ministry with your name on it, please contact Nancy Farrington:
269-449-5700
mfarrington4@comcast.net



MISSIONS FOR NOVEMBER

The Stevensville United Methodist Church Missions Ministry organizes numerous special funds for mission work to continue. The following missions have been chosen by your Mission Ministry as beneficiaries of your mission giving for the month of October. Your generous giving helps people locally and all over the world! Collections for these missions will occur during the Sunday services or you are welcome to send in a donation to the church. Missions monies are divided equally among these missions unless you clearly note it is for a specific mission on your giving envelope or check.

THE EMPHASIS MISSIONS FOR NOVEMBER ARE:

BLANKET MONTH: As the weather gets colder we're reminded that not everyone has safe shelter with warmth. For \$10 each, blankets will give comfort, warmth and compassion for families fleeing their homes, recovering from disaster and more!



THANKSGIVING MEALS: Do you know someone who needs some help to be able to have Thanksgiving dinner? Please give the name to Pastor David or Ashlei Horn. Will you shop or contribute to those dinners? The list can be found at the Missions table in the hall. Total cost for one dinner including turkey is about \$55.

GRACE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL:

This hospital in Haiti takes care of children with malnutrition, tuberculosis, HIV/Aids, maternal health, immunizations and so much more. No one is turned away for an inability to pay.



UNITED METHODIST STUDENT SUNDAY:



We are called to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. Scholarships are given to qualified United

Methodist students.

Thank you from your mission team: Pastor David, Lona Vogie, Shirley Cole, Kathy Sankey, Rhonda Rennhack and Virginia Bedunah. *There's room for YOU too!!*

Thank You for supporting the Missions Ministry of SUMC.

United Methodist Women in Mission

UMW Committee of the Month

United Methodist Women would like to thank Sherry Hunt, Sally McWhirter, Laura Bross, and Mary Sundblad for serving on the October committee of the month. Your help is appreciated.

At Stevensville United Methodist Church many events are supported by the United Methodist Women (UMW). Each month a group of women volunteer for "Committee of the Month" where they help with funeral luncheons and various meals held at church. This is a vital service to our church family and is greatly appreciated. If you would like to be included on the "Committee of the Month" calendar, please contact Myra Thompson @ 428-0201 or email her @ tntdetailing@gmail.com

UMW NOVEMBER EVENTS

Knitting circle every Thursday @ 2:00 in the lounge

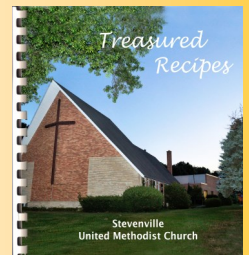
Nov 3	11-1pm	CWU Bible Study/World Community Day Luncheon & Program @ 1st Congregational UCC
Nov 4	9-2pm	Holiday Bazaar
Nov 7	7:00pm	UMW Board Meeting in Lounge
Nov 13	7:00pm	SIF-Raelene Stickney, guest speaker will present the program, "Laughter is the Best Medicine", Hostess is Jan Koebel
Nov 16	7:00pm	Lydia Circle-TBD

WE NEED YOUR RECIPES!

Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of our church, the United Methodist Women (UMW) is launching a Cookbook Blog. Please drop off your favorite recipe (and your mother's) in the bin marked "Recipe Drop-Off" at the UMW Service Projects table in the hallway. A story or a picture along with your recipe would be great!

Do you have a favorite Bible verse of the day or devotion? Drop that in there too!

This cookbook is about you, our members of Stevensville United Methodist Church.



A Quick Reminder From Your Membership Care Team:

If you or someone you know is ill, in the hospital or nursing home, please call Ashlei Horn at the church office. If you wish a visit, please let us know. We can also bring communion to you.

Please remember to pray for those in service for our country:

We would like to have updated contact information for those that are serving so we can send them encouraging messages. If you have any information please let Ashlei Horn know. Thank you. education@stevensvilleumc.org or 269-364-8545

A Message From The Memorials Team

The Memorial Funds Committee would like to make you aware of recent purchases made with donations in memory of loved ones.

- 70 new chairs for Faith Hall
- 2 paintings for the Gathering place
- Wall clock for hallway
- 2 automatic external defibrillators
- 1 tree for garden island outside office
- 1 memorial bench at Rossevelt school
- "Seed money" fund to replace piano
- "Seed money" fund to replace BASIC'S keyboard
- 1 Eternal Flame for the Sanctuary
- Funds for maintenance of Memorial Garden in pond area
- New sofa's for youth room in the lower level

Adopt-a-Family



Once again this year, our church will adopt several Christmas Families. The families wish lists will be posted in the hallway. To sign up, please take a post-it, write your name on the poster board, purchase a gift, wrap it and address the gift with the post-it. Please bring your wrapped gift to the church by Sunday, December 17.



Staff Meetings are being changed from Tuesdays to **THURSDAYS**, 9:00am-10:00am.

Thank You!!

GENEROSITY UPDATE

Stevensville United Methodist Church is a generous and loving church made up of very generous and loving people, all sharing their Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service, & Witness so that together we might:
"BE AN INSTRUMENT OF GOD'S LOVE"

For the July 1—June 30 Fiscal Year, our ministries need support of \$29,477 per month in gifts from our Members, Friends, and Other sources. As of Oct 1:

Year to Date Budgeted Needs: \$88,431 Gifts & Other Income: \$ 80,397

So that everyone is aware how we are doing in supporting our shared ministries, regular updates will appear in the Weekly Bulletins and Monthly Newsletters. Detailed reports are posted on the Finance Bulletin Board.

Thank You For All You Do To Help Us Live Out Our Shared Mission!

**One Hundred Fifty Years
of Stevensville United Methodist Church
(continued)**



Rev. Geoff Hayes 1987-1994

It was during Rev. Geoff Hayes' tenure (1987 to 1994) that funding became available for the new expansion. On June 28, 1992, there was a ground breaking ceremony of the Faith Hall addition. In the Fellowship



Footnotes of December 2, 1992, Geoff shared, "I pray for patience for myself and for you, too, as we learn to use this marvelous new tool for ministry. Faith Hall will change our life as a congregation, and some of the changes will take us by surprise. Let's thank God for this new challenge and ask Him for the wisdom, patience and courage to follow Him into the future He's creating for us." A Service of Consecration for Faith Hall would take place on December 20, 1992.

We had four (4) Associate Pastors during Geoff Hayes' tenure: Rev. Larry Rubinaugh (1987 to 1988), Pastor Jeff Wright (1988 to 1990), Rev. Brad Barthelmay (1990 to 1993) and Rev. Tamara Williams (1993 to 2002)



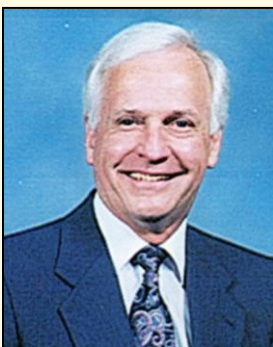
Pastor Jeff Wright
1988-1990



Rev. Brad Barthelmay
1990-1993



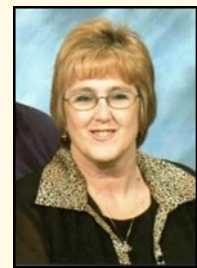
Rev. Tamara Williams
1993-2002



Rev. Gene Lewis
1994-2003

Rev. Gene Lewis came to us in 1994 and retired in 2003. Before he left in 2003, he was instrumental in leading the church to purchase the property to Red Arrow Highway so the visibility of the church would be open to the highway. He wrote in the April 2003 Bulletin, "All that we have and are today is because of those of you who were not afraid to be foolish risk-takers for Christ".... "We believe there are vital ways this property can be used for ministry to the community. Is this a foolish plan? Maybe! However, I would rather risk being a fool for Christ's sake than just an ordinary fool which I have been far too many times!"

Rev. Terri Bentley came as our Associate Pastor from 2002 to 2008.



Rev. Terri Bentley
2002-2008

HEALTH CONCERNS:

Dean Amelung
 June Avery
 Jo Baugher
 Barb Bailey
 Hannah Baugher-Penrod
 Charles Bross
 Erna Crawford
 Timmy Dibble
 Donna Dorgelo
 Jack Hardy
 Dianna Hartman
 Char Hocking
 Janet Kilgore
 Jean Kuschel
 Mike Melcher
 Grace Park

Richard Ray
 David Rhodes
 Cleo Ruppel
 Barb Sanford
 Gene Stemm
 Pat Tungett
 Judy VanDerAue
 Tamara Williams
SHUT-INS:
 Patricia Day
 Shirley Ehman
 Irene Feller
 Jessie Leiser
 Walt Phillips
 Norma Ray
 Linda Sommers
 Dan & Sally Streick

Helen Wiessner

MISSIONARIES IN THE FIELD:

Caleb Dormah—in Liberia
 Delbert & Sandy Groves—in Zambia
 Monique Yoder—Lithuania

PRAYER REQUESTS**CONCERNS:**

- ◆ Prayers of peace for Joyce Hudak transitioning from Pine ridge to home as she continues to recover.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for Mary Sundblad as she continues to recover.
- ◆ Prayers for Max Allen after having a heart stent procedure.
- ◆ Prayers for Myra Thompson’s little cousin Leah who is having severe headaches.
- ◆ Prayers for Chris Froelich who has been diagnosed with Guillain-Barre Syndrome.
- ◆ Prayers for Lezlie as she deals with chronic pain.
- ◆ Prayers for Carol Bond who had her home broken into and is feeling very scared.
- ◆ Prayers for Reagan, 13 years old who is having problems with chemo from her cancer.
- ◆ Prayers for Barb Bailey who is dealing with health concerns.
- ◆ Prayers for Bill & Carolyn Carr who recently moved to Stevensville and wish to become a part of our church family but will need rides to 11:00 services. Bill is a retired United Methodist pastor who has multiple myeloma. If you could help once a month with a ride, please talk to Ashlei or Pastor David.
- ◆ Prayers for Bob Kish Jr. who is having stem cell transplant at Mayo Hospital.
- ◆ Prayers of thanks for the successful surgery for Sue Zielke’s broken leg.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for removal of a brain tumor for Jeannie Koebel’s friend Sandie.
- ◆ Prayers for Nancy Farrington’s Aunt Phyllis who is currently hospitalized with heart failure and other complications.
- ◆ Prayers for successful shoulder surgery and speedy recovery for Carol Svorec.



SERVING IN WORSHIP NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>Nov 5</u>	<u>Nov 12</u>	<u>Nov 19</u>	<u>Nov 26</u>
<u>LECTORS</u>				
8:30	Virginia Bedunah	Ed Trollinger	Sarah Witt	Rachel Wade
11:00	Holly Hetfield	BASIC	Dick Lukey	BASIC
<u>ACOLYTES</u>				
8:30	()	Lauren Vegter	Owen & Shawn Wade	Owen Wade/Carson Rigler
11:00	Jeremiah B./Noah H.	Logan Boyle	Michael Crawford	Jacob Krieg
<u>USHERS</u>				
8:30	Gordon & Nancy Wilson	Don & Sharon Alsbro	Bruce & Leanne Nitz	Sally McWhirter/Dick S.
11:00	Bob & Barb Clark	Mike & Mindi Logan	Rosenthal Family	Dubbert Family
<u>GREETERS</u>				
8:30	Tom & Bonnie Parrish	Carol Svorec	Myra Thompson	Darl & Marcia Williams
11:00	Bruce & Wanda Barclay	Heather Boyle	Dave & Nancy Brown	Janet Crawford
<u>NURSERY</u>				
	Nursery Care is being covered by Michele Hoge and Ashlei Horn			
<u>HOSPITALITY</u>				
	Gene & Shirley Harris	()	()	()
<u>COMMUNION</u>				
8:30	Jack & Karen P./Kathy Sankey	Ed & Mary Ellen T./Lona V.	Jackie & Sarah W./Jan B.	Rachel W./Allyson R./Sandy H.
11:00	Jesse & Jenn R./Kathy Harris			
<u>SOUND</u>				
8:30	Bruce Nitz	Charlie Vegter	Bob Hendley	Aaron Rennhack
11:00	Doug Weingart	Charlie Vegter	Lona Vogie	Dick Lukey
<u>VISUALS</u>				
8:30	Barb Pries	Melissa Vegter	Dick Lukey	Lou Hendley
11:00	()	()	()	()
<u>PRAYER PARTNER</u>				
	Sandy Hayes	Lona Vogie	Paget Clark	Rachel Wade
<u>CHANCEL FLOWERS</u>				
	Mick & Barb Pries In Loving Memory Of Mick's Brother Gary	Laura Bross In Honor of 60th Anniversary	Sally McWhirter In Memory of Jon McWhirter	Mike & Nancy Farrington In Honor of Alex's 25th Birthday

Stevensville United Methodist Church
5506 Ridge Road
Stevensville, MI 49127

Dated Material: Mailed October 2017

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PAID
Stevensville, Michigan
Permit 7

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Submit website information at any time.

Newsletter articles containing information for the following month should be submitted by Noon on the 2nd Friday of each month.

Leave all articles on the secretary's desk.

If you would like to receive this newsletter via e-mail, please contact the church office at stevensvillechurch@gmail.com

If you wish to no longer receive this newsletter, please contact the church office via e-mail or call (269) 429-5911. Thank You!

<p>ATTENDANCE ON September 3, 2017</p> <p>Worship Total.120</p> <p>8:00 Service. 56</p> <p>10:00 Service.64</p> <p>ATTENDANCE ON September 10, 2017</p> <p>Worship Total.207</p> <p>8:30 Service. 73</p> <p>11:00 Service.134</p> <p>ATTENDANCE ON September 17, 2017</p> <p>Worship Total. 195</p> <p>8:30p Service. 90</p> <p>11:00p Service. 105</p> <p>ATTENDANCE ON September 24, 2017</p> <p>Worship Total.198</p> <p>8:30 Service. 68</p> <p>11:00 Service. 130</p>
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