



# Stevensville United Methodist Church

## CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF MINISTRY

5506 Ridge Rd, Stevensville, MI 49127

Telephone: 269-429-5911 Office Hours 9am-noon, Mon-Fri

E-Mail: [office@stevensvillumc.org](mailto:office@stevensvillumc.org)

Website: [www.stevensvilleumc.org](http://www.stevensvilleumc.org)

### Worship Schedule: 8:30 & 11:00

**Pastor:** Rev. David Hills

[dfhills@gmail.com](mailto:dfhills@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Sandy Krieg - 429-5911

[stevensvillechurch@gmail.com](mailto:stevensvillechurch@gmail.com)

**Children's Center:** 429-1069

Director, Amy Durren

[sumcc@stevensvilleumc.org](mailto:sumcc@stevensvilleumc.org)

**Youth Director:** Jesse Robbins

[saves6363@gmail.com](mailto:saves6363@gmail.com)

**Music Ministry:** Kellie Meyer,

Nancy Farrington

[music@stevensvilleumc.org](mailto:music@stevensvilleumc.org)

**Organist:** Dean Boward

[ddebward@gmail.com](mailto:ddebward@gmail.com)

**Education Director/Membership Care**

Ashlei Horn

[membercare@stevensvilleumc.org](mailto:membercare@stevensvilleumc.org)

**Financial Administrator:** Sara Lawrick

[finance@stevensvilleumc.org](mailto:finance@stevensvilleumc.org)

**Counseling - Centered on Wellness**

Dr. Mick Pries - 926-6199

## SHIFT

I remember the days of "three on the tree," "four on the floor," and "overdrive." I first learned how to drive in a manual transmission car. Mom put up with a lot of false starts and herky-jerky shifts, but in time I mastered shifting. Well, at least I thought so. When I burned up a clutch a few years later the mechanic gently suggested I adjust how I released the clutch after shifting. I was letting it out too slowly. I never burned up another one. My favorite car is still the Michigan Blue, 2001 VW Jetta Wolfsburg 1.4 Turbo that I believe I drove longer than any other car. When the rear end started going, I knew it didn't make sense to repair given there were over 200,000 miles on it. So as comfortable and familiar as it was, I had to let it go. I still miss it some days. In fact, if I ever thought about restoring a car that might be my first choice.

These days you don't see many manual transmissions on the new or used car side of auto dealerships. Nearly every new driver learns in an automatic. According to a Nov. 2016 article in Consumer Reports, only 3% of new autos sold in the US have manual transmissions. What on earth happened?! Did we just get too lazy to bother mastering the shift? No, we didn't. It took some time, but we eventually found that the as the benefits of modern automatics improved most of the benefits of a manual were erased. The old adage that a manual was cheaper and improved MPG evaporated like gas spilled on hot pavement. Some say they are never coming back. Ivan Drury, a Senior Analyst at Edmunds said of the 3% mark: *"That number is never going to go back up. The trajectory is down, headed for zero."* Only some purists who love the thrill and, let's admit it, the "control" of a manual will be disappointed. Most of the rest of us don't care about it any more than we care about the lack of easy access to Buggy Whips.

A recent History Channel documentary on the rise, fall, and renewal of Ford Motor Company grabbed my attention. I had always been aware of Henry Ford's innovation, entrepreneurial spirit, and recognition that autos should be priced so that his own workers could afford them. Not only that, he was a leader in setting a wage that made buying a car possible. What I hadn't know was that he was so convinced the Model T was the "perfect" car that he strongly resisted changes. That cost Ford significantly. GM and the Dodge brothers kept on innovating and gained took away sales from Ford. Ford finally had a reckoning and started reinventing itself as Henry finally started letting go of the reigns, partly at the insistence of his wife. In time Ford recovered. The Mustang landed on showroom floors and from '65-'67 sales topped 1.5 million units.

If there is any place where an "automatic" might be the worst possible way to run things, it is the Church. We can't simply put it in Overdrive and forget about it. The "gears" that keep a church moving must adapt to changing conditions along the way. We must always be "shifting" to adapt to the road and terrain where God is leading us to find and serve the least, last, and lost. So, on a regular basis we need to slow down long enough to see where we are, what the terrain of the community around us looks like, and then consider "remodeling" ourselves a bit.

If worship is the "engine" that drives the church, and making people feel welcome that keeps them coming beyond a first visit, then it is highly likely Worship and Hospitality are two things that most often need regular maintenance, tuning, updating, or remodeling. Having grown up in a "traditional worship" church, I still highly value that style of worship. My children tend to prefer contemporary worship. My grandchildren's preference may be different, but I hope there will be a church for them that speaks their language.

We may not always like it, but if we don't shift now and then, over time other innovators will create new churches and long established ones will fall into the cycle of decline. Since we are not called to serve ourselves, but a hurting world in need of "Good News," I hope we can see the wisdom of needing to let go of the church equivalents of the Model T or Corvair while averting the temptation of the "automatic." The church needs to continually shift gears in the hope that new people will join us in the journey with Jesus.

- Pastor David

What would Jesus' disciples drive? A Honda, because they were all "in one accord." (Acts 1:14 RSV) :-)

# All Church Baby Shower

**FOR:** Jen & Jesse Robbins

**WHEN:** January 14, 2018

**TIME:** 12:15 In Faith Hall Following the 11:00 Service

*Please join us for Fellowship and Fun in Honor of Jen & Jesse and baby boy Robbins who is due on February 8. There will be soup, sandwiches and cake, hosted by the SUMC staff. They are registered at Buy Buy Baby and Target. If you have any questions you can call the office at 429-5911. Thank you and we hope to see you there!!!*



*A baby is a blessing.  
A gift from Heaven above,  
A precious little angel  
To cherish and to love.*



## A TINY BUNDLE ON THE WAY

Dear SUMC,

My mom was blessed to belong to such a wonderful church family. Thank you for all of the kindness that you bestowed to her. May God continue to bless you.

Carole Linton Kuschel



Dear SUMC Family,

Thank you so much for all your visits, cards, calls, thoughts and prayers during my last surgery. I am still recovering but am so grateful and thankful for each of you and just wanted to let you know. God's Blessings to you all.

Carol Svorec



Dear Friends at SUMC,

Thank you so much for the calls, E-mails, texts, cards, visits, beautiful service, lovely luncheon and outpouring of love and sympathy during our time of loss of our loved one, Erna Crawford. We were very touched by the support and kindness you extended to us all.



Blessings and Love,  
Jerry, Jon, Janet, Michel, Dave  
Crawford and Erin Buckler

*Thank you*



## BoxTops4Education



School's back in session, and that means it's time to help our children get ahead in any way possible — one way to help is clipping Box Tops, which is an easy way to benefit our kids' education. This all started in California in 1996 as a program General Mills created to help support education and benefit America's schools. Box tops at that time were only available on select Big G cereals, such as Cheerios™, Total™ and Lucky Charms™. The program was such a huge success that it soon included other General Mills products and expanded across the nation. Today, America's school have earned over \$800 million, and you can find Box Tops on hundred of products throughout the grocery store and online.

Our Stevensville United Methodist Women continue to collect Box Tops to give to our area public schools. Our last collection was given to Eau Claire Public Schools. Our next collection will be given to Bridgman Public Schools. You can place these box tops in the cabinet near the UMW Bulletin Board marked "Box Tops for Education".

### **CHILDRENS CENTER NEWS**

December was a very busy month. We had our Christmas program on the 19th. The children sang and acted out the story of "The Littlest Tree". I am very proud of all of them for their hard work getting ready. There were class parties with lots of fun, crafts, food, and let's not forget the staff. We celebrated the season with a wonderful lunch provided by the SUMCC Board.

Perhaps January will slow down a little so we can catch our breath to begin a new year. Preschool is back in session and the after-school children come back on Monday January 8th. Our themes for the month are New Beginnings, Mittens, Snowmen, and Artic Animals. Winter is here!! Be sure to watch the walls in Faith Hall for related projects made by the children.

Thank you so much for your continued support. We feel your thoughts and prayers with us always.

Ms. Amy Durren, SUMCC Director

## Hats and Gloves Drive

The children at SUMC will be collecting hats and gloves for children and youth in need. Donations need to be put in the nursery room or given to Ashlei Horn by January 14th.



## Keeping The Sanctuary Safe

Sanctuary implies a safe place to come before God. Despite knowing the risks are extremely small, given recent shootings in churches a Task Force is being formed to look at ways we can be open and welcoming while also being safe and secure. The Task Force will be assessing our facilities seeking ways we can minimize risk while not creating unnecessary barriers. Any changes that might be made will be announced well in advance.

## OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. YOUTH@STEVENSVILLE UMC

- ♦ 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

1/3: Prayer

1/7: Winter Jam

1/10: Prayer

1/17: Prayer

1/24: TBD

1/31: TBD

### MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

1/7: Winter Jam

1/12: Dance

1/14: Youth Group

1/21: Youth Group

1/28: Youth Group

### Winter Jam

January 7th

1:00pm - 11:30pm

Doors Open at 5:00pm

**Tickets \$15**

**Dinner \$10**





## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



### Jan 1

Kathy Harris

### Jan 2

Ellie Horvath  
Yerington

### Jan 3

Renee Menke  
Nolan Tackett

### Jan 4

Josephine Cupp  
BJ Hildebrand

### Jan 5

Kyle Craig  
Rebecca Meyer

### Jan 6

Hannah  
Baugher-Penrod

### Jan 7

Jessica Allard

### Jan 9

Tafara Rukunda

### Jan 10

Nicholas Foxworthy

### Jan 13

Sally McWhirter

### Jan 14

Karen Sleder

### Jan 16

Kaitlin Arney  
Chip Krieg

### Jan 17

Kevin Boyle

### Jan 18

Nancy Farrington  
Nicholas Kriezic  
Bob Schmidt

### Jan 19

Brian Radford

### Jan 21

Quinn Balfe  
Liam Balfe  
Nicholas  
Weingart

### Jan 22

George Zielke

### Jan 23

Alyssa Krynicky  
Dale Morse  
Emily Pointek

### Jan 24

Magda Zoschke

### Jan 26

Gene Harris  
Riley Logan

### Jan 27

Olivia  
DeHaven  
Kevin Ivers  
Shawn Wade

### Jan 28

Mary Shaffer  
Melissa Vegter

### Jan 29

Sandra Andert

### Jan 30

Alexander Nelson

### Jan 31

Bryan Topp



On February 12, Sisters In Faith will hold a book discussion "Refuges" by Alan Gratz. It is a novel for young adults. It will be held in the Gathering area at 7:00pm. The following review is about the book:

Every once in awhile a book comes along and you just know that this is one everyone should read. The author has created a compelling look at refugees throughout history and done it in a way that young readers will find compelling. As an adult reader, I was thoroughly blown away by the similarities between the three stories the author features (Nazi German, Cuba in the 1990's and Syria in 2015). Given the current political climate, this book resonated with me in a totally unexpected way. Each young person's story is delivered in a way that is guaranteed to keep readers on the edge of their seats as each child faces death not only for themselves but also their family members. Their experiences are disturbing and the author's storytelling so vivid that it really shows the horror of war and the power of political oppression through the eyes of a child. The author deftly weaves the stories together, periodically switching between the three in a way that seems totally natural.....The violence is real and peril is vivid. By J. Prather in Vine Voice. *The Lincoln Township Library does not have a copy at this time, however, from their catalog you can order a Copy sent to them for you from any of the 63 libraries in Michigan which do own it. Use Melcat, the Michigan Electronic Library. Entre is available on LTPL's catalog.*



## **MISSIONS FOR JANUARY**

*The Stevensville United Methodist Church Missions Team identifies the mission projects and programs our congregation supports. Your generous giving helps people locally and all over the world! The missions listed below have been chosen by your Mission Team as beneficiaries of your mission giving for the month of January. Collections for these missions will occur during the Sunday worship, 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 JANUARY ARE:***

#### **JANUARY 7...RED BIRD MISSION**

#### **JANUARY 14...HUMAN RELATIONS**

#### **JANUARY 21... EMERGENCY SHELTER**

#### **JANUARY 28...UMCOR**

*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**

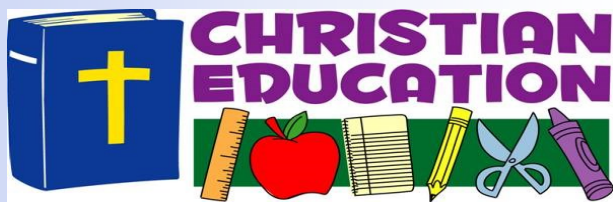
United Methodist Women would like to thank Nancy Cole, Bette Mallen, Mary Sundblad and Renee Putt for serving on the December committee of the month. Your help is appreciated.

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 January EVENTS**

*Knitting circle every Thursday @ 2:00 in the lounge  
**No UMW Board Meeting***

**Jan 16:** Lydia's Circle — TBD



### **Healthy Churches, Faithful Pastors; by David Keck**

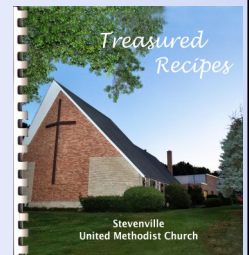
This class will be lead by Staff Parish and will be held during Sunday School time. This book is about helping your church do it's best. Congregations want to support their pastors, but don't know how. Pastors love their congregations, but they don't know what to ask of their congregations to garner needed support. Everyone wants to thrive together, but so often we get stuck.

***Check the Education board for other future classes to be held.***

### **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 or Pastor David at the church office.

If you would like 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](mailto:education@stevensvilleumc.org) or 269-364-8545***

**Celebrating a special occasion?  
Honoring a loved one?**



The 2018 Chancel Flower sign up sheet is available on the opportunities table for you. The flowers come from H&J Florist and cost \$37.10 and H&J will bill you directly.

Thank You!

Dear SUMC,

I want to Thank You all for your thoughts and prayers through my time of healing. Thank you to the Knitting Ministry for the healing shawl. I was able to use it each day I was in the hospital.

Gene Stemm



### **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 Dec. 1:

Year to Date Budgeted Needs: \$146,760      Gifts & Other Income: \$ 136,752

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!**

**HEALTH CONCERNS:**

Don Alsbro

Dean Amelung

June Avery

Jo Baugher

Barb Bailey

Hannah Baugher-Penrod

Charles Bross

Timmy Dibble

Donna Dorgelo

Jackie Hammond

Jack Hardy

Dianna Hartman

Char Hocking

Janet Kilgore

Larry Klett

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 &amp; Sally Streick

Helen Wiessner

**MISSIONARIES IN THE FIELD:**

Caleb Dormah—in Liberia

Delbert &amp; Sandy Groves—in Zambia

Monique Yoder—Lithuania

**PRAYER CONCERNS:**

- ◆ Prayers of healing for Don Alsbro who is at Royalton Manor.
- ◆ Prayers from the Lydic's for their son-in-law Brad Diler who is recovering from heart surgery and David Frazer who has a cancer diagnosis.
- ◆ George Zielke asks for prayers for Don Hill Jr. who is having tests done in Chicago.
- ◆ Prayers for Ron Tungett who was hospitalized briefly and will be having tests and consults.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for Jackie Hammond who is recovering at Countryside in South Haven.
- ◆ Prayers for a long-time friend of Mary Sundblads' Bobby Janca who is in CCU at Meijer Heart Center with heart issues.
- ◆ Prayers of thanks & safe travel from Monique & Carolyn Yoder for the opportunity to celebrate her post graduate studies.
- ◆ Prayers for Chrissie Johnson whose cancer has returned and she is going to MD Anderson for treatment. She is 29 years old.
- ◆ Prayers of comfort for the family of Glenn Neihardt, Lona's brother-in-law who passed away.
- ◆ Prayers for Ella Merrill who is 16 and was in a car accident. She is currently in a coma with a traumatic brain injury.
- ◆ Prayers for the family of Heather Yetzke Metz who passed away from ovarian cancer.

**JOYS:**

- ◆ Happy 63rd Wedding Anniversary to Tom & Bonnie Parrish on December 4.
- ◆ Happy 6th Birthday to Whittaker Lewis on December 7.
- ◆ Prayers of joy for Pastor Gordie & Susan on the birth of their new granddaughter Rosalie Grace born 12/7/2017 weighing 5 lbs 13 oz and 19 inches long.
- ◆ Prayers of great joy for Scott Burnett who graduated from Michigan State University on December 16.



# SERVING IN WORSHIP JANUARY 2018 SCHEDULE

	<u>JAN 7</u>	<u>JAN 14</u>	<u>JAN 21</u>	<u>JAN 28</u>
<b><u>SERVICE</u></b>				
<b><u>LECTORS</u></b>				
8:30	Sarah Witt	Ed Trollinger	Rachel Wade	Kathy Sankey
11:00	Mick Pries	Need to fill	Barb Pries	BASIC
<b><u>ACOLYTES</u></b>				
8:30	( )	Lauren Vegter	Owen & Shawn Wade	Owen Wade/Carson Rigler
11:00	Jeremiah Burkett/Noah Hoge	Logan Boyle	Michael Crawford	Jacob Krieg
<b><u>USHERS</u></b>				
8:30	Bruce & Leanne Nitz	Tom & Bonnie Parrish	Gordon & Nancy Wilson	Sally McWhirter/Dick Stauffer
11:00	Bob & Barb Clark	Mike & Mindi Logan	Rosenthal Family	Dubbert Family
<b><u>GREETERS</u></b>				
8:30	Dianna Hartman	Bob Hendley	Bruce & Leanne Nitz	Jack & Karen Pallas
11:00	Diane Koebel	Jan Koebel	Pam Lukey	Eric & Bette Mallen
<b><u>NURSERY</u></b>	Nursery Care is being covered by Michele Hoge and Ashlei Horn			
<b><u>HOSPITALITY</u></b>				
	Gene & Shirley Harris	( )	( )	( )
<b><u>COMMUNION</u></b>				
8:30	Sarah W./Jackie W./Jan B.	Ed & Mary Ellen T./Lona V.	Rachel W./Allyson R./Sandy H.	Kathy Sankey/Jack & Karen P.
11:00	Bette M./Mick P./Kathy H.			
<b><u>SOUND</u></b>				
8:30	Bruce Nitz	Charlie Vegter	Bob Hendley	Aaron Rennhack
11:00	Doug Weingart	Bruce Nitz	Lona Vogie	Charlie Vegter
<b><u>VISUALS</u></b>				
8:30	Barb Pries	Melissa Vegter	Dick Lukey	Lou Hendley/Bob Hendley
11:00	Nancy Mead	Becca Rosenthal	Maddie Hoge	Chelsea Rosenthal
<b><u>PRAYER PARTNER</u></b>				
	Lona Vogie	Sandy Hayes	Rachel Wade	Lona Vogie
<b><u>CHANCEL FLOWERS</u></b>				
	Donna Dorgelo, Kim & Terry Barinka In Honor of Norman Dorgelo, Loving Husband & Father Who We Miss So Much!	NEED TO FILL	NEED TO FILL	NEED TO FILL

**Stevensville United Methodist Church**

**5506 Ridge Road**

**Stevensville, MI 49127**

**Dated Material: Mailed December 2017**

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

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!**

**ATTENDANCE ON November 5, 2017**

Worship Total. . . . .172  
8:00 Service. . . . . 76  
10:00 Service. . . . . ,96

**ATTENDANCE ON November 12, 2017**

Worship Total. . . . .202  
8:30 Service. . . . . 83  
11:00 Service. . . . .119

**ATTENDANCE ON November 19, 2017**

Worship Total. . . . . 198  
8:30p Service. . . . . 65  
11:00p Service. . . . . 133

**ATTENDANCE ON November 26, 2017**

Worship Total. . . . .157  
8:30 Service. . . . . 63  
11:00 Service. . . . .94