

Reed City United Methodist Church



April 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

Pastor's Column

CHRIST IS RISEN! SO WHAT?

Napkin Scribbles



Easter Sunday has once again come and gone. Hopefully the glorious music and worship keep lingering in your hearts and spirits as they do in mine. Among many of the things said on Easter Sunday was the reminder to greet one another often with the traditional Easter greeting, “Christ is risen!” To which a parishioner once replied “Yes, nice sentiment, Pastor, but honestly: so what?”

As I write this column, I enjoy the warm-ish sun filtering through the window in my office. While the warmer temperatures and the sunshine can help boost our overall mood following a seemingly endless winter, for many people there are still dark clouds hanging over them, obscuring the ability to enjoy life fully. For some it may be health issues, or the heartache of a broken relationship, while for others it is the specter of an economic downturn that affects their everyday existence. If left unattended, many of these heavy burdens tend to only increase in weight with time, and there comes a breaking point when these burdens reach unbearable proportions.

Many are probably familiar with the saying, “Don’t make a mountain out of a mole hill,” but what are we to do when life has dealt us a blow and we stand facing a sheer unconquerable mountain?

Whenever dark clouds seem to gain the upper hand in my life, I remember an event in the life of the British writer Thomas Carlyle. Let me briefly share his story here.

One of Carlyle’s major works is the voluminous *French Revolution*. Following at least two years of painstaking research and writing diligently day after day, page after page, with a goose quill and inkwell, Carlyle delivered the bulky manuscript bundle to his friend and neighbor, John Stuart Mill, to read the manuscript and comment on it. Several days later Mill appeared on Carlyle’s doorstep, visibly shaken and depressed over something. As it turned out, Mill’s maid had thoughtlessly used the manuscript pages to light a fire in the fireplace!

For days Thomas Carlyle moved about in a stupor. A major part of his life’s work gone up in smoke! He raged, groaned, and declared that never again would he be able to pick up a pen and write.

One morning, while gazing over the rooftops of London, Carlyle watched a stone mason building a wall. This huge task was done by tackling the wall bit by bit, one brick at a time. In that moment Carlyle received fresh inspiration and energy. No longer would he spend his days grieving over his great loss. No, he would accept the fact that the manuscript was gone, and then, like the stone mason, he would build his monumental work on the French Revolution again, word after word, page by page. In that fashion Thomas Carlyle rewrote his history of the French Revolution, a book that even today counts among the world’s greatest literary achievements.

One of our proverbs suggests that “if you want to move a mountain, begin by carrying away one small stone at a time.” We live in the days after Easter Sunday. We can face each day with the assurance that the risen Christ is walking by our side, bit by bit, step by step, day by day. May we be encouraged to begin moving the mountains in our lives by carrying away small stones. Because Christ IS RISEN, and because CHRIST LIVES, WE can face all of our tomorrows.

Christ is risen indeed!

Pastor Daniel

Prayer

changes things.

This information is not
available on the website.

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

Lay Leader's Corner

Greetings from your Lay Leader. Lent is now behind us, and our journey continues on as Easter people. Thank you to all who gave me input for my last correspondence. It really helps to hear from you about your feelings of what is happening or not happening in and around our church. In our meeting in March, Pastor Daniel and I discussed your comments and determined to continue working on discussing the work of building relationships within our congregation as well as with the greater community.

That in mind, first a shout out and “praise the Lord!” for all the “small groups” already gathering and working at building stronger and deeper relationships in and around our church. Besides the required formal Leadership and Finance Team, we have two active Bible study groups, Tuesday’s “In Stitches Group”, Wednesday’s “KIDZ KLUB”, Women’s Group, Handbell Ensemble, Missions Team, an informal after worship Coffee Hour discussion group, the Memorial Garden group, and the “Do-Crew” (aka Trustees). If there are other groups not mentioned, please let me know so they can be recognized. Our church building is also used for several outside groups and activities that provide assistance and support for the greater community, but more on that at a later time.

There is another group, once very active in our church, that seems to have languished and fallen by the wayside. I’m thinking specifically that an active Men’s Group meeting in our church would be an added blessing not only to the congregation but to the community at large. I’ll be talking to the men in our church about such a group, but would like input from anyone and everyone on this endeavor. It is my prayer that before the end of this year we can again celebrate a group of men from this congregation dedicated and working to do God’s will in this world.

Relationships not only need to be developed, strengthened, and deepened in this congregation, but also across our denomination. In light of that I will also endeavor to establish a group of Lay Leaders from across our District starting with the UMC churches of Osceola and Mecosta counties. By doing so, an information and planning network can be established among those churches to better facilitate inter-congregational activities and the ability to share news and ideas. Progress reports of this project will be forthcoming in future articles of The Lay Leader’s Corner.

Every journey begins with one step and continues one step at a time. Building our relationship with God, with each other, and with those we are yet to meet is another step we take “to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the World”.

Yours in Christ, and peace be with you,

Timothy Locker, Sr., your Lay Leader

Celebrations and Homegoings

This information is not available on the website.

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

Sincerely,

Pastor Daniel & the
members of RCUMC



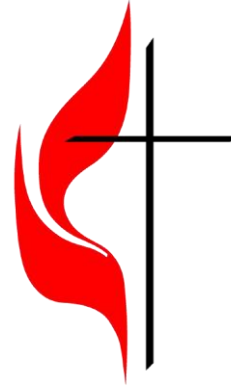
And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." ~ Revelation 21:4



For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

RCUMC Vital Statistics

This information is not available on the website.



It's always a great time to “pay it forward”! Several of our local restaurants are offering “pay it forward” boards, where people can “buy a meal” to share or “get a meal” if they're hungry and in need. We think this is a great opportunity to share some RCUMC love with our community. Our noisy offering in the month of March was donated to the Pay it Forward Campaign and totaled, \$241.15. Thank you for your support!



Fellowship & Bible Study Opportunities

Dear Lord, Thank you for your renewing and giving new life to things. You have designed the seasons to each hold a special lesson for us. You created everything so wonderfully and orchestrated everything to work in harmony in nature. Amen.



Monday Bible Study meets at 6pm

at Lola Callaghan's home

121 Heritage Place

(Condos off corner of Roth and Church streets).

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.

Bible Study with Pastor Daniel *Every Thursday at 10AM in the Narthex*

We will begin a journey through the Minor Prophets (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi). Why the Minor Prophets, you ask? Because Jesus quoted from them, and so did the early apostles like Peter and Paul. From studying these twelve prophets, we will gain a better understanding of God's love for us and the whole world. Our first session on January 18th was devoted to a general overview and introduction to the Minor Prophets in the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament. All are welcome, and I (Pastor Daniel) look forward to learning with you as we study these fascinating characters together.

Community Enrichment

Greetings from the RCUMC office!

Thank you to all who have made me feel so welcome and those who have helped in my transition as your new Administrative Assistant.

You may have noticed some changes around the church that I have implemented since my start; Sunday's bulletin format, office decorations, and the new Card Library across from the office. I hope you enjoy them. I have also been working very hard on connecting with local organizations and establishing a relationship/partnership with them.

My first partnership was with LOVE, INC. and participating in the Easter Basket drive. I was so happy to see it be such a success! Thank you to all that brought in items toward this cause.

My first "Community Enrichment" event at RCUMC will be the Mom-to-Mom sale, April 6. This sale will offer Parents/Caregivers an opportunity to shop in one spot for multiple sizes of clothing, shoes, and items for their child(ren). I am hoping this can be an annual event hosted by RCUMC. All proceeds will go into a "Community Enrichment" Fund to host more events for the community.

In speaking with these local organizations, I have recognized a basic need for birthday cake ingredients among families in the community. I wanted to create an ongoing drive of 'Birthday Cake Kits.' My proposal is to collect donations of 9x13 disposable cake pans (with lids), cake box mix, applesauce cups (can be substituted for oil in recipes), frosting tubs, candles, and any cake decorations. I would like to offer a Birthday Cake Kit to anyone in the community needing assistance providing a birthday cake to loved ones. I hope you can embrace this idea and help me make it a reality! There is a donation basket in the office for these items.

I also have multiple "Community Enrichment" ideas I plan to propose to the Leadership team in April. More to come soon...

My door is always open!

-Sadie



Community, Needs, & Events at RCUMC



REED CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MOM TO MOM SALE

Saturday • April 6 • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Featuring gently used maternity, infant, and children's clothing (preemie–18/20), shoes, baby items, toys and games, books, and large items such as strollers, cribs, high chairs, and outdoor play items.



Interested in renting a table to sell your items? email Sadie: office@reedcityumc.com

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

RCUMC is hosting it's first Mom to Mom Sale on April 6!
Entry fee for shoppers is \$1/per adult, at the door. Please help us spread the news of this event by sharing it on Facebook from our church page and sharing with family and friends.

WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THIS EVENT.

Please reach out to Sadie for volunteer opportunities!



Thank you to the leaders and kids in Kidz Klub for thier participation in Palm Sunday and for serving the Easter breakfast.

Kidz Klub is an after school program for all school-aged children on Wednesdays, 3-5pm.

Community, Needs, & Events at RCUMC

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP

SPRING DATE: APRIL 13-21

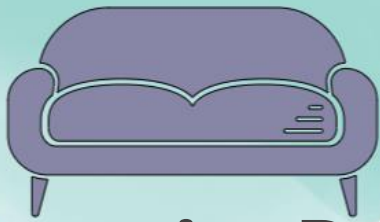


It's that time of year again! Snow is (almost) gone, but the trash and winter debris remain. Come help us clean up America (or our two-mile part of it)—it's a great opportunity to grab some fresh air, and it doesn't take long if we have lots of folks. Choose your lane, choose your time! Please sign up on the Narthex bulletin board. You'll be contacted with more information soon. Thank you!

Rummage Sale

4/25, 9am-5pm

4/26, 9am-3pm



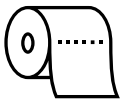
Accepting Donations 4/22-4/24

No books, electronics or TV's, please.

Call Lola Callaghan regarding furniture (231-832-2432)

Our church supply "wish list" update...

with thanks to the thoughtful folks who continue to supply us with our most-needed custodial products (helping us save money in our church budget), we are taking a summer "wish list" break. It has been a wonderful thing to know we always have cleaning supplies in our cabinet. Thank you to those who have dropped off a wide variety of supplies; they are greatly appreciated! However, if you find great deals on products you'd like to share, you may still drop them off in the closet—we'll always be glad for extra inventory of most-used items—especially toilet paper and bowl cleaner! THANK YOU for your generosity and support!



Community, Needs, & Events at RCUMC

Food Pantry Monthly Needs*

January- Boxed Potatoes

February- Canned Fruit

March- Cereal (regular sized boxes)

April- Cake or Brownie mix

May- Crackers (any kind or type)

June- Canned Spaghetti Sauce (NO GLASS)

July- Pasta- noodles or spaghetti

August- Juice Bottles 24-32 oz (Plastic Only)

—Start Schedule Over—

September- Boxed Potatoes

October- Canned Fruit

November- Cereal (regular sized boxes)

December- Cake or Brownie mix

*LIST UPDATED Dec 2023

The food pantry is seeing an increased need in our community for assistance with food. If you are able to assist with donations (any shelf stable items), please drop them off in/near the baskets in the Narthex.



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.

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

AARP

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

The next AARP meeting will be **April 10, 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

April 14, 2024, is Native American Ministries Sunday

The Native American Ministries Sunday offering strengthens Native American ministries in annual conferences; Native American rural, urban, reservation ministries and communities relating to the General Board of Global Ministries. It also provides scholarships for Native American seminarians who attend United Methodist schools of theology and continuing education for pastors who attend Native American Ministries Course of Study classes that are distributed by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Fifty percent of the offering remains in the annual conference and is administered by the Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM).

You can support this Special Sunday by giving online at [UMC.org/SSGive](https://umc.org/SSGive), through your offering at Reed City UMC or mail a check to:
GCFA, P.O. Box 340029, Nashville, TN 37203
Please include Native American Ministries Sunday (NAMS) in the note section of your check.

Thank you for celebrating the gifts and contributions of Native Americans to The United Methodist Church and to our society.

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

Source: umc.org



Our Building & Grounds folks are working their way through the seasons, taking care of needs inside the building, and now, with the change of weather, you'll begin to notice work being done outside, as well. Beginning this spring, replacement/repair to the garden/education wing entrance will begin, and the decaying plexiglass storm windows throughout the building will be replaced. Stay tuned for progress reports on those and other projects.

While we look forward to the spring weather, with it comes some outside repair and maintenance of our grounds. We'll be looking for your assistance with spring preparation of our beautiful memorial garden, as well as folks to help with mowing and trim work of our lawn. Our curbs need to be repainted, as well. Please let us know if you can help keep our building and grounds looking lovely! There will be a sign-up sheet posted in the Narthex or leave your name with Sadie in the office. Thanks!

*Are you looking for a way to help, at your own pace,
and as time permits? This might be for you!*

We are in need of someone (or a group) to help sort through some of our accumulated memorabilia and historical odds and ends. If you like spring cleaning, you'll love this! No lifting, just sorting, purging, and some organization of materials to file or store for future reference. There is no deadline for this project, but it would be a wonderful gift to have it in the works! Inquire at the office if you have questions or are willing to help.

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	2 10AM-12PM In Stitches	3 3-5PM Kidz Klub	4 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Narthex)	5 4-9PM Mom to Mom Sale Set-Up	6 9AM-1PM Mom to Mom Sale
<Open to Receive Mom to Mom Sale Donations>						
7 9:30 AM Worship followed by coffee hour	8 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	9 10AM-12PM In Stitches 5:30PM "Do-Crew" Meeting	10 11AM-1PM Osceola Commission on Aging (Parking Lot) 12PM AARP 3-5 Kidz Klub 5:30PM Finance Team Meeting	11 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Narthex) 11:30-1PM Missions Meeting	12	13
14 9:30 AM Worship followed by coffee hour 10:30AM Women's Group Meeting	15 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	16 10AM-12PM In Stitches	17 10:30-11:30 Food Dist. RCUMC 3-5 Kidz Klub 5:30PM Leadership Team Meeting	18 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Narthex)	19	20 FSU Private Event
21 9:30 AM Worship followed by coffee hour	22 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	23 10AM-12PM In Stitches	24 3-5 Kidz Klub *Newsletter submission deadline	25 9AM Rummage Sale 10AM Bible Study with Pastor Daniel (Library)	26 9AM Rummage Sale	27
<Open to Receive Rummage Donations>						
28 9:30 AM Worship followed by coffee hour	29 6PM Bible Study at Lola Callaghan's	30 10AM-12PM In Stitches				

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



April 2024 Newsletter

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Reed City United Methodist Church¹⁴
503 S. Chestnut St.
Reed City, MI 49677
Phone (231)832-9441