



March/April Newsletter 2026

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Rev. Jung E. Yum

Pastor's Thoughts

The Rhythm of Lent - Renewal

Lent is a season of forty days of meditation on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ—especially His suffering and death—leading up to Easter. Why do we repeat this process every year? Because we need to be rechecked, readjusted, and renewed through intentional time pondering our lives alongside Christ's. Thus, we can say that the rhythm of Lent is geared toward renewal.

I quoted C. S. Lewis on the priority of Jesus Christ over all else in the first sermon of the “I Am” Statements series: “**When I have learnt to love God better than my earthly dearest, I shall love my earthly dearest better than I do now. Insofar as I learn to love my earthly dearest at the expense of God and instead of God, I shall be moving towards the state in which I shall not love my earthly dearest at all. When first things are put first, second things are not suppressed but increased**” (C. S. Lewis, *Letters of C. S. Lewis*, 8 November 1952).

This means we must not prioritize secondary things first—or we will ultimately lose them. The way we love our dearest may not be the best if Jesus Christ is not our priority. When we put Jesus Christ first, other things become more beautiful, more secure, and more truly enjoyed.

That is why God reminds us of His surpassing love—even over a mother's—in Isaiah 49:15: “**Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!**” Likewise, the Apostle Paul left his beloved Ephesian elders, entrusting them to God's care, knowing he might never see them again: “**Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified**” (Acts 20:32). He understood God could give them more than he could; he put God first and left them wholly in God's hands.

Jesus Christ, our First, must be placed first for our renewal. One practice for renewed lives is worship: we are renewed *in* worship, and worship expresses our renewed life. In worship, we encounter heaven descended to earth, our lives ordered, harmonized, and empowered by Christ's rhythm. As theologian Michael Reeves notes, “**The church has long recognized the priority of worship, acknowledging that we are redeemed in order to become faithful worshipers of the one true God. Worship is the end for which we are created and saved.**”

Puzzled, bored, or dried up? Join fully in this Lenten rhythm. Place Jesus Christ first—over everything and every relationship. Worship God, as He created you for that purpose, and be renewed.

“They are the people I made for myself, and they will sing my praises.”

Isaiah 43:21 GNT

Pastor Jung Yum

Thank you for supporting SewHope! I just returned from a trip to Peten, Guatemala. Our group included a doctor, a cytologist, 3 retired teachers, our development director, an interpreter and 2 teenagers (one being my granddaughter). We worked in the medical clinic, the school and the community.

Each visit to the school at SewHope always shows us how God is shining up on our school. This year was no exception as we visited families and checked on their well-being, talked with them about what their hopes and dreams are for their children. Our school ends in sixth grade so we ask parents what their plans were for the students to do next year. Many students still have aspirations of continuing their education and we are working on ways to make that happen in schools in the community.

We worked on math skills, read with students, did art projects and played! We hosted a family movie night where over 350 people were in attendance enjoying the movie Encanto and eating popcorn.

There are 160 students in the school. They are sponsored by the giving people here in the US. Our church sponsors Milan Kenai Pena Rodriguez. He is 5 years old. He is so sweet! In the medical clinic and in different villages, we saw about 500 patients. We went on 6 jornadas (journeys) to villages which were up to hours away. Some days started at 5:00am in the morning and ended at 8:30pm when we returned home. One day we had 150 patients. Our goal is to reduce the number of deaths from cervical cancer and it is working! Each day was a blessing and the community is so grateful for each and every person who supports our ministry.

Thank you!

Chetti Smith



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

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CHURCH CONTACT INFO

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SUNDAY WORSHIP—
10:00 a.m.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to make Carleton UMC your home church, speak with Rev. Yum about becoming a member. Also talk with Rev. Yum if you would like to be baptized or have your infant or child baptized. New member classes run periodically, so let Rev. Yum know if you are interested.

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 from 2:30-6:30 and Friday from 9:00-3:00 We can always be reached by email at carletonumc@gmail.com.

CHURCH PRAYER NETWORK

Don't forget that Carleton UMC has an email *Prayer Network*. If you have a prayer request just email (carletonumc@gmail.com) or call us 734-654-2833. We will do our best to relay your prayer request as quickly as possible.

PRAYER CARDS

As a reminder that if you raise a prayer request in worship on Sundays & want to have a card sent, to please fill out a green prayer card (found in the pews) 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 Tyler's desk or in the box on the office door.

Special Music

If you would like to share your musical gifts through special music during our worship time, there is a sign-up sheet on the office door. Should you have any questions, please contact Tyler Vaughn (734) 270-2425.



Altar Flowers

You are welcome to bring fresh flowers to the altar any Sunday -- in memory of a loved one, in celebration of someone special, or simply as a gift of worship to God. The sign-up sheet is posted on the office door. Please inform the church office by Thursday mornings to have your dedication included in the bulletin. Please contact Tracey Drouillard (734) 497-6928 for any questions.



Carleton United Methodist Church General Fund Income and Expense Statement January 1—February 24th, 2026

INCOME

General Fund 32,863.00 \$
Investment Income 1.06 \$
Rental Income 225.00 \$

TOTAL INCOME 33,089.06 \$

EXPENSES

Our Church Home 13,077.30 \$
Our Church Programs 1,571.71 \$
Our Pastoral Ministry 12,927.03 \$
Our Outreach Ministry 1,609.67 \$
Unpaid Ministry Shares 3,911.00 \$
TOTAL EXPENSES 33,096.71 \$

NET LOSS AS OF 2/24/2026 (7.65) \$

FROM YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of the Carleton United Methodist Church.

As a reminder your offering envelopes are mailable with a first class postage stamp. Please be sure you are using the 2025 (grey) boxed set as your number in our giving system has changed. If attending worship you may either drop your offering in the plate as you enter the sanctuary or when the Usher's pass the plates during worship.

In Like a Lion... Out Like a Lamb

**MARCH
STORY HOUR
WEDNESDAYS
7:00-7:45**

3/4 Daniel and the Lions
3/11 David and the Giant
3/19 Jonah and the Whale
3/25 The Lost Sheep

**Designed for ages 3-8
but all are welcome!**

**Call 734-654-2833 or email
carletonumc@gmail.com to register.**

Missions will be serving a turkey dinner at Oaks of Righteousness in Monroe on March 9th. We will need some help setting up and serving. There will be signups posted in the narthex or you can reach out to Tom Northey directly.

Missions will be making pastys again this year. Orders are due March 10th (order forms will be in the bulletin the 1st & 8th). Help is needed assembling on the 13th and 14th, and pickup will be available from 1-4pm on the 14th, and after church on the 15th

Ladies Night Out - Our next gathering is March 2nd. Let's meet at Big Bear Lodge in Flat Rock at 6:30. Please let Karyn Vaughn know if you are coming! 734-740-8002.



Upcoming meetings:

Church Council - 3/9 at 8pm

Christian Ed - 3/15 after service

Member Care - 3/17 at noon



Dear Church Family,

If you have started your Spring cleaning and purging, remember our annual church rummage sale! Friday and Saturday May 15 th and 16 th .Your donations will help our women's ministry help others in our community, church, and abroad.We take any household items including tools! Basically, anything BUT : Large furniture, baby furniture, computers, laptops, encyclopedias, and clothing.We do accept gently used purses, shoes, and jewelry. Our rummage sale is donation based, but to discourage hoarding, we will have a separate area for more expensive items: Designer purses or shoes, video games, remote cars, framed art, expensive rugs, and jewelry. If you have any questions please contact Kim Baxter 734-731-1544.



"A very special Valentine is standing on the shelf by the door of my apartment, so everyone who walks by can enjoy it.The valentine was made by the children of Carleton United Methodist Church.Thanks so very much!" - Rev. Donna Osterhout"

In Sunday School...



The Early Childhood/Elementary kids got to stand next to a life size Goliath...but were reminded that God is bigger!



Building this "Tower of Babel" was a great opportunity to discuss pride and our need to rely on God.



After reading about Jesus choosing his disciples...



We played a direction following game and learned it's helpful to have a group of friends to help us do what we hear!

Children's Holy Week Celebration & Egg Hunt

MARCH 29

9:00 Holy Week Stations in Sunday School

10:00 Palm Sunday Parade and Junior Church

11:00 Egg Hunt



Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday 3/29 - 10am

Maundy Thursday 4/2 - 7pm

Good Friday 4/3 - 12pm

Easter Sunday 4/5 - 10am



Visitation Ministry

Our church is creating a visitation ministry to keep our church family better connected. We will need volunteers to make friendly visits to those who have been unable to attend church for various reasons and may enjoy visiting with their church family.

The amount of time you want to give is up to you. We would be grateful for whatever time you can offer. Visits can be made in person or with a phone call. If you want to visit in person but don't drive we can align you with another volunteer who does. If you aren't comfortable going alone another volunteer can go with you. Even if you don't want to visit you can still help by providing us with the name of someone you believe may benefit from a visit.

Contact Kim Bodenmiller 734 770 4603 or Pastor Yum with questions or to volunteer or with names of anyone needing a friendly visit.

LITURGIST

March 1st - Mary Baker
March 8th - Leland Morin
March 15th - Marvin Stump
March 22nd -
March 29th - Cheryl Marlow

April 2nd -
April 3rd -
April 5th -
April 12th - Paul Etue
April 19th - Marvin Stump
April 26th - Grace Morin

JUNIOR CHURCH & SUNDAY SCHOOL

We have some wonderful volunteers to lead Junior Church and Sunday School once a week—but we are always looking for more! No teaching experience is needed, just a loving heart and caring smile! Don't want to sign up for a specific Sunday? Become a substitute! Contact Karyn Vaughn (734-740-8002) with questions.

MUSICIANS

March 1st - Tyler & Marsha
March 8th - Tyler
March 15th - Tyler & Impact
March 22nd - Tyler
March 29th - Tyler

April 2nd - Tyler
April 3rd - Marsha
April 5th - Marsha
April 12th - Tyler
April 19th - Tyler & Impact
April 26th - Marsha

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

April 23rd. This will be the deadline for all contents of the May/June Newsletter.

March

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Communion Confirmation Class Coffee Hour	2 Ladies Night Out - 6:30pm Big Bear Lodge	3	4 March Story Hour 7-7:45pm “Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus” Bible Study - 10am Game Day - 11:30am	5	6	7
8 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Confirmation Class Children’s Bells	9 Church Council - 8pm	10	11 New Member Class - 6pm “Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus” Bible Study - 10am March Story Hour 7-7:45pm	12	13 Pasty making	14 Pasty making Pasty pickup - 1-4pm
15 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Confirmation Class Christian Ed Meeting	16	17 Member Care - Noon	18 New Member Class - 6pm “Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus” Bible Study - 10am March Story Hour 7-7:45pm	19	20	21
22 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Confirmation Class	23	24	25 New Member Class - 6pm “Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus” Bible Study - 10am March Story Hour 7-7:45pm	26	27	28
29 9am Sunday School 10am Worship Confirmation Class Palm Sunday Children’s Holy Week Celebration/Egg Hunt	30	31			As always your Michigan Returnable bottles and cans are welcomed by the Mission Committee. Please leave them between the double doors.	Pop can tabs will also be collected in a bucket in the narthex for the Ronald McDonald foundation.

April

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Game Day - 11:30am New Member Class - 6pm "Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus" Bible Study - 10am	2 Maundy Thursday Service - 7pm Communion	3 Good Friday Service - Noon	4
5 Happy Easter Easter Sunday Service - 10am Communion Infant Baptism Sunday	6	7	8 New Member Class - 6pm "Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus" Bible Study - 10am	9	10	11
12 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	13	14 Ladies Night Out Location TBD	15 New Member Class - 6pm "Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus" Bible Study - 10am	16	17	18
19 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	20	21	22 "Missional Reading of the Book of Exodus" Bible Study - 10am	23 Newsletter Material Due	24	25
26 9am Sunday School 10am Worship	27	28	29	30		