



Staves Memorial United Methodist Church
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January 01, 2025

WORRY

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.” (Deuteronomy 31:8)

As the new year begins and we look ahead to the future it's likely that some of you will have worries. We may have worries about health, finances, family, jobs, the economy; the list is endless. It's been said that worry is like a rocking chair; it keeps you moving but it gets you nowhere.

Friends, if you are listening to thoughts that cause you to worry then you are not listening to the voice of God. You're listening to the enemy. Worry robs you of the ability to experience the joys of the present. And worry's hold over you only grows stronger the more we dwell on the, "what ifs of life." This is not God's plan for our life.

God's plan is for you is to live a life filled with hope. You may be wondering, how is this possible? The answer is simple: put your complete trust and confidence in God's promise to never leave you or forsake you. In fact, the Bible tells us not to worry 365 times. One for each day of the year! I don't think this was a coincidence.

If you could look through the eyes of your Heavenly Father, you would see that no situation or circumstance is too big for God to handle. In fact, our problems are quite small compared to how big our God is.

The secret so many people miss is that it's not enough to tell yourself not to worry about something; you have to replace worried thoughts with God's thoughts. When you dwell on the word of God and the promises contained in it, then is when there will be no room for worry. In fact, I have taped a sheet of paper with Deuteronomy 31:8 on it to the bathroom mirror and the bedroom mirror so that

every morning and every night I am reminded of God's promise to never leave or forsake me.

Here's another Bible fact for you to remember: the Bible contains 7,487 verses where God promises to take care of you. Considering that there are 23,145 verses in the Bible; that means one third of the Bible is all about God promising to take care of you. Whenever worry gets a grip on you, replace it with one of these many promises.

January Calendar

- 1st Wednesday -- New Year's Day**
- Office Closed
- 2nd Thursday**
- NO Gems
 - Craft Group 5:00 pm
- 3rd Friday**
- China Painters 9:30 am
 - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 5th Sunday**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
 - Sunday School 9:00 am
 - Worship Service 10:00 am
 - Fellowship 11:00 am
 - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 – 3:00:pm
 - Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 6th Monday**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
 - TOPS Club 5:15 pm
 - Missions Meeting 6:30 pm
 - CAT Task Force Meeting 6:30 pm
- 7th Tuesday**
- Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm
- 8th Wednesday**
- Esther Circle 9:30 am
 - Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
 - Bell Choir 5:30 pm
 - Choir 6:30 pm
 - Ad Council 7:15 pm
 - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 9th Thursday**
- NO Gems
 - Craft Group 5:00 pm
- 10th Friday**
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 11th Saturday**
- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 – 5:00 pm

January Calendar (continued)

- 12th Sunday – Noisy Offering**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
 - Sunday School 9:00 am
 - Worship Service 10:00 am
 - Fellowship 11:00 am
 - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 – 3:00:pm
 - Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 13th Monday**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
 - TOPS Club 5:15 pm
- 15th Wednesday**
- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
 - Bell Choir 5:30 pm
 - Choir 6:30 pm
 - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 16 Thursday**
- NO Gems
 - Craft Group 5:15 pm
- 17th Friday**
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 18th Saturday**
- All Church Breakfast 8:00 am
- 19th Sunday**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
 - Sunday School 9:00 am
 - Worship Service 10:00 am
 - Fellowship 11:00 am
 - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 – 3:00:pm
 - Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 20th Monday**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
 - TOPS Club 5:15 pm
- 22nd Wednesday**
- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
 - Bell Choir 5:30 pm
 - Choir 6:30 pm
 - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm

January Calendar (continued)

- 23rd Thursday**
- NO Gems
 - Craft Group 5:15 pm
- 24rd Friday**
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 25th Saturday**
- Eve Circle 9:30 am
 - Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 – 5:00 pm
 - Community Meal 5:00 pm
- 26th Sunday**
- Adult Sunday School 8:45 am
 - Sunday School 9:00 am
 - Worship Service 10:00 am
 - Fellowship 11:00 am
 - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 1:00 – 3:00:pm
 - Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 27th Monday**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
 - TOPS Club 5:15 pm
- 29th Wednesday**
- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
 - Bell Choir 5:30 pm
 - Choir 6:30 pm
 - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 30th Thursday**
- NO Gems
 - Craft Group 5:15 pm
- 31st Friday**
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7 :00 pm

January Birthdays



Karon King Velau	1/4
Joe Jefferson	1/6
Michelle Shabazz	1/11
Dalton McDonald	1/12
David Beery	1/14
Phyllis Anderson	1/18
Ileta Wilson	1/23
Joyce Doggett	1/28
Colan Arnold	1/28
Camille Gervais	1/29
Sandra Besco	1/29
Linda Wendt	1/31
Evelyn Moran	1/31
Mary Flaherty	1/31

**CRAFTS, CONVERSATION &
CHOW**

Come join other women for a night of Crafting, Conversation, and Chow—*Free of Charge*.

Bring a project to work on and a dish to share or simply come to connect with other women. We meet at the church every Thursday starting at 5:00 p.m. If you have a craft you'd like to learn, let us know so we can find the right person to help you learn.

If you have further questions, please contact *Jennifer McDonald at 515-314-4761*.

**Save your Eyeglasses,
Hearing Aids, Pop
Cans and Can Tabs**

The church collects used eyeglasses and hearing aids. Even if the hearing aid doesn't work, they can use it for parts. Bring these items anytime during the year to the church.

You may place them in the designated basket marked "Used Eyeglasses," located by the mailboxes in the narthex.

**SAVE YOUR ALUMINUM CAN TABS
AND POP CANS**

The church is collecting tabs off of all aluminum cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Save your can tabs and put them in an envelope or baggie marked "Tabs" and put in the white basket in the narthex marked "Pop Tabs."

Please save your pop cans and bring to the church. Money goes into Helping Hand Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PILLAR OF PRAYER: If you need to request a pillar of prayer, please call either Diane at the church office Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or Marilyn Ogle all other times at 515-266-6876. Thanks!

**SANDY MCNAMAR FOOD
PANTRY**

**2nd SATURDAY AND
LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**January Dates
January 11
January 25**

ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST

**Saturday, January 18
8:00 a.m.
Come at 7:00 a.m. if you would like to help.**

COMMUNITY MEAL

**Last Saturday of every month.
Next dinner will be:
January 25
5:00 pm**



Church Financial Report

Finance/Treasurer Report December 16, 2024

Bank Balance as of October 31, 2024
\$17,563.70

November Budget Items

<i>Budget Items</i>	\$12,666.00
<i>Mission Items</i>	\$ 474.78
<i>Committed Funds</i>	<u>\$ 1,955.00</u>
	\$15,095.78

November Disbursements

<i>Budget Items</i>	\$16,167.43
<i>Missions</i>	\$ 571.31
<i>Committed Funds</i>	<u>\$ 1,100.06</u>
	\$17,838.80

Bank balance as of November 30, 2024
\$14,820.68

Less Committed Funds as of November 30, 2024
\$14,668.33

Available funds as of November 30, 2024
\$ 152.30

This report is submitted by:
Terri Pollard, Staves Financial Secretary

Christian Education

We are looking for new leader for the Christian Education Committee. If you are interested in this position, please see a member of the Nominations Committee. (See bulletin board in the Narthex for a list of committee members.)

This person leads the Christian Education team which is responsible for the teachers leading Sunday School, Bible Studies, the Easter Egg Hunt (spring), VBS (summer), Rally Day and Fall Festival (fall).

We are looking for a couple of people to take over teaching the pre-school and 1st and 2nd grade group of children. If you are interested in teaching this group, please see Norma Thierman.

The Sunday Morning Study on Hymns is running and getting great reviews. It is open to anyone who wants to attend. It starts at 8:45 a.m.

Remember that we have a pre-school, upper elementary and a Youth Sunday School program. These start at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

Community Meals

The Free Meals continues to reach community and church members with food and fellowship once a month. This meal is always the last Saturday of the month.

The Community Meal committee will be planning the January, February and March meals soon. Those menus will be shared in the bulletin and the next caller when they are determined.

While the meal is free, donations are accepted. Any funds donated go into the Community Meal

Community Meals (continued)

fund to help purchase the meat or other main dish ingredients.

If you are willing to help with the meal, come on the designated date at 4:00 p.m. to help set up and serve. If you want to help cook, please talk with Terri Pollard since depending on the menu the cooking start time varies.

Trustees Update

Here are the updates on the latest Trustee Projects.

We will be looking at moving one of the video screens in the Sanctuary to the back wall. This will help the Pastor and other speakers when sharing the Word or other announcements. We are also looking at the bid for new furnaces and air conditioning units for the Education wing. Those units are now 30 plus years old and at least one has stopped working completely. We will keep you informed of the progress on this project since we may move quickly to make sure we have heat for the upcoming cold season.

We'll be reviewing the repair or replacement of the ceiling in the Education office. We will be looking at electrical repairs in the original basement and possible some foundation work along the west wall of the kitchen.

If you have something you think needs worked on in the church, please talk to a Trustee (see list of committee people posted in the Narthex) or send an email to the Trustees at sumtrustees@aol.com. Thanks.

Food Pantry

The Pantry dates for January are: Saturday, January 11th and Saturday, January 25th. The Food Pantry is open from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each of those days.

Here are the numbers for November:

• Families	58
• People	171
• Pounds of Food In	1,463
• Pounds of Food Out	981
• Personal Items In	24
• Personal Items Out	18

The Pantry could use the following items:

- Canned Soup
- Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper
- Oatmeal
- Farina/Cream of Wheat
- Pancake Mix
- Cookies or baking mixes

At this time, we **DO NOT** need Knorr or similar pasta or rice sides. We have a lot of these and want to make sure these are used by our customers before they expire. Please consider purchasing some of the items listed above instead.

We receive food from the Food Bank of Iowa usually on Thursday of each week. These are the supplies we can purchase through them. But sometimes those supplies are limited because they cannot or do not receive donations of some items. Your purchases help us a great deal. Thanks for everything you give toward this ministry.

Remember that the food they receive is based on the number of people in the family and is only enough to feed them for three days.

Thanks also to the volunteers who step in each month and help with this ministry. It takes two to three people to help one family get through the pantry. One person walks the customer

Food Pantry (continued)

through “the stacks” while the family member selects the food they would like. This food is canned and packaged food like, canned vegetables, canned meats, dry pasta, cereal, canned fruit, and optional/personal items. Then the family is handed off to another person who provides them with the meat, dairy and other frozen or fresh food that we have on hand. Then a third person is available to help them bag/box up their items and carry them upstairs and their cars.

As you can see this is a very person intensify operation. If you would like to help, please come at about 1:45 p.m. on any Saturday we are open. We love to have you participate in this operation.

UW Faith News (A.K.A) Petticoat Patter

Well December is almost in the books as I write this article so that means 2024 is almost done and 2025 is right around the corner. I hope that each you had a wonderful Christmas and were able to learn about and grow closer to Jesus and God during the Advent Season.

As I write this article, I think not only of the wonderful things I was able to do in 2024, but of things that I know will happen in 2025. I hope you have time to reflect on 2024 and image what you can do in 2025.

For me helping those in need through the Sandy McNamar Memorial Food, Pantry, the Community Meal, and Urban Bicycle Food Ministry are very high on my “boy I’m glad I got to do that” list. My trips were also wonderful getting to see and spend time with family, see beautiful and new places and learning new things.

UW Faith News (A.K.A) Petticoat Patter (continued)

Also ranking very high on my review list was the completion of a study of the Book of John (that started in fall 2023 and completed in the spring of 2024.) While this was my second time through John with this Bible Study group, I still learned new things and expanded my understanding of things I already thought I knew. I am also happy that we were able to do several studies on topics during the Sunday afternoon/Monday morning study.

For 2025 I look forward to completing my second study of the Book of Revelation (it started in the fall 2024 and ends spring of 2025). I also look forward to the completion of our King David Study and possibly doing a new Lent Study on the prophecies of Jesus’ death and resurrection. (More on this one as we get closer to Lent.)

But overall, I look forward to more time in God’s Word and growing in my personal relationship with him. You know I always hear some folks at my “outside” Bible Study talking about their word for the year. They prayerfully pick a word that they feel describes their relationship with God and focus on seeing and feeling that word throughout the new year. Some reveal to others what their word is and some don’t.

Here is an example, say you select the word patience. You not only look for times when God is patient with you. But you also look for times where you are patient with someone else, or maybe times when you weren’t and should have been. In those times you admit you weren’t patient and ask God to help you more with that state of being when you again face a rough patch. I encourage you to try to find a word to focus on in 2025.

**UW Faith News (A.K.A)
Petticoat Patter (continued)**

As for the word of United Women in Faith. Thanks so much for the board members and the work they did during 2024. We are looking forward to our events in 2025. Plans are already in the works for the spring general meeting that any woman in the church can attend and believe it or not Ladies Night Out in May.

The women served lunch for the December Church Women United (CWU) meeting. The meeting attendees loved the Shepherd's Pie, Red/Green Jell-O salads and the desserts. We also love having this dedicated group of women visit our church. They do wonderful work across the city.

Our calendar is set for 2025, as is our budget and slate of officers. New books with updated information will be available later in January to any member. Ladies, please remember that any woman in Staves is welcomed and encouraged to become a member of United Women in Faith. See any board member for information on this group.



Dear Staves Friends,

It was with sweet joy receiving your kind Christmas card yesterday. It was very much appreciated.

I'm very appreciative of the many endeavors you do as a congregation. May you be blessed especially by our Dear Lord.

With love and appreciation,

JoAnn Pfaltzgraff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CAT Task Force Meeting
Monday, January 6th
6:30 pm**

**Missions Meeting
Monday, January 6th
6:30 pm**

**Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, January 7th
7:00 pm**

**Ad Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 8th
7:15 pm**

Eve Circle will meet January 25th, 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**Program: Sharon Ramsey
Devotions: Ileta Wilson
Hostess: Sherry Palmer**

January Mission



RED BIRD MISSION – Kentucky

As early as 1913 the women of the Evangelical Church became aware of the needs of the people of the Southern Highlands. In 1919 the Illinois Branch Women’s Missionary Society was the first of three branches to request that the church begin work here. After much prayer and study the Women’s Board established the Faith Fund, named thus as they said, “in the faith that money would flow into it and that God will show us where to invest it.” (2)

The Red Bird Mission was founded in 1921. The first hospital was built at Beverly in 1928 but for many years, calls to mountain homes were made by medical staff on horseback. Over the decades they have grown ministries to include Education, Health, Housing, Home Repairs and a Work Camp. They also have a farmer’s market, a baby pantry, and various other missions they do amazing work with for the people of the Appalachians

For the Month of January, we will be collecting donations to send to the Faith Fund.

Red Bird Mission, Inc.

70 Queendale Center Beverly, KY 40913

606.598.3155

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES
Staves Memorial United Methodist Church
December 11, 2024

CALL TO ORDER/DEVOTIONS

Chairperson, Brian McNamar began the meeting, with prayer.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

A) Renee reported, giving is down; the pastor will compose a letter, to be sent in the next week, or two.

B) Terri gave an update on the pledge drive for 2025:

90 cards sent out; 31 returned.

\$175,822 pledged; covers 70% of the proposed budget.

There was a brief period of discussion.

C) Rick discussed the treasurer's report for the period ending November 30. Available funds total \$152.35 (down from around \$2000 at the end of the previous month).

D) Foundation – no report.

E) Memorial Committee – Phyllis reported \$800 spent for the food pantry (from Roberta Traviss memorial money).

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Pastor – Tim Walker

A) Discussion/brainstorming for the exceed the need campaign.

B) The pastor will take a renewal leave, during the month of January. Terri and Rick R. will cover various areas of leadership during his absence. Pulpit supply has not been finalized, as of the time of this meeting.

A motion was made and seconded, to approve a compensation scale of \$125 per Sunday for pulpit supply, going forward, when the pastor is absent. The motion was approved, by voice vote.

Trustees – Terri Pollard, reporting.

A) New lights have been installed, in Diane's office.

B) There was a brief discussion about furnaces.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)

Congregational Assessment Tool update – Brian McNamar

- A) Suggestion box – now being utilized
 - B) Need for improved communication, and more efforts toward conflict management.
 - C) Need for outreach committee/coordinator.
 - D) Congregational care
 - E) Disruptions during the worship service
- See also, outline, included with these minutes.

MINISTRY WORK AREAS

Education/Sunday School – Norma shared that we still need additional regular, permanent Sunday School teachers. It was also noted, we are still looking for a new education chairperson, to serve beginning next year.

Worship/Music –

- A) Christmas cantata, December 22.
- B) Blue Christmas service coming up [December 19, 7:00 pm]
- C) Christmas Eve Service, December 24, 7:00 pm
- D) Poinsettias have been ordered.
- E) Steve is now able to upload live streaming to Facebook, if no one else is available, on Sunday mornings.

United Women in Faith – Terri reported that new membership books will be ready soon.

Missions - Marilyn Burch

- A) January emphasis – Redbird mission
- B) Next meeting, January 6, 2025

Food Pantry - Terri Pollard

60 families served, equivalent to 149 persons.

OTHER BUSINESS – None

NEXT MEETING – January 8, 2025

Pastor Tim led attendees in prayer, to end the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Ellis, secretary

ATTENDEES: Brian McNamar, Pastor Tim Walker, Andy Gervais, Rick Atterbury, Marilyn Burch, Carol Tanner, Terri Pollard, Phyllis Anderson, Renee Horner, Norma Thierman.

CAT/Admin Council Presentation

Original survey 69 respondents

6 questions, 141 responses, 78 of which are assigned to Admin Council.

Communication and Conflict our biggest areas of concern, the two are often tied together.

1) Communication

A. What's being done

1. Info Fair
2. Suggestion Box
3. Directory (Marilyn Ogle)
4. Updated Discipline Books (Rick R)
 - a. Defining possible new roles, etc.
 - b. Committees

B. What's Still To Do

1. Be open to share, what happens here at Admin Council, all are invited, all can know
2. Listen to concerns attentively and bring them to Admin Council
3. Monthly monitoring of Suggestion Box, will restress, name and date must be included

2) Conflict

A. Encourage open communication, conflict and communication tied together

B. Encourage participation

C. Redirecting last minute offers to help, "We have this covered, but can you help after with clean up?" etc.

3) Some responses more like little nuggets of wisdom. These to be inserted randomly into the caller or bulletin

4) All people should be in the sanctuary during service.

A. Suggestion from CAT team to close doors during service - Pastor to address.

5) Responses indicate many would like to see an Outreach Committee reinstated

A. Currently no committee,

B. Structure could conform to whatever the new discipline updates indicate

C. Outreach currently consists of online resources

1. Live streaming service

2. Website

3. Facebook page

D. Yard signs – done

E. Fliers distributed to neighborhood locations

F. More activities, to bring in people from the community

6) Greeting time during worship, was discussed and referred to Worship Music, for further consideration

7) Congregational Care

A. Card Ministry – being done

B. Cards, Calls Visits

C. Physical Needs – Transportation, Shopping, Meals

D. Need to find coordinator, and then Admin Council to vote to authorize committee

E. Prayer Group

CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENT TOOL (CAT) TASK FORCE

Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Update

The CAT Task Force met December 2 to continue our process to positively address 141 specific responses, 78 of which were assigned to the Administrative Council. Communication and conflict are the two major issues to address.

Brian McNamar, Administrative Council Chair, led the conversation at the Administrative Council on meeting on December 11 to move efforts forward:

- 22 responses regarding communication
- 13 responses regarding conflict
- 1 response regarding fellowship hall and worship
- 8 responses regarding outreach
- 4 responses regarding worship and greeting
- 6 responses determined as 'nuggets' of information for additional consideration
- 14 responses regarding congregational care
- 5 responses moved to Nominations and Personnel
- 1 response moved to pastor
- 1 response moved to Staff Parish Relations Committee

Current efforts include

- * Communication: Info Fair, Suggestion Box, Membership Directory, Updated UMC Discipline Books
- * Conflict: open communication - conflict and communication tied together, encourage participation, redirect last minute offers to help
- * Yard Signs
- * Comment Box
- * Card Ministry
- * Power in Prayer group (Wednesdays at 2pm)
- * Online Communication: live streaming of worship, website, Facebook page

Potential future plans include

- * Outreach Committee
- * Greeting time
- * Congregational Care Committee – need volunteers to coordinate - includes card ministry (already in place), phone calls, visits, physical needs (transportation, shopping, and meals)

The CAT Task Force will meet on Monday, January 6, 6:30pm in the Adult Classroom to move other responses to determined teams, including worship/music, trustees, etc. Join our meeting! Questions or concerns? Contact Rick Roghair at rrsiouxduch@gmail.com.