



Newsletter

MARCH 2023

Worship God.

Follow Jesus.

Serve Others.

From the computer of Pastor Sheila:

In his 2022 Lenten message to the Church, Pope Francis invites the church to reflect upon St. Paul's words in his letter to the Galatians: "Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up. So then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all. (Galatians 6:9-10)

In my message on February 19, I mentioned to the congregation that this church is a very generous, loving and giving congregation. Since I have been here in January, you have hosted a memorial service, you have established a fund for UMCOR to assist the victims in the Syria/Turkey earthquake which raised \$450 as of February 26, you hosted a potluck for another parishioner who passed away, you have made arrangements for the church to be used by the school in case of a tragic event and the school has to vacate, the Quilting group has established a scholarship in the name of Pat Williams who just passed away and the leadership has approved the God dollars to be used to MSU Wesley Foundation for ministry and grief counseling for students and staff after the tragic shooting on campus two weeks ago. As of February 26, the God dollars totaled about \$770 and there was another \$200 donation added to it for MSU Wesley.

These are not small accomplishments and it is thrilling that the congregation has not grown tired of doing good and helping others. We have even had a volunteer choir which sang in February and will sing again in March.

I am so proud to be filling the pulpit for Pastor Wade and giving each of these statistics to you; I am sure that he is so thrilled to hear and read these stats too. Giving from the heart for ministry in our world is what God wants us all to do.....and you members of Cassopolis United Methodist Church have done that well.

As we journey through the Lenten season, let us be mindful of searching our lives and our souls and asking God to continue using each one of us and this church in ministry to the world. It does not seem possible but March 31 is galloping up on us and we will be gone and Wade and Patti will return....but until that time, may we follow the teachings of James 4:7: "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and he will draw near to you."

Thank you for your continued love and support,

See you in church.

Pastor Sheila

Love Gift to Wesley House

On February 13th at Michigan State University, a tragedy unfolded. Four students were fatally shot and five more wounded. Students at the campus were traumatized and afraid to sleep in their dormitories. At *The Wesley Foundation* on campus, students were invited to come, to gather, and to stay there at Wesley House until they felt comfortable returning to their dorms. When the leadership team heard of this, we were moved to offer a love gift.

John Kelley suggested that we use our God dollars, and we counted \$770.00. Sheila Baker generously offered a portion of her salary, and we mailed a check for \$1,000 to Wesley Foundation with our love and prayers for their ministry. Because of your generosity our God dollars continue to be used as a ministry to support our community and others.

1st John 3:18, Dear children, let us not love with words or speech, but with actions and in truth.

In Christ,

Kelley Nickel

CLC chair

ONLINE WORSHIP DURING THE WINTER

For those who enjoy worshipping with the CUMC online, we want you to know that the service during the months of January, February and March will include only the sermon recorded during the in person service on Sunday mornings.

The production of an entire experience of worship (hymns, prayers, children's time, scripture, etc.) will not be recorded by our interim pastor, Sheila Baker. When Rev. Panse returns in April, the full worship service will again be produced for our online viewers.

Thanks for your understanding and patience. Blessings.

Thank You Notes Received

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your recent monetary donation of \$500. Contributions to Helping Hands are used to support outreach to our community in Cass County. These services include our food pantry, clothing, utility, medical and transportation assistance as well as support to elementary kids through the Sam Adams Back Pack program and to local low-income seniors.

Our organization provided over 4,700 services to individuals in 2022 because of donors like yourself. We are grateful for your donation that supports services to people in need.

Thank You,

Leigh Goyings

Helping Hands Secretary

Cassopolis United Methodist Church,

Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services would like to personally thank you for making our work possible. Your kindness this past year supported our work. Your generosity allowed us to look beyond the challenges of providing services on limited funding and enabled our full effort and heart into providing exemplary services for the survivors and their families we serve together.

Kitchen Trash Removal

Please remember when providing refreshments for fellowship, you must **remove the trash bag from the kitchen and take it out to the green cart. Also, be sure to bring the cart to edge of the road before leaving** so that it will be picked-up on Monday morning. Thank you so much for your assistance in keeping our church maintained. Your cooperation and understanding are much appreciated!



Now that March has arrived and Spring is just around the corner, we will be winding down the Mitten Tree program for the year. Thank you so much to everyone who donated these items throughout the winter months, and especially thanks to Barb Mesko for making sure our local students are kept safe and warm!

Just a reminder that **Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday March 12th!**

Don't forget to move your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night.





March



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>Iva Zilmer</i>	2	3	4
5 Worship 10 AM	6 Ed Atkinson	7	8	9	10	11
12 Worship 10 AM <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i>	13	14	15	16	17 St, Patrick's Day 	18
19 Worship 10 AM	20 <i>Spring</i> 	21 Sewing Sewers 10 AM	22	23	24	25 St Paul Lutheran Food Pantry 11:30 - 1
26 Worship 10 AM	27 Mike & Char Hiemstra 	28				

If your special date does not appear on this calendar, please let the office now.