



**Staves Memorial United Methodist Church**  
2747 East Madison Avenue; Des Moines, IA 50317  
Church: 515-266-0265  
Email: [stavesumc1927@gmail.com](mailto:stavesumc1927@gmail.com)  
**Website: [www.staveschurch.com](http://www.staveschurch.com)**

**Pastor Tim Walker**  
Parsonage: 515-262-4248  
Cell Phone: 515-402-2770  
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April 01, 2025

### ***SEEKING APPROVAL***

***Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ..... (Galatians 10:1)***

We all like to be appreciated. It's probably one of the greatest desires in every individual. And if you're honest with yourself, you will admit that you enjoy being appreciated – we all do. Whether it's a pat on the back from your boss, a handshake of appreciation from your pastor, or a simple, "Thanks Mom," from your child for making pancakes for breakfast. We all want to be appreciated. Appreciation provides us with a sense of purpose and it can be a powerful motivator.

But we get into dangerous territory when we begin to rely on the approval of others to determine our self-worth or the level of joy in our life. When this happens the approval of others can become like an addiction – enough, is never enough, you're always seeking more. We begin to volunteer at church so everyone will see what a good Christian we are. Women will try to be the perfect mom and wife (especially in public) so that others will notice their accomplishment. Men start working longer and longer hours at work to show what a valuable asset they are to their boss. And before long we find ourselves doing the right things for the wrong reasons – and we will begin living a very unhappy life. When you put too much emphasis on what others think, you will make decisions based on public approval, rather than on what's right for you or what God desires.

This is what the Apostle Paul was telling the Galatian Christians. The Galatian churches were a mix of Jewish and Gentile believers who were being taught that Gentile Christians needed to be circumcised and follow the Jewish Law to be considered true Christians and to be saved. The Jewish synagogues had a powerful influence over public opinion at that time and place in the world. Paul's advice was to ignore public opinion and seek God's approval alone. This would be good advice for everyone to follow. Listening to the advice and council of others is a good idea. But that must also be balanced with you seeking out the guidance of the Holy Spirit. If the guidance of the Holy Spirit conflicts with the human advice you're getting from others. Then follow the Holy Spirit's advice and leave the results in God's hands.

## April Calendar

- 1st Tuesday**
- United Women in Faith 6:00 pm
  - Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm
- 2nd Wednesday**
- Dorcas Circle 10:00 am
  - Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
  - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 3rd Thursday**
- Gems 11:00 am
  - Craft Group 5:00 pm
- 4th Friday**
- China Painters 9:30 am
  - Set-up for Palmer Bridal Shower 5:00 pm
  - Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 5th Saturday**
- Chrissy Palmer Bridal Shower 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- 6th Sunday (NO Communion -- will be on Easter 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
- 7th Monday**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
  - TOPS Group 5:15 pm
  - Fill Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt 6:00 pm
- 9th Wednesday**
- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
  - Choir 6:30 pm
  - Ad Council Meeting 7:15 pm
  - Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 10th Thursday**
- Gems 11:00 am
  - Craft Group 5:00 pm

## April Calendar (continued)

- 11th Friday**
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 12th Saturday**
- Workers arrive to help with Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 am
  - Easter Egg Hunt Starts 11:00 am  
Lunch following with prizes to win
  - Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 pm
- 13th Sunday – Palm Sunday -- Cantata  
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 pm
  - Bible Study 4:00 pm
- 14th Monday**
- Bible Study 10:00 am
  - TOPS Group 5:15 pm
  - Education Meeting (will be planning for VBS) 6:00 pm
- 16th Wednesday**
- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
  - Choir 6:30 pm
  - Hispanic Bible Stud (chapel) 7:00 pm
- 17th Thursday**
- Gems 11:00 am
  - Craft Group 5:00 pm
- 18th Friday – Good Friday**
- Service 7:00 pm
  - Hispanic Bible Study 7:00 pm
- 19th Saturday**
- All Church Breakfast 8:00 am
  - Eve Circle (going to church breakfast and then meeting after) 8:00 am
  - Eve Circle preparing May baskets 9:30 am

## April Calendar (continued)

### 20th Sunday – Easter – Communion

- Sunrise Service 7:30 am
- Breakfast 8:00 am
- 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

### 21st Monday

- Bible Study 10:00 am
- TOPS Club 5:15 pm

### 23rd Wednesday

- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm to 3:15 pm
- Choir 6:30 pm
- Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 6:00 pm

### 24th Thursday

- Gems Group 11:00 am
- Craft Group 5:00 pm

### 25th Friday

- Set-up for plant sale 9:30 am
- Hispanic Worship (chapel) 7:00 pm

### 26th Saturday

- Spring Plant and Bake Sale 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Lunch (English Tea Style) 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Sandy McNamar Food Pantry 2:00 pm– 5:00 pm
- Community Meal 5:00 pm

### 27th 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

## April Calendar (continued)

### 28th Monday

- Bible Study 10:00 am
- TOPS Group 5:15 pm

### 30th Wednesday

- Power in Prayer 2:00 pm
- Choir 6:30 pm
- Hispanic Bible Study (chapel) 7:00 pm

## April Birthdays



Steve Ellis	4/02
Cheryl Meeker	4/04
Dakota Collier	4/04
Timothy Novak	4/06
Shirley Stevenson	4/06
Sharon Ramsey	4/10
Dann Stevens	4/11
James Arthur	4/13
Sue Williams	4/14
Dorothy Deitch	4/15
Rick Graham	4/17
JoAnn Riley	4/18
Mickey Wise	4/22
Kurt Putzier	4/23

## **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 would 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 does not 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 all aluminum cans for the Ronald McDonald House. Save 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**

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

**April Dates  
April 12th  
April 26th**

## **ALL CHURCH BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, April 19th  
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:  
April 26th  
5:00 pm**



# Church Financial Report

*Finance/Treasurer Report  
March 17, 2025*

*Bank Balance as of February 28, 2025*  
\$98,984.98

*February Budget*

<i>Budget Items</i>	\$16,056.32
<i>Mission Items</i>	\$ 522.87
<i>Committed Funds</i>	\$ 1,926.00
	\$18,505.19

*February Disbursements*

<i>Budget Items</i>	\$17,628.15
<i>Missions Committed Funds</i>	\$ 146.56
<i>Committed Funds</i>	\$ 81.44
	\$17,856.15

*Bank balance as of February 28, 2025*  
\$99,634.02

*Less Committed Funds as of Feb. 28, 2025*  
\$95,728.62

*Available funds as of February 28, 2025*  
\$3,905.40

*This report is submitted by  
Terri Pollard, Staves Finance Secretary*

## Christian Education

The Education meeting was held March 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Dates to remember:

- April 7  
Filling eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt 6:00 pm
- April 12:  
Easter Egg Hunt workers should arrive at 9:30 am.  
  
Easter Egg Hunt starts 11:00 am with lunch following and prizes.
- April 14  
Monthly Education Meeting at 6:00 pm to discuss VBS.

## Community Meals

Come have dinner the last Saturday of the month at the Free Meal. We continue to reach community and church members with food and fellowship once a month. This is a fun group to be around.

The Community Meal committee menu for April, May and June will be planned in the near future and released as soon as we know what they are. The Committee plans these meals as a group.

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

During a bad windstorm in March there was damage to the Parsonage. The roof of the deck was flipped onto the roof of the Parsonage. We are working with a roofer and the insurance company on this repair.

If you haven't been to the church in the middle of March, you missed the installation of the new furnaces and air conditioners. This installation took almost two weeks to get done. It took two days to remove the old furnaces from the attic in the education wing. The workers had to saw them into small pieces to get them out. Then it took a couple days to move all the parts for the new furnaces into the attic and assemble the furnaces. It took a day to move the air conditioning units from the roof and place the new ones up there. That took a small crane in the parking lot. Finally, it took several days to hook up all the electric lines, hook each furnace to a thermostat, and add new duct work from the furnaces to the existing ducts. Thanks to the crew from AJ Allen, our mechanical contractor, who did all this work for us.

We are getting bids from an electrician to repair the three lights in the Fellowship Hall, repair and install outlets in the Sanctuary, disconnect the electric from the dishwasher and the small garage outside.

We are in the process of placing a new video screen on the back wall of the Sanctuary. The new plug in the Sanctuary is part of this project. The new large screen will help the Pastor and other speakers when sharing the Word or other announcements.

Future projects include the repair or replacement of the ceiling in the Education office. We will be looking at electrical repairs in

## Trustees Update (continued)

the original basement and possible some foundation work along the west wall of the kitchen. While missing shingles were replaced on the three-bay garage we know now that roof will need to be replaced. We also have a soffit repair on the NE side of the church to complete.

While this list seems long, we should be thankful to those who were on Trustees over the years. They have maintained our building well and these repairs are fairly small. Our 66 (or so) year old building is actually in good repair. Thanks for your help in pointing out issues and helping to fund several larger projects that have taken place over the last couple of years.

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

## Food Pantry

The Pantry dates for April are: Saturday, April 12th (following the Easter Egg Hunt) and Saturday, April 26th (following the Plant Sale and Luncheon for United Women of Faith). The Food Pantry is open from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on each of those days.

Both January and February were busy months, here are the numbers:

## Food Pantry (continued)

January:

Families:	80
People:	266
Food In:	1,184
Food Out:	1,451
Personal In:	13
Personal Out:	34

February:

Families:	61
People:	182
Food In:	950 pounds
Food Out:	1,110 pounds
Personal In:	18
Personal Out:	26

The Pantry could use the following items:

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

Remember that the pounds of food coming in and going out does not include dairy items, meat items, eggs, or bakery items. The personal items are things like shampoo, toilet paper, tooth paste/tooth brushes, and laundry soap.

The need out there is great and growing all the time. We are serving five to six new families every time we are open. Additionally, pre made boxes of food are available in Diane's office and we have to restock those boxes every month. Please consider working the pantry one Saturday a month.

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

I am writing this article on the first "official day" of spring according to the calendar. Yesterday was cold and windy with snow falling in the evening. At least it wasn't a blizzard like in NW Iowa.

I just know that my Edelweiss is blooming in the front yard and my daffodils have buds that I can see. I have lots of iris starting to come up, my live forever is also starting to sprout new growth and the buds on the trees are growing bigger every day.

Easter is just around the corner showing us a real renewal of life. Make time to celebrate Holy Week and the events that help shape our understanding of the life of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer.

On Sunday, Jesus enters Jerusalem to cheering crowds waving palm branches. Did you know that waving palms is a sign of welcoming a king or savior into a city? But notice that Jesus entered riding a donkey. That means he came in peace and humility. If he had arrived on a horse, he would have been considered a warrior king arriving to make war. Oh, the signs he gave the people, they just ignored.

Sometimes though each of us do similar things. How we enter a building or room can give clear signals of how we feel. Powering in the door like we own everything gives the illusion of power, or that we are in a good and joyful mood. While entering with slower steps our head bowed can mean we feel defeated by something, are tired, or humble.

Then sometimes we enter in one mood and then like a switch turning on or off, the mood changes. I know I do this. I can enter feeling happy and joyful about the day ahead and I see something and that switch flips and I get grumpy. It's not that I am mad at people

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

it's that what I have as an agenda in my head is disrupted or what I see is upsetting to me. Let's face it we all have things in our lives that can up end our day.

Then through Holy Week Jesus eats his last meal with his beloved disciples. Then the hard part for us as believers begins to occur; his arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, the false trial at night before the Sanhedrin, the meetings with Herod and Pilate, the whipping, then that fatal walk carrying his own cross to Golgotha. While we don't have things go to this extreme in our lives, we too all have moments of trial and suffering.

But then on Easter morning he sees his glory fulfilled through the work of God the Father. Our Savior, Lord, Redeemer, and real King rises to save us from our sins. Thank God for His wonderful gift. This time of year, blesses us with a renewal of life; I hope you find renewal and peace for a struggle you facing during this season.

The Board has also started planning the Spring Luncheon, Plant and Bake Sale fund raiser that will be on Saturday, April 26th. Set-up will be on Friday, April 25th. For the plant sale, get those bulbs and plant starts going now. We'll of course have a variety of treats available during the bake sale (I heard items like cookies, cake and maybe scones mentioned as possible items.) Lunch will be slightly different this year. We are going to do an English Tea style lunch. We'll have a variety of small sandwiches (ham salad, chicken salad, cheese salad and possibly cucumber sandwiches) we'll also have a variety of salads available for side dishes. We are going to have a variety of teas (hot and cold) for you to try. Other drinks (coffee and water will be available for those who don't want tea.) We just thought something a little different might be a fun change.

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

We will share more information on Ladies Night Out scheduled for Friday, May 2nd when the full menu for the meal is finalized in April. Tickets will be going on sale the last two Sundays in April.

Please mark your calendars now for these events. You don't want to miss the fun and the food.



**ANNOUCEMENTS**

***COME TO AN EASTER EGG  
HUNT***

***WHEN: APRIL 12<sup>th</sup>***

***STARTS: 11:00 AM***

***WHERE: STAVES MEMORIAL  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH***

***2747 East Madison Avenue  
Des Moines***

***Lunch to Follow  
After the Egg Hunt***

***Prizes to win***



**United Women in Faith Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>  
6:00 pm**

**ANNOUCEMENTS**

**Trustees Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 1st**

**7:00 pm**

**Ad Council Meeting**

**Wednesday, April 9th**

**7:15 pm**

**Church Women United**

**Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup> Noon  
Park Avenue Christian Church  
3219 SW 9th**

**Eve Circle will meet**

**Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 am for church breakfast  
9:30 am to prepare May baskets**

***Sherry Palmer 515-991-1062***

**Church Women United**

**Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am  
Park Avenue Christian Church  
3219 SW 9th  
Fill May Baskets**

## ***APRIL MISSION***

We know Gideons from the Bibles we find in hotels, motels and other places of rest. Did you know that there is a Life Bible that is for youth? Christian youth hand out Life Books in their schools to peers, opening up the door to witnessing. This allows the message of God's love to reach those who may not know about Him and His love. More than 4 million student missionaries have handed out over 55 million Life Books. From the shyest introvert to the boldest Christian teen in your church, every student can be involved with this approach to evangelism. They simply give The Life Book as a gift to their peers and trust God's promise in Isaiah 55:11 - "So will my word be that goes out from my mouth; it will not return to me empty, but it will accomplish that which I purpose, and will succeed in the thing for which I sent it?"

For the month of April, we will be collecting money for the Gideons Life Books. We will be doing this in the memory of former members of Staves, Ray and Gerry Langland. They were very active in the work of Christ through Gideons.

Thank you,

*The Mission Team*

## Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Task Force

The CAT Task Force met on March 3 to develop a list of recommendations for the Staves Administrative Council and presented the list at their March 12 meeting for their consideration:

- 1) updates by members of **emergency contact information**.
- 2) **safety training** to include use of the automated external defibrillator (AED), fire extinguisher uses and locations, use of stoves after power outage, use of and unplug coffee pots after every use, and other items as determined by Trustees and Administrative Council.

CAT Task Force suggest the training for every Administrative Council member and others with interest or need to know

- 3) membership directory: paper copies sent/delivered to those who requested and electronic copies sent via email
- 4) potential **volunteer opportunities** for Staves members to potentially include communications, event setup/teardown, buildings and grounds upkeep, outreach options, in-reach options (congregational care), and worship -- Administrative Council will discuss at their April meeting to provide input and other recommendations
- 5) seek small group of volunteers to develop a **volunteer job descriptions** book for recruitment

The CAT Task Force will meet on May 5 at 6:30 pm to work on the Administrative Council input from their April meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES  
Staves Memorial United Methodist Church  
March 12, 2025

CALL TO ORDER/DEVOTIONS

Pastor Tim called the meeting to order, verified the presence of a quorum, and led attendees in prayer.

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed, and approved as presented.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A) Terri reported that giving envelopes for 2026 have arrived. More can be ordered, if necessary.
- B) The financial secretary's report was discussed. [Giving so far this year only covers around 70 per cent of budget projections for 2025.]
- C) The treasurer's report was reviewed. [Available funds are Approximately \$10,000 less than what we had at the first of the year.]

REQUESTS FOR FUNDS

None.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

Pastor - Tim Walker

- A) No idea how soon the cabinet will announce our new pastor.
- B) Next sermon series: Heaven/Rewards in Heaven – setting our minds on things above.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

A brief report was given. The committee has met with the district superintendent, and discussed the attributes of our next pastor.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)

**CAT Task Force** - Rick Roghair shared details about what the task force has been discussing lately. As a volunteer-driven community, help with various projects are always needed, and appreciated. We also need people to coordinate volunteer assistance with ongoing projects, such as teaching Sunday school, leading worship, preparing meals, etc. The task force has developed a list of potential volunteer opportunities that council members will consider in the coming weeks, so that further action can be taken at the April meeting.

### Trustees - Michelle Rogers

- A) Work is progressing, on replacing air conditioners and furnaces. There was a discussion about carpet care, with the installers working inside the building.
- B) Need van drivers on some Sundays
- C) Roof/soffit on the big garage needs repair.
- D) Update on getting a TV monitor in the back of the sanctuary.
- E) Electrical work – some smaller jobs around the church are needed.
- F) Trailer in garage – will be restored for service.
- G) Parsonage issues – foundation, etc.

### BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

**Education** - Easter egg hunt, donations of candy are needed, as well as volunteers on April 12th.

**Music/Worship** - will meet March 23, after church to discuss Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. We will do a service on either Maundy Thursday or Good Friday, but probably not both days.

Also, it was noted that the candle lighters currently in use have had wax buildup over the years and should probably be replaced. A motion to purchase at least one new candle lighter, using our Cokesbury credit, was approved.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued)

**Memorial Committee** - Marilyn Ogle is planning to update signature cards at the bank, this week.

**United Women in Faith** - Terri Pollard

A) February general meeting update.

B) Plant sale and luncheon, April 26th.

C) Ladies' Night Out, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Missions** - Marilyn Burch

This month's emphasis is the Iowa Veterans Home. Next month will be Redbird Mission - there is a possibility of a work trip, next year.

**Food Pantry** - Terri reported that we fed over 200 people in January, 182 in February. Meal attendance is around 60, each month.

### OTHER BUSINESS

ICE/Homeland Security - There was a discussion about how to respond to inquiries from federal enforcement personnel, as they may occasionally request information without judicial oversight. Possible strategies include posting signs at building entrances, and educating individuals on how to respond, if federal agents (or others) attempt to gain access to our facilities while events are in progress. A motion to gather more information on the subject was approved.

NEXT MEETING - April 9

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Ellis, Secretary

### ATTENDEES

Pastor Tim Walker, Marilyn Burch, Marilyn Ogle, Terri Pollard, Michelle Rogers, Rick Atterbury, Steve Ellis. Also, Carol Tanner, Rick Roghair and Ileta Wilson.

## 2025 Easter Lily Order Form

This is your opportunity to decorate Staves Church for EASTER. Payment is needed to confirm your order. Checks will be made payable to Staves. The **final order date** will be **Monday, March 31st**. You may place your order in the offering plates or with the church office. You may pick up the flower you ordered after service on Easter Sunday, April 20th.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to donate the following:

Qty.	Total	
_____	\$_____	Easter lily @ \$13.00 each
_____	_____	<b>Grand Total</b>

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

In thanksgiving of: \_\_\_\_\_

In celebration of: \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Secretary Use Only

Payment Received: \_\_\_\_\_

