

Serve Jesus Christ, Learn, Love, Witness, Support
Staves Memorial United Methodist Church

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March 1, 2022

Giving God-pleasing Gifts

Scripture provides us with many examples of faithful people, who by God's grace, made God-pleasing gifts. A short list of some of those givers is as follows: the Poor Widow, who gave her last two coins (Luke 21:1-4), Zacchaeus, who gave half of all his money to the poor (Luke 19:1-4), Mary, who anointed Jesus with an alabaster flask of pure perfume, (Mark 14:3-9), and the Macedonians, who gave beyond their ability (2 Corinthians 8:1-5).

We can also cite the faithful Philippians who gave gifts to the Apostle Paul. Paul had spent time with the people in Philippi sharing the Gospel. He loved them, and they loved him as a brother in the Lord. Paul's thank you for their gifts is found in his letter to the church in Philippi. Their financial gifts to him expressed their love and gratitude for him and his ministry among them. They had concern for his physical welfare and for his ongoing ministry of sharing the Gospel.

When Paul received the gift from the Philippians, he "rejoice[d] greatly in the Lord..." (Philippians 4:10 NIV). He was lavish in his thanks. The church in Philippi was the only congregation to send financial support for Paul. What a joyful surprise it must have been for Paul to receive their support especially during his time of need while he was in prison in Rome. Paul was deeply grateful for the Philippians for their compassion and for their gifts. He commended their desire "to share" his troubles. He knew that the Philippians who decided to give gifts were people who felt Paul's afflictions as if they were their own.

Even though the Philippians were poor because of economic distress caused by droughts, their personal compassion could not stop them from giving. They put Paul's needs ahead of their wants. Their giving demonstrated loving and giving hearts. We are told that the Philippians gave multiple gifts. As generous as their gifts to him were, Paul reminded the people in Philippi that the important thing about any gift is not the gift itself but the heart of the giver. The people in Philippi demonstrated compassionate hearts and generous giving spirits. Their gift was a "fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God" (Philippians 4:18). May God grant us compassionate and generous spirits as well. Thanks be to God for giving us His grace, so we can be faithful givers.



March Birthdays

Joann Keiran	3/03
Vera Burzacott	3/05
Linda McPherson	3/06
Peggy Wyld	3/06
Robert Ramsey	3/12
Carol Smallfoot	3/13
Judy Gillman	3/18
Betty Hochstetler	3/19
JoAnn Swalin	3/30

March Calendar

2 nd	<i>Ash Wednesday Worship Service 7:00 p.m.</i>
	No Dorcas Circle until April
	UMW Prayer Gathering & Brunch 9:30 a.m.
	Bell Choir 5:30 p.m.
	Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.
	Hispanic Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
3 rd	Craft Group 5:00 p.m.
4 th	China Painters 9:30 a.m.
	Hispanic Worship Service 7:00 p.m.
6 th	COMMUNION
	Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
	Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
	Fellowship Time 11:00 a.m.
	Hispanic Worship Service (chapel) 1:00 -3:00 p.m.
	Lenten Bible Study 4:00 p.m.
7 th	TOPS Group 5:15 p.m.
	Trustees Meeting 7:00 p.m.
	UMW Meeting 6:30 p.m.
8 th	Covenant Group 1:00 p.m.
	SPRC 6:30 p.m.
	DANA 7:00 p.m.
9 th	Esther Circle 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
	Bell Choir 5:30 p.m.
	Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.
	Ad Council Meeting 7:15 p.m.
	Hispanic Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

10 th	Craft Group	5:00 p.m.
11 th	Stamp Club	7:00 p.m.
	Hispanic Worship	7:00 p.m.
12 th	Sandy McNamar Memorial Food Pantry	2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
13 th	Daylight Savings Time begins	
	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:00 a.m.
	Fellowship Time	11:00 a.m.
	<i>(Free Will Offering Luncheon to support UMW and celebrate St. Patrick's Day)</i>	
	Hispanic Worship Service (chapel)	1:00 -3:00 p.m.
	Lenten Bible Study	4:00 p.m.
14 th	TOPS Group	5:15 p.m.
16 th	Bell Choir	5:30 p.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
	Hispanic Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
17 th	Craft Group Meeting	5:00 p.m.
18 th	Hispanic Worship Service (chapel)	7:00 p.m.
19 th	All Church Breakfast	8:00 a.m.
20 th	Spring begins	
	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:00 a.m.
	Fellowship Time	11:00 a.m.
	Hispanic Worship Service (chapel)	1:00 -3:00 p.m.
	Lenten Bible Study	4:00 p.m.
	Caller Deadline	
21 st	Church Women United Board Meeting	11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
	TOPS Group	5:15 p.m.
	Education Team	6:30 p.m.
22 nd	Covenant Group	1:00 p.m.
23 rd	Bell Choir	5:30 p.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
	Hispanic Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
24 th	Craft Group	5:00 p.m.
25 th	Hispanic Worship Service (chapel)	7:00 p.m.
26 th	Eve Circle	9:30 a.m.
	Sandy McNamar Memorial Food Pantry	2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
	Community Meal	5:00 p.m.
27 th	Sunday School	9:00 a.m.
	Worship Service	10:00 a.m.
	Fellowship Time	11:00 a.m.
	Hispanic Worship Service (chapel)	1:00 -3:00 p.m.
	Lenten Bible Study	4:00 p.m.
30 th	Bell Choir	5:30 p.m.
	Choir Practice	6:30 p.m.
	Hispanic Bible Study (chapel)	7:00 p.m.
31 st	Craft Group	5:00 p.m.

Staves' Sandy McNamar Food Pantry

Food Pantry Update

The Pantry dates for March are: Saturday, March 12th and Saturday, March 26th. The Food Pantry is open from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each of those days.

The numbers for February are not known yet since the writing of this article is before the second Saturday of the month. We'll provide those numbers in April. The numbers for January were: 14 Families served representing 59 people. The total pounds of food in were 195 and the total pounds of food out was 337.

Please remember that the pounds of food in and out do not include the dairy, eggs, vegetables, fruit, or meat we are able to obtain through the Food Bank of Iowa. Again, the Food Pantry staff wish to thank you for your continued support of this special outreach program. If you are interested in helping, please join us on either the second or last Saturday of any month.

We could really use canned soups, Pork & Beans, Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helpers, canned spaghetti/ravioli or similar type items.



COMMUNITY MEALS

The Free Meals are still operating and you may now eat in the church during those meals. Here is the date and menu for March:

March 26th at 5:00 p.m.

- Fish/Chicken Tenders
- Fries
- Coleslaw
- Dessert

This is a free will offering meal. Any funds donated go into the Community Meal fund to help purchase the meat or other main dish ingredients. If you are willing to help with the meal, come on the designated date at 4:00 p.m. to help set up and serve.



Community Meal

Crafts, Conversation & Chow

Come join other women for a night of Crafting, Conversation, and Chow—*Free of Charge*.

Bring a project to work on and a dish to share, or simply come to connect with other women. We meet at the church every Thursday starting at 5 p.m. If you have a craft you'd like to learn, let us know so we can find the right person to help you learn.

If you have further questions, please contact Jennifer McDonald at 515-314-4761.

**For The Lions Club,
Save Your Eye Glasses,
Hearing Aids, Postage Stamps
and Can Tabs**

**SAVE YOUR USED EYEGLASSES AND
HEARING AIDS**

The Lion's Club collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids. Even if the hearing aid doesn't work, they can use it for parts. Bring these items anytime during the year to the church.

You may place them in the designated basket marked "Used Eye Glasses," located by the mailboxes in the narthex.

POSTAL HISTORY FOUNDATION

The Postal History Foundation is an educational program where a group of volunteers collect stamps for teachers and students nationwide.

Please continue to place any stamps you may have in the basket by the mailboxes in the narthex.

SAVE YOUR ALUMINUM CAN TABS:

The Lion's Club is collecting tabs off of all aluminum cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Save your can tabs and put them in an envelope or baggie marked "Tabs" and put in the same white basket in the narthex marked "Postage Stamps."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Finance/Treasurer Report as
of
January 31, 2021**

Bank Balance as of January 1, 2022	\$83,818.21
Receipts through January 31, 2022	\$82,719.27
Disbursements through January 31, 2022	\$30,830.66
Bank balance as of January 31, 2022	\$135,706.82
Less Committed Funds as of January 31, 2022	\$111,417.11
Available funds as of January 31, 2022	\$24,289.71

***This report is submitted by:
David E. "Dave" Beery,
Current Staves Financial Secretary***

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United are making over 1,000 May baskets. They are in need of small silk flowers and stickers. A box will be in Narthex area.

Sherry Palmer, 515-991-1062.

Christian Education

The meeting in March is scheduled for Monday, March 21st at 7:00 p.m. If you are a member of the Education Committee, please join us while we discuss the following projects: ·

- A new Adult Bible Study Program for Monday Mornings ·
- The VBS program and dates for 2022
- The Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday, April 16th)

While organizing the Education Office, the Halloween Closet and Easter Closet we have found enough prizes and reusable plastic eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. We are in need of wrapped candy for the Easter Eggs. If you want to provide bags of candy, please give to either Norma Thierman or Terri Pollard, or place on the Food Pantry table in the Narthex marked Easter Egg Hunt and the Food Pantry workers will make sure it reaches the correct location. We are also in need of volunteers in early April to stuff the eggs and work the Hunt on Saturday, April 16th. If you are interested in helping with either or both activities, please come to the Education meeting on the 21st.

Continue To Remember in Our Prayers

Our Members in Care Facilities:

Gerry Langland (Valley View Village), and **Edna Rinard** at Edencrest at Riverwoods.

Our Homebound Members

Madelyn Morey (in MO with her daughter)

Our Ill, Hospitalized or Recovering Members:)

Theresa Garrison



UMW News

March UMW Bible Verse: "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and the more as you will see the Day approaching." Hebrew 10:25

We had an enjoyable and successful General Meeting on Sunday, February 6th. Our guest speaker was Lexi Prigge from the Food Bank of Iowa. She shared interesting information on "best by", "use by" and expiration dates on food products. Some of the information is included in this month's caller. The total packet of information is 18 pages long; so it was not included. However, complete copies are available on a table in the Fellowship Hall.

BTW did you know that \$1.00 donated to the Food Bank of Iowa provides 4 meals and that 1.2 pounds of food is one meal. When you donate to the Sandy McNamar Memorial Food Pantry, we are able to use the funds to purchase quality food at low cost to help feed the families who come for assistance. Your donations of canned and boxed goods also help feed these families.

At our General Meeting we had the Hamburger Corn Crust Pie that the ladies voted to serve at the Free Will Offering Fellowship Luncheon on March 13th. I had some requests for that recipe so here you go: Brown one pound of hamburger. Mix with one can of green beans and one can of Tomato Soup. Place the mixed ingredients into a greased 2-quart casserole. Mix up a batch of Corn Muffin Mix (my family used the Jiffy Corn Bread mix). Spread on top of the meat mixture in the casserole. Bake in a 350-degree oven until the corn bread is done.

UMW News Continued

All circles are now meeting on a regular basis, please see the bulletin or the calendar here in the caller for dates and times of the Dorcas Group, Esther and Eve Circle meetings. Please plan to attend any or all of these circles for fun, talk, and treats.

Meetings

No Dorcas Circle until April.

Eve Circle will meet March 26th, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall. We will be doing Book Reports. Bring a friend. Sherry Palmer, 515-991-1062.

STAVES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are now being received for the 2022 Staves Memorial Scholarships. These may be granted to any active member of Staves Memorial United Methodist Church who is or will be receiving post high school education in the fall of 2022.

Application forms may be obtained from the church office. The form includes the requirements to be followed when applying for a scholarship. If you have any questions, call Jim McPherson at (515) 537-3664.

Trustee's Update

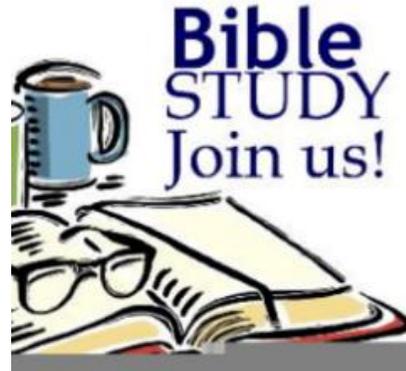
Here are the updates on the latest Trustee Projects:

All the projects (furnaces, carpeting in the Chapel, the security system, new kitchen stove, and bathroom re-decorating) are either complete or are still in process. The Trustees are now starting to look at the parking lot issues and what can be done.

We believe that the real fix for the parking lot is to tear it up and replace it completely. We don't believe we can do any more patching but will be looking to see if that is feasible. We will also examine the possibility of marking with bright reflective paint the large cracks so you can avoid them. The cost for total replacement of the parking lot is expected to be quite large and with that idea in mind we are starting by getting a single bid to gauge the total cost.

Lenten Bible Study

Lenten Bible Study
March 6th - April 10
Sundays 4:00 p.m.
"The Last Days of Jesus' Life"
Lead by Nils Berndt



SPRC Report for January 2022

- A. Pastor provided update on health issues and temporary sub while he is recovering.
- B. Discussion on upcoming church split: Liberal and Conservative
- C. Discussion on getting Wi-Fi set up for live streaming sermons.

Chairman Sue Hood

MARCH MISSION

The Rev. Douglas E. Williams is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, serving as pastor and Volunteer-In-Mission promoter of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina, based in Buenos Aires. He was commissioned in October 2015.

He is an elder of the Iowa Annual Conference and immediately prior to his missionary service was lead pastor of the Coralville United Methodist Church and an adjunct professor at Kirkwood Community College, Iowa City, Iowa

He is a chaplain of a 650 student K-12 Methodist school, coordinates VIM (Volunteers in Mission) for the country and works with two small churches in Mendoza and San Juan.

Revitalizing two inner city older churches has been a challenge when the pastor is still learning the nuances of the language and culture. Fortunately, the mostly older members of these churches are gifted and open to the new thing Christ might do through us. In Mendoza we have decided to sell our heart of downtown precious building to free up resources for mission and ministry. "I live in an apartment above the church and am a bit heart sick for the sale largely because the building like the people tells a story of fighting for justice and hope for the poor and marginalized."

In 2014, Doug wrote: I sat last night with a 90-year-old Maria From who thanked God I had finally showed up and somehow in our broken communication I sensed the journey was worth it if only to hold hands in prayer with this ancient soul. I've so much yet to learn and have so many questions...and I hope you do too. Questions that drive you to your knees in

searching contemplation and questions that send you into the world finding and sharing good news! sept. de 2015.

If you wish to support this missionary, please put a donation in an envelope and label as Williams Mission. Thank you for supporting our Methodist missionaries.

Staves Memorial Committee

2022 Easter Lily Order Form

This is your opportunity to decorate Staves Church for EASTER. Payment is needed to confirm your order. Checks will be made payable to Staves. The **final order date** will be **Sunday April 3rd**. You may place your order in the offering plates or with the church office. You may pick up the flower you ordered after service on Easter Sunday April 17th.

Your Name: _____

I would like to donate the following:

Qty.	Total	
_____	\$_____	Easter lily @ \$12.00 each
_____	_____	Grand Total

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In thanksgiving of: _____

In celebration of: _____

Financial Secretary Use Only

Payment Received: _____