

Cedar Springs UMC

Pastoral Letter

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The time has come! Many of you have asked if I'm ready to "take on another church," and the answer is yes, I'm excited to finally be at a place in life where I can embrace ministry as a full-time lifestyle. Since this is a significant transition, and there will be some schedule changes, I wanted to take this opportunity in the Chimes to let you all know what my schedule will look like.

I will be flowing between both churches as needed throughout the week, always seeking long-term balance. Business meetings for both are on Mondays (1st for EN, 3rd for CS). I will meet with Rebecca (CS) on Mondays and Chris (EN) on Tuesdays. It will be especially important to plan other meetings in advance, so I'm not bouncing back and forth on any given day! I will be relying on you all to reach out and let me know what you need, so we can be sure everyone is covered.

Most weeks will look a lot like this:

Sunday: Worship and Fellowship!

Monday: 9-12 Service planning from home, 1-7 p.m. in-person meetings, visits, etc.

Tuesday: 6-7 hours in-person meetings, visits, etc., flexible timing as needed, 3 hours sermon prep

Wednesday: Sabbath! Kayaking, hiking, gardening, sleeping in

Thursday: Daytime: work from home—continuing ed, reading, emails, phone calls, zoom meetings. After school/evening—family night

Friday: Daytime: work from home—continuing ed, reading, emails, phone calls, zoom meetings. After school/evening—family night

Saturday: Sermon finalization, worship service preparation and details

Communication is essential, and sometimes it can be hard to know how and when to best reach one another. These are my communication preferences, which allow me to be available, organized, and well-rested:

- Pastoral Care emergencies, call or text, 24/7
- Urgent church or personal matters, call or text 9 am-9pm, except Wednesday/Saturday
- Non-emergency church or personal matters, please email if possible, or call/text to set up a time to talk in-depth.

As always, please reach out to me with any questions about this new schedule!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Michelle

CHIMES JULY 2024

Office Hours: Tuesday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

CSUMC Website: www.cedarspringsumc.org

Office Contact: (616) 696-1140, office@cedarspringsumc.org

Pastor: Michelle Vallier (231) 329-5483

Treasurer Email: treasurer@cedarspringsumc.org

Pastor Email: pastormvallier@outlook.com

Pastor's Office Hours: By Appointment Only. Please contact the Pastor directly to make an appointment.



*Gracious God, as plants in a garden
root themselves in rich soil, and open
themselves to the rain and sun, so we root
ourselves in your Presence. We open
ourselves to your Word. And we await the
working of your Spirit within us, so that
what you have planted in us may bear fruit.
We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.*

-Steve Garnaas-Holmes, unfoldinglight.net

Cedar Springs UMC in Prayer

Members	Friends	In care Facilities
Jo Furhoff	John Prelesnik	The Brook of C.S.
June Price	Eric Helsel	Bev Wesche
Shirley Neff	Harry & Sandy Speek	Woody Avis
Lori Graham		Bishop Hills
Bud and Helen Gambee		Dale Fitzner

Kids Hope USA: Mentors, Prayer Partners, and Students

In Our Country's Service

Nick Segard	Jenny Jo Collin (Mueller)	Aaron Burnside
Tyler Hinton	Peter, Mikelle & Sophia Noreen	Mitchell Phillips
	James, Jackie Finley (Champion)	David Segard III
	Ben, Sarah, Kate & Jessica Smith (Noreen)	

Please contact Janis Opperman at janis@shaneravenuenursery if you would like to be added to the prayer chain.

CHIMES JULY 2024

****Please mark your calendars! Our Sunday worship time will shift to 11:00 am starting July 7****

General Fund Information

General Funds Monthly Goal: \$ 12,533.34

General Funds Yearly Goal 2024: \$150,400.00

	General Fund	Online Giving	Monthly Total
January	\$ 8,053.00	\$1,160.00	\$ 9,213.00
February	\$13,652.00	\$ 975.00	\$14,627.00
March	\$13,496.00	\$7,460.00	\$20,956.00
April	\$12,725.00	\$1,075.00	\$13,800.00
May	\$ 8,514.00	\$ 945.00	\$ 9459.00
June	\$11,109.00		\$11,109.00
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			
2024 Current Total:	\$67,549.00	\$11,615.00	\$79,164.00

****Please note: The budgeted income goal has been updated to reflect the year 2024. Additionally, general giving and online giving now have separate columns to facilitate easier tracking in future Chimes reports.**

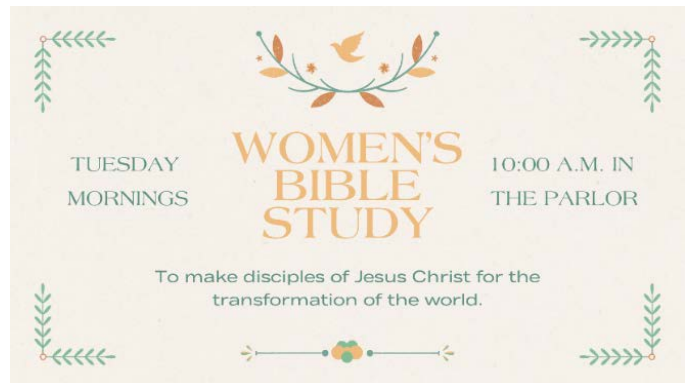
Volunteer Opportunities

Liturgists: All are welcome to participate in this important aspect of worship!

Greeters: This is a way for you to connect with everyone who crosses the threshold. By making parishioners feel welcome from our first encounter we can help to instill a sense of belonging.

Audio Visual: 3 people are required to run the equipment each service. One of the current volunteers will train you.

CSCFP: The Food Pantry needs volunteers. If you would like more information, call Sarah Zachow (616-481-3228) or Ann Scott (616-696-1567).





July



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 RUTH DEYOUNG
- 10 TIMOTHY SCOTT
- 11 RALPH YOUNG
- 11 PEYTON THACKER
- 15 MARI ANNE JONES
- 15 KERRI MAYO
- 16 KATHLEEN RAUDENBUSH
- 18 HELENE CALDWELL
- 22 MADELYN REISTER
- 23 ROBIN KRIBBET
- 29 GIBSON REISTER
- 30 DENNIS BUCK
- 30 GEORGE DEYOUNG
- 30 GLORIA GEBHARDT
- 30 MIKE PRICE



ANNIVERSARIES

- JULY 2 JANICE AND HAROLD HULST
- JULY 6 CLARE AND CONNIE KIDDER
- JULY 8 NANCY AND TOM NOREEN
- JULY 10 SUE AND PHIL HARRISON
- JULY 29 SONDRA AND DAN NIELSEN

What do I want to be, as a member of the Cedar Springs United Methodist Church?

- Be more open and welcoming.
- Be sure to use the person's name.
- Be a better leader for adult Sunday school.
- Be quicker to say hello to strangers.
- Be more open to volunteering.
- Be more gracious in conflict.
- Be more inclusive in task delegation.
- Be more involved.
- Be less rushed in life.
- Be accepting of change.
- Be effective in my volunteer leadership roles.
- Be creative with missions.
- Create more involving activities for PEP Group.
- Be more focused on discipleship.
- Be a more gracious person.
- Make more time to read my Bible with prayer.
- Be accepting of others as they are.



Anyone wishing to bring flowers to Honor or in Memory of someone special please bring on Sunday mornings. Fresh from your garden or bouquets are always appreciated. Any questions contact chris_segard@yahoo.com.

Adopt-a-Highway

Road Clean Up July 20

The summer clean up event for this year will be on July 20 for the two-mile section of 17 Mile Road from Algoma Avenue to Olin Lakes Avenue. It is about a two-hour commitment on Saturday morning starting at 9 AM. Join us in the parking lot behind Huck's Corner store on the northwest corner of Algoma Avenue and 17 Mile Road. If you have any questions, please call Tom Noreen at 616-260-0881 or email tomnoreen@aol.com.

CHIMES JULY 2024

Mission Trip 2024

Do you want to make a difference in someone's life? Join us for our annual mission trip to Habitat for HiawathaLand in Manistique, MI. Since 2004, we have gone on a weeklong mission trip where we have done our best to "make a difference in someone's life." As time and skills permit, the folks we are helping have worked alongside us as we build or repair their home. Over the years, we've watched families grow as they shared their lives with us. This year we are heading north on July 7 and will return on July 13. We've sided, insulated, hung drywall and built decks on new houses and rehabs along with installing windows, doors, kitchen cabinets, wood flooring, sinks, bathtubs, and the list goes on. Last year we replaced windows and moved some walls in a house they are renovating. Did everyone know how to do these things, of course not! We learn from each other. Right now, we have a crew of 7 lined up to go! Why do we keep going on these trips to sleep on old prison mattresses? One is we are called to share our gifts and talents with our neighbors. It is a great time of fellowship and learning. Learning not only new skills but also about our teammates and most importantly about ourselves. It is rewarding and fulfilling to see the smile on a client's face when you complete a task that brings them closer to owning their own home.

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please call Tom Noreen at 616-260-0881 or email tomnoreen@aol.com.

Thank You

Did you ever wonder where those pop tabs that we collect in our big jar actually go? This spring, our tabs helped the family of Claire, the 6 year old daughter of Adam and Kim Smith from our Cedar Springs area. She is at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI. Claire needed a heart and lung transplant to survive. Miraculously, she received both organs on February 27th and they are working fine. At this writing, Claire has developed pneumonia and is still fighting for her life. Please know that your donation of pop can tabs helped in the medical and other costs for her family. They thank you. Please keep this family in your prayers. Thank you.





CEDAR SPRINGS COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

The Cedar Springs Community Food Pantry serves year round. The warm months are just as important and the colder ones for us to assure those who come that they can eat healthy and adequate meals. Thank you for your continued support so this care can be given.

Here is IMPORTANT information regarding the Simply Give program and how you can bring these resources to the Pantry. For 13 weeks beginning June 30 and extending through September 28 your purchase of Simply Give cards will mean that Meijer will match your purchase—in other words your money will be doubled. It is simple. Pick up a card at church or at the local Meijer store. Take it to the cashier and tell them how much you want to give. (It needs to be in increments of \$10.) This can be added to your order or it can be an order of its own.

An especially good deal!! Saturday, August 17 and Saturday, September 14 are Double Match Days. This means that Meijer will double match your gift - each \$10 becomes \$30. There isn't a better investment out there. Please consider making gifts during this period. Let your neighbors and friends who attend other churches know that this is a special time.

We continue to welcome donations of produce from your gardens (or from those of your neighbors,) Consider picking some “extra” when you go to You Pick farms. Take a child with you and encourage them to give some of what they pick to the Pantry.

One other idea: Do you ever think of Christmas in July? Why not purchase Simply Give cards during this special time and then give them to friends and family at Christmas or perhaps for their birthday. You will help so many while honoring your giftee.

If you have questions about ways you can help with the Pantry, please call Sarah Zachow at 616-481-3228 or stop in at the church M–Th from 9–11 am when the Pantry is open.



CHIMES JULY 2024



Liturgists for July



July 7: Sue Harrison

July 14: Janis Opperman

July 21: Kathy Ries

July 28: Sharon Helsel

We extend our gratitude to the Liturgists for their voluntary contributions. We welcome anyone who is able to read to participate in reading the liturgy. Contact Sue Harrison at, 616-446-4765, for more information.



P.E.P



Here are the upcoming PEP activities:

July 17 - Lunch at Smugglers at North Shore, a lovely spot on the shore of Hess Lake. Meet at church at 12:00 to carpool. Please sign up so I can make reservations.

August 21 - Euchre and game day at Kathy Ries' house. Please sign up and bring an appetizer to share. We will start at 3:00.

September 17 - An excursion to the Gilmore Car Museum. We will carpool from church at 10:00 a.m. The cost of admission is \$20. There will be a signup sheet.

Mark your calendars for
Church Conference!

Sunday, October 27, 2:00 pm at
Sparta UMC, with a HUB
gathering from 3:00 - 4:30.



This is just a little note thanking the "**Welcome & Care Committee**" for their very generous kinds of compassion.

I have been the recipient of several of these acts of kindness and thoughtfulness and it has always made me feel better!

Your little acts of "caring" haven't gone unnoticed. They have been much appreciated!

Thanks again -
Kit

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

EVERY
MONDAY / WEDNESDAY / FRIDAY

12:00 PM

HOSTED AT:
CEDAR SPRINGS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
140 S. MAIN ST
CEDAR SPRINGS, MI 49319

YOU'RE INVITED . YOU'RE INVITED . YOU'RE INVITED

P.E.P. Lunch at Smuggler's Cove

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

Meet at church at 12 pm
and carpool

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR
RESERVATION PURPOSES

CHIMES JULY 2024

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
July 2024	1 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor	2 9-11 Food Pantry 10am Ladies Bible Study 1pm Love & Stitches	3 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor	4 12pm AA in Parlor	5 12pm AA in Parlor	6 9:30am F.H. Rental
7 Mission Trip 9:30am The Wired Word 11am Worship Service 12pm Fellowship	8 Mission Trip 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor	9 Mission Trip 9-11 Food Pantry 10am Ladies Bible Study 1pm Love & Stitches	10 Mission Trip 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor 5pm F.H. Rental	11 Mission Trip 9-11 Food Pantry	12 Mission Trip 12pm AA in Parlor	13 Mission Trip 9:30am F.H. Rental
14 9:30am The Wired Word 11am Worship Service 12pm Fellowship	15 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor 5:30 Finance Meeting 6 pm Council Meeting	16 9-11 Food Pantry 10am Ladies Bible Study 1pm Love & Stitches	17 9-11 Food Pantry 12 pm AA in Parlor 12 pm P.E.P. Lunch at Smugglers Cove 5 pm F.H. Rental	18 9-11 Food Pantry	19 12pm AA in Parlor	20 9:30am F.H. Rental
21 9:30am The Wired Word 11am Worship Service 12pm Fellowship	22 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor	23 9-11 Food Pantry 10am Ladies Bible Study 1pm Love & Stitches	24 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor 5pm F.H. Rental	25 9-11 Food Pantry	26 12pm AA in Parlor	27
28 9:30am The Wired Word 11am Worship Service 12pm Fellowship	29 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor	30 9-11 Food Pantry 10am Ladies Bible Study 1pm Love & Stitches	31 9-11 Food Pantry 12pm AA in Parlor			

F.H. = Fellowship Hall