



January/February 2024

11435 Grafton Rd,
Carleton, MI 48117
734-654-2833

Rev. Eun Sik (Cloud) Poy

Pastor's Message

New Year's Resolution

As we approach the year 2024, it's time to consider New Year's resolutions. How often have you made resolutions, and how successful have you been in achieving them? Research indicates that in 2023, only 9% of Americans managed to fulfill their resolutions.

Moreover, recent studies have highlighted some of the most common New Year's resolutions for 2024. The primary goal for many is to improve their fitness, with 48% of Americans expressing this desire. Following closely, 38% aim to enhance their financial status, while 36% prioritize enhancing their mental health. Additionally, 34% of people stated that their goal for 2024 is to lose weight.

Personal Resolutions for 2024

Lisa and I have consistently discussed the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle while nurturing our spiritual vitality. As a result, for the upcoming year, we've set two specific goals for ourselves in 2024. For maintaining a healthy lifestyle, Lisa's New Year's resolution is to shed a few pounds to comfortably fit into her favorite evening dresses, which she purchased in Korea for her wedding five years ago. She still keeps it in her closet for wearing it again. Meanwhile, I aim to develop healthier eating habits by incorporating more vegetables into my diet and reducing my consumption of coffee with cream and sugar due to its tendency to upset my stomach.

Nurturing our spiritual vitality, we aim to prioritize our personal devotional life and prayer time. While we've prayed separately before, in 2024, we plan to establish a dedicated time at home to pray together.

Pray not to fall into temptation.

I will share with you some thoughts on how and why Jesus, the Son of God, prayed to God. I will also share a story from the Bible in which Jesus explains the importance of prayer. The first reason to pray is to gain strength against temptation.

“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation” in Matt 26:41.

Did you see the sign on the table in our Church narthex that explains why we should wash our hands with sanitizer? It says “Wash your hands & say your prayer because Jesus & germs are everywhere. In the same way, Jesus asks us to pray because temptation is everywhere in our Christian life.

Example of Jesus' Prayers

Jesus intentionally set aside the best time and place to pray to God. Luke 5:16 mentions that “Jesus often withdrew to lonely place and prayed.” Also in Matthew 6:6, Jesus recommended to pray in the private room to God who sees everything for reward you.

These two stories in the Bible serve as some of the best examples of why and how Christians need to pray to God.

Pastoral exhortation for 2024

The year 2024 stands before us as another precious gift from God. It's a time to reflect and make New Year's resolutions, embracing how we can fully enjoy this divine gift. Let us make prayer the cornerstone of our lives, seeking God's wisdom, divine understanding, and clear guidance before initiating our plans and schedules.

I recommend practicing the 1-2-3 prayer routine: pray once a day, dedicate at least two minutes to prayer, and present three prayer requests to God for this year. Then, at the year's end, you can count on how God has answered your prayers.

I pray that 2024 will be remembered for a renewed commitment to the practice of prayer for our spiritual growth.

Pastor Cloud

Our Mission Statement

With God's guidance, we envision Carleton United Methodist Church as a family, alive and growing in a trusting environment; preparing everyone who enters to live and serve in the world.

Contact Us

www.carletonumc.com
carletonumc@gmail.com
734-654-2833

Sunday Worship—

9:30 a.m.

Sunday School—

10:30 a.m.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to make Carleton UMC your home church, speak with Pastor Cloud about becoming a member. All adults interested in learning more about being a Methodist or about joining the church membership are invited to speak with Pastor Cloud at any time. Also talk with Pastor Cloud if you would like to be baptized or have your infant or child baptized.

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Just a reminder to keep the church office up-to-date if your mailing address, email, or phone number changes. It is vital that the church records are as accurate as possible. The church office is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9am to 2pm. We can always be reached by email at **carletonumc@gmail.com**.

Newsletters are now published bi-monthly for the following two months. The next Newsletter deadline is Tuesday, February 20, 2024 for the March/April Newsletter..

FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of the Carleton United Methodist Church. Apportionments (as required) for 2023 were paid in full which resulted in a shortfall in our General Fund. Your 2023 Giving by Dec. 31, 2023, will greatly offset the shortfall incurred.

Please make every effort to have all your 2023 Giving postmarked by December 31st to count in your 2023 giving. All questions can be addressed to Bill Vallie (693-6102).

ANGEL'S UNITED GIVING TREE

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Thanksgivings and Christmas for several local families a bit brighter by donating turkeys, hams, gifts of toys, and clothes for the baskets. It would not have been possible without your continued support. This year 112 children in 35 families were helped with your generous giving.



Gifts are bagged so the children don't see what they are getting



Donations are carefully sorted



The Angel's ready to help families load their cars



Each family received milk & other perishables along with canned good & meat for several meals.

Ash Wednesday Service

February 14th

at 7pm

DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

Again this year Ashes will be available at the church from 11am to 1pm.

Those with shut-ins in your family—if you would like Pastor Cloud to visit them and have them receive Ashes, please call the church office. Pastor Cloud has plans to do this from 1-3pm.

The worship service will begin at 7pm and all attending are welcome to receive Ashes at this time as well.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Velma Brooks
 2 Bruce Lester
 4 Liam Lake
 5 Earl Heiss
 8 Dave Bean
 10 Fayrene Gibson,
Mike & Tara McLaughlin
 11 Brad Abar, Melissa Morin
 12 Matthew Stump
Dave & Melissa Leslie
 13 Jason Lucio
 14 Kathy LaFlure
 15 Whitney Miles-Pinchoff
Darrell & Julie Riggs, Isaac & Adriana Grubke,
 16 Judy Shrewsbury
 17 Denise Toffoli
 21 Terry Brey
 24 Mike McLaughlin
 25 Yvonne Miller
 26 Paul Etue, Wylie Pinchoff
 28 Bill Trainor
 29 Cale Bodenmiller
 30 Pat Charles-Gardetto

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

2 Chuck LaFlure, Lindsey Vallie
 3 Dennis Finnerty, Dakota Reno
 4 Darrell Riggs, Tara Wells
 5 Ivy Ankenbauer
Don & Karyn Vaughn
 7 Jeremy Otter
 8 Ilidia Wiles
 9 Tenley Gautz, Lisa Poy
 10 Matthew Uchtorff
 11 Corinne Barnhart, Mike King, Katy McLaughlin
 13 Cindy Goode, Jennifer Lucio
 14 *Jason & Heidi Ruhlig*
 15 Jean Baker, Patti Finnerty, Wyatt Kessell
 16 Tyler Baker, Brayden Bentley
 17 Wanda Miles
 19 Megan Robertson
 20 Hannah Breitner, Pam Oleynik
 23 Anna Baber, Sarah Baber
 24 Abbott Otter
 25 Mike Baxter
 26 Del Dennis , Anna Gurgul

JANUARY LITURGIST

Jan 7 Cheryl Marlow
 Jan 14 Trevor Kessell
 Jan 21 Brenda Stump
 Jan 28 Judy Shrewsbury

JANUARY JUNIOR CHURCH

Jan 7 Karen Kessell
 Jan 14 Karyn Vaughn
 Jan 21 Jennifer Lucio
 Jan 28 Kim Baxter

FEBRUARY LITURGIST

Feb. 4
 Feb. 11 Mary Baker
 Feb 18
 Feb 25

FEBRUARY JUNIOR CHURCH

Feb. 5 Karyn Vaughn
 Feb. 12 Jennifer Lucio
 Feb 19 Kim Baxter
 Feb 26 Karen Kessell

**BIBLE SUNDAY**

Bible Sunday was celebrated on November 19th with Annabelle Robertson, Wylie Pinchoff, Truman Gurgul, & Henry Baber receiving their Bibles. We know they will enjoy them for years to come.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Our heartfelt condolences go out to the friends and family of Jeanette (Jan) VanHouten. Jan was a long time member of this church and active in the community until moving to the Chelsea Retirement Community. Jan passed away unexpectedly on November 15th.



As a gentle reminder: Please let Pastor Cloud or the church office know if you or someone in your household is admitted to a care center or hospital.

PRAYER CARDS

As a reminder that if you raise a prayer request in worship on Sundays & want to have a card sent, to please email (carletonumc@gmail.com) or call us 734-654-2833 with the name and address. This will help to continue the much appreciated ministry of letting folks know others are praying for them. You can also leave written notes on Kathy's desk or in the box on the office door.

January 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Church office open 9am to 2pm	3 10-11am Prayer Time 11:30-1:30 Game Day 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study	4	5	6
7 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation Class	8 Food drive begins to help replenish the County Food Banks 6:30pm Trustees 7pm SPRC 8pm Church Council	9	10 10-11am Prayer Time 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study	11	12	13 9am Men's Break- fast meeting at 5th Wheel Diner
14 Communion Sunday 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School with Bricks & Sticks Challenges 11:30am Confirmation Class 2pm Walk with Friends	15	16	17 10-11am Prayer Time Food drive ends to help replenish the County Food Banks 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study	18	19	20
21 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 6:30pm Youth dinner & activity	22 10:30-11:30am Monday Morning Bible Study (Historical Books of the Bible)	23	24 10-11am Prayer Time 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study	25	26	27
28 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation Class 2pm Walk with Friends	29 10:30-11:30am Monday Morning Bible Study	30	31 10-11am Prayer Time 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study			

Church Family Camp will once again be Father's Day Weekend (June 14&15) at Waterloo State Park. We have booked Site 108 in the South section of Portage Campground. If you want to camp together, book now. The North section we were in last year is already full!

February 2024

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School (VeggieTales Movie & Tea Party) 11:30am Confirmation Class 6:30pm Youth Group	5 10:30-11:30am Monday Morning Bible Study (Historical Books of the Bible)	6	7 10-11am Prayer Time 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study	8	9	10
11 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School (Old Testament Bible Trivia) 11:30am Confirmation Class	12 10:30-11:30am Monday Morning Bible Study (Historical Books of the Bible) 6:30pm Missions .	13	14 10-11 Prayer Time 11-1 Drive thru Ashes 1-3pm Ashes to shut-ins upon request 7pm Ash Wednes- day Service	15	16	17
18 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Confirmation Class	19 10:30-11:30am Monday Morning Bible Study (Historical Books of the Bible)	20	21 10-11am Prayer Time 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study	22	23	24
25 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School (Christmas in February) 11:30am Confirmation Class	26 10:30-11:30am Monday Morning Bible Study (Historical Books of the Bible)	27	28 10-11am Prayer Time 6:30-7:30pm Bible Study	29	March 1 6-8pm Game Night	

2024 Events for Children

Kids and Families...Mark your Calendars!

Friends Always Welcome!

On...	Don't miss...
Jan 14	10:30 Bricks and Sticks Challenges - Can you build wisely?
Feb 4	10:30 Veggie Tales Esther Movie & Tea Party - Dress for tea with the Queen!
Feb 18	10:30 Old Testament Bible Trivia We Finish the Old Testament and Challenge the Youth and Adult Classes to some Trivia!
Feb 25	10:30 Christmas in February!
Mar 1	Game Night 6-8 Bring a snack and a game to share! All ages welcome!
Mar 24	9:30 Palm Sunday Parade 10:30 Egg Hunt
April 19	Pajama Party 6-8 PM (Fifth Graders may stay after for part or all of the Lock In 8pm-8am)
May 12	9:30 Youth Led Service Children's Bells will play, 5th graders included in Youth leading.
May 19	10:30 Pentecost Party - Wear Red! Happy Birthday Church!
May 26	10:30 Last Day of Sunday School - Popsicles on the Playground!



FOOD DRIVE

Mon Jan. 8 – Wed Jan. 17

Supporting food pantries in Monroe County:

- * Bedford Veterans Center Food Pantry
- * MCOP in Monroe
- * MCOP RX in Temperance
- * Oaks of Righteousness Food Pantry
- * Salvation Army Food Pantry
- * St. Anne's Food Closet

ITEMS NEEDED

- * CANNED FRUITS & VEGGIES
- * CEREAL & OATMEAL
- * JELLY/JAMS
- * PANCAKE MIX & SYRUP
- * PASTA & SAUCE
- * PEANUT BUTTER
- * SOUPS



Donation boxes were generously provided by the Bay Corrugated Container company.

Sponsor: Monroe County RSVP (734) 241-0408



A DONATION BOX WILL BE PLACED IN OUR LOBBY TO COLLECT ITEMS