

March 2025



Centreville United Methodist Church
305 E. Main Street
Centreville, MI 49032

A note from Pastor Drew

It is here! Our Strategic Planning team and I have been looking forward to this day for quite a while! Since its creation by Church Council in 2023, our team have put in more hours than I can count praying, researching, discussing, and dreaming about the needs of our community, the gifts of our congregation, and the direction that God is calling our church to go.

The hope in taking the time to create a strategic plan was that we as a church would invest some time now in discerning where God was leading us, so that we could focus our church's energy, effort, and resources over the next several years rather than bouncing around from one good idea to the next for the next several years. A strategic plan is a road map that shows us where we are planning on going as well as an idea of how we want to go. It is not an autopilot that locks in a destination and moves us there with no more work on our part. Through Church Council, this plan will continue to be revised, expanded, and improved as we move through the next several years. However, we are very excited about what is contained here and the possibilities that God seems to be opening up before us. I hope that you are as well.

During the season of Lent, we will begin implementing some of the initiatives that came out of our Strategic Plan, particularly those around how we support and equip you to grow in your faith. Included in this newsletter you will find the many different opportunities from CUMC to engage with our worship life and to take the next step deeper in your faith. This is also a great season to consider inviting someone else to join you for worship or a class.

In Christ,



Rev. Drew Weseman



CENTREVILLE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our new logo was selected from 133 different designs from 20 designers around the world. The strategic planning team provided edits and feedback so that we could capture a design that represented our church's mission and values.

You can read the full plan online at:
centrevilleumc.org/strategic-plan

Strategic Planning Team

- 1) Michelle Brokaw
- 2) Steve Clark
- 3) Stan Eldridge
- 4) John Friedel
- 5) Connie Heidbrink
- 6) Wendell Moyer
- 7) Dianne Rangler
- 8) Shone Rhyner

2025-2030 Strategic Plan Summary

Invitation



We want to expand our culture of invitation where members are excited about inviting others to join us for worship and other activities so that they can grow in their relationship with Jesus.

We want to deepen our ministries of discipleship and provide intentional and diverse ways for people to engage with their faith and grow in their relationship with God both in the church and at home. These will include more groups, studies, and resources to meet people where they are.

Discipleship



Mission



Through our missions, we want to increase our impact as a congregation and expand people's understanding of mission to include every aspect of their lives. This will involve expanding the leadership team for missions as well as improving our communications and opportunities for people to put their faith into action.

While our church is more than a building, our facilities are an important tool for ministry. As we look at making improvements to our campus, these need to be prioritized around our mission and vision as a congregation. The main areas of focus will be re-paving our parking lot, renovating our kitchen, and replacing our wheelchair ramp. To accomplish all of these goals, we will be inviting the congregation to participate through a capital campaign.

Facilities



Administration

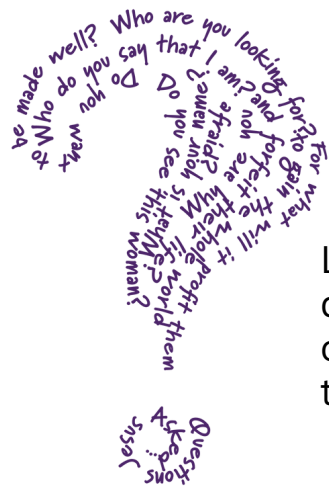


Our church is most effective when the structures of its leadership are aligned and focused on its mission and vision. We will be looking at how we can improve our meetings and committees and empower the gifts of our congregation to do God's work.

2030 Goal

In 2030, Centreville UMC will turn 200 years old. We want to celebrate that anniversary by having:

- Have an average worship attendance of 100 across the year
- Have 100 people intentionally growing in their faith & putting their faith into action.
- Improve our facilities with no lingering debt



Questions Jesus Asked

Growing in your faith during Lent this year.

Lent is a traditional time to grow in your faith by adding spiritual disciplines such as prayer, fasting, and Scripture reading. CUMC is offering several different resources to help you. You are welcome to pick and choose any that are interesting or helpful.

Sunday Morning Worship

While Jesus is the answer, he also asked a lot of questions. Our worship series this year centers around six of those questions. As we seek to answer them, we will discover more about who Jesus is and how Jesus has called us to live.

Sunday Evening Lenten Worship

For our Branch 12 Lenten services, we are using themes from the book **Flunking Sainthood** by **Jana Riess**. You are welcome to read along with us.

March 9 - **Fasting**
Mendon UMC

320 W. Main, Mendon

March 16 - **Mindfulness**
Centreville UMC

305 E. Main, Centreville

March 23 - **Lectio Divina**
Colon UMC

224 N Blackstone Ave, Colon

March 30 - **Sabbath**
First UMC Sturgis

200 Pleasant, Sturgis

April 6 - **Thanksgiving**
Nottawa UMC

25838 M86, Nottawa

April 13 - **Hospitality**
Three Rivers First UMC

215 N Main, Three Rivers

Save the Date!

- **Ash Wednesday:** March 5, 6:30PM
- **Palm Sunday:** April 13, 10:00AM
- **Maundy Thursday:** Prayer Stations (Hours TBD)
- **Good Friday:** March 18, 6:30PM
- **Easter:** April 20
 - **Breakfast & Egg Hunt** 8:30AM
 - **Worship** 10:00AM




Bible Study

In the bulletin each week will be a Bible at Home insert. This insert will have daily scripture readings; questions for reflection, discussion, and journaling; and a short summary of the spiritual practice that will be the focus of the Lenten evening services so that you can experiment with that practice during the week.

Just Show-Up Class

On Sunday mornings at 9:00AM we will have a 45 minute time of prayer and discussion using the "Bible at Home" bulletin insert. The class will be facilitated by Pastor Drew and others throughout the season.

Keep updated at
centrevilleumc.org/lent



March Nurse's Notes


March 24 is **World Tuberculosis Awareness Day**. As of this writing (early February), Kansas City is experiencing the largest tuberculosis outbreak in American history. Other states have had more cases than this outbreak in the recent past. The Kansas City outbreak is concerning because of its rapid increase of cases in a short amount of time. TB can remain dormant in the body for many years without becoming active. Risk factors include substance abuse, crowded living conditions, poor ventilation, smoking, age, chronic illness and compromised immune system. Tuberculosis can spread when a person with the illness coughs, sneezes or sings. This can put tiny droplets with the germs into the air. Another person can then breathe in the droplets, and the germs enter the lungs. TB infection can spread from the lungs to other parts of the body. This is called extrapulmonary tuberculosis. Prevention remains the same as for any other respiratory infection; handwashing, cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, use disposable tissue for blowing nose or coughing up sputum. Vaccination is limited and not readily available.

National Poison Prevention Week is March 16-22. Call **1-800-222-1222** or online at [webPOISONCONTROL](http://webPOISONCONTROL.com). Both options are FREE. Practice safe storage tips. All medications, including supplements, should be stored in locked cabinet and in child-proof containers. Other items to consider include tobacco products, especially liquid nicotine, alcohol, laundry and cleaning supplies, pesticides and herbicides, button batteries, such as found in musical greeting cards, key fobs, hearing aids, etc. any chemicals.

World Bipolar Day is March 30, observed on Van Gogh's birthday. He was posthumously diagnosed as having bipolar disorder. Bipolar disorder is a chronic mental health condition characterized by extreme mood swings between periods of mania (elevated mood) and depression (low mood). There are several different forms of bipolar disorder with varying degrees of severity. All are characterized by mood swings between depression and mania. Treatment is possible and the disorder can be well managed.

March 14 is World Sleep Day. Getting enough and quality sleep makes a huge impact on your physical and mental health, while increasing your ability to focus and decrease accidents. Visit "About Sleep" at the CDC Website.

Christy Friedel, R.N., Spiritual Director
269-535-1032 Office hours 10-2 Tuesdays
at Building Hope Free Store



March Birthdays

2 - Madison Hunter	16 - Sharon Clark
7 - Don Preston	17 - Ardell Bontrager
8 - Bill Cripe	18 - Thomas Rhyner, Jr
8 - Michele Cripe	18 - Dick Thompson
12 - Jim Michels	24 - Tucker Davis
12 - Zoe Sayer	27 - Florence Schrock
12 - Jessica Weseman	28 - Jan Wetherbee
14 - Mary Bowers	28 - Zaylen Wyckoff
14 - Barb Eash	29 - Ed Guess
14 - John Martinson	30 - Reiko Nagano

March Anniversaries

4 - Gene & Joyce Yoder
 11 - Bruce & Vicki Pfeiffer
 20 - Jim & Barb Bungart

March Meetings

Finance: 3/11 at 6 pm
 Worship Committee: 3/11 at 7 pm
 Building Hope Free Store: 3/13 at 6 pm
 Church Council: 3/25 at 6 pm

Church Office Hours

Pastor Drew: Mon, Wed, Thur: 11:30-2:30 pm
 Friday: Sabbath

Tori: Monday, Thursday: 8:00-2:30
 Friday: 8:00-12:00

Electronic Giving

Check out our online-giving! You can give to the general ministry budget, and any of mission partners and special Sundays. You can also setup automatic donations for your convenience. Please scan this QR code or go to: givebutter.com/centrevilleumc to check it out.



Financial Update

February 2025

Operations Financial Summary		
Income	February	Year To Date
Pledged Income	11,945.00	20,452.00
Non-Pledged Income	6,259.00	11,781.00
Endowment - Gen.	-	-
Building Use	300.00	610.00
Other	-	-
Total	\$18,504.00	\$ 32,843.00
Expenses		
Salaries and Benefits	9,736.74	21,660.38
Ministry Shares	1,834.50	3,093.00
Property and Utilities	1,344.98	3,382.92
Administrative	942.57	1,073.99
Worship	660.65	660.65
Program and Education	-	151.31
Other	-	100.00
Total	\$14,519.44	\$ 30,122.25
Net:	\$3,984.56	\$ 2,720.75

Missions Income	\$ 1,328.20	\$ 1,709.54
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If you have questions or want full financial reports, contact the office, Michael Davis, Finance chair, or Pastor Drew.

Stewardship Note

Did you know, since Pastor Drew is not using our parsonage, the Trustees are renting it for some additional income? Last year, Church Council decided to model faithful stewardship with this income and tithe 10% of our income towards our mission partners while saving the rest for now. If you see the family who is living there, make sure you say hi and help them feel welcome!

Serving, Growing, & Sharing the Journey

God's Peace

The Peace that passes all understanding cannot be accurately described. Those who have felt this peace share in a precious gift and sacred understanding. The peace of God is so much more than a period of calm or a feeling of serenity. It is the awareness of being held in the Creator's hands; the recognition that the one who loves us most and knows us best is fully in control. It is the acknowledgement that whatever the outcome, because it comes from God, it is good. It is good even if it isn't what we would choose. And while the peace of God is a great gift, it doesn't come alone. It often comes bearing the gifts of clarity, mercy, and grace. Only God's peace, brought to us by the Lord Jesus Christ, can move his children (you and me) and, thus, change the world.

Shone Rhyner 2/18/2025

Blood Drive

Tuesday, March 11
from 12 pm - 5:45 pm
is the Red Cross Blood
Drive. The QR code
here can be used to
schedule your time.



Community Dinner





Our Community Dinners have been happily received by the community! We've been serving around 40 guests twice a month. We would like to begin offering a weekly meal and we are in need of at least 2 more licensed people. The church will supply a scholarship for the cost. If interested, please contact Connie or Christy.

Secret Prayer Partners

Head's up that 2025 Ladies Secret Prayer Partner Brunch will be April 26 at 9:00 am
Any questions contact Michele Cripe

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						 1 Murder at Mardi Gras 4:30 pm
2 Worship Service 10 am Congregational meeting after worship	3	4	5  Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm	6	7 Food Pantry 10 am	8
9 Worship Service 10 am Evening Lent Service 6 pm Mendon UMC	10	11 Finance 6 pm Worship Meeting 7 pm	12 Community Dinner 4:30-6:00 Choir Practice 7 pm	13 BHFS 6 pm	14 Food Pantry 10 am	15
16 Worship Service 10 am Evening Lent Service 6 pm Centreville UMC	17	18	19 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	20 Kinship Care 6 pm	21 Food Pantry 10 am	22
23 Worship Service 10 am Evening Lent Service 6 pm Colon UMC	24	25 Church Council 6 pm	26 Community Dinner 4:30-6:00 Choir Practice 7 pm	27	28 Food Pantry 10 am	29
30 Worship Service 10 am Evening Lent Service 6 pm Sturgis First UMC	31					

March

Song Leaders

3/2 - Michelle Brokaw
 3/9 - Barb Bungart
 3/16 - Barb Bungart
 3/23 - Shone Rhyner
 3/30 - Michelle Brokaw

March

Liturgists

3/2 - Michelle Brokaw
 3/9 - Barb Bungart
 3/16 - Carmita Hunter
 3/23 - Jan Rhoades
 3/30 - Jan Rhoades

March

Children's Moment

3/2 - Pastor Drew
 3/9 - Cathy Carpenter
 3/16 - Sarah McCall
 3/23 - Carmita Hunter
 3/30 - Jan Rhoades