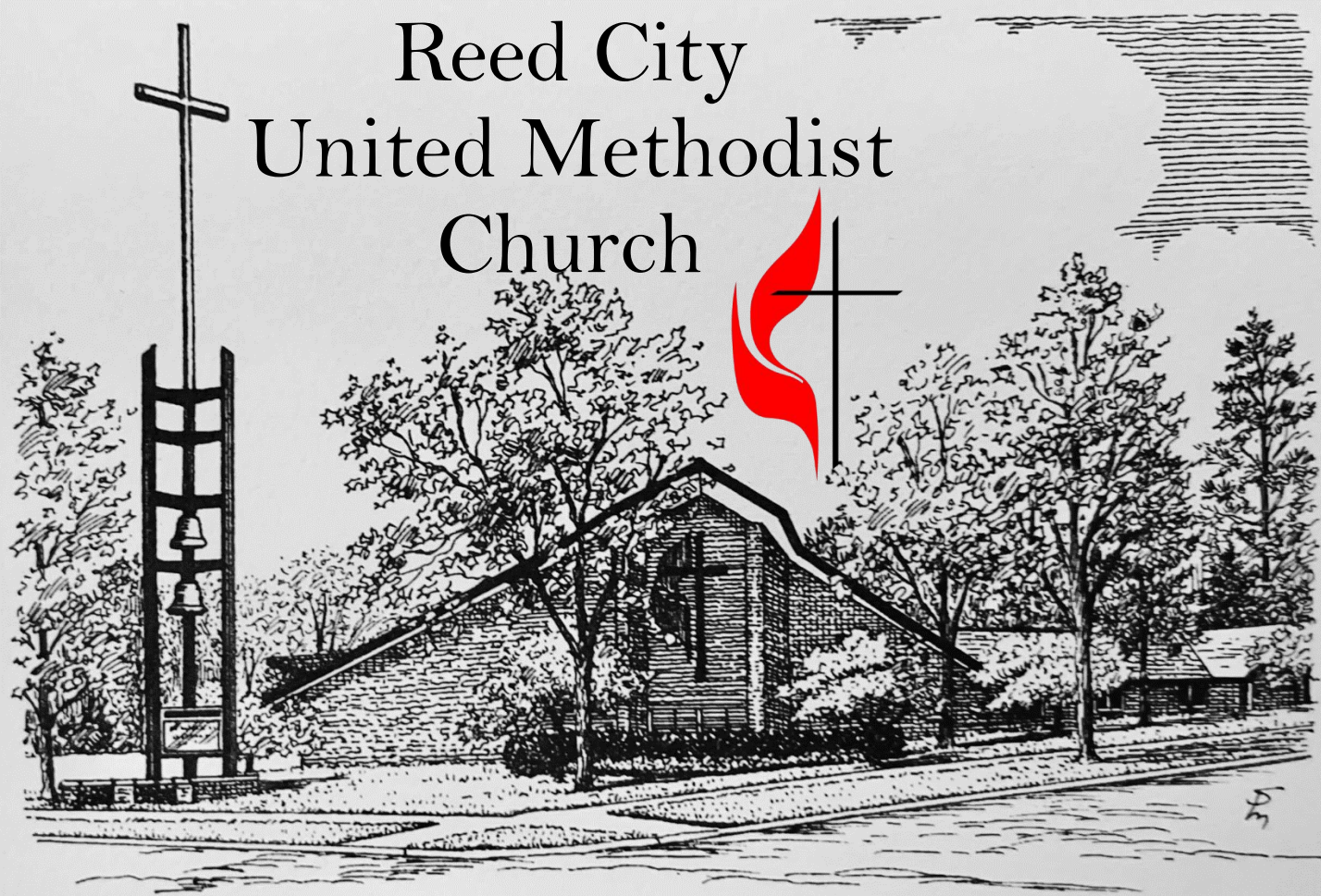


Reed City United Methodist Church



May 2024

Worship
WITH US

IN PERSON: 9:30 AM SUNDAYS

RADIO: Find us on 97.3 FM at 10 AM

ONLINE: Services are live-streamed on Facebook & YouTube during the in-person worship



Contact Us:

Church Phone:

231-832-9441

Church Email:

office@reedcityumc.com

Mailing Address:

503 S. Chestnut Street
Reed City, MI 49677

Office Hours:

10AM-3PM, Mon-Thurs

Pastor Daniel's Phone:

231-734-2733

Pastor Daniel's Email:

circuit.rydr21@protonmail.com

Website:

www.reedcityumc.com

“Like” us on Facebook &

Click “Subscribe” on YouTube

Why We Do Not Lose Hope

I watch the livestream of the 2024 General Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, as I write this month's reflections. I must confess that I am not a particular fan of the legislative process in general. Yes, I fully realize that it is a necessary process, but that does not equate automatically great enthusiasm on my part. Observing how we get so often hung up in the minutiae of written or spoken words, large amounts of time and energy are expended for certain business items, and too little time on that which may be difficult or unpopular to deal with.

That doesn't take place at a global General Conference, of course, but also on the local and personal level from time to time. There is no conspiracy behind any of this, no intentional disinformation strategy, or any such things. We could chalk it up to the category of "it's in human nature" and accept it as a fact of everyday life.

What do we do with the incessant flood of images and reports that flood before our eyes and minds every single day of our lives, whether we search for them, or they come to us unbidden and as an intrusion? We are now such a connected world that anything happening in even the remotest part of the earth will become immediately newsworthy around the globe. I know that many people feel overwhelmed and helpless before the onslaught of non-stop news.

These things have been weighing on my mind a lot in recent weeks, and as I turn to Scripture for guidance and wisdom to handle the many issues before us as a world and as a society, I was reminded of some words in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18:

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

That is why we do not lose heart (or hope) in whatever situation we may find ourselves, because we focus on the things we cannot yet see, trusting in God our Creator to walk with us towards the future that only God knows is just beyond our horizon.

May God bless us and keep us as we live as people of trust and a future with hope.

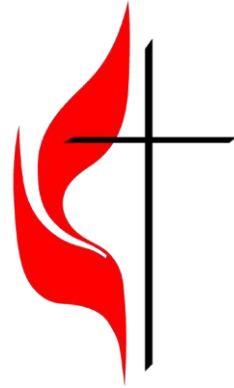
Pastor Daniel

Prayer

changes things.

To submit or update a prayer request,
Please call: (231)832-9441 or email: office@reedcityumc.com

RCUMC Vital Statistics



Lay Leader's Corner

Greetings from the Lay Leader's Corner. Spring is here, the landscape is greening up and God continues to reveal his handiwork. It is time to take inventory and plan for the days ahead. The Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church is doing just that. As I write this article, representatives of our Conference are attending General Conference, planning the future of the United Methodist Church in the world at large.

Cinda and I are looking forward to attending the Michigan Annual Conference at the end of this month at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme Michigan. The MAC is a gathering of equal numbers of Clergy and Lay members of the Conference to do the Corporate business of the church. All clergy in good standing in the Conference, whether active or retired, are required to attend. Cinda was elected at our Annual Charge Conference last Fall as your Lay Representative to Annual Conference and I was chosen to be an Equalization Representative to Annual Conference by our District Lay Leader. Note, because there are more clergy attendees than there would be lay representatives elected by local congregations, and equal numbers of each are required by *The Book of Discipline*, a number of lay people need to be chosen on a district-by-district basis to “equalize” the numbers, thus, the Equalization Representatives. Well, that was a lot of explanation of why both Cinda and I will be attending as your representatives, but I felt it is important for you know.

Also important for you to know is what “business” will be before us and what your part is in accomplishing that “business”. There are eleven Resolutions that have been presented and a budget for the Conference to consider. Three of the Resolutions and the budget will come before the entire voting body to be considered for discussion and vote. The remaining eight will first go through Legislative Committees for consideration before coming before the entire body. It is that process you can help with.

On May 22 and 23, four Legislative Committees will meet separately via Zoom to consider those pieces of legislation, two per committee. Pastor Daniel, Cinda and I will each be assigned to one of those groups, but no two of us to the same group. The pieces of legislation and budget have been posted in the RCUMC narthex for your examination. Also, you can access the Michigan Conference web sight and find them there. You are strongly encouraged to examine these documents and provide Pastor Daniel, Cinda, and/or me with your thoughts, feelings, and wisdom. Cinda and I will be in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday after service to discuss your questions and or comments. It is through your input, prayers, and God’s guidance that we will do God's work at Annual Conference.

You will be able to follow the actions of Annual Conference as it happens via the Conference website, YouTube, and Facebook page. There is much more to Annual Conference than the legislative sessions; worship, fellowship, information booths on a myriad of topics, seeing old friends, and making new friends. A round-up of each day's activities will be published in Newsletter form the following day on the web sight and Facebook page as well. At a time to be determined after the Annual Conference there will be a time set aside to present a report to the congregation from those of us that attended.

Peace be with you,

Your lay leader,

Timothy Locker, Sr.

Celebrations and Births

May the light of Jesus
shine through
you on your special day.

Sincerely,

Pastor Daniel &
the members of RCUMC



Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for the many cards and calls in celebration of John's 78th birthday. The outpouring of God's great love through your continued kindnesses has uplifted our spirits as John struggles through the effects of cancer treatment. We are hopeful that by the end of May a cure for his leukemia will be realized and his multiple myeloma will remain stable. We ask for your prayers as we gratefully acknowledge the support you have faithfully given.

Blessings,
John & Carolyn Erael



WELCOME

BABY

GIRL



Fellowship & Bible Study Opportunities

Monday Bible Study meets at 6pm

We are studying *Create in Me a Heart of Wisdom* by Becky Keife—Choosing God’s wisdom over human wisdom as we navigate through our lives. Study books are available.

Call Lola (231) 832-2432, or just come join us.



JOIN US FOR
BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study with Pastor Daniel

Every Thursday at 10AM in the Church Library

We are taking a break from our study with the minor prophets and are watching and discussing season 3 of *The Chosen*. All are welcome, and I (Pastor Daniel) look forward to learning with you as we study the life of Jesus together.

Community Enrichment

Greetings from the RCUMC office!
Thank you to all who made me feel so appreciated on Administrative Professional Day and those who have continued to welcome me as your new Administrative Assistant. I have continued to work very hard on connecting with local organizations and establishing a relationship/partnership with them. We have partnered with LOVE, INC. to take over their ongoing drive to provide birthday cakes to several children in Osceola County each month.



Thank you to the Women in Faith group for helping support this mission. This is an extension off our Cake Kit Pantry, here at RCUMC. We do offer Cake Kits to anyone in need. We will need your continued support of donations toward our Cake Kit Pantry. Thank you to all that have brought in items, already. We always welcome donations of boxed cake mixes, frosting tubs, applesauce cups, 12 oz cans of 7Up, candles, cake decorations, and disposable 9x13 cake pans with lids.

My first "Community Enrichment" event at RCUMC was the Mom-to-Mom sale, April 6. This sale offered Parents/Caregivers an opportunity to shop in one spot for multiple sizes of clothing, shoes, and items for their child(ren). The entire event was a big success thanks to our wonderful volunteers. We ran out of tables to use, invited more than 120 people into our church throughout the day, and were able to help several families. We are planning to have a Fall sale, date to be announced.

I am looking for people interested in joining the Community Enrichment Team to help with future events, such as this one.

Our next event is Friday, May 31; Dinner & Design. (see next page for details)

I encourage you to "Be a Blessing" this month of May.
My door is always open!

-Sadie



Events at RCUMC

Women's Tea
May 11
Noon

CANCELLED



We are sad to announce that the Women's Tea on May 11, at noon, has been cancelled this year. Please note this change in your calendar.

Please Join US!

Dinner and Design **Friday, May 31**

Free-will offering dinner at 5pm

Sloppy Joe sandwich, Pickle,

Chips, Drink & Dessert

Wooden Sign Craft at 5:45pm

Please RSVP by May 17

Reed City United Methodist Church

503 S Chestnut St. Reed City, MI 49677

(231) 832-9441 office@reedcityumc.com

Offered by RCUMC Community Enrichment Team



Future Events at RCUMC



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

Matthew Dickerson is a national champion, performer, and entertainer on the Hammered Dulcimer. Matthew began playing the hammered dulcimer at the young age of 15 on a homemade instrument he had constructed from a water damaged piano. His push for progress and talent led him to compete in the Mideast Regional Hammered Dulcimer Competition in 2012, which he won. Shortly thereafter he also went on to compete in and win the 2012 National Hammered Dulcimer Championship at the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield, Kansas.

Matthew's fun, personal, and candid stage presence has taken him across America and overseas to share his talent. His performances offer a delightful compilation of crowd favorites, from traditional to classical and from oldies to 100% original.

He released his first album in the summer of 2014 (When I'm Happy And I Know It), and his second (So Sings My Strings) in the summer of 2018. Matthew continued to work on his music and his efforts paid off in 2020 when his music video, Come Thou Fount, went viral on Facebook.

With a genuine appreciation for great music and talent in multiple genres, he continues to reach for new heights in both style and performance as he represents himself as one of the best dulcimer players in the world.

Matthew currently resides in Evans, GA with his family of 7.

Community, Needs, & Events at RCUMC



The RCUMC Cake Kit Pantry is stocking up for our first distribution in the Month of May; we have 21 children in Osceola county that will receive a "Cake Kit" for their birthday. Please contact Sadie if you would like to help package and distribute these kits. Continued donations are very appreciated.

Food Pantry Monthly Needs*

May- Crackers (any kind or type)



THANK YOU
for supporting our recent
blood drive!

We look forward to seeing you at our
next blood drive on



MAY 23 11:15~4:00

RADA CUTLERY



American Made Cutlery

Reed City UM Women's Group is selling RADA Cutlery! Order Online: www.radafundraising.com Search for Customer #117998 or Reed City UM Women Group Catalogs are also available in the Narthex, under the bulletin boards.

AARP® Chapter 2418-
Midwestern Michigan
Contact: (231) 832-4774

The next AARP meeting will be **May 8, at 12PM**
We will meet in the fellowship hall. Potluck at noon; please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. There will be a short meeting following lunch and we will conclude with a 20-minute program.



Missions, Ministry, and Service

The Missions team will begin hosting their monthly meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 11:30-1pm. **Our next meeting is May 9.**

May 5, is a special Mother’s Day offering for Heifer Project

Honor the women in your life with a gift to Heifer Project. Please indicate with your offering the name(s) of those you would like to honor by Sunday, May 5th. You can also email or call the church with the information (office@reedcityumc.com, 231-832-9441). A list of those honored will be in the bulletin on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 12th.

Peace with Justice Sunday is May 26,2024.

“Let the mountains bring peace to the people; let the hills bring righteousness. Let the king bring justice.” Psalm 72:3-4

HOW DO YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT PEACE WITH JUSTICE EFFORTS?

Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies seek justice and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them. Each Annual Conference has a Peace with Justice Coordinator developing local social justice ministries. Fifty percent of the offering remains in your annual conference to support this ministry.

Through your generous gift, you encourage living a gospel of peace. Please make your check payable to your local church or give online at UMC.org/SSGIVE

Carrying One Another’s Burdens



“There was a local family that experienced great hardship in April. I sent out an “Immediate Need” email and the response from our church to help was heart-warming. We received many donations, and the outpouring of aid and love was beautiful. Thank you.”

KIDZ KLUB



WEDNESDAYS, 3:30-5PM

The Kidz Klub children have been learning about the parables that He taught. We have been dividing up the kids into three groups: 1) Preschool & Kindergarten; 2) 2nd to 4th grade; 3) 5th to 8th grade. We have had a few new kids, but there is always room for more. Gladys Kooiker is back and will lead us in music and we are tentatively planning to sing for you before school gets out for the summer. We are also hoping to do some more “instant plays” to bring Jesus’ teaching to life. If we can get enough participation, we might present to the congregation in the coming months. Kidz Klub will meet until school is out and will take the summer off. The preliminary plans for VBS are that we will have an overnight at Camp Albright in August. The dates are Monday, August 12 and Tuesday August 13th. Mark your calendars because you won’t want to miss this! We will be asking for volunteers as time gets closer and plans are finalized. We will be working with the Hersey UMC again this year for VBS. Thanks for all the support you give us as a congregation. It is so vital to our success.

~Linda, Lola, & Susie

Leadership, and Do-Crew

DO CREW

—As spring is finally upon us, we find ample evidence of seasonal change with the activity level of our church. Much of it involves projects and work to be done, but also, the joy of being able to be together in various aspects of fellowship—without the presence of snow and ice! Thanks be to God for the

beauty of all our seasons, and the opportunities they bring. We share together in the work of our church (spiritual formation and enrichment, missions, fellowship, education, outreach, enrichment, caring, etc.) and in the work on and for our church (repair, improvement, governance, financial and many aspects of various kinds of maintenance)—seen and unseen.

This is the season of conferences—both the long-awaited General (worldwide) Conference of all United Methodist churches, and our statewide Annual Conference, coming up next month. Our prayers are with Pastors Daniel and Wava as they prepare for the Michigan event—and celebrate the arrival of a new granddaughter! Praise be to God! Around our church, we've watched another spring rummage sale unfold, and prepare to adjourn Kidz Klub as school lets out. While that is happening, exciting new overnight plans are being formulated for VBS, with the Hersey Church, at Albright Camp. Please help as you're able!

We prepare to host our regular Blood Drive on May 23—and are anticipating a request to host an extra drive this summer due to extreme need.



MAY 23 is a SPECIAL day!



We're hosting a BLOOD DRIVE from 11:15-4pm

and we need your help to save lives. You can sign up on the narthex bulletin board, also online at Versiti.org/Mi or ph: 1.800.MiBlood

Unable to donate? You can still help by RECRUITING donors. Our hope is to fill all our appointments and meet our goal. Each pint can save THREE lives.

BLOOD DONORS (and recruiters) are SPECIAL PEOPLE! ♥

Questions? Call Sheri T: 231.357.5551

Leadership, and Do-Crew Continued...

Spring Highway Clean-up is behind us, and we recently hosted our 'regular' group of young men from FSU and look forward to welcoming a group from GVSU who are walking (May 4/5) to raise money and awareness for Suicide Prevention.

HIGHWAY PICK-UP.

MISSION:

ACCOMPLISHED

Our spring highway clean-up is complete, with thanks to: the Marshes, Busses, Rambadts, Thompsons, Aaron Weiss, & Dave Horchner.

Next clean-up date: JULY 13-21

A very successful "Mom to Mom" sale was organized and facilitated by Sadie and brought several young families to our church on a Saturday morning. Our Women in Faith put on their spring rummage sale and are already looking forward to exciting changes to their fall sale. Leadership Team recently approved the formation of a "Community Enrichment Team", under Sadie's coordination, that will work to implement new ways to build relationships within our community, for its benefit. That's just a hint of what's to come, so stay tuned as this new opportunity takes shape. Be sure to see Sadie if you'd like to help!



Because of the generosity of our congregation, we are taking a summer hiatus from two "campaigns". The response to our Noisy Sunday and Lenten efforts to collect for the "Pay it Forward" meal gifts in local restaurants was wonderful! We have enough funding to supply meals in this way for a while and will evaluate the participation for a time before more funding is sought.

Leadership, and Do-Crew Continued...

It is with huge gratitude that we'll temporarily suspend our "wish list" for the summer, too. This is the campaign that has largely supplied us with tissues, TP and cleaning products during the past 5 years, and we have folks who have been so faithful in their supply donations! Thank you! Everything from window cleaner to communion juice is so appreciated! We'll resume this fall—or when supplies of TP run low!

Our Do Crew has been incredibly busy—and productive. Work inside the church continues on lighting, repairs to the building, evaluating building security, etc., but you'll soon see evidence of replacement of the garden entrance door and installation of a drain in new approach cement. This is not a cosmetic fix, but is necessary as our 50-yr-old building shows some age. Also, Leadership has approved more efficient and effective means of providing A/C in our Fellowship Hall, Office, and Pastor's study. The 'mini splits' also provide a means of temporary heating assist, if needed. That work will begin in the upcoming month. More will be shared as these projects take place. Do Crew and Leadership volunteers assembled to repair the church lawn after snowplow damage last winter; lawn mowers have been serviced and sharpened and will be put to use, shortly. 'Do Crew' and other volunteers will soon "spring clean" our memorial garden, and preparations are being planned to replace storm windows with screens and do some pressure-washing and curb painting in our parking lot.

Spend some time this summer
with Mother Nature!

Join our crew of volunteer mowers
& assistants, serving to keep our
landscape lovely. Mowing is on a rotational schedule
with lots of flexibility, and of course is entirely weather-
dependent. Sign up on the narthex bulletin board, or
connect with Sheri T (231.357.5551) Thank you!



There is ample opportunity for additional volunteer help, so please, if you're interested in any of these upcoming projects, please let it be known! Our church is a multi-faceted collaboration, reflecting God's inspiration, grace, and unending generosity—and our own willingness to serve and follow His son, our Lord and Savior. Let us give thanks and share abundantly in our work together!

May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 3-5PM Kidz Klub	2 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Library)	3	4 GVSU Rental-Overnight
5 9:30 AM Worship followed by coffee hour	6 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	7 10AM-12PM In Stitches 5:30PM "Do-Crew" Meeting	8 12PM AARP NO Kidz Klub-Cancelled 5:30PM Finance Team Meeting	9 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Library) 11:30-1PM Missions Meeting	10	11 Cancelled- Women's Tea
Win Some Women Spring Retreat						
12 Mother's Day 9:30 AM Worship & Blessing of the Quilts, followed by coffee hour	13 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	14 10AM-12PM In Stitches	15 10:30-11:30 Food Dist. RCUMC 3-5 Kidz Klub 5:30PM Leadership Team Meeting	16 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Library)	17	18
19 9:30 AM Worship followed by coffee hour 10:30AM Women in Faith Meeting	20 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	21 10AM-12PM In Stitches	22 3-5 Kidz Klub *Newsletter submission deadline	23 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Library) 11:15AM-4PM Blood Drive	24	25
26 9:30 AM Worship followed by coffee hour	27 Memorial Day NO Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	28 10AM-12PM In Stitches	29 3-5 Kidz Klub	30 NO Bible Study with Pastor Daniel	31 5PM Dinner & Design Event	
Annual Conference 30 th -1 st						



Scholarship deadline is June 1.



*Newsletter submission deadline is May 22 for the June 2024 Newsletter. Thank You. 17

Reed City United Methodist Church
503 S. Chestnut St. Reed City, MI 49677

RCUMC 2024 Motto:

"Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be strong! And let everything that you do be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:13-14



May 2024 Newsletter

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Reed City United Methodist Church¹⁸
503 S. Chestnut St.
Reed City, MI 49677
Phone (231)832-9441