



August 2025

## **Carlisle United Methodist Church**

405 School Street

Carlisle, IA 50047

515-989-3552

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Pastor Mike 515-229-6809

# **Hope Beyond the Waters: Reflections from Genesis 8:6-12**

Finding Assurance in God's Promises

## **Hope Beyond the Waters**

The story of Noah and the ark is often remembered as an account of judgment and survival, but nestled within Genesis 8:6-12 is a profound message about hope. After forty days adrift on the floodwaters, Noah opened the window of the ark and began to search for a sign that the world was being restored. He sent out a raven, then a dove, and waited with patience and faith for an answer from God.

At first, the dove returned, unable to find rest in a world still covered in water. Yet Noah did not lose hope. He waited seven more days and tried again. This time, the dove returned with a freshly plucked olive leaf—a sign that life was stirring once more, that renewal was taking root even when it could not yet be seen. After another seven days, the dove did not return at all, signaling that the earth was ready to receive Noah, his family, and all living creatures.

This simple act of sending the dove, waiting, and trusting speaks to the heart of Christian hope. Hope is not a passive wish, but an active faith that God is working, even when the way forward is not clear. Like Noah, we sometimes look out over our own “floodwaters”—seasons of uncertainty, grief, or waiting. There may be days when, like the first dove, our efforts return empty, and all seems unchanged. But hope

invites us to try again, to trust in God's timing, and to watch for the subtle signs of His faithfulness.

The olive leaf in the dove's beak reminds us that even in the aftermath of storms, new life is possible. God's promises are sure, and hope anchors us as we await their fulfillment. May we, like Noah, have the courage to keep looking, keep waiting, and keep believing that God is making all things new.

- **Reflection:** In what areas of your life are you waiting for God to bring renewal and hope?
- **Prayer:** Lord, help us to trust in your timing. Give us eyes to see the signs of hope you send, and hearts that are steadfast as we wait upon you. Amen.

Peace to All,

*Mike*

## Congregational Care Ministry

Rev. Connie Markle

Greetings to everyone from the Carlisle UMC, Norwalk UMC and Southside Church & Community Center!

On July 1st I started a brand-new position as the [Director](#) of Congregational Care for our churches. Please join me in prayer for this new ministry to care for our congregations!

Other pastors have highly recommended “The Caring Congregation” by Karen Lampe at Church of the Resurrection in Kansas City, Mo.

Karen said, *“Congregational Care is not just the care of the people in a church. It's the people of the church providing care.”* She insists that no one person can care for an entire congregation. To be effective, the ministry must be shared among those who have both a heart for providing care and adequate training in how to care.

Her books and a training webinars have been very helpful to me in creating this new ministry, without reinventing the wheel! This is a practical model that emphasizes lay-led ministry and provides resources and training to equip Congregational Care Ministers (CCMs) to address needs like prayer, support, hospital visits and grief care. The model emphasizes training and commissioning lay members as CCMs to provide care for our congregations, realizing that pastors cannot do it all! We will work as a TEAM!

Please let me know if you are interested in learning more about this important ministry. You can call or text me at [563-370-6724](tel:563-370-6724) or email me at [connie.markle75@gmail.com](mailto:connie.markle75@gmail.com)

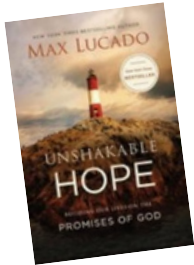
Pastor Connie

# 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!

If you are looking for women with whom you can share your Faith, share laughter, receive support and learn from great pastors like Max Lucado, Andy Stanley and Rick Warren via DVD studies, join us on Wednesdays!



In August we will be joining  
Max Lucado's UNSHAKABLE HOPE DVD study.

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



*Please join us next Wednesday!*



# MISSIONS

*Working Together to Share God's Love*

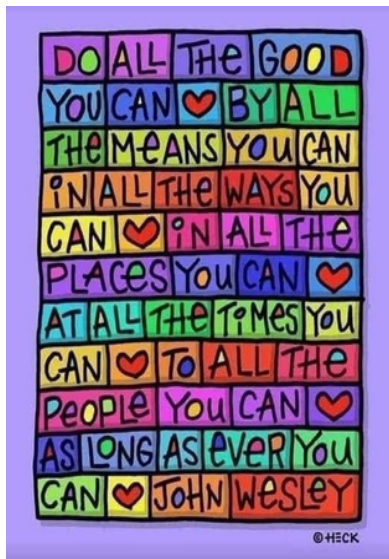
Our CUMC Missions Team coordinates ways for our entire congregation to spread God's love to our community and our world.

## 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.



## In Gathering Personal Dignity Kit

- Hand towel
- Wash cloth
- Toothbrush
- Bar of soap 3-4oz
- Shampoo 12-19oz
- Deodorant 2-3oz
- Lotion 8-10oz
- \$2 for toothpaste & carrying bag

Please put in basket at CUMC by the end of October 15!

Thank you~  
Mission Team

## What's Next?

Fall - In Gather Kits

Winter - Coats &

Winter Gear

Watch more ways to

share

God's Love!

On going local food bank mission:

Liquid dish soap

Laundry soap

Mat Weaving every  
Wednesday, 9-10 am  
in the Family Life Center.  
All are welcome to help  
us turn plastic bags into  
sleeping mats & protection  
from the weather!





A ministry of Carlisle United Methodist Church since 2001  
Leadership Team

Sue Mooers & Karla Vaboril – Special Events Coordinators

Deb Smalley – Summer Events Coordinator ♥ Mary Conner – Communication Coordinator

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

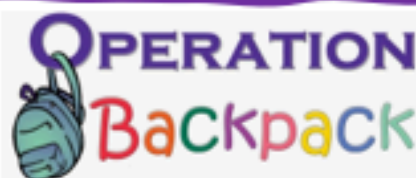
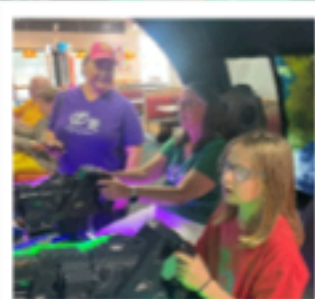


School is out, but that doesn't mean Kids Hope USA is done! We love continuing to get together with our Kids all year, so we have lots of fun all summer!



**CHUCK E. CHEESE'S**

**Tuesday, July 22**



Party for all KHUSA Kids & Mentors

Monday, August 4 @ 9:30-11:00am

Family Life Center

Thank you to everyone who came and helped with our Field Trips!

Special thanks to Ms. Deb for planning the adventures!

Thanks to Carlisle CSD for use of your buses!

You are greatly appreciated!

For more information, contact  
KIDS HOPE USA  
Director, Lori Candee  
515-210-8221  
[lacandee@gmail.com](mailto:lacandee@gmail.com)

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





## **Thank you to all who help make Operation Backpack happen!**



With the help of Carlisle UMC Kids Hope USA, Christian Community in Action, & the Carlisle CSD Student Support Team we are planning to fill 416 grade specific bags for Carlisle students the first week of August.

Special thanks to everyone who donates to OB – supplies & funds to purchase supplies & all who helped collect, sort, organize, bag, distribute, and all the background things that make OB work!

You can continue to help us help our students!  
Did you know:

- ♥ we collect supplies and funds all year round
- ♥ we provide supplies during the year upon request
- ♥ mid-year we offer teachers supplies – last year we delivered tissues, disinfectant wipes, & dry erase markers to the teachers who requested them

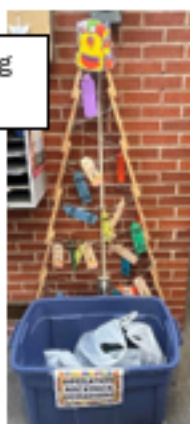
### Questions? Contact:

Lori Candee – CUMC Kids Hope USA –  
[kidshopeusadirector@carlisleumcia.org](mailto:kidshopeusadirector@carlisleumcia.org)  
515-210-8221

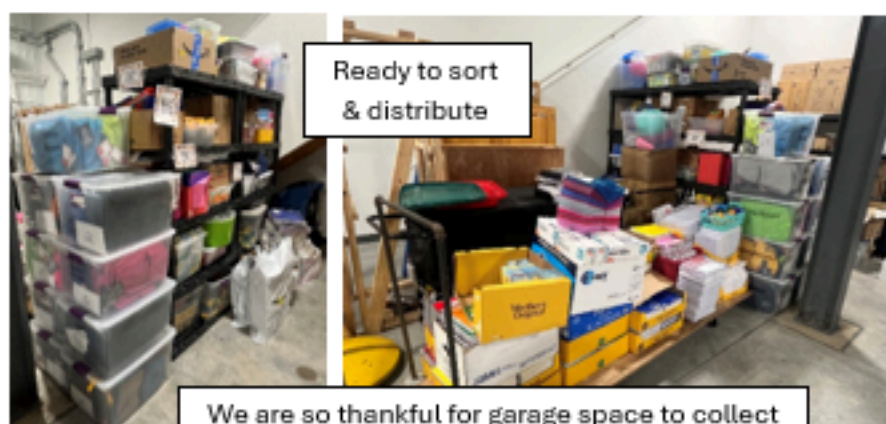
Kayla Price – CCA – 515-989-0625  
Donations: 325 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St., Carlisle, IA 50047

Leah Heideman – CCSD Student Support Team –  
[leah.heidemann@carlislecsd.org](mailto:leah.heidemann@carlislecsd.org)

Collecting supplies



Ready to sort & distribute



We are so thankful for garage space to collect & sort supplies in the summer!

# Finance Reports

Thank you for your generosity through the first half of the year!

Please note that there have been a few unexpected expenses that were not reflected in the budget. Anything you can do to help with these unforeseen expenses is greatly appreciated.

- \* Roof/room repair - \$7500
- \* Increased insurance costs- estimated \$8000 over budget (budget included a 20% increase!)
- \* New HVAC system in parsonage - \$8,600 (split with Norwalk)
- \* **New HVAC system in basement - \$10,600**

The information below represents General Fund giving only, excluding other income.

YTD Actual Giving	YTD Budgeted Giving
\$110,036.22	\$115,500.00



## ABC Update

- \* ABC is paying the monthly mortgage payment of over \$12,300
- \* Enrollment is up - we still have openings but they are filling up!
- \* ABC has resumed the building usage fee of \$7500 per quarter.

Church Center users - please note.

If you give using your credit card, the system will charge you the applicable credit card fees beginning in July.

You can modify the system so the payment comes from your bank account which has no fees(versus credit card).

## Key Finance Meeting Takeaways

- \* Prairie Meadows Grant - Basement is nearly finished. Floor, painting completed. Roberts has done plumbing work. New countertops will be installed. That will use the \$25,000 grant.
- \* Security Grant - We have received a viable bid for doors and done a second walk through. When updated bid comes in, we will be moving forward with the door updates, applying for reimbursement, then completing security and camera system once the reimbursement is received. Reimbursement is slow so this will take time.
- \* Discussion on June ABC reports. Income was down due to a delay in getting State funding for child care and food program reimbursements. Many field trips are held in June, increasing costs.
- \* A new HVAC system is needed for the basement. It is over 25 years old and cannot be repaired. Cost is \$10,600. We will use the ABC quarterly payment of \$7500 and take the remaining amount from the Trustee Account.
- \* Fourth of July Pie funds will be used to purchase new microphones in the sanctuary.



# AUGUST VOLUNTEERS



WORSHIP LEADERS	August
8/3	Karla Voboril
8/10	Matt Cope
8/17	Max McCoy
8/24	Greg Lindaman
8/31	Julia Batten
SCREENS	AUGUST
8/3	Vincent Mezger
8/10	Clint Smalley
8/17	Tim Crowley
8/24	Josh Systma
8/31	Vincent Mezger

AUGUST HOSPITALITY
Drew & Robin Merrifield
Karen Austin
Char Cooper
Jerry & Cathy Jones
David & Margie Jones
Jim & Sally Snyder
Terry & Cheryl Yanske
Jake & Kathryn Sinclair
Janice & Janine Parker

## Children's Message

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

Aug 3: Kathryn Sinclair

Aug 10: Amy Beller

Aug 17: Marne Sievers

Aug 24: Kathryn Sinclair

Aug 31: Marilyn Goodhue

Sep 7: Sue Mooers

Sep 14: Karla Voboril

Sep 21: Marsha Mezger

Sep 28: Darren Sievers



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— our next meeting is AUGUST 26 at 6:30 pm in the Grace Room (116)! Please join us!

### **Coming soon:**

Aug.19th, 9:30 am - Smokey Row - please join us & bring a friend!

**Mystery Speaker Coming Soon!** Keep an eye out for clues and find out what's next.

**Clue #1: Who's been around for 100 years?**

### **Church Women United**

**An Ecumenical Group** will meet Monday, Sept. 6th @ Stave's UMC - 2747 E Madison, Des Moines- 12:00 PM.

\$5 meals will be served.

Guest Speaker Jean Stadler will be speaking about School Children's Fund. Let's Carpool!

### **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** meets every 3rd Tuesday at 9:30 am at Carlisle Smokey Row for fellowship and a short devotion.

Everyone is welcome to join at any time.

Want a ride? Call Nancy! 515-707-4976



# Family Life Ministries

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

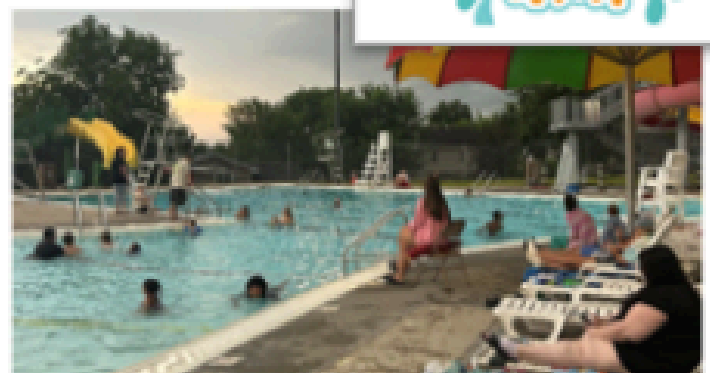
Family Life Ministries creates ways for the congregation and the community to live out their faith in fun ways! They host events to encourage building community



FALL  
FAMILY  
FUN  
FEST



POOL  
PARTY





# Wildcat ABC News

August 2025

A Caring Ministry of the Carlisle United Methodist Church

## Summers coming to an end!

What a great summer we've had here at Wildcat ABC! We're sad it's coming to an end but were not done with our summer fun just yet! We've been able to go see How To Train Your Dragon movie, went bowling, and rode on the Boone train! Our garden, located outside the back entryway door, has also been growing! We've been able to harvest some cherry tomatoes, jalapenos, banana peppers, and even a cabbage so far! With the last 4 weeks of summer left, we look forward to finishing out the summer with our last few swim days, field trips, events, and having a blast!



## We're Hiring!

Are you at least 16 or older? Do you like working with kids? Do we have the place for you! Come join our Wildcat ABC team! We have assistant and lead teacher positions available. Come on in to grab an application from one of our office administrators!

**Now ENROLLING 2025**

Tell them I sent you so I get a discount!

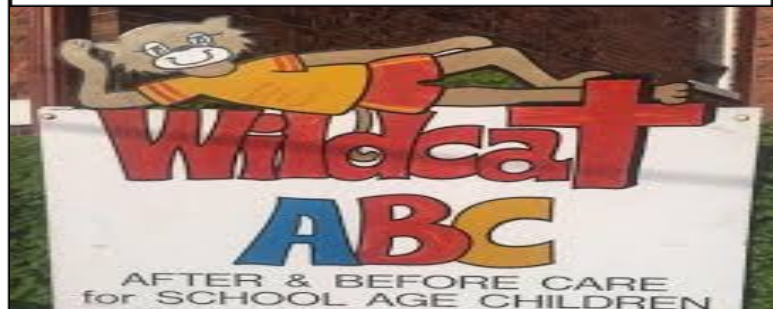
Want your school-age child to have a blast this summer? Need a place for them to go after school? Wildcat ABC is the place to be! Lots of fun activities are planned. Located right across from the elementary school, what could be more convenient. NOW ACCEPTING NEW STUDENTS

[WILDCATABCDIRECTOR@CARLISLEIAUMC.ORG](mailto:WILDCATABCDIRECTOR@CARLISLEIAUMC.ORG)

515-989-3972

## Summer Reminders

1. Every Monday we go to the Library. Please have your children bring their library books every Monday so they are able to get new ones.
2. Make sure to check your child's classroom and cubby frequently. This helps keep their cubbies from getting clustered and from getting lost.
3. At the end of the week please make sure to take home your child's swim towels and swimsuits.



## Wildcat ABC Contact Information

Director: Mandi Shaffer

On-Site Supervisors: Crystal Kruse & Danicka Lathrop

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

Phone: 515-989-3972


# Kick off Block Party!

Join us Sunday, Sep. 7<sup>th</sup>

10 AM- Worship Service

11 AM- Picnic Lunch (hamburgers, hot dogs & chips)

11:45 AM- Fun & Games for ALL ages both outside and  
in the FLC



Yard Games, Reverse  
Musical Chairs, Bubbles  
and Bingo is just a  
sneak peek at the fun!

**Don't forget to invite  
your friends and  
family to come join  
the fun!**

All are welcome to join us!  
Let's bring our community  
together!





# Sweet Planning Part 2

Join us Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 6:30 PM

Bring a snack or dessert to share while we discuss our next steps for the future!



Thank you to all who attended  
Sweet Planning last month!

Our next meeting is August 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 6:30 PM!

*See you then!*





# 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**

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We are thrilled to introduce Ariel Wahlers as our new Administrative Assistant. Ariel is a great addition to the office. She will be in the office 9-Noon, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. She will also be checking mail and phones on Tuesday and Thursday. You may reach her through the Church phone and email addresses.



*Welcome*



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Return Service Requested

