



April 2026  
**Carlisle United Methodist Church**



405 School Street  
Carlisle, IA 50047  
Office 515-989-3552  
office@carlisleiaumc.org  
Pastor Mike 515-229-6809  
pastor@carlisleiaumc.org

**Matthew 21:1-11** *21 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, “The Lord needs them.” And he will send them immediately. 4 This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,*

*5 ‘Tell the daughter of Zion,  
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’*

*6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; 7 they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,*

*‘Hosanna to the Son of David!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Hosanna in the highest heaven!’*

*10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ 11 The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’*

**Don’t Forget to Celebrate!**

You know, as we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem, let’s not miss how special that moment was—especially since it didn’t look anything like people expected. Folks back then were waiting for a powerful king to show up in style, but instead, Jesus came humbly on a donkey. It just goes to show, God’s plans don’t always match up with ours, and sometimes He works in ways that surprise us.

It can be tough to celebrate when things don’t turn out the way we pictured. Still, just like the crowds who cheered and waved branches, we’re invited to celebrate Jesus being with us—even if it comes in simple or unexpected ways. Let’s keep our hearts open, ready to welcome the hope and peace He brings, and not forget to celebrate, no matter how God’s goodness shows up in our lives.

Peace to All,

*Mike*

# FINANCE CORNER

*This information reflects General Account through February 28, 2026.*

YTD Actual Giving	YTD Budgeted Giving
\$34,509	\$52,600

Actual giving is significantly behind budgeted giving through February. With the recent announcement that Pastor Mike will be leaving, the budget will need to be updated to reflect the new Pastor for the second half of the year. While we do not know the full impact, it will likely be a significant increase in budgeted spending. We will keep you updated and appreciate any additional offerings to help through this.

We appreciate our congregation and the many ways you give – through time, prayers and funds.

## February Key Finance Meeting Takeaways

- General Account balance was down from January and the Year to Date budget was negative. ABC Account balance was down. New credit cards are in. We will be meeting with those getting them to set up a process.
- Campership – We approved to match campership at the same level as last year. If the camp is \$250 or less, we will pay 100%. If it is over \$250, we will pay half. This will be taken to Admin Council for approval.

# APRIL VOLUNTEERS



WORSHIP LEADERS	April
4/5	Clint Smalley
4/12	Karla Voboril
4/19	Karen Austin
4/26	Char Cooper

SCREENS	April
4/5	Josh Sytsma
4/12	Clint Smalley
4/19	Ronda Frost
4/26	Tim Crowley

APRIL HOSPITALITY
<b>Clint &amp; Deb Smalley</b>
Mallory & Jill Prall
Mary Conner
Greg & Nancy Lindaman
Eric & Cindy Moorman
Rick & Carrie Mumm
Steve & Linda Wilson

Thank you so much for helping! It means a great deal to those that come down after church and take time to visit with one another.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to visit with Nancy Jennings or De Streeter as the Women in Faith are in charge of this list.

# APRIL VOLUNTEERS

## Continued:



April Greeters	
4/5	Denny & Kristi Woodruff
4/12	Jane Hutton
4/19	Marsha Mezger
4/26	Minnie Argo

### **Children's Message**

*Those Sharing a Special time during Worship with our children*

- Apr. 5 - Marne Sievers
- Apr. 12 - Peggy Fogle
- Apr. 19 - Sue Mooers
- Apr. 26 - Nancy Lindaman
- May 3 - Tim Crowley
- May 10 - Ronda Frost
- May 17 - Marne Sievers
- May 24 - Kathryn Sinclair
- May 31 - Marilyn Goodhue

Communion Helpers 4/5
Char Cooper
Karen Austin
Denny Woodruff
Kristi Woodruff

*Thank you to all volunteers!*

# Wildcat ABC News

April 2026

A Caring Ministry of the Carlisle United Methodist Church

## That's A Wrap!

Wow what a fun spring break we had! We had a full week of fun video/board game themed activities, crafts, food, movies, and so much more! The kids started the week off with fun goodie bags, a stuffed animal sleepover, a Mario, Minecraft, and Pac-Man theme lunch party, with so much in between, and ended the week with an electronic day! We are sad that it had to end but we're excited to get ready for summer!



## Now Enrolling!

Are you in need of childcare for the summer and/or school year? Is your child school age? Then we are the place for you! At Wildcat ABC we are constantly striving to help our kids not only grow but also have fun! We love to do different activities, field-trips, and events to keep the kids busy all year round. Call, stop by, or check out our website for more information!

Time to get back to reality  
Let the summer  
dreaming begin!



Enroll Now for Summer -  
preschool or Transitional  
Kindergarten



## Reminders

- With warmer weather approaching we will be playing at the school playground more frequently in the afternoon. You are able to check out your child at ABC or at the playground.
- Make sure to frequently check your child's cubby and hook. Any unclaimed items (bags, coats, hats, water bottles, etc.) left at the end of the week will be put in our lost and found.
- Our Lost and Found is located in the tote under the coat rack in the entryway.

## Important Days to Remember

April 20th- NO SCHOOL

May 25th- ABC IS CLOSED: Memorial Day

May 27th- Last day of school!

## Wildcat ABC Contact Information

Director: Mandi Shaffer

Email: [wildcatabcdirector@carlisleiaumc.org](mailto:wildcatabcdirector@carlisleiaumc.org)

On-Site Supervisors: Danicka Lathrop & Crystal Kruse

Phone: 515-989-3972



# Faith + Friends ♥ Fun

within our church and beyond. There are events for different age groups, families, and everyone throughout the year. Watch for our next event!

Faith, Friends & Fun creates ways for the congregation and the community to live out their faith in fun ways! They host events to encourage building community

## Christmas Extravaganza!



## Carlisle Care Days



## Fall Family Fun Fest



## Kick off Block Party!



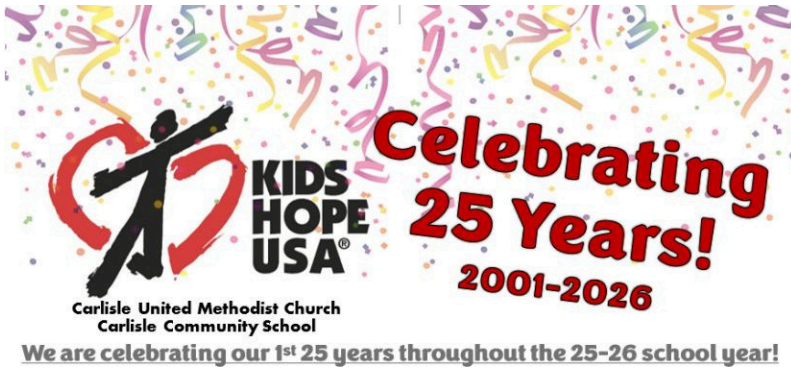
A ministry of Carlisle United Methodist Church since 2001

Leadership Team

Sue Mooers & Karla Voboril – Special Events Coordinators

Deb Smalley – Summer Events Coordinator Mary Conner – Communication Coordinator

De Streeter – Prayer Partner Coordinator Pastor Mike Fillmore Lori Candee - Director



### February 26<sup>th</sup> was Party Time!

This year, our KHUSA theme has been GROWTH. We've talked about the many ways we all grow and, to show an example of that, we gathered our Mentors' pictures of when they were in elementary school. Kids & Mentors matched up current pictures with their elementary pictures – everyone found it to be very challenging, but a lot of fun! Our service project was decorating fun pots that we delivered to the Carlisle Care Center – we hope we brightened residents' day!



For more information, contact KIDS HOPE USA Director, LoriCandee  
515-210-8221 [kidshopeusadirector@carlisleiaumc.org](mailto:kidshopeusadirector@carlisleiaumc.org)

*There's a Kid who would love to have a friend like you! Can you spare 1hour a week?*

**Party & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation -  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> - after school until 5pm!**



# United Women in Faith

Co-Presidents Nancy Jennings & De Streeter  
Secretary Mary Conner Treasurer Robin Merrifield

Our Mission is to seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, Creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.

## Who we are:

ALL women and friends are invited to be part of CUMC UWF! Please join us!

## What we do:

We do Bible Study, work on mission projects, provide support to the church, have fun, and lift each other up.

## Want more info?

Contact one of our officers listed above.

**Meetings** are held throughout the year—Keep an eye out for the next meeting!

We will meet in the Grace Room! (116)

## Monthly Hospitality

We love our treats and fellowship after church each Sunday. We have a Hospitality Team each month who provide and serve after worship. It's a great time to get to know fellow CUMC members! If you would like to be a part of a monthly Hospitality Team, please contact the office or Nancy.



## Ruth Circle:

Come have a warm drink with some conversation to warm your heart.

Join us April 21st at Smokey Row.

This is a time to gather and get to know one another, share stories and laugh!

Everyone is welcome—please join us!



# MISSIONS

*Working Together to Share God's Love*

Our CUMC Missions Team coordinates ways for our entire congregation to spread God's love to our community and our world.

**Recent Missions:**

"Christmas in July" CCA met to start the plans for our Community Christmas and Thanksgiving for families in the P.E.A.C.H area that might need some support during the holidays. More info to come later.

*God was on the Move During Indiana Flooding and St. Louis Tornadoes.*

*Midwest Mission sent two truckloads of essential supplies after the Missouri UMC Conference reached out for help. The first shipment included 144 Cleaning Kits and 144 Hygiene kits. The second delivered 216 Cleaning Kits, 216 Hygiene Kits, and 200 Menstrual Hygiene Kits.*



**"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."  
2 Corinthians 9:8**

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
Thank you for showing God's love through your gift of personal dignity supplies! These simple things are often taken for granted but make a world of difference to those in need.  
In His Service,  
Midwest Mission Family*



Let's continue to share God's love.

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**What's Next?**  
 Fall - In Gather Kits  
 Winter - Coats & Winter Gear  
 Watch more ways to share God's Love!

On Going Local Food Pantry Mission  
 Cereal, snacks for lunches, peanut butter and jelly. There is also a need for shampoo and conditioner.

Mat weaving is every Wednesday at 9:00 AM in the Family Life Center. All are welcome to help us turn plastic bags into sleeping mats & protection from the weather!



*We finished another one! Every mat will be sent to help someone in need. Let's continue to spread God's kindness and compassion.*

# Women of Grace

*Carlisle United Methodist Church*

The Women of Grace meet each Wednesday morning at 10:00 in the Grace Room - because we all need Grace!

The Women of Grace Bible Study meets Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am. We welcome you to come join us as we watch and learn together from DVD studies from Max Lucado, Andy Stanley, Rick Warren and others.



Looking for a supportive group of women who love to laugh and learn? Coffee is always on and sometimes we even have treats! Join us in the Grace Room. Remember we all need GRACE to face each day!

The Women of Grace are beginning a new DVD study by Andy Stanley called FAITH, HOPE AND LUCK.

For more information, contact Char Cooper 515-556-2789

## THE KITCHEN BASEMENT

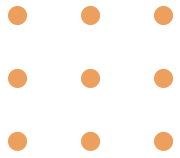


**There are so many people to thank For all their hard work in making the Kitchen in the basement “come alive”.** The church trustees had a vision of what they wanted it to be. They asked for and received a grant that allowed them to replace the ceiling, purchase and install new countertops, install a new sink and paint the walls. ***Asking for help to clean inside and paint the cabinets, Nancy Jennings, Jane Hutton and Char Cooper volunteered to help. To add the finishing touches, a special thank you to Kay Scholl for providing the material, curtain rod, and her talent to make the curtain on the window and to Nancy and Jane for the decorations!***

The basement area is now available for those who wish to use it for special events like baby or wedding showers, book clubs, card clubs, sewing clubs, community meetings, graduation parties or family gatherings, etc. The space holds 60 people.

There is no charge for members of the church to rent this space. Of course, donations are always appreciated to help cover the cost of utilities.

Contact Char Cooper for scheduling at 515-556-2789.



Have you missed the  
Progressive Dinner?  
**It's back in a new form!**

# ***Friends, Fellowship, and Food*** ***“Unprogressive Dinner”***

Sunday, April 19th  
5:00 p.m.  
Family Life Center

**Serving: Appetizers, Salads,  
Soups, and Desserts**

*Sign-up will be available during  
church, on a Sign-up Genius, or by  
contacting Marne Sievers at  
(515)681-1606*

**All are welcome!**  
**Invite your friends!**

Childcare may be  
available, if there is  
interest.



*Thank you, Sharon!*

Longtime CUMC Member, Sharon Fitzgerald, has a wonderful mission. She lovingly creates Prayer Shawls.

For years she has given our Appalachia Service Project Crew one to give to each family they work with during their week in Virginia. The ASP Crew passes the Prayer Shawl around the church before they leave, so that the entire congregations can pray for the families the ASPers will be meeting. They are always appreciative and love knowing that they are wrapped in prayers and love from Iowa!



If you would like to help Sharon with her ministry, please contact Nancy Jennings to find out what kind of yarn she uses.

Thank you for your years of service Sharon! You are making a difference to so many people everywhere!



## Campership Sunday is April 12<sup>th</sup>!!!

Come hear about campership and  
help send many to camp this year!

This year we will be once again be matching camp costs. If the camp is \$250 or below, we will pay 100%. If it is over \$250, we will pay half.

### ***Do you love church camp and what it can mean to attendees?***

We need YOU to be the Campership Champion for the church! You would start working on next year's program. If interested, please let Ariel know.

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### **Welcome to Sunday Worship!**

As you enter the main sanctuary door, feel free to grab a cup of coffee from our new Coffee Bar!

Thanks to Bruce & Elaine Kerr for allowing us to use their antique organ and to Tim Crowley for making adjustments to make it beautifully useful!

We hope you will enjoy a cup of coffee as you worship with us. As weather gets colder, you may find makings for tea and hot chocolate, too!

# Ways to Give



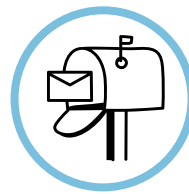
Cash, Check or QR Code  
linked to Church Center



Give in the offering  
plates as you enter the  
seating area.



Automatic Withdrawal  
from bank - ACH forms  
available



Mail to Carlisle UMC  
405 School Street  
Carlisle, IA 50047

## *Is Social Media your thing?*

We need your help to keep our new website updated and explore other outreaches on social media. Contact Ariel in the office if you are interested.

515.989.3552

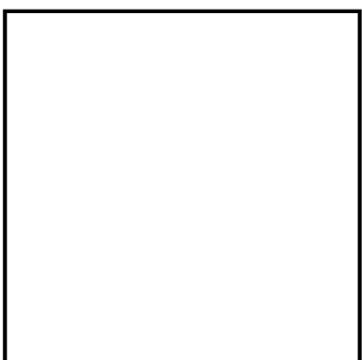
[office@carlisleiaumc.org](mailto:office@carlisleiaumc.org)



*Reminder for all Seniors: Scholarship  
Applications are due Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup>*



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Return Service Requested