

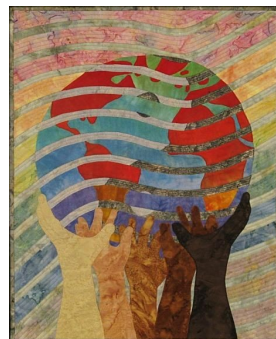


Reed City United Methodist Church

October 2023 Newsletter

Pastor Daniel Hofmann

We will observe **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY** on **Sunday, October 8th**. Please bring a loaf of bread, of any variety, to share with our local food pantry. We will place the loaves along our communion rail. Our communion table is open to all who wish to receive the elements. There are no barriers; come, share with us! (Note: this is the 2nd Sunday of October, so that Pastor can attend Brooks Corners Centennial Celebration.)



Let's Get Ready to Celebrate!
Our Church's 50th YEAR
Anniversary Celebration
is October 29th!

Please help us make this event special!



Our special anniversary date is drawing near! Assistance is needed in preparation for our worship service and potluck luncheon following. Please volunteer to help us get ready, or offer your services in the kitchen or with clean-up. AND—there's the traditional potluck dish to pass happening, too, so be thinking about what you would like to bring. Postcard notices to guests will be sent out soon. We are still accepting memorabilia and photos for a slide show/display. Please bring those things in as soon as possible. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for volunteers, or call the church office. We are looking forward to a wonderful time of fellowship and gratitude!



IN PERSON:

9:30 am SUNDAYS

**Services are livestreamed
on Facebook and YouTube**

**Find us on the Radio at 97.3 FM
at 10 am on Sundays**

October 1

Liturgist: Gladys Kooiker

October 8

**World Communion Sunday
Celebrated**

Liturgist: David Ball

October 15

Liturgist: Susie Toogood

October 22

Liturgist: Sandy Gingrich

October 29

Liturgist: Sheila Teesdale

**Sermon Titles and
Scripture Readings
will be
announced weekly.**

Contact Us

Church Phone:
231-832-9441

Pastor Daniel's Phone:
231-734-2733

Church Email:
carolynsims@reedcityumc.com

Pastor Daniel's Email:
circuit.rydr21@protonmail.com

Mailing Address:
503 S. Chestnut Street,
Reed City MI 49677

"Like" us on **Facebook**



www.reedcityumc.com

**Visit Us Online
with your desktop, phone
or tablet**



A Half Century of Offering Christ to Our Community

On October 29, 2023, Reed City UMC will celebrate a half century of ministry in its present building and location. As a congregation, our history reaches back much further to 1867, but this year we are focusing on the past 50 years, 1973-2023. During this relatively brief span of 50 years momentous events took place in the life of the Reed City UMC as well as in the world at large. Here is just a glimpse of what happened in the world in 1973.

Gasoline was 40 cents a gallon, and a dozen eggs could be had for 45 cents. By October of that year, OPEC will drastically reduce the production of crude oil, increasing the price by 200%.

In Paris, France, the United States ends its involvement in the Vietnam War by signing a peace treaty, ending almost 20 years of hostilities.

Roe vs. Wade makes abortion an US constitutional right.

Oglala Lakota Native Americans and members of the American Indian Movement (AIM) began their occupation of Wounded Knee in South Dakota that February, highlighting the continuing discrimination against the first peoples in America.

Britain, Ireland, and Denmark join the European Union.

NASA launches the Mariner 10 Mercury probe spacecraft.

The Sears Tower in Chicago is completed in May of 1973.

So much for a few of the events that were happening in the United States and the rest of the world in the year the Reed City UMC moved into its new location and building.

The Reverend Forrest E. Mohr was serving in Reed City during the building and dedication of our present church facility, and since then, 8 pastors have served you during this half century of worship and ministry.

We are at present putting together a PowerPoint presentation for a 'show-and-tell' time during and after our celebration on the 29th of October.

We will share stories and memories of all the great things God has done in our midst and through our presence in this community.

And, ... we will re-dedicate our beautiful church facility and ourselves as a congregation to making a difference in Reed City and beyond in the next half century!

Just imagine, what will the next 50 years bring?

Excited to celebrate and discover God's goodness together with you,

Pastor Daniel

**THIS INFORMATION
IS NOT AVAILABLE
ON THE WEBSITE**



**OCTOBER IS
PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH!**

Be sure to take time this month to show
Pastor Daniel, and his wife Pastor Wava,
what a blessing they are to us.



Mason Michael Bluhm was born
September 22nd to Michael and Misr
Bluhm. Mason weighed 7 lbs., 1 oz. and
was 20 inches long. He is also welcomed
by his big brothers, Malikye and Miles;
and grandparents, Don and Karen
Bluhm. God's blessings!



Our sympathy, love and prayers are ex-
tended to the family and friends of **Mike
Hickle**, son-in-law of Harry and Charlotte
Stuck, who passed away September 12th at
the age of 66; and to the family and friends
of **Jay Ball Jr.**, grandson of David and Nedra
Ball, who passed away August 18th at the age
of 25.

**THIS INFORMATION
IS NOT AVAILABLE
ON THE WEBSITE**

World Communion Offering This Month

HOW DO YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD? We are called to reach out to all people and model the diversity of all God's children. Your gifts support racial and ethnic students in achieving their educational goals while also transforming communities. Fifty percent of the offering provides scholarships for graduate students from the U.S. and other countries. Thirty-five percent supports ethnic scholarships for undergraduate students. Fifteen percent funds In-Service Training Programs for racial and ethnic persons.



World Communion Offering

GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH: Note "World Communion Sunday" with your offering or donate online via credit/debit card at ResourceUMC.org/SSGive

— from UMC.org



Missions Corner Update

How have our recent gifts helped?

UMCOR Year-to-Date: \$2,244.00

Living Gifts: Heifer International: \$935.00

"...when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me." - Jesus (Matthew 25:40 CEB)

Blanket Sunday is October 15th

CWS (Church World Service) Blankets and personal hygiene kits provide warmth and comfort to people in need. Help is provided to families impacted by hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding and other crises (including homelessness and poverty). Each \$10 gift provides a blanket and enables someone to feel God's love in their life. Note "Blanket" on your donation in the church offering or give safely online at cwsblankets.org/donate. Our generous gift last year was \$210. Our goal for this year is \$250.

FOOD PANTRY ITEM FOR OCTOBER

DRY PASTA (any variety or brand)

You may place your donations in the hamper in the church narthex.
PLEASE KEEP IN MIND, monetary donations are always very welcome.
Monies donated are used to purchase food in bulk quantities at a reduced cost.
You may give through church offerings, please mark your gift "Food Pantry."

Food Pantry Hours: Tuesdays • 10 am – 1 pm



**THIS INFORMATION
IS NOT AVAILABLE
ON THE WEBSITE**

Help for Hawaii:

While we can't begin to understand the depth of despair and devastation, we can help by giving to UMCOR.

Online, you can donate at:

<https://umcmmission.org/advance>. The project # for Hawaii is 901670. Additional information is available on the umcor website. YOU MAY ALSO GIVE through our church offering, identifying your additional gift by placing "ADV#901670-Hawaii" in the memo line of your check.

Many of us also have concern for the many pets injured or displaced due to this dreadful fire. If you wish to help these poor pets, you can donate online at:

MauiHumaneSociety.org/donate-olx, or through mail to:

Maui Humane Society—Attn: Development PO Box 1047, Puunene, HI 96784





Bible Study

Monday Bible Study meets at 7pm

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.

Thursday morning Bible Study with Pastor Daniel meets at 10 am in the church library.

We are continuing our video series *The Chosen*, season two. If there is an interest in an additional evening study session, please let Pastor Daniel know by sending him an email to:

reedcityumc21@gmail.com.



**COFFEE
HOUR**

COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY

Contact **Angelia Spencer (231-872-0839)** to help, or to host a Sunday!

If you would like to make cookies for coffee hour,

they can be put in the freezer, and we will use them as needed.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE TO MARK YOUR COOKIES
"FOR COFFEE HOUR!"**



WEDNESDAY KIDZ KLUB 3:30-5:00 pm

CLASSES FOR PRE-K THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

Our lessons will be based on these confirmations:

I am known; I am here to share Jesus; I am designed for a purpose;

I am never alone; I am uniquely designed; I am loved;

I am broken; I am forgiven.

All Saints Sunday Will Be Observed November 12th

Long before there was a Memorial Day on the calendar, the Christian Church had its own day to remember those who have died. We will observe this special Sunday on **November 12th**, remembering those who have passed away since All Saints' Sunday last year. ***Please note date change from the traditional first Sunday of November.***

A list of our loved ones who have died this past year will be read during the worship service. This list includes former members and constituents, friends and immediate family of the congregation.

The list is compiled primarily from the condolences we have listed in our bulletins and newsletters during the past year. The church office has a photo of most of the loved ones listed, if you have a photo you would prefer, please let Carolyn know.

Our All Saints Day list to date includes:

Members and Constituents: David Randall, Nancy Crookes, Marlene Miller, Nancy Filley, Diane Lodholtz, Deborah Moore, Anna Lee White and Gwen Erickson

Family and friends of our congregation: Brent Sims, Joan Rohe, LaVal Todd, Christopher Quarles, David Sweet, Michael Teesdale, Richard Jobes, Jay Ball Jr., and Mike Hickie

If your loved one is not on this list and you would like them included, please call the church office no later than Friday, October 27th. Thank you.



Kidz Klub Update

From now until Christmas we will be talking about *I Am Affirmations*, letting each one know how special they are to God, as well as to their world. We are starting a card ministry to remember those who have birthdays, anniversaries, loss of a loved one, or any health issues. We will be using the bulletin as our resource, so if there is anyone you think could benefit from a homemade card from the kids, please let us know.



On Saturday, October 14th, we will be having a hay ride at Carolyn and Gale Sims' home, with treats following. This will take place at 4 pm, so we hope you all can make it. It is so gracious of them to offer their Belgian horses to drive us around. The picture is from last year's hayride!

Starting in November, we will be looking at a program for our Christmas pageant. As soon as we have more information, we will pass that on.

Gladys Kooiker is once again providing music with the children, and hopefully we can sing on some Sundays during worship.

We have snacks every Wednesday for the kids and if anyone would like to donate, we try to keep it healthy – fruit, pretzels, cheese sticks, yogurt, trail mix, etc. We are always looking for more kids, so pass on the information. We meet every Wednesday from 3:30 to 5 pm. Elementary students can be picked up at the school and walked to the church, if needed.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due November 12th



A small shoebox can have a big impact. What goes into the box is fun, but what comes out of it is eternal. Be a part of changing children's lives all over the world in Jesus' name through the power of a simple gift with Operation Christmas Child. What can you pack in your box? First, decide the age level of the child for whom you will be buying. A box going to an infant would be significantly different in contents than that of a teenager! Also, you are to pack a box specifically for a boy or a girl, so gender-appropriate toys are recommended. Shoeboxes are available in the church narthex, along with pamphlets which contain the envelope to put your check in. *Suggested items to put in the box include toys, school supplies, non-liquid hygiene items such as toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths. You also can pack socks, hats, sunglasses, hair accessories and watches. If you send a flashlight, include extra batteries. Soccer balls (always a favorite) should be deflated to make more room. Toothpaste is not an accepted shoebox item. Please have your packed shoebox at the church no later than Sunday, November 12th. Please enclose a check (NO CASH) for \$10 in each box made payable to Samaritan's Purse. Please place your check IN THE SHOEBOX, and NOT in the Sunday offering. Thank you.*

You can also make your postage donation online at www.samaritanspurse.org. By making your donation online, you may also track your shoebox so you know its destination. Call Elena (231-832-8707 – work number, leave a message) if you have questions.

Reed City Area Ministerial Association



**RE-OPENS
WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 4th
and will be open
EVERY WEDNESDAY
12 – 3 pm at RCUMC**



**Food
Distribution**

Commodity Food Distribution Date Change

The Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency Food Distribution which takes place monthly in the RCUMC parking lot **HAS A DATE CHANGE**. Effective this month, our distribution date is now on the **THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH FROM 10:30-11:30 am.**

If you are a recipient of this program, please make this date change on your calendar.

Leadership Team Update

Our seasons tumble one into another, and we're already making plans for the end of another year. Fall brings a flurry of activity after summer's leisure, as does preparation for our time of Advent and Christmas.

Leadership Team is in the midst of the "business" end of Church during this time of year, completing documents to share at our Annual Church Conference with our District Superintendent (D.S.) on October 22 (see information on page .) Area churches will be joining us as we vote separately on our own church's business (Membership Report, Nominations Roster), but also, as we work together with our Sister Church, Brooks Corners, in sharing our pastor for the 2024 Pastoral Compensation Recommendation.

Plans are in the making for our 50th year anniversary of our presence at 503 S Chestnut St. on October 29. It is a day of remembrance and celebration and gratitude, and we hope you'll be there!

It is with mixed feelings that we close a 23-year chapter with Carolyn in our church office. We know we will miss her daily presence with us, but we're delighted for her that she will now have time to pursue other interests in her retirement. Please join us on November 12th (see pg. 12) when we honor her and say "thank you" for her years of service and caring for our congregation.

We look for your prayers as we continue deliberations for the person who will staff our church office. That person's job description will change, but our need for caring and concern will be a primary consideration in choosing the right person who will fill this position.

Leadership Team is also planning for a transition of its own, in some subtle changes to the governance structure of our church. There are ministry teams to construct, and positions to fill as we shift gears slightly to shift our focus from less "hands on" to more "visioning and planning." Please consider saying "yes" to our Nominations Team as they look to fill spots on ministry teams. Don't fear a "forever assignment!" Be open to the opportunity to serve and share your talents and spiritual gifts with a level of commitment that leaves some wiggle room. Our church needs all of us to share in the work of an active and vital organization that honors God and walks as Christ's hands and feet in our community!

Other considerations for discussion and requesting your input: What are we doing right?

How are we connecting with our online worshippers and radio listeners?

Where can we make improvements, considering any constraints in staffing/volunteers and with limited finances?

How can we, at this time of concern with inflation and economic uncertainty, step up our congregational participation in giving and stewardship?

Are there things we should be engaging in, or things that have probably run their course and should be discontinued?

Your responses are encouraged and important as we think about the next 5-10 years. Time for thinking and discussing! Our resources are valuable.

There are no easy answers to our questions—but it is a certainty that we need everyone to share in the responsibility and sharing of ideas to make things work. Your presence on this journey is vital, and we look forward to walking with you, every step of the way!

In recognition of 23 years of
friendship and faithful service
as our church office manager,
please join us in celebrating

Carolyn Sims

as she begins her retirement!

Carolyn will be in her office working part-time
during October and early November,
and we will officially recognize her years of service
**during worship on November 12th, and at a
retirement brunch in our Fellowship Hall at 10:30.**
Please join us as we celebrate our friend as she begins
this next chapter in her life! God bless you, Carolyn!



From our Leadership Team:

JOB POSTING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The following information has been posted as we prepare to fill Carolyn's position upon her retirement this fall. Perhaps you might know someone with the qualifications needed who might be interested? If so, please feel free to share this information with them. The post is also available on the **Indeed** website:

<https://www.indeed.com/jobs?q=church+administrative+assistant&I=Reed+City%2C+MI&vjk=ee568e5002ebdab5>

Reed City United Methodist Church is a Reed City, MI based church. We are looking for a church administrative assistant to work alongside the church leadership team and pastor. The church administrative assistant is primarily responsible to provide support to the pastor and to the church body, by conducting secretarial, administrative and informational activities in an organized and efficient manner. The administrative assistant serves God and the church, and in this capacity, is expected to treat all persons with compassion and respect. As the first point of contact for the church, the administrative assistant is expected to be warm and caring in communicating and interacting with church family and strangers alike. The administrative assistant should be a Christian and live accordingly. The ideal candidate will have experience in a similar role as well as excellent communication skills and the ability to work independently.

Confidentiality is a must in this position.

Responsibilities

Administrative Duties:

1. Provide administrative support to the church staff and teams.
2. General office duties include answering the phone, greeting office visitors, typing, and filing. Must be able to effectively use the following computer software: Microsoft Word, Publisher, Email and Excel.
3. Open, sort, and distribute mail, route incoming emails, and take messages.
4. Maintain attendance records and print reports as needed.
5. Maintain office equipment as required.
6. Maintain church calendar.
7. Prepare the weekly bulletin and monthly newsletter including posting to website, emailing, and mailing of hard copies.
8. Assist with other administrative tasks as needed (e.g., data entry, service and supply ordering, special filing, updating of website/social media when requested).

TO APPLY FOR POSITION EMAIL RESUME AND COVER LETTER TO SUSAN@CBSTAXRC.COM

Experience/Education/Qualifications/Knowledge/ Skills

- High school diploma or equivalent required.
- Two years administrative experience required.
- Previous experience in a similar role preferred.
- Excellent computer skills including Microsoft Office products such as Word and Excel and Publisher.



COMING NEXT MONTH

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4th

9 am – 4 pm

LUNCH SERVED

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Handmade
Crafts



Just a reminder to start or continue working on your much appreciated craft projects for the

CRAFT AREA of the Bazaar.

Craft or woodworking projects, etc. from men are also appreciated!

If you would like to price your items yourself, feel free to do so.

Re-Giftables



Also, as you are cleaning out cupboards, closets, storage areas, etc., we will once again be collecting lightly used/re-giftable items for the

RE-GIFTABLE area of the Bazaar.

There will also be a **BAKE SALE** area of the Bazaar, for all of you bakers!



BAKE SALE

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP, PLEASE CONTACT:

Angelia Spencer (231-872-0839) – LUNCH AREA

Christine Cox (231-349-9086) – CRAFT AREA

Gladys Kooiker (231-468-1137) – RE-GIFTABLE AREA

Linda Stieg (231-832-2880) – BAKE SALE

Items Sought for Eagle Village Christmas Gifts

We are once again “adopting” the children of Eagle Village for Christmas this year. Suggested gifts include: **flip flops, journals (no spiral bound), decks of cards, colorful socks, fidget toys, body wash, chap stick, adult coloring books, puzzle books, canvas for art projects, 24-count boxes of crayons, 24-count boxes of colored pencils, hair ties and games for eight houses.** There are 36 children and youth this year (18 girls and 18 boys) ranging in age from 10 to 17 years old. Items may be left in the church office. Thank you for your donations to this mission project.



Our Annual Church Conference is Sunday, October 22nd at 2pm at Brooks Corners UMC

All are invited to be present as we fellowship with other area churches. We will convene with our new District Superintendent, John Kasper, to determine business matters of our church.



Is Planned for Thanksgiving Day

(Thursday, November 23rd)
in RCUMC Fellowship Hall at 1 pm.
Watch for more details in the
November Newsletter

Women's Group Fall Rummage Sale Report



Many thanks to all those who donated items, and/or helped in any way with our Fall Rummage Sale. A total of \$848 was raised for Women's Group projects. Our next Rummage Sale will be held in the Spring.

Our next event is the Annual Holiday Bazaar to be held on Saturday, November 4th. YOUR help is needed with that, also. See page 14 for information about this event and who to contact if you are able to help.

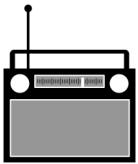


What fun it was to see surprise visitors in our church during our recent Rummage Sale!

It was a delight to share hugs with the Blunt family prior to the Homecoming Parade, as Michelle was a guest of honor at the 20th anniversary of her crowning as RCHS Homecoming Queen of 2003! Now living in Texas with her husband, Glen, Michelle served beautifully at Homecoming festivities in 2023.



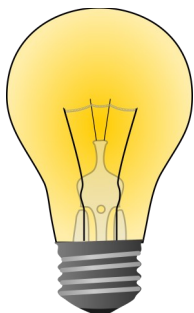
Although Glen and Nate's wife, Emily, were unable to make the trip, it was wonderful to see Rick, Natalie, Michelle and Nate enjoying a few spare minutes in our narthex prior to the parade line-up. Especially, there was a peaceful "glow" on the faces of Rick and Natalie, as the joy of retirement is beginning to sink in! Congratulations to Rick on completing 38 years of ministry service! It is always a blessing to see good friends again!



Do you watch our services online? Do you listen on the radio?



If so, we would like to hear from you! It is a challenge sometimes to find out what our watchers/listeners enjoy or need from their out-of-sanctuary viewing or hearing experiences. We would love your feedback! Let us hear from you — message us on Facebook, email us at techteam@reedcityumc.com, or connect with any Leadership Team member. We value your ideas!



HELP KEEP OUR BUILDING SECURE!

Last one out? Please be sure the
**LIGHTS are OFF and ALL DOORS are
LOCKED & TIGHTLY CLOSED!**



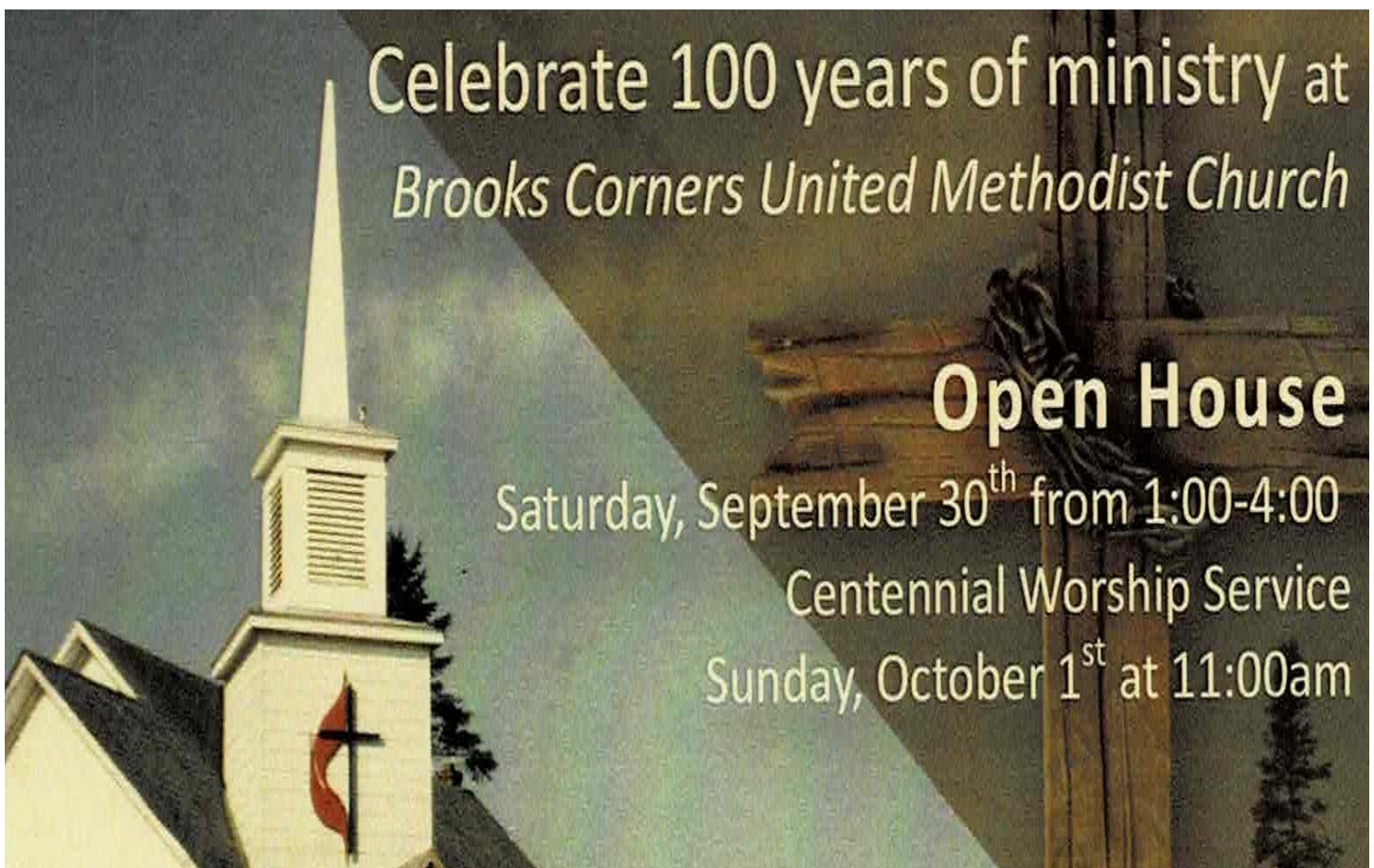
Thank you!



2023 HIGHWAY PICK-UP IS COMPLETE!

**Our thanks to the following volunteers who kept
our section of US131 tidy throughout this year!**

**Mark & Carrie Buss, Mary Clark, Dave Horchner,
Steve & Brenda Marsh, Phil Noder, Jim & Sheri Thompson, Tyler Thompson, Phil &
Maureen Watson, Jeff Wilson and Aaron Weiss.**



**Celebrate 100 years of ministry at
*Brooks Corners United Methodist Church***

Open House
Saturday, September 30th from 1:00-4:00
Centennial Worship Service
Sunday, October 1st at 11:00am

Congratulations to our Sister Church!

*We celebrate the ministry of
Brooks Corners UMC!*

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
1 9:30 am Worship Followed by Coffee Hour	2 7 pm Bible Study Lola Callaghan's home	3 10 am-12 pm In Stitches Group (Narthex) 2-4 pm MARSP (FH)	4 12-3 pm Coat Pantry 3:30-5 Kidz Klub	5 10 am Bible Study (Library)	6	7
8 World Communion Sunday 9:30 am Worship Followed by Coffee Hour	9 7 pm Bible Study Lola Callaghan's home	10 10 am-12 pm In Stitches Group (Narthex)	11 12:00 AARP (FH) 12-3 pm Coat Pantry 3:30-5 Kidz Klub 5:30 pm Finance Team (Library)	12 10 am Bible Study (Library)	13	14 Kidz Klub Hayride at Gale and Carolyn Sims' home
15 9:30 am Worship Followed by Coffee Hour	16 7 pm Bible Study Lola Callaghan's home NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	17 10 am-12 pm In Stitches Group (Narthex) 4:00-5:30 pm Food Truck RC Nazarene Church	18 12-3 pm Coat Pantry 2-3 pm Food Dist. church lot PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE NOW ON THIRD WED. OF MONTH 3:30-5 Kidz Klub 5:30 pm Leadership Team (FH)	19 10 am Bible Study (Library)	20	21
22 9:30 am Worship Followed by Coffee Hour 2 pm Church Conference at the Brooks Corners UMC	23 7 pm Bible Study Lola Callaghan's home	24 10 am-12 pm In Stitches Group (Narthex)	25 12-3 pm Coat Pantry 3:30-5 Kidz Klub	26 10 am Bible Study (Library)	27	28
29 50th Church Anniversary Celebration 9:30 am Worship Followed by Potluck Meal	30 7 pm Bible Study Lola Callaghan's home	31  10 am-12 pm In Stitches Group (Narthex)	 OCTOBER			